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

4

5 VOLUME II

6

7 March 7, 2003

8

9:00 a.m.

9

Chevak, Alaska

10

11 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

12

13 Harry Wilde, Sr. Chair

14 Mary Gregory

15 John Hanson

16 Nick Andrew, Sr.

17 James A. Charles

18 Philip Moses

19 Lester Wilde, Sr.

20 John Thompson, Sr.

21

22 Regional Coordinator, Alex Nick

23

24 Sophie Evan, Interpreter

25 Joseph "Trim" Nick, Interpreter

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1

PROCEEDINGS

2

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(Chevak, Alaska - 3/7/2003)

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5

(On record)

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CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Good morning. I think this morning we'd be able to start teleconference.

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PROCEEDINGS

(Chevak, Alaska - 3/7/2003)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Good morning. I think this morning we'd be able to start teleconference.

Proposal 28 or Proposal 33. Don, which?

MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, good morning. Don Rivard with the Office of Subsistence Management. We're ready to go with No. 33. I just have to make a phone call to my office.....

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. Okay.

MR. RIVARD: .....and we'll get Pat McClenahan on the line.

(Pause - placing phone call)

MS. McCLENAHAN: Pat speaking.

MR. RIVARD: Hi, Pat. Don here. We've started the meeting and we're ready for your presentation. And I'm going to put you on the speaker system here.

MS. McCLENAHAN: Okay.

MR. RIVARD: Go ahead, Pat.

MS. McCLENAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm Pat McClenahan, Staff anthropologist. I'd like to present the analysis for Proposal WP-03-33.

The draft staff analysis for this proposal can be found beginning on Page 167 at Tab B as in boy.

Proposal WP-03-33 was submitted by Peter Peterson of Mountain Village. It modifies Proposal WP02-31 which was deferred by the Federal Subsistence Board in May, 2002. This current amended proposal requests expanding the existing positive customary and traditional use determination for moose in the southern portion of Unit 21(E) to add the rural residents of the lower Yukon villages.

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1                   The existing customary and traditional  
2 use determination is Unit 21(E) moose, residents of Unit  
3 21(E) and residents of Russian Mission.

4  
5                   The proposed Federal regulations are Unit  
6 21(E), south of a line beginning at the eastern boundary  
7 of Unit 21(E) near Tabernacle Mountain, extending  
8 easterly to the junction of Paimiut Slough and Innoko  
9 Slough, and southeasterly in the direction of Molybdenum  
10 Mountain to the juncture of Units 21(E), 21(A) and 19(A),  
11 residents of 21(E) and Nunam Iqua, Alakanuk, Emmonak,  
12 Kotlik, Mountain Village, Toklik, Pitka's Point, Saint  
13 Mary's, including Andreafski Town Site, Pilot Station,  
14 Marshall, Russian Mission, Scammon Bay and Hooper Bay.

15  
16                   Unit 21(E), remainder, residents of Unit  
17 21(E) and residents of Russian Mission.

18  
19                   Map 1 on Page 168 shows the federally  
20 managed lands in Unit 21(E). Map 2 on Page 170 shows the  
21 proposed area and the extent of Federal lands in the  
22 southern portion of Unit 21(E). They are a portion of  
23 Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, and BLM managed  
24 lands. In the southern portion of Unit 21(E), that is  
25 the subject of this proposal, approximately 71 percent of  
26 the lands are under Federal management, 25 percent are  
27 Fish and Wildlife Service administered lands, 46 are  
28 Bureau of Land Management managed lands, and 29 percent  
29 are administered by the State of Alaska or are native  
30 corporation lands.

31  
32                   The exiting C&T determination was adopted  
33 from State regulations at the beginning of the Federal  
34 subsistence program in 1990. Appendix 1, beginning on  
35 page 183 gives the regulatory history of requests to  
36 change C&T determinations for moose in Unit 21(E).  
37 Appendix 1 shows the long history of requests for C&T in  
38 Unit 21(E).

39  
40                   When WP02-31 was deferred last year, the  
41 Federal Subsistence Board directed staff to work with the  
42 Western Interior and the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta  
43 subsistence Regional Advisory Councils to resolve this  
44 issue. At Board's direction, a workshop was convened in  
45 October 2002. This analysis was developed from the  
46 results of that meeting.

47  
48                   Table 1 on Page 172 gives information  
49 showing that the proposal communities have relied on  
50 moose as an important subsistence resource for a long

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1 period of time. The proposal communities are made up  
2 predominantly of Yup'ik speaking people who have historic  
3 roots in the lower Yukon River region. Maps provided by  
4 VanStone and Snow show that these groups and the Ingalik  
5 used the proposal area in the 19th century.

6

7 Tables 2 and 3 on Pages 176 and 177  
8 provide information on cumulative moose harvests from the  
9 ADF&G harvest data base. According to reports by  
10 subsistence users, the subsistence moose harvest in the  
11 region is very under-reported. Additionally formal  
12 harvest studies of moose and brown bear by Anderson,  
13 Udermal (ph) and Brown in 1998 and 1999 also found that  
14 established harvest ticket systems underestimated harvest  
15 in rural communities in the middle Yukon and Koyukuk  
16 Rivers region.

17

18 For those moose that were reported, the  
19 tables provide this information and show that the  
20 southern portion of Unit 21(E) is and has been a primary  
21 subsistence resource use area for moose for the proposal  
22 communities for at least the past 20 years.  
23 Anthropologists believe that the hunting pattern and  
24 subsistence use area patterns have remained relatively  
25 stable in the region since the 19th century, would shift  
26 time to time due to increases or declines in the animal  
27 populations.

28

29 Moose hunting in southern Unit 21(E) by  
30 the lower Yukon River communities now takes place almost  
31 exclusively in the fall during September according to  
32 ADF&G harvest records and to the reports of subsistence  
33 users. If adopted, the proposal will provide residents  
34 of the proposal communities the opportunity to hunt moose  
35 during Federal seasons on Federal lands within the  
36 southern portion of Unit 21(E).

37

38 Our preliminary conclusion is to support  
39 the proposal. The proposed regulation can be found on  
40 Page 180. It will read: Unit 21(E), south of a line  
41 beginning at the eastern boundary of Unit 21(E) near  
42 Tabernacle Mountain, extending easterly to the junction  
43 of Paimiut Slough and Innoko Slough, and southeasterly in  
44 the direction of Molybdenum Mountain to the juncture of  
45 Units 21(E), 21(A) and 19(A), residents of 21(E) and  
46 Nunam Iqua, Alakanuk, Emmonak, Kotlik, Mountain Village,  
47 Toklik, Pitka's Point, Saint Mary's, including Andreafski  
48 Town Site, Pilot Station, Marshall, Russian Mission,  
49 Scammon Bay and Hooper Bay.

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1 Unit 21(E), remainder, residents of Unit  
2 21(E) and residents of Russian Mission.

3  
4 If members of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta  
5 and Western Interior Subsistence Regional Advisory  
6 Councils who attended the Board-directed committee  
7 meeting at OSM offices in Anchorage in October 2002 are  
8 present at this meeting, they may wish to speak to this  
9 issue as well.

10  
11 That concludes my report, Mr. Chairman.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Pat, I like to  
14 know these -- I find out that one community drop out from  
15 here, what is the reason, one community is dropped off.  
16 Chevak. In the first when we have a meeting in  
17 Anchorage, all these, they were agreed to put it on this  
18 21 recommendation include Chevak, and we would like to  
19 know why it's drop off.

20  
21 MR. RIVARD: Go ahead, Pat.

22  
23 MS. McCLENAHAN: It must have been a  
24 misunderstanding. I did not understand that Chevak was  
25 going to be included. Would you like to modify this  
26 proposal to include Chevak at this time?

27  
28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, it should be  
29 included, because when we a meeting with some boys from  
30 the Holy Cross in Anchorage, those villages was  
31 recommended because they only go moose hunting only in  
32 the summertime, not in the winter.

33  
34 MS. McCLENAHAN: I will include it and I  
35 will report that when I go to the Western Interior  
36 meeting in two weeks.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I think we  
39 would appreciate it, because me and John when we have  
40 meeting with those boys, we make sure that we include the  
41 people or villages that hunts in the falltime on 21(E),  
42 because 21(E) and 18, Unit 18, they're back to back  
43 areas. They're 21 and from 18 they're back to back in  
44 Paimiut Slough limit there, they're back to back, and so  
45 we try to make sure, let them understand that these  
46 villages, they're really concerned and been hunting in  
47 that area for long time.

48  
49 MS. McCLENAHAN: I'm be sure that it gets  
50 included and information about it as well.

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1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you,  
2 Pat. Yeah, go ahead, Mike.

3  
4 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, are you ready  
5 for Department of Fish and Game comments on this  
6 proposal?

7  
8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

9  
10 MR. COFFING: Okay. Thank you.

11  
12 The Department supports the approach  
13 taken in the C&T analysis to focus on the pattern --  
14 portion of Unit 21(E) rather than the entire subunit.  
15 The level of documented use of moose in Unit 21(E) by  
16 some of the communities that are proposed is very  
17 limited. The Department also believes that there are  
18 other communities with a pattern of hunting moose in this  
19 area that's similar to that for communities that are  
20 included in the analysis.

21  
22 Consequently the Department recommends  
23 that the analysis be expanded to include consideration of  
24 these additional communities. If this is not done, the  
25 Department feels that the analysis should at least  
26 clearly indicate that this proposed C&T finding, if  
27 adopted by the Federal Board might be incomplete, and  
28 that additional communities likely will be considered for  
29 inclusion for C&T use in Unit 21(E) in the future.

30  
31 That concludes the Department's comments.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Mike.  
34 Other agencies and organizations comment on 21(E).  
35 Myron.

36  
37 MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
38 Myron Naneng, president of AVCP. A couple of questions.

39  
40 First one, is this only limited to the  
41 fall hunt?

42  
43 MR. RIVARD: Pat, do you want to answer  
44 that, please?

45  
46 MS. McCLENAHAN: Sure. Mr. Chairman,  
47 Myron, this is a C&T determination, and as such it  
48 doesn't address seasons. However, history shows that  
49 this is -- that these communities use this area in the  
50 falltime, so we don't anticipate a change in that

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1 pattern.

2

3 MR. NANENG: If it's only going to be  
4 determined for seasonal hunts, I think there's a whole  
5 group of villages that also utilize this area for moose  
6 that are being excluded under the proposal. If it's --  
7 if it includes the winter hunts, there are many villages  
8 within the Kuskokwim area that are not included, which we  
9 feel should be added, because many of the people do rely  
10 on winter moose if they have not gotten their fall moose  
11 to be able to at least put meat in their freezers. So I  
12 would request that the Staff consider including those  
13 villages on the Kuskokwim and in the tundra villages that  
14 do utilize this area for their subsistence hunt for  
15 moose.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Myron.  
20 Fish and game local advisory committee comment on 21(E).  
21 Summary of written public comment.

22

23 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, no summary of  
24 written public comments on Proposal 33.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Public comment for  
27 specific proposal. Will you state your name and where  
28 you're from?

29

30 MR. TRULUK: Peter Truluk. I'm president  
31 of Chevak Traditional Council.

32

33 (In Yup'ik)

34

35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Don, go ahead.

36

37 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, for Pat's  
38 benefit, who's on line, if it's possible, could we do  
39 this in English?

40

41 MR. TRULUK: Okay.

42

43 MR. RIVARD: If that would be all right?

44 Okay.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. Yeah. Okay.  
47 Yeah, if you could.

48

49 MR. TRULUK: Yeah, I wish some of the  
50 elders were here, but historically I will briefly say

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1 some what I know and heard from, you know. In the past  
2 Kashunuk people were provided with sea mammal meat and  
3 oil to the Interior people, you know, what you call  
4 customary trade.

5  
6 And also for many years our people had  
7 this notion that they were restricted from hunting these  
8 moose until we all learned to understand the regulations,  
9 State or Federal. And then now, past 20 years people  
10 have been hunting up in that area, starting to hunt in  
11 the falltime by boat.

12  
13 I know for sure that there are families  
14 that use one boat, a lot of them anywhere from two to  
15 three families per one boat to go all the way up to even  
16 Paimiut and Holy Cross.

17  
18 If this Council or Federal Board or State  
19 are going to regulate these subsistence regulations, that  
20 they do not exclude any village, because it's going to  
21 create more problems in the future generations. And I  
22 mean, it is -- you know, we, Hooper Bay and Chevak and  
23 Scammon, we all have common needs of the big game, too.  
24 And excluding Chevak is not a right thing to do. Quyana.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Pat, and  
27 there's another one here that why Bethel area and the  
28 Kuskokwim area was not included on this recommendation.

29  
30 MS. McCLENAHAN: Mr. Chairman, if you  
31 will recall, I'm following the recommendations of the  
32 committee meeting that was held in October here in the  
33 Office of Subsistence Management. If you wish to change  
34 the preliminary staff recommendation, the Council can do  
35 so by amending this analysis.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you,  
38 Pat. Regional Council Advisory Council deliberations.  
39 You hear that. John.

40  
41 MR. HANSON: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.  
42 Chairman.

43  
44 Yeah, Pat, when we had that meeting in  
45 Anchorage, we took -- well, there was the villages from  
46 along the Kuskokwim, we took those names out, because it  
47 would take them too long to go around to the Bering Sea  
48 and to the Yukon and all the way up to Paimiut and the  
49 Paimiut Slough, and we put them under winter hunt which  
50 would be accessible by snow machine.

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1                   And when we took these other coastal  
2 villages, like Chevak, Hooper, Scammon, we included  
3 Chevak in it, and on this proposal I don't see Chevak.  
4 But on the reason for changing the regulation, that's  
5 where I see Chevak. So if the Regional Council vote on  
6 this proposal 33, could we amend it and put -- include  
7 Chevak into it?

8

9                   MS. McCLENAHAN: Yes, I recommend that  
10 you do that, that when you vote you say you adopt with  
11 the amendment and then add whatever it is that you wish  
12 to see added to this analysis.

13

14                   MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

15

16                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

17

18                   MR. L. WILDE: When this proposal first  
19 came before this Council, it was presented as a proposal  
20 for the fall hunt, getting C&T for moose in the fall hunt  
21 at the time that it was presented. I assume that's what  
22 it was. And I -- the time. Is that -- it was presented  
23 I noticed that the three villages were missing, and my  
24 motion included the three villages, and it also included  
25 Chevak, and I can't understand how Chevak was dropped.  
26 The only explanation I got was that there was no reports  
27 from Chevak coming in, but I know for sure that every  
28 year where I hunt there's always one or two or even three  
29 residents of Chevak that are hunting in the same area  
30 that I am. And I've been going up to that area for  
31 approximately 40 years.

32

33                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Dario Notti,  
34 will you come up here and state your name and where  
35 you're from?

36

37                   MR. NOTTI: Dario Notti from Bethel. And  
38 if you'll remember, at that meeting at Pat McClenahan's  
39 office in October, I spoke for the Johnson River villages  
40 and the Kuskokwim villages. And the Johnson River has  
41 always had a portage that goes over to the Yukon right at  
42 the area of Paimiut Slough. And also it goes into Pike  
43 Lake right behind Kalskag, which on the north side is in  
44 21(E). And they've always hunted in that area. And so  
45 people from the Kuskokwim, even in the summer don't have  
46 to go to the Bering Sea. All they'd have to do is go to  
47 the Johnson River and up into 21(E).

48

49                   But every time we mentioned the Kuskokwim  
50 villages, the Western Interior members at that meeting

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1 objected. And so maybe it's better for all of us to  
2 submit the villages that are currently listed, maybe with  
3 the addition of Chevak, and at least get a C&T  
4 recognized, and then we can come back -- and once it is  
5 approved to have a C&T, then we can come back and add  
6 Kuskokwim and Johnson River villages as an option later.  
7 It may be better to get the foot in the door now, then go  
8 back with the whole list that we originally had, and have  
9 Western Interior not approve it. That's one option.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Myron Naneng.

12

13 MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 Myron Naneng.

15

16 Even looking at the historical records  
17 that happened, proposed to have C&T recognized, I've seen  
18 villages like on the Kuskokwim like Akiachuk and Akiak  
19 have made proposals to be recognized under C&T at this  
20 time.

21

22 One of the concerns that I have is that  
23 if we only request approval of the villages that are  
24 currently proposed on this to be recognized as C&T, it's  
25 going -- the other villages on the Kuskokwim who may have  
26 C&T are going to have a tough time being included, so I  
27 would suggest that they be included up front, and then as  
28 all things usually go, it's easier to negotiate back down  
29 rather than trying to negotiate up to be included. So  
30 that would be my suggestion.

31

32 And I would request that the Board  
33 consider including all the villages that maybe have  
34 utilized this, like the tundra villages and those on the  
35 Kuskokwim at the very beginning rather than having to  
36 have those villages try to be included at some point in  
37 the future, because the way the things have gone, and,  
38 you know, C&T determinations are now more recent than  
39 people's historical use, the Yup'ik people's historical  
40 use. I would recommend that they be -- it will be  
41 inclusive from the very beginning rather than trying to  
42 exclude them now and trying to add them later.

43

44 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Myron.

47 John Thompson.

48

49 MR. THOMPSON: My name is John Thompson  
50 from St. Mary's.

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1                   Mentioning about winter hunting. I think  
2 these two should be separate proposals, because summer  
3 opening is something that you have one whole month  
4 opening, and the winter is something else.

5  
6                   (Off record - power outage)

7  
8                   (On record)

9  
10                  CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, John Thompson,  
11 will you start over?

12  
13                  MR. THOMPSON: Okay.

14  
15                  (Pause - calling Pat McClenahan)

16  
17                  CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, John Thompson,  
18 will you start over?

19  
20                  MR. THOMPSON: What I said was earlier  
21 there was a.....

22  
23                  (Off record - power outage)

24  
25                  (On record)

26  
27                  CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Keep the  
28 teleconference going. Pat, where we were? Oh, yeah.  
29 Johnny Thompson, okay. Johnny Thompson, go ahead.

30  
31                  MR. THOMPSON: Yeah, I'll start all over  
32 again.

33  
34                  I think these two hunting seasons should  
35 be separated in the proposal, because that one month in  
36 the summer is September, is different from the winter  
37 hunting, because I've heard in the past that they have a  
38 cap of something like two months and 14 days for hunting,  
39 and that move back and forth depending on weather. And I  
40 think that should be separate from this summer season.

41  
42                  And the other thing I'm -- when they  
43 mention Kuskokwim area, I would want to point out a  
44 village to enter this, and they should enter themselves  
45 and the Board should make a decision how it should be  
46 done.

47  
48                  Thank you.

49  
50                  MR. L. WILDE: Are we still having a

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1 meeting? Where's our Chairman?

2

3 MR. HANSON: Well, the vice chair is  
4 here.

5

6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Anyone else?

7

8 MS. McCLENAHAN: Mr. Chairman.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Go ahead, Pat.

11

12 MS. McCLENAHAN: Pat McClenahan. I would  
13 just like to comment that the Board requested that we  
14 revisit this subject after it has failed for the past 10  
15 years. And that the Board asked the committee to meet  
16 and to come to a consensus, and they will be looking for  
17 this consensus decision that was -- or recommendation  
18 that was made by the committee, and they'll weigh heavily  
19 on the committee's work to come to a decision.

20

21 Adding the Community of Chevak is right,  
22 because it was my error. I dropped that community not on  
23 purpose.

24

25 But to add other communities to this  
26 proposal at this time I think would not be looked upon  
27 favorably by the Board, because of the consensus work  
28 that was done here by the Committee.

29

30 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pat, even though I'm  
33 a chair, I would like to say something concerning  
34 Kuskokwim and also this proposal.

35

36 Right now I think we could support what  
37 we have, include Chevak. And then next year, whenever,  
38 we could amend and include the Kuskokwim. Is that  
39 workable, if we do it that way?

40

41 MS. McCLENAHAN: Are you asking me, Mr.  
42 Chairman? If you are, I would say that would be a good  
43 idea. I think the consensus between Western Interior and  
44 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regions is very important at this  
45 point.

46

47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I was asking  
48 you. John Hanson.

49

50 MR. HANSON: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.

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1 Chairman.

2

3                   Yeah, Pat, if we went ahead on this  
4 proposal, like I said earlier, we amend it to include  
5 Chevak, and then maybe in the fall we take it back and  
6 include the Kuskokwim villages, which is the Johnson  
7 River. That one there goes clear up into behind Kalskag,  
8 and the people from around that area, they go by boat in  
9 the fall to Johnson River all the way up into, I guess  
10 Dario just mentioned earlier, to Paimiut Slough, almost  
11 to Paimiut Slough behind Pike Lake or some place there.  
12 Would that be workable?

13

14                   MS. McCLENAHAN: Yes, I would suggest  
15 that that's what you do.

16

17                   MR. RIVARD: Why don't you go ahead and  
18 repeat that, Pat?

19

20                   MS. McCLENAHAN: I suggest that that's  
21 what you do.

22

23                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: May I ask Myron  
24 Naneng one more time to come before here in front of us,  
25 what he's feeling about this proposal right now that  
26 we're just include Chevak without Kuskokwim.

27

28                   MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
29 Myron Naneng, AVCP.

30

31                   I think at some point these -- the  
32 Board's -- or you guys are going to have to consider  
33 including the Kuskokwim villages on C&T determination.  
34 You know, if we went ahead with this current proposal,  
35 you know, we would support it, but at this time there  
36 should be and definitely be inclusion of the Kuskokwim  
37 villages, because the way that the language is termed  
38 right now, it doesn't say that it's only for the fall  
39 hunt, and if some of the people or Board members are  
40 saying that it's only for the fall hunt, maybe that would  
41 be acceptable, but at some point there's got to be  
42 inclusion of those villages, some villages that go up  
43 into that area during the fall, and also make C&T  
44 determination also for the winter hunt, because not  
45 everyone catches a moose during the fall season, so  
46 they'd like to take that opportunity to take a moose  
47 during the wintertime when there are opportunity's  
48 provided, so that's how we feel on that.

49

50                   I think that right now accepting the

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1 proposal, not limiting it to the whole year would have to  
2 be reconsidered, so I would feel that include the  
3 Kuskokwim villages as part of the C&T determination at  
4 some point. So I just wanted to convey that.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Myron.  
7 James.

8  
9 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10  
11 I agree with Myron, because I've seen  
12 hunters at both seasons, fall and winter from Kuskokwim  
13 area hunting in 21(E), even they hunt in the fall into  
14 Unit 18. There is no visible line. They still go out to  
15 21(E) and catch their moose. And most of the hunters  
16 from Johnson river go to that area where they usually  
17 hunt, and not too many go up the main Kuskokwim River,  
18 but I -- people from tundra villages go to 21(E) a lot  
19 through the portage and all that like Dario said. And  
20 they hunt again in winter in that area.

21  
22 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Alex Nick.

25  
26 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For  
27 the record, I'm Alex Nick, I'm Regional Council  
28 coordinator for Y-K Regional Council.

29  
30 Pat, I would like to try to refresh your  
31 memory as well as Dario's and John Hanson who were there  
32 at the Unit 21(E) moose meeting held in Anchorage with  
33 the representatives of GASH area. Robert Walker was one  
34 of those people, and also a representative from Tanana  
35 Chief's conference.

36  
37 My understanding during that meeting was  
38 that after meeting, during the course of the meeting, the  
39 representatives from Y-K area and also from GASH area  
40 came to understanding that, you know, Y-K area moose  
41 hunters do not use all of Unit 21(E). They only use a  
42 portion of the Unit 21(E) as you included in the map.

43  
44 And with that understanding, my  
45 understanding from the meeting was that the Y-K  
46 representatives and Unit 21(E) representatives agreed  
47 that it's agreeable to only approve or recommend portion  
48 of Unit 21(E) to be used by residents of Unit 18, and  
49 also by Unit 19 residents. And what happened according  
50 to what I gathered from the comments that were made

00165

1 during that time, representatives from GASH area, from  
2 Holy Cross, Grayling, Shageluk area, commented that they  
3 would have supported the first proposal if they knew the  
4 residents of Y-K -- or rather residents of Unit 18 only  
5 used portion of Unit  
6 18 -- or rather Unit 21(E).

7  
8 That was my understanding, and if, you  
9 know, maybe Pat, you could explain that to the Regional  
10 Council. John Hanson was there, Mike Savage was there.  
11 Dario represented AVCP. And Robert Walker and a couple  
12 other people from GASH area represented Unit 21(E).  
13 Rather Western Interior Region.

14  
15 And I'd like to request the Council's  
16 memory if I may. The original intent of the proposal was  
17 to get C&T to go moose hunting in Unit 21(E) in early  
18 August -- rather late August season, in the falltime, due  
19 to disaster, fishery disaster in Yukon area. And that  
20 was my understanding. Quyana.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

23  
24 MS. GREGORY: As I look at the background  
25 history and other information that's within this  
26 proposal, I see that the Bethel area was poorly  
27 represented. The two representations on this were from  
28 Yukon and none of the RAC members from the Bethel area  
29 were in there, so I feel cheated, because my people were  
30 not included in there.

31  
32 And I know, because people intermarry to  
33 different races, some of my in-laws go to Innoko River to  
34 hunt in the falltime, and I know some other people from  
35 Bethel area, even along the coast have cabins up there,  
36 as Charles will attest to.

37  
38 So if we accept it as written, I'm not  
39 going to vote for it and -- unless the Bethel area and  
40 the Johnson River and the central Yup'ik, Southcentral  
41 people are included in there.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I kind of need help  
44 right now. What recommendation we should have. I really  
45 should like to delete this, because it's going to be a  
46 long conflict more like each other's if we don't include  
47 Kuskokwim right now. Don, will you give it some kind of  
48 lead to do?

49  
50 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, this is Don

00166

1 Rivard with the Office of Subsistence Management.

2

3                   Your Council has a number of options.  
4 You can vote on the proposal as it is written, and go  
5 with the recommendation of the staff. You can modify it  
6 any way you want as a recommendation. You can table it  
7 for a later date. So you do have all sorts of options,  
8 just like any other proposal. You can make a  
9 recommendation on an amendment to this. For example,  
10 you've already talked about adding Chevak, so that would  
11 be a modification to the Staff recommendation, because  
12 Chevak at present is not part of the recommendation. And  
13 again you have other options as well.

14

15                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

16

17                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Carl Jack, will you  
18 come up here in front?

19

20                   MR. JACK: Yeah, Carl Jack. I represent  
21 the Chair on Interagency Staff Committee.

22

23                   These will be discussed in April.

24

25                   I agree, number 1, I agree with Pat  
26 McClenahan that the Board will probably give a lot of  
27 weight to the meeting that was held in April. I mean, in  
28 October. In October. Because that was their idea for  
29 the people from the Yukon area, and the people from  
30 around here on the Y-K to work it out. I think they will  
31 give a lot of weight to that.

32

33                   They will take action in May. They will  
34 take action in May on this proposal. So as Don said, you  
35 have a number of options that you can take.

36

37                   One thing to keep in mind is I have heard  
38 a number of times that the regulations are only good for  
39 a year. Not the wildlife. Not the C&T.

40

41                   MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, if I may, Don  
42 Rivard.

43

44                   This is a C&T determination, so it would  
45 -- if it's passed, then it would be a regulations that's  
46 ongoing unless other proposals came forward, and the  
47 Board also changed C&T, another C&T determination.

48

49                   MR. JACK: Yeah. Thank you. Thank you,  
50 Don.

00167

1                   One thing to keep in mind is people's  
2 views on western management, in recognizing western  
3 management is changing as we're talking. There's people  
4 out there say in Kipnuk and Kwig and Kong or some other  
5 places that don't really pay attention to regulations.  
6 In other words, when the time comes to go hunting, they  
7 will go, but as we're talking, people's views in  
8 recognizing the importance of western management  
9 subsistence regulations, season and bag limits, there's  
10 slowly as I -- at least to me, they're slowly beginning  
11 to recognize the value in these. So on a long run I can  
12 say that more people adhering to the regulations that are  
13 being developed.

14  
15                   I say this, because in winter time, like  
16 about this time of the year when there's a lot of snow  
17 fall, people from Kipnuk would just get on their snow  
18 machine, head to Yukon, get their moose and come back.  
19 That's what they do. And I don't have any doubt that  
20 they will continue to do that in the future.

21  
22                   I also know a number of people from  
23 Toksook Bay, for example, that do hunt in 21(E). They  
24 would take the Kashunuk River, go to Yukon, come, as they  
25 usually tell, they get to Yukon, just below Pitka's Point  
26 or something like that. So there's people from Nelson  
27 Island area that do hunt in 21(E).

28  
29                   I also am aware that there's probably  
30 going to be some resistance from the people or villages,  
31 members of the villages from 21(E) seeing a lot of people  
32 going to their hunting areas and harvest moose.

33  
34                   So I just want to point these out.

35  
36                   I will say that the Board will take  
37 action in May on this proposal one way or the other. So  
38 your options are open. Thanks.

39  
40                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Carl.  
41 Regional Advisory Council, we are supposed to be on  
42 deliberation on this. Lester.

43  
44                   MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, when I  
45 attended the -- pardon me. When I attended the meeting,  
46 the GASH meeting up at Holy Cross, the agreeing factor of  
47 the GASH members was that this was a fall hunt. That was  
48 the reason why GASH, the members of GASH at the time, or  
49 the Board members of the GASH organization agreed to  
50 this, or they voted unanimously, because they during the

00168

1 discussion agreed that it was the fall hunt.

2

3 And I think we worked like it was  
4 presented that this has been an ongoing thing for a long  
5 time, and this is the only time that we've been able to  
6 reach consensus to the area that we hunt. And I think --  
7 with that, I think we should go ahead and act on 33 with  
8 a provision that there is -- that Chevak be included, and  
9 that there will be other villages added on in the event  
10 that there is the report back from the anthropologist or  
11 whoever makes the C&T investigation. Until such time  
12 that the investigation for the other villages on the  
13 Kuskokwim come in.

14

15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Is that your motion,  
16 Lester, or just a recommendation?

17

18 MR. L. WILDE: Well, Mr. Chairman, I  
19 think I'll move to that fact.

20

21 MR. CHARLES: Second.

22

23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on  
24 the floor. Motion by Lester Wilde, and second by James.  
25 If there's any discussion. Don.

26

27 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, just to make sure  
28 that I'm clear on the motion, my understanding is that  
29 the motion is to support the Staff recommendation with a  
30 modification to include Chevak.

31

32 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, would it be  
33 possible also to.....

34

35 REPORTER: Lester, your microphone.

36

37 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, would it  
38 also be okay just to say that this is just for the fall  
39 hunt? A recommendation from this Council that this be  
40 only for the fall hunt.

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The motion has been  
43 include Chevak, and just for the fall hunt. Second, you  
44 understand that, James?

45

46 MR. CHARLES: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I  
47 support Lester.

48

49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Then any other  
50 discussion from the Council? Myron, (in Yup'ik)

00169

1 MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2

3 Since Don asked for clarification, I also  
4 wanted to know that the other part of the motion that  
5 Lester made was also included in the language that other  
6 additional villages will be determined at a later point  
7 in time, because that's the way I understood his motion,  
8 so just for clarification for us who are in audience who  
9 may have to end up having to convey the message that they  
10 were excluded by the motion when the motion stated that  
11 they should -- some villages at some point in the future  
12 would be included in the C&T determination.

13

14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Don.

15

16 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, you can have that  
17 language in your motion. It's just that it would take  
18 another proposal from some organization or individual to  
19 get that process started, including you could even -- it  
20 could even be a proposal from your council.

21

22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Don. Any  
23 other discussion from the Council.

24

25 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to  
26 amend the motion to.....

27

28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

29

30 MS. GREGORY: .....add the Kuskokwim and  
31 the southwestern part -- western part of Alaska villages  
32 to be included in the later -- we'll start working on it.

33

34

35 (In Yup'ik)

36

37 INTERPRETER: I want to amend the motion  
38 to include the Kuskokwim area villages.

39

40 MS. GREGORY: The fall hunt is what, from  
41 what month to one month?

42

43 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: September.

44

45 MS. GREGORY: September. (In Yup'ik)

46

47 INTERPRETER: Since there's a lot of  
48 hunters from these areas that work in or that travel to  
49 that part to do their fall hunting for moose.

50

00170

1 MS. GREGORY: My amendment is to include  
2 the Kuskokwim and the lower Kuskokwim and the tundra  
3 villages.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Before I recognize  
6 you, I've got Ida.

7  
8 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

9  
10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Ida.

11  
12 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
13 Mary, Mr. Chairman, Council, in Mary's motion to amend --  
14 excuse me, motion to amend could better be served if you  
15 act on the first motion, and after you've acted on that,  
16 the make a motion that this Council puts that forward as  
17 a proposal for the next go round of proposals. Do you  
18 understand me?

19  
20 MS. GREGORY: I understand you.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Ida. Go  
23 ahead.

24  
25 MR. PROBASCO: Mr. Chair, just for  
26 clarification for the Council, between now and late  
27 October, we'll have ample time that myself and Alex Nick  
28 and Pat McClenahan, the Staff, we can work with the  
29 Council, we can draft the proposal and get it to your  
30 liking, and then it could be submitted to office so that  
31 Staff can write an analysis for it next winter, and then  
32 it would go before the Board for review in May 2004.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.  
35 Any other discussion from the Council. I repeat what I'm  
36 saying. Other discussion from the Council.

37  
38 (No discussion.)

39  
40 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, question on  
41 the motion.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The question has been  
44 called for. I'm going to request for a roll call.

45  
46 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Thompson.

47  
48 MR. THOMPSON: Yes.

49  
50 MS. GREGORY: Phillip Moses.

00171

1 MR. MOSES: Yeah.

2

3 MS. GREGORY: Mary Gregory, no. John  
4 Hanson.

5

6 MR. HANSON: Yeah.

7

8 MS. GREGORY: Harry Wilde.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

11

12 MS. GREGORY: Nick Andrew.

13

14 MR. ANDREW: Yeah.

15

16 MS. GREGORY: James Charlie.

17

18 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

19

20 MS. GREGORY: Lester Wilde.

21

22 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.

23

24 MS. GREGORY: One, two, three, four,  
25 five, six, seven yea's and one nay.

26

27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The motion carries.

28 One thing that there included in the next round we will

29 revise this, include the Kuskokwim.

30

31 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to  
32 make a motion. Ida, can you come and help me?

33

34 (In Yup'ik) (Not translated)

35

36 MS. GREGORY: I'd like to make a motion  
37 to include the Kuskokwim and the -- how do I go about

38 that?

39

40 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you. Mr.

41 Chairman, Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member.

42

43 Mary, the motion would be that you move  
44 that this Council forward a proposal to do C&T to add to  
45 the C&T those communities on the Kuskokwim and Johnson  
46 River, or whoever you term them, for the next round of  
47 proposals.

48

49 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I move that  
50 we make a proposal, what else? Can you make my motion

00172

1 there so I can.....

2

3 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I could make  
4 the motion.

5

6 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

7

8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on  
9 the floor to include Kuskokwim in the next round proposal  
10 time. Is that's what it is?

11

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

13

14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, Lester.

15

16 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I would like  
17 to move that the Kuskokwim villages that have traditional  
18 C&T in this area, that a proposal to include the  
19 Kuskokwim villages that have C&T in this area be drafted  
20 as soon as possible, if not sooner.

21

22 MS. GREGORY: I second the motion.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The motion it has  
25 been second. Discussion.

26

27 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry, I  
28 forgot to include the Johnson River area. I'd like my  
29 second to concur.

30

31 MS. GREGORY: I concur.

32

33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more discussion.

34

35 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

36

37 INTERPRETER: This motion made by Lester  
38 is to include the Kuskokwim area, lower Kuskokwim area  
39 and the Johnson River villages in the customary and  
40 traditional use determination as soon as timely possible  
41 or in the next round of proposal process. In the second  
42 -- next round of proposals.

43

44 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, there was  
45 motion and a second. Any other discussion.

46

47 (No discussion.)

48

49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If there's not, all  
50 who favor say aye.

00173

1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Opposed, same sign.

4

5 (No opposing votes.)

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried.

8

9 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, just because

10 the Yukon has C&T, GASH was already informed me of this,

11 it does not exclude people from those areas to go hunt in

12 the fall hunt as long as they have a hunting license and

13 a harvest ticket, they're able to hunt. C&T only

14 determines the time when the resource and the species are

15 deleted. Okay.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yes, Lester, I think

18 everyone understand that, yes, what you're saying.

19

20 MR. L. WILDE: Thank you, Pat. I think

21 Mr. Chairman forgot that you were still on the phone, and

22 I want to make sure that we thank you for all the effort

23 and the work that you've always done for us in the past

24 and will be doing for us in the future.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Myron.

29

30 MS. McCLENAHAN: Thank you. May I make a

31 request?

32

33 MR. RIVARD: Just a second, Pat.

34

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

36

37 I have a question. You may have a

38 hunting license to go to the fall hunt in August or

39 September from the State of Alaska. My question is, just

40 because you have that, but you do not have a C&T

41 determination to be able to hunt in that area, like 21(E)

42 or a portion of 21(E), will you be able to hunt moose

43 within that area, or are you going to be excluded because

44 your village has not been determined to have customary

45 and traditional use of that area?

46

47 MR. RIVARD: Pat, do you want to answer

48 that, please?

49

50 MS. McCLENAHAN: You can hunt under a

00174

1 State license in that area.

2

3 MR. RIVARD: And then something -- well,  
4 when does C&T kick in? Do you want to explain that, Pat?

5

6 MS. McCLENAHAN: When there's a shortage  
7 of resources and the Federal Subsistence Board has to  
8 choose among users, then the people who have customary  
9 and traditional use will have what we call a subsistence  
10 priority for hunting in that area, and it can be closed  
11 to other hunters.

12

13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mike.

14

15 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, Mike.

18

19 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, thank you. A  
20 little bit of feedback here. Mike Coffing, Fish and  
21 Game.

22

23 Communities and residents who do not have  
24 C&T for 21(E) will be able to hunt in 21(E) under the  
25 State regulations and under the State seasons and the  
26 State bag limits. So what that means is that communities  
27 and residents that do not have C&T can come up there and  
28 hunt beginning September 5. Those that have C&T will be  
29 able to go up there and hunt on August 20, so that's a  
30 difference. You have to have a State hunting license  
31 regardless. A State harvest ticket, regardless. But  
32 those that have C&T will be able to hunt 15 days sooner,  
33 that is beginning August 20th, in Unit 21(E), 15 days  
34 sooner that do not have C&T who will start hunting under  
35 September 5 under the State regulations.

36

37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Mike.

38 Thank you, Pat.

39

40 MS. McCLENAHAN: Mr. Chairman, may I ask  
41 a favor of you. If you're going to get together while  
42 you're at this meeting and discuss a future proposal for  
43 the Kuskokwim villages, could you please me with a list  
44 of the villages that you would propose in that proposal?

45

46 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yes, Pat, we will.

49

50 Yeah, I think this opportunity of this

00175

1 certain proposal teaches some of us a lesson. When we  
2 are planning to have a meeting as Councils, all this  
3 agenda always be circled around, circulated in the  
4 Yukon-Kuskokwim. I hope that we all learn that some of  
5 these proposal are very important. We wouldn't take so  
6 much time to go over it here in front of you, because it  
7 would be better if you come over to meeting as a  
8 preparer, and we the Council, if we come over before you  
9 as a preparer, too. And we think you for this  
10 opportunity that we learned this morning.

11  
12 MR. RIVARD: Okay. Pat, I'm going to  
13 sign you off now. Thank you.

14  
15 MS. McCLENAHAN: Okay. Thank you.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. (In Yup'ik)

18  
19 MR. BOYSCOUT: (In Yup'ik)

20  
21 INTERPRETER: I'm from Chevak. My name  
22 is Ikehilunguk (ph). I am one of the elders from Chevak.

23  
24 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

25  
26 MR. BOYSCOUT: (In Yup'ik) David  
27 Boyscout.

28  
29 INTERPRETER: I want to speak of the way  
30 it used to be here, and the way I've experienced it here  
31 in my village. My fellow citizens here in the village.  
32 this is reflecting on how to live more in harmony,  
33 because that takes effort and work.

34  
35 In our rearing of our children from the  
36 child -- from childhood to the time they enter school,  
37 there is no system developed for teaching. This is what  
38 I want to speak about.

39  
40 And I want to mention how this village  
41 got started, because I lived through that. Earlier on  
42 villages sites were separate. They were like specks.

43  
44 MR. L. WILDE: May I have your attention,  
45 please. We have an elder here speaking. Would you give  
46 him a little bit of respect and sit down and listen to  
47 him?

48  
49 Thank you.  
50

00176

1 MR. BOYSCOUT: (In Yup'ik)

2

3 INTERPRETER: These small sites are now  
4 centralized into large villages. This was the work and  
5 the vision of our former leaders to unify these separate  
6 sites. We will not segregate villages and sites. Since  
7 fish and game management -- since the onset of Fish and  
8 Game management. There are camps in the spring that are  
9 where most of the gathering and hunting and fishing  
10 occur, where the start of the peak, and that is affected  
11 by management. We've worked to -- we strive to work  
12 together with enforcement and fish and game agencies in  
13 maintaining our spring camp lifestyle where most of the  
14 harvesting occurs. We need to work together as if we  
15 were from the same community, although we are from  
16 different areas, and work for different agencies or  
17 entities. I know in their own mind and rightful mind  
18 they are with us and working with us. These that have  
19 this passed down are still in our memory and in our  
20 systems to work with and to share with those, even those  
21 that are not from within our village.

22

23 Since many villages and sites are now  
24 centralized, visitors from outside the area are welcome.  
25 Since villages are comprised of what used to be different  
26 sites throughout the area. I wanted to share this with  
27 you, because I experienced it and I have seen the  
28 development. Because many former traditional sites have  
29 congregated in centralized areas, you are welcome  
30 anytime, even if you travel from village to village.

31

32 I wanted to share this with you, and I  
33 know this. We are considered villages and our land was  
34 given to us by the government, or deeded by the  
35 government.

36

37 Regulations and laws infringe on our land  
38 and what was given to us. Laws and regulations are  
39 imposed on us, and we accept them without question. I  
40 think as it is now, the villages need to work out from  
41 grassroots in dealing with problems, rather than dealing  
42 with those from outside.

43

44 Schools were a part of the BIA in the  
45 earlier days, and we have taken control of our schools,  
46 and then boundaries were developed. Rural education  
47 areas, REAAs were developed, so that the local people  
48 could be in control of the school system. And this was  
49 developed to improve the system so that it does not come  
50 from outside, but from within the local.

00177

1                   Our airports, our village school, and  
2 other developments within our community. This is not any  
3 different.

4  
5                   The hunters that come into our area from  
6 other parts, they are welcome to come, because we in turn  
7 go to their areas to catch fish for example and other  
8 resources and games. We are mixed together and --  
9 because our needs are different and sites for harvesting  
10 are in different areas.

11  
12                   I believe the boundary system is  
13 detrimental to this, and this setting sites and limits  
14 based on boundary is not -- may not necessarily be a good  
15 idea, but there are improvements. The boundaries will  
16 not go away, but it's something that's kind of -- that's  
17 like a missing link.

18  
19                   Resources for harvesting, it's been said  
20 for a long time -- traditionally we have been told not to  
21 -- encouraged not to use monitoring methods.  
22 Traditionally, because it not -- resources are not  
23 man-made. The western system did not create. The  
24 resources are part of the land, and those that are  
25 standing today are here to use that resource, including  
26 the driftwood that we need to heat our homes. All  
27 resources living and non-living, inanimate, parts of the  
28 land are a part of creation.

29  
30                   The concept of conservation that we hear  
31 of today. What we are trying to conserve, in time if it  
32 is its destiny, will diminish and perhaps go away. It's  
33 been traditionally said, we've been told that this would  
34 be happening, and we see it happening today.

35  
36                   I believe he's talking about the  
37 extinction of species.

38  
39                   This is how things work, and today we are  
40 -- we live in the cash economy, and a lot of what we do  
41 and what works is now operated by money and economic  
42 system. People that are going through shortages or  
43 hardship seek help from other areas for aid, and that's  
44 the way it used to be. There was no trade-off or money  
45 exchanged. There was no limiting of hunting areas, and  
46 that was a way of reciprocating for those that have  
47 shortage is opening up your area for hunting and fishing.

48  
49                   Our work in this work, this management  
50 system that are working on needs to work that way. If

00178

1 there is a shortage of resource, we cannot say that they  
2 are no longer -- if the resource is no longer going to be  
3 around, every living thing or on land or organism  
4 eventually fades away.

5  
6 Resources are not as abundant as they  
7 used to be today. Each year it seems to be a little more  
8 pronounced.

9  
10 I wanted to share some of these things  
11 with you, because I do not agree with boundary, creating  
12 boundaries and limiting those around the boundary,  
13 because that is not the way, that we will be closing  
14 doors on those that normally have traditionally used.  
15 And this will -- this concept is in writing, and it's in  
16 a document and by regulation, but we need to work on what  
17 will benefit our community and our neighbors.

18  
19 The Federal system, we have -- we are  
20 always told to adhere to regulations and laws of the  
21 Government. Our village site would have perished.

22  
23 The work that we are doing, and for the  
24 harmony of villages and the sites that are now in  
25 existence, what you're doing is good, doing for  
26 inclusion, so that there is less conflict. Fish and Game  
27 and Fish and Wildlife managers or workers have managers  
28 or their higher ups or the Government systems.

29  
30 Since a lot of what we do and of the work  
31 that is now here is linked to Government funds, we are  
32 given a lot of aid through money, and this is the way it  
33 is in many of the villages and many of the communities  
34 today.

35  
36 I wanted to mention these things to you  
37 and I'm grateful of what I'm hearing, that the need for  
38 language, certain language in laws and regulations to --  
39 so there is inclusion and that there will be less  
40 conflict. And if you enforce this or advocate this, we  
41 will be more unified and there will be less contention.  
42 These that are working within our communities towards  
43 this end.

44  
45 Since resources move around, and some  
46 areas don't have them available, there's need to move  
47 around. For example, there is no caribou in our area.  
48 Our people travel great distances to harvest the caribou  
49 where it exists today, because that's how all --  
50 everything, the ecosystem is.

00179

1                   And some areas are impoverished. They  
2 don't have economic base, there's no money. And there is  
3 -- we have no jobs and economic base in our area.  
4 Whereas other areas are richer in that. We need to -- in  
5 developing these management regulations, we need to see  
6 these different areas a little bit more unified as one.  
7 Boundaries, there are boundaries in existence.

8

9                   I believe it would benefit areas, our  
10 areas most to develop our own laws and systems from  
11 within rather than from outside. I believe the boundary  
12 system is here to stay, and the land has been conveyed to  
13 our villages, and they have ownership.

14

15                   Although we have not fully agreed with  
16 the boundary system, because we have neighbors, we follow  
17 along and work around that in decision-making as to  
18 regulations and other management issues. We are not  
19 against Fish and Game Enforcement agencies, but we would  
20 want to work together, particularly in our camp sites in  
21 the spring when the harvest season begins. We have a  
22 rule. We have rules now not to shoot or kill a certain  
23 resource.

24

25                   We in the village like the camp.  
26 Biologists come to this camp, to Chevak in the start of  
27 the waterfowl season to set up their camps. And they  
28 prepare for their monitoring each spring out of here.

29

30                   I wanted to share some of these things  
31 with you today to add to what some of the discussion and  
32 the deliberations that are happening this morning.

33

34                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Quyana.

35

36                   MS. GREGORY: Quyana, Mr. Boy Scout.

37

38                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you.  
39 And we also welcome latecomers as usual. Yukon Drainage  
40 Fishermen Association and also Dan Bergstrom.

41

42                   At this time we left out some of the  
43 items. As one of them is March 6th and 7th, 2000, March  
44 22, 2000 minutes. But my understanding they are ready to  
45 approve at this time.

46

47                   MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

48

49                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

50

00180

1 MR. L. WILDE: Since I was the one that  
2 was questioning the -- a portion of the minutes where  
3 this whole thing started, after looking over the minutes  
4 and finding the corrections made, I'd like to move that  
5 we approve the minutes of March 6th and 7th, 2002, and  
6 March 22nd, 2002 as corrected.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on  
9 the floor. If there's any second to the motion.

10  
11 MS. GREGORY: Second. I second the  
12 motion.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary second it.  
15 Discussion.

16  
17 (No discussion)

18  
19 MR. THOMPSON: Question.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question has been  
22 called for. All who favor say aye.

23  
24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Opposed say no.

27  
28 (No opposing votes.)

29  
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried.  
31 March 6,7, 2000, March 22, 2000 are approved.

32  
33 I think this time that we continue  
34 teleconference that we're supposed to have to -- we try  
35 to catch up our agenda.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: While we're waiting  
38 for teleconference, it look like some of us, some of the  
39 people will go sometime this afternoon, so I think we  
40 have to start speed up a little bit what we're doing  
41 right now.

42  
43 (Pause - calling Willard Church)

44  
45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, we're going to  
46 go ahead and go over this Proposal 28.

47  
48 MR. PROBASCO: Mr. Chair, members of the  
49 Council, Proposal 28 was submitted by Willard Church of  
50 Quinhagak, and he requests that there not be a trophy

00181

1 devaluation requirement when the Alaska Department of  
2 Fish and Game seals subsistence brown bears harvested in  
3 the Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area for  
4 Federally-qualified subsistence users. The proponent  
5 believes that the current Western Alaska Brown Bear  
6 Management Area trophy devaluation requirement is  
7 disrespectful to the integrity of the hunt, is  
8 disrespectful to the spirit of the bear, and is  
9 disrespectful to the hunter whom the bear gave its life  
10 to.

11

12 The existing Federal regulation are as  
13 follows. If the skin and skull of a bear taken in the  
14 Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area is removed from  
15 the area, you must first have it sealed by an Alaska  
16 Department of Fish and Game representative in Bethel,  
17 Dillingham or McGrath. At the time of sealing, the  
18 Alaska Department of Fish and Game representative shall  
19 remove and retain the skin of the skull and the front  
20 claws of the bear.

21

22 Mr. Chair, the proposed regulation would  
23 delete from language that requirement that at the time of  
24 sealing the Department of Fish and Game representative  
25 shall remove and retain the skin of the skull and front  
26 claws of the bear.

27

28 If this proposal were to be adopted, the  
29 intent of the proposal is to allow subsistence hunters to  
30 send or remove their complete brown bear hides from the  
31 Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area without any  
32 trophy devaluation. This proposal would remove the  
33 Federal trophy devaluation requirement, but not the State  
34 requirement. Sealing is required by the State for brown  
35 bear hides before they can legally be sent from the area.

36

37 When a hunter has a brown taken under the  
38 Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area regulations for  
39 sealing under State law, the Department of Fish and Game  
40 requires that the skin of the head and front claws are  
41 removed and kept by the Department of Fish and Game.  
42 Because of this, this could create confusion and law  
43 enforcement problems.

44

45 In addition, the transportation of bear  
46 parts between states and countries is subject to both  
47 State and Federal permits. The Fish and Wildlife Service  
48 requires that the Department of Fish and Game  
49 certification is part of the federal permit process.

50

00182

1 Mr. Chair, the Staff recommendation is to  
2 oppose the proposal. There's concern that people would  
3 hunt for trophy bears using the most liberal subsistence  
4 regulations, and that brown bear harvest would increase  
5 and create a conservation concern.

6  
7 The proposed regulatory change still  
8 would not meet the proponent's objectives, and would  
9 create problems with enforcement of the Western Alaska  
10 Brown Bear Management Area regulations.

11  
12 Proposals to change regulations for the  
13 Management Area should be addressed through the Western  
14 Alaska Brown Bear Management Area Working Group.

15  
16 That is all I have, Mr. Chair.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you. State  
19 Department of Fish and Game.

20  
21 (Pause - connecting with Willard Church)

22  
23 MR. CHURCH: Hello.

24  
25 MR. RIVARD: Hello. Is this Mr. Willard  
26 Church?

27  
28 MR. CHURCH: Yes, it is.

29  
30 MR. RIVARD: Okay. Willard, this Don  
31 Rivard. I'm with the Office of Subsistence Management.  
32 We're in the middle of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Subsistence  
33 Regional Council meeting. And the presentation has just  
34 been given on Proposal 28, the one that you submitted,  
35 and we're just doing some other things right now. The  
36 State is getting ready to give their views on the  
37 proposal, and then I believe the Chair will call you for  
38 your testimony. So if you'd just stand by, please.

39  
40 MR. CHURCH: Okay.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Willard Church, we  
43 give you this opportunity to testify on Proposal 28 at  
44 this time.

45  
46 MR. RIVARD: Go ahead, Mr. Church.

47  
48 MR. CHURCH: Okay. I'm going to put it  
49 on speaker phone. Can you hear me?

50

00183

1 MR. RIVARD: Yes.

2

3 MR. CHURCH: Yeah. First off I'd like to  
4 thank the Y-K Regional Advisory Council for allowing me  
5 an opportunity to speak to Proposal 28. And also I'd  
6 like to thank Mr. Tom Kron for putting together the  
7 technical analyses on the proposal. I think he did a  
8 very good job. There's a lot of information here to help  
9 me to understand where the Federal Wildlife Service and  
10 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game is coming from  
11 when they recommended opposing the proposal.

12

13 Yeah, I'd like to say a little bit about  
14 what my original intention was when I drafted the  
15 proposal and submitted it to the Y-K Regional Advisory  
16 Council.

17

18 At the time, I didn't realize that it  
19 would be so far reaching and so complicated. My original  
20 intention was a very simple request just to allow  
21 subsistence hunters opportunity to send their brown bear  
22 hides out of the region to be commercially tanned so that  
23 they can use them for whatever uses they decided to do,  
24 to use them for.

25

26 But after reading through the analyses  
27 and becoming a little more familiar with the information  
28 surrounding the WABBMA and the requirement, I have a few  
29 questions. I know there's a perceived fear that with  
30 this change if it was approved, that there would be an  
31 increase in the harvest of brown bear from the WABBMA  
32 region by subsistence hunters. Looking at the statistics  
33 out here on actual harvest for the past 10 years,  
34 comparing that data to the harvest information for the  
35 general hunt under the sport hunting regulations, I can  
36 see that there's not a lot of participation in the  
37 subsistence hunt by a lot of people out here in the  
38 region. As the harvest numbers -- looking at that, I see  
39 that there's a considerable amount of harvest being done  
40 by sport hunters in the general hunt.

41

42 And my own personal opinion, I think  
43 there was some concern about the harvest increasing. I'd  
44 like to find out if there's any way possible to put a  
45 curb on the increasing harvest of the general hunt, bring  
46 those numbers down, because it seems like they're taking  
47 the bulk of the numbers out of the population of brown  
48 bear in the region.

49

50 MR. RIVARD: Who are you asking that

00184

1 question to, sir?

2

3 MR. CHURCH: Any representative from the  
4 Fish and Wildlife Service or the Alaska Department of  
5 Fish and Game.

6

7 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Church, this is Pete  
8 DeMatteo. Tom Kron could not make the meeting because of  
9 other responsibilities, but I'm filling in for him.

10

11 You do have that option to further  
12 explore that, but regarding the general hunt harvest, and  
13 also the provisions for the general hunt, it would be  
14 best to run that through the Brown Bear Management Area  
15 Working Group, and also through the advisory committee  
16 that represents you. Being the general hunt is a  
17 provision under State regulation, the Office of  
18 Subsistence Management nor the Federal Board could  
19 address that directly. But a good start point would be  
20 working through the working work or your immediate  
21 advisory committee.

22

23 MR. CHURCH: Okay. I understand that's  
24 the State management (indiscernible), but I think what  
25 I'm getting out of reading this report here is that there  
26 is a perceived threat there would be an increase in the  
27 harvest of brown bear by subsistence hunters if this  
28 regulation change was passed.

29

30 Looking at the harvest information that  
31 was cited here, I can see that the harvest of brown bear  
32 by subsistence hunters is very low compared to harvest by  
33 sport hunters under Federal hunt. So in my opinion, I  
34 don't think there would be a really big increase, but I  
35 think there would be more subsistence hunters wanting to  
36 process, have their brown bear hide, have them sent out  
37 intact without being devalued. There may be an increased  
38 wanting to harvest, but I don't think there would be an  
39 increase in the actual harvest of the animals themselves.

40

41 There is a slight trend going on out here  
42 amongst people my age who are participating in the  
43 subsistence brown bear hunt, where they do want to  
44 utilize that resource to its fullest extent possible.  
45 We're not out there just hunting for trophy hides. When  
46 they go out, they hunt for the meat, but we also bring  
47 the hides back with us. Some of us like myself have even  
48 brought the skull back to display in my own home. But  
49 there is more interest by younger hunters who go out  
50 there and participate in the hunt. But they've been

00185

1 taught by their elders, utilizing the full resource is  
2 something that they need to do, not just practice what  
3 our elders have practiced in the past where they went out  
4 and just hunted for the meat value of brown bear.

5  
6 (Indiscernible), too, that I noticed in  
7 the analyses, there was some recommendations to possibly  
8 explore a little further, that there would be a need  
9 (indiscernible) proposals to the State Board of Game  
10 basically aligning any type of changes that would occur  
11 in the WABBMA regulations. Could I get some  
12 clarification on that?

13  
14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alaska Department of  
15 Fish and Game, comments on Proposal 28?

16  
17 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, thank you.  
18 Mike Coffing, Department of Fish and Game.

19  
20 We have comments on the original  
21 proposal, and those comments are on Page 109 of your  
22 Council book there. The Department supports the  
23 preliminary conclusion provided to you by Mr. DeMatteo to  
24 oppose this proposal for the reasons that were presented  
25 in that were presented in that conclusion, in that  
26 justification.

27  
28 The current regulations for the Western  
29 Alaska Brown Bear Management Area were established to  
30 provide additional opportunity for subsistence bear  
31 hunting for use primarily as meat. And those regulations  
32 were established to distinguish between hunters that were  
33 hunting primarily for subsistence, and hunters that were  
34 hunting primarily for trophies, for the hide or for the  
35 head.

36  
37 Similar to State regulations, Federal  
38 regulations require sealing of the skin or the skull of  
39 bears taken in the Brown Bear Management Area if that  
40 hide is taken out of the area. Along with that, to  
41 devalue the trophy value of that hide as well, the front  
42 claws are required to be removed both under State  
43 regulations and Federal regulations.

44  
45 Now, there are ways that people who want  
46 to hunt and keep the hide from trophy value to send it  
47 out to get it tanned, leave the claws on it, make a rug  
48 or whatever. They can do that existing regulations under  
49 the State. However, they are limited to one bear for  
50 trophy use, one bear every four years.

00186

1                   So we'd recommend as in the justification  
2 any proposed changes to these current regulations in the  
3 Brown Bear Management Area be discussed with the Brown  
4 Bear Management group first, and with the managers about  
5 the implications. We need to evaluate these implications  
6 before we make changes.

7  
8                   The one thing that hasn't been mentioned  
9 here is that Federal land in Unit 18 and in the Western  
10 Alaska Brown Bear Management Area, which is part of Unit  
11 19 and part of Unit 17, are open to all Alaskan  
12 residents. It's not just those that have C&T use. So on  
13 Federal lands in the Brown Bear Management Area,  
14 residents that live any place in the State of Alaska can  
15 come out and hunt brown bear under this regulation, under  
16 the State regulation. And the Federal lands are open to  
17 them. So a person could come out from one of the urban  
18 areas who doesn't live out here to hunt a brown bear  
19 under these regulations for subsistence, salvage the meat  
20 and keep the hide, and remove the hide from the area if  
21 he had the trophy value of it removed, that is, the head  
22 and the claws. And that was the reason for that  
23 regulation was to keep the subsistence use a real  
24 subsistence and not allow additional trophy use for one  
25 bear every year, every year, every year.

26  
27                   Now, if the regulation's changed to allow  
28 the trophy value of the hide to remain with it, that the  
29 head and the claws remain on the hide, I don't know what  
30 changes you might see in harvest, but there certainly are  
31 people who are interested in harvesting bears for their  
32 trophy value. And this regulation was established back  
33 in 1992 to provide for brown bear subsistence use, for  
34 meat primarily. There are villages in the Y-K Delta area  
35 that do hunt gear for meat. It was to provide for that  
36 opportunity with a very long season, very loose reporting  
37 requirements. They don't need a permit that they go. It  
38 was to provide for that, and have provided for that.

39  
40                   But removing that requirement that the  
41 claws be removed and the head be removed, or that be  
42 sealed, may invite some complications that weren't  
43 intended when the original proposal was adopted. So I  
44 just suggest the Council think about that. And we're  
45 suggesting that you hold off on this proposal until it  
46 has more discussion with the Brown Bear Management Group  
47 and advisory committees in the area.

48  
49                   Thank you.  
50

00187

1 MR. CHURCH: Yeah, this is Willard.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead,

4 Willard.

5

6 MR. RIVARD: Go ahead, Mr.....

7

8 MR. CHURCH: I understand where the  
9 Subsistence Division is coming from in regards to this  
10 requirement. I know that taking hasty action on anything  
11 as important as our subsistence uses of wildlife may  
12 jeopardize our future use. So I'd like to make a  
13 recommendation to the Y-K Regional Advisory Council that  
14 we give this more proposal more time before any decisions  
15 are being made on it, so further research can be done to  
16 figure out a way to possibly draft additional proposals  
17 to give an opportunity for subsistence hunters who do  
18 harvest brown to utilize that resource to it's fullest  
19 extent possible, which in my opinion would also be to  
20 include using the hide intact, and having it commercially  
21 tanned and useful for whatever purposes they decide to  
22 use it for.

23

24 I'm still not very convinced that the  
25 perceived threat that there would be an increase in the  
26 harvest. You know, looking back at this report that was  
27 put together, called Grizzlies, Eskimos and Biologists,  
28 Cross Cultural Bear Management in Southwest Alaska, on  
29 the very last page, Page 12, there's a paragraph here  
30 which basically states, we see no increase in the harvest  
31 that can be attributed to the liberalized subsistence  
32 regulation. It appears that the desire by season had  
33 more to do with self-determination and re-assertion of  
34 traditional hunting patterns than it did with harvesting  
35 more bears.

36

37 Well, if subsistence hunters had an  
38 opportunity to have their brown bear hide commercially  
39 tanned, you know, I don't think there'd be any real big  
40 changes in our harvest. You know, there would be some  
41 individuals out there that could afford to do this, but  
42 the majority would probably not want to do this. They'd  
43 continue to use their brown bear hides for mattresses and  
44 whatever else they want to use them for, untanned. There  
45 may be a few exceptions to that, and I'm sure that this  
46 won't be the only time that this concern is going to be  
47 brought up.

48

49 But I would like to make my  
50 recommendation that we hold off on any decisions until we

00188

1 can explore this a little further.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Willard.

6 So what is the desire of Council.

7

8 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

11

12 MR. L. WILDE: Since the proposer of the

13 proposal requests that this be given a little bit more

14 time, I would like to table Proposal 28.

15

16 MS. GREGORY: Second

17

18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on

19 the floor and a second to table this proposal. If

20 there's any discussion.

21

22 (No discussion)

23

24 MR. HANSON: Question.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The question has been

27 called for. All who favor say aye.

28

29 IN UNISON: Aye.

30

31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Opposed say no.

32

33 (No opposing votes.)

34

35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Proposal 28 is tabled

36 at this time. Thank you, Willard.

37

38 MR. RIVARD: Okay. Mr. Church, we're

39 going to disconnect you now.

40

41 MR. CHURCH: Okay.

42

43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think we're now

44 continue. I think all our proposal, we are down to (D)

45 Yukon River Kuskokwim, preliminary 2003 outlook and

46 preseason management program, joint State and Federal

47 presentation.

48

49 MR. HANDER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

50 Council members, I'm Ray Hander. I'm the assistant Yukon

00189

1 River fishery management biologists for the U.S. Fish and  
2 Wildlife Service. I work on the in-season subsistence  
3 fishery management.

4

5 Russ Holder, the senior management  
6 biologist, he would have liked to have been here, but  
7 he's attending the U.S./Canada Joint Technical Committee  
8 meetings in Anchorage.

9

10 And as the Council members are aware the  
11 Fish and Wildlife Service has been working closely with  
12 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff to manage  
13 Yukon River subsistence fisheries within Federal  
14 conservation units. It's been going on since the year  
15 2000.

16

17 This past year the U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
18 Service conducted a pilot project to monitor in-season  
19 subsistence harvest in Emmonak, Nulato, and Galena. And  
20 this project came about from requests by the Alaska  
21 Department of Fish and Game and the Yukon River Regional  
22 Advisory Councils about the need to use subsistence  
23 fisheries information from fishers on the river during  
24 the season. This information may help managers assess  
25 subsistence harvest and combine information into  
26 management decisions.

27

28 In general, survey families this past  
29 year, this past fishing season, indicated that their  
30 household Chinook salmon needs were met or nearly met  
31 during the 2002 season.

32

33 We hope to continue the in-season  
34 subsistence harvest monitoring project this coming summer  
35 using refuge information technicians in Emmonak, Holy  
36 Cross and Nulato, even though no funds have been -- for  
37 this project have been obtained for the 2003 season.

38

39 The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and  
40 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff have been  
41 working on developing the 2003 information sheet, which  
42 reviews the 2000 season summary and provides the 2003  
43 outlook.

44

45 Paul Salomone is here from the Yukon  
46 management staff and he's going to be giving the review  
47 of this draft information sheet with you. And that at  
48 this point concludes my introduction and presentation,  
49 and I'll turn the floor over to Paul.

50

00190

1 MR. SALOMONE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman,  
2 members of the Council, thank you. My name is Paul.  
3 Thank you, Ray.

4  
5 I believe you just got a handout of the  
6 information sheet and the season summary from the Yukon  
7 and perhaps from the Kusko as well. It looks like this  
8 without the yellow on it.

9  
10 Most of this information we presented at  
11 various other places around. Those of you who were at  
12 Kotlik, it's essentially the same information.

13  
14 A quick announcement before I get started  
15 is that Tom Vanya has taken another position. He was the  
16 management biologist for the Yukon. He's now working  
17 with the Sport Fish Division in Cook Inlet. And Tracy  
18 Lingeau who was the research biologist for the Yukon has  
19 been appointed to Tom's position. Tracy will be the  
20 management biologist for the upcoming season.

21  
22 Basically a quick summary of the 2002  
23 season, if you look at the top part of your first page  
24 there, we had an outlook and a harvest. An outlook  
25 projection, and harvest projection -- and an actual  
26 harvest. For chinook we had a zero to 20,000 harvest  
27 outlook, and we harvested 24,430 throughout the entire  
28 river. For summer chum we had a zero to 150,000 outlook,  
29 and we harvested 13,000. For fall chum we had a zero to  
30 150,000 and we harvested zero. This is the commercial  
31 harvest.

32  
33 Let's see. That chinook salmon harvest  
34 represents the third lowest commercial harvest since  
35 statehood, and it's 75 percent below the 1990 to 1999  
36 average of 97,000 fish. Once again, to remind people, no  
37 commercial fishing occurred in 2001. The fishing effort  
38 was a record low of 560 permits for the entire river.

39  
40 The ex-vessel value, about \$1.7 million  
41 for the chinook fishery, which is about 71 percent below  
42 the 1990 to 1999 average of \$6 million. A quick comment  
43 on the side of that, the average price for Yukon Chinook  
44 was about \$3.43 a pound, and it was the most expensive  
45 price per pound salmon in the state last year. This  
46 sheet says 3.37, but it's a little bit more than that.

47  
48 Summer chum, six cents a pound, which is  
49 kind of what it's been for the last couple years pretty  
50 well.

00191

1                   The next pages are basically the draft  
2 outlook, and I kind of messed up the order of these  
3 things. Page 1 and 2 should be reversed. The first page  
4 you see is actually Page 2. We can start with that one,  
5 but just so you know.

6  
7                   The thing to note there is that right now  
8 we have a preliminary harvest number of 41,100  
9 subsistence kings. That's a little bit below the ANS by  
10 about 1,000 fish. Yes, ma'am?

11  
12                   MS. GREGORY: Where are you?

13  
14                   MR. SALOMONE: I'm on the second page.

15  
16                   MS. GREGORY: This one?

17  
18                   MR. SALOMONE: That one, yes. Right  
19 here, Mary.

20  
21                   MR. HANDER: It says, looking back.

22  
23                   MR. SALOMONE: Looking back. Yeah, turn  
24 back one. There you go. Okay.

25  
26                   We had a 13,000 commercial harvest for  
27 chum salmon like I said a second ago, and an 87,800  
28 subsistence harvest for chums for summer chums, which is  
29 pretty close to the average. No commercial harvest for  
30 fall chums again, and about 20,000 -- 21,000 subsistence  
31 harvest for fall chums. This is all preliminary  
32 information for the subsistence harvest.

33  
34                   The Canadian catch was about 7,000 for  
35 their subsistence fishery, which is real close to their  
36 average, slightly above it. Their commercial catch was  
37 only 708 chinook.

38  
39                   Our estimate is that the chinook run in  
40 2002 was approximately twice the size of the 2000 run,  
41 but still well below average.

42  
43                   One thing to note is that we had about a  
44 1,025,000 chum salmon, which represents an improvement  
45 over the last couple years. In fact it's about twice the  
46 size of the 2000 and 2001 runs.

47  
48                   Moving on to the next page, it says Yukon  
49 River Salmon Fisheries Information Sheet at the top. For  
50 the 2003 season, we again expect poor to below average

00192

1 salmon runs. We expect a trend of poor production since  
2 1998 to continue in 2003. And for summer and fall chums,  
3 we expect that as well, below average -- poor to below  
4 average.

5  
6 The harvest outlook, given the  
7 uncertainties associated with the decline since 1998, we  
8 will once again manage conservatively, similar to what we  
9 managed in 2002. We expect there to be enough chinook  
10 and summer chum available to meet escapement goals and to  
11 provide for subsistence needs. And a small commercial  
12 chinook and summer chum harvest may be possible. It  
13 depends on what the run develops, but we're taking a wait  
14 and see approach, but we're trying to get people prepared  
15 incase we do have a surplus.

16  
17 Subsistence harvest for fall chum, we  
18 don't expect the run for that to be very strong this  
19 year, and subsistence fall chum harvest may be less than  
20 normal.

21  
22 For our management strategies, we plan  
23 again to manage for escapement and to spread out  
24 subsistence harvest opportunity along the entire river.  
25 That means the fishing schedule will be in place to start  
26 the season, and we will do in-season evaluations and make  
27 adjustments accordingly. If necessary, we may -- an  
28 emergency order may be issued to reduce the daily harvest  
29 for the sport fishery. That will depend on in-season  
30 information. And based on evaluation of in-season  
31 indicators, if necessary, we may reduce the subsistence  
32 salmon fishing schedule sometime after the quarter point  
33 of each salmon run, and close all other uses unless an  
34 escapement goal of a single tributary is projected to be  
35 reached. If it gets real bad, we'll consider federal  
36 rural subsistence priority on Federal waters if a  
37 reduction occurs. Now, this all depends on in-season  
38 information.

39  
40 We'll also be prepared to go the other  
41 way, and if we get the abundance for that, we will be  
42 prepared to allow a small commercial chinook or summer  
43 chum fishery near the midpoint or later of each run.

44  
45 We also plan on having the weekly YRDFA  
46 teleconferences to discuss in-season information.

47  
48 Okay. I'm moving on to the next page  
49 now. It says 2003, Outlook Salmon Fisheries at the top.  
50 The big thing to talk about there is the Canadian

00193

1 escapement right now is being discussed, what the goals  
2 are going to be for this year. Last year we were able to  
3 drop it a little bit to 28,000 if we just prosecuted a  
4 subsistence fishery, and 25,000 if we -- actually the  
5 other way around. 25,000 without a commercial fishery,  
6 and 28,000 if we had a commercial fishery. Their  
7 escapement last year ended up being 21,000. The cross  
8 boarder passage was estimated at about 31 and they  
9 harvested about 9. So 30 to 31, and that ended up with  
10 about 21,000.

11  
12 If the 2003 chinook run is approximately  
13 the same size as the 2001 and 2002 runs, harvestable  
14 surplus for the commercial fishery may be between zero  
15 and 20,000 fish, so we have about the same outlook as we  
16 had last year. Maybe zero to 20,000 for kings.

17  
18 And then going to the last page now, the  
19 subsistence fishing schedule will remain the same to  
20 start off the season. The 2003 chinook run is  
21 anticipated to be the similar to 2002. The summer and  
22 fall chum salmon runs will be managed using the  
23 regulatory management plans. If it is determined that  
24 salmon runs are insufficient to provide for escapement,  
25 then subsistence fishing time may be reduced from the  
26 schedule, and/or gear restrictions may be implemented  
27 depending on which species. If we can identify a single  
28 species that's having problems, we might be able to  
29 target the other species. If it gets real bad,  
30 subsistence salmon fishing opportunity on Federal waters  
31 maybe further restricted to Federally-qualified users,  
32 which means residents of the Yukon River drainage,  
33 including the community of Stebbins. However, once we've  
34 gone that far, if it looks better, then we may rescind  
35 the restrictions on -- to open it back up again. It all  
36 depends on what we get for in-season run strength, and  
37 this is very similar to what we did in 2002.

38  
39 Last, in the back of this package is the  
40 proposals which I believe you've already discussed, so we  
41 can ignore those.

42  
43 That concludes what I have to talk about  
44 right now, Mr. Chairman.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Council, do  
47 you have question for presenter?

48  
49 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, I have a question,  
50 Mr. Chairman.

00194

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

2

3 MS. GREGORY: I lost it. Okay. On Page  
4 2 under your harvest look, a small commercial chinook and  
5 chum salmon harvest may be possible. My question is at  
6 what number or what -- how do you determine that, if  
7 there's -- how do you determine that, whether it's below  
8 certain amount or above certain amount?

9

10 MR. SALOMONE: Well, for chum salmon, we  
11 have the management plan that's in place, and that's  
12 based on Pilot Station sonar. It depends on how the run  
13 develops. It will have to be near a million fish though  
14 before we go fishing, okay, commercially.

15

16 For king salmon, there is no management  
17 plan in place, and last year's strategy was to allow a  
18 significant portion of the run to go upstream before we  
19 went fishing. Now, the strategy has been the last couple  
20 of years to compare how the 2003 run develops compared to  
21 last year, the 2002 run and the 2000 run. We know that  
22 the 2000 run was really bad, so that's kind of what we  
23 used to measure the current run. So I guess the answer  
24 to that is we don't really have a number in mind, but we  
25 look to see how the run develops using our test net  
26 fishery, folks from -- information from the subsistence  
27 community and Pilot Station a little bit. Does that  
28 make sense? Does that answer your question?

29

30 MS. GREGORY: No, it doesn't answer my  
31 question, but my other concern is how -- at what time  
32 after how much subsistence catches -- at what number,  
33 give me an estimate? If 50 people caught so many, how  
34 many fish, you know.

35

36 MR. SALOMONE: Yeah. Okay. Again,  
37 there's no number we an put on that, but what we try to  
38 do is to get a feeling by talking to people how well  
39 they're doing, and obviously if folks aren't getting  
40 their needs met, that tells us something. Okay.

41

42 Let me revisit your first question here  
43 for a second. Our thoughts are if we go commercial  
44 fishing at all for king salmon, it will be near the mid  
45 point of the run just like last year. So the idea behind  
46 that is to put a bunch of fish up river before we do  
47 anything. That should -- if the run strength is similar  
48 to 2002, that should be able to cover our subsistence  
49 needs and our escapement needs. Does that help any,  
50 Mary?

00195

1 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, it does kind of.

2

3 MR. SALOMONE: Okay.

4

5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John.

6

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

8 Chairman.

9

10 Yeah, on your -- the second page there,  
11 where it says 2003 run outlook, go down where it says  
12 management strategy. You have, if necessary an emergency  
13 order may reduce the daily harvest limit for sport  
14 fishery to one chinook and one chum in the Yukon  
15 drainage. Why can't you just close -- well, it's  
16 supposed to be closed if there's not enough fish going up  
17 the Yukon even to the spawning rivers or streams, you're  
18 supposed to close commercial, not give an emergency order  
19 and just put them to one fish. They're supposed to be  
20 closed first. Sport, commercial, personal use. The  
21 subsistence the very last. So I can't -- looking at this  
22 one here, that you may reduce sport fish. I don't think  
23 you should do that in the rivers where they're having  
24 disaster, they're supposed to be completely closed off,  
25 not just commercial being closed and sport fish still  
26 going on, and then reduce subsistence. You don't reduce  
27 subsistence until you close those, sport, commercial, and  
28 personal use first, and then you start doing the --  
29 reducing subsistence.

30

31 MR. SALOMONE: Yeah, the way -- I'm sorry  
32 for the order on this thing. It makes it look like the  
33 sport fishery may have a higher priority than the  
34 subsistence, but the bottom line is we don't know what's  
35 coming back, so it's not -- it wouldn't be a good thing  
36 to reduce that fishery until we know we have a need to.  
37 If it gets to that point, yeah, we'll cut it down. But  
38 we don't know ahead of time what's going to happen. It  
39 could surprise us this year and we could get a lot of  
40 fish back. So we have to be ready to go both directions  
41 on this thing, and I believe the sport guys are prepared  
42 to do that in terms of closing down the sport fishery,  
43 but I don't know if they're going to do it in front of  
44 the season or if they're going to wait for in-season  
45 indicators. Does that make sense?

46

47 MR. HANSON: Yeah. Well, 2002, take  
48 Kuskokwim, they reduced quite a bit on subsistence before  
49 they even closed the sport. The sport was going on up  
50 around Aniak and above Aniak, they had to reduce the

00196

1 subsistence way down, which wasn't too -- the people  
2 weren't too happy about it, why they were reduced under  
3 subsistence while the sport was still going full blast.

4  
5 MR. SALOMONE: Yeah. Okay. This is for  
6 the Yukon. Okay. I'm not going to speak to what might  
7 happen or might not happen on the Kuskokwim, because  
8 that's outside of my area right now.

9  
10 But in terms of the sport fishery on the  
11 Yukon, most of that happens pretty far upriver for  
12 salmon. And by the time the run gets into the lower  
13 river, we'll know well before fish are up there to be  
14 caught, what's happening, and the sport fishery, and if  
15 we need to take action, we can do that. Does that make  
16 sense? The way this is laid out, it looks like the sport  
17 fishery may have a little bit higher priority. It does  
18 not. And we're starting off the season with a schedule  
19 in place basically to spread out the impact on that front  
20 end of the run and to get fish upriver while still giving  
21 people a chance to get what they need, so we don't  
22 concentrate everybody on that front end. That's what the  
23 schedule is designed to do.

24  
25 Now, the sport fishery, last year they  
26 actually did close -- or did knock it down before the  
27 season started. They issued a pre-season emergency order  
28 that reduced the bag limit for sport fish. This year,  
29 because we're not certain about what the runs are going  
30 to give us. They're -- they want to get some weasel  
31 language in there. They want to have the flexibility to  
32 go either way. I've talked to the sport guys, and  
33 they're still trying to decide what they're going to do  
34 with it, but we don't know what's coming back this year,  
35 so it's kind of premature to shut it down before the  
36 season actually starts. And if we get in-season  
37 indicators that say we should, then we will. Does that  
38 make sense? Does that answer your question?

39  
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other question from  
41 the Council? Phillip.

42  
43 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

44  
45 INTERPRETER: We the Council, our people  
46 have not been in favor of sport fishing. I have not  
47 heard in our negotiations or deliberations of eliminating  
48 -- or reducing sport fishing as we deal with shortage.  
49 Many are not -- do not agree with keeping sport fishing  
50 open. We who are sitting here have not tried to

00197

1 eliminate it. In dealing with sport fishing, we have  
2 heard in the past that sport fishing will not be  
3 eliminated, and this was said before us, the Subsistence  
4 Council. Our villages are not in favor of sport fishing,  
5 the concept of sport fishing. What is -- is it tied to  
6 economic gain through guiding or other means? We need to  
7 ask this question, because we Yup'ik people do not like  
8 the activity as particular in our areas. We that are --  
9 we the membership have not worked to get rid of sport  
10 fishing, or perhaps I think it is going to be a difficult  
11 task to reduce or remove it.

12  
13 We hear of dead fish that are floating in  
14 the headwaters of the tributaries, and I believe that  
15 might have connection with sport fishing, and I want to  
16 bring this up.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Phillip, I'm  
19 going to speak my dialect to him, respond what he was  
20 saying.

21  
22 (In Yup'ik)

23  
24 INTERPRETER: Phillip, we have heard that  
25 you have not heard of sport fish, removal of sport  
26 fishing, or elimination on the Yukon River. The proposal  
27 regarding the rod and reel sport fishing came from AVCP.  
28 The president, the last present of AVCP submitted this  
29 proposal. We the Council did not want to vote against  
30 this proposal that was submitted by AVCP, but to support  
31 it. That proposal was written by AVCP, was written --  
32 the language said during the moose hunting season these  
33 hunters with the youngster, because they were short of  
34 food, they fished with rod and reel. Enforcement officer  
35 came to them. The fisherman was cited whereas he was  
36 fishing for subsistence purposes. The young man that was  
37 with him ran away and hid from the enforcement officers  
38 at that time.

39  
40 This in my understanding is why the  
41 proposal was written, to allow for subsistence rod and  
42 fishing on the Yukon. The language say that within --  
43 those within AVCP while hunting during moose season, the  
44 person would have access to rod and reel fishing during  
45 sport closure I believe for subsistence purposes, or for  
46 consumption, food consumption.

47  
48 Staff members from the Federal system  
49 modified the language. Those in the Yukon River area and  
50 our elders are not in favor of this sport fishing as it

00198

1 occurs on the Kuskokwim. We voted along with this  
2 proposal dealing with the Yukon sport rod and reel  
3 fishing.

4  
5 And this was -- I wanted to bring --  
6 explain that to you, Phillip Moses, because you -- so  
7 that you understand and get an adequate response from  
8 Staff.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If there's other  
11 question from Council. John Thompson.

12  
13 MR. THOMPSON: (In Yup'ik)

14  
15 INTERPRETER: Johnny Thompson. For a  
16 number of years I have asked some members in Mountain  
17 Village regarding sport fishing, the fish that are caught  
18 in the sport fishery, if those fish are included in the  
19 counts, in our harvest surveys. I was told that they are  
20 not included, because it's a very nominal or minimum  
21 number.

22  
23 MR. THOMPSON: I've got a question now.  
24 Is it still called as a small amount of catch from the  
25 sports? Or is it counted on our yearly report?

26  
27 MR. SALOMONE: Yeah, Mr. Thompson, Mr.  
28 Chairman. Are you referring to fish that are caught for  
29 local use, or for outside source?

30  
31 MR. THOMPSON: Sports. Sports catch.

32  
33 MR. SALOMONE: Yeah. Okay. I don't have  
34 the exact numbers in front of me. I do believe it's a  
35 fairly small number, and I believe it is estimated by the  
36 Sport Fish Division.

37  
38 MR. THOMPSON: That was the answer I got  
39 about several years ago at Mountain Village. And still  
40 have a small amount. What is a small amount?

41  
42 MR. SALOMONE: I'm not sure what it is,  
43 but it's probably less than 1,000 fish. Down in this end  
44 of the river. Upriver it's a little bit higher, but I  
45 don't have the -- I don't have a good enough knowledge of  
46 the numbers to try to guesstimate what they are. It's  
47 not very much compared to the subsistence or the  
48 commercial.

49  
50 MR. THOMPSON: It could be a big amount,

00199

1 too.

2

3 MR. SALOMONE: Not compared to the  
4 subsistence or the commercial fishery. It's pretty  
5 small.

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other questions?

8

9 MR. SALOMONE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay.

12

13 MR. SALOMONE: A couple quick ones here.  
14 I've got a little bit of information for folks from the  
15 area who might be interested in a Cape Romanzof herring  
16 fishery. I have a handout in the back. People can come  
17 see me for that later on. And I've also got a little  
18 information about the Hooper Bay drift net project in a  
19 handout form, which I'll also pass out to people who are  
20 interested. And I think Jeff Estensen wants to deal with  
21 the Kuskokwim issues.

22

23 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24

25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.  
26 (B) Kuskokwim River.

27

28 MR. ESTENSEN: Okay. Thank you, Mr.  
29 Chairman, Council members. My name is Jeff Estensen.  
30 I'm an assistant area manager, a biologist for Kuskokwim  
31 area. And I've distributed two handouts for you here to  
32 look at. The first one is a one-page handout with  
33 material on both sides, titled the Kuskokwim Area Salmon  
34 Fisheries Summary for the 2002 commercial season, and  
35 I'll go ahead and cover that one first.

36 I'd like to point out that this was put  
37 together jointly by the Department of Fish and Game and  
38 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

39

40 As I'm sure you're all aware of and if  
41 you recall that in 2001 Kuskokwim River chinook and chum  
42 salmon were designated as stocks of concern under the  
43 policy for the management of sustainable salmon fishery.  
44 And as a result of this, management of the 2002 Kuskokwim  
45 River salmon fisheries followed the guidelines of the  
46 Kuskokwim River Salmon Rebuilding Management Plan.

47

48 The table you can see right there is just  
49 what our 2002 outlet was for chinook, chum and coho  
50 salmon, and then you can see what our 2002 harvest was.

00200

1 Overall in 2002, the chinook and chum  
2 salmon runs were adequate to allow for a commercial chum  
3 salmon harvest. However, there were no commercial  
4 fishing periods announced during June and July because  
5 there was not a buyer interested in buying chum salmon.  
6

7 However, there was six commercial fishing  
8 periods in District 1 during the coho season. The  
9 fishery was characterized by limited processing capacity,  
10 low numbers of permits fishing, and near average catch  
11 per unit efforts. The coho salmon harvest in 2002 of  
12 83,688 fish was the second lowest on record.  
13

14 Chinook salmon escapement appeared  
15 adequate in 11 of the 15 streams that we surveyed, or  
16 were -- that escapement was monitored in last year. Chum  
17 salmon escapements were achieved in the two streams which  
18 we did have goals for -- or we do have goals for, that  
19 Aniak and the Kogrukuk Rivers. And coho salmon  
20 escapement levels were below average in three of the six  
21 streams that were monitored.  
22

23 As I'm sure you're aware, the Kuskokwim  
24 River Salmon Rebuilding Management Plan includes a  
25 subsistence fishing schedule that allowed four  
26 consecutive days of subsistence fishing per week in June  
27 and July. What happened though, by late June in-season  
28 run strength indicators show that chinook and chum salmon  
29 runs were adequate to meet escapement goals to provide  
30 for subsistence harvest needs, and to allow a harvestable  
31 surplus. As a result of this, the subsistence fishing  
32 schedule was -- subsistence fishing was allowed for seven  
33 days per week beginning on June 28th. And most  
34 subsistence fishers rated their chinook and chum salmon  
35 harvest as normal to very good when compared to a normal  
36 year, and most reported their coho salmon catches were  
37 adequate.  
38

39 And on the back of this sheet right here  
40 is Kuskokwim Bay. I'm not really going to go into this.  
41 If you have any questions, please ask, regarding the Bay,  
42 come see me some time.  
43

44 The second handout that I have is titled  
45 Kuskokwim Area Salmon Fisheries, Preliminary Outlook and  
46 Management Strategy for 2003. And this is two pages with  
47 material on both sides. And what I'm going to do is give  
48 some of the more finer points of the 2003 Kuskokwim River  
49 outlook for chinook, chum, sockeye and coho, and then  
50 take a little bit about our management strategy plan.

00201

1                   So for 2003 for the Kuskokwim River our  
2 outlook -- actually let me just back up and say that our  
3 -- we do not have a formal forecast for salmon returns in  
4 the Kuskokwim River. What we do is have -- what we do  
5 have is broad expectations that are developed based on an  
6 evaluation of parent year escapements and trends in  
7 harvest and productivity.

8

9                   So for 2003 for chinook, chum and  
10 sockeye, the Department expects the 2003 chinook, chum  
11 and sockeye salmon runs to be similar to 2002 or slightly  
12 stronger. And as I just mention in the summary there,  
13 that, you know, the 2002 chinook and chum salmon run  
14 sizes provided for adequate escapements and subsistence  
15 harvest throughout most of the drainage, and in addition  
16 we were -- it did allow for, or did provide a harvestable  
17 surplus.

18

19                   And for 2003, the commercial salmon  
20 harvests are expected to range from zero to 1,000 fish  
21 for chinook, zero to 150,000 for chum, and zero to 150 --  
22 or zero to 15,000 for sockeye.

23

24                   For coho salmon, the Department  
25 anticipates that a modest commercial fishery will be  
26 allowed for coho salmon. And average to below coho run  
27 and harvest are expected given the trend since 1997, and  
28 the tendency for odd year runs. And our range is  
29 expected to be anywhere between 50,000 ad 250,000 fish.

30

31                   Moving on to our management strategy for  
32 2003, State and Federal Staff will continue to follow the  
33 guidelines in the rebuilding plan as it was adopted by  
34 the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Some of the finer points,  
35 regulations do not allow for a directed chinook or  
36 sockeye salmon directed fishery, commercial fishery. In  
37 the event of a strong chum salmon run, a commercial  
38 harvest opportunity -- or a commercial harvest  
39 opportunity may be provided if it appears that chinook  
40 and chum salmon escapements and subsistence harvest needs  
41 will be met. And al directed coho salmon fisheries is  
42 anticipated in late July or early August contingent upon  
43 adequate chum and coho salmon abundance and run timing.

44

45                   The regulatory subsistence salmon fishing  
46 schedule for gillnet and fishwheel gear, as detailed in  
47 the rebuilding plan, will continue in 2003. The schedule  
48 provides four consecutive days of subsistence salmon  
49 fishing per week during June and July, unless modified  
50 in-season based on run strength. And subsistence fishing

00202

1 time may be reduced if in-season indicators show a  
2 reduction in time is necessary for conservation purposes.  
3 The subsistence fishing time reverts to a seven days per  
4 week schedule with the usual closures around commercial  
5 fishing periods when the commercial chum salmon season is  
6 opened, if it's opened.

7

8                   And then you can see what the schedule is  
9 there. Pretty much the same as it was last year. I  
10 guess one of the main points here is that the four-day  
11 per week subsistence fishing schedule will be in effect  
12 through July 31st unless it is changed by commercial  
13 fishery.

14

15                   And for the sport fishery Kuskokwim  
16 stocks of chinook and chum salmon remain a yield concern  
17 and are managed in accordance to the Kuskokwim river  
18 Salmon Rebuilding Management Plan. Within this plan,  
19 sport fisheries are managed based on abundance.  
20 Persistent below average run performance of chinook and  
21 chum salmon stocks in the Kuskokwim require additional  
22 conservation measures to protect escapement and ensure  
23 the State's subsistence needs are met. For this reason a  
24 preseason emergency order will be issued in 2003 closing  
25 the sport fishery for chinook and chum salmon until June  
26 15th in the Kuskokwim River drainage. Additionally the  
27 bag and possession limit will be reduced from three to  
28 one chinook or one chum salmon. The drainage wide  
29 spawning season closure for chinook sport fishing of July  
30 26th will remain in effect. And further restrictions of  
31 the salmon sport fisheries will be based on abundance  
32 from in-season run assessment.

33

34                   And existing conservative sport fishing  
35 regulations in the Aniak River drainage remain in effect,  
36 including the annual bag limit of two chinook salmon  
37 greater than 20 inches per year and the no-retention of  
38 chum salmon.

39

40                   And just our in-season indicators remain  
41 the same. The Bethel test fishery subsistence harvest  
42 reports, tributary escapement monitoring projects, and if  
43 possible, during a commercial directed fishery,  
44 commercial catch per unit of effort data.

45

46                   And the rest of this handout, this then  
47 covers Kuskokwim Bay. Like I said, I'm not going to go  
48 into it. If there's any questions about it, I'd be more  
49 than happy to answer it.

50

00203

1 I also want to point out that Tim Ward  
2 who has been our area management biologist for the last  
3 year will be moving on, and we will have a new area  
4 management biologist, Craig Witmore who's sitting over  
5 right there. And he should be coming on board about  
6 April 3rd is what we're looking at for him to start  
7 taking over.

8  
9 And I guess with that, I will open it up  
10 for any questions, Mr. Chairman.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any questions from  
13 Council to Kuskokwim fishery.

14  
15 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I just have  
16 one comment.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

19  
20 MS. GREGORY: Last year that commercial  
21 opening in Bethel was more cumbersome than it was  
22 profitable. So I would maybe like to advise the people,  
23 you guys to make sure that if you're going to open the  
24 commercial fishing, that you make it worthwhile. They  
25 lost a lot of money rather than make money.

26  
27 MR. ESTENSEN: You're referring coho  
28 fishery, right?

29  
30 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

31  
32 MR. ESTENSEN: Okay.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other from Council?  
35 Thank you.

36  
37 For your information, for those of you  
38 who want to eat at the school, lunch will be prepared  
39 12:00 to 15 after. So right now I think we'll have a  
40 break to give you opportunity.

41  
42 AVCP, you're going to feed us?

43  
44 MR. NANENG: No.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. I give you  
47 opportunity.

48  
49 MR. NANENG: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

50

00204

1 (In Yup'ik)

2

3 INTERPRETER: He's referring to a  
4 six-inch mesh restriction for the fisheries. I didn't  
5 quite catch his whole thought. He would want -- he wants  
6 the Advisory Council to oppose a six-inch mesh  
7 restriction. And that is his comment.

8

9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Quyana, Myron.  
10 I think their proposal is in already for State Board of  
11 Fishery.

12

13 MR. NANENG: (In Yup'ik)

14

15 INTERPRETER: Like I say, I will talk  
16 about those issues at the AVCP special convention next  
17 week.

18

19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you. At  
20 this time I want to introduce city manager of Emmonak,  
21 Martin Moore. We thank you to our meeting. We will hear  
22 from you sometime this afternoon.

23

24 At this time we give you chance to eat.  
25 Maybe if you come back, you will be feel better. But  
26 before we do, we got announcement here.

27

28 MR. NICK: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Alex  
29 Nick, Regional Council coordinator for Y-K.  
30 (Announcement re flights to Bethel.)

31

32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you. We  
33 have very important on our agenda. We will not able to  
34 finish our agenda by tonight, because most of these on  
35 our agenda is very important. So at this time we're  
36 going to break and come back 1:30.

37

38 (Off record)

39

40 (On record)

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Good afternoon.  
43 Right now that Council, you may read these annual report  
44 notes from October 2002 meeting. I don't think it need  
45 to go over, read it, because you had it all morning. I  
46 think at this time, if we approve this, we would put it  
47 on annual meeting for the report.

48

49 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

50

00205

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

2

3 MR. L. WILDE: I'd like to move that the  
4 annual -- the suggestion for inclusion in the annual  
5 report drafted by our young lady from the BIA, what was  
6 her new name, Hildebrand. I'd move that we adopt these  
7 as our annual report, and direct our lady from BIA to go  
8 ahead and draft up the annual report to be presented for  
9 approval by the Y-K Council.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Is there's a second  
12 to the motion?

13

14 MR. ANDREW: I second.

15

16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik) (Not  
17 translated)

18

19 Seconded by Nick Andrew. Discussion.

20

21 (No discussion)

22

23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Question.

24

25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question been called  
26 for. All who favor say aye.

27

28 IN UNISON: Aye.

29

30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Opposed, same sign.

31

32 (No opposing votes.)

33

34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried.

35 Annual report notice from October 2002 meeting is

36 approved. Mary?

37

38 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Motion, I'd like to  
39 make a motion.

40

41 REPORTER: Microphone.

42

43 MS. GREGORY: I'd like to make a motion  
44 to support AVCP when they oppose the six-inch mesh  
45 proposal at BOF, which may have been introduced at the  
46 11th hour, because it will impact subsistence fishery,  
47 and impact the Yukon and Kuskokwim fishers in the  
48 subsistence fisheries.

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If there's a second

00206

1 to the motion.

2

3 MR. HANSON: I second.

4

5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by John  
6 Hanson. Discussion to the motion. James.

7

8 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. (In Yup'ik)  
9 (Not interpreted.)

10

11 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) (Not  
12 interpreted)

13

14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik) (Not  
15 interpreted)

16

17 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

18

19 INTERPRETER: She's reading her motion in  
20 Yup'ik. She's translating her own motion. She's just  
21 requesting a letter of support to AVCP stand on the  
22 six-inch mesh restriction.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik) (Not  
25 translated)

26

27 Okay. Any more discussion.

28

29 (No discussion)

30

31 MR. L. WILDE: Question.

32

33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question's been  
34 called for. All who favor say aye.

35

36 IN UNISON: Aye.

37

38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Opposed say no.

39

40 (No opposing votes.)

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. AVCP  
43 is support on six inches mesh is passed by  
44 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Council.

45

46 Okay. Let me see where I'm at. I'm  
47 here. U.S./Canada Salmon Agreement. Nobody want to be  
48 -- Jill.

49

50 MS. KLEIN: Mr. Chair and the Board, my

00207

1 name is Jill Klein from the Yukon River Drainage  
2 Fisheries Association.

3

4 And I won't take too much of your time on  
5 this, but just wanted to brief the AYK council about the  
6 U.S./Canada agreement, and it's recent signing that took  
7 place this past December 4th, 2002, in Washington, D.C.  
8 The agreement was signed, and so the agreement is  
9 officially in place between U.S. and Canada over sharing  
10 salmon, Canadian origin salmon, chinook and fall chum on  
11 the Yukon River.

12

13 Some of you here at the table, Harry  
14 Wilde was part of the negotiating team for many years.  
15 It took about 16 years for people on both sides of the  
16 border to work together to sign this agreement.

17

18 And the agreement describes principles  
19 that both countries follow in the management as I  
20 mentioned of Canada-bound chinook fall chum salmon. It  
21 also establishes a Yukon River Salmon Restoration and  
22 Enhancement Fund. which some of you may have heard funds  
23 projects on the Alaska side of the Yukon River as well as  
24 it funds projects in Canada. And the money is used to  
25 support efforts to restore the health of these  
26 Canadian-origin salmon stocks that are harvested in both  
27 the U.S. and Canadian fisheries.

28

29 As well there's a bilateral Yukon River  
30 Panel, and that gets officially re-established again  
31 under the agreement. And they have access to treaty  
32 implementation funds that get appropriated from Congress  
33 on an annual basis. And the total amount requested this  
34 year was \$4 million from Congress and \$3 million was  
35 received, so it's about \$1 million short, and so right  
36 now the U.S. Federal agencies and the Yukon River Panel  
37 which will be meeting next week in Whitehorse will be  
38 working on determining how they'll use that money. \$1.2  
39 million goes over to the Canadians, and then the rest of  
40 it is used for U.S. research and restoration projects.  
41 But there will have to be some cuts made, because the  
42 full amount wasn't received.

43

44 So basically I just wanted to update you  
45 on that.

46

47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Dan.

48

49 MR. BERGSTROM: Yeah, my name is Dan  
50 Bergstrom with Department of Fish and Game, the regional

00208

1 management biologist for AYK region.

2

3 And the only thing to add a little on the  
4 panel next week is we had a JTC meeting this week,  
5 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and the panel meeting is in  
6 Whitehorse next week. And they'll be talking about  
7 approving R&E funds at that -- R&E-funded projects, and  
8 then the main thing, and I think Paul Salomone talked  
9 about earlier, but they'll be talking about kind of those  
10 border passage and escapement targets into Canada for  
11 fall chum and king salmon, so that will be one of the  
12 things we'll add to that draft outlook strategies for the  
13 Yukon will be to put in whatever comes out of that panel  
14 meeting next week.

15

16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Dan. Do  
17 you have question for Dan or Jill? I have.

18

19 I've been on delegation for U.S./Canada  
20 negotiations since 1985. I have been work with the U.S.  
21 and Yukon. And there first delegates include Dan  
22 Bergstrom.

23

24 U.S. first rebuild of negotiation called  
25 for rebuild was in 1987. It was called rebuild the  
26 Canada spawning streams. The salmon was taken out from  
27 the District Y-1 and 2. I remember that the time was  
28 40,000 king salmon from Y-1, 2 and 3, and 115,000 fall  
29 chum. At the same time commercial fishing in District  
30 Y-1 and 2 was reduced from three and half each week to 24  
31 hours a week. Later it was find out -- we find out the  
32 salmon was allocated to Canada.

33

34 Again, April 1996 the panel approved at  
35 the Whitehorse meeting stabilize plan. Stabilize plan at  
36 the Whitehorse meeting was plan was six years plan was  
37 18,000 kings annually. Again same year rebuild plan was  
38 agreed and Canada mainstream for king salmon of 28,000.  
39 U.S. delegation was very happy at that time. I remember  
40 talking to some of them, they were happy because after  
41 10, 11 years, we will have a lot of king salmon. Also  
42 five or six years after we will have a lot of fall chum.

43

44 We was told by Alaska Department of Fish  
45 and Game how long it will take to come up king salmon, 10  
46 to 11 years, and the fall chum five to six years.

47

48 Now I'd like to ask Department of Fish  
49 and Game, all that fish that you have putting into Canada  
50 so king salmon and the fall chum, what happened to all

00209

1 that salmon that you have put into Canada? I'd like to  
2 ask what happened to it. Dan, you should know.

3

4 MR. BERGSTROM: Yeah, Harry, I was kind  
5 of following there that, you know, over the years with  
6 U.S. and Canada they've been agreeing to, you know,  
7 certain escapement levels into Canada, and we did  
8 increase them through the mid 1990s. We were getting an  
9 average of 28,000, so it was higher than it had been  
10 before. And then the whole goal of that was that in  
11 theory there would be more fish coming back to share over  
12 time, right.

13

14 But what we saw there is the same as in  
15 stocks in Alaska, and the same pretty much in like the  
16 Kuskokwim and other areas is that the production  
17 decreased, you know. We've had bad years since about  
18 1998 where the fish weren't producing the way they used  
19 to. And I think one of the things a fair number of  
20 people think is the ocean conditions weren't good for the  
21 salmon, and so we didn't get the returns that we would  
22 have expected from those escapements.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Dan, right now today  
25 if I know what is coming at that time, I would have never  
26 support as a delegate increase -- try to increase in  
27 Canada. If I know today that I could go out and subsist  
28 half of what we've been have subsist. I tell you this  
29 right now. That being looking at in the Yukon River and  
30 lower Yukon, lower Yukon River, the fishermens always be  
31 the blame. We always set aside to fish to go up to the  
32 Yukon.

33

34 But the one thing that I could tell you  
35 this, no matter what I do, I know when someone's being a  
36 salary like me, that people that you represent, it's not  
37 satisfy the subsistence they're catching today. I would  
38 have never has been supporting it, negotiations. That's  
39 all I could say. John Hanson.

40

41 MR. HANSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
42 There you go, Dan. Okay.

43

44 When we first started the Yukon/Canada  
45 negotiations, me, Harry, Johnny Thompson, and a couple  
46 other guys from the Yukon, we went to Whitehorse, and  
47 Canadian Government negotiators, they wanted 50 percent.  
48 I told them, no, you can't have 50 percent of the salmons  
49 going up. We'll just give you 10 percent. Well, they --  
50 I guess they accepted it for a while.

00210

1                   Before, when I got on the Fish Board, I  
2 had to get out of that negotiating team. I told Harry  
3 not to give them more than 10 percent whenever he was  
4 going to go into negotiations. Right now they've got  
5 what, 60 percent up their sleeves and we've got 40  
6 percent. Somebody along the line kept increasing that  
7 percentage for Canada.

8  
9                   The reason I gave them 10 percent right  
10 from the start when I got on was because we have to take  
11 care of those salmon once they enter the Yukon all the  
12 way up into Canada, right to the border. But that didn't  
13 work, so now we're stuck. We gave Canadians 60 some  
14 thousand kings and 100 some thousand, or more than that,  
15 chums and then fall chums.

16  
17                   All that fish that went up into Canada is  
18 hurting the subsistence way of life. They don't border  
19 on thousands. Them poor interior people have to wait  
20 until the Department sees fish going through the line to  
21 the border before they even start getting their  
22 subsistence needs. And that's -- I think that's a little  
23 bit too far. That's all I wanted to add to Harry's --  
24 what Harry said.

25  
26                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I think, John,  
27 it's like exactly today we are just like in this cartoon  
28 here. This cartoon, I try to read it. It says, Senator,  
29 the natives that have no fish, no came to eat. And the  
30 Senator, he turn around and says, let them eat hamburger.  
31 That's what we're doing today.

32  
33                   MR. BERGSTROM: Well, I appreciate, you  
34 know, your concerns for, you know, kind of how the  
35 U.S./Canada treating might work, but the main thing in  
36 the increase in fish going to Canada has been for  
37 escapement. You know, as you were saying, there is years  
38 where it was below 18,000 in the mid 80s on the  
39 escapement, and so that was the thing to have a  
40 stabilization, get at least 18,000, and then it went up  
41 to 28,000. So the main increase of fish going into  
42 Canada during that rime period was for escapement.

43  
44                   Now as you say, at the end -- as the  
45 treaty was actually agreed to, prior to that time the  
46 U.S. had averaged in Alaska 80 percent of the Canadian  
47 harvest, and 20 percent went to Canada, and as part of  
48 the end of the agreement, we did -- the U.S. side did  
49 give them a few more percentage, so it's supposed to  
50 vary. As the runs are small, they'd get about 20 percent

00211

1 and we'd get 80 percent. And as they get bigger, we'd go  
2 down to 74 percent, and they'd go a little bit higher in  
3 their catch. But in these recent low runs, what's  
4 basically been happening is, you know, the U.S. has been  
5 trying, you know, Alaska, to have a subsistence harvest  
6 and then Canada's been primarily trying to provide for  
7 aboriginal harvest there. I think we did get that in the  
8 treating that subsistence and aboriginal harvests are the  
9 priority.

10

11 So it is correct, we've been trying to  
12 get more fish up there. It's been primarily for  
13 escapement, but in the end on the treaty agreement, we  
14 did give a few more chinook salmon to the Canadians and a  
15 few fall chum, too. It did increase for their share.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think this is  
18 enough right now. We can't go back anyway.

19

20 We'll get into our next on our agenda.  
21 Yukon River Drainage Fishermen Association. Jill.

22

23 MS. KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just a  
24 few documents are being handed out, so I'll just wait  
25 'til people have a copy of them to go over them.

26

27 I just wanted to update the AYK Regional  
28 Council about resolutions that were recently passed at  
29 YRDFFA's 13th annual meeting that took place this past --  
30 two weeks ago in Kotlik. So at our meeting we worked on  
31 various issues and came up with about -- with six  
32 resolutions that we have supported, and one proposal on  
33 customary trade, which is the two-page handout, the one  
34 that's stapled together. And I think it's to my  
35 understanding that you haven't fully discussed customary  
36 trade yet as a Council. You may have touched on it  
37 briefly at this meeting. But YRDFFA did support a  
38 proposal to make some changes to the custom -- recently  
39 created language by the Federal Subsistence Board.

40

41 So if you turn -- the first page of that  
42 document is just a cover letter about our annual meeting  
43 and this proposal, and then if you turn to the second  
44 inside page, you'll see that there was a committee that  
45 met separately during our meeting, and that committee was  
46 composed of Harry Wilde, who is here and can help explain  
47 maybe some of the changes to this proposal, as well as  
48 Gilbert Huntington, John Hanson, Sr., Stan Zuray, Bill  
49 Fliris, Steve O'Brien, Clifford Luke and Tom Kron. So  
50 this was a smaller committee, but it was made up of

00212

1 upriver and downriver people together looking at the  
2 Federal Subsistence Board newly created regulations.

3

4                   And so I'll just quickly go through what  
5 the changes were. And I don't know if you want to fully  
6 take up this issue right now, but I just want to let you  
7 now that we have submitted this proposal.

8

9                   And so if you read in the first section,  
10 the first and second and third sections, the 11, 12, and  
11 then (b), we have taken out -- actually throughout the  
12 whole thing we've taken out the words that say or their  
13 eggs. We feel that that language is redundant when it  
14 says that the exchange between rural residents and  
15 customary trade of subsistence harvested fish or their  
16 parts or their eggs legally taken under the regulations  
17 in this part is permitted. We feel that the or their  
18 eggs portion is redundant. It's included in and their  
19 parts.

20

21                   As well, people are concerned that there  
22 will be increased sales of roe and want to try to make  
23 sure that this doesn't happen as well.

24

25                   Another area that people had concern  
26 about was in the commercial transactions, and that anyone  
27 who has to be licensed as a fisheries business under the  
28 Alaska statute, that includes commercial permit holders  
29 and crew license holders, and maybe a small business  
30 holder, so anyone on the Yukon River who has a commercial  
31 permit wouldn't be able to sell or purchase subsistence  
32 fish. So we wanted to enable them to be excluded from  
33 Section 13.

34

35                   So I know that there's -- this is usually  
36 a larger discussion when we're talking about customary  
37 trade, and I don't want to run through it, but I know  
38 that we're tight on time. And as I mentioned, Harry  
39 Wilde and actually John Hanson who are both here were a  
40 part of this creation of this proposal, so I urge you if  
41 you have any questions to ask them or myself. And we are  
42 looking to work with the AYK Regional Council and the  
43 other Yukon River Councils to try to come up with the  
44 best language that we can have for the Yukon River. And  
45 the deadline for submitting proposals is March 28th. So  
46 we'd like to ask you to review this, and either ask for  
47 your support in this, or work together in trying to  
48 create appropriate language that we can all support. And  
49 I think if we have broad support on the Yukon River for a  
50 proposal, we'll be a stronger voice for making changes

00213

1 that more so meet people's needs.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Jill, I find  
4 out that Gerald Nicholai, Chairman of Western Interior  
5 will not support this proposal. So the way it looks now  
6 that it's going to be pretty hard to pass it through  
7 Federal Subsistence Board. John Hanson.

8

9 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.  
10 Chairman.

11

12 Yeah, Jill, when we worked on this, we  
13 took off the or their eggs, and then on the 13 down here,  
14 it says we took off or to any other business as defined  
15 under Alaska statute 43.75.011. We took those out. But  
16 when we worked on this, I was thinking of the Regional  
17 Councils, Yukon-Kuskokwim Regional Council, because  
18 they're the ones that are really give the details on  
19 customary trade. We did it once in October, but it never  
20 worked in the Anchorage office, so this one here was just  
21 to get this out and see if the Regional Councils would  
22 approve it, but I don't think they're going to do it. I  
23 know I won't, even after I took those their eggs out and  
24 all of that.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Because of it is a  
27 proposal for Yukon Drainage Fisherman Association, I'm  
28 going to ask Department of Fish and Game for comment.  
29 Department of Fish and Game.

30

31 MS. KLEIN: Mr. Chair, before someone  
32 might answer, I also just want to reiterate that this  
33 hasn't been submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board  
34 yet, and I think be it the people on this committee and  
35 possibly the YR DFA Board would be open to just possibly  
36 using this as a first draft and having further  
37 discussions on what kinds of language changes, you know,  
38 we could all support. So I just wanted to add that.

39

40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Jill. This  
41 proposal's never seen by Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional  
42 Council. Dan.

43

44 MR. BERGSTROM: Yeah, this is Dan  
45 Bergstrom.

46

47 The Department right now is still  
48 reviewing the Federal rule that was passed in January,  
49 and so there's no formal comment yet at this time.

50

00214

1                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We're going to go  
2 through as a procedure, because this is proposal. Other  
3 agencies and organizations. AVCP, Naneng.

4  
5                   MR. NANENG: Yeah, quyana, Mr. Chairman.  
6 Myron Naneng, president of AVCP.

7  
8                   (In Yup'ik)

9  
10                  INTERPRETER: This proposal that is  
11 before you from AVCP is proposing to change Federal  
12 regulation to recognize subsistence catches,  
13 subsistence-caught fish, roe and other fish in the Yukon  
14 and Kuskokwim rivers. As customary -- for customary  
15 trade purposes for consumption. This regulation as  
16 written would say non-rural residents with -- who are not  
17 from the area will not be able to purchase or seek to  
18 trade customary trade goods from subsistence rural areas,  
19 including fish, roe, and those within the Y-K Delta  
20 Refuge. We are -- this is our proposal and we are  
21 presenting this before you, before the Regional Advisory  
22 Council pertaining to customary trade which was addressed  
23 earlier on in October. This is our -- these explanations  
24 are in the document.

25  
26                  The number 5 in particular says people in  
27 rural areas for those subsistence fishermen who are  
28 particularly in times when there quota is not met, that  
29 -- where's document? Do you have the proposal with you?

30  
31                  This number 5, if you have the document,  
32 how will this change affect subsistence users in the  
33 proposal. Rural subsistence users will be better assured  
34 the ability to meet their subsistence needs, especially  
35 as to salmon or other fish species that may be at low  
36 numbers. They will also be assured that federal  
37 subsistence regulations will not authorize abuses of  
38 subsistence protections on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta  
39 that would be disrespectful of strongly held customary  
40 and traditional values here in our region.

41  
42                  CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Myron, you see  
43 Yukon River Drainage Fishermen Association proposal.

44  
45                  MR. NANENG: Yeah. (In Yup'ik)

46  
47                  INTERPRETER: This number 5, question  
48 number 5 is -- Myron pointed out is the main concern.  
49 Although a larger number of people are not against this  
50 proposal, there are a few that are not in favor of the

00215

1 proposal, because we have not -- this AVCP proposal is in  
2 alignment or it's a co-proposal with another one that was  
3 submitted by another agency I believe.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Fish and game  
6 advisory committee comment. If there's no fish and game  
7 local advisory committee, summary of written public  
8 comment.

9  
10 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, because this is  
11 new proposal, analyses have not been prepared, and  
12 there's no public comments of any kind other than from  
13 people present here. I would recommend that you ask your  
14 Council whether or not if you would support the proposals  
15 in form of a motion probably and direct Staff to write up  
16 the analyses for these proposals.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Okay.  
19 Regional Council deliberation and action. Don, go ahead.

20  
21 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, Don Rivard with  
22 Office of Subsistence Management.

23  
24 Obviously your Council can endorse any  
25 kind of action if you so choose to, but right now what  
26 I'm seeing from both Jill and Myron is that they are just  
27 informing you of proposals that they plan to submit to  
28 our office by the deadline. And this -- these proposals  
29 will be analyzed by our Staff if they're submitted, and  
30 they will come before you at your next meeting for your  
31 recommendations. So you're going to get a chance to  
32 weigh in on these if the proposals are submitted. You  
33 don't necessarily have to endorse them right now,  
34 although if you like what you hear, you can make some  
35 kind of motion I suppose, but there's no need for a  
36 motion if you so choose to do it that way.

37  
38 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. For that  
41 reason then we could delete this until next, this coming  
42 meeting. What's the Council desire.

43  
44 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

47  
48 MS. GREGORY: I want to thank both Jill  
49 and Myron for coming before us and letting us know what's  
50 happening.

00216

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

2

3 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

4

5 INTERPRETER: Thank you, Jill and Myron,  
6 for coming. Thank you, Jill and Myron, for coming. It  
7 is not.....

8

9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. So we'll treat  
10 this more like information at this time. Okay. So we  
11 don't have to pass this right now. John.

12

13 MR. THOMPSON: (In Yup'ik)

14

15 INTERPRETER: What about those that are  
16 here from further parts of the region. Will they be  
17 given an opportunity to speak on this?

18

19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, we will,  
20 because right now on our next agenda, customary trade  
21 update, written briefing. They will have a chance to --  
22 be given chance.

23

24 Jill, do you have some more information  
25 that you want to give to us?

26

27 MS. KLEIN: I just wanted to point out  
28 the resolutions that we supported. One of them  
29 especially is relating the offshore fishing industry  
30 which is something that the three Regional AYK councils  
31 were interested in with respect to salmon by-catch, and I  
32 know that you had had a meeting with National Marine  
33 Fisheries Service, or the North Pacific Marine Fisheries  
34 Council on this topic. And we passed a resolution, it's  
35 Resolution 2003-01, stating, Be it resolved that YRDFA  
36 will request the offshore fishing industry and the  
37 National Marine Fisheries Service for data at the end of  
38 the 2003 fishery showing the results of the efforts made  
39 to avoid salmon by-catch and YRDFA will evaluate the  
40 results and, if they are effective, pursue agreement with  
41 the fishing industry to standardize those practices  
42 demonstrated to effectively reduce salmon by-catch to  
43 minimal amounts that do not contribute to problems with  
44 salmon returns to the Yukon River.

45

46 And then you can just read through the  
47 additional ones. Again, this is just for your  
48 information on issues that YRDFA is working on, and we  
49 just want to inform you and update you and try to work  
50 together on these issues.

00217

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Jill.  
2 We've still got quite a few items on our agenda. Office  
3 of Subsistence Management report. These items are  
4 include customary trade update, written briefly.

5  
6 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

9  
10 MR. L. WILDE: There is one item that you  
11 skipped. It's a special presentation by fisheries  
12 project investigators. And it's Jill.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I sure did.  
15 We've been moving around so much, I jump over that one  
16 there. Special presentation by fisheries project  
17 investigations. Go ahead.

18  
19 MS. KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20  
21 YR DFA had worked on a project called  
22 traditional ecological knowledge of salmon, and that was  
23 funded by the Office of Subsistence Management, and so  
24 the Regional Councils, including this one, the AYK  
25 Council, had enabled YR DFA to start working on this. And  
26 so we wanted to present back to you one of the final  
27 products from this project where I had gone out, and a  
28 few others had gone out to four different villages on the  
29 Yukon River and interviewed elders about salmon and  
30 changes that have been taking place over the past years.  
31 And we did this over the past two summers, and we've been  
32 working on -- we videotaped and transcribed all this  
33 information, and we created a video as a final report,  
34 and so I would like to give back that video to all of you  
35 to be able to see it, and to let you know that it was  
36 sent to all of the schools within the Yukon River  
37 drainage, and kids throughout the drainage should be able  
38 to see this video and learn, start learning more, not  
39 just from this, but it's a part of the process of  
40 learning more about traditional knowledge can be carried  
41 out.

42  
43 So there is a video to watch, but I --  
44 you know, and I would recommend that all of you do watch  
45 it. I'm not sure if you want to watch it right now.  
46 It's about a 20-minute video, and I know that you have  
47 other work to do on your agenda. So we could maybe keep  
48 it here until you adjourn, and you could possibly watch  
49 it. Or I could send copies to you so that you can see it  
50 as well.

00218

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you. Yeah,  
2 this proposal now, 11, Office of Subsistence Management  
3 report, leadership team, customary trade update, written  
4 briefing.

5  
6 MR. RIVARD: Yes, good afternoon, Mr.  
7 Chair and members of the Council. Don Rivard with the  
8 Office of Subsistence Management.

9  
10 This is under Tab D in your book, D as in  
11 Denali. And as I said yesterday, there -- these were  
12 just meant to be written briefings for you but if you  
13 would like to discuss any of these topics, I'd be more  
14 than happy to do so. Yesterday I also handed out the  
15 customary trade questions and answers, which I think do a  
16 real good job of answering many of the common questions,  
17 and so if you have any comments or questions about that,  
18 I'd try to answer them as best I could.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Don, there's some  
21 people here that come in from long ways. I think it's  
22 very important to them if you could take care of this  
23 customary trade update, and written briefing so they  
24 could know what this concern is in here.

25  
26 MR. RIVARD: I'll be glad to do so. On  
27 Page 237 in your Council book is where we're at. I'm  
28 going to read that, maybe for the record it would be a  
29 good idea to just go ahead and read this two pages.

30  
31 The Federal Subsistence Board at their  
32 January 14, 2000 (sic) meeting adopted new regulations  
33 clarifying customary trade practices of  
34 subsistence-caught fish, their parts and their eggs. The  
35 Board's final rule sets enforceable regulations that  
36 protect the traditional practices of customary trade of  
37 subsistence-harvested fish, but reduces the potential for  
38 commercializing those fish by prohibiting trade with any  
39 business or re-sale by non-rural individuals. The new  
40 regulations allow customary trade transactions between  
41 rural residence users -- excuse me, rural subsistence  
42 users to continue but limits transactions between rural  
43 residents and people other than rural residents in that  
44 the fish sold must be used for personal or family  
45 consumption. So if a rural resident sells fish or their  
46 parts to non-rural residents, then the non-rural  
47 residents, the people that buy those -- the fish, must  
48 use them for personal or family consumption. In other  
49 words, they can't resell them themselves at all.

50

00219

1                   The regulatory language adopted by the  
2 Board establishes enforceable regulations that provide  
3 for and protect traditional practices of customary trade  
4 of subsistence-harvested fish, while minimizing the  
5 potential for commercialization of subsistence fish. The  
6 recommended language:

7  
8                   1. provides for unlimited customary  
9 trade between rural residents, which encompasses the  
10 majority of customary trade exchanges. The language is  
11 simpler than the existing regulations and it eliminates  
12 the troublesome wording, quote, significant commercial  
13 enterprise, unquote, at Section .227(c)(11),  
14

15                   Number 2. The recommended language  
16 prohibits sale to and purchase by businesses of  
17 subsistence-harvested fish, as well as sale of  
18 subsistence-harvested fish to anyone by non-rural  
19 individuals, and  
20

21                   3. The recommended language requires  
22 that non-rural purchasers of subsistence-harvested fish  
23 use the fish for their own or their family's personal  
24 consumption. This provision is faithful to the views  
25 expressed by many of the Regional Councils that the use  
26 of fish obtained through customary trade be consistent  
27 with the precepts of subsistence articulated in Title  
28 VIII of ANILCA.  
29

30                   The regulatory language does not include  
31 the region-specific provisions recommended by several  
32 Regional Councils. In most cases, effective  
33 administration of the provisions on dollar limits and  
34 percentages of harvest to be retained would entail  
35 harvest and sales record-keeping requirements that would  
36 be burdensome to subsistence users and the administering  
37 agencies. The regulatory wording prohibiting  
38 transactions with or by businesses and sale of  
39 subsistence fish by non-rural individuals should  
40 accomplish the intent of the Regional Council  
41 recommendations without undue intrusion into the  
42 practices of subsistence users. If a need for  
43 region-specific regulations is identified following  
44 implementation of this new customary trade regulations,  
45 the regulations can be revised through the annual  
46 regulatory review cycle. In other words, just like  
47 you've seen with the AVCP and YRDFA, they're already  
48 going to propose changes to the existing, the one that's  
49 just gone into effect, and people will be able to do that  
50 with each fishery cycle, be able to request changes to

00220

1 the customary trade regulation.

2

3 ANILCA specifically recognizes both  
4 barter and customary trade as a subsistence use. Per  
5 Section 803 of ANILCA, barter is defined as the exchange  
6 of fish or wildlife or their parts taken for subsistence  
7 uses, for other fish or game or their parts or for other  
8 food or for nonedible items other than money if the  
9 exchange is of a limited and noncommercial nature. The  
10 regulatory language passed by the Board at their January  
11 14, 2000 (sic) meeting only addresses customary trade,  
12 and not barter, which is the exchange for cash of  
13 subsistence harvested fish.

14

15 On page 238 of your book is the actual  
16 language and it's also -- I believe it's on the -- no,  
17 it's not. It's not on the questions and answers, but on  
18 Page 38, if you'd like me to read that, I'll go ahead and  
19 read that.

20

21 The Board with this amendment adopted the  
22 following regulatory language: The Board may recognize  
23 regional differences and define customary trade  
24 differently for separate regions of the State.

25

26 Sot the customary trade regulation now is  
27 under Section 27.(c) part (11), transactions between  
28 rural residents. The exchange between rural residents in  
29 customary trade of subsistence-harvested fish, their  
30 parts, or their eggs, legally taken under the regulations  
31 in this part is permitted.

32

33 Subsection (12) Transactions between a  
34 rural resident and others. (a) Customary trade of  
35 subsistence-harvested fish, their parts, or their eggs,  
36 legally taken under the regulations in this part, from a  
37 rural resident to individuals other than rural residents  
38 is permitted, provided that such fish, their parts, or  
39 their eggs, are used for personal or family consumption  
40 of the individual who purchases the fish.

41

42 (b) If you are not a rural resident, you  
43 may not sell subsistence-harvested fish, their parts or  
44 their eggs.

45

46 (13) No commercial transactions. (a)  
47 You may not sell subsistence-harvested fish, their parts  
48 or their eggs to any individual, business, or  
49 organization required to be licensed as a fisheries  
50 business under Alaska Statute 43.75.011 or to any other

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1 business as defined under Alaska Statute 43.70.110(1).

2

3 (b) If you are required to be licensed  
4 as a fisheries business under Alaska Statute 43.75.011 or  
5 are a business as defined under Alaska Statute  
6 43.70.110(1), you may not purchase, receive or sell  
7 subsistence-harvested fish, their parts, or their eggs.

8

9 That's the now existing trade regulation.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Don.

12

13 Even though this is a report, I'm going  
14 to give an opportunity to Martin Moore. Come forward.  
15 This opportunity we will give you, that I promise you  
16 that I will give you chance to talk towards customary  
17 trade over in Kotlik. Right now that in front of you  
18 here is Federal Subsistence Regional Council. So go  
19 ahead and go over what did you have to do on customary  
20 trade. Before you start, you should give your name and  
21 where you're from for the record.

22

23 MR. MOORE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and  
24 members of the board.

25

26 REPORTER: Please turn your microphone  
27 on?

28

29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik) (Not  
30 translated)

31

32 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) (Not  
33 translated)

34

35 MR. MOORE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and  
36 members of the Board. My name is Martin B. Moore,  
37 Emmonak tribal member from Native Village of Emmonak.  
38 With me is also Herman Hootch, who is also an Emmonak  
39 tribal member from the Native Village of Emmonak. Also  
40 with me today is Della Hendrickson, also a member, tribal  
41 member of Emmonak, the Native Village of Emmonak.

42

43 Before I start this testimony, I want to  
44 make sure that all of you have a copy of the briefing,  
45 2003 Winter Regional Council Meeting, Customary Trade.  
46 Could you pass these out to the members. Mr. Chairman,  
47 also I have a copy of Title VIII, Subsistence Management  
48 and Use Findings, which in my opinion is the intent of  
49 Title VIII regarding subsistence issues.

50

00222

1 To whom it may concern, Federal  
2 Subsistence Board, Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional  
3 Advisory Council at Chevak, Alaska, March 6/March 7,  
4 2003.

5  
6 One of the greatest trust  
7 responsibilities of the Federal Government is to protect  
8 the Alaska natives subsistence users. It is the inherent  
9 right of all Alaskans to hunt and fish without a speck of  
10 reasonable doubt. Our ancestors waged (sic) this war  
11 in death expeditions of hunts where on many occasions the  
12 hunter never returned home again. To do anything else  
13 other than protect our subsistence way of life would be a  
14 betrayal of our ancestors. It's significance would be  
15 the bleeding and the course of suffering of our people to  
16 follow.

17  
18 No price can be placed on our ancestral  
19 rights to practice subsistence. Customary trade allows  
20 Alaska natives to barter, trade and to share subsistence  
21 food with the elderly, the widowed, the disabled. Wanton  
22 waste is strictly forbidden. In ancestral theory, should  
23 an individual practice wanton waste, the end resultant  
24 would not be a happy one, lack of fish and game would  
25 occur for that individual.

26  
27 To interpret native traditional customs  
28 and make changes beyond what our ancestors say to  
29 maintain food for our family and others in need, would  
30 lead to unforeseeable consequences. It is against the  
31 laws of our custom and beliefs of our ancestors who  
32 taught us not to fight or argue over our native food and  
33 our native way of life.

34  
35 It is as our ancestors say, if people  
36 fight or argue about who or what family has the first  
37 right to 1,000 reindeer, 10,000 rabbits, 1 million salmon  
38 or any other salmon resources, that it would take only  
39 one night to seriously depreciate fish and game resources  
40 and/or completely destroy fish and game resources and  
41 cause them to disappear entirely. Persistent dialogue  
42 between communities, the Federal and the local Advisory  
43 Council should be made mandatory prescription for  
44 regulation of customary trade and other vital issues  
45 relating to Federal trust responsibility for subsistence.  
46 The world interferes far too easily with our rights as  
47 indigenous peoples.

48  
49 Please adhere to all our valid concerns.  
50 Do not feel that you are the target. Finding and

00223

1 investigating these theories is not easy. The greatest  
2 Federal trust responsibility, which is subsistence, now  
3 rests in our hands. We need to revisit the  
4 interpretation of the words customary trade and  
5 significant commercial enterprise. Certainly these words  
6 do not interpret themselves into becoming the word  
7 commerce or unlimited business enterprises.

8

9 In closing this short statement, please  
10 let me remind you that persistent dialogue leads to more  
11 delightful rewards. Our ancestors believed there would  
12 be great rewards for those who practice prudence,  
13 reverence and protect the practice of our subsistence  
14 lifestyle without forfeiting our indigenous rights,  
15 customs, culture and traditions.

16

17 Gentlemen, I would like to submit the  
18 following proposal. Proposal reference, Subpart D,  
19 subsistence taking of fish and wildlife.

20

21 In 2, Subpart D of 36 CFR, part 242 and  
22 50 CFR part 100.27(c)11 to -- I'm sorry, 11, 12 and 13.

23

24 The Board with this amendment adopted the  
25 following regulatory language: The Board may recognize  
26 differences and define customary trade differently for  
27 separate regions of the State.

28

29 The proposed new wording, add the word,  
30 one word, not, N-O-T, not. Now I'll read the new  
31 proposed language. The Board with this amendment adopted  
32 the following regulatory language: The Board may not  
33 recognize regional differences and define customary trade  
34 differently for separate regions of the State.

35

36 Second proposal. Propose to delete,  
37 parenthesis, 12, parenthesis, transactions between rural  
38 resident and others, including the provision of (a) in  
39 it's entirety. In other words, delete this whole  
40 language, 12, transactions between a rural resident and  
41 others, (a) customary trade of subsistence-harvested  
42 fish, their eggs -- I mean, fish, their parts or their  
43 eggs legally taken under the regulation in this part from  
44 rural residents to individuals other than rural residents  
45 is permitted, provided that such fish, their parts or  
46 their eggs are used for personal or family consumption of  
47 the individual who purchases the fish.

48

49 With your permission, Mr. Chairman, we  
50 don't need to separate the native people in any way.

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1 Village, region, or anything else. We are one. We are  
2 one native people. And we should not be separated from  
3 the Interior people, downriver people, from the up north  
4 people, or from the Southeast people. We, the native  
5 people, use the subsistence to survive. We all have a  
6 stomach. And we have to eat in order to survive.  
7 Downriver, upriver, north and east. Why should the Board  
8 recognize differences or define customary trade  
9 differently for separate region of the State? Why? Why  
10 are we different from each other? Like my statement say,  
11 it will only start the people to fight. We don't need to  
12 fight. We only need to recognize that the Federal  
13 Government has given the native community the special  
14 exemption that doesn't exist anywhere else in this world.

15

16           The Federal Government recognized that  
17 taking food without limitation to feed our family was the  
18 key, and the most important thing that the natives have.  
19 And they made special legislation under ANILCA to provide  
20 this protection of native food, and not to separate it  
21 among its regional corporation or regional boundaries.  
22 Therefore that little one word, not, should be taken out.

23

24           Customary trade is another issue that is  
25 in trouble right now. Even though this new regulation  
26 that you just read will be enforced upon us, it still has  
27 that word, significant commercial enterprise. Where does  
28 that significant commercial enterprise listed in this new  
29 regulation? Only one word is defined -- defines that,  
30 other. Who is other? Other is anybody. Japanese  
31 people, the Chinese people, the Mexican people. They're  
32 the other. You could do business with them without  
33 limit, because subsistence food, there is no limit to how  
34 many fish you could take for your family. From the very  
35 beginning of the word, immemorial. Yes, from the very  
36 beginning of the native people.

37

38           So when it comes to the interpretation of  
39 the word customary, it's related to our food, you know,  
40 customary trade is for cash. Subsistence is no cash, but  
41 to your stomach. When you interpret customary trade into  
42 cash, it's calling for trouble, a lot of trouble.  
43 Because in the subsistence life, I could catch 100 king.  
44 Who's going to stop me? Who? Then I could sell the  
45 eggs, right? Now, who's going to stop me?

46

47           In the word subsistence recognized by the  
48 Federal Government, there's no limitation as to how many  
49 fish you could take under subsistence. And when you  
50 interpret that subsistence to customary trade, you could

00225

1 take 100 kings and sell their eggs. You could take 500,  
2 1000 chum salmon and sell their eggs, because the word  
3 subsistence is open, and we fight for it and we want it.

4  
5 But when you open it into cash,  
6 subsistence being cash, interpret it by customary trade,  
7 there'll be a lot of people that are going to be greedy  
8 to make money as quick as they can, because you never  
9 know now truthful some of the other people are. You  
10 already know in our own back yard there's black market.  
11 Take subsistence fish and sell it commercially. The  
12 black market, it already happens. Take the fish eggs  
13 from subsistence food and put it in the black market,  
14 it's already happened. Right now this new regulation,  
15 which I'm trying to say get rid of it, take it out,  
16 closes that big hole. Money makes people fight. Money  
17 doesn't understand anybody. But when you're hungry,  
18 subsistence food, we all understand. And it's important  
19 for our native people.

20  
21 Unless there's any other questions, this  
22 is just an introduction. There will be additional backup  
23 material that will be submitted before March 29.

24  
25 Thank you.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Martin.  
28 We have couple more proposals, but we're going to working  
29 on customary trade, these proposals next meeting. Don,  
30 next meeting where are we going to work on, we're going  
31 to put it on proposals on packets for next meeting?

32  
33 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, Don Rivard with  
34 the Office of Subsistence Management.

35  
36 Any proposals that come to our office by  
37 the end of this month on customary trade and other  
38 fisheries proposals will come before your council at your  
39 next meeting in the fall.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Don.

42  
43 We will continue on our agenda.  
44 Statewide rural determination written briefing.

45  
46 MR. RIVARD: Yes, Mr. Chair, Don Rivard  
47 again.

48  
49 Under Tab D. on page 239, another written  
50 briefing, just giving you an update on what's happening

00226

1 with the rural determination contract. We do now have a  
2 report out from ISER and Robert Wolfe and Associates.  
3 That report is going under review now by peers to  
4 determine how valid it is as well as other things. And  
5 that report is out.  
6

7 I don't know if any have been sent to the  
8 Council members. Maybe Alex could answer that. If you  
9 would like, I can have Alex -- I'll send him a bunch of  
10 copies that could be sent out, or we could send them out  
11 for our office. The report itself.  
12

13 Again it was under contract that this  
14 report was made, and it's going under peer review right  
15 now. The Federal Board at some point in the near future  
16 will determine whether they want to utilize one of the  
17 proposed methodologies to determine which communities are  
18 rural or non-rural.  
19

20 This is something that Board is charged  
21 to do every 10 years after the census data comes out, and  
22 the census data has been out now from the 2000 census.  
23 And so that should be coming soon.  
24

25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Council, do you have  
26 question on Statewide rural determination to Don. If  
27 there's none, we'll go to the next one, (C)  
28 regulatory.....  
29

30 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.  
31

32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. Go ahead.  
33

34 MS. GREGORY: I have one. Under the  
35 rural determination, I want to make sure that places like  
36 Bethel and Nome where a lot of native people are living  
37 and hunting and fishing and putting up fish, be  
38 recognized, and not -- don't even think about taking us  
39 off of the determination as non-rural. I just want to  
40 put that out ahead of everything, because sometimes  
41 they'll try and do that. Because sometimes they'll try  
42 and do that, like during the land claims, they tried to  
43 put Bethel as a city, and Mr. Napoleon, Harold Napoleon,  
44 and he was working for AVCP at the time, and my husband,  
45 went and testified that proved that Bethel indeed was a  
46 village in a large scale.  
47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Don.  
49

50 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, Mary, those

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1 determinations are a ways down the line, probably I'd say  
2 sometimes within the next year, and your Council as well  
3 as all the other nine Councils will get a chance to also  
4 weigh in on any recommendations that come about. I can't  
5 forecast any way that anything's going right now, so,  
6 just to let you know. I hear what you're saying, and  
7 I....

8

9 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

10

11 MR. RIVARD: .....hear your concern.

12

13 MS. GREGORY: I want to make sure that  
14 I've been heard.

15

16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We'll go to the next  
17 one, (C) Regulatory Coordination Protocol, written  
18 briefing. Don.

19

20 MR. RIVARD: Again, Mr. Chair, this is a  
21 written briefing. I can't add much more than what's in  
22 here. I don't have any personal knowledge of this. If  
23 any of the Council or the committee members are here and  
24 want to say something. Glenn Chen I know is here, or he  
25 was here. Maybe he's gone already. Whatever it is there  
26 in the Council book is what's going on with the Regional  
27 Advisory Council -- with the Regulatory Coordination  
28 Protocol, excuse me. So it's still ongoing.

29

30 You can see on page 242 their proposed  
31 timeline. They're kind of right in the middle of this  
32 whole process, and there's still a ways to go before they  
33 get even to drafting their protocols. And that will also  
34 come -- I believe that it may also come before your  
35 Council at some point for your review. Thank you, Mr.  
36 Chair.

37

38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Don. (D)  
39 Change in Regional Council membership for 2003  
40 appointments.

41

42 MR. RIVARD: Yes, Mr. Chair. I could  
43 talk a little bit about that. As you were informed I  
44 believe at your last meeting, there's been a change now  
45 in Regional Council composition. For your Council, the  
46 Y-K Council, you already at 11 members with two  
47 alternates, but you will be going to a Council of 13  
48 members, and there will be no alternates.

49

50 There's also, as a reminder, that 70

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1 percent of the seats, 10 of those seats will be for  
2 people that designate themselves as subsistence users, 30  
3 percent will be for commercial and sport representatives.  
4 And again, people that apply, they'll have to identify  
5 themselves as one of those groups.

6

7                   There will be a three-year phase-in of  
8 these other folks, commercial and sport interests, and  
9 nobody that's currently serving will be asked to give up  
10 their seat. You'll serve out your term, and if you  
11 decide you want to reapply, you'll be able to have that  
12 opportunity like everybody else, and designate yourself  
13 as one of those three user groups. This is a phase-in  
14 period. It's going to go through three years. By 2006  
15 this will be completed, the change-over.

16

17                   And if for some reason a Council, nobody  
18 that designates themselves as either a commercial or  
19 sport interest, then those seats will be left vacant.

20

21                   If you have any questions, I can answer  
22 that.

23

24                   I also have as I gave you yesterday for  
25 the customary trade, I have a handout on -- our office  
26 developed frequently asked questions regarding this topic  
27 of Regional Council composition, and it would be a good  
28 guide for all of you to have. They're real straight  
29 forward questions and straight forward answers.

30

31                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

32

33                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question, do you have  
34 question for Don.

35

36                   MS. GREGORY: I don't have a question,  
37 but I do have a letter I received on January 28th, 2003,  
38 for another three-year term assignment to this Council  
39 from Gail Norton. So my term will be up on 2006. It  
40 started in January 2003.

41

42                   MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

43

44                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

45

46                   MR. L. WILDE: Yesterday when we were  
47 discussing on who was reappointed for the two -- on the  
48 2002 year, I've been reappointed for another three years  
49 also.

50

00229

1 MR. RIVARD: Yes, Mr. Chair, that's  
2 correct, as well as Phillip Moses was also reappointed  
3 for another three years as well.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other question for  
6 Don. If there's not, we're going to (E) call for Federal  
7 subsistence fisheries proposals.

8  
9 MR. RIVARD: Yes, Mr. Chair, if you and  
10 the Council members will turn to page 247 in your book,  
11 as others have already mentioned, we're now accepting  
12 fisheries proposals for the next fisheries cycle, for  
13 2004, and so the deadlines is at the end of this month,  
14 March 28th, that's a Friday, so if you are aware of  
15 anybody that would like to make changes to the Federal  
16 Fisheries subsistence regulations, now is the time to  
17 have people send them in. If Your Council has any.  
18 We've already heard from a couple of other organizations  
19 that are submitting proposals. So this was just a  
20 reminder to let everybody know that the cycle is open,  
21 and that it's going to close at the end of this month.

22  
23 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Don. I  
26 think everyone, Council aware of it, this call for  
27 Federal subsistence fishery proposals. We thank you for  
28 that.

29  
30 And we continue on our agenda. Number  
31 12, agencies report. They're on Tab E. We'd like to  
32 request people that report briefing and timely concerns,  
33 because we are concerning our briefing -- if you're  
34 briefing, make sure that it's related to subsistence.  
35 Only issues that related to subsistence. Copy of key  
36 points in briefing would be appreciated. At this time  
37 we're going to call Association of Village Council  
38 Presidents. Myron is not here. He told me that Dario  
39 going to take his place.

40  
41 MR. NOTTI: Hi, I'm Dario Notti with  
42 Association of Village Council Presidents, and Myron had  
43 to leave.

44  
45 I have three proposals and a letter that  
46 Myron has left with me and asked me to introduce, and if  
47 you'd like I will read them.

48  
49 Number 1 is a Federal subsistence  
50 fisheries proposal, Yukon subsistence salmon fishing

00230

1 schedule. And I'll skip through the introductory part,  
2 and down to:

3

4 1. What are you proposing to change?

5 Federal subsistence regulations would be changed so the  
6 windowed subsistence salmon fishing schedule on the Yukon  
7 would be lifted or related when in-season indicators of  
8 run strength permit, regardless of whether these  
9 in-season indicators further indicate a sufficient  
10 harvest abundance to allow for a commercial king salmon  
11 fishery as well, and regardless of whether actual  
12 commercial fishing periods are held.

13

14 2. How would the new regulations read?

15 When in-season indicators of run strength provide  
16 sufficient assurances that upriver subsistence and  
17 population viability needs will be met, subsistence  
18 salmon schedules shall be lifted or relaxed on the waters  
19 of the Yukon River drainage to the fullest extent  
20 consistent with subsistence and population viability  
21 concerns, regardless of whether these in-season  
22 indicators or run strength further indicate a sufficient  
23 harvest abundance to allow for a state-authorized  
24 commercial king salmon fishery, and regardless of whether  
25 actual commercial fishing periods are held.

26

27 And why should the change be made? State

28 regulations only allow the restrictive subsistence salmon  
29 fishing schedules to be lifted on the waters of the Yukon  
30 River drainage when in-season run strength indicates a  
31 sufficient abundance of king salmon to allow a commercial  
32 fishery, and even this allowance does not kick in when  
33 there are no commercial fishing periods. Federal  
34 subsistence managers have gone along with the state  
35 regulatory regime in violation of ANILCA. The ANILCA  
36 subsistence priority requires that restrictions on  
37 subsistence be justified by the need to guarantee viable  
38 fish and wildlife populations or continued subsistence  
39 uses, and prohibits restrictions made solely in response  
40 to commercial or other management decisions unrelated to  
41 the proper subsistence considerations. The subsistence  
42 fishing schedules have been severely disruptive of the  
43 customary patterns, timing, and duration of subsistence  
44 fishing activity on the Yukon, all of which are protected  
45 by ANILCA subsistence priority. This severe disruption  
46 in the timeless customary and traditional patterns of  
47 fish camp life can only be justified if salmon population  
48 viability or upriver subsistence needs require these  
49 restrictions; when in-season abundance estimates provide  
50 sufficient assurances that upriver subsistence and

00231

1 population viability needs will be met, the subsistence  
2 salmon fishing schedules must be lifted or relaxed to  
3 ensure that subsistence salmon fishing can return to a  
4 more customary and traditional use pattern, regardless of  
5 whether state regulations conditions such a decision on  
6 commercial levels of abundance, and even on the holding  
7 of actual commercial fishing periods, would so permit.

8

9 And in consideration of time, I'll leave  
10 that one right there, unless you'd like me to go further  
11 with it.

12

13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think we received  
14 some of the materials here.

15

16 MR. NOTTI: Oh, you've already received.  
17 This next on is the Kuskokwim subsistence salmon fishing  
18 schedule.

19

20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, we never have  
21 that.

22

23 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) We're helping.  
24 Help him.

25

26 MR. NOTTI: This on is also a 2003  
27 subsistence fishery proposal, and this is Kuskokwim  
28 subsistence salmon fishing schedule. And in the interest  
29 of time, I will not read this one. This is pretty much  
30 the same as the last one, except that it's for the  
31 Kuskokwim River. Pretty much the same thinking goes into  
32 that proposal as the last one.

33

34 Number 3 three here that I have for you  
35 is a letter from AVCP, and then number 4 is another  
36 proposal. I'd like to read the letter.

37

38 MS. GREGORY: We don't have the letter  
39 yet.

40

41 MR. NOTTI: Pardon?

42

43 MS. GREGORY: We don't have the letter  
44 yet.

45

46 MR. NOTTI: Okay.

47

48 MR. L. WILDE: It's coming.

49

50 MR. NOTTI: If you'd like I'll hold off

00232

1 on starting to read it then. Okay.

2

3 MS. GREGORY: I like to follow along.

4

5 MR. NOTTI: Yes, ma'am. This will be the  
6 one that starts Dear Tribal Council Members,  
7 Administrators and Natural Resource Staff.

8

9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead and read it.

10

11 MR. NOTTI: Okay. I am writing you  
12 regarding a request AVCP plans to make in March for a  
13 change in the Federal subsistence fishing regulations.  
14 As you know, at the fall 2002 AVCP Convention, delegates  
15 from your tribes decided that the State's subsistence  
16 fishing schedules on the Yukon and Kuskokwim should be  
17 lifted. The Federal Subsistence Board has followed the  
18 State's schedules in all respects, including under what  
19 circumstances these schedules can be lifted. the State's  
20 regulations only allow the subsistence fishing schedule  
21 to be lifted or relaxed if there is commercial fishing  
22 openings or periods. Because this is how the State does  
23 things, Federal managers have been unwilling to lift or  
24 relax the subsistence schedules, unless there are actual  
25 commercial fishing openings or periods, no matter how  
26 many fish are in our rivers.

27

28 Even when commercial fishing periods  
29 occurred in Y-1 and Y-2 on the Yukon last summer,  
30 subsistence families were immediately returned to the two  
31 36-hour openings per week schedule as soon as the weeks  
32 with commercial fishing were over. In District Y-3, the  
33 situation was even worse, because there were no  
34 commercial buyers there, State and Federal managers kept  
35 Y-3 villages on the two 36-hour openings per week  
36 subsistence schedule all through June and July, even  
37 though there were enough fish for a better subsistence  
38 schedule. We believe it is a violation of the ANILCA  
39 subsistence priority for Federal managers to go along  
40 with State regulations that allowing our people to have  
41 better subsistence fishing when and if the State opens  
42 commercial fishing.

43

44 The State regulations have the effect of  
45 making the subsistence fishing schedules permanent. If  
46 Federal managers go along with the State, the subsistence  
47 fishing schedule will always be in place, in good years  
48 as well as bad, and will never go away. Your tribal  
49 delegates have set a goal for AVCP of lifting the  
50 subsistence fishing schedules, so we can go

00233

1 back to fishing in our customary and traditional ways,  
2 like we used to. We believe getting the Federal  
3 Subsistence Board to abandon the State regulations that  
4 tie better subsistence fishing schedules -- fishing  
5 solely to commercial management decisions is an important  
6 first step towards the objective of freer and more open  
7 subsistence fishing. We hope your tribal government will  
8 be willing to join with AVCP as a co-sponsor on this  
9 request. If you are interested in joining us, please  
10 call me at 1-800-478-3521, extension 7301, or call AVCP  
11 Tribal Rights Attorney Eric Johnson at extension 7309. I  
12 wish all of you the best of the new year. Quyana. Myron  
13 P. Naneng, Sr., President, Associate of Village Council  
14 Presidents.

15

16 And the fourth and final thing I have for  
17 you this afternoon is questions and answers on AVCP's  
18 regulatory proposal to separate the subsistence salmon  
19 fishing schedule from commercial fishing management  
20 decisions. And this I will in the interest of time pass  
21 on. I hope you'll take the time to read this on your own  
22 as it's some of the things that justified the original  
23 two proposals. And I that will do it for AVCP's  
24 presentation.

25

26 And if you are interested, Fred Armstrong  
27 from Migratory Bird Co-Management Council had asked me to  
28 say a few words on the upcoming legal spring hunt of  
29 migratory birds if you're interested.

30

31 MS. GREGORY: We are interested.

32

33 MR. NOTTI: Okay. I'm sure all of you  
34 know all of the history about the treaties, so I'll --  
35 and the Hooper Bay agreement, which became the Goose  
36 Management Plan. And it's -- the amended treaties  
37 authorized a legal spring and summer hunt for rural  
38 Alaskans north and west of the Alaska range, and those  
39 regulations have published in the Federal Register on  
40 February 10th of this year, and so they are accepting  
41 comments up until March 12th.

42

43 AVCP agrees with everything in there  
44 except that there is something called the birds of  
45 concern list, and there's 23 birds listed. They're not  
46 -- none of them on that list of 23 birds are birds that  
47 are extensively hunted, but some of them, such as the  
48 short-eared owl, several villages hunt or at least a few  
49 people from several villages hunt these birds. There's  
50 several loons on that list, and unfortunately I forgot to

00234

1 grab that packet, so I can't show you the colored  
2 pictures that I have of all 23 birds. But none of them  
3 are -- they're birds of concern, because they have small  
4 populations, but they aren't extensively hunted.

5  
6 We feel that it's best to leave them on  
7 the list so that we don't turn the couple of people that  
8 hunt them into criminals, and also because the wider our  
9 footprint in the world, the shallower it is. So if we're  
10 allowed to hunt all species a little bit, it makes it  
11 easier on any one species than if you start limiting.  
12 When you start limiting the species, then in order to  
13 eat, we have to take more and more of the limited  
14 species, so we would suggest that, I guess taking off the  
15 ANBCC hat and putting on the AVCP hat, that if you're  
16 going to comment, support the proposed rule with the  
17 exception that you don't want to see those 23 birds  
18 removed from the list of birds opened to hunting.

19  
20 Thank you.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you, and  
23 you'll be here, and if anyone have a question, they'll  
24 ask you direct.

25  
26 MR. NOTTI: Thank you.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you. Next on  
29 our agenda is Kuskokwim Native Association. Wayne Morgan  
30 here?

31  
32 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) (Not  
33 translated)

34  
35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Huh?

36  
37 MS. GREGORY: You told us that they  
38 canceled.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, they cancel?

41  
42 MS. GREGORY: That's what I have on my  
43 agenda.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. We move  
46 Asa'carsarmiut Tribal Council.

47  
48 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) (Not  
49 translated)

50

00235

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: It was canceled?

2

3 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

4

5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay.

6

7 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) (Not  
8 translated)

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Native tribal council  
11 representatives. Then we go to the next.....

12

13 REPORTER: Microphone.

14

15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: .....native village  
16 corporation representative. Native council corporation  
17 representative. I think it's I try to go too fast here.

18

19 (In Yup'ik)

20

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

22

23 INTERPRETER: I have a question. This is  
24 Jacob Nash of Chevak. Harry Wilde, Johnny Thompson.  
25 During a meeting in St. Mary's, I felt sorry for my  
26 daughter and my cousin. At that meeting we raised a  
27 question of wanting to commercial fish at the Ganishluk  
28 (ph). I don't know where that is. I thought when I  
29 returned home, I thought of Harry Wilde, because he is  
30 from Hooper Bay. Because Ganishluk was closed to  
31 commercial fishing, we were not happy with that closure.  
32 Ganishluk or I don't know where the other area is.

33

34 I know Johnny Thompson and Harry Wilde  
35 were not at that meeting, but Moses Poken was there.  
36 Because I felt sorry for those two that I mentioned, it  
37 bothered me when I returned home, because our subsistence  
38 lifestyle create a lot of hardship. There wasn't a lot  
39 of money around at that time, particularly on the Yukon.  
40 This is something that annoys me, so I wanted to bring  
41 that up while you are here, because you heard this  
42 concern.

43

44 And in the Nome area I brought this up to  
45 a commission. I brought up this issue, but they said  
46 that this was an issue for the State Board of Fish, and  
47 it's something that we need to deal with as Alaskans.

48

49 My question, I'm wondering if you could  
50 answer my question, and this would be -- and if you can't

00236

1 answer it, if there was somebody else that would be able  
2 to bring it up.

3  
4                   We had spokesman, an advocate for this,  
5 Joe Paneak. We were sent -- if you perhaps do not act,  
6 deliberate or work on this at this point, to keep this in  
7 mind when you return. The Yukon and Kuskokwim has been  
8 discussed, the fishery has been discussed since  
9 yesterday. There are a lot of areas, or a lot of  
10 tributaries and small rivers, that these areas have not  
11 been discussed, and there are some problems with  
12 fisheries in those area. Are the Yukon and the Kuskokwim  
13 the only rivers in this region?

14  
15                   A lot of biologists and people that work  
16 in the summer travel through many of these tributaries.  
17 I've worked with Fish and Wildlife officials in the early  
18 days transporting them along these rivers. This -- my  
19 brother had also traveled these areas.

20  
21                   If you -- I wanted to bring this up.  
22 These are some -- a lot of -- one of many issues that  
23 need to be deal with as boards. We need to work as  
24 public advocates and servants as we -- you are seated to  
25 be our regional representative, and you need to work  
26 diligently for our people and to express our concerns.  
27 And if you request or propose any changes or any -- to  
28 our -- within our management system, and if you do not  
29 agree, it is not something that you will want to live  
30 with. Joe Paneak was our advocate in the earlier days.

31  
32                   And for the people in Hooper Bay, we went  
33 to that meeting with a representative from Hooper Bay,  
34 including my daughter, that's the St. Mary's meeting that  
35 he mentioned earlier. Peter Seaton was the other member  
36 that came along. The people that were there are aware of  
37 the issues. And Peter Seaton said Harry Wilde is from  
38 Hooper Bay, and he is one of us. And that's what Peter  
39 told me.

40  
41                   These commissioners that met in Nome  
42 asked or stated that the Board -- this is a Board of Fish  
43 issue, and this is a State issue. It needs to be dealt  
44 with through the State system.

45  
46                   CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

47  
48                   INTERPRETER: We are not Board members.  
49 This is Harry Wilde. We are not -- don't have management  
50 authority. We are as a Council deliberate on proposals,

00237

1 getting recommendations. We do not bring direct requests  
2 from the public through to the Board -- directly to the  
3 Board. If these things are not presented to the board  
4 through the proposal process, it will not induce change.  
5 We are -- our function is to provide recommendation on  
6 proposals as they come, and we cannot be -- initiate  
7 direct change, but we are here on an advisory capacity.

8

9 MR. NASH: (In Yup'ik)

10

11 INTERPRETER: We as Yup'ik Chup'ik people  
12 need to work to help our people, because we are not  
13 Anglican or Indian. We are Yup'ik Chup'ik. We on boards  
14 and commissions many times vote when we come to decision  
15 making. It is our purpose to advocate for the people.  
16 Our Yup'ik system and way of working does not hinder or  
17 on paperwork.

18

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

20

21 INTERPRETER: This is Jacob Nash, Chevak  
22 elder.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We will be continue  
25 on our agenda. We have to make -- we have to finish this  
26 meeting by 5:00 o'clock or before.

27

28 Alaska Department of Fish and Game. I  
29 think they go through already, so U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
30 Service. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, refuge, fishery  
31 and others.

32

33 MR. HANDER: Mr. Chairman, this will be  
34 from the Fisheries Office in Fairbanks. It's a brief  
35 update on the Kashunuk River radio telemetry study that  
36 was started this past summer. The principal investigator  
37 sent this report with me. It would be purely  
38 informational.

39

40 They tagged 11 chum salmon, summer chum  
41 salmon. Six of these were harvested in the Kashunuk,  
42 lower Kashunuk River area. And one of these fish  
43 migrated up the Yukon River as far as the Bonasila River.  
44 Four of the other fish, the destination was unknown. I'm  
45 keeping this very brief.

46

47 There are more tags to put out next  
48 summer, and Mr. Brown, the principal investigator will be  
49 back. And at this point in time it's pretty much --  
50 there's no real lead as to where these fish are spawning,

00238

1 which was the original question to try and find out if  
2 they were spawning in the Kashunuk River. And hopefully  
3 next summer we'll add more information to this and come  
4 closer to some answers.

5  
6 And that's all I have. Thank you.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you. You have  
9 a question?

10  
11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No, I'm blocking the  
12 glare of that sun right there.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Don.

15  
16 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, Don Rivard with  
17 the Office of Subsistence Management. I just wanted to  
18 point out that there is a written information bulletin on  
19 page 249 from the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge for  
20 your information. I just want to point that out. And  
21 there are copies on the back table as well.

22  
23 Thank you.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Don.  
26 Bureau of Land Management. Do we have here?

27  
28 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, we don't have  
29 any representatives from Bureau of Land Management, and I  
30 think Glen Chen was here from National Park Service, but  
31 I think he left.

32  
33 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: He was BIA.

34  
35 MR. NICK: Oh, I'm sorry. He's from BIA.  
36 Judy Gottlieb was from National Park. Was Judy from  
37 National Park Service?

38  
39 MR. RIVARD: She's gone.

40  
41 MR. NICK: She's not here, Mr. Chairman.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: On to 13.  
44 Correspondence received.

45  
46 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, this is only  
47 information for Council. If you need copies of the  
48 correspondence that we received, we have copies of the  
49 correspondence in my office in Bethel. All you have to  
50 do is call me and let me know what kind of information

00239

1 you need, and I could make it available to you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you. Before we  
4 go into future meeting plan, Aaron, you want to say  
5 something concerning fisheries?

6

7 MR. RIVERS: My name is Aaron Rivers, Sr.

8

9 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

10

11 MR. RIVERS: My name is Aaron Rivers, Sr.  
12 I'm from Hooper Bay. I've been born in 1932 at Hooper  
13 Bay, and I was raised by only Eskimo food. And I didn't  
14 -- and I never ate any white people's food at all. But  
15 it would be better if I talk Eskimo. I go to school only  
16 first grade. But guys, you don't speak it, but some guys  
17 would understand in English. But I'd like to say this  
18 thing, what's in my mind.

19

20 One time they sent me to Anchorage for  
21 meeting for subsistence. And when I was in Anchorage, I  
22 been speak up. There were a lot of people, and they were  
23 talking about subsistence when Walter Hickel was the  
24 Governor. That time. And when I asked them and when I  
25 talk in that meeting, they promised me I don't know who  
26 they are that were sitting by the door, and they told me  
27 that Mr. Rivers, you're speaking all right. You tell us  
28 right and we understand what you say about. So from now  
29 on, we will not talk about your subsistence food, Eskimo  
30 food after this.

31

32 But now while I'm here, I don't know what  
33 you're talking about because I don't hear very well. But  
34 when I stand by that little phone over there, I  
35 understand little bit. So that's why (phrase in Yup'ik)  
36 why guys, you're just -- you're just only for when  
37 something comes incoming, or paper coming right in front  
38 of your desk, you're just pushing it. I don't think  
39 you're pushing the paper. You work for all over for  
40 Alaska Eskimo people, and for me, you're not doing all  
41 right. When you speak up, use your mouth. When you --  
42 don't sit around. Use your mind and speak up for our  
43 land and for our food. That's not way to be in a  
44 meeting.

45

46 (In Yup'ik)

47

48 INTERPRETER: You said that, as you said,  
49 I don't hold back when I have to say something. What is  
50 inferenced on me through the Western system, if I don't

00240

1 agree, I speak out.

2

3 MR. RIVERS: I don't believe if it's not  
4 good for me, I'm going to let somebody I know how they  
5 tell me the good and best way for living for Eskimo  
6 people. I know. It's in my mind right here. And I  
7 never done anything. I've never been in trouble, because  
8 I still follow the old people, what they tell me to. But  
9 you have expertise.

10

11 (In Yup'ik)

12

13 INTERPRETER: Those of you elders, you  
14 can't sit back, those in -- falling asleep. I need to,  
15 if I'm hunting, and I see enforcement people.....

16

17 MR. RIVERS: We will never guided law.  
18 If I'm hungry, and if I see the wildlife peoples coming  
19 around if I'm hungry, or when my family got no food, if  
20 you come around, I drop (indiscernible) and leave them  
21 what they ask for. (Phrase in Yup'ik) That's right. If  
22 you hear me. I hope you understand me. I'm Yup'ik.

23

24 (In Yup'ik)

25

26 INTERPRETER: I have suffered from  
27 asthma.....

28

29 MR. RIVERS: A little bit nervous.

30

31 INTERPRETER: .....and I'm a little  
32 nervous.

33

34 MR. RIVERS: That's all right now I'm  
35 speaking up. I wish I could speak, from Washington,  
36 D.C., that big tall guy, he came to Hooper Bay and had  
37 meeting, and he said, I answered them. That a lot of  
38 peoples in the meeting, even one of them, they didn't say  
39 anything, that they were scared. I'm the only one answer  
40 his question. And he said, Mr. Rivers, hunt all you  
41 want. Hunt, fish all you want for your family. No limit  
42 for you. Hunt eggs, or trapping, anything. We will not  
43 do anything, and we will not bother you.

44

45 Thank you very much. Quyana (phrase in  
46 Yup'ik). God bless you all.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana, Aaron. Next

00241

1 on our agenda, 14.

2

3 MS. GREGORY: You want to ask.....

4

5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Huh?

6

7 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) (Not

8 translated)

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

11

12 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

13

14 INTERPRETER: Perhaps some of the local

15 leaders or elders want to say something.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

18

19 (In Yup'ik) (Not translated)

20

21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If there's none,

22 we're going to on item 14, future meeting plans.

23 Council, you could find it on Tab F. Don, do you want

24 to.....

25

26 MR. RIVERS: Harry, (phrase in Yup'ik)

27 for my speaking up.

28

29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay.

30

31 MR. RIVERS: Thank you very much, all you

32 guys. Good night.

33

34 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Don

35 Rivard with the Office of Subsistence Management.

36

37 We're just looking at the Tab F. And

38 this is a chance for your Council now to just reconfirm

39 that you want to meet -- your next meeting in the fall

40 will be at St. Mary's on October 3rd and 4th. And then

41 set the time for your meeting about a year from how as

42 well.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

47

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

49

50 INTERPRETER: St. Mary's (speaking in

00242

1 Yup'ik instead of English).

2

3 MS. GREGORY: Is that a Friday? Yeah.

4 (In Yup'ik) (Not translated) Nine o'clock, and quit at

5 11 that night. Three, four, five. (In Yup'ik)

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on

8 the floor, next meeting we -- yeah. Next meeting October

9 3 and 4 will be at St. Mary's. Don.

10

11 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, just -- I know

12 you probably all realize this, but I just want to point

13 out that we're talking about a Friday/Saturday meeting,

14 and which probably would mean travel -- leaving St.

15 Mary's on Sunday. I have no idea what flights are in and

16 out of St. Mary's on the weekends, but it's just a factor

17 to consider is if everybody could get out on Sunday or

18 not. I suppose the Chair would know that pretty well.

19

20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Sure, the travel will

21 be on -- second?

22

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

24 (Not translated) You're ahead of yourself.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. Okay.

27

28 MR. L. WILDE: To keep peace, Mr.

29 Chairman.....

30

31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If there's any second

32 to the motion?

33

34 MR. L. WILDE: To keep peace, I'll second

35 Mary's motion.

36

37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The motion's been

38 second. All Council that want to have a meeting at St.

39 Mary's say aye.

40

41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42

43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Opposed say no.

44

45 (No opposing votes.)

46

47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried.

48 we'll have \meting at St. Mary's.

49

50 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

00243

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

2

3 MR. L. WILDE: I'd like to move that our  
4 winter meeting be held on March 6th and 7th, the location  
5 to be picked at the time of the next meeting.

6

7 MS. GREGORY: I second the motion.

8

9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion, and it has  
10 been second. Next meeting, winter meeting, we will find  
11 a place from next meeting.

12

13 MR. L. WILDE: March 6th and 7th.

14

15 MS. GREGORY: March 6 and 7, 2004.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Don.

18

19 MR. RIVARD: Just a couple of things.  
20 The schedule for next year, this really is showing this  
21 year's calendar. If you'll notice that we are on Friday  
22 March 7th right now. So the 6th and the 7th next year  
23 would be Friday and Saturday. So maybe you want the 5th  
24 and the 6th?

25

26 MR. L. WILDE: Okay. Yeah. 5th and 6th  
27 is what I wanted, Mr. Chairman.

28

29 MR. RIVARD: Okay.

30

31 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, what I  
32 wanted was a Thursday and a Friday. That would be 6th  
33 and 7th. No, I'm sorry, 5th and 6th.

34

35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Don.

36

37 MR. RIVARD: And just one other item. If  
38 you'll recall at your last meeting in Bethel when Tom  
39 Boyd was there and we had a discussion, I would  
40 encourage, if possible, that you also pick you location  
41 now. You could reconfirm it just like you did for St.  
42 Mary's. It gives our office a head start on knowing  
43 where you're going -- you're planning on meeting. And  
44 you could reconfirm that in your next meeting if that  
45 would be okay. It doesn't have to be a hard firm choice,  
46 but it would help us to get started on that and for the  
47 logistics for all to attend.

48

49 MS. GREGORY: It's customary.....

50

00244

1 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

4

5 MR. L. WILDE: According to our schedule,  
6 the next winter meeting has to be on the Kuskokwim  
7 somewhere. According to our tradition.

8

9 MS. GREGORY: Yes.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

12

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

14

15 INTERPRETER: (Speaking in Yup'ik instead  
16 of English)

17

18 MS. GREGORY: It might be in one of the  
19 upriver villages, because we've been to the tundra and  
20 Tunt. We need to go further up the -- above Bethel, but  
21 I can't give you the village. We can determine that in  
22 our October meeting. Or we could make suggestions who  
23 wants to have us come to their villages.

24

25 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, in the past  
26 when we've had problems, we've always asked, gone to the  
27 villages and asked invitations from the villages that  
28 want us to meet in their village, so it might be a good  
29 idea to take that into consideration for the 2004 meeting  
30 in the upper Kuskokwim, that we solicit invitation from  
31 the upper river through our coordinator.

32

33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: You are talking about  
34 2004 meeting?

35

36 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.

37

38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I suppose meeting on  
39 2003 we could decide and request who would be invite us  
40 from upriver Kuskokwim.

41

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

43

44 INTERPRETER: We could ask our -- we  
45 could direct Alex to work with the villages to see who  
46 would be willing to host our next meeting in March.

47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, okay. Yeah.  
49 (In Yup'ik) (Not translated)

50

00245

1 MR. ANDREW: (In Yup'ik)

2

3 INTERPRETER: Nick Andrew's recommending

4 that there be a meeting where there is water and sewer

5 already -- sewer systems already developed.

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Water and sewer.

8

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

10

11

12 INTERPRETER: I guess running water and

13 sewer, no honey buckets.

14

15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Closing.

16 Council closing comment.

17

18 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I want to

19 thank the Village of Chevak, and all the people who are

20 helping us here. The gentleman who met us at the airport

21 and took us down, and the people who we are staying with,

22 and those people who have invited us to eat, I want to

23 give my gratitude to you people for inviting us and

24 making sure that we had a good place to sleep and food to

25 eat. And Mr. Tooluk for his (in Yup'ik).

26

27 INTERPRETER: I want to thank the leaders

28 and elders of Chevak, for the room and board, for the

29 food we've been eating, and for transporting us while we

30 are here. I want to thank those that have come and

31 spoke, and those that have come from -- it is now for the

32 Council members to speak. It's up to the Chairman.

33

34 I want to say to say to our Staff members

35 that have come, in our villages perhaps it might be

36 better to be more attentive, and to listen to what is

37 being spoken, because it is distracting.

38

39 MS. GREGORY: I want to request the other

40 people who come here on behalf of us, who work for us, to

41 make sure that when you come here, you sit down and

42 listen, not to visit with each other, because it's very

43 degrading for us to sit here when we're deliberating or

44 talking, that you guys talk among yourselves, not paying

45 attention, being disrespectful. And that's very bad for

46 your mom and dad. Because we raise our children to

47 behave in the world and to get along with other people.

48

49 (In Yup'ik)

50

00246

1 MS. GREGORY: Thank you for meeting and  
2 hosting and coming to Chevak.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other comments from  
5 Council?

6  
7 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester. Lester.

10  
11 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I would like  
12 to also thank the elders of Chevak who's given us a lot  
13 of insight onto some of the discussions that we've had,  
14 and also for all the advice that they've given us. I  
15 know there's a couple that are listening on the radio  
16 right now that are paying attention to every word as it's  
17 being said, to make sure that their subsistence rights  
18 are not infringed upon by others who might want to take  
19 advantage of it.

20  
21 But as long as there are elders living  
22 within this area, I want to assure them that we as a  
23 Council try whatever we can to do to make sure that the  
24 subsistence way of life is kept within this region, and  
25 the regions that we serve.

26  
27 Thank you.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Nick Andrew.

30  
31 MR. ANDREW: Yeah. (In Yup'ik)

32  
33 INTERPRETER: I want to thank all of  
34 Chevak for the wonderful hosting job that they've done  
35 feeding us and transporting us and for making us know  
36 where we are within the village, making sure we know  
37 where we are. If I have traveled winter by myself, I  
38 wouldn't know where to go. Since yesterday, I want to  
39 mention I'm a Council member.

40  
41 I want our staff members and our  
42 coordinators to send letters of gratitude to traditional  
43 councils on behalf of the Regional Council for hosting.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Quyana. (In  
46 Yup'ik) (Not translated)

47  
48 I'm going to ask elder over here.

49  
50 (In Yup'ik)

00247

1 INTERPRETER: (In Yup'ik, not English)  
2 David Boyscout.

3

4 MR. BOYSCOUT: (In Yup'ik)

5

6 INTERPRETER: Before I do the benediction  
7 I want to make a statement, and I want you to remember  
8 this in our prayer. A lot of my peers, my cohorts here  
9 are aware of this.

10

11 Fish that swim, migrate up the rivers is  
12 not always the same year by year. I did not like this  
13 last year, it was in the Kashunuk River, set nets were  
14 only open for one week. Although there are closers, we  
15 only take what we need. And with that in mind, it is our  
16 hope and wish that we move on as we used to in the past.

17

18 MR. BOYSCOUT: (Gives benediction prayer  
19 in Yup'ik)

20

21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Meeting adjourned.

22

23

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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CERTIFICATE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

)ss.

STATE OF ALASKA )

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 152 through 247 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the VOLUME II, YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically by Meredith Downing on the 7th day of March 2003, beginning at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m. in Chevak, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by under my direction and reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and ability;

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 24th day of March 2003.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph P. Kolasinski  
Notary Public in and for Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 04/17/04