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1 YUKON/KUSKOKWIM DELTA REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

2 Yupik Cultural Center

3 Bethel, Alaska

4 February 6, 1997 - 8:30 a.m.

5 VOLUME II

6 Council Members Present:

7 Harry O. Wilde, Sr.

8 David O. David

9 Paul Manumik, Sr.

10 Ilarion J. Nicolai

11 Fritz L. George

12 Steven White

13 Zechariah C. Chaliak, Sr.

14 Antone K. Anvil

15 Paul John

16 Lester Wilde

17 John Andrew, Coordinator

18 Translators:

19 Charles Hunt

20 Leo Moses

21 Trim Nick

## P R O C E E D I N G S

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CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Good morning. We're going to start off our meeting with (Yupik spoken). For your information, when you speak, you speak through the mike and state your name and where you are from.

8  
9

MR. ADERMAN: Hi.

CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Say your name first and where you're from and continue through the mike.

12

MR. ADERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the council. My name is Andy Aderman, I'm a wildlife biologist with Togiak National Wildlife Refuge in Dillingham. I just handed out a two-page update of what we've been doing over at Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. I won't go over it at all, but to say that the main point I wanted to bring out was about the time of your last meeting in early October we had a large number of caribou coming out of the Togiak drainage, Unit 17(B). In mid-October we opened the hunt there and it's open until the end of March to hunt two caribou. The caribou are still there, and we've opened up an area east of the Togiak River, north of Anukpuk Creek, and caribou have been seen all the way over to as far as Dillingham.

26

We've had poor snow conditions so we haven't been able to do any moose surveys. We're hopeful that we get snow yet and get that information on moose. (Indiscernible) on the closed moose season in Togiak drainage this month (indiscernible) to try to get that population to grow. It's a fairly small population.

33

And that's all I have now, but John is speaking.

35

MR. DYASUK: (Yupik spoken and English translation) My name is John Dyasuk, from the Togiak Refuge. I work with this man. He did not mention this education outreach that we are working on. Our RITs have been traveling and we have presented about 70 presentations in regards to the duck stamp project and the moose calendar project. In the -- here in the Y/K Delta we have presented the Moose Management Plan, and in Togiak in the Southwest Region schools, we have traveled and made presentations in the career areas in the high schools. We have traveled and made presentations on fish and wildlife management careers, explaining available occupations in this field for students that are entering college, and we have presented careers that are available within the Fish & Wildlife Service in this field.

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1 My co-worker was supposed to include this proposal 49.  
2 This proposal originates from Quinhagak, and it is their  
3 request to harvest moose in 13(A). Pete Abraham and I have  
4 went to Quinhagak on the 28th. We traveled to Quinhagak and we  
5 put together this map, and I have a trip report available here  
6 if you want it. This area covers the Quinhagak to the Togiak  
7 area. At this meeting three groups met. The younger group  
8 determined and presented how they travel to the Togiak area.  
9 The elder/older group presented their beaver hunting  
10 techniques. Kenneth Cleveland presented how they harvested  
11 furbearing animals, and this area reached the Togiak Refuge,  
12 Togiak Bay. They presented this hunting area to the map so  
13 that other parties could see where they did this hunting. We  
14 completed this map -- this harvest map and presented it to our  
15 administration.

16  
17 In this game region they presented their hunting areas  
18 for caribou and moose, and I am presenting this information  
19 from this meeting of the hunting areas from Quinhagak to the  
20 Togiak Refuge.

21  
22 Since our counterparts here are from the Game  
23 Management Unit 18, we are including those, and that's the  
24 extent of my presentation.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
27 translation) Do you have anything to say in regards to the  
28 Togiak presentation?

29  
30 MR. DYASUK: (Yupik spoken and English translation) I  
31 have this map here if you would like to see it. The people  
32 from Akiak and Akiachak have other proponents in this proposal  
33 as well, but this is our part of it.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
36 translation) Thank you. Do you have any comments in regards  
37 to the Togiak presentation?

38  
39 MR. JOHN: (Yupik spoken and English translation) I  
40 want to present something that is not new. I am Paul John of  
41 Toksook Bay. I wanted to comment on something that is not new  
42 in regards to subsistence. Although we are from different  
43 areas, we are to share this food and not designate areas for  
44 certain natural resources. We are to treat people from  
45 different areas equally. When one travels from one's area to  
46 the other, a lot of times they are -- it is recommended that  
47 one treats a visitor in kind and we treat him as one of -- as a  
48 member of this community. If one does not have a natural  
49 resource in this immediate area and they hear that another

50 resource is available in another area, people from this area

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1 would go to the -- that area and harvest whatever is available,  
2 and that is our custom.

3 As John Dyasuk stated, the people from Quinhagak and  
4 Togiak, as a people from Quinhagak have traveled to the Togiak  
5 area, I remember this custom. These people would travel out to  
6 that area to harvest these natural resources as they -- were  
7 needed, and these people are accepted by people from that area.

8  
9 I also wanted to mention we are sitting here in this  
10 building. As we sit here and turn toward the direction of the  
11 water or the ocean, we see resources that were given to us by a  
12 higher order for to use. And as we look inland we see other  
13 resources; animals, that are available to us to use. Since we  
14 in this area do not have an economic base, jobs that are  
15 available, it is our livelihood to use these resources that are  
16 available from the land. Thank you.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Does anybody else have comments?

19  
20 MR. DAVID: David O. David from Kwigillingok. (Yupik  
21 spoken and English translation) Do the people from Quinhagak  
22 travel to the Togiak Region travel to harvest moose? Is that  
23 what you presented?

24  
25 MR. DYASUK: (Yupik spoken and English translation) As  
26 we are stating, in Quinhagak -- as Kenneth Cleveland stated, we  
27 counted their hunting habits for furbearing through Anuktuk  
28 (ph) to -- through Togiak Bay. As they hunted beavers,  
29 although they weren't after caribou, they harvested whatever  
30 they came across, but the beaver was their main prey. As we  
31 are hunting, we normally harvest whatever we come across, and  
32 this younger presenter, Peter Matthew, presented or recounted  
33 how they travel from Goodnews down to this area, just parallel  
34 to the elder's -- Kenneth Cleveland's presentation into this  
35 area. But they did not go through the inland area, but they  
36 went through the bay -- through Goodnews. And from Goodnews  
37 they went through Awatuk (ph) and then through Goodnews Bay,  
38 and then they went over to the refuge, through that way. He  
39 also said that this is a great distance. Kenneth Cleveland  
40 recounted how they traveled by dog team and whenever they  
41 arrived there they camped. Since they weren't in a rush to get  
42 back, they stayed there until they'd reached their quota, and  
43 they hunted all game, including moose. And this is what they  
44 presented at the Quinhagak meeting.

45  
46 He didn't say we're dealing with the C & T in the  
47 Togiak Refuge. They presented this in regards to caribou in  
48 the Togiak Refuge, in the Togiak Bay area, and they did not  
49 mind them doing that since they are related.



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1 Sam Cleveland also is the pastor in Togiak and he's  
2 related to Kenneth Cleveland. And this is what they presented  
3 at this meeting. Although we have these maps, if we hadn't had  
4 these maps with us, he knew the trails that led from their area  
5 to Togiak, and this is what I'm presenting, using these maps  
6 from Quinhagak to the gaming area. They also stated that it is  
7 important that they not travel in any old trail in the Togiak  
8 area since there are a lot of cliffs, and it is important to  
9 follow the trail, and this is what he stressed also for  
10 traveling. And this is my summary of what they presented.

11  
12 Although one of the younger members complained about  
13 the distance to the hunting area, this is what they presented.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Antone.

16  
17 MR. ANVIL: Antone Anvil, from Bethel. (Yupik spoken  
18 and English translated) I wanted to present or question  
19 something that I wanted to know for quite some time. A while  
20 back when we met in Anchorage at -- Fish & Wildlife, they came  
21 up with the decision that elders without hunters could not hunt  
22 in this area. I wanted to question this proposal, that this is  
23 directed towards those people that are not able to hunt due to  
24 having their husbands deceased, their providers. This question  
25 is in regards to the designated hunter, and I wanted to  
26 question on this. This was put together about two, three years  
27 ago at a meeting. I wanted to find out about this designated  
28 hunter decision since I have not heard anything about this, and  
29 to find out if this is valid, this is effective.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
32 translated) Do you have anything else in regards to the Togiak  
33 presentation?

34  
35 MR. WHITE: (Yupik spoken and English translation)  
36 Thank you, Mr. Chair. This proposal from Quinhagak, if this  
37 was left alone in the jurisdiction under the state -- the  
38 designator seemed to be pretty thoroughly, and I'm recognizing  
39 a lot of these elements. Although they have wanted to do this  
40 for quite some time, they were -- they did not present it, but  
41 they have now put it together and presented how they had hunted  
42 in the past from their origin for use in the wildlife refuge.  
43 They presented how they had hunted in the past to determine use  
44 in this refuge. They presented -- they set this meeting --  
45 these people presented, including the people from Umtok (ph)  
46 and I have went with them at these meetings. It was not an  
47 easy task to hunt in this area at that time with the abundant  
48 snow, and now when they travel there it's much swifter  
49 transportation.



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1 As designated by the wildlife refuge, we are requesting  
2 to use this area as we have done in the past, and they -- this  
3 is what they presented at this meeting. They seem to have  
4 presented this proposal as stated at this meeting.

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
6 translated) Do you have anything else towards -- any comments?  
7

8 MR. GEORGE: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
9 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will present this in Yupik since we  
10 have translators.  
11

12 As I reported yesterday in regards to the Anchorage  
13 meeting, the refuge managers present and sell sports hunting  
14 and fishing guide permits. Since there is a lot of wanton  
15 waste in the Kanuktuk area the sports hunters are harming  
16 resources in that area. Is there any way that the Togiak  
17 Refuge Manager can do something to stop that wanton waste in  
18 that area? And there is a lot of sports fishermen in this  
19 southern region as well. Is there any way that we can stop  
20 that through the Togiak Refuge?  
21

22 MR. ADERMAN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Andy Aderman, again,  
23 from Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. Currently in the Togiak  
24 National Wildlife Refuge, the guides that are permitted there  
25 are for sports fishing and there are four guides for bear  
26 hunting. (Indiscernible) large mammal guiding is permitted.  
27 We try to work with all people that use the areas. People  
28 create wanton waste. But we can't be out there all the time.  
29 We need help from people seeing this activity and reporting it,  
30 so we can try to do something about it.  
31

32 MR. DYASUK: (Yupik spoken and English translated) I  
33 wanted to add to what he said. From the lower corporation --  
34 since that is within the state jurisdiction, we are in the  
35 inland district, it is in the lower region that these permits  
36 are being used within the state jurisdiction. A lot of times  
37 these are traveling within that area and not within the refuge.  
38

39 Since the state is in charge of the navigable regions,  
40 I wanted to present this project we will be doing this spring  
41 by bringing students to this coastal area. And I wanted to  
42 mention this, since I didn't -- and these will be from the  
43 Goodnews and Togiak area, from the school district in that  
44 area. We took some students out last year. We will be  
45 bringing these students out in August for a wilderness camp to  
46 teach them our lifestyles -- traditional lifestyles. We will  
47 be traveling to Cape Constantine to monitor and count the young  
48 caribou in that area. I wanted to mention those as well. I  
49 wanted to mention these others that I did not mention earlier.

50 Is that understandable? The local region is a state run area

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1 and we, in the refuge are inland.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Mr. David.

4

5 MR. DAVID: Mr. Chairman, David O. David. (Yupik  
6 spoken and English translated) Are those caribou that reach  
7 the Manikotak area, are those a part of the caribou within the  
8 refuge?

9

10 MR. DYASUK: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
11 Those that we designated in the (indiscernible) area were  
12 originally from the Egegik area. I 1988 Dave Fisher from the  
13 refuge came to this area and at that time we counted 100 and  
14 that Kayuk (ph) area. They were approximately about 249, and  
15 through the past eight years since '88 they total about 1200 to  
16 1500 approximately. And they travel up to Little Mountain. As  
17 they increase from Egegik (ph), they are traveling further up  
18 to the mountainous region, but they do not follow the Kilbuck  
19 herd, they circulate in that Egegik (ph) area in their  
20 migration. And the spiguk (ph) is on the other side of Clark's  
21 Point. Since they have monitored the caribou in this area they  
22 have waited for them to increase, and at this point those  
23 people from Manokotak, Alakanuk, Clark's Point, have been  
24 harvesting from this herd.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah, quyana. (Yupik spoken and  
27 English translated) If we need you again we will call you to  
28 present before the meeting is over.

29

30 Today I will do my presentation in English since we are  
31 -- will be doing proposals -- working on our proposals. Please  
32 fill out the testifier forms if you wish to speak regarding the  
33 particular proposal, please so indicate it on a form. This  
34 morning the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Council, we're  
35 working on three proposals.

36

37 Also please notice that Proposal 45 and 49 also affect  
38 residents of Yukon and Kuskokwim Region. One, Proposal 52,  
39 Unit (18), caribou; two, 53, Unit 18, moose; three, Proposal  
40 54, Unit 22, caribou. This one, Proposal 52, Unit 18, the  
41 Kilbuck caribou herd; second, 53, Unit 18, the proposal is  
42 regulating moose, affecting area are residents of upper Kalskag  
43 and Lower Kalskag; three, 54, Unit 22, caribou, proposal  
44 regulation including Hooper Bay, Chevak, Scammon Bay,  
45 customary and traditional determinations in Unit 22(A).

46

47 This morning, before we work on proposals from where we  
48 left at number VII., we're going to call on Philip Guy to go  
49 ahead and go over his resolution for us at this time. Philip.



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1 MR. GUY: Mr. Chairman, guyana. (Yupik spoken and  
2 English translated) I'm Philip Guy, from Kwethluk. This first  
3 resolution is in regards to trapping. Yesterday there was a  
4 presentation regarding trapping during your meeting. The issue  
5 of trapping has come up in Congress. They are in opposition to  
6 this method in legislation through Fish & Wildlife Service and  
7 they have recommended to the service to determine how the  
8 situation. The Kwethluk Join Group Resolution is in regards to  
9 that issue.

10  
11 The Fish & Wildlife Service, we are requesting that the  
12 service present to the Congress or to direct this resolution to  
13 Congress in opposition to their legislation. The resolution  
14 states that we in the Y-K and the coastal area, trapping is a  
15 means of livelihood for us, although it does not -- it's not  
16 profitable.

17  
18 And the other resolution is in regards to moose.  
19 Earlier the Department of Fish & Game and the Lower Kuskokwim  
20 Advisory Committee, in addition to Central Kuskokwim Advisory  
21 Committee met in Kwethluk to determine the monitoring of moose,  
22 and at the meeting it was stated that it is imperative to  
23 monitor the moose. And at the meeting it was stated that the  
24 wolves in the upper region had been preying on calves -- moose  
25 calves, and that there were two wolf packs that were preying on  
26 moose calves in that area.

27  
28 We formulated this resolution in regards to the moose  
29 due to that region to encourage increased monitoring of moose  
30 in the upper region. It was directed towards the Advisory  
31 Committee and the Central Advisory Committees to co-manage this  
32 and work on this problem, the problem of monitoring the  
33 increased monitoring of moose. If this was to be enforced it  
34 would be believed those two groups would ensure that this is  
35 done.

36  
37 Earlier the Kwethluk -- excuse me. In regards to the  
38 caribou in Qavilnguut, the working group heard a report from --  
39 in addition to the activity of wolf preying on moose in the  
40 Kanektok area, since they also like to harvest the resources in  
41 that area, that is a problem.

42  
43 These are the two resolutions that we are presenting.  
44 Mr. Chairman, thank you.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
47 translated) These two resolutions presented to the board, this  
48 first resolution 97-02-01 is in reference to trapping. It is  
49 in opposition to legislation in Congress that we took city

50 council joint resolution -- formulated this resolution wanting

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1 to ensure that trapping is continued as a lifestyle livelihood.  
2 It is clear, and the regulations as I reviewed them yesterday,  
3 there is no limit in trapping, there are no or quotas or limits  
4 in trapping.

5  
6 As I understand it, the Kwethluk resolution is good,  
7 and I would like you to give them support through a motion.

8 MR. DAVID: Mr. Chairman.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: David.

11  
12 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken and English translated) This  
13 issue on trapping, we know that we harvest whatever is  
14 available in trapping. For those that are monitoring waterfowl  
15 and others, if these people were to be in opposition to the  
16 subsistence, we do not harvest what we cannot see, and although  
17 it is enforced by outside sources to limit trapping or we  
18 should -- enforcement should be geared towards the ones. A lot  
19 of times these hunting.....

20  
21 MR. ANVIL: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. We have to adopt  
22 this resolution first before we go into any other. So I move  
23 that we adopt that resolution.

24  
25 (Mr. Moses now interpreting)

26  
27 MR. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to see a copy of  
28 that resolution. I don't have it.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah, we could do that.

31  
32 MR. JOHN: I second the motion for discussion.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Discussion. There is a motion to  
35 support Kwethluk Resolution 97-02-01 now, and it's been  
36 seconded. Discussion.

37  
38 MR. DAVID: Mr. Chairman, I would like to go on with  
39 what I started already.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah, go ahead.

42  
43 MR. DAVID: Before I talk about this (indiscernible)  
44 with the manufacturers, I think (indiscernible - Yupik  
45 translated over testimony) If you are to outlaw  
46 (indiscernible) that are already available (indiscernible) Fish  
47 & Wildlife Service, the whole United States Fish & Game.  
48 Before you look at it, look at the manufacturers who make these  
49 available to trap. And the other thing, it is not fair for you

50 to outlaw us and look at us users before you even look at the

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1 manufacturers. That's not fair to me. When the things are not  
2 available, we don't use them, known anything, buy it. So  
3 remember what I said, if things aren't available, we don't buy  
4 them. So remember what I have said yesterday, that we are to  
5 be equaled and we live our life and not look after other human  
6 beings as something who can't think for themselves. And you  
7 know very well, I've said it many times, that we are human  
8 beings, we don't need your assistance as long as we are doing  
9 what we are doing for our livelihood.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: The two resolutions -- I don't  
12 think we don't need to go through those two particular  
13 resolutions. The first resolution was relating to the steel  
14 traps, and the Kwethluk Council had made the resolution to keep  
15 using the steel traps. And the other resolution relating to  
16 moose and why the wolves are killing off the calves or the  
17 moose. So they are in opposition to -- there are too many  
18 wolves. So, in the earlier statement that was made, I guess  
19 those wolves are killing off the calves or the moose, so I  
20 guess, as we understand it, it's likely for the board to  
21 support that proposal.

22  
23 Relating to the steel trap, roll call?

24  
25 MR. GEORGE: Harry Wilde.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah.

28  
29 MR. GEORGE: David O. David.

30  
31 MR. DAVID: Yeah.

32  
33 MR. GEORGE: Paul Manumik, Sr. Ilarion J. Nicolai.

34  
35 MR. NICOLAI: Abstained.

36  
37 MR. GEORGE: Fritz George, yes. Steven White.

38  
39 MR. WHITE: Yes.

40  
41 MR. GEORGE: Gene R. Peltola. Chuck Chaliak.  
42 Antone Anvil.

43  
44 MR. ANVIL: Yes.

45  
46 MR. GEORGE: Paul John.

47  
48 MR. JOHN: Yes.

49

MR. GEORGE: Lester Wilde.

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1 MR. WILDE: Yes.

2

3 MR. GEORGE: Mr. Chairman, seven yes, one abstained,  
4 three absent.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
7 translated) That particular proposal relating to traps is  
8 unanimously (sic) supported, and now the proposal to us, the  
9 wolves that are killing off the moose calves. Any discussion  
10 relating to that particular proposal relating to a motion on  
11 wolves killing off the calves?

12

13 MR. WHITE: (Yupik spoken)

14

15 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Steven White made a motion to  
16 support that particular proposal relating to the calves about  
17 the wolves killing off the calves of the moose.

18

19 MR. WILDE: Second.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Paul John.

22

23 MR. JOHN: Question.

24

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Question's been called for. Roll  
26 call.

27

28 MR. GEORGE: Chairman Wilde.

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah.

31

32 MR. GEORGE: David O. David.

33

34 MR. DAVID: Yeah.

35

36 MR. GEORGE: Paul Manumik. Ilarion J. Nicolai.

37

38 MR. NICOLAI: Yes.

39

40 MR. GEORGE: Fritz George, yes. Steven White.

41

42 MR. WHITE: Yes.

43

44 MR. GEORGE: Gene Peltola. Chuck Chaliak.  
45 Antone Anvil.

46

47 MR. ANVIL: Yes.

48

49 MR. GEORGE: Paul John.



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1 MR. JOHN: Yes.

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3 MR. GEORGE: Lester Wilde.

4  
5 MR. WILDE: Yes.

6  
7 MR. GEORGE: Eight yes, three absent.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
10 translated) The majority of the council has passed that  
11 particular proposal relating to the calves being killed by the  
12 wolves.

13  
14 Before we get into Proposal to Change Subpart C, I  
15 think I would like to say that before we accept these things, I  
16 want to hear from department and who is supposed to take care  
17 of this Proposal to Change Customary and Traditional Use  
18 Determinations. The staff is supposed to take care of these  
19 proposals right now at this time?

20  
21 MR. ANDREW: Dave Fisher.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Huh?

24  
25 MR. ANDREW: Dave Fisher.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Dave Fisher, will you -- so we  
28 could know what we're looking at at this time.

29  
30 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is  
31 Dave Fisher. I work for the US Fish & Wildlife Service, I'm  
32 from the Anchorage office. Do you want to start right out with  
33 a proposal; is that what your intent is?

34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah.

36  
37 MR. FISHER: Okay. I have two proposals that I want to  
38 discuss with you this morning, Numbers 45 and 52, and they are  
39 in your packet in front of you.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken)

42  
43 MR. FISHER: Proposal -- both proposals would change  
44 the caribou hunting season and harvest times in Unit 18, in  
45 that portion south of the Yukon River.

46  
47 Proposal 45 was submitted by the Bristol Bay Regional  
48 Advisory Council, and it deals with changing caribou limits in  
49 9(B), 17(B) and (C), and also 18. We're just going to concern

50 ourselves this morning with the changes that they're proposing

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1 in Unit 18.

2

3 And what 45 would do for that area south of the Yukon,  
4 would increase -- provide for a two caribou harvest limit and  
5 for the season to be October 1 through March 31. That is  
6 Proposal 45.

7

8 Proposal 52, which was submitted by the Kilbuck  
9 Cooperative Management Group, establishes a "to be announced"  
10 season in GMU 18, an area south of the Yukon River, from August  
11 25 to March 31, and would provide for a harvest limit of up to  
12 five caribou. That's basically what 52 would do. The working  
13 group had scheduled a meeting for January -- I believe it was  
14 January 15 and 16. That meeting was canceled. They met again  
15 on January 23, and modified Proposal 52 and also the  
16 recommendations to the Board of Game.

17

18 I'll get to that in just a minute.

19

20 As you are aware, most of the land south of the Yukon  
21 River is (indiscernible) of the Yukon Delta Management Wildlife  
22 Refuge. It's village corporation lands and also the state  
23 lands, private land, too. Fish & Wildlife Service manages the  
24 refuge lands and Fish & Game (indiscernible) corporation land  
25 (indiscernible - translator talking over testimony).

26

27 As you know, the current federal subsistence  
28 regulations for Game Unit 18 south of the Yukon River are more  
29 restricted than the corresponding state regulations, which  
30 brings us back to the Kilbuck caribou management land. As a  
31 consequence those regulations are more restrictive than the  
32 state regulations.

33

34 The short federal season in this area south of the  
35 Yukon is December 15 through January 9, and February 23 through  
36 March 15 the Kilbuck caribou only, one bull by federal  
37 registration permit. The state season is September 1 through  
38 September 30 for a registration permit; and October 1 through  
39 March 31, this part of the season would be open by emergency  
40 order, which has happened, I believe, during the last three  
41 years. And harvest tickets are required.

42

43 What we're dealing with here is two caribou herds. I  
44 think most of you are getting to where some of you are on that  
45 Kilbuck Caribou Management Plan, worked on that. So we're  
46 dealing with the Kilbuck caribou herd and we're also dealing  
47 with the expanding Mulchatna herd.

48

49 A little bit on the Kilbuck herd. We don't have a lot

50 of information on that herd prior to 1980. It's sort of about

0077

1 up in the air as to how many animals there were. Anyway, after  
2 1980 the Fish & Wildlife Service did more monitoring of this  
3 herd, and, as you know, a management plan was put in place, a  
4 cooperative effort, the Service, Fish & Game and village  
5 corporations, AVCP, managed the plan which was a very  
6 successful management plan that we know as the Kilbuck caribou  
7 herd expanded in numbers from around 1500 in around 1989 to  
8 probably somewhere over 5000 in 1994, '95. We really don't  
9 know what that current population is because the Mulchatna herd  
10 came over and, of course, inundated the Kilbuck herd.

11  
12 As you know, the Mulchatna herd continues to expand its  
13 winter range and it's been moving further south and to the  
14 west. During the fall of '94 and '95 there was an estimated 30  
15 to 40,000 Mulchatna herd that had moved into the Kuskokwim  
16 drainage. And with this movement then this herd has gone in  
17 and occupied a range that is currently used -- had been used by  
18 the Kilbuck animals. This expansion has provided increased  
19 hunting opportunities for subsistence users. And  
20 (indiscernible) here today to change these regulations to  
21 accommodate those users.

22  
23 And as a result of that meeting on the 23rd, the  
24 working group modified its recommendations to the Federal  
25 Subsistence Board, and I'd like to kind of briefly go over them  
26 with you.

27  
28 What the group wanted to do was replace the current  
29 split season with a "to be announced" season, from August 25 to  
30 March 31. Replace the harvest limit with 1 bull with a federal  
31 registration permit required, with a harvest of up to 5  
32 caribou. Also this proposal would eliminate the federal  
33 registration permit and replace it with a harvest ticket. And  
34 the proposal would allow for issuance of federal designated  
35 hunter permits is requested for proxy hunting.

36  
37 That's basically where we are on Number 52 and Number  
38 45. The staff recommendation was adopt the recommendation of  
39 the Kilbuck Cooperative Working Group as a result of their  
40 meeting on the 23rd, and we feel that the change in the  
41 regulations are going to provide additional opportunity for  
42 subsistence hunters to harvest caribou, and possibly federal  
43 and state regulations will be aligned better to avoid  
44 confusion, different seasons, different harvest limits and the  
45 land status situation.

46  
47 I'd be happy to respond to any questions you might like  
48 to ask. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

49

CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Dave.

0078

1 MR. DAVID: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Dave, where is  
2 the Mulchatna and Kilbuck herd going through now?

3  
4 MR. FISHER: To the east of here, primarily there have  
5 been some Kilbuck -- since the Mulchatna herd has moved further  
6 to the west and then they retreat to the east to calve, there  
7 have been some Kilbuck caribou that have gone to the east with  
8 the Mulchatna herd, but the Mulchatna herd primarily calved in  
9 the Tikchik area, Mulchatna drainage, those areas that are  
10 furthest to the east of here in the units of (B) and (C).

11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: More? Any more? You want to go  
13 to the next one?

14  
15 MR. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, how does Fish & Wildlife make  
16 the difference between Kilbuck and the other caribou when they  
17 are out in the villages?

18  
19 MR. FISHER: I'll try and answer that. It's pretty  
20 hard when you're flying over, it's almost impossible to differ  
21 between two animals and two herds. What you can do is you can  
22 identify collars that have been put on known Kilbuck animals  
23 will have a certain frequency, and then also collars that have  
24 been put on Mulchatna herds, those have a different frequency  
25 and you can fly over and monitor both frequencies at the same  
26 time. That's how you can tell. Other than that it's pretty  
27 hard.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Any more reports on the Kilbuck  
30 caribou herd? Maybe you could continue and go ahead and give  
31 us 53, moose.

32  
33 MR. FISHER: Mr. Chairman, Pat McClenahan will present  
34 Numbers 53 and 54.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah, go ahead. Who?

37  
38 MR. FISHER: Pat McClenahan.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken)

41  
42 (Off record comments in Yupik)

43  
44 MS. McCLENAHAN: Mr. Chairman, Council members, my name  
45 is Patricia McClenahan. I'm the staff anthropologist for  
46 Region 5 with Fish & Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence in  
47 Anchorage.

48  
49 Proposal 53 would add to the existing determination a

50 positive customary and traditional use determination for moose

0079

1 for the residents of Lower Kalskag, Aniak, and Chuathbaluk, for  
2 a portion of Unit 18. Figure 1, in the draft staff analysis,  
3 which you have in the booklet, has the -- there's an imprint  
4 that shows area we're talking about.

5  
6 In 1996, a similar proposal, Number 96-41, was  
7 submitted by Western Interior Regional Council, recommending  
8 addition of the three communities to the determination for all  
9 of Unit 18. Under existing regulations, the rural residents of  
10 Unit 18 and upper Kalskag have customary and traditional use  
11 eligibility for moose in Unit 18. At the 1996 Federal  
12 Subsistence Board meeting, that proposal was deferred to allow  
13 a more geographically specific version to be developed.

14  
15 Although moose are a relatively new species in Unit 18,  
16 reports by local residents to Mike Coffing, with ADF&G, and  
17 also other ADF&G harvest ticket database, and subsistence land  
18 use maps, provide documentation that the communities of Holy  
19 Cross, Chuathbaluk, Aniak, upper Kalskag, and Lower Kalskag  
20 hunt moose in Unit 18.

21  
22 There are maps on the wall that show these areas, and  
23 we would like you to look at them later on.

24  
25 Data for Aniak shows use from 1964 to the present day,  
26 for Chuathbaluk from 1980. Maps depicting moose hunting areas  
27 for upper Kalskag and Lower Kalskag and Holy Cross were  
28 prepared in 1985.

29  
30 Data for each of the eight factors that were used for  
31 determining customary and traditional uses are available and  
32 are presented in this analysis for these communities regarding  
33 their taking and use of moose in the designated portion of Unit  
34 18.

35  
36 Our preliminary conclusions are to include the  
37 communities of Chuathbaluk, Aniak, Lower Kalskag, and Holy  
38 Cross in the customary and traditional eligibility  
39 determination for moose in the requested portion of Unit 18,  
40 shown on the map. Upper Kalskag is already recognized;  
41 however, there exists some uncertainty whether Lower Kalskag is  
42 included because it's located right on the Unit 18 boundary.  
43 Providing a positive customary and traditional use  
44 determination for Lower Kalskag outright would ensure that the  
45 community is included and will remove any doubt. Recognizing  
46 subsistence land use patterns by these communities by granting  
47 them customary and traditional eligibility of moose in Unit 18  
48 will not change moose hunting patterns and will legitimize  
49 traditional hunting activities.



0080

1 Those are my comments on Proposal 53.

2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Any questions relating to that  
4 Proposal 53? (Yupik spoken and English translated) As you  
5 understand, Proposal 53, Unit 18 relating to moose would be  
6 included into -- as I understands it. These particular  
7 villages of this particular proposal, I would like to have an  
8 opportunity to harvest moose traditionally in Unit 18. These  
9 particular villages are outside of Unit 18. So this particular  
10 proposal would, we'd like to be able to give it an opportunity  
11 to harvest within the Unit 18. As I understand it, or am I  
12 wrong?

13  
14 MR. JOHN: I am Paul John, from Toksook. I do  
15 understand the report, and -- but every -- why do the people  
16 have harvested bulls only year after year? Our ancestral  
17 people did not harvest the bulls alone, but noticeably the  
18 growth of the population of the particular moose in the area  
19 was increasing. So, as you all know, a female may be fertile  
20 but if a male does not provide the necessity of growth into the  
21 living organs, they will not produce. So, perhaps too many  
22 hunters have harvested the males only, and these cows have no  
23 males to go work with, so thereby -- a number of times he has  
24 gone along with the people that go out moose hunting, a lot of  
25 times every day he sights a cow but can't -- does not see any  
26 bulls, and a lot of times, too, he sights a number of cows in  
27 one area and no bulls. So he knows where for the fact that any  
28 female of any sort of specie if the female is not getting  
29 engaged with a male, she's not going to reproduce. So it would  
30 be understandable and acceptable for the department to announce  
31 and say that it is okay for them to harvest the cows. And some  
32 cows are noticeably identifiable when they cannot produce any  
33 more.

34  
35 MR. HUNT: Mr. Chair. I need my volume up.  
36 Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken and English translated) What I'm  
37 explaining here is that the villages of Lower Kalskag and  
38 Chuathbaluk want to be recognized as a group of people that  
39 have customary and traditional use of moose in that portion of  
40 Unit 18, and if that recognition is established, then they be  
41 eligible to hunt moose whenever or on federal lands. That's  
42 the way I understand it. (Yupik spoken) Quyana. (No  
43 translation given)

44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Quyana, Chuck. (Yupik spoken)  
46 Maybe I go to next 54, caribou -- I mean caribou -- yeah.

47  
48 MS. McCLENAHAN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Proposal 54 was  
49 submitted by the Native Village of Hooper Bay, and it would add

50 to the existing determination a positive customary and

0081

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

3  
4 Yesterday I handed out a map to you. I don't know how  
5 helpful it will be, but it shows the federal lands. This was  
6 one of the questions that (indiscernible). There are more here  
7 if anybody needs them.

8  
9 The existing customary and traditional use  
10 determination for Unit 22(A), caribou, says rural residents of  
11 Unit 21(D) west of the Koyukuk and Yukon Rivers, and rural  
12 residents of Units 22, 23, 24, and in Unit 18, the residents of  
13 Kotlik, Emmonak, Marshall, Mountain Village, Pilot Station,  
14 Pitka's Point, Russian Mission, St. Marys, Sheldon Point, and  
15 Alakanuk. It left out these three villages; the villages of  
16 Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay and Chevak.

17  
18 The proposal would add to the existing determination  
19 these three communities that are located on the Bering Sea  
20 Coast just south of the mouth of the Yukon River. Like the  
21 specific communities named in the existing determination for  
22 caribou in Unit 22(A), these three are located on the Yukon  
23 River or the Yukon River Delta in Unit 18.

24  
25 59% of Unit 22(A) is made up of federally administered  
26 land. And this handout that I've given you shows that Unit  
27 22(A) contains the northernmost portions of the Yukon Delta  
28 National Wildlife Refuge, located predominantly in the  
29 southwestern part of Unit 22(A).

30  
31 The populations of the three communities are  
32 predominantly Native Alaskans living a traditional subsistence  
33 lifestyle. The communities' traditional use of caribou is  
34 documented by the presence of caribou bones in local  
35 archaeological sites. Local Legend from Hooper Bay village  
36 speaks about caribou hunting.

37  
38 No formal customary and traditional use inventories or  
39 subsistence use maps for the subsistence taking of caribou have  
40 been prepared for these communities of Chevak, Scammon Bay and  
41 Hooper Bay, nor has anything been reported for the use of  
42 caribou for these communities in the community profile database  
43 or the harvest ticket database of ADF&G. The Yukon Delta  
44 National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan did  
45 not record information on moose, caribou and bear hunting in  
46 the Unit 22(A) portion of the refuge by residents of Scammon  
47 Bay or Hooper Bay. The refuge reported that Chevak residents  
48 hunt caribou outside the refuge and in the Innoko area.

49

Lester Wilde, of Hooper Bay, reports that seven or

0082

1 eight residents of Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay, and Chevak go up  
2 into the southwest corner of Unit 22(A), west of St. Michael's,  
3 to hunt wolf, caribou and moose.

4  
5 And Lester, if I've made any mistakes, please let me  
6 know.

7  
8 MR. WILDE: There's actually -- actually the numbers  
9 seven and eight was just at the time off the top of my head  
10 from asking residents, but actually the number is twice the  
11 amount.

12  
13 MS. McCLENAHAN: Twice that amount. Thank you. Kotlik  
14 residents, Anna and Willy Kompkof and Michael Hunt report Unit  
15 18 residents hunting in the southwest portion of Unit 22(A) for  
16 wolf, caribou and moose. Hunt adds that when the snow  
17 conditions are favorable, they hunt caribou and trap wolves and  
18 wolverines. Not everyone consistently uses caribou. Caribou  
19 are used especially when there is no harvest of moose, marine  
20 mammals, and other resources. The Native village of Hooper Bay  
21 indicates that community members are prepared to describe the  
22 areas they use and have used customarily and traditionally for  
23 caribou hunting. They need to have a reference to a map that  
24 shows federal public land in order to record it.

25  
26 Staff recommendations are that existing data suggests,  
27 but not conclusive, for supporting a positive customary and  
28 traditional use finding for Chevak, Hooper Bay, and Scammon  
29 Bay, for caribou in Unit 22(A). The reason for this is that  
30 the staff analysis primarily depend on the harvest ticket data,  
31 the community profile database and demographic records which  
32 they really don't have much of. However, residents are willing  
33 to provide information and need to be given a formal  
34 opportunity to record their customary and traditional use areas  
35 on maps. I suggest that we table the request until the  
36 regional councils can hear public testimony to further support  
37 the proposal or until formal customary and traditional use  
38 studies can be carried out for the three communities.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
41 translated) Do you have any comments regarding the Proposal 53  
42 relating to caribou? When this particular proposal was  
43 drafted, the three communities were left out relating to this  
44 regular proposal. Any comments?

45  
46 When the two staff members are done with their report,  
47 then it will be the people's turn to be seated in front of the  
48 council to make a statement relating to this specific proposal  
49 or any proposal there.



0083

1 MS. McCLENAHAN: Mr. Chairman, I did send out some  
2 (indiscernible) to the communities and did receive back some  
3 information (indiscernible - translating over testimony) that  
4 will be helpful today.

5  
6 Would you like me to proceed with Proposal 49?  
7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah. I would also like you to  
9 talk to us concerning Proposals 45 and 49.

10  
11 MS. McCLENAHAN: I believe that Dave Fisher already  
12 addressed Proposal 45. And so I will address Proposal 49.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: That will be fine.

15  
16 MS. McCLENAHAN: Did you receive -- do you have a  
17 supplementary copy?

18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: If you have some -- I don't know.

20  
21 MS. McCLENAHAN: Yes. If you need them, they're here.  
22 Shall I pass them?

23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Uh-huh.

25  
26 MS. McCLENAHAN: I'm going to be speaking to Proposal  
27 49 that was submitted by the Akiak and Akiachak IRA. That  
28 requests a positive customary and traditional use determination  
29 for moose in Units 17(A) for the residents of Quinhagak, Akiak  
30 and Akiachak, and in Units 17(B) for the residents of Akiak and  
31 Akiachak.

32  
33 This proposal, because Quinhagak is being spoken to  
34 under a separate proposal that John Dyasuk was speaking to  
35 about this morning, I will not be addressing Quinhagak in this  
36 particular proposal.

37  
38 Unit 17(A) is made up of 84% Fish & Wildlife Service  
39 administered land, with the remaining land being administered  
40 by others. The eastern half of the Togiak National Wildlife  
41 Refuge is located in Unit 17(A).

42  
43 Unit 17(B) is comprised of less than 6% federally  
44 administered land, and 92% State of Alaska administered land.  
45 Togiak National Wildlife Refuge is located in the westernmost  
46 corner of Unit 17(B). It coincides with the State of Alaska's  
47 upper Mulchatna controlled use area.

48  
49 The present customary and traditional use determination

50 for unit 17(A) is:

0084

1 For rural residents of Unit 17 and residents of  
2 Goodnews Bay and Platinum.

3  
4 For Units 17(A) and (B) those portions north and west  
5 of a line beginning from the Unit 18 boundary at the northwest  
6 end of Nenevok Lake, to the southern point of upper Togiak  
7 Lake, and northeast to the northern point of Nuyakuk Lake,  
8 northeast to the point where the Unit 17 boundary intersects  
9 the Shotgun Hills, and the residents of Kwethluk also have a  
10 positive customary and traditional use determination.

11  
12 For Units 17(B) and (C), rural residents of Unit 17 and  
13 residents of Nondalton, Levelock, Goodnews Bay and Platinum.

14  
15 It is a problem for the region, and particularly for  
16 the communities of Akiak and Akiachak being considered here,  
17 that the available written subsistence use data are very  
18 uneven. Few of the commonly used references included  
19 information on Akiak and Akiachak. A great deal of information  
20 is available for neighboring Kwethluk. Written information  
21 that is available has some drawbacks and needs to be used with  
22 caution.

23  
24 During the period from the 1920s until the late 1940s,  
25 reindeer herders in the lower Kuskokwim River used a large area  
26 that extends into parts of Unit 17(A) and the northwest part of  
27 Unit 17(B). Herders maintained in part their subsistence  
28 practices in the areas where the reindeer took them.

29  
30 Current ADF&G harvest ticket data are not particularly  
31 informative because they provide only a small amount of sports  
32 hunting information. Under state and federal regulations,  
33 there has been no open season for the harvest of moose in Unit  
34 17(A) since December 1980 due to low population numbers.

35  
36 The community profile database has limited information  
37 on the importance of moose in the subregion under discussion  
38 here, but figures from Kwethluk, Nunapitchuk, and Quinhagak  
39 show that in recent times, moose reportedly makes up 55 or so  
40 of the total subsistence diet. Moose provides variety to diet,  
41 is well liked food, and is traditionally used, especially  
42 during the holiday celebrations.

43  
44 Moose is one of those large variety of subsistence  
45 resources used in this subregion.

46  
47 The only subsistence use map for moose for Akiak and  
48 Akiachak is the one drawn by Ron Thuma, Fish & Wildlife Service  
49 Alaska Regional Office, Office of Subsistence in November of

50 1985. Rom Thuma's project gathered subsistence data for use in

0085

1 the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive  
2 Conservation Plan. Information for the maps was taken at  
3 community meetings in each village, where the elders and  
4 community hunters were invited to give information about  
5 hunting. Unfortunately, the list of people who attended the  
6 meeting was lost. I cannot find it. So we do not know who  
7 attended those meetings or how many there were in attendance.  
8 And so who provided the information were in those maps. But  
9 the maps show that both Akiak and Akiachak used the westernmost  
10 portion of Unit 17(B) for moose hunting. They do not show any  
11 information on Unit 17(A) though.

12  
13 A included the map that shows the areas that were  
14 indicated by those people. I think that we need to take into  
15 consideration recent public testimony that has been given. For  
16 example, reports by Fritz George yesterday. I think that is  
17 relevant (ph) to this issue. And also that report by  
18 John Dyasuk this morning would be relevant, too. Based on just  
19 the written materials alone that are available, my preliminary  
20 conclusions are to modify this proposal to grant positive  
21 customary and traditional use determination for Akiak and  
22 Akiachak for Unit 17(B), and to table the request for a  
23 positive customary and traditional use finding for these  
24 communities for Unit 17(A) until formal subsistence studies  
25 have been completed.

26  
27 That concludes my report. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

28  
29 MR. DAVID: Mr. Chairman.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: David O. David.

32  
33 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken and English translated) She  
34 just indicated that 17(B) is used by people from Akiachak,  
35 Aniak for harvest of moose. I harvest these moose as they are  
36 available.

37  
38 MR. NICK: Is it coming through?

39  
40 COURT REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)

41  
42 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken and English translated) I  
43 normally harvest whatever has antlers. As I understand it, 17,  
44 all of the state of Alaska is 17 -- is Unit 17. I don't know  
45 where 17 is and I don't know what the boundaries are. If I go  
46 hunting, all of my hunting grounds are in Unit 17. As far as I  
47 know since -- as I understand it, since Akiachak and Akiak  
48 aren't the only people in this -- aren't the only people in  
49 this area, I do believe Kwethluk people are in that area, too.

50 And even if I go to the coastal area, that's Unit 17, too. As

0086

1 I understand it, all of the land in this area is Unit 17. I  
2 want it to be known that I don't know where moose really are.  
3 For those people in that area, we don't know their situation.  
4 As I understand it, all land and people, although we -- even  
5 though we do not regulate for them, they -- it is imperative  
6 that we help those people from that area and I stress that in  
7 these meetings.

8  
9 What is important to me is our subsistence lifestyle.  
10 If we reach another month from our ancestors, we have used this  
11 land and its resources for our livelihood. They have no  
12 boundaries for harvest, and there is no 17 -- designated 17  
13 area. I will respond to Antone's question a little bit later.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Shall we go over all of 49?  
16 These two proposals will affect the residents of this region.  
17 It's 45 and 49.

18  
19 MS. McCLENAHAN: Dave Fisher spoke to 45 when he spoke  
20 earlier, and 49 I just spoke to. Do you want to consider  
21 those?

22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
24 translated) Is there any more questions in regards to these  
25 proposals? 49 on our agenda.

26  
27 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken and English translated) Oh,  
28 you were speaking to the wrong proposal.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Do you have any more questions in  
31 regards to these proposals? Thank you. At this time we'll  
32 have a break, but since these two people want to speak towards  
33 these proposals, one is Greg Roczicka. Greg, for AVCP.

34  
35 MR. ROCZICKA: Quyana, Mr. Chairman. My name is  
36 Greg Roczicka, (indiscernible), with AVCP, (indiscernible)  
37 Department. On January 23, one of the caribou co-management  
38 groups did meet with a (indiscernible), along with Fish &  
39 Wildlife Service and Fish & Game, and talked over all these  
40 proposals that are currently pending before both state and  
41 federal processes. I'm speaking mainly to Proposal Number 52  
42 here. A companion proposal was also submitted to the State  
43 Board of Game as an Agenda Change Request and it was accepted  
44 at their board at their October meeting in Sitka, and it will  
45 be taken up for consideration at their March -- at their  
46 regulatory meeting.

47  
48 Perhaps at the heart of this whole matter is that the  
49 Qavilnguut caribou herd, although being overwhelmed, to some

50 degree, by the Mulchatna herd at different periods of the year,

0087

1 it still remains a distinct and viable herd and which maintain  
2 fidelity to its own calving grounds. Granted, some numbers  
3 have, in recent years, been swept up and have gone back and  
4 started calving in the Mulchatna area, however there are  
5 significant numbers that still do maintain their traditional  
6 calving grounds around the area of (indiscernible). The major  
7 areas of discussion that we had regarding this proposal  
8 concerned the potential season opening date and whether or not  
9 these dates should be set as established season, rather than a  
10 "to be announced," and primarily, again, how to assure adequate  
11 protection of the smaller Qavilnguut herd.

12  
13 All of these points revolve around the common factor of  
14 when the Mulchatna herd makes its appearance in GMU 18 in  
15 significant numbers. It has minimal effects to the smaller  
16 herd. And the timing of its arrival from one year to the next  
17 certainly cannot be reliably predicted. It may be early in  
18 August, it may be later on in September, it might not be till  
19 October, we don't know. So fixing the season, you know, for  
20 definite dates could cause traumatic (ph) harm on the  
21 Qavilnguut herd if the season was open too early and the  
22 Mulchatna herd was late coming in, the main points of access of  
23 the Qavilnguut herd have traditionally gathered during that  
24 time are around areas, roughly, (indiscernible), and those are  
25 primary access points.

26  
27 As it stands at the moment, this proposal does provide  
28 a great level of flexibility in responding to the changes in  
29 the migratory patterns of the Mulchatna herd in a given year.  
30 It provides an ample opportunity for harvest when they are  
31 present in large enough numbers while maintaining protection.

32  
33 There was some concern, as I heard it this morning, on  
34 5 caribou bag limit, that's too excessive, that's too much.  
35 This proposal, again, speaks to that by having them to be  
36 (indiscernible) season so that it can be see how many animals  
37 are coming before the bag limit is set. By saying, up to 5  
38 caribou, that doesn't mean it's going to be 5 caribou every  
39 time. It may be 2, it may be 4, it may be 1, however that  
40 works out to. The way we're doing it now provides for  
41 responding to not knowing (ph) whether it will work out in a  
42 year from one to the next. The animals (indiscernible -  
43 interpreter speaking over testimony)

44  
45 The co-management group did unanimously support this  
46 proposal and they request some minor editing changes in the  
47 language as it appears in the packet. I don't know if you have  
48 52 before you, but in the second page area of the proposed  
49 regulation there's the word "guidelines." That should be

50 changed to "management objectives" because it more accurately

0088

1 reflects the structure of the plan and the dynamics of the  
2 populations it was created to address. And the guidelines  
3 management objective as far as what part of it are contained in  
4 Goal 1, A through E of the plan itself. And I have a couple  
5 copies of it with me if you haven't seen it and would like to.

6  
7 And following that the three sentences that speak to  
8 the federal registration permit requirement, that was more just  
9 a inadvertent over-(indiscernible) when the drafting was being  
10 prepared. That's under the "Reason for changing the  
11 regulation:" Again, it's an over-(indiscernible).

12  
13 Briefly, on Proposal 45, we did have the participation  
14 by teleconference of the area management biologist in  
15 Dillingham who lived in that area and studied their proposal.  
16 And he wanted to (indiscernible) that they had no intention of  
17 dictating what bag limits or regulations should apply over  
18 here. Their intent at the time was to provide for additional  
19 harvest (indiscernible) the Mulchatna herd having coming over  
20 consistently over the years, and they wanted to get something  
21 on the table to be addressed, and he begged their pardon not to  
22 (indiscernible) this area when they meet.

23  
24 That's about all I had on Proposal 52. One thing I  
25 would note, I guess at that meeting as well, Fritz George was  
26 also elected as the co-chair. Congratulations. I'm glad you  
27 were picked.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Thank you, Greg. Next it's --  
30 we've got one more person here, Philip Guy. (Yupik spoken and  
31 English translated) Okay, he filled in the form to present.  
32 We will allow you to speak at this point.

33  
34 MR. GUY: Quyana, Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken and  
35 English translated) As Greg indicated in regards to the  
36 Qavilnguut herd, I need not add more to that, but I wanted to  
37 present a little bit of the history of the co-management plan,  
38 concerning the Qavilnguut herd. This has been worked on since  
39 1990. As Randy Cajun -- the late Randy Cajun had put this plan  
40 together in collaboration with the AVCP, Natural Resources  
41 Group, ADF&G has assisted us, including Mike Coffing, including  
42 from the US Fish & Wildlife Service, staff has helped us in  
43 putting this -- formulating this plan together.

44  
45 The management plan, as it was formulated in regards to  
46 the Mulchatna herd, the Qavilnguut herd management -- they were  
47 included in the Qavilnguut Management Plan. This Proposal 52,  
48 as Greg Roczicka has presented, covers components of this  
49 management plan, and it's written accordingly. This designates

50 the bag limit for caribou, and as it is written, harvest bag

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1 limits are up to five at this point. It was the understanding  
2 of those present at the meeting as they worked on this proposal  
3 that although the bag limit was five caribou or as other  
4 resources are available during this hunt, they would harvest  
5 whatever they need, not necessarily five, but maybe one or two  
6 would be harvested based on need, as is customary not to take  
7 more than is needed to avoid wanton waste of caribou.

8  
9 As Greg Roczicka has presented, this affects our  
10 presentation from the co-management plan.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
13 translated) These two signed up to present in regards to these  
14 proposals. We're going to have a break at this point. After  
15 we come back from break, we give opportunity to John Andrew and  
16 also I would like to alert federal and state agencies to  
17 comment on proposals before we deliberate them here, right  
18 after we break. We'll have a five minute break now.  
19 Thank you.

20  
21 (Off record)

22  
23 (On record)

24  
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken) We're going to  
26 start out with Joan Hamilton.

27  
28 MS. HAMILTON: (Yupik spoken) I'm Joan Hamilton and I  
29 live here in Bethel, I work here in Bethel. And what I want to  
30 say was that number one, I think if you broadcast these  
31 meetings into the region it would be a real education for all  
32 the village residents, because hunting of caribou touches even  
33 the folks like in Chevak. Last weekend they were talking about  
34 hunting caribou. And, it's very important information that we  
35 need to know in the villages. And, number two, it's more  
36 important than the basketball that's on right now on the KYUK.

37  
38 Number two, I want to say that in -- when young men go  
39 out hunting with older men, like my son, Libby's uncles, it  
40 creates a bond between the older man and the young man. He's  
41 learning skills from his uncles and also he's gaining  
42 confidence as a man to help him face life. And it's not the  
43 kind of confidence they brag about, you know, they let him do  
44 this and that, the other thing; it's very quiet confidence that  
45 stays with the young man for all of their lives and they  
46 strong, all the men when they have this confidence. Quyana.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
49 translated) I also support your concern to air the broadcast of

50 these meetings. If we were to broadcast these meetings we

0090

1 would get support from others in our area and it would be  
2 educational for our young people and our school children if we  
3 broadcast these proceedings.

4  
5 At this point, John Andrew, our coordinator, will have  
6 the opportunity to speak.

7  
8 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, I'm John Andrew, (Yupik  
9 spoken and English translated) your council coordinator. As we  
10 present these proposals, we have traditional areas to present  
11 this proposal and the -- its analysis. And, secondly, I, as a  
12 staff member, need to present who is in opposition to these  
13 proposals, and those need to be presented. And, thirdly, this  
14 will be open to those that want to comment. And, fourth, this  
15 needs to be presented to the staff members to formulate, and  
16 finally, when there is no -- after the commentary period, it is  
17 up to you as a board to finalize the proposal.

18  
19 First, this first proposal -- this Proposal 52 states  
20 that from ADF&G, they defer postponing their statements, that  
21 the Qavilnguut Management Planning Group. When they are done  
22 with their work that they will present their version or their  
23 concerns regarding this proposal. In this proposal it is  
24 recommended that the opening period be extended. As written in  
25 the Federal Subsistence Regulations, there is a shortage in the  
26 time period -- open period, although it is open twice. And as  
27 it is written, Proposal 52 wants to increase the bag limit to  
28 five and to increase the open period from August through March.

29  
30 And on Proposal 53, this is a customary and traditional  
31 use proposal, and this was presented by the tribal councils.  
32 And as it is written, they want to be recognized as customary  
33 users of this resource from -- in this unit, the up river  
34 villages of Chuathbaluk, Aniak council. And this proposal, as  
35 it is written towards the C & T proposals, they will postpone  
36 or defer their comments to a later date, until a thorough  
37 analysis is done towards this before they make a decision.

38  
39 The Kuskokwim Native Association commented that they do  
40 not object to the including of Chuathbaluk, Aniak, and  
41 Napaimiut. This other community of this unit, they are not  
42 traditional and customary users of this area; Aniak,  
43 Chuathbaluk, Napaimiut, the inclusion of these village in Unit  
44 18. That this is not true was not a fact in that area. They  
45 are not aware of these people hunting in that unit, their  
46 naming Kuskokwim Native Association from Aniak, in making this  
47 comment.

48  
49 In regards to Proposal 54, the department stated that

50 they are deferring their comments towards this proposal until

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1 later.

2

3 Jerry Austin, including from others, St. Michael, there  
4 is no need for changes in this proposal to include these three  
5 villages as users of Unit 22(A), subsistence and customary  
6 users of 22(A), but they have begun to use this area over the  
7 past two, three years. Therefore they are not considered  
8 customary and traditional users of that Unit 22. Through  
9 Proposal 52 they are saying that they do not object to members  
10 of 22(A) to use or to harvest from their area as available.  
11 This has been the case since the earlier years.

12

13 On the flip side or the back page, this Proposal 45 is  
14 a part of Proposal 45. In regards to the caribou in the Togiak  
15 Region, if we were to hunt and harvest in the bay, to set the  
16 bag limit at two and to put the hunting season from October to  
17 the end of March. In addition to this they are supporting  
18 19(B) and 17. They presented this before to the Board of Game,  
19 and they want to defer their comments until after the meeting  
20 of the Qavilnguut Co-management Group, and the same with  
21 Proposal 49, they would like to defer their comments till after  
22 that group meets.

23

24 This is the extent of my presentation.

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Quyana. I think now that we  
26 would like to hear from federal agencies, comments on the  
27 proposals. Steve Kovac.

28

29 MR. KOVAC: Good morning, Mr. Chair. My name is Steven  
30 Kovac. I'm a wildlife biologist in the Yukon Delta Refuge here  
31 in Bethel. My primary duties are in research of Arctic mammals  
32 on the refuge. With regards to Proposals 53 and 54, the  
33 customary and traditional use determination proposals the  
34 refuge has no official comment on those. With regards to  
35 Proposal 45, that portion of 45 that deals with caribou in Unit  
36 18, and Proposal 52, which is that deals with caribou in Unit  
37 18, the refuge supports the recommendations of the Kilbuck  
38 Caribou Working Group in that it would provide both federal and  
39 state managers a high degree of flexibility on the movements of  
40 (indiscernible - translator speaking over testimony) as they  
41 come in, and also being able to provide maximum protection to  
42 the Kilbuck herd (indiscernible).

43

44 That's all we have on those at this time, Mr. Chair.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Thank you.

47

48 MR. ADERMAN: Mr. Chairman, my name is Andy Aderman,  
49 Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, and my comments are the same

50 as Steve just presented for the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge

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1 for Proposal 52 as amended.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Quyana. (Yupik spoken and  
4 English translated) We are now on the agenda to where it is up  
5 to us as a council to decide on these proposals. We will  
6 decide on these, but we need to consider those people from our  
7 area that subsist on the resources.

8

9 This first proposal, 45 and 49, one of the council  
10 members has stated that we need not work on these in the  
11 immediate time, but to consult with the people that use this  
12 area, this Unit 18. We need to collaborate with those people  
13 and meet with them first and then to make a decision on this  
14 proposal as a council.

15

16 I want to ask at this point in regards to Proposal 45  
17 and 49 how you would like to act on these two proposals.

18

19 MR. ANVIL: Mr. Chairman.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Antone.

22

23 MR. ANVIL: Antone Anvil, from Bethel. (Yupik spoken  
24 and English translated) These two proposals, 45 and 49, the  
25 subsistence users from those regions need to confer in regards  
26 to these proposals and to present to us their concerns, and it  
27 would be better if we decide on these two proposals thereafter.

28

29 MR. GEORGE: (Yupik spoken and English translated) As  
30 I understand it, they are recommending for us to defer our  
31 decision on this proposal until these parties have been  
32 consulted.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
35 translated) Does anybody want to comment in regards to these  
36 two proposals? You are welcome to make a motion on these two  
37 proposals to expedite this process.

38

39 MR. ANVIL: Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken and English  
40 translated) I make a motion to defer action on these two  
41 proposals until we get further information from these groups  
42 and to make a decision at a later date in the next meeting.

43

44 MR. DAVID: Second.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Motion has been made by Antone  
47 Anvil, seconded by David O. David to defer two proposal, 45 and  
48 49, at this time. Any more discussion?

49

MR. WHITE: Yeah.

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1 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Steven.

2

3 MR. WHITE: (Yupik spoken and English translated) Are  
4 the proposals' presenters not here at this time? If they are  
5 not here, we do not have adequate information, precise  
6 information in regards to these proposals. As we act on these  
7 proposals, we want to hear from the sources or the originators  
8 of these proposals before we support them, as these proposals  
9 are brought in. We need to understand precisely -- exactly  
10 what these proposals are from the people that wrote them. We  
11 need to hear from the mouth of the originator of the proposal  
12 before we act.

13

14 MR. NICK: We need to hear from the horses mouth, I  
15 guess.

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Roll call.

18

19 MR. GEORGE: Harry Wilde.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah.

22

23 MR. GEORGE: David O. David.

24

25 MR. DAVID: Yes.

26 MR. GEORGE: Paul Manumik. Ilarion J. Nicolai.

27

28 MR. NICOLAI: Yes.

29

30 MR. GEORGE: Fritz George, yes. Steven White.

31

32 MR. WHITE: Yes.

33

34 MR. GEORGE: Gene Peltola. Chuck Chaliak. Antone

35 Anvil.

36

37 MR. ANVIL: Yes.

38

39 MR. GEORGE: Paul Jones.

40

41 MR. JOHN: Yes.

42

43 MR. GEORGE: Lester Wilde.

44

45 MR. WILDE: Yes.

46

47 MR. GEORGE: Mr. Chairman, eight yeses and three

48 absent.

49

CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken).....45 and 49,

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1 they are deferred by original council of Yukon-Kuskokwim.

2

3 (Yupik spoken and English translated) The next  
4 Proposal 52, with regards to Unit 18, it's the caribou season  
5 and harvest limit. How would you like to act on this proposal,  
6 Proposal 52?

7

8 MR. WHITE: (Yupik spoken)

9

10 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken)

11

12 MR. WHITE: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
13 Mr. Chair, Steven White. This proposal we are considering, is  
14 it to increase the season?

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken)

17

18 MR. WHITE: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
19 Mr. Chair, I make a motion to adopt Proposal 52, in support of  
20 52.

21

22 MR. JOHN: Second.

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken) Is there any  
25 discussion?

26

27 MR. FISHER: Mr. Chairman, excuse me for the  
28 interruption. What I'm after is just a little bit of  
29 clarification.

30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Okay.

32

33 MR. FISHER: There is some difference the way Proposal  
34 52 is when it was originally proposed and the results of the  
35 Kilbuck Working Group. I think what you're after, I think you  
36 want to go along with what the working group recommended; am I  
37 correct there?

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken)

40

41 MR. FISHER: The results of their meeting on January  
42 23?

43

44 MR. ANDREW: Yeah, that's it.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Uh-huh.

47 MR. FISHER: Okay. And then I have one other point of  
48 clarification. If you go along with that and you have a "to be  
49 announced season" is your intention to have that "to be

50 announced" season similar to the way that 10-day moose hunt is

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1 handled, it's announced by the refuge manager; is that your  
2 intention sort of for that -- for the "to be announced" season?  
3

4 MR. WHITE: (Yupik spoken and English translated) They  
5 would like to increase the season, including the bag limit.  
6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Do you understand?  
8

9 MR. FISHER: Yes. I understand, but just a minor point  
10 of clarification. The way the season is opened, do you want  
11 that handled similar to the way that 10-day moose hunt is  
12 handled? It's a "to be announced" season and done by the  
13 refuge manager, he will announce when the season is. Do you  
14 want that handled the same way for caribou? May I'm not.....  
15

16 MR. WHITE: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
17 Mr. Chairman, as I understand it, there was an increase in the  
18 season in this proposal and that is a part of my motion.  
19

20 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Mr. George.  
21

22 MR. GEORGE: Quyana, Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken and  
23 English translated) With regard to the January 23 meeting, if  
24 I understand it correctly, the refuge manager or game biologist  
25 would be (indiscernible) caribou hunt by emergency order after  
26 the fall hunt (indiscernible - away from microphone).  
27

28 MR. FISHER: Well, it would be a "to be announced"  
29 season. The season would be announced by the refuge manager  
30 and probably in coordination with the Fish & Game.  
31

32 MR. GEORGE: (Indiscernible - away from microphone and  
33 translator speaking over him) emergency order, extending the  
34 opening.  
35

36 MR. FISHER: Right. Do you think we've covered this,  
37 Steve? The reason I seem to be belaboring the point,  
38 Mr. Chairman, is that we get clear to here and then it will go  
39 before the board better and they're going to understand.  
40

41 MR. KOVAC: Mr. Chair, what the Kilbuck Working Group  
42 asked or their motion was to put forward a recommendation that  
43 the existing hunt that's on the books now, where the federal  
44 hunt has a season, there's a December/January hunt, then a  
45 February/March hunt, and that is to be replaced in its entirety  
46 with a "to be announced" time. Similarly, to the Board of Game  
47 they are recommending the existing fall hunt that runs August  
48 to September be replaced in its entirety with a "to be  
49 announced" hunt. The state works through emergency orders.

50 The federal system works through an action of openings or

0096

1 closings announced either by the Federal Subsistence Board or  
2 by a local land manager designated by the Federal Subsistence  
3 Board. That's why Mr. Fisher is trying to get some  
4 clarification exactly what the council is recommending to the  
5 Federal Subsistence Board, so it's clean and straight-forward.  
6 The moose hunt that occurs in this region in the wintertime is  
7 announced by the local refuge manager, not the Federal  
8 Subsistence Board. The Federal Subsistence Board delegates  
9 that authority to the refuge manager here. And so what we're  
10 trying to get clear is on this particular recommendation that  
11 you're going to give to the Federal Subsistence Board on this  
12 "to be announced" hunt do you want it just a straight "to be  
13 announced" hunt or do you want the local refuge manager to  
14 announce when that hunt occurs in what season and harvest  
15 limits are going to be at that time?

16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Looking at this proposed  
18 regulation on caribous on 52, it looks like the season "to be  
19 announced" sometime between August 25 and March 31, and also  
20 that looks like some wording has been changed. The harvest  
21 limit of up to five caribou will be determined at the time the  
22 season is announced and will be based on the guidelines, and  
23 not only that, look like Kilbuck Caribou Herd Cooperative  
24 Management Plan and also in addition to the regulation it looks  
25 like eligible subsistence users may obtain a Federal Designated  
26 Hunter permit from the Yukon Delta Refuge, Togiak Refuge, or  
27 official village IRA and council permit -- something like that.

28  
29 MR. KOVAC: Correct, Mr. Chair. That is the proposal  
30 as published. And the recommendations to this council by the  
31 Kilbuck Working Group -- Phil, correct me if I get this wrong,  
32 please -- the recommendation by the working group says a  
33 harvest limit of up to five caribou to be determined at the  
34 time the season is announced. And this is a change in one of  
35 the objectives of the Kilbuck Caribou Herd Cooperative  
36 Management Plan. The next line, Federal Registration Permit  
37 requirement, that is to be struck and eliminated. This would  
38 make a -- that means the only thing a hunter would need is a  
39 standard orange caribou harvest tag that they would get for the  
40 hunt. That was an oversight, and that is the -- you know, that  
41 would eliminate the current federal permit requirement that  
42 exists for the (indiscernible). What the -- the last additions  
43 that you refer to, the addition of a federal designated hunter  
44 permit, that would allow the members of the 18 communities  
45 recognized to have (indiscernible) Kilbuck caribou, if any of  
46 those people so desire, they can contact either one of the  
47 refuges or their village IRA to get a blue card from them.  
48 It's a federal system that allows -- say, for example, I broke  
49 my leg in the fall, I couldn't go out to hunt. I can get one

50 of those cards, give it to my neighbor, if you're going out

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1 will you get my caribou for me. That would allow hunters, as  
2 long as they're hunting on refuge lands, that would allow them  
3 to harvest caribou for somebody and bring it back to them. The  
4 hunter could go out if he had one of these cards, he's carrying  
5 it with him, the cards of somebody else with him, he could not  
6 only get his, if the season is for three caribou, he could not  
7 only get his three, he could get the neighbor's three as well,  
8 and bring it all home legally and just drop by Fish & Wildlife  
9 Protection, he's got the paperwork that says he can have six  
10 caribou in my possession at this time.

11  
12 The only other thing is that -- you see in the shaded  
13 area is that the season is "to be announced," was Mr. Fisher is  
14 trying to make a clarification from this group is if you wanted  
15 to say "to be announced" or "to be announced by the refuge  
16 manager." That's a question of clarification there. If you  
17 leave it as it is, then the announcement will come from the  
18 Federal Subsistence Board in Anchorage and not from the local  
19 land manager, which means it may take a little bit longer to  
20 get that opened up, and the local land manager can respond to  
21 that in a faster fashion than the Federal Subsistence Board.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
24 translated) It seems like this needs to be revised as it is  
25 written. It is not immediately recognizable or understandable.  
26 The State Fish & Game has recommended that we defer our  
27 decision on this or, Philip, perhaps it will be better if you  
28 present this portion.

29  
30 MR. GUY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken and  
31 English translated) The "to be announced" clause, this  
32 proposal, the Qavilnguut Working Group decided that the other  
33 herds such as the Mulchatna herd, when they are abundant it is  
34 recommended that the Fish & Wildlife manager give the authority  
35 to announce an opening under this "to be announced" clause.  
36 The Fish & Wildlife Service make -- based on regulations the  
37 wildlife manager makes decisions based on populations and  
38 availability of these herds. The Federal Subsistence Board  
39 members are consulted before such openings are announced, and  
40 perhaps if they were to request such openings, emergency  
41 openings, perhaps a two or three day opening would be announced  
42 based on availability. This would be in consultation with the  
43 Federal Subsistence Board and it would be appreciated support  
44 for this proposal.

45  
46 Is that, if you heard the translation, okay?

47  
48 MR. FISHER: (Nods affirmatively) Thank you,  
49 Mr. Chair.



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1 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Go ahead.

2  
3 MR. COFFING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of  
4 the council. Mike Coffing, Fish & Game. Just to clarify, the  
5 comments that you have on the proposal from the state, on many  
6 of (indiscernible - translated over testimony) you can see that  
7 the state -- the state action was not to give a comment, it was  
8 to defer giving a comment. So when you see Proposal 52, and  
9 you see the state's comment was to defer, that was not -- the  
10 state is not recommending that you defer a proposal, it's just  
11 simply saying, at this time the state isn't going to comment  
12 until we make see the analysis. And at the time that paper was  
13 (indiscernible) the state did not have the analysis that you  
14 have today, so the state wasn't taking a position on the whole  
15 one way or the other. That's what I wanted to clear up.

16  
17 The other thing I wanted to say is that local  
18 biologists in the Subsistence Division have been involved with  
19 the Kilbuck Caribou Group for some time, working with them, and  
20 I know that we've always listened to the Kilbuck group and  
21 wanted to listen to what it has to say about caribou behavior  
22 and also to discuss proposals. We take very seriously the  
23 decisions that come out of that Kilbuck group. There are Fish  
24 & Wildlife people involved in those discussion, along with Fish  
25 & Game people. And although there is not a formal state  
26 position on this proposal, I would say that it's likely that  
27 the state is going to support what came out of the Kilbuck  
28 Caribou Group on this proposal. Their discussions are pretty  
29 thorough, the meeting that they had on the 23rd raised some  
30 questions that the group discussed thoroughly, and I guess I  
31 would say locally here, it's my view that what came out of the  
32 Kilbuck group is a recommendation probably is the right  
33 approach this time. Thank you.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Thank you, Mike. Lester.

36  
37 MR. WILDE: Mr. Chairman. Lester Wilde, Hooper Bay. I  
38 would like to amend the motion to include in the proposal,  
39 season to be announced sometime between August 25 and March 31,  
40 by the refuge manager.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken)

43  
44 MR. DAVID: Mr. Chairman, I second the amendment.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Seconded. Seconded by David O.  
47 David. We vote on the amendment first.

48  
49 MR. WHITE: Mr. Chairman, I call for question on the

50 amendment by roll call.

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1 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: On the amendment, roll call.

2  
3 MR. GEORGE: Harry Wilde.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah.

6  
7 MR. GEORGE: David O. David.

8  
9 MR. DAVID: Yeah.

10  
11 MR. GEORGE: Paul Manumik. Ilarion Nicolai.

12  
13 MR. NICOLAI: Yes.

14  
15 MR. GEORGE: Steven White.

16  
17 MR. WHITE: Yes.

18  
19 MR. GEORGE: Gene Peltola. Chuck Chaliak. Antone  
20 Anvil.

21  
22 MR. ANVIL: Yes.

23  
24 MR. GEORGE: Paul John.

25  
26 MR. JOHN: Yes.

27  
28 MR. GEORGE: Lester Wilde.

29  
30 MR. WILDE: Yes.

31  
32 MR. GEORGE: Mr. Chairman, eight yeses, three absent.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: The motion is passed on the  
35 amendment. Now the main motion. Any more discussion on the  
36 main motion?

37  
38 MR. WILDE: Question.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Question's been called for. Roll  
41 call.

42  
43 MR. GEORGE: Harry Wilde.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah.

46  
47 MR. GEORGE: David O. David.

48  
49 MR. DAVID: Yeah.



00100

1 MR. GEORGE: Paul Manumik. Ilarion Nicolai.

2

3 MR. NICOLAI: Yes.

4

5 MR. GEORGE: Fritz George, yes. Steven White.

6

7 MR. WHITE: Yes.

8

9 MR. GEORGE: Gene Peltola. Chuck Chaliak.

10 Antone Anvil.

11

12 MR. ANVIL: Yes.

13

14 MR. GEORGE: Paul John.

15

16 MR. JOHN: Yes.

17

18 MR. GEORGE: Lester Wilde.

19

20 MR. WILDE: Yes.

21

22 MR. GEORGE: Mr. Chairman, (Yupik spoken).

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Motion was in support of 53 (sic)  
25 Proposal by Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Council is passed.  
26 I'm sorry, 52. Sorry, 52.

27

28 MR. FISHER: Mr. Chairman, I want to apologize for the  
29 confusion I stated, but I think it's going to do us some good  
30 in the longrun. I think you've gotten everything straightened  
31 out, so now we know what you want, and I want to thank Steve  
32 and Phil and Mike for helping out, and I thank you for your  
33 patience.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: We are learning, too, Mr. Fisher.  
36 You've got to understand this now. We'll be experts pretty  
37 soon.

38

39 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Okay. The next is Proposal 53,  
42 revised customary and traditional use determination. (Yupik  
43 spoken and English translated) This proposal is in connection  
44 to the villages, Lower Kalskag, Aniak, Chuathbaluk, requesting  
45 recognition as customary and traditional users. It is a  
46 request to be included as such in this 53 in connection to  
47 their hunting in Unit 18.

48

49 MR. WHITE: Mr. Chairman.



00101

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Steve.

2

3 MR. WHITE: (Yupik spoken and English translated) I  
4 make a motion to support Proposal 53 to recognize these three  
5 villages as customary and traditional users of the resources in  
6 Unit 18.

7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: There's been a motion to support  
9 Proposal 53. Is there a second?

10

11 MR. ANVIL: Second.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Seconded by Antone Anvil.

14

15 MR. WHITE: Mr. Chairman, (Yupik spoken and English  
16 translated) this subsistence lifestyle is brought forth through  
17 this advisory council to act accordingly in making decisions on  
18 these natural resources of fish and wildlife. At the onset of  
19 the Claims Act they had lawyers and assistance from BIA, and I  
20 have listened in on these negotiations, and they designated at  
21 that time to share all resources among the people, and it was a  
22 recommendation by the ANCSA lawyer to share these resources.  
23 Paul Albert brought forth the situation that the Fish &  
24 Wildlife was governing a lot of the land in this area and at  
25 this time we're -- at that time he had brought up a concern for  
26 decision-making on subsistence till it was his stance that  
27 decisions be made accordingly by all people to use resources  
28 together collectively, and I wanted to mention that at this  
29 point.

30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Any more discussion?

32

33 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken)

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Question's been called for. Roll  
35 call.

36

37 MR. GEORGE: Harry Wilde.

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah.

40

41 MR. GEORGE: David O. David. David O. David.

42

43 MR. DAVID: Yes.

44

45 MR. GEORGE: Paul Manumik. Ilarion Nicolai.

46

47 MR. NICOLAI: Yes.

48

49 MR. GEORGE: Fritz George, yes. Steven White.



00102

1 MR. WHITE: Yes.

2

3 MR. GEORGE: Gene Peltola. Chuck Chaliak.  
4 Antone Anvil.

5

6 MR. ANVIL: Yes.

7

8 MR. GEORGE: Paul John.

9

10 MR. JOHN: Yes.

11

12 MR. GEORGE: Lester Wilde.

13

14 MR. WILDE: Yes.

15

16 MR. GEORGE: Eight yes, three absent.

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah. Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta  
19 Regional Advisory Council supports Proposal 53.

20

21 Next Proposal 54, Unit 22, caribou, revised customary  
22 and traditional use determination.

23

24 MR. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Lester.

27

28 MR. WILDE: Lester Wilde. I move that the advisory  
29 council support Proposal 54.

30

31 MR. WHITE: I second the motion.

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: There's a motion on the floor by  
34 Lester Wilde in support for Proposal 54, and seconded by Steven  
35 White. Any discussion? One more time, any discussion?

36

37 MR. ANVIL: Question.

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Question's been called for. Roll  
40 call.

41

42 MR. GEORGE: Harry Wilde.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yes.

45

46 MR. GEORGE: David O. David.

47

48 MR. DAVID: Yes.

49

MR. GEORGE: Paul Manumik. Ilarion Nicolai.

00103

1 MR. NICOLAI: Yes.

2

3 MR. GEORGE: Fritz George, yes. Steven White.

4

5 MR. WHITE: Yes.

6

7 MR. GEORGE: Gene Peltola. Chuck Chaliak.  
8 Antone Anvil.

9

10 MR. ANVIL: Yes.

11

12 MR. GEORGE: Paul John.

13

14 MR. JOHN: Yes.

15

16 MR. GEORGE: Lester Wilde.

17

18 MR. WILDE: Yes.

19

20 MR. GEORGE: Mr. Chairman, eight yeses and three absent  
21 to accept.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Regional  
24 Advisory Council supports Proposal 54.

25

26 Last one, Update, Implementation of Federal Subsistence  
27 Fisheries.

28

29 MR. ANDREW: Sue Detwiler.

30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Sue. Those are all the proposals  
32 to be presented this morning.

33

34 MS. DETWILER: Mr. Chair, I have a prepared  
35 presentation that might up to take 15 minutes, we're going to  
36 do a brief update on what we're doing to prepare for implement  
37 subsistence management, and part of the presentation is to ask  
38 you some of your comments. So, since we're close to lunchtime  
39 right now. I don't know if you want me to go ahead with the  
40 presentation or do you want to break for lunch?

41

42 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: With the presentation, go ahead,  
43 for 15 minutes, because some of our council members are going  
44 to start getting back to their village. (Yupik spoken)

45

46 MS. DETWILER: Okay. In that case I do some  
47 transparencies to put up on the screen up there, but given the  
48 time, maybe I won't. You have copies of all the transparencies  
49 in your book, in Section E. There are also some copies back on

50 the table.

00104

1           So, just as background information, this subject deals  
2 with what we're doing to extend federal subsistence  
3 jurisdiction over fisheries in navigable waters. Up until now  
4 the Department of Interior and Agriculture have taken the  
5 position that (indiscernible) does not apply to navigable  
6 waters. That position changed last year with (indiscernible -  
7 translation over testimony) said that what Title 8 subsistence  
8 priority does apply to navigable waters, and that final  
9 decision was made in May of -- a little bit before May of last  
10 year.

11  
12           In complying with that court's ruling, we started the  
13 planning process to extend the fisheries jurisdiction into  
14 navigable waters. Let's see, at that point (indiscernible -  
15 translation over testimony) here.

16  
17           COURT REPORTER: Sue, could you give me a second to  
18 change the tape?

19  
20           MS. DETWILER: Pardon?

21  
22           COURT REPORTER: Let me change tape here?

23  
24           (Electrical malfunction - power brown-out)

25  
26           MS. DETWILER: .....people to give us comments on how  
27 we could go about dealing with that situation. And the  
28 comments that we got back were pretty evenly distributed among  
29 three different viewpoints. One was to totally prohibit the  
30 sale or even trade of subsistence resources. Another one-third  
31 of the comments that we got back said to limit the limit,  
32 customary trade only to barter, no cash sales. And the third  
33 was to have no regulation of customary and trade at all.

34  
35           So that's a pretty quick overview of what the  
36 environmental analysis is and the stage that we're at so far in  
37 developing that analysis.

38  
39           The main thing the board is looking for is comments on  
40 the proposed rule. We have actually drafted a proposed rule  
41 for you to use to comment on. I'll just quickly go through  
42 that. It's got four parts to it and some of you are looking at  
43 it right now. It's got -- well, it's got four parts to it.  
44 The first two parts, Subparts A and B, are the program  
45 structure. It wouldn't -- the proposed regulations don't  
46 change much. The changes are highlighted in shading and strike  
47 out, labeling what is supposed to be included.

48  
49           The part that is probably most important to you are the

50 Subpart C and D regulations. Subpart C includes customary and

00105

1 traditional use determinations. And Subpart D is the actual  
2 on the ground subsistence fishing regulations.

3  
4 So there are several pages of those proposed  
5 regulations. I don't know if you want to go into them now or  
6 -- and after the body (indiscernible - translator speaking over  
7 translator) is there anything in particular in those  
8 regulations, or if you want to submit comment, if it's  
9 individual that you've had more time to review them,  
10 (indiscernible) your comments until March 4 or 3rd.

11  
12 That's all I have. Thank you.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Okay. Thank you. (Yupik spoken  
15 and English translated) Any comments to the report? Seems  
16 like it's just a definite report for the council. Do you have  
17 any more? That's all?

18  
19 MS. DETWILER: That's all, unless you have questions.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Okay. Is it -- no questions.  
22 (Yupik spoken and English translated) Next meeting will be --  
23 down to the agenda -- next meeting that's been handed down from  
24 the coordinator is going to be in October 1 and 2. That's the  
25 next scheduled meeting, Yukon Delta, Village of Hooper Bay.

26  
27 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken and English translated) The  
28 comment that was made by Antone Anvil.

29  
30 MR. MOSES: He wants a clarification on what the  
31 earlier statement that was made by Antone Anvil or to respond.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: John Andrew wants to respond at  
34 this time.

35  
36 MR. ANDREW: (Yupik spoken and English translated) The  
37 federal hunt and others in the state, there is -- if anybody  
38 can't go out and hunt, if they have a permit anybody that has a  
39 permit can give it to his son or his nephew and go hunting for  
40 him. And on the other -- and also under the state they can  
41 hunt under what they call the proxy system. If an individual  
42 is over 65 years of age and cannot hunt for himself, can also  
43 be permitted to have someone perhaps harvest for them. So  
44 those people who hunt for those people can be identified as  
45 designated hunters for the unit.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: David O. David.

48  
49 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken)



00106

1 MR. MOSES: That was the comment that was made by  
2 Antone Anvil, and so David O. David's concern was to make sure  
3 that it goes forward and is clarified for everybody's concern.

4  
5 MR. JOHN: (Yupik spoken and English translated) How  
6 about there's a clause in there that those people have to have  
7 a license. Does that person who is hunting for an individual  
8 that cannot have to have license on him?

9  
10 MR. ANDREW: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
11 Under the permit system there is an instruction, under the  
12 state whoever is going to hunt, he's got to have a license, and  
13 aside from that, if an elderly is over 65 and they have a  
14 license or permit that -- and it's a lifetime permit or  
15 license.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: David O. David.

18  
19 MR. DAVID: Mr. Chairman, (Yupik spoken)

20  
21 MR. MOSES: It's just a comment. David O. David's  
22 comment was that why people have a lifetime permit for a  
23 license, and he responded that he has a license that don't, and  
24 so he can hunt even though David O. David's asleep, whenever  
25 he's ready to do, his key people are moving, his license to him  
26 in his own feeling is his own license; his ability to go out,  
27 and nobody is going to come in from the outside world and tell  
28 him when and when not to hunt. So his ability to do his own  
29 license.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: So, that's the extent of our  
32 meeting at this time. (Yupik spoken)

33  
34 MR. WHITE: Mr. Chairman, (Yupik spoken and English  
35 translated) before you go from here -- oh, that one was taken  
36 care of yesterday.

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah, okay.

38  
39 MR. WHITE: I just wanted to make a comment that these  
40 regional council members, each one of their votes are our  
41 strength. That's the spirit that we would like to have, the  
42 spirit and forwardness of the council we would like to feel  
43 about. If one additional vote is added to the council it will  
44 strengthen, and they all have the power to establish each the  
45 decision. Each and every one has to have a desire to harvest  
46 whatever is needed, so thereby I always make an attempt to be  
47 at all meetings. And I have asked my wife if she can't move  
48 about by herself. So I asked a family member to be sure and  
49 stay with my wife so his spirit of being on the board is a

50 strength for the Natives.

00107

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Thank you, Steven. If there  
2 isn't any more comments, we are now at the stage of closing the  
3 business.

4  
5 I would like to make a comment regarding the  
6 translators. Leo, Chuck and Trim Nick, we'd like to extend our  
7 appreciation for having served these last two days of the  
8 session. So having the translation of this nature caused our  
9 meeting to go forward without too much trouble. Also the  
10 staff, we appreciate their coming here to be with the council  
11 and we thank the Kuskokwim Community College for giving the  
12 meeting place at this time.

13  
14 And when I go home I've got a big meeting coming up,  
15 the Yukon Drainage Fishermen Association, we're expecting 67  
16 confirmed people from up river, all from Department of Fish &  
17 Game and also Fish & Wildlife people that are coming in. This  
18 is the biggest Yukon Drainage Fishermen Association meeting in  
19 the whole Yukon at Mountain Village. It starts on the 10th.  
20 I'm going to be chair, so I'll have to take a break. I hope  
21 that nobody calls me and tells me to talk at a meeting. I've  
22 got to rest my tongue. And I invite you to that meeting if you  
23 are able to make it, because we're going to work on -- we're  
24 also going to work on Katie John lawsuit and subsistence  
25 fishing.

26  
27 So at this time I want to thank you myself for being  
28 able to be here and supporting us. At this time.....

29  
30 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken and English translated) This  
31 regional committee, will they be represented at that meeting?

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
34 translated) I don't know. I asked but all of the chairmans  
35 are not going to be giving air fare or per diem, but as an  
36 organization from their homes we'll be able to give them air  
37 fare and pretty much what you need.

38  
39 I'm going to ask Antone Anvil for the benediction.

40  
41 MR. ANVIL: (Benediction in Yupik)

42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken) David O. David  
44 made a motion, seconded by Steven White. All in favor say aye.

45  
46 IN UNISON: Aye.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Carried by a majority.

49



00108

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

10  
11 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 65 through 107  
12 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the  
13 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council Public Meeting,  
14 Volume II taken electronically by Laurel L. Evenson, on the 6th  
15 day of February 1997, beginning at the hour of 8:30 o'clock  
16 a.m., at Bethel, Alaska;

17  
18 THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript  
19 requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by  
20 Laurel L. Evenson to the best of her knowledge and ability;

21  
22 THAT I we are not employees, attorneys, or parties  
23 interested in any way in this action.

24  
25 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 14th day of February  
26 1997.

27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33

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