

1 YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA FEDERAL
2 SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

3
4 VOLUME II

5
6 PUBLIC MEETING

7
8
9 Long House Hotel
10 Bethel, Alaska
11 October 14, 2005
12 9:00 o'clock a.m.
13
14
15

16 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

17
18 Harry Wilde, Sr., Chair
19 Bob Aloysius
20 William Brown
21 James Charles
22 Mary Gregory
23 Beverly Hoffman
24 Joseph Mike, Sr.
25 Phillip Moses
26 Raymond Oney
27 Greg Roczicka
28 Lester Wilde, Sr.
29
30
31 Regional Council Coordinator, Alex Nick
32
33 Sophie Evan, Yup'ik Translator
34 Joseph "Trim" Nick, Yup'ik Translator
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

44 Recorded and transcribed by:

45
46 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
47 3522 West 27th Avenue
48 Anchorage, AK 99517
49 907-243-0668
50 jpk@gci.net

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Bethel, Alaska - 10/14/2005)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think we go ahead and we start this morning, continuation on our money part. Rich, I don't know how the Council want this here, do you want to take them one by one or take Yukon, separate or in one lump or Kuskokwim in one lump; I don't know.

MR. L. WILDE: We'll leave it up to you. You decide.

MS. HOFFMAN: I wouldn't mind -- Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

MS. HOFFMAN: I wouldn't mind taking them in Yukon and then Kuskokwim.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Then you could make announcement, I mean you could.....

MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

MS. HOFFMAN: I would like to take the Yukon in one lump and then the Kuskokwim, I would like to -- I need to find my file -- you know what I would like to consider 06-304 separately on the Kuskokwim, even though I know it's not going to be funded. I just want to discuss that a little bit more. So I would like to see 303, 305, 306, 307 and 351 in one lump discussion, and then make a decision, and then 304 by itself.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: What's the feeling of the rest of the Council.

MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

MS. GREGORY: For the sake of expediency, I agree with her.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg, what you think
2 in a lump or Kuskokwim aside and Yukon or what?
3
4 MR. ROCZICKA: Well, I certainly agree
5 we ought to take Kuskokwim and Yukon separately,
6 dealing them with a block here and then if people have
7 a separate one they want to pull out for more scrutiny,
8 that's what I understood her to say.
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.
11
12 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'm mutual, I go with
13 the flow.
14
15 (Laughter)
16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead we
18 could take a block, Kuskokwim aside and then the only
19 thing is 304, Kuskokwim -- go ahead, and we could start
20 out with Yukon in a block.
21
22 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.
25
26 MR. L. WILDE: Rich, where is the
27 dollar amounts for each of these projects?
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Rich.
30
31 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Lester. If
32 you would turn in your Council books to -- it actually
33 appears in a number of places but if you would go to,
34 for the Yukon, on Page 50 you will see the dollar
35 amounts for the various projects.
36
37 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, they're
38 also on the individual pages of funding requests.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, Rich.
41
42 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman, good morning.
43 For the record my name is Richard Cannon with the
44 Office of Subsistence Management. As the Council has
45 requested, I will continue with the Yukon as a block of
46 proposals and then turn the remaining three Yukon
47 proposals back to you for your deliberations and a
48 recommendation.
49
50 I'll continue then with the Yukon

1 funding proposals for projects for '06 by giving you an
2 overview of each project beginning with 06-205,
3 application of mixed stock analysis for Yukon fall
4 chum. This is found on Pages 55 through 57. This
5 project addresses the issue of mainstem mixed stock
6 analysis in the Yukon River, which was identified in
7 the 2006 request for proposals as a high priority
8 request. So this was something requested of our call
9 for proposals.

10

11 This proposal is a continuation of a
12 two year feasibility study conducting mixed stock
13 analysis of fall chum salmon sampled from Pilot Station
14 test fishery and reporting the information to Federal
15 and State managers in-season. This project has been
16 successful. I talked to the Federal manager, Russ
17 Holder, last evening, and it is a project that is
18 providing, as a feasibility study, providing important
19 information for the management of that fishery. The
20 strategic priority, technical and scientific merit and
21 past performance of the project are all ranked high.
22 And the majority of the Technical Review Committee
23 recommended this project for funding.

24

25 Now, you can ask me questions about
26 these projects as I go through them. If you don't have
27 any questions about what I just provided you then I'll
28 continue with the next project, which is 06-252.

29

30 That's the traditional ecological
31 knowledge and biological sampling of nonsalmon fish
32 species in the Yukon Flats region, and that's found on
33 Pages 58 through 60.

34

35 This is a multi-partnered project. And
36 it proposes to combine social science and biological
37 methods to contribute to the knowledge of nonsalmon
38 species, these are resident species in the Birch Creek
39 area by the residents of five Yukon Flats communities,
40 including Ft. Yukon, Circle, Central, Beaver and Birch
41 Creek Village. Between three percent to 35 percent of
42 the total subsistence harvest in these communities is
43 comprised of resident or nonsalmon fish species. This
44 is an indication of the importance of these species for
45 subsistence.

46

47 In recent years the Birch Creek area
48 has been subject to increasing regulatory scrutiny and
49 increased information is needed on status, harvest and
50 use of these resident species in the area. And this

1 would assist, both the Alaska Department of Fish and
2 Game and the Federal Subsistence Board in considering
3 future regulatory proposals.

4
5 The project methodology includes semi-
6 structured ethnographic interviews with elders and
7 other knowledgeable fishers from these communities,
8 participant observations, a harvest survey and
9 estimates of size and age composition in growth of
10 northern pike inhabiting the Birch Creek area.

11
12 The Technical Review Committee
13 supported and recommends this project for funding.

14
15 The last project for the Yukon that
16 I'll be presenting about is 06-253 is traditional
17 ecological knowledge and harvest survey of resident or
18 nonsalmon fish in the middle Yukon region and this is
19 found on Pages 61 through 63.

20
21 This project will collect traditional
22 knowledge and harvest information on nonsalmon or
23 resident fish species in five communities, from Kaltag,
24 Nulato, Galena, Tanana and Ruby. The project is
25 designed to compliment several other OSM funded
26 projects in this area and will help to present a
27 comprehensive picture of the resident harvest and use
28 based on traditional knowledge throughout a significant
29 component of the middle Yukon River drainage. As has
30 been documented by other projects, the importance of
31 nonsalmon or resident species to subsistence uses
32 increases when salmon populations and harvests decline.
33 Little harvest assessment or traditional knowledge
34 information has been conducted for resident species,
35 particularly in terms of recent harvest and use in
36 these particular communities.

37
38 This project has a strong capacity
39 building component and presents an approach that
40 addresses both capacity building in a meaningful and
41 innovative way and directly supports the conservation
42 and management of these species. The Technical Review
43 Committee recommends and supports funding for this
44 project.

45
46 That brings us to the end of the list
47 and I'd be happy to answer any questions about these
48 projects and then I will turn this over to your Council
49 for its comments and ask for support for the TRC
50 recommendations for the Yukon.

1 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

4

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

7

8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Rich.
9 How did you -- or whoever wrote this proposal, how did
10 they arrive at the terminology, traditional ecological
11 knowledge?

12

13 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Council
14 member Aloysius. The term is one that's been used by
15 -- primarily by social-scientists. And I think the
16 terminology and the jargon is changing as we're being
17 instructed by people who have traditional knowledge.
18 So other terms are, that we're trying to use that mean
19 the same thing are local knowledge, or just traditional
20 knowledge, and it's a term of art. It's a fancy way of
21 trying to say that we're interested in what people have
22 learned from their long, you know, from their culture
23 and from living in these areas.

24

25 MR. ALOYSIUS: The reason I asked is
26 because, you know, the Western culture has a tendency
27 to use terms that are not specific because they don't
28 really understand the difference between culture,
29 heritage, traditions, customs and values.

30

31 And us Native people are very specific
32 on what culture is, culture is our way of life.

33

34 Heritage is what we inherit from our
35 ancestors.

36

37 Traditions are what we do on a cyclic
38 basis, either on a weekly, biweekly, monthly, 40 days,
39 annually, or once every 10 years. Those are things we
40 do on a tradition because it's a tradition.

41

42 So, you know, it always bugs the heck
43 out of me for the Western people to use these three,
44 culture, heritage and tradition ambiguously because
45 they don't really understand what they are. So, you
46 know, I would -- you know if you're talking about
47 culture and knowledge, that's -- it's a way of life
48 that people understand and they know how to deal with
49 the ecology of that particular area.

50

1 So, you know, I would really encourage
2 whoever you deal with to be really specific on what
3 they're talking about.

4
5 And, you know, indigenous knowledge, to
6 me, is more appropriate because these people are from
7 that particular area and they know the ecology and what
8 the trends are, and what the trends have been and what
9 the trends are going to be.

10
11 Thank you.

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

14
15 MS. HOFFMAN: Bob, is it indigenous
16 knowledge that you want it to be called or traditional
17 or what?

18
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: Traditional is not the
20 appropriate terminology for gathering knowledge of a
21 particular area.

22
23 MS. HOFFMAN: Oh, you know, because I
24 always heard that growing up here that it was
25 acceptable to use that term as traditional knowledge
26 which was inclusive of the indigenous knowledge, it was
27 the same. But you know more than I.

28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Shakes head negatively)

30
31 MS. HOFFMAN: But it's important, I
32 think, to use terms that, and I would talk to other
33 elders, too, you know, Phillip Moses and Joseph Mike,
34 Harry and some of the folks to get their input.

35
36 The question I wanted to ask was on
37 253, you're using the high school students in Galena
38 High School.

39
40 MR. CANNON: (Nods Affirmatively)

41
42 MS. HOFFMAN: Do they get some of the
43 funding for this project.

44
45 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Ms.
46 Hoffman, they will get a stipend for their
47 participation in these projects, yes.

48
49 MS. HOFFMAN: Uh-huh, thanks.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council, any more
2 questions for Rich.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council.
7
8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.
11
12 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we
13 recommend, what are these proposals or requests?
14
15 MR. CANNON: These are requests for
16 funding.
17
18 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay. Request for
19 funding, Request No. 06-205, 06-252, and 06-253 for
20 funding.
21
22 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on
25 the floor by Bob Aloysius and second by Greg, if
26 there's any discussion.
27
28 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.
29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.
31
32 MS. GREGORY: I have a couple of
33 concerns here. One of these is a Federal project, the
34 rest of them are State; is that correct, State
35 Department ADF&G will be doing the actual -- 252 and
36 253, that's correct, right, and who's the Loudon Tribal
37 Council for my curiosity.
38
39 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Ms.
40 Gregory. I cannot answer that. I'm not directly
41 involved with this proposal and I don't personally know
42 the people involved with this tribal council.
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, Russ.
45
46 MR. HOLDER: Mr. Chairman. Ms.
47 Gregory. The Loudon Tribal Council is in Galena.
48
49 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.
50

1 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.
4
5 MS. HOFFMAN: The funding, though, the
6 Federal funding is the primary funding, right, the
7 dollars are coming from?
8
9 MR. CANNON: Yes, the funds that you
10 are asked to make a recommendation on are Federal
11 Subsistence Funds. In some cases you will see matching
12 funds that are being contributed by other sources, like
13 State funds or other grants.
14
15 MS. HOFFMAN: Question.
16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called
18 for, all who favor say aye.
19
20 IN UNISON: Aye.
21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oppose, same sign.
23
24 (No opposing votes)
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried.
27
28 MR. CANNON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
29 We'll now move on to the Kuskokwim for request for
30 funding.
31
32 The proposed Kuskokwim Fisheries
33 Monitoring Plan for 2006 begins on Page 64 and it is
34 organized just like the Yukon. Pages 64 through 71
35 provides an overview. You will find the same tables
36 for the Kuskokwim as we have just gone through for the
37 Yukon. Table 1 on Page 65 and 66 presents all the
38 projects funded and commitments for funding that have
39 been made in past years. 54 projects have been
40 conducted since 2000 at a cost of about \$9.7 million
41 since the program began. A little over 60 percent, I
42 think it's moving closer to three-quarters of all
43 fisheries research and monitoring is currently being
44 provided by the Fisheries Monitoring Program for the
45 Kuskokwim. Page 71 has the list in order of priority
46 of how the Technical Review Committee viewed the
47 proposed investigation plans, so that's their order of
48 priority starting from the most important to the one
49 that's least important in their view.
50

1 Again like the Yukon projects above the
2 line are recommended for funding because they meet the
3 statewide funding guidelines for 2006, are
4 strategically important, are technically sound, they
5 build capacity and the investigators have proven that
6 they can do the work.

7
8 And, again, summaries for all six of
9 these projects are found on Pages 72 through 89.

10
11 And as we've discussed and you've
12 requested I'll now go through all of these proposals,
13 except for the one, Project 06-304, which you will take
14 up separately. I will go through the remainder of the
15 proposals.

16
17 Project 06-303, migratory behavior of
18 broad and humpback whitefish in the Kuskokwim River,
19 that's found on Pages 72 and 73. This is really a
20 continuation of the work that was initiated at
21 Whitefish Lake in the middle Kuskokwim, and that
22 research is underway. This proposal would extend that
23 work into the lower Kuskokwim area.

24
25 It will identify spawning areas
26 utilized by stocks of broad and humpback whitefish,
27 which concentrate in lower river tributaries and lake
28 systems where local subsistence users have voiced
29 concerns about harvest declines. Radio tagged fish
30 will be tracked to fall spawning areas so that stock
31 groups can be identified for genetic sampling and
32 studies initiated to assess stock abundance and
33 seasonal distribution.

34
35 The Technical Review Committee
36 recommends funding.

37
38 If you have any questions on this
39 project I'll take them now or I'll move on to the next
40 one which is 06-304.

41
42 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

45
46 MS. HOFFMAN: Who will be collecting or
47 capturing the whitefish below Bethel?

48
49 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Ms.
50 Hoffman. The project, principal investigator is the

1 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and they'll be working
2 with local people in the area to help collect the fish.

3

4 MS. HOFFMAN: Thank you.

5

6 MR. CANNON: Okay, Project 06-304.

7

8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

9

10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

11

12 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'd just like to say a
13 few words in support of this request being from -- it's
14 not the middle Kuskokwim, it's the upper/lower
15 Kuskokwim, you look at the map, middle Kuskokwim starts
16 around Sleetmute or Crooked Creek, but we're in the
17 upper/lower Kuskokwim.

18

19 I would really appreciate your voting
20 favorably for this because it has been something that
21 has been acknowledging the statements made by our old
22 people about Whitefish Lake. They say that Whitefish
23 Lake is like an ocean to the whitefish on the Kuskokwim
24 River, and that's just one sample of the areas that are
25 like oceans to the whitefish. There's been studies
26 going on for a number of years and one of the things
27 they found, that the whitefish that migrate out of
28 Whitefish Lake go down to the bay and traverse up the
29 Kuskokwim as far as Medfra, which is one of the
30 headwaters of the Kuskokwim River. And some of the age
31 compositions that they found in those whitefish are 29
32 and 30 years old. And they have pictures of some of
33 the older whitefish that are like 33 feet long -- I
34 mean not 33 feet, but three feet long.

35

36 (Laughter)

37

38 MR. ALOYSIUS: And as big around as
39 king salmon. So I think it's a very worthwhile project
40 and it has really made the older people appreciate the
41 fact that someone is finally listening to them and
42 verifying what they have been saying for years. So I
43 would really appreciate your backing on this request
44 for funding.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Rich.

49

50 MR. CANNON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 I'll continue. Project 06-304

2

3 MS. HOFFMAN: No.

4

5 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.

6

7 MR. CANNON: Excuse me, that's the one
8 we're not going to take up right now.

9

10 Project 06-305, spawning distribution
11 and migratory timing of Kuskokwim River sheefish using
12 radiotelemetry, Pages 76 and 77.

13

14 This project proposes a three year
15 radiotelemetry study to track sheefish captured in
16 subsistence fisheries in their spawning locations.
17 Sheefish are found throughout the drainage but very
18 little is known by Western science about their
19 distribution or abundance. The first year of tagging
20 would focus on the upper portion of the drainage during
21 fall migration past the village of McGrath and the
22 second year the focus would shift to fishing areas near
23 Kalskag and Aniak in early spring to capture fish are
24 they moving up river to feeding areas. The radiotagged
25 fish would be tracked throughout the summer and fall
26 through the third year of study to identify their
27 spawning areas, summer feeding areas, overwintering
28 locations and the timing of their spring migration.

29

30 The study is technically sound and
31 strategically important but it was judged less
32 important than projects focused on management of high
33 use subsistence salmon and other fisheries as you saw
34 from the priorities, however, the TRC looked statewide
35 for funding for this project and it exceeded the amount
36 we had for the Kuskokwim but they prioritize things on
37 a statewide basis and decided that they would -- given
38 the funding that they had statewide that they would
39 recommend funding for this project. So we're actually
40 getting funding from, not just the Kuskokwim allocation
41 but from the statewide allocation, so they're
42 reprioritizing to fund this project.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

45

46 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
47 Just a couple questions Rich. As I understand it, this
48 is the first shot, essentially, of getting some
49 baseline data on sheefish, similar to where we kicked
50 off with whitefish a couple of years ago, I just wanted

1 confirmation on that. And the other, I looked in here,
2 is this going to be also taken advantage of the
3 telemetry stations that are used in the other projects
4 with salmon and the whitefish and so forth?

5
6 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
7 Roczicka. Yes, that is the case and this project, the
8 reason they can do it for the price that they've come
9 to us is because they are coordinating it and sharing
10 resources with the whitefish study.

11
12 MR. ROCZICKA: And salmon.

13
14 MR. CANNON: Yes.

15
16 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: Rich. On 2002 funding
21 there's almost double the amount -- or almost double
22 the amount of 2006 and then it drops back down below,
23 2006 -- in 2008; what's the reason for that?

24
25 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
26 Aloysius. The Technical Review Committee wanted to
27 know about that, too. The reason is, is because of the
28 amount of work that needs to be done when they move to
29 the lower river. When they do the first year's work,
30 they've already done enough -- they did some work ahead
31 of time around McGrath and they talked to local people
32 and went to the area, and they're pretty sure they can
33 get their fish captured because they know where to go.
34 In the lower Kuskokwim, they're going to have to go to
35 many, many more locations and so the costs are going to
36 go up significantly to get enough fish captured and
37 tagged in enough locations to have a meaningful study.

38
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

42
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: Are they going to
44 utilize some of the local people in the capturing of
45 these fish?

46
47 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Absolutely,
48 yes.

49
50 (Pause)

1 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman, I'll
2 continue.

3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Rich.

5
6 MR. CANNON: Project 06-306, Kuskokwim
7 River salmon in-season subsistence catch monitoring,
8 Page 78 and 79. This project is a continuation project
9 and focuses on in-season subsistence monitoring. In-
10 season subsistence catch data is systematically
11 collected each week from up to 50 Bethel area
12 subsistence users by ONC and provided to managers and
13 the working group.

14
15 This information has proven to be very
16 helpful for assessing the timing and relative abundance
17 of Kuskokwim salmon runs. This project also provides
18 insight into the progress of the subsistence fishery.
19 An index of catches based on those interviewed and
20 importantly, an avenue for local user input into the
21 management process.

22
23 This project was funded in 2005 based
24 on your Council's support and direct involvement. And
25 you submitted a request directly to the Federal
26 Subsistence Board for this project to be given special
27 consideration and in fact the project was funded out of
28 cycle based on your Council's input.

29
30 At this point the Technical Review
31 Committee sees the value of this project and recommends
32 funding for three additional years.

33
34 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

37
38 MS. GREGORY: I just have one concern,
39 in your co-investigators, Greg Roczicka is named, does
40 that pose a conflict of interest or not?

41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

43
44 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I'd
45 intended when it came time for the vote, to, as far as
46 this proposal, to clarify on the record that I'd be
47 abstaining concerning this one because I am one of the
48 -- named in there as one of the co-investigators, my
49 organization is the primary sponsor of that.

50

1 MS. HOFFMAN: So Mr. Chair.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.
4
5 MS. HOFFMAN: Will we have to pull this
6 one out, too, so that you can -- because we're going to
7 vote on them in a block, so we might have -- I don't
8 know.
9
10 MR. ROCZICKA: No, it was my intention
11 to say that when the vote came for the block to clarify
12 on the record that pertaining to this specific
13 proposal, that my vote would be an abstention.
14
15 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.
16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.
18
19 MS. HOFFMAN: I just wanted to say, you
20 know, for the folks that are from the Yukon, how
21 important this has been to our Kuskokwim Salmon
22 Management Group, that it's been just invaluable
23 information to us in our decision-making processes.
24 It's definitely worthy of the dollars that are spent.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: James.
27
28 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
29 This funding is always helping the working group from
30 the beginning of the season to see how the run is on
31 the Kuskokwim River from the mouth all the way to
32 McGrath and Nickoli and working with Greg, he reports
33 what the people are doing around Bethel, too, and
34 that's a good tool for the working group to assess the
35 run. And that has helped us a lot in past years so I'm
36 for the funding for that project.
37
38 Thank you.
39
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: The reason I was
41 snickering is that there's one, two, three, four, five
42 of us here on the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management
43 Working Group, now, if you want to put in a thing about
44 conflict of interest, you know.
45
46 (Laughter)
47
48 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, can we ignore
49 that.
50

1 (Laughter)

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

6

7 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. Yeah, how
8 about that to apply to the next proposal that's coming
9 up for funding.

10

11 (Laughter)

12

13 MR. ROCZICKA: I just wanted to add a
14 little bit of perspective here as far as you mentioned
15 about the funding for this year coming out of cycle and
16 through the Federal Board. In my mind it was actually
17 denied by the Federal Board and it was actually through
18 the efforts of the OSM Staff that this was allowed to
19 occur and continue through this last season, so that's
20 where the credit should go here, not to the Board, but
21 to the OSM Staff that really turned themselves inside
22 out to make it happen and bring it back forward. And I
23 regret that I didn't make it to the Federal Subsistence
24 Board meeting last May to state that directly there.

25

26 But pass on my appreciation here for
27 the record.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Rich.

30

31 MR. CANNON: I'll continue with our
32 last proposal, it's 06-307 in-season support for
33 cooperative management of the Kuskokwim River Salmon
34 Subsistence Fishery, Pages 80 and 81.

35

36 This project provides funding for
37 activities of the Kuskokwim Working Group. Over the
38 last two decades the Working Group has become
39 increasingly active in the preseason, in-season and
40 post-season management of the Kuskokwim River drainage
41 subsistence, commercial and sport salmon fisheries.

42

43 The 2001 Fisheries Resources Management
44 Program provided funds for the Working Group's support
45 through the 2004 fishing season. However, funds lapsed
46 during 2005. This proposal would reestablish that
47 needed support. Your Council provided the Board a
48 resolution last year supporting this project and the
49 Technical Review Committee supports funding of this
50 project.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
4 I guess since it was brought up, I'd just want to note
5 maybe a difference here regarding this proposal and the
6 Working Group membership that's also represented on
7 this Council. The difference here is that the
8 administration and the actual funds are going to a
9 different entity and administered through a different
10 entity whereas in the previous proposal it's a direct
11 funding to ONC so I don't see the same level of
12 conflict or perceived conflict on this proposal for any
13 one of us that sit on the Working Group to vote on.

14

15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Rich.

16

17 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman, just for the
18 record the funds would be provided to the Alaska
19 Department of Fish and Game who provide support,
20 administrative support and logistic support for the
21 work of a totally nonpaid volunteer organization that,
22 based on my history with the Kuskokwim, has made a
23 greater difference to the management of that fishery
24 than anything that I've observed. So I just wanted to
25 make sure that everyone understood, really, where the
26 funds were going.

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: James.

29

30 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
31 I have not seen how much money was given to the Working
32 Group on Kuskokwim before and maybe I have seen it but
33 I don't remember, that's why I was complaining at our
34 last Working Group meeting, because all of us are
35 volunteers and have to provide -- like myself, I have
36 to provide my own transportation from Tuntutuliak to
37 Bethel to go to meetings and I get nothing back and
38 sometimes when I'm at home, I'm on teleconference
39 meeting and we have a lot of work to do at home, and I
40 have to let my -- let something else that I'm supposed
41 to be doing go and go have a meeting, and in the middle
42 of summer or during peak runs or commercial fishing
43 time, subsistence fishing time, we have meetings almost
44 every week. And I was complaining why the State or
45 Federal have not fund or give us more money to work
46 with and help out with the travel and other expenses
47 that we do for Working Group like YRDFA has money to
48 get people together for meetings.

49

50 At our last meeting, we had meeting

1 here in Bethel and in the past our trips were paid for
2 to get to face to face meeting instead of
3 teleconference and some of us were traveling on our own
4 to go to that meeting. And I'd like to see more money
5 given to the Working Group later on.

6
7 Thank you.

8
9 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

12
13 MS. HOFFMAN: I've been on the, not
14 only this group but the Kuskokwim Salmon Management
15 Group for just the past few years and it has been so
16 invaluable, I think, because it has built such a
17 relationship between lower, middle, upper, headwaters,
18 it's built a relationship, improved dialogue between
19 all users on the Kuskokwim, and for those of you out
20 there that don't know how the Kuskokwim Salmon
21 Management Working Group works, it can be pretty firey
22 sometimes between all of us volunteers but we've
23 learned through that group and through the support that
24 we had gotten in the past from the State and OSM, you
25 know, it's just, I think, improved the management of
26 the fisheries and it's worthy of being funded. And
27 also considering, like James said, more money, for
28 future because I think it's important for these groups
29 to go into those interagency meetings that you have in
30 Anchorage, more than just one representative, I think
31 Bob and James and myself and Greg, a lot of us have
32 been at those meetings because of this funding and the
33 things that we learn there also carry over to the work
34 that we do here.

35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: William.

37
38 MR. BROWN: Yeah, I'd just like to say,
39 too, about my own experience when I was invited to the
40 other meetings, I get my own stipend ready, per diem;
41 is it possible to have stipends for working groups in
42 the future?

43
44 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Brown.
45 You know, anything is possible but I don't think it
46 would come from our program, it would probably need to
47 come from, you know, some other source of funding.

48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Carl Jack.

50

1 MR. JACK: (In Yup'ik)

2

3 INTERPRETER: The recommendation by Mr.
4 Brown to provide stipends for Working Group members.
5 Approximately three years ago the Council recommended
6 that stipends be given to Working Group members and a
7 letter was signed and sent from Mitch Demientieff to
8 the Secretary recommending stipends. And the response
9 we got from the Secretary that they did not approve
10 stipends for the Councils.

11

12 But you may request through a letter
13 again to the Secretary but I think the Secretary's mind
14 will not change towards the stipends.

15

16 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

19

20 MR. L. WILDE: Carl. Was the request
21 for stipend or was the request for per diem?

22

23 (Pause)

24

25 MR. L. WILDE: I guess I'm being
26 ignored today.

27

28 MR. JACK: (In Yup'ik)

29

30 INTERPRETER: I was just told, or
31 informed that if it is written in here that is what you
32 want, that it may -- if it is included in this budget
33 for this project. If you budget stipends into this,
34 that may happen -- you may get stipends that way. But
35 as Council members here when you meet twice a year,
36 that the Secretary's determination was made for
37 Councils, but this is separate, that if it is in this
38 budget you may get stipends.

39

40 MR. JACK: Ann Wilkinson.

41

42 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. -- Carl, I was
43 wondering if the request for stipend, why request
44 stipend, when it seems like it would be a lot easier to
45 request for per diem for your expenses, and that would
46 take care of some of the concerns that some of the
47 Working Group members have on providing their own
48 gasoline and all that other -- the needs to travel to
49 the meetings.

50

1 MR. JACK: (In Yup'ik)
2
3 INTERPRETER: So the letter that was
4 addressed to the Secretary requesting stipends and you
5 already have per diem and we all know that some of you
6 have jobs and hold jobs and you leave your employment
7 to attend this meeting, and based on that, that letter
8 was sent to request stipends but that was denied.
9
10 But this is separate as Ann said, that
11 if it is in this budget.
12
13 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.
14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.
16
17 MR. L. WILDE: I thought we were in
18 discussion on the Kuskokwim Working Group, and I was
19 wondering why they weren't getting per diem instead of
20 stipend, I mean why request stipend when some of these
21 guys are only requesting per diem?
22
23 MR. JACK: (In Yup'ik)
24
25 INTERPRETER: I was not listening
26 carefully.
27
28 (Laughter)
29
30 MR. JACK: (In Yup'ik)
31
32 INTERPRETER: You guys are discussing
33 the Working Group and not this RAC.
34
35 Thank you.
36
37 MR. JACK: Quyana.
38
39 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chairman.
40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.
42
43 MS. HOFFMAN: Actually, I think with
44 the Working Group in the past it's been the Fish and
45 Game director here in Bethel that if he had the money
46 could, you know, in those situations, with a budget,
47 cover some expenses like gas and air fare for face to
48 face or something, but it would eat up the 30,000
49 really quickly if we were given stipends and that sort
50 of thing.

1 John.

2

3 MR. LINDERMAN: Mr. Chair. Ms.
4 Hoffman. There is money within this proposal that Mr.
5 Cannon is talking about that is earmarked for travel
6 funding, especially with respect to an end of season
7 larger scale meeting, which we plan on holding in the
8 coming years while this funding is available. Beyond
9 that there is also additional funding for travel and
10 reimbursement of travel expenses for individual Working
11 Group members, but that will have to be handled on a
12 case by case basis. The Working Group can decide on
13 funding and choosing individuals for those travel
14 monies.

15

16 Thank you.

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, one time I
19 remember when Chairman's meeting at Anchorage, all the
20 Chairmans were signing the letter, sending the letter
21 so the Council could get the per diem but we were --
22 that letter was refused by the Secretary of Interior.

23

24 (Pause)

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next, Rich.

27

28 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. I think
29 that the next action that you may want to consider is
30 to decide on this block of proposals that I've talked
31 to you about.

32

33 MS. HOFFMAN: There's one more.

34

35 MR. L. WILDE: There's one more.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

38

39 MR. CANNON: I'm sorry, I stand
40 corrected there is one more.

41

42 MR. L. WILDE: 351.

43

44 MR. CANNON: Project 06-351, lower
45 Kuskokwim nonsalmon harvest survey and local knowledge
46 project, Pages 82 and 83.

47

48 This project will conduct harvest
49 assessment for nonsalmon species and to collect
50 traditional -- or indigenous knowledge on changing fish

1 populations, fish health, abundance, distribution and
2 availability in the communities of Nunapitchuk,
3 Tuntutuliak and Eek. It addresses several issues of
4 high importance, mainly indigenous knowledge of
5 whitefish and other important resident species.

6
7 This project includes a strong capacity
8 building component. The project was submitted for
9 funding consideration last year but was not recommended
10 for funding due to some technical concerns that were
11 voiced by the Technical Review Committee. However,
12 these concerns have been addressed by the investigators
13 and in this year's investigation plan and it is
14 recommended for funding.

15
16 Thank you.

17
18 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

19
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

21
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: Now, that's the kind of
23 wording I really appreciate.

24
25 (Laughter)

26
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you, Tracie.

28
29 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

32
33 MS. HOFFMAN: For those of you not from
34 the Kuskokwim, this is another important project, I
35 think, that has given us a lot of good information to
36 work with and we were very disappointed last year and I
37 see it's only being funded in 2007, it's zero, does
38 that mean they have to reapply?

39
40 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Ms.
41 Hoffman. No, the project will be concluded in two
42 years and they will submit a report with their
43 findings, so it's a two year project.

44
45 MS. HOFFMAN: Thank you.

46
47 MR. CANNON: That's all the funding
48 they need.

49
50 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.
2
3 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah, in some of these,
4 thinking back a long ways, some of these projects that
5 are listed on here -- some of the projects that the
6 people on the Kuskokwim have been looking for a long
7 time, I know that for a fact because I've attended some
8 of the meetings that they've requested some of this
9 funding. Now that they're able to get it and this
10 might be their only chance to get some of this study
11 done concerning the nonsalmon species.
12
13 I'd like to make a motion to request
14 for funding 06-303, 06-305, 06-306, 06-307, and 06-351
15 be funded.
16
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.
18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on
20 the floor to fund these certain numbers and been
21 seconded. Discussion.
22
23 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.
26
27 MS. GREGORY: I'm still concerned about
28 06-306, if we vote on it as one voice, I'm concerned
29 about Mr. Roczicka's position.
30
31 MR. ALOYSIUS: He already stated what
32 he's going to do. Mary.
33
34 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)
35
36 INTERPRETER: Mary has a concern.....
37
38 MS. GREGORY: He can say no for all of
39 them, is that what you're saying?
40
41 INTERPRETER:about the concern
42 that Greg brought up and that it should be voted on
43 individually.
44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.
46
47 MR. ROCZICKA: No, Mr. Chairman, and I
48 intended to, again, state it for the record when it
49 came time for the vote that I do intend to support the
50 motion with the clarification that regarding Proposal

1 06-306 that it be registered for the record as an
2 abstention.

3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

5
6 MR. L. WILDE: Question.

7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question been
9 called for, all who favor say aye.

10
11 IN UNISON: Aye.

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed say no.

14
15 (No opposing votes)

16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion.....

18
19 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE:carried.

22
23 MR. ROCZICKA: For the record, my aye
24 vote applies to 06-303, 06-305, 06-307, 06-351, and
25 regarding 06-306, I abstain.

26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Greg.
28 Rich.

29
30 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
31 That brings us back on our list for the Kuskokwim to
32 Project 06-304, which was not included in the last
33 group that you voted on.

34
35 With your permission, Mr. Chairman,
36 I'll read my comments on that proposal.

37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

39
40 MR. CANNON: 06-304, seasonal
41 distribution and abundance of rainbow trout in the
42 Aniak River found on Pages 74 and 75.

43
44 This investigation proposes to describe
45 populations or families, specific stocks, of rainbow
46 trout in the Aniak River and to begin to estimate
47 abundance, their size composition and their seasonal
48 distribution and abundance of these individual stocks.

49
50 The investigators propose to provide a

1 measure for the variation in the fish abundance within
2 the drainage. Also to provide an index area that would
3 be used to monitor changes over the years and their
4 population size and structure. And then in addition to
5 that they would define an acceptable level of fishing
6 mortality.

7
8 The study is technically sound and
9 strategically is important but the Technical Review
10 Committee judged that it was simply less important at
11 this point in time than other projects which focused on
12 the management of subsistence salmon and whitefish.
13 Therefore the Technical Review Committee had to
14 recommend not funding this project.

15
16 Thank you.

17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

19
20 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair. I had asked
21 that to be separated because I just wanted to go on
22 record that while it might not be funded this year that
23 I would vote in favor of funding it just to get on
24 record that I feel it's important. The one statement
25 here, the lack of historic information, indigenous,
26 traditional knowledge, of their life history and the
27 abundance, there's so little -- there's so little known
28 about the life cycle about of the rainbow, and it's
29 important to the whole ecosystem. And, of course, you
30 know, when I look at the Aniak, I'm also thinking about
31 the river I do business on and that's the Kisaralik and
32 the Kwethluk, I have the same concerns, in that, you
33 know, it's a different reproduction and life cycle than
34 the salmon. And I worry that diminishing populations
35 are of great concern to me.

36
37 So I would like, and I would hope that
38 KNA and the sponsors, or the principal investigators of
39 this project do pursue future funding because I think
40 it's important. And I would like, even this group, to
41 get more information on the lifecycle of the rainbow
42 trout and more information about it in our region
43 because I believe it is an important species. And I
44 think we all need to know a little bit more about it.

45
46 So, I, personally am in support of
47 funding this project

48
49 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.
2
3 MR. L. WILDE: For the record, due to
4 the limited funding available, I move that 06-304 not
5 be funded.
6
7 MR. ALOYSIUS: That's a negative motion
8 again.
9
10 (Pause)
11
12 MR. L. WILDE: You heard my motion, Mr.
13 Chairman.
14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there any second to
16 the motion.
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Look like motion dead
21 because of no second.
22
23 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.
26
27 MS. HOFFMAN: I'll make a motion that
28 we approve funding of this project.
29
30 MS. GREGORY: I'll second that.
31
32 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on
35 the floor to fund 06-304, is there any second to the
36 motion.
37
38 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)
39
40 INTERPRETER: (No translation)
41
42 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.
45
46 MR. ROCZICKA: I would support this
47 motion and although the funding, you know, referencing
48 what Bev said, the funding may not be there for this
49 year but we could certainly have that statement on
50 record that we would like to see avenues pursued in the

1 future to have it funded and I believe there's other
2 sources with the Technical Review Committee, it
3 involves both the State managers as well, there's the
4 Southwest Alaska Rainbow Management plan in place that
5 the State was very strongly in favor of putting into
6 place through Sportfish Division and so forth, that I
7 believe dollars could be tapped or identified through
8 that.

9

10 Maybe I'm recalling in error but as I
11 remember, I'm thinking that there was proposals that
12 went through the Federal Subsistence Board last January
13 that there was some nonsalmon species and I think it
14 was specific to rainbow trout in the Bristol Bay region
15 where the local Council did not want it so if funding
16 could be pursued through other regions it may be
17 available or the statewide as you mentioned for the
18 whitefish, I believe, earlier, that's another avenue to
19 pursue.

20

21 And given that rainbow, being such a
22 long-lived fish as they are and with as little
23 understanding as there is as I've heard over the years,
24 I believe the Aniak is considered the farthest north
25 range of rainbow even though some folks will tell you,
26 (In Native) that there's rainbows there as well.

27

28 Anyway, I just believe it's well worth
29 pursuing in whatever way you can and I think that going
30 on record in support of getting this project, if not
31 this year through whatever options you can find
32 available, certainly in the future.

33

34 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

37

38 MR. ALOYSIUS: I also would support
39 this proposal based on the simple fact that there needs
40 to be more knowledge of what those rainbows are doing
41 up in the Aniak River. You know, I grew up in that
42 area and I know for a fact that the rainbows are not
43 targeted by the Native people in the summertime. They
44 are targeted only after freeze up for fresh fish. By
45 the time freeze up occurs we have no other resource of
46 fresh fish. So rainbow, Dolly and grayling are
47 targeted during the winter months through the ice.

48

49 And it's only been the last couple of
50 decades that, you know, the people who play with their

1 food have come up here and started this thing they call
2 sportfishing. And they target the rainbows, Dollys,
3 and grayling during the summer months which is contrary
4 to the Native way of going after those three species,
5 so, you know, I'm going to support this proposal for --
6 I mean I'm going to recommend funding for it.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

13

14 MR. L. WILDE: The reason I made the
15 motion I did prior to this was because we, the people
16 on the Yukon River don't even know what a rainbow trout
17 looks like and so we don't use that -- that's not one
18 of our main resources for subsistence and not
19 understanding the need for that subsistence resource in
20 your area, I made the motion I did. And since you
21 brought that fact up I will support this for funding.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: James.

24

25 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
26 I have been wondering about that rainbow trout study
27 that was done over on these other rivers a few years
28 ago. And I have little camp way up the Eek River and
29 there's rainbow trout in these other rivers around me
30 but not on Eek River. There's rainbow trout in
31 Kanektok River, rainbow trout on Kwethluk River and I'm
32 in between with nothing and I've been wondering how the
33 study was made and if there was rainbow trout before or
34 long time ago and they're gone now or why there is none
35 on Eek River.

36

37 There is Arctic char and other
38 nonsalmon fish there but I want to see more studies
39 done on these rivers so I'm in favor of Aniak River,
40 too, for more rainbow trout study.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

45

46 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
47 As far as always learning something new everyday, it's
48 a surprise to me that Eek, that you say you don't see
49 no rainbows up there. I learned something new
50 everyday, I never even in the world realized this guy's

1 name was William.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 MR. ROCZICKA: But, Bob, when you
6 mentioned that on the fresh fish part, I just wanted to
7 say, too, I've never had nothing more melt in your
8 mouth delicious than the smoked rainbows from off
9 Kanektok River. Oh, man those guys from Quinhagak,
10 that's really delicious, you should try it.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more discussion.
13 William.

14

15 MR. BROWN: To my elder knowledge about
16 those trouts we got muddy water by Eek Island way up
17 further we got clear water, I think that's the reason
18 why we don't have trouts in Eek.

19

20 MR. ROCZICKA: Question.

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

23

24 MR. ROCZICKA: Call for question.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called
27 for, I'm going to call for roll call. If you want this
28 project funded you say yes and if you don't want to
29 see, not funding, you say no. You understand that.

30

31 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes.

32

33 MR. MOSES: (No response)

34

35 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Phillip Moses says
36 that he's going to abstain because he doesn't know
37 what's going on totally but whatever it is he'll
38 support, so what do I put in.

39

40 MR. RIVARD: Abstain.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Abstain. (In Yup'ik)

43

44 INTERPRETER: (No interpretation)

45

46 MS. GREGORY: Bob Aloysius.

47

48 MR. ALOYSIUS: He's going to say
49 something.

50

1 REPORTER: Bob, your mic.
2
3 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, he would
4 like to say something.
5
6 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)
7
8 INTERPRETER: Bob advised me to vote on
9 this. Since it is not my home area I am not familiar
10 -- I'm unsure how to vote on this issue that I'm not
11 familiar therefore I'm unable to vote either way
12 because I may vote in the wrong, opposed to what you're
13 supporting.
14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)
16
17 INTERPRETER: We understand your
18 position on this but since we are working for the Yukon
19 and the Kuskokwim Rivers, we attempt to support what
20 they are seeking for funding. This proposal, as I
21 understand it, when there are no -- decrease in the
22 number of salmon perhaps the trout will be our source
23 of food as an alternative.
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I just say that to
26 make sure he'll understand the meaning of -- because he
27 don't quite understand what it is.
28
29 MS. GREGORY: Bob Aloysius.
30
31 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
32
33 MS. GREGORY: Ray Oney.
34
35 MR. ONEY: Yes.
36
37 MS. GREGORY: Myself, yes. James
38 Charles.
39
40 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
41
42 MS. GREGORY: Joseph Mike.
43
44 MR. MIKE: Yes.
45
46 MS. GREGORY: Harry Wilde.
47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
49
50 MS. GREGORY: Beverly Hoffman.

1 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes.
2
3 MS. GREGORY: William Brown.
4
5 MR. BROWN: Yes.
6
7 MS. GREGORY: Greg Roczicka.
8
9 MR. ROCZICKA: Yep.
10
11 MS. GREGORY: And Lester Wilde.
12
13 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.
14
15 MS. GREGORY: Unanimous.
16
17 MR. RIVARD: And one abstention.
18
19 MS. GREGORY: I have two, four, six,
20 eight, 10 yea and one abstention. 10 yea's.
21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 06-304 is requested by
23 the Council to fund it.
24
25 MS. GREGORY: Okay.
26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Rich.
28
29 MR. CANNON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30 That brings us to your last consideration for request
31 for funding, and that's for the interregional study 06-
32 701, and I'll read our comments to you on that one.
33
34 There's one interregional project, it's
35 found on Pages -- let's see.
36
37 MS. HOFFMAN: Page 87.
38
39 MR. CANNON: 87 through 89 of your
40 Council books.
41
42 This project is a mixed stock analysis
43 of Dolly varden in the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.
44 As you can see on your worksheets both the Eastern and
45 Western Councils supported this proposed investigation.
46
47 Basically what it would do is develop
48 and test a new genetic stock identification process for
49 Dolly varden, the Dolly varden species in the Togiak,
50 Goodnews and Kanektok Rivers. Now, this method, if

1 it's tested and if it works, we think it will,
2 potentially will be a very helpful new tool for
3 biologists to study Dolly varden wherever they occur
4 throughout Western Alaska as well as Northern Alaska.
5 So for that reason it's a technically sound project and
6 we would request your support for providing this
7 funding.

8

9 Thank you.

10

11 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

14

15 MS. HOFFMAN: Has there ever been
16 another study on the Dolly, like any other studies?

17

18 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Ms.
19 Hoffman. Yes, there's been -- actually it's come about
20 primarily through the funding by OSM starting in 2000
21 up in the Arctic and North Slope Borough and Northwest
22 region and in the Togiak area primarily, they've been
23 trying to develop genetic markers for Dollys because
24 this particular species is kind of the gypsy, they
25 travel all over. And their life history is very, very
26 complex.

27

28 To understand these stocks and this
29 species better we need to be able to understand about
30 the families that they belong to. And this particular
31 method that is being developed actually out of a
32 research group in Southeast Alaska we feel has
33 tremendous promise to help us do that job. So the
34 funding would help us support that work on that mainly
35 existing samples that have been collected.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 MS. HOFFMAN: One more question of him,
40 Mr. Chair.

41

42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

43

44 MS. HOFFMAN: Is it true that when
45 scientists and people are studying the health of a
46 river, a lot of times that's like a clear stream, like,
47 for example, Kisaralik and Kanektok, that they look at
48 the Dolly population to determine how healthy that
49 river is, if it's low in numbers then it's not as --
50 there would be some concern?

1 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Ms.
2 Hoffman. Yes, it often can be an indicator species.
3 You know it's an important role in the food chain. So
4 the Dolly as well as certain other species would be an
5 important indicator of the health of a system.

6
7 Thank you.

8
9 MS. HOFFMAN: And one follow up
10 comment.

11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

13
14 MS. HOFFMAN: And just like the same
15 study as the rainbow, I think this is an important
16 project to fund and I'd like to see similar studies
17 done on other rivers, too, and I hope that at some
18 point that there'll be proposed projects for us to
19 consider. I'd support this.

20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

22
23 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I support
24 this as well. I'd like to see it go forward. Dollys
25 have always been a surprise and intrigue to me that
26 they are an anadromous fish and somewhere back in a
27 hazy memory I think I recall seeing one that was tagged
28 down by Ketchikan was actually caught up on the
29 Kisaralik, back in the '80s somewhere, something of
30 that nature.

31
32 One question, and, again, I may be
33 confusing my facts here, but when they say they're
34 going to be using micro-satellites and, again, correct
35 me if I'm wrong but I thought as far as the salmon
36 genetics that were going forward they had found, and I
37 can't remember what the scientific label for them was
38 but there was a different classification within the
39 genes, not micro-satellites, but something else that
40 was found to be much more accurate in determining stock
41 specific apportionment and so on and I'm wondering why
42 they chose micro-satellites if I'm remembering
43 correctly?

44
45 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
46 Roczicka. I'm not a geneticists, so I'm going to give
47 you a general answer to that. But there are a lot of
48 markers that are being used and developed in the field
49 of genetics.

50

1 The micro-sats are one. It's a
2 powerful tool for identifying certain kinds of --
3 making certain kinds of discriminations among stocks
4 and it's still being used for salmon in some
5 situations. There are other types of markers, there's
6 new ones like the snips marker, which has promise for
7 certain applications and has some advantages. But the
8 state of knowledge right now for, at least, this
9 species and most of the work has been invested with the
10 micro-sat markers and that's why this work is being
11 pursued because that's the kind of thing we have
12 available to us right now.

13
14 MR. ROCZICKA: Call the question.

15
16 MS. HOFFMAN: There's no motion.

17
18 MR. L. WILDE: There's no motion.

19
20 MR. ROCZICKA: There's no motion?

21
22 MR. L. WILDE: No.

23
24 (Laughter)

25
26 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

29
30 MR. ROCZICKA: I move to support the
31 recommendation for funding for 06-701.

32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on
34 the floor, is there any second.

35
36 MR. CHARLES: Second.

37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second by James.
39 Discussion.

40
41 MR. L. WILDE: Now.

42
43 MR. ROCZICKA: I can't call the question
44 on my own motion.

45
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.

47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called
49 for, all who favor it say aye.

50

1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oppose, say no.

4

5 (No opposing votes)

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried. 06-
8 701 is supported by Yukon-Kuskokwim Advisory Council.

9

10 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman, I want to
11 thank the Council for their comments and their actions
12 on our proposals before you. I only have two
13 additional topics I'd like to cover very briefly.
14 They're mainly just for your information. One deals
15 with strategic planning which has been an ongoing
16 effort in the Kuskokwim with the efforts of the
17 Kuskokwim Fisheries Resource Coalition, which is a
18 collaborative group made up of tribal organizations,
19 regional organizations, State and Federal biologists
20 from the region, that actually are working in the
21 Kuskokwim. And they've been working with the Bering
22 Sea Fishermen's Association and with that funding they
23 have a consultant who works well with both, State and
24 tribal organizations, to help them put that together.
25 They're just about completed with that plan. In fact
26 there'll be a meeting in Anchorage as part of the
27 interagency meeting that the Alaska Department of Fish
28 and Game holds, where they're going to try to talk
29 about this in some detail and hopefully some of your
30 Council members will be able to attend that meeting.

31

32 Mainly it's been Working Group meetings
33 that have attended, you know, participated in that.
34 We'll be giving you much more details about that plan
35 at your spring meeting.

36

37 On the Yukon, the Joint Technical
38 Committee is finished with their first iteration, their
39 first part of their planning and what our program wants
40 to do is to take that work, that good work and then use
41 it for our program. And so we'll be looking at these
42 two efforts to decide if we need to do something in
43 addition to that with our strategic planning. We've
44 been doing strategic planning now in other regions of
45 the state. We've completed them for the Southcentral
46 region and for the Bristol Bay area. Now we're
47 starting one in Southeast Alaska this year and for the
48 Kodiak/Aleutians area. We've held off for the Yukon
49 and Kuskokwim because we wanted these other efforts,
50 allow them to be completed, so we could make use of

1 their work.

2

3 So that's what I needed to tell you
4 today about those efforts.

5

6 Do you have any questions about that
7 I'd be happy to answer them.

8

9 Thank you.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

12

13 MS. HOFFMAN: Is that John White's, is
14 he the lead on that?

15

16 MR. CANNON: John White's effort
17 actually is another planning process is the AYKSSI
18 process.

19

20 MS. HOFFMAN: Right. Okay.

21

22 MR. CANNON: And we're -- obviously
23 we're trying to make use of the things that they're
24 developing as well. Their timeframe now has been
25 delayed a bit, they're looking at probably not having
26 their plan totally done for about a year. So we have
27 looked at the National Research Council's
28 recommendation and their draft science plan, so we'll
29 be taking that into consideration too. But the
30 Kuskokwim, with what they're doing with their coalition
31 is specific to the Kuskokwim and what the JTC has done
32 is specific to the Yukon, so those detailed plans will
33 be the ones that we'll take a close look at.

34

35 Thank you.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

38

39 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. Rich.
40 You mentioned KFRC being incorporated into the
41 interagency meeting, because I was specifically asked
42 that yesterday and I assumed that was going to be the
43 case, and that's the meeting between the 2nd and the
44 4th?

45

46 MR. CANNON: Yes.

47

48 MR. ROCZICKA: Unfortunately I won't be
49 able to attend that.

50

1 MR. CANNON: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that is
2 the meeting I'm referring to.

3
4 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chair.

5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray.

7
8 MR. ONEY: Yeah, thank you. You
9 mentioned about the Joint Technical Committee or who's
10 involved?

11
12 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Oney.
13 That is -- the Yukon panel has a Technical Committee
14 and it's made up of both representatives from Alaska,
15 from the United States as well as Canada and that group
16 of biologists and scientists have prepared a joint plan
17 for implementing of the agreement or the Treaty between
18 the US and Canada. But their plan is fairly extensive,
19 although it's focused on, mainly on the Canadian
20 issues, it's fairly comprehensive and so we're going
21 to look at that plan as a way of helping us determine
22 how much more work we may need to do with planning
23 specific to this program. So we don't want to reinvent
24 the wheel or waste a lot of money doing something
25 somebody else has already done.

26
27 Thank you.

28
29 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chair.

30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: James.

32
33 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. For the
34 Council's information I was nominated to go to that
35 interagency meeting on the 2nd, I believe it was, and
36 there has been two from the Council attending those
37 interagency meetings before when I went over there. So
38 I was nominated again for that this year.

39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: More Greg.

41
42 MR. ROCZICKA: (Shakes head negatively)

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Rich.

45
46 MR. CANNON: Yes, Mr. Chairman, thank
47 you. I have one other thing I'd like to just bring to
48 your attention and the pages are 90 and 91 of your
49 Council books, there's a summary of the past year's
50 activities for our Partners for Fisheries Monitoring

1 Program. There are five fisheries biologist's
2 positions currently working in the Yukon and the
3 Kuskokwim regions. Now these are positions that are
4 actually funded by our program to be hired by regional
5 organizations like KNA, AVCP, Tanana Chiefs and Council
6 of Athabascan Tribal Governments. And today at your
7 meeting here in Bethel, I think we have two of the AVCP
8 partners here, I'd like to have them stand and be
9 recognized by your Council.

10

11 Eva Patton who works with the
12 Kuskokwim. And Dave Waltemyer who works with the
13 Yukon.

14

15 And if the Council's -- I don't know,
16 given your schedule if you have the time right now, but
17 if you would like they'd be happy to -- I've talked
18 with them both, they'd be happy to come up and tell you
19 a little bit about what they've been doing over the
20 last couple of years with this program so I'll leave
21 that up to you, Mr. Chairman.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 Well, I wanted to also say, sorry, that
26 I've been very impressed with their work and I know
27 it's really helping our program.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 MS. HOFFMAN: And maybe I'd like
32 to.....

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

35

36 MS. HOFFMAN: I'd like to hear just a
37 short presentation by both of them. I think we could
38 fit in, I don't know what you say, five or so minutes,
39 how much time do you need, Dave?

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: They're -- they going
42 to -- we need a lot of money.

43

44 (Laughter)

45

46 MR. WALTEMYER: Mr. Chairman. Council
47 members. My name is David Waltemyer and I'm the Yukon
48 River Partner fishery biologist for AVCP and that
49 entails the village are of -- like the coastal area
50 from Hooper Bay on up and into the river up to Russian

1 Mission. So those are the villages I would be dealing
2 with, say directly with, but that's not to say that I
3 can't be involved just the overall AVCP region, along
4 with Eva.

5
6 Things that I have done in the past
7 year are -- along the lines of the objectives of our
8 program are -- one is building bridges between AVCP and
9 fisheries agencies, the State or Federal and then other
10 nonNative groups. And part of that is actually
11 developing possible projects on the Yukon River. I am
12 particularly more in fisheries than say with the social
13 science part of it. But like being involved in say the
14 Andraefsky River weir project. And then also this past
15 summer I helped put in the water the Marshall test
16 fishery which seemed to be a very important component
17 for adding information to manage the chinook run this
18 past season.

19
20 Then as another objective is actually
21 doing internships, hiring kids out of the villages.
22 And as part of that I'm traveling to the villages.
23 Here I was just at Nunam Iqua last week visiting with
24 the high school kids and talking to them about what our
25 program is and what the opportunities are there. And
26 then other things are just helping to be support for
27 the Council here, if you have questions about, and
28 concerns about doing things with either salmon or
29 nonsalmon fish species.

30
31 So that's, I guess, my report.

32
33 Thank you.

34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

36
37 MR. L. WILDE: Greg.

38
39 MR. WALTEMYER: David.

40
41 MR. L. WILDE: David, I'm sorry. I
42 know whenever we talk fisheries, whenever we mention
43 fisheries right away in our mind we flash salmon, but
44 in the program, the Partners Program, you deal with all
45 species within the waters?

46
47 MR. WALTEMYER: Uh-huh.

48
49 MR. L. WILDE: Okay, thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: First say your name.
2 Go ahead.

3
4 MS. PATTON: My name is Eva Patton and
5 I'm the new Partners biologist on the Kuskokwim River
6 here. I just started in June, so very new and just
7 getting my feet wet, both literally and figuratively.

8
9 I had a chance to work on a number of
10 projects. The projects that you had supported in the
11 past that are ongoing now on the river. So my role is
12 to both support those projects directly through my work
13 as a biologist. I had a chance to be up near Kalskag
14 working at the mark/recapture project, chinook
15 telemetry project and working with interns, college
16 interns over the summer. And also had a chance to
17 partner a little bit with Fish and Wildlife Service
18 doing a science camp for high school students up on the
19 Kwethluk River. I had a chance to be out with ONC and
20 Greg's technician for in-season subsistence monitoring.

21
22 So just getting started on working on
23 projects myself, getting to know the region, getting to
24 know all of you. It's great to know a little more, all
25 the voices that I've heard over the summer in the
26 Working Group meetings.

27
28 I guess I'd like to really emphasize
29 that both my position and David's position is here as a
30 biologist but also a facilitator to assist you and
31 people that you represent, people in your villages to
32 bring forth your interests and concerns for subsistence
33 fisheries research in the region, both salmon and
34 nonsalmon species.

35
36 And I don't yet speak Yup'ik, I just
37 started taking a little Yup'ik class, so little by
38 little. But both Dave and I work with AVCP and AVCP,
39 they have excellent interpreters there so we have the
40 means to understand your concerns if you'd like to
41 call. Both our numbers are listed in the book here or
42 you can call AVCP 1-800 number. So we'd like to hear
43 from you. My position is new so we're just starting
44 this program, developing it for AVCP to partner more in
45 the future on research projects to be submitted by you
46 and the people that you represent.

47
48 And it's also a very unique program
49 that there is dedicated funding for traditional
50 knowledge, for local knowledge. I'll be partnering

1 with Fish and Game through AVCP on the nonsalmon local
2 knowledge projects this year and there's opportunity
3 for more programs like that in the future if you
4 represent another part of the river that that
5 particular program won't cover, so mostly I want to
6 extend to you that this program and both my position
7 and Dave's position is for you so we would like to hear
8 from you and the people in your villages, how we can
9 help support your issues and concerns.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13

14 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

17

18 MS. HOFFMAN: Yeah, I really feel it's
19 important that AVCP be represented here and I was real
20 glad to see you folks here and also Myron yesterday and
21 Tim Andrew today because so many of the issues that we
22 deal with, you know, are the AVCP region issues, and I
23 know that when you're not present, it's noticed by all
24 of us here.

25

26 When you are at these meetings, how do
27 you report back to AVCP what the Council is doing?
28 Will you have a report for your association to get out
29 to other villages, to all the villages?

30

31 MS. PATTON: Yeah, definitely I hope to
32 and I know Jennifer and Tim participate also, but would
33 like to as part of our involvement through this program
34 to have more outreach to the villages so they know
35 what's going on through this program, so, yes, both a
36 report for AVCP, Myron, Tim and Jennifer, but also Dave
37 and I will be spending time traveling to villages, both
38 as part of the educational component to do fisheries
39 and science education in the high schools but also to
40 meet with the traditional councils. Because we have
41 direct involvement on the projects so if people from
42 the villages want to know specific information we can
43 fill them in on that and also what occurs here at the
44 Council meetings.

45

46 Did that answer your question.

47

48 MS. HOFFMAN: Thank you. Yes, it did,
49 it's just that when there is request for proposals and
50 AVCP has had proposals that we've dealt with before,

1 you know, so -- and I just think it's important that
2 people out in the AVCP region know that whole process
3 and if you could take that forward that's a good thing
4 for us.

5
6 MS. PATTON: The actual step by step
7 process of how to submit a proposal?

8
9 MS. HOFFMAN: Correct.

10
11 MS. PATTON: Okay, yeah.

12
13 MS. HOFFMAN: Thank you.

14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. There's an
16 announcement.....

17
18 MS. PATTON: Thank you.

19
20 MR. WALTEMYER: Thank you.

21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Rich, you got another
23 one.

24
25 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. No, that
26 concludes our portion of the meeting agenda and thank
27 you very much, Mr. Chairman, and Council members.

28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. We have
30 announcement here.

31
32 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. First
33 of all I want to apologize for being late this morning.
34 You know my day started at 7:00 o'clock this morning
35 and I made some additional copies because some Council
36 members and other people were requesting applications
37 on, you know, for Council nominations and also Roger
38 Seavoy of ADF&G sent me an additional document that he
39 wanted me to make copy of and distribute to Council
40 members when ADF&G gives their report.

41
42 What I didn't want to do is disappoint
43 the Council members after seeing everybody being very
44 happy this morning, we have minor problem this morning.
45 There was a snafu on the hotel reservations and there's
46 no reservations for the Council, you know, in this
47 hotel. Our documents and their documents indicated
48 that, you know, the Council hotel rooms were paid for
49 12, 13 and through 14th, but unfortunately somehow
50 something got messed up here on the hotel end of it,

1 and hotel management apologizes, but the good news is
2 that they were able to work something out for the
3 Council members. Now, the Council members are going to
4 be relocated to Bentlys.

5
6 And it costs a little more than.....

7
8 MS. HOFFMAN: Good breakfast.

9
10 MR. NICK:this hotel but the
11 hotel is going to pay the rooms through tonight. You
12 don't have to pay anything at Bentlys.

13
14 I'm not sure when the checkout time is,
15 you know, for.....

16
17 MR. RIVARD: Noon.

18
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: 12:00 o'clock.

20
21 MR. RIVARD: Noon.

22
23 MR. NICK: And RIT Isaac is going to be
24 available to bring your stuff down to Bentlys. One
25 good thing about staying in Bentlys is that you'll get
26 a -- I believe they provide breakfast in the morning.

27
28 Another thing that I wanted to let you
29 know is that yesterday when per diem was handed out,
30 there was some questions about the blank sheet, the
31 highlighted sheet in your packet, for those of you who
32 are out of town members, what that is according to our
33 office in Anchorage office, I checked that out this
34 morning, what that is, is they needed your signature
35 for your future travel vouchers so they don't have to
36 let you sign a bunch of travel vouchers like they did
37 in the past. But it's up to you, you know, if you want
38 to do that, if you don't want to do that, you know,
39 we'll leave it up to you because that's an option for
40 you to do.

41
42 What I mean in your travel packet there
43 is blank sheet of paper with just highlighted section
44 there, that's where you need to sign.

45
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: All of them.

47
48 MR. NICK: All of.....

49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: There's five.

1 MR. NICK: Whatever is provided to you,
2 I believe, is what he wanted you to sign. And that's
3 one thing that I wanted to let you know.

4
5 And also I just wanted to remind the
6 Council again, as soon as you get home, complete your
7 travel vouchers and send it to us, that's important
8 also.

9
10 I think that's just about it. I think
11 Don might have something to add.

12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

14
15 MR. NICK: Bob.

16
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: I got a question for
18 Alex, what about the Kuskokwim Inn, can we stay over
19 there instead of having to stay in a place that it's --
20 it's not private down at Bentlys, all those bed and
21 breakfast are not private, you have to share a bathroom
22 and all these other things.

23
24 MR. NICK: Some things are out of
25 control and they were able to work something out
26 because there's hardly anything available, I believe,
27 in town here and also most hotels have 24 hour checkout
28 policy, I believe or cancellation -- I'm sorry, 24 hour
29 cancellation policy is what I was told and maybe Don
30 could add something to that.

31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Don.

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

36
37 What I was just going to do is
38 reiterate your checkout time is noon, so that means, as
39 you know, getting out of your rooms and you could
40 probably bring all your stuff up right here and then at
41 some point that will taken over to Bently's. It's the
42 only option right now, Bob. The hotel here was able to
43 work out something with Bentlys and there's a purchase
44 order involved where our office pays this hotel. If
45 you wanted to do something else you'll be on your
46 nickel so we don't want you to have to pay so please go
47 to Bentlys for tonight.

48
49 MS. HOFFMAN: I have a nice white wall
50 tent with a good wood stove.

1 (Laughter)
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, Bob, do you want
4 to say something?
5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, I think it's
9 time to, I don't know, this only Council Yukon-
10 Kuskokwim have a problem all these years, I think it's
11 time to request to fire some of these employees. We
12 have been problem ever since we start, transportation
13 and rooms and some of us, we volunteer to go by Sno-Go
14 and all that to try to have a meeting, something really
15 have to be done. That's a long time. We been do our
16 best in volunteer work like this, it should be taken
17 care of -- Council taken care of better.
18
19 Don, go ahead.
20
21 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Don
22 Rivard, again. Your Council coordinator, Alex Nick, is
23 a very conscientious man when it comes to your travel
24 and really stays on top of it, tries to do the best he
25 -- he does the best he can, I won't say tries, he does
26 the best he can. And he had everything in place, and
27 we had everything in place, and this is a
28 miscommunication by staff here at the Long House.
29 They've already apologized to me several times,
30 profusely for this mistake. So as Alex said, there's
31 only -- we can't control everything. I think we had
32 everything in place and still there was something else
33 that happened.
34
35 So it's a little bit of an
36 inconvenience and, but, you know, Bentlys is a nice
37 place to stay and it gives you a little change of scene
38 for your last night here.
39
40 Thank you.
41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Don. We
43 going to have 10 minutes break.
44
45 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.
46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: 20 minutes.
48
49 MS. GREGORY: 20 minutes.
50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What?
2
3 MS. HOFFMAN: Maybe this might be a
4 good opportunity for them to just check out of their
5 rooms instead of trying to quit early.
6
7 MS. GREGORY: I'll go for 20 minutes,
8 myself.
9
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: Or else we'll have to
11 check out of our rooms at.....
12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Right now.....
14
15 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.
16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.
18
19 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, yesterday,
20 while we were -- prior to the meeting there was a
21 request to suspend the rules in order to get the guy
22 from Togiak because he has to leave at 11:00 o'clock.
23 I don't know about the has to part, but if he needs to
24 be heard prior to the time before he has about an hour
25 and five minutes, maybe after the break, if it's all
26 right with the rest of the Council, we could suspend
27 the rules to have him up next.
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.
30
31 MR. ALOYSIUS: How much time does he
32 need?
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Five minutes.
35
36 (Laughter)
37
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, his time.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Five minutes.
41
42 (Laughter)
43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: Should we take care of it
45 now before we take a break?
46
47 MS. HOFFMAN: Yeah.
48
49 MR. ADERMAN: Mr. Chairman. Andy
50 Aderman with Togiak Refuge, if that's the wish of the

1 Council, I just wanted a minute of your time. And if
2 you had any.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Start now, one
5 minute.

6
7 (Laughter)

8
9 MR. ADERMAN: Okay.

10
11 (Laughter)

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, we put you in.

14
15 MR. ADERMAN: Towards the back of your
16 Council booklets on Page 134 is a report that I
17 provided to Alex and he got that in your book. It
18 lists a lot of different projects that the Togiak
19 Refuge is involved in.

20
21 Some of those are in your region, some
22 are in the Bristol Bay region. After each project is a
23 person's name, they are the lead on that project. I
24 might also add at the top there, we also have an 800
25 number that was left off if you want that, that number
26 is 800-817-2538. And I'd encourage you if you have
27 questions about a specific project to talk to the.....

28
29 MS. GREGORY: Excuse me, can I have
30 your name, please?

31
32 MR. ADERMAN: I'm Andy Aderman,
33 wildlife biologist with Togiak Refuge.

34
35 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

36
37 MR. ADERMAN: I mentioned yesterday
38 that moose in the Togiak area are doing quite well.
39 They're having lots of calves, a lot of the calves are
40 surviving. We are also seeing an increase of moose in
41 the Goodnews drainage, we expect that increase to
42 continue and move on into the Kanektok and hopefully
43 into this area as well.

44
45 With Mulchatna caribou, we were not
46 able to do a population census this summer but we feel
47 that herd is in decline. One thing with Mulchatna
48 caribou, this year we put out some satellite collars on
49 them and it was quite interesting to see where these
50 caribou went at different times of the year. In fact,

1 during calving caribou were up west and northwest of
2 Lime Village, that's in Unit 19(B).

3
4 Just last week, two of the satellite
5 collared caribou were within 20 miles of where we are
6 right now. That really helps us in our other efforts
7 to go out and find where these caribou are at different
8 times of the year.

9
10 And with that I will conclude. If you
11 have any questions I'll try to answer them.

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: James.

14
15 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
16 Andy, where -- which way 20 miles is from, from
17 Dillingham, 20 miles which way from Dillingham is the
18 caribou?

19
20 MR. ADERMAN: The caribou that I
21 referred to were 20 miles from Bethel.

22
23 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

26
27 MS. HOFFMAN: Some of the information
28 on the studies that you're doing, the Dolly varden, we
29 can get the reports from your office by calling the 1-
30 800 number or get on your mailing list?

31
32 MR. ADERMAN: Mr. Chairman. Ms.
33 Hoffman. Yes. And I can relay that information to
34 Mark Lisek, our fisheries biologist, that you're
35 interested in the Dolly varden project that he's.....

36
37 MS. HOFFMAN: And the rainbow project
38 that you're going to have the data compared with other
39 years, the last project, I'd be interested in some of
40 that information also.

41
42 MR. ADERMAN: Okay.

43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

47
48 MR. ALOYSIUS: Can you repeat your 800
49 number again?

50

1 MR. ADERMAN: It's 1-800-817-2538.
2
3 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.
4
5 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.
6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.
8
9 MS. HOFFMAN: Andy, you talked about
10 some proposals that you're going to put in, you
11 mentioned it yesterday about -- for consideration?
12
13 MR. ADERMAN: Yes. We will submit a
14 proposal that would open moose hunting in the Goodnews
15 drainage, not necessarily for next year but when those
16 conditions are met where we have 100 moose or at the
17 end of the moratorium, so it's a proposal that -- it
18 could happen as early as next year, it might be two
19 years, it might be three years, but we want to be able
20 to open that season as quickly as either of those
21 conditions are met.
22
23 MS. HOFFMAN: And you mentioned you
24 have a lot of local support for the moratorium?
25
26 MR. ADERMAN: Yes, we had very good
27 support from the villages of Goodnews Bay and Platinum,
28 along with the Department of Fish and Game.
29
30 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chair.
31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray.
33
34 MR. ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
35 Chairman. Yesterday you mentioned about Goodnews
36 showing an increase in moose population, what unit is
37 Goodnews Bay in?
38
39 MR. ADERMAN: Goodnews River drainage
40 is in Unit 18.
41
42 MR. ONEY: Thank you.
43
44 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.
45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.
47
48 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, Andy, in reference
49 to that proposal you intend to put into the Federal
50 Board, do you have someone going to the State Board

1 meeting in November with substitute language for the
2 proposal that went in from that same group that you
3 mentioned, although they just met last week that has
4 different numbers, it was to allow the population to go
5 to 200 rather than 100, anyways, did you have someone
6 going to the meeting to address that?

7
8 MR. ADERMAN: Mr. Roczicka. At this
9 point I'm not aware that anybody from my Refuge will be
10 attending that meeting. I understand we have a person
11 in our Anchorage office that typically goes to Board of
12 Game meetings. We provide our comments to that person.
13 I'm also aware of the Village of Goodnews submitting
14 comments along the same lines to the Board. And I'm
15 sure Fish and Game will be there and we'll all be
16 talking off the same page.

17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: William.

19
20 MR. BROWN: In the future could you be
21 able to have emergency openers in the wintertime?

22
23 MR. ADERMAN: I'm sorry, could you
24 repeat that?

25
26 MR. BROWN: What I'm saying is, could
27 you be able to have opener on wintertime, too, for
28 emergency, hunting -- moose hunting?

29
30 MR. ADERMAN: That's not in the plans
31 for right now at this time. I think when the
32 population increases and, again, we'll need to discuss
33 this in the area that, you know, is affected with the
34 local residents, but I think not too far down the road
35 that that may be a real possibility. Just look at
36 what's happened in the Togiak drainage and 10 years ago
37 very few moose and now they have an established fall
38 hunt and a winter hunt. And if that trend continues it
39 will be coming this way.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions
42 from Council.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 MS. HOFFMAN: Thank you.

47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

49
50 MR. ADERMAN: Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Now, we going to have
2 a break until 10:30 to pack up your stuff and when we
3 come back we're going to give opportunity for Yukon-
4 Delta Refuge update after we have break.

5
6 (Off record)

7
8 (On record)

9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We will go ahead
11 continuation of this National Wildlife Refuge update.
12 We're on now Yukon Delta Refuge update.

13
14 MS. HOFFMAN: Greg said he might be a
15 little late.

16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Who?

18
19 MS. HOFFMAN: Greg Roczicka.

20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Mike.

22
23 MR. REARDEN: Mr. Chairman. Regional
24 Advisory Council. Thanks for the chance to speak to
25 you again. I've just made some notes, I don't have any
26 handouts. A lot of these issues that I'm going to
27 discuss are ones that we've talked about a lot in the
28 past so you're familiar with them. I just wanted to
29 give you some updates on things that we're doing.

30
31 I'm going to talk about Kuskokwim moose
32 moratorium, a couple waterfowl things that I thought
33 you might be interested in and I wanted to talk a
34 little bit about off-road vehicle use, Mulchatna
35 caribou, and then at the end I'd like to ask Phillip
36 Perry to come up with me and we wanted to talk about
37 the lower Yukon moose and muskox on the mainland. And
38 also I thought I'd take a few minutes to talk about
39 beavers and beaver dams considering that there was a
40 letter in here that indicated that we were going to
41 talk about that that I just read today for the first
42 time. So I will go over beaver issues just a little
43 bit.

44
45 We're in the second year on the
46 Kuskokwim River moose moratorium that we discussed a
47 couple years ago and you guys supported. We haven't
48 done any surveys since that time because we normally do
49 the surveys on the Kuskokwim about every three years
50 and we wanted to wait a little time to see what our

1 results have been.

2

3

4 The number of moose taken by local
5 people has, the number of moose poached or taken
6 illegally has dropped off considerably. We aren't
7 finding the moose that we did previous to this
8 moratorium, and even though there have been a few, I
9 think the number is far less. As most of you know I do
10 a lot of flying here and so I come into Bethel from a
11 lot of different directions and I fly the entire
12 Kuskokwim watershed here a lot and my feeling is that
13 the number of moose is increasing significantly. Right
14 now I know of three different cows and calves that are
15 within five miles of Bethel at this time, and seemingly
16 survived all summer because I've been seeing them since
17 last spring.

17

18

19 Just last week on a flight from up
20 north flying over the Gweek River (ph), which is just
21 up river from Bethel a ways, in about a two mile
22 stretch of the river, I counted seven moose, a bull,
23 three cows and three calves. So we have the makings
24 here for lots of production. If we can get this
25 population up kind of like the lower Yukon folks did
26 with their moratorium to the point where reproduction
27 will increase the population, I think that we'll see
28 very good results.

28

29

30 Last spring in March we put radio
31 collars on 25 moose on the Kwethluk River. And while
32 we were doing that, of course, we had an airplane out
33 there flying around looking for moose to collar with a
34 helicopter and we had no difficulty finding 25 moose to
35 put collars on. Several years ago we'd have had
36 trouble finding any moose on there. So I think that
37 we're seeing good results from that. And interestingly
38 enough, those moose that we put collars on on the
39 Kwethluk River, there were 25 and I went up and found
40 them last week and there were only 12 left on the
41 Kwethluk, these moose have moved to other rivers, other
42 drainages, some of them have actually moved over the
43 watershed into the Bristol Bay side, so the moose that
44 we have don't just come to the Kwethluk River and other
45 places and just stay right there. They're moving
46 around a lot. And we expect to see them back here this
47 next winter, wintering along the Kwethluk.

47

48

49 Another issue I want to talk to you a
50 little bit about is waterfowl. I know you guys don't
51 deal with it but they're important issues to

1 subsistence users on the Delta. This year we have some
2 concerns about black brandt and cackling Canada geese.
3 The cackling Canada geese in the mid-1980s were really
4 in danger of disappearing, we got down to 25,000 birds.
5 Historically we'd had 400,000 birds and that's when the
6 Goose Management Plan was developed and local people
7 worked with people in California and Oregon and
8 Washington and brought those birds back.

9
10 While we were successful in getting
11 them back to over 200,000 birds here just about five or
12 six years ago but because of increased hunting in
13 Oregon, Washington, California and somewhat here, the
14 population had dropped down to 140,000. The farmers
15 down there were very happy with that, they don't like
16 the geese. We had meetings with them this last spring
17 and they agreed not to oppose our efforts to increase
18 that population. So right now we've got a reduced bag
19 limit in Alaska as well as in Oregon and Washington,
20 and we fully expect that population to start to grow.
21 We'd like to see the birds over 200,000 again.

22
23 Brandt are another species that are
24 having a problem. And the unique thing about the
25 problem we're having with brandt is in the past it's
26 always been because too many birds were being taken in
27 Mexico, California, Oregon and Washington, the places
28 where they migrate to in the winter. The problem the
29 last several years has been is that production on the
30 Delta has dropped off. We are not producing the birds
31 necessary to keep that population growing or to keep it
32 healthy. There's a variety of reasons for that.

33
34 Foxes are of concern on some of these
35 brandt colonies. And years of high foxes, they can
36 virtually wipe out all production. They eat the eggs,
37 they eat the young. Gulls get in there also. And so
38 you get no production. But we also had serious
39 problems with disturbance on the nesting colonies,
40 primarily by off-road vehicles. There's one colony
41 just north of Hooper Bay, the Kokachig Bay, which is
42 one of the most important colonies in North America for
43 producing brandt, and the production on that area was
44 very, very low. Our studies showed that -- Myron
45 Naneng and I flew over it with a -- Myron Naneng and I
46 flew over it with an airplane last summer, not this
47 summer but the summer previous, and it was very obvious
48 that that colony was not producing any birds, or very
49 few. And it was obvious why, there were tracks right
50 amongst the nesting birds, right amongst the brandt

1 colony where the fourwheelers had been going. You
2 can't have nesting birds, as you know, and disturb them
3 to that extent and expect production.

4
5 This last year we worked with the
6 SeaLion Corporation on a grant to help protect that
7 colony and they did all the ground work and tried to
8 reduce the number of off-road vehicles going up in that
9 area, it's private land, it belongs to SeaLion
10 Corporation, and fortunately this year we saw that the
11 production in that brandt colony doubled from what it
12 was the summer previous. So I think we're having good
13 results on that and we're going to continue to work
14 with SeaLion Corporation and others to protect these
15 brandt colonies.

16
17 Myron and I also submitted a proposal
18 that was accepted and turned into a regulation that
19 will close these brandt colonies to hunting during the
20 time the birds are nesting, molting and raising their
21 young. As most of you know, you cannot go into these
22 molting areas where the geese are and start shooting
23 all the birds and expect there to be very good
24 productivity or survival. So those are a couple of
25 things that we have worked cooperatively with AVCP on
26 and others to get solutions to the problem.

27
28 One issue, we brought it up a little
29 bit in the past and I want to keep bringing it up
30 because I think it's very important. I think probably
31 one of the greatest threats we have to wildlife on the
32 Delta, both on private Native lands and on the Refuge
33 lands is the use of off-road vehicles. It used to be
34 that you never saw tracks of off-road vehicles in areas
35 where wildlife should primarily be left alone or at
36 least visited only by people on foot, which is what
37 people traditionally did. When I'm out with an
38 airplane now I'm seeing off-road vehicle tracks clear
39 on the Yukon side of the Portage Hills. People are
40 taking -- I'm not sure where they're starting from, I
41 don't know if it's even Kalskag, I think there's some
42 trails up above there where people are putting in off-
43 road vehicles and running across. I'm seeing tracks on
44 the brandt colonies. We have problems on Nunivak
45 Island. We had people using off-road vehicles in the
46 Andraefsky Mountains up behind St. Mary's, they're way
47 up the river, they're taking off-road vehicles. This
48 damages habitat and destroys it for a very long time.
49 As you guys know, tundra does not heal overnight, it
50 takes a very, very long time. So I think we need to

1 work together to control the use of off-road vehicles
2 on the Delta, and we can't do it by ourselves, all of
3 the land managers out here also need to work on that.
4 A lot of villages are concerned about it as well, it's
5 just not the Fish and Wildlife Service. I hear from
6 people a lot of times that, they're concerned about
7 what's happening to their land around their villages.

8
9 Mulchatna caribou. These are the
10 caribou that come just east of Bethel here and have
11 been for quite a few years now. That population in
12 1980 was about 20,000 animals, in 1995 we were over
13 200,000 animals and now the population has been
14 decreasing rapidly. Right now there are about 85,000
15 animals left in that herd and it appears that it is
16 continuing to decline. This is what caribou do, as we
17 know, you know, they have a cycle where the population
18 gets large and then gets small and it will grow back
19 again. Unfortunately it takes a very long time for
20 that to occur. I've talked to elders who said the last
21 time the population was as high as it was this last
22 time was approximately 70 or 80 years ago so I think
23 we've got a few more years of having caribou here for
24 local residents. Right now there are about 4,000
25 animals within 30 or 40 miles of Bethel, so they've
26 moved down to the lower portions of the river and
27 people are able to hunt them, but we ought to plan that
28 in the future that that resource won't be available to
29 people.

30
31 Presumably there was an expectation
32 that I was going to talk about beavers looking at this
33 letter that came from Mitch Demientieff written to
34 Harry, I hadn't seen this letter until today so I
35 didn't spend a lot of time preparing but I do want to
36 talk about beavers a little bit and then after that
37 I'll just ask Phillip Perry to come up and talk with me
38 about lower Yukon moose and muskox just a little bit.

39
40 Beavers, it's kind of a mixed deal.
41 They're not a bad thing in a lot of cases. We're doing
42 studies right now on the Kwethluk River that suggest
43 that because we have beavers up there and beaver dams
44 that hold this water and you got big lakes up there
45 right attached to the river, that's where the coho
46 salmon, the small coho salmon spend their times,
47 they're not in the main river a lot of times, you go
48 into these big beaver dams right next to the river and
49 they're just full of small coho salmon and their
50 survival in those things is very good, they don't

1 freeze to the bottom, there's lots of food in there, so
2 we got a study going there right now. And early data
3 suggests that one of the reasons why the Kwethluk
4 River, for instance, produces so many coho salmon is
5 because we have beaver in that area. So beavers are a
6 good thing, they're a natural part of our environment.

7
8 Right now we're experiencing a high
9 population, especially in the lower portions -- outer
10 portions of the Delta and so I recognize that there are
11 conflicts with things like whitefish, and, you know,
12 I'm not sure we need to do a lot of studies. If people
13 are out there seeing that whitefish are having problems
14 because of beaver dams, then they exist. I'll take
15 your word for it.

16
17 But what I do want to say and ask is
18 what is your expectation? I hear people complain, they
19 come to me and they say, well, these beavers are wiping
20 out our whitefish. I don't have the Staff or the money
21 or the time or the resources to go out and take care of
22 beaver dams and kill beavers. Right now the population
23 is high, the season is open 365 days a year, seven days
24 a week, you can kill all you want. People need to take
25 care of themselves. If they see a beaver problem, go
26 kill the beavers. I'm not going to send a biologist --
27 my biologist wouldn't know how to trap a beaver anyway,
28 you guys know how to do that.

29
30 (Laughter)

31
32 MR. REARDEN: So you know people are
33 complaining about the issue, and I understand it, if I
34 had a favorite whitefish place to go to and the beavers
35 were damming it up and killing a bunch of whitefish I
36 would hope that I'd go take care of the problem myself.
37 You can legally do that and I urge people to take care
38 of that.

39
40 If you have any suggestions about what
41 I can do about it, more than what we've already done by
42 expanding the season then tell me about it, I just
43 don't know what it is.

44
45 Those are the issues I had, except for
46 the two that Phillip Perry's going to come talk about.

47
48 I could entertain questions and I can
49 see Bob's got one already and I'd be glad to answer
50 questions on those if you'd like, Mr. Chairman.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

4

5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, I don't have any
6 problem with beavers and beaver dams that are, you
7 know, live. The problem we have up there in Whitefish
8 Lake and that big lake behind Kalskag is the abandoned
9 beaver dams. They're destroying those creeks that flow
10 into Whitefish Lake and to Big Lake. There's anywhere
11 from five to 10 beaver dams in one creek and there is
12 no beaver. The beaver has already moved down to the
13 flats but they leave their beaver dams behind and we
14 haven't had any water for many, many years to flush
15 those dams out. And, you know, the only solution I see
16 and many people see is that, you know, we need to get
17 an organization who can legally go up there and blow
18 those beaver dams up. Because everybody's thinking,
19 those damn beaver dams are, you know, they're really
20 killing off the populations of those fish. Just as an
21 example, Big Lake behind Kalskag is three miles wide
22 and 10 miles long. In the old days, in the middle and
23 late March we used to go up there and fish through the
24 ice for pike because our dog feed was running low and
25 families used to go up there, you know, 10, 15, 20
26 families go for, you know, sometimes a week, you know,
27 everyday and come back with a half a sled load or a
28 sled load of fish to feed their dogs to tie them over
29 to the summertime. Now days you're lucky if you can
30 catch one fish in a day and you can't catch any fish
31 after freeze up because there are none. We used to
32 catch pike, sheefish, lush, silvers and whitefish in
33 that lake but now, you know, the numbers are so low
34 that nobody even wants to go out there and try to
35 harvest them because they're afraid they're going to
36 run -- you know, finish, and because those streams are
37 not feeding that lake and the fish can't go up there
38 and spawn. And the other thing is those creeks are
39 dying, the lake is dying because there's no water to
40 flush that lake out and the bottom is just nothing but
41 crap.

42

43 So, you know, I really don't have
44 anything against beaver, alive, and all that, they
45 serve a good purpose but when their dams are left,
46 those dams don't do a damn thing but just to raise heck
47 with the environment. I mean it's killing the water
48 and killing all the plants and the bugs and everything
49 that need to survive and to help the fish population.

50

1 MR. REARDEN: Mr. Chairman. Bob.
2 That's exactly what I'm talking about, you guys have
3 that local knowledge and I was wondering about that, I
4 fly over that lake frequently and I've seen a lot of
5 abandoned beaver dams and there's one thing I do know
6 is that you cannot keep up with a beaver, removing his
7 dam, if it's a live beaver dam and you go out and
8 remove it the next day they've built it up double to
9 what you've removed. But I also know that if it's an
10 abandoned beaver dam, that if you remove a portion of
11 it and let the water start running through it will
12 eventually wash out and it will be gone. So I urge
13 you, if it's a concern get people to go take care of
14 it. Nobody else is going to.

15
16 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

19
20 MS. HOFFMAN: There was a couple of
21 questions I had with waterfowl. And just that there's
22 a lot of hunting pressure on them, even here, and
23 people getting out with more boats, the population has
24 grown. This -- and I don't know if this falls under
25 your jurisdiction but this fall some elders had called
26 me up about something else and they talked about
27 Numlavic, you know, hunting down there because they
28 couldn't go moose hunting anymore so they were
29 concentrating on getting geese and ducks and there was
30 one beautiful weekend, and there was an air boat down
31 there just all over the lake back there that was just
32 going nuts. Disturbing the rest of the -- it scared up
33 the birds and so these elders didn't get any birds,
34 this air boat got 80 birds, I heard later, because I
35 just started checking on, well, who was down there.
36 And I guess the way these air boats go, they make a lot
37 of noise, correct?

38
39 MR. REARDEN: (Nods affirmatively)

40
41 MS. HOFFMAN: Yeah. And I'm sure
42 there's a proper use for them, is there any way to
43 monitor situations like this or is there something that
44 can be done because I know that's, traditionally, a
45 very popular area for local people. I used to go down
46 there years ago and haven't, but is there something
47 that can be done to keep that situation from getting
48 worse because now I understand there's a couple of more
49 air boats that are being built.

50

1 MR. REARDEN: Mr. Chairman. Bev. I
2 couldn't agree more. I think air boats could possibly
3 be one of the worst things that ever happen to the
4 Delta if there were a lot of them out here, they're
5 very noisy. They go in places where nobody else can
6 go. And occasionally you get people that use them
7 improperly and it's a real conflict between users.

8
9 Legally they're on navigable waters in
10 most cases and that's a State issue. I would strongly
11 encourage you to look at Legislation that would
12 regulate the use of air boats in certain areas. I
13 think that it's very disruptive to birds and people.

14
15 MS. HOFFMAN: The State.

16
17 MR. REARDEN: We don't have many out
18 here now, I only know of maybe one that's right here in
19 Bethel at this time. But when they catch on and we
20 start having a lot more of them, I think that it will
21 be kind of like the off-road vehicle issue, we need to
22 take care of something before it gets bigger. But I
23 share your concerns and I've seen people doing that.

24
25 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, can I ask one
26 more follow up.

27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

29
30 MS. HOFFMAN: So could you contact that
31 person and tell him that there's some concern.

32
33 MR. REARDEN: I'll do that.

34
35 MS. HOFFMAN: Okay, thanks. The other
36 thing you talked about was the declining numbers of the
37 caribou herd and that we need to do something about
38 that now, what are the Refuge plans to work on that
39 problem?

40
41 MR. REARDEN: Mr. Chairman. Bev. We
42 really don't have a plan about what we can do about it.

43
44 Caribou are caribou and they kind of do what they want
45 to do. And right now the population is declining and
46 I'm not sure there's an awful lot we can do about it.
47 These caribou cover incredible large piece of country.
48 They're scattered all the way from Bethel to the Alaska
49 Range and all the way up north I found some with
50 transmitters up past McGrath last year from this same

1 herd, over near Fairwell and they go all the way down
2 to Dillingham, that area. We don't even know for
3 certain why the population is declining. It's probably
4 a mixture of predators and disease and habitat and
5 hunting and everything all mixed together. So we all
6 wish we knew more and exactly what the reason for the
7 decline is but I'm not sure anybody does.

8

9 I do think that we need to continue to
10 monitor the population and as it drops we'll most
11 likely see some proposals to reduce the human harvest
12 on it to try to retain the core population of caribou
13 which, eventually, will begin to reproduce and grow
14 again. So all we can pretty much do is be caretakers
15 of what population is out there and then address those
16 issues as they come about.

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: William.

19

20 MR. BROWN: Yeah, when you guys survey,
21 how high you guys are flying?

22

23 MR. REARDEN: For caribou.

24

25 MR. BROWN: For waterfowl.

26

27 MR. REARDEN: For waterfowl, we have a
28 lot of different kinds of surveys. Some of the surveys
29 are conducted low level, especially out on the middle
30 coast between Nelson Island and the Askonuk Mountains,
31 which is one of the key areas, that's where we get an
32 idea every year how many birds are nesting, and those
33 surveys are done at about 200 feet straight line
34 flights, they're not circling or anything, they're just
35 flying straight line flights and counting the birds
36 they see on both sides of the airplane.

37

38 MR. BROWN: Yeah, because one time in
39 the previous years there was some BLM surveys, and down
40 where I cam from, the lower portion of the Kuskokwim,
41 one time when they were surveying with choppers in that
42 particular year, after that there was some low numbers
43 of birds that we used to hunt. Those birds were
44 declining after that. So one time we had a meeting in
45 our area and we asked how high those aircrafts are
46 supposed to legally fly, they told us not less than 500
47 feet because they make lots of noise when they are
48 nesting, too. And that's why I ask you that question

49

50 MR. REARDEN: We use fixed-wing

1 airplanes, we don't use helicopters for our surveys and
2 we do almost all the surveying prior to the time the
3 birds are nesting. It's just when they're establishing
4 their nests so we get some idea. And all of the
5 studies that we're doing and the surveys we're doing,
6 we work with the Waterfowl Conservation Committee so
7 that they're aware of what we're doing and we minimize
8 the amount of flying that we have to do to get the
9 information we have.

10

11 It's important that we know how many
12 birds are nesting, it's how we protect these
13 populations so that people will have these birds to
14 hunt in future years.

15

16 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chairman.

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

19

20 MR. BROWN: I have one more comment
21 about that low flying. If we happen to see an aircraft
22 below 500 feet after that they told us to report it to
23 the FAA and give us the date and the time that we seen
24 aircraft flying that low.

25

26 MR. REARDEN: There are legal
27 requirements about flying over people and buildings,
28 however, in areas where there are no people and
29 buildings there are no restrictions on how low
30 airplanes can legally be.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

33

34 MR. L. WILDE: Mike, so with the
35 comment that you made that you -- whenever your Refuge
36 goes out and does bird counting, you usually fly in a
37 straight line, is that true with all the biologists
38 that are working for the Refuge, when they go out
39 counting birds, is that the normal or is that a
40 prescribed pattern of flight?

41

42 MR. REARDEN: I'm trying to think of
43 every bird survey we do, the majority of them are based
44 on straight line flights and then looking out both
45 sides of the airplane and counting the birds. So they
46 fly over an area, continue out, and then turn and come
47 back over another area so we're not flying over the
48 same area twice. That is the normal prescribed method
49 of doing the surveys, yes.

50

1 MR. L. WILDE: So the regular layman on
2 the ground can safely assume that if they see a plane
3 flying erratically in an erratic pattern, that the
4 assumption that -- we could safely assume that it's
5 probably not somebody that is doing studies on the
6 birds?

7
8 MR. REARDEN: We do a lot of other
9 flying out there. Sometimes we're putting biologists
10 into lakes and things like that and occasionally that
11 takes, I don't know if it's erratic flying, but it's
12 not straight line flying so we do a lot of other flying
13 out there, too, other than the surveys, so occasionally
14 we're flying over lakes to assess them for landing and
15 doing that kind of flying. So -- but, yeah, you can
16 presume that they're not doing bird surveys if they're
17 doing that kind of flying.

18
19 MR. L. WILDE: And we can also assume
20 that you have an idea of what airplanes that you use
21 out there, so it might -- because we've had some
22 problems with -- well, I couldn't -- I can't say that
23 it's a problem but in some instances where planes been
24 out there kind of circling around and around the flocks
25 of birds, is that your outfit but in the event that the
26 people out there don't know what's going on have any
27 questions, they can call your Refuge or you, your
28 department and find out what type of airplanes are
29 flying out there, I assume?

30
31 MR. REARDEN: Yep, you're correct, they
32 can do that. And typically when we're doing surveys we
33 normally let the villages in the area know that we're
34 doing those surveys. Usually a fax to the traditional
35 council or somebody out there so that people are aware
36 that we're doing that.

37
38 MR. L. WILDE: Thank you, Mike.

39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Charles -- I mean
41 James.

42
43 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
44 There is State proposal from lower Kuskokwim -- lower
45 Yukon AC for changing winter hunt from December 1 to
46 December 20 to January 10. If the Board of Game passes
47 that proposal would the Federal go along and align
48 their winter hunt too on AK?

49
50 MR. REARDEN: Mr. Chairman. James.

1 Yes, my intention is to submit a parallel regulation
2 similar to what's been submitted for the lower Yukon
3 with the request that if the Board of Game doesn't pass
4 them that we withdraw those proposals, and you guys
5 will get a chance at your next meeting to review those
6 wildlife proposals, too, so you'll have a chance to
7 look at them and either support them or not. But I
8 wanted to get those in there so that they're available.

9
10 What I don't want to happen on there is
11 for the State lands to be opened for this extended
12 winter season and there's a couple other proposals also
13 and then the State lands not be open. So, yeah, my
14 intention is to get those proposals in there for you
15 guys to review and for the Board to be able to review
16 after the Board of Game passes them or drops them.

17
18 MR. CHARLES: Thank you.

19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

23
24 MR. ALOYSIUS: Another question for
25 Mike. Are the sporthunters from Washington, Oregon and
26 California limited to daily and bag limits like we are?

27
28 MR. REARDEN: They certainly are. In
29 fact, this year the bag limit for cacklers and
30 particularly the ones we're trying to protect has been
31 cut in half for those areas. I think last year it was
32 four a day per hunter and now it's down to two. So my
33 expectation is with that reduction that we will see
34 this population start to increase again.

35
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: What for about ducks?

37
38 MR. REARDEN: They also have a -- I
39 think the limit for a lot of Oregon is six ducks a day.
40 It's 10 during the sporthunting season here.

41
42 MR. ALOYSIUS: The reason I ask, is I
43 don't know how many of you get the Outdoor Channel on
44 the satellite, but I mean when you watch Final
45 Approach, I mean they literally slaughter, you know,
46 and it's not good to see and those guys don't need
47 those geese, you know, ducks like we need them.

48
49 MR. REARDEN: Well, yeah, I don't know
50 where all that -- I've seen those, too. And all I'm

1 talking about is the Pacific Flyway, the birds that we
2 get here and I know what the regulations are there and
3 they're fairly restrictive, especially down to geese
4 now.

5
6 And, you know, one comment on that, I
7 realize that you're saying the sporthunters don't need
8 those birds, they're your only allies you've got for
9 hunting for supporting and protecting your subsistence
10 hunting rights up here. They, sporthunters and others
11 supported establishing a legal spring season for people
12 up here because they recognized the need. Rather than
13 be opposed to the only people that are in support of it
14 and they're also hunters, I think we've got to be
15 careful about that because there are a lot of people
16 that would like to stop all hunting.

17
18 So most of those birds do not go to
19 waste. They have laws in their states that require
20 them to eat them just like we have them here. I'm not
21 representing sporthunters here, I've never been down
22 there, I've never done that either, but I've talked to
23 a lot of people that do, they like to eat ducks and
24 geese just like we do, those people are our allies so
25 we need to be careful about pointing fingers at them.

26
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'm not pointing fingers
28 I'm just stating some facts. And the other thing if
29 you look at the numbers, how many hunters do we have in
30 the YK-Delta, 10,000?

31
32 MR. REARDEN: I'm not sure how many
33 hunters we have, we kill about 100,000 birds a year on
34 the Delta.

35
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: And you look at
37 Washington, Oregon and California, they probably have
38 25 million hunters.

39
40 MR. REARDEN: Well, for cacklers in
41 particular it looked like we were killing somewhere
42 around 19,000 birds a year between California, Oregon,
43 Washington and Alaska, of which 13,000 of those were
44 killed here on the Delta.

45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, Mike I would
47 like to ask you one question concerning the moose.

48
49 You know here in the Kuskokwim area,
50 they had a transplanting of those moose and also we had

1 six or five years transplanting in Yukon. I'm talking
2 about lower Yukon. How the moose are doing right now
3 in that lower Yukon area?

4
5 MR. REARDEN: Mr. Chairman. Maybe this
6 is a good time to go into that. Phillip and I were
7 prepared to talk about that next, so if you'd like me
8 to have us just go ahead and get started on that.
9 Phillip has all the numbers from our survey that we did
10 in March.

11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

13
14 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

17
18 MR. L. WILDE: Before we go into that I
19 noticed our elder had his hand up but you didn't
20 acknowledge him.

21
22 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

25
26 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

27
28 INTERPRETER: A while back I was
29 invited to a biolog -- a camp where biologists were
30 doing research. Since regarding the waterfowl, we have
31 unwritten rules on harvesting and how we treat the
32 animal. We are advised to not touch the nesting birds
33 eggs and that has been a respected and traditional
34 rule, unwritten rule. And for the goslings and the
35 ducklings, as they're first hatched, they follow their
36 birds -- they follow their mothers, and they're
37 followed by the -- the goslings and the ducklings as
38 they are growing through the summer. If we -- we are
39 told to respect the babies, the goslings and ducklings.

40
41 When I observed at this camp, the
42 biologists were doing research on nesting geese, they
43 were -- touched in their nesting grounds and that's a
44 rule that we've had traditionally for not touching the
45 birds when they hatch their little ones. Perhaps it
46 might be better to not handle when a little bird is
47 taken and put back on the ground they're wet and they
48 don't dry once they are touched particularly when
49 they're hatching. I cannot understand why they -- what
50 the intent is at this point of the eggging season when

1 they are researched. Perhaps rather than handling the
2 eggs and little ones perhaps it will be better and once
3 they are hatched it might be better to not handle the
4 ducklings and the goslings while -- for those that are
5 researching.

6
7 The wonder for the gender when they are
8 doing some of the research. I think it will be better
9 if they are not handled. Birds should not be handled.

10
11 We traditionally respect our resources
12 and do not violate their nesting areas and their
13 habitat. If they are low in numbers we are advised
14 especially not to bother them because we know how they
15 will return in subsequent years particularly if they're
16 low in numbers.

17
18 I have a big concern about this and the
19 research of the eggs during the eggging season with our
20 traditional practices towards the birds in mind.

21
22 And then in regards to the beavers,
23 though we've moved into other species, they've been
24 multiplying in numbers, not only in the main land but
25 also into the coastal regions. They are in excess of
26 populations in the coastal area as well.

27
28 And that's all I have to say.

29
30 MR. REARDEN: Mr. Chairman. Thank you,
31 Mr. Moses for your comments. We've heard those often,
32 obviously. It's a concern of local people about
33 handling bird eggs and young birds. And I understand
34 that we've worked now for, oh, geez, since 1984 with
35 the Waterfowl Conservation Committee and AVCP and
36 elders in finding ways that we can continue to do the
37 research and have the least disturbance possible on the
38 birds we're studying, we understand that. And
39 certainly that's our intent, we would like to see the
40 populations increase as well as the people out here
41 would.

42
43 We do everything we can to minimize the
44 handling on birds. Once the birds start hatching now,
45 we don't go out into the field, we try to keep the
46 predators away from the birds by not disturbing them
47 when they're just being hatched. We try to minimize
48 the number of eggs that we ever handle. Some of the
49 studies require that because these birds don't just
50 come to the Delta, of course, they spend their winters

1 in California, they're only here for a few months. We
2 have to keep track of these populations because these
3 birds are used by a lot of different people, more than
4 just the Delta, and we need to keep track of that so we
5 can protect them so people on the Delta will have
6 subsistence opportunities to hunt them.

7
8 And we deal with these issues every
9 year with the Waterfowl Conservation Committee and we
10 will continue to try to do the best we can to minimize
11 disturbance.

12
13 The comment about beavers on the coast,
14 not too long ago I flew over Nelson Island and I was
15 amazed at the number of beaver dams and lodges that I
16 saw on the east side of Nelson Island, all of those
17 streams over there have -- they look kind of like those
18 places where people grow rice in China, where they've
19 got all these levies and dikes, there's so many beaver
20 over there and that's a lot more than there used to be
21 over there so he's absolutely right. The number of
22 beavers has increased incredibly.

23
24 Thank you.

25
26 Mr. Chairman, if you'd like we can go
27 into the lower Yukon moose.

28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Maybe short and just
30 explain how it is right now.

31
32 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman. My name is
33 Phillip Perry, I work with Fish and Game here in
34 Bethel. I'm the assistant area biologist.

35
36 Alex has just handed out a handout that
37 shows a couple maps and has a table of the different
38 moose survey areas we have on the YK-Delta. The area
39 we were going to talk a little bit about was the lowest
40 Yukon which includes all the moose habitat below
41 Mountain Village. It's the top one in the table.

42
43 There's been, over the past, about, oh,
44 it's been end up being 17 years, there's been five
45 surveys we have listed here. And when I say, we, these
46 have all been cooperative projects between Fish and
47 Wildlife Service and Fish and Game. Some of you are
48 very familiar with what had happened with the
49 moratorium on the lowest part of the Yukon and how that
50 population has grown and flourished at a rate that's

1 pretty amazing.

2

3 You can see the first survey that we
4 have down here was in 1988 when we had difficulty even
5 finding a moose.

6

7 Last year in March we conducted a
8 survey on that same area and you can see there that the
9 midpoint of our estimate was 1,341 moose. If we
10 calculate that out from early in the '90s that's a
11 growth rate of about 27 percent a year, which is pretty
12 amazing with any wildlife species. With moose it means
13 we've had moose move into the area and we've also had a
14 lot of moose that have lived there and had twins, our
15 twinning rates there are about as high as you can
16 expect from any moose population. We've had 70 to 80
17 percent of the cows have twins. We're obviously pretty
18 pleased with where that's gone and the people that are
19 directly benefiting from this are the residents of the
20 lower Yukon. There's at least -- Ray is probably
21 pretty familiar with how many moose are down there now
22 and how easy it is for residents to find a moose and
23 harvest a moose in the fall season. And that's really
24 the reason we like to see it increase is it makes it a
25 lot easier on local folks, they don't have to travel
26 nearly as far to hunt moose anymore.

27

28 There probably is going to be an
29 opportunity in the near future to increase the number
30 of moose we harvest down there, too. There is a
31 proposal, a State proposal for extending the winter
32 season and there's also, part of that, there's a
33 proposal to have a calf hunt in that winter season.

34

35 That's kind of the quick part of what I
36 was going to talk about with the lowest Yukon.

37

38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, how about
39 Kuskokwim, that closed area, is moose increase or not?

40

41 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman. We don't
42 know -- we can't put an exact number on it right now.
43 We will survey the Kuskokwim -- we're scheduled to do
44 it the winter of 2007. If we have the opportunity this
45 winter we might be able to do it this winter. It kind
46 of depends on budgets and snow conditions and all sorts
47 of different things. Anecdotally, reports we have from
48 people that all summer had been up Gweek River, up on
49 the -- you know, different parts of the Kuskokwim, the
50 mainstem, between here and Kalskag, all the reports

1 I've had have been very positive. People are seeing
2 moose, they're seeing more moose than they ever have
3 before. And then Mike had talked a little earlier
4 about, you know, he's seen a lot more moose from an
5 airplane this summer than he has in the past.

6
7 So our gut feeling is that, yes, it is
8 working, we are seeing more moose but we won't know
9 exactly how many more until we can conduct a survey.

10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

12
13 MS. GREGORY: Phillip, can you tell me
14 the difference between spacial method and the gasaway
15 method of counting?

16
17 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman. Mary. Yeah,
18 the difference in the two survey methods is you end up
19 with a fairly similar number. There's been a few
20 places where we've done a gasaway and a spacial method,
21 run the numbers in the same area after the same survey
22 and we come up with very similar numbers.

23
24 The main difference in the surveys is
25 the way we select areas that we survey. The gasaway
26 method is an older method. When we had a survey unit
27 with a gasaway method, what we basically did was take a
28 piece of habitat and we drew a box -- or not a box,
29 many times it was kind of an odd-shaped geographical
30 area that we were able to identify from the air and fly
31 within that area and count moose.

32
33 The spacial method, now, we use -- we
34 have boxes drawn on a map using latitude and longitude
35 points, that allows us to navigate a lot easier and
36 it's a lot easier on pilots. The math has improved --
37 the spacial method is a new method, the math is
38 improved in that it let's us survey over a longer time
39 period and it also has some different assumptions as
40 far as if we have movement in or out of areas.

41
42 So if you want more it gets pretty
43 technical, the exact differences but they're just two
44 different survey methods that are slightly different.

45
46 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

47
48 MR. REARDEN: Mr. Chairman.

49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mike.

1 MR. REARDEN: I'd also like to add a
2 little bit. From a pilot's perspective the difference
3 is with the old method, the gasaway method, we had to
4 get all of the survey done in a certain amount of time
5 and we had to have good weather to do it. Well, you
6 know what that's like for trying to do it in March for
7 instance, we don't often get a week of real good
8 weather in a row. With this new method, we can go out
9 and choose these areas and we can take a month to go
10 out there and count this area or that area or that
11 area, like that, so it makes it a lot easier to get a
12 good result at the end than the other method.

13
14 So the on the ground benefit of this is
15 that we don't have to have good weather for a long
16 period of time in order to get the survey done.

17
18 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

21
22 MS. HOFFMAN: Thanks. I'm very excited
23 about the increase in numbers of moose, especially when
24 people will not have to travel far and use so much
25 money for gas to get into good moose hunting. With our
26 moratorium that's going on here, it's three more
27 years.....

28
29 MR. PERRY: (Nods affirmatively)

30
31 MS. HOFFMAN:four -- three more
32 years.

33
34 MR. REARDEN: (Nods affirmatively)

35
36 MS. HOFFMAN: Is it likely that
37 there'll be a permit system or so many permits being
38 issued once the moratorium is lifted and can you base
39 that on need versus, I'm just wondering?

40
41 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman. Bev. The --
42 I guess we're pretty flexible in what the -- when we do
43 have a moose season here again, and I guess that would
44 end up being about four years from about right now, a
45 month ago. The State system that allows for a need
46 based or where you live is Tier II, that's probably not
47 the preferred way to go as far as when we have a hunt.

48
49 It's pretty awkward, administratively
50 -- and it's more awkward for hunters than it is for the

1 State. The problem really is you have to apply for
2 everything ahead of time and, you know, all sorts of
3 different things.

4

5 The other two methods, there's just a
6 general season hunt or a registration hunt.

7

8 All of those have negatives and
9 positives. I think there's quite a few people in the
10 lower Kuskokwim who have become much more familiar with
11 what a registration hunt is after there's been a
12 registration hunt the last two years in Unit 19(A) and
13 (B). I can't imagine that a lot of people want to have
14 an awkward situation like that in the lower Kuskokwim.

15

16 I think the major argument for having
17 just a general season that we can have for the lower
18 Kuskokwim is having a -- you know, whatever number of
19 moose we have when the season opens again, we're
20 probably going to have pretty close to a 50/50 bull to
21 cow ratio. There'll be quite a few bull moose that are
22 available to harvest. Having a shorter season, a
23 general season but a shorter season will probably
24 allow, you know, an opportunity to hunt moose, to
25 harvest a moose and it'll be -- there's a lot of areas
26 people can't get to moose, just moose are not going to
27 be where they can hunt them and I think enough moose
28 would survive through even a short season with a lot of
29 hunters, that, you know, the worry is always if bull
30 moose are just harvested, as long as there's enough
31 bull moose left in the end of September during the rut,
32 you know, that's fine, all the cows are going to stay
33 productive.

34

35 So I guess the short answer is I think
36 the best method is still a general season hunt and I
37 think it would be the most publicly accepted one.

38

39 MS. HOFFMAN: Yeah, when it comes to
40 hunting things do get awkward, it seems. But it is
41 like, just in the areas that I'm at a lot, which is the
42 Gweek and the Kisaralik and the Kwethluk, you know,
43 I've noticed in the last few years just seeing more
44 moose than I ever have in like 20 years ago.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

47

48 MR. L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
49 I guess either one of you can answer this question but
50 I know you're not from Fish and Game, but I was going

1 to refer to the proposal that was put in by Fish and
2 Game, I think you said that to have a cow and a bull
3 hunt, a calf and a bull hunt, is that a calf in
4 addition to a bull or is that just a calf and a bull or
5 a bull? The proposal.

6
7 MR. PERRY: Yeah, there's actually two
8 proposals. One of them that was put in by Fish and
9 Game, by us, the other one was put in by the Lower
10 Yukon Advisory Committee. They're very similar. The
11 way they're written it would be a bull or a calf during
12 that season, it wouldn't be an additional animal, it
13 would be instead of needing to harvest a bull only, you
14 could harvest a calf the way it's written right now.

15
16 MR. L. WILDE: And that proposal was
17 put into place because of the fear of the moose eating
18 themselves out of home and breakfast, I guess, uh?

19
20 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman. Yeah, one of
21 the -- when we've talked about with the lower Yukon,
22 having a growth rate of 27 percent -- this is obviously
23 the most number of moose we've ever had in the lower
24 Yukon. We can predict how many moose we can have in an
25 area but really the only way you know how many moose
26 you can have in an area is to get a bunch there and to
27 see what the habitat looks like and one of the things
28 we'll see if we start having too many moose down there
29 is we'll see that twinning rate decrease. You know
30 right now it's been 60, 70, 80 percent. In a lot of
31 the state when you have moose that are only 10 or 20
32 percent of the moose are having calves, most of the
33 time that means that the habitat has been -- especially
34 the winter habitat has been mostly eaten if not, you
35 know, negatively impacted enough that they're not in as
36 good as shape.

37
38 So one of the reasons that we talked
39 about the calf hunt is not to stop the population
40 growth but actually to slow it down a little bit. And
41 it also provides additional hunting opportunity for the
42 people down there and with a very little cost to
43 growth, you know, we're still going to encourage
44 growth, we're still going to have cows that are having
45 calves. We're just trying to slow that down a little
46 bit.

47
48 MR. L. WILDE: Thank you.

49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray.

1 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 Phillip is right, there is a lot of moose in our area
3 in the lower Yukon. Just about every moose hunter
4 there that I've talked were successful in getting their
5 moose from the beginning of the time that it opened up
6 until the time that it closed despite the bad weather
7 that we've been experiencing practically the whole
8 month of September. It's been miserable the whole
9 month of September. And as far as the calf hunt, you
10 could correct me if I'm wrong, this was brought up
11 during the Lower Yukon Advisory Council meeting, there
12 is a calf hunt that is already in place somewhere up in
13 the Interior that has been going on for a number of
14 years and that's how the Lower Yukon Advisory had come
15 to make that decision to have -- to see, you know, to
16 try and see how it will go first on the lower Yukon.
17 And a lot of people are happy that that population is
18 growing because a lot of times as we already heard from
19 Harry and a lot of elders, and most of you out there on
20 the lower Yukon that have hunt moose up in 21(E), you
21 had to spend a lot of money to take that trip and, now,
22 it's practically right there, you could just take a
23 boat ride out and, you know, you'll see a moose right
24 there practically in your back door.

25
26 That's the only comment I had.

27
28 Thank you.

29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: James.

31
32 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
33 Phillip, on your handout, what's this second map, this
34 one here and it shows the Kuskokwim moratorium area and
35 another small area down by Kipnuk, what is that?

36
37 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman. James. Are
38 you talking about the area that kind of bulges out into
39 the ocean there?

40
41 MR. CHARLES: (Nods affirmatively)

42
43 MR. PERRY: Yeah, that's just the way
44 the map was drawn. It drew that line around the
45 Barrier Islands out there. So that's trying to include
46 all that area.

47
48 MR. CHARLES: I thought that was for
49 swimming moose.

50

1 (Laughter)

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: William.

4

5 MR. BROWN: Yeah, I just like to know
6 what part of the area you guys survey on the moose or
7 caribous?

8

9 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Brown.
10 Our handout shows that last year the area we surveyed
11 was the lowest part of the Yukon, and this was last
12 March. If you look on the map, on the left map, labeled
13 on there, the farthest to the north it says lowest
14 Yukon survey area, so that was that portion of the
15 Yukon below Mountain Village. And that's what we
16 surveyed last year for moose.

17

18 MR. BROWN: Because one of you guys
19 were talking about good year, that is spring time. In
20 fall time in our areas, our caribous roam around in our
21 Eek area in the fall time, after freeze up. And then
22 in the spring time they move back, they move south
23 further to Togiak and hardly any caribous roam around
24 in our area in the spring time. So it would be me, to
25 myself, it would be appropriate survey both in fall
26 time and in spring time.

27

28 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chair. William. With
29 caribou, Mike talked about it a little bit earlier,
30 this is all part of one large caribou herd, the
31 Mulchatna Herd. That herd, the way we name caribou
32 herds is the geographical area where they calve. The
33 Mulchatna Herd most of the time, calves in May and June
34 near the Mulchatna drainage over in the Dillingham
35 area, north of Dillingham.

36

37 Every spring what you're seeing, when
38 they leave -- the majority of the caribou leave Unit 18
39 sometime in April, they all go back, most of them go
40 back to the same area to calve every year, that's
41 basically the only time that caribou are together in
42 one big herd. The way we count caribou is a little bit
43 later in the summer, normally late June, the first part
44 of July when the bugs are the worst. Caribou will get
45 into large groups avoiding insects. At that time we do
46 what we call a photo census. It's quite a bit
47 different counting moose than caribou. With caribou,
48 when they get in these large groups in July, if they
49 get into large groups and the weather's good enough we
50 can fly, we have an airplane with a camera mounted on

1 the belly that we fly over and we actually take
2 pictures of all of those large groups and then go back
3 and take those pictures and hand count the caribou.
4 And that's how we come up with a number of caribou so
5 the surveys are quite a bit different with caribou. We
6 try to keep track, mainly by radio collars, of where
7 animals are kind of on a monthly basis and we've made a
8 commitment both our office here with Fish and Game,
9 Fish and Wildlife Service here and in Dillingham and
10 King Salmon, a lot of us are involved in trying to not
11 only know how many caribou there are in the Mulchatna
12 Herd, but also where they go at different times of year
13 and some of the other things, you know, how many calves
14 they're having and some of those things. So we end up
15 do flying some surveys in the middle of summer looking
16 at caribou. Just the last two weeks we've flown some
17 surveys looking for caribou in our general area and
18 then we normally fly a coordinated effort also in March
19 to see where caribou are. We normally look at least
20 three times a year to get a general idea of where
21 caribou are, range wide, in the Mulchatna Caribou range
22 area.

23

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

24

25

26

MR. ALOYSIUS: I got a question. I
27 don't -- you have to excuse my ignorance but is that
28 lowest Yukon River moratorium still on over there at
29 Mountain Village and on up to Andreafsky?

30

31

MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman. Bob. I
32 don't remember off the top of my head, I want to say it
33 was 1994 that the moratorium in the lowest Yukon was
34 lifted, '95. The first step, once we had several
35 hundred moose in that area -- well, actually after
36 three or four years the local advisory committees asked
37 that we would extend the moratorium another year or two
38 so the moratorium there ended up being six years. I
39 think it started in '88 and went to '95. And then
40 there was a 20 day season opened at that point. Just a
41 few years ago that season has been extended to be the
42 entire month of September.

43

44

So, yeah, the moose hunting has been
45 going on in that lowest part of the Yukon since, I
46 think, '95 was the first season but I could be a year
47 off either way.

48

49

MR. ALOYSIUS: So even though over the
50 last 10 years of hunting the population is still going

1 up?

2

3

MR. PERRY: Yes. The population is still growing pretty rapidly. You know the hunting season has been for bulls only and that's definitely showing that even with a pretty high harvest on the bulls in the lowest Yukon, that as long as there's a lot of cows around and -- we've had some easy winters but we also have very good food there and that population has been able to grow very, very rapidly even with hunting pressures.

12

13

MR. REARDEN: Mr. Chairman. Bob. It's kind of hard looking at these statistics on here, but essentially what it comes down to is every three years the population down there is doubling. And if you look at the survey area that's on there, you've been down there enough to know, that that's not the only moose habitat there is. You know, that little box covers the core area, but areas down like Akulorak and even over near Kotlik and the outer coast, those have a lot of moose, too. So even though we estimated 1,300 in that count area there are a lot more moose than that down in that lower Yukon, it's not just in that area.

25

26

CHAIRMAN WILDE: William.

27

28

MR. BROWN: My last concern was about, you know, last summer we had big fires mostly in McGrath area or somewhere below, does the heavy smoke affect the moose?

32

33

MR. REARDEN: I can say one thing about that, actually we had the biggest fire here on the Refuge here, on the Delta that we've had in over 50 years this summer and that was all of that area on the south side of the Yukon, east of Russian Mission over there -- or actually behind Kalskag, the lakes on the other side there all the way down to below Russian Mission burned, it was a lot of acres and there was a lot of moose habitat there, so that probably will displace some moose, but there's also a lot of habitat left right on the river.

44

45

Some studies that were done, you know, a couple years ago where they had moose collared in an area that had actually burned, it didn't take long for the moose to actually get right back into the area that had burned. You know you look at it and there's still a lot of food left in some of those areas. So at least

1 one study indicated that smoke and fire doesn't have a
2 long-term or a permanent effect anyway.

3

4 MR. BROWN: Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mike. We
7 will be back 1:00 o'clock, we going to have a lunch
8 break right now.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman. Didn't
13 you have one more item concerning muskox.

14

15 MR. REARDEN: If I can have two minutes
16 I can explain everything we're doing with muskox, do
17 you want me to do it?

18

19 (Council nods affirmatively)

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

22

23 MR. REARDEN: I just kind of wanted to
24 explain where we're at on muskox, if you want me to,
25 but you're the guy with the clock up there.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

28

29 MR. REARDEN: All right. On the main
30 land we had a fairly decent population of muskox
31 particularly in the Mud Volcano area, there were about
32 30 animals and they were reproducing annually. The
33 animals we have on Nunivak, about 20 percent a year so
34 that's pretty fast production.

35

36 Unfortunately this last fall we had --
37 or last spring, people went in and killed the majority
38 of those animals so pretty much all there is to report
39 is that we're back at about ground zero on main land
40 muskox as far as being able to have an open season for
41 everybody on the Delta. If that population of 30 had
42 been left alone for another 10 years we would have
43 probably had pretty close to a couple hundred muskox
44 just from those 30 animals and there are a lot of
45 others out there too.

46

47 We had had the potential at that time
48 to, I would have thought in 10 years we could have
49 probably opened a muskox season on the main land for
50 everybody to go out and take a limited number of

1 animals every year. Because of the animals that were
2 killed, it's unlikely that we're going to have that for
3 quite some time now.

4
5 That's about all I had.

6
7 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

8
9 MR. ALOYSIUS: How far up the Yukon or
10 the Kuskokwim has muskox been sighted?

11
12 MR. REARDEN: Pardon me, say it again.

13
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: How far up the Yukon and
15 the Kuskokwim have muskox been sighted on the main
16 land?

17
18 MR. REARDEN: Well, Tim Andrew saw a
19 muskox around Devil's Elbow, I think it was last year.
20 We've had reports of them, a couple of them behind
21 Kalskag in past years. St. Mary's, people have seen
22 them on the hills not far from there. I saw a herd of
23 15 of them, just north of (In Native) out in the middle
24 of the tundra this summer, or no last summer. So
25 they're scattered all over the place on the Delta. But
26 we finally had a core group of them on those hills
27 between here and Scammon Bay that no longer exist.

28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

30
31 MS. GREGORY: It costs a lot of money
32 to go muskox hunting, is it -- do we have a subsistence
33 hunt for muskox?

34
35 MR. REARDEN: Yeah, and Phillip can
36 give you the numbers but there's been a subsistence --
37 or a hunt for muskox on both Nunivak and Nelson Island
38 for years. Those populations produce a lot of
39 muskoxen, so a lot of animals are killed on those two
40 places every year.

41
42 MS. GREGORY: My question is, if I want
43 to go out, would I permitted to go out and hunt?

44
45 MR. REARDEN: If you go stand in line
46 and pay them \$25 you can get a permit, too.

47
48 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mike.

1 MR. L. WILDE: Mike, before you go, one
2 more question, I read in the papers the other day that
3 there was about 15 muskox of that group we had down in
4 --that was down in the Mud Volcanos, was that written
5 correctly, that there was approximately 15 muskox left
6 of that group of 30?

7
8 MR. REARDEN: We don't know. They're
9 so dispersed, we don't know how many total were killed
10 for sure. We know of at least a dozen and suspect
11 there were more from kill sites we found. But they
12 disperse. We had a camp out there for awhile this
13 summer and I think they saw two muskox the entire time
14 they were out there this summer.

15
16 MR. L. WILDE: Were those kills all
17 from one village?

18
19 MR. REARDEN: No.

20
21 MR. L. WILDE: You know what really
22 surprised me was some of the people that were accused
23 of that were people that didn't need it. They were
24 just out there just because they were there and that
25 kind of.....

26
27 MR. REARDEN: Yes, there were several
28 villages involved in that. I'm not going to list them.

29
30 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman.

31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray.

33
34 MR. ONEY: Yeah, thank you. The main
35 land muskox, you know, I sit on the Lower Yukon
36 Advisory Council and when this came up, you know, I was
37 pretty excited about, you know, in hopes of getting a
38 muskox hunt in the future and as time went on I started
39 getting reports from Roger saying that, you know, these
40 muskox were being killed off. And at the time that
41 this was brought up to us, you know, I encouraged those
42 people on the Lower Yukon Advisory Council and also
43 people on the Kuskokwim Advisory Council to educate the
44 people in their areas to try and, you know, populate
45 the muskox, you know, in hopes of having a muskox hunt
46 in the future. Probably not in my time, but maybe in my
47 children's time. But, you know, after hearing about
48 that many muskox killed off, you know, it kind of
49 drowned my heart out.

50

1 But I'm glad to hear that there's small
2 reports of muskox being sighted in different areas, as
3 far up as Russian Mission, far north as Kotlik, and if
4 there is going to be -- if there's going to be an
5 effort by the villages, it should be addressed to AVCP
6 so that every village will be aware of what we're
7 trying to do, if we're going to try and populate the
8 muskox in the future.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council, any more
13 muskox?

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No more muskox, Mike.

18

19

20 MR. REARDEN: Thank you.

21

22 MR. PERRY: Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We'll break lunch
25 break until 1:00 o'clock.

26

27 (Off record)

28

29 (On record)

30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, right now we're
32 going to start our meeting, No. 11. It's No. 11 on
33 your agenda, Page 2, Item 11 and you will find this on
34 Page 92 and also 96. Letters and annual report. Alex
35 Nick.

36

37 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Every
38 meeting we present .805(c) letter and it's up to you
39 how you want me to do this, in a summary or you want me
40 to do this in Yup'ik or in English.

41

42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If you do it in
43 summary I think you could read it English so everyone
44 could understand.

45

46 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. .805(c) letter
47 on Page 92 of Council booklet there's a letter.

48

49 I'll just read the letter and I'll just
50 let you know what the other part of that is. It's

1 dated June 2, 2005. And what the letter is telling you
2 is that -- it's telling you what the Board's action was
3 on May 3 and 4, 2005, the recommendations that you gave
4 the Federal Board in your meeting before this.

5
6 I don't have to read this unless
7 someone wants me to read it for them or explain a
8 portion in Yup'ik. What it is it's explaining what the
9 Board did. You know, on Page 93 the Board is telling
10 you what it did with Proposal 1 and then it goes on to
11 Page 95. And unless you have question and you have a
12 lot of things to do and there's some people that need
13 to leave here this evening, I will just leave it at
14 this, with your permission, Mr. Chair, unless there are
15 some questions.

16
17 MS. HOFFMAN: Is that A and B you're
18 talking about.

19
20 MR. L. WILDE: He just covered A.

21
22 MR. NICK: Just A, yeah.

23
24 MS. HOFFMAN: Okay.

25
26 (Pause)

27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

29
30 MR. NICK: And then we'll go on to Item
31 11(b). As you remember, the Council submitted 2004
32 annual report to Federal Subsistence Board. On Page 96
33 you will find the annual report from Page 96, you will
34 find annual report and reply to your report.

35
36 Again, I think the Council had a chance
37 to look over these documents, and unless you have
38 questions on either the annual report or the reply,
39 I'll just let you know what this is.

40
41 The first portion of this is your
42 annual report and then the second portion of it is the
43 annual reply by the Federal Board.

44
45 Do you have any questions on these two?

46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council do you have a
48 question on these two items there.

49
50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.
2
3 MR. NICK: If you look in your books on
4 Page 96 through 101, it's the annual report you
5 submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board. And on
6 Page 102 through Page 107 is the reply you received
7 from the Federal Subsistence Board.
8
9 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.
10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.
12
13 MS. HOFFMAN: I just would like to note
14 that Mr. Demientieff, in response to one of our
15 concerns had said on Page 104, under working
16 relationships, that one of their Board members will
17 attend the fall 2005 Council meeting as well because
18 they had representation at a prior one and I just
19 wondered if you had heard what happened there?
20
21 MR. NICK: Don, you want to respond to
22 that?
23
24 MS. HOFFMAN: That they're not present.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Don.
27
28 MR. RIVARD: I'm not sure what happened
29 there. I just don't know so they may have had --
30 somebody may have been wanting to come and then just
31 wasn't able to, I don't know.
32
33 MS. HOFFMAN: Could you pass.....
34
35 MR. RIVARD: But Judy Gottlieb has come
36 in the past, she was at Toksook Bay last year and I
37 think she went to Chevak when we had the meeting there.
38
39 MS. HOFFMAN: Well, I guess I just
40 would like you to note that that was noted.
41
42 MR. RIVARD: Okay.
43
44 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, is there any more
45 questions on annual report and annual reply?
46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions Council.
48
49 (No comments)
50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.
2
3 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. If there is no
4 additional questions, that is the extent of a very,
5 very quick summary of these two documents.
6
7 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
8
9 (Pause)
10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council do you have a
12 question -- oh, one more, okay.
13
14 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Item C request
15 annual report topics. Every year we ask the Council if
16 you have any annual report topics that you would like
17 us to work on. I explained this before, in the past,
18 that, you know, using the topics that you give us we
19 will work on your annual report.
20
21 MS. HOFFMAN: And when -- Mr. Chair.
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.
24
25 MS. HOFFMAN: I know last year we were
26 given a timeline after this meeting, too, that we could
27 contact you, Alex, and is there a timeline that you're
28 dealing with in getting the annual report topics?
29
30 MR. NICK: Last year you were given the
31 timeline because you requested a timeline, you didn't
32 have any topics to provide to us and we asked Council
33 members to call me or email or fax your topics to me.
34 We have to keep in consideration that between now and
35 the Board meeting, we have four months from here to the
36 next Federal Board meeting. But, you know, maybe Ann
37 could respond to that better than I can or Don.
38
39 MS. HOFFMAN: And also while you're
40 sitting, Don, these topics can just be subjects of
41 concern that we want OSM and the Board to respond to or
42 be aware of?
43
44 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Don Rivard
45 here with OSM. Beverly, the annual reports are your
46 opportunity to present topics to the Federal
47 Subsistence Board that are subsistence related to some
48 extent but are not something that are addressed through
49 the regulatory process. And as you saw with Mike
50 Rearden today, we sometimes get an agency Staff person

1 to come and address these things as well, maybe it's
2 really a land manager that needs to discuss a certain
3 topic with you. So you can provide Alex with topics,
4 if you don't have them today, we probably need them
5 fairly soon, they should probably no later than --
6 November 1st would be ideal. If you could contact Alex
7 with any topics you might have.

8

9 The thing that's good is to try to have
10 those topics available at the meeting so all your
11 fellow Council persons can also hear the topic and
12 maybe that spurs them to another topic. So we try to
13 encourage that to happen at the meeting.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ann Wilkinson

18

19 MS. WILKINSON: Thank you, Mr.
20 Chairman. Council members. The annual report is
21 described in ANILCA and in the back of your Council
22 handbook there is a copy of Title VIII, ANILCA and it
23 explains what the annual report is to be and that does
24 include different topics but it's very important
25 because it also says that if there are needs that are
26 not being met they can go in this report. If you
27 foresee something that's coming up that the people in
28 your region are going to need, it can be in this
29 report.

30

31 So it's really a significant thing and
32 it's looked at by all the Board members and they
33 respond to it. So it's a big opportunity for Councils.

34

35 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

38

39 MS. HOFFMAN: One of the things that I
40 would like to continue to be an area of concern and I'm
41 glad Donlin Creek is on our agenda today for a project
42 update because of the effects, possible negative
43 effects that it's going to have on our environment,
44 wildlife and fisheries. And the jobs created are like
45 held up there very high for a mine that's going to last
46 so many years, and in a project area that's larger than
47 Bethel, the Donlin Creek operation. And so my concern
48 continues to be and I want the Board to address any
49 environmental impact issues, any impact on our wildlife
50 and fisheries because it is going to be such a concern

1 when you think of the fact there will be, to power this
2 mine, the need for at least two barges a day, once the
3 -- once the mine, if it does go into operation, that's
4 what it's going to need, two barges a day on our
5 Kuskokwim River and are we going to be able to keep our
6 fisheries healthy and with things like that possibly
7 happening.

8

9 So my concern is, and I'm glad you're
10 here was that, yeah, jobs are going to be created but
11 is that worth a loss of a way of life and so that's a
12 topic I want the Board to be aware of that it's going
13 to have an incredible impact and I want their awareness
14 on it.

15

16 The other topic area had to do with
17 continued efforts to make these meetings go smoothly,
18 you know, travel and stipend versus per diem, checking
19 into possibly changing like having OSM handle the
20 travel and the lodging and offer a stipend to cover all
21 other expenses instead of this per diem business,
22 which, I think sometimes creates more paperwork, and,
23 yes, I know there's Federal mandates and laws and rules
24 and regulations but whatever process is necessary to
25 make that go smoother would be a good thing.

26

27 The other thing that I just have just
28 has to do with that whole rainbow life cycle, and on
29 our rivers I think we just need more education of other
30 species other than the salmon. And so I would like
31 maybe the Board to be aware of our concerns over the
32 trout populations on our rivers and making sure that
33 they stay healthy.

34

35 That's all for me, Doi.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Don.

38

39 MR. RIVARD: If the Council will allow,
40 we'll address the travel a little bit right now because
41 there are certain things that just have to be done a
42 certain way. And in the past Council members have
43 brought up this thing about having a stipend and it's
44 been turned down because it's just something that won't
45 happen. You are classified as volunteers and we
46 understand your concerns and the reason why you would
47 want to have a stipend but Federal regulations won't
48 allow it and I think Ann's got some further things she
49 can address for that as well.

50

1 MS. HOFFMAN: Yeah, the travel and
2 lodging is easy, but the stipend versus per diem,
3 Federal regulations, you know, whatever needs to be
4 changed in Federal regulations that would allow this
5 process maybe to go forward. I don't want to take up a
6 lot of time here on that.

7
8 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman. I can
9 make that brief. Actually whether the Councils receive
10 a stipend is determined by the Secretary of the
11 Interior, that's the Secretary's decision. And there
12 are several hundred advisory committees like this one
13 under the Department of the Interior. The Secretary
14 said if we allow one group of councils or committees to
15 have a stipend then we have to give it to everyone, and
16 that's the basic reason why they said no.

17
18 So what I'm doing, when I have time, is
19 I'm researching every single one of those committees
20 and if I find one, even one, that gets any kind of
21 payment then I'm going to bring it back up again.

22
23 MS. HOFFMAN: Thanks.

24
25 MS. WILKINSON: Per diem is the only
26 thing that the Secretary will permit. And the only
27 other thing is we'll probably get a new Secretary at
28 the next Presidential election so that's another
29 opportunity for change, but until then it's just, like
30 I said, I'm just going through every one of those
31 committees to look.

32
33 MR. RIVARD: We will still put that in
34 your annual report.....

35
36 MS. HOFFMAN: Yeah.

37
38 MR. RIVARD:that that's a
39 topic.....

40
41 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes, I want it in there.

42
43 MR. RIVARD:of concern for you.

44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chair.

46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

48
49 MR. ALOYSIUS: Talking about the
50 stipend versus the per diem system. I prefer the per

1 diem system myself because you don't have to monkey
2 around with taxes, because you have to report stipends
3 as income.

4
5 MS. HOFFMAN: And just another comment,
6 Mr. Chair.

7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

9
10 MS. HOFFMAN: Well, I think a situation
11 like Mr. Joseph [sic], you know, we're in Toksook, he
12 would benefit from a stipend versus per diem, he had
13 nothing for his two days -- I mean we volunteer all
14 year long, we read over our materials, we spend a lot
15 of time and I was just thinking for his situation or
16 next year in Emmonak, you know, people, wherever it's
17 housed, or wherever the meetings are at, you know,
18 people that take time away from their daily lives, it
19 would help compensate a little bit for that, under per
20 diems he was not compensated at all.

21
22 Thanks.

23
24 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

27
28 MR. ALOYSIUS: A couple things I'd like
29 to include in the annual report, is that, we need to
30 start a process where we can request funding for stream
31 restoration projects to reclaim our nonsalmon streams
32 for our subsistence fish. Because, you know, it gets
33 back to the damn beaver dams, I mean the beaver dams,
34 because those beaver dams are ruining the streams and
35 the lakes that they feed into. And I know there is
36 projects in the Federal government that deal with
37 stream restoration and we need to get our people on the
38 upper echelon aware that there are programs and the
39 Federal dollar to talk to see if we can find some way
40 to secure those funds to do some stream restoration,
41 not only for salmon but for all the nonsalmon species
42 that we depend on year-round.

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Rich.

45
46 MR. CANNON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I came
47 to the table in case there were specific questions for
48 Staff, and if you have a specific question, Mr.
49 Aloysius, I'd be happy to try to answer it.

50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, we're on the annual
2 report topics.

3
4 MR. CANNON: What I can tell you about,
5 you know, at least for the program that we have, the
6 Fisheries Monitoring Program, there has been a decision
7 made by the Federal Board to direct our funding at
8 monitoring projects, and not things like enhancement or
9 restoration. So that's a policy level decision made by
10 the people at the Board level.

11
12 As far as other sources of funding, the
13 AYKSSI is a monitoring, research and restoration
14 program so that might offer, you know, an avenue for
15 funding and there may be other sources of funding that
16 would help fisheries and some that I'm aware of are
17 those that have to do with some of the CDQ groups,
18 coastal villages, other groups like that. My
19 experience in other regions has been often industry,
20 commercial fisheries industry, people or other groups
21 have supported, specifically, issues like helping fish
22 to move up river with beaver dam projects. One of the
23 first things I did when I came to work for the
24 Department of Fish and Game about 30 years ago was
25 based on funding from commercial fishermen in Cook
26 Inlet and we had volunteers and people from the
27 Department going up into streams ahead of the salmon
28 and helping to remove beaver dams to let the fish up
29 the river. So I mean those kind of efforts are
30 possible.

31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

33
34 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
35 I don't have a specific question but as far as the
36 topics go, just to get the matter on the record for one
37 more time, the acronym of OSM can still be accurate but
38 since the Board has gone on record several times saying
39 that they have no management responsibility, that that
40 belongs to the individual agencies perhaps they ought
41 to look at changing their name to the Office of
42 Subsistence Monitoring rather than Subsistence
43 Management.

44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Other questions from
46 Council.

47
48 (No comments)

49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, thank you. Now,

1 that we're going to continue our agenda, No. 12,
2 agencies, organizations reports, the Office of
3 Subsistence Management reports, briefing, the first one
4 is review of rural determinations, Carl Jack. Councils
5 you will find this at Page 108.

6

7 MR. JACK: Yeah, Quyana, Mr. Chairman.

8

9 (In Yup'ik)

10

11 INTERPRETER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 And for timesake I will speak in English.

13

14 MR. JACK: To expedite my presentation
15 I will do the briefing in English. The briefing report
16 is on Page 108 to 110 and the maps associated with
17 what's going to be analyzed are on Page 111 to 118.

18

19 Title VIII of ANILCA requires the
20 Secretary represented by the Federal Subsistence Board
21 to review the rural determination every 10 years. Now,
22 the rural determination is the fundamental of Title
23 VIII because it determines who will be eligible for the
24 priority. These rural areas are the ones that this
25 program addresses, giving them rural priority whereas a
26 nonrural areas, these are -- the people that reside in
27 nonrural areas are not eligible for the rural priority.

28

29 When the Federal government took over
30 Federal management of subsistence it adopted
31 regulations for the rural determination review. And
32 these are listed on Page 108 of your booklet.

33

34 Very, very briefly and very quickly. A
35 community with a population below 2,500 is considered
36 rural unless it possesses significant characteristics
37 of a nonrural nature.

38

39 Secondly, a community with population
40 of more than 7,000 is considered nonrural unless it
41 possesses significant characteristics of a rural
42 nature.

43

44 The third bullet is the community with
45 population above 2,500 but not over 7,000 will be
46 evaluated to determine its rural and nonrural status.

47

48 And the fourth bullet is communities
49 that are economically, socially and communally
50 integrated will be grouped for evaluation purposes.

1 This is what is referred to as aggregation.

2

3 The 2000 census has been done and we
4 are required under the statute to start after the
5 census are published, and these normally take about two
6 to three years. Now this year is 2005, we're halfway
7 between 2000 and 2010 and another census will be taken
8 in 2010. Now the 2000 census review was delayed
9 because the Board considered changes to the method it
10 used to make the initial rural determination. But the
11 process is underway now and to do the review from
12 January 2005, an initial review of the rural/nonrural
13 status for all Alaska communities was conducted by the
14 Federal Subsistence Management Program with emphasis on
15 what has changed since 1990.

16

17 This review found that the status of
18 most Alaska communities should remain unchanged. The
19 10 communities and areas proposed by the Board for
20 further analysis are listed below. These are Kodiak,
21 Sitka, Adak, and the groupings include to determine --
22 in Fairbanks North Star Borough, whether to continue
23 using the entire Borough as a nonrural area or separate
24 those. Another area on the groupings is Kenai area and
25 the other area is the Seward area, and that continues
26 on Page 109.

27

28 This takes us to where we are today.
29 The Board is going to use a two step process, and that
30 is the Board is now seeking comments from Councils and
31 the public on list of communities for further analysis.
32 And the.....

33

34 REPORTER: Carl.

35

36 MR. JACK:next.....

37

38 REPORTER: Carl.

39

40 MR. JACK: Excuse me. Let me start
41 where -- this takes us to where we are today and from
42 here on the Board is going to use a two step process.
43 First, the Board is now seeking comments from the
44 Councils and the public on list of communities that
45 will be analyzed further and those are the ones that
46 are listed on Page 108 and that are continued on 109.

47

48 I may add that at this point, none of
49 the communities in YK area will not be affected by this
50 rural determination review.

1 As I said earlier, the Board will meet
2 in December 2005 to review the Council comments. And
3 then they will vote on the final list of communities
4 that will be analyzed to determine their rural and
5 nonrural status.

6
7 On Page 109 and 110 are the bullet
8 points that list the background of why the Board is
9 undertaking rural or nonrural determination.

10
11 That concludes my presentation, Mr.
12 Chairman.

13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

15
16 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

17
18 INTERPRETER: You just said earlier
19 that our -- the communities in our region will not be
20 affected but because she's from Bethel and I subsist, I
21 hunt and fish and eat off the land and a lot of times
22 maybe our population is almost up to 7,000.

23
24 MR. JACK: Yeah, Mary, through the
25 Chair.

26
27 (In Yup'ik)

28
29 INTERPRETER: Well, right now Bethel is
30 not determined to be nonrural because the population
31 has not changed.

32
33 MR. JACK: It may be included in
34 future reviews. So that's all I can say about that,
35 may, if it exceeds 7,500 and takes on a nonrural
36 status, it may be included in the future.

37
38 MS. GREGORY: How far in the future are
39 we talking about?

40
41 MR. JACK: What's the population now,
42 about 5,000, around 5,000 so, you know, the latest
43 census, this may be outside of but it's probably
44 related, as the cost of living increases and especially
45 probably will happen from here around, with the price
46 of energy going up, we can probably expect more people
47 from the villages moving to semi-urban areas or the
48 urban areas. The last census indicated that 42 percent
49 of those people living in nonrural areas have moved to
50 the urban cities. So that's a good indication of the

1 trends that may happen in the future with respect to
2 the movement of the people from rural to nonrural.

3

4 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

7

8 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 And that, of course, is a concern to the constituency
10 that I represent being the tribal council for Bethel.
11 And the concern I'd like to raise in their behalf and
12 as well as to ask OSM, if you feel your primary purpose
13 there is to protect customary and traditional
14 subsistence uses, how do you intend or how can you see
15 yourselves conducting your process so that people,
16 through no fault of their own, through in migration
17 from surrounding villages or other areas of Bethel as
18 it grows, how do you see yourselves ensuring and
19 protecting that Federal Subsistence Board use and need
20 and culture or tradition or whatever label you choose
21 to put on it, in the long run?

22

23 MR. JACK: Greg, through the Chair. I
24 think that this is one issue that can be included in
25 the annual report for further review. I think it's a
26 very good question, but I may add that right now since
27 we are required, under the statute that's a process
28 that I think the leadership of OSM will take, aside
29 from that, unless the law is amended to alter the
30 statute requirement in making rural or nonrural
31 determination.

32

33 Unless that's changed, I think we're
34 kind of stuck to the existing way. You know, for those
35 of us that were involved in the formulation of the
36 public policy during the late 1990s and AVCP was in the
37 forefront, our main concern was to protect subsistence
38 way of life and in the hindsight, had we known, for
39 example, how FACA would have an impact on the way the
40 Council do their business and also the way the rural
41 determination would be made, I think we would have
42 addressed those issues, but we didn't at the time. In
43 hindsight, I think it would have been a good idea.

44

45 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

46

47 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair, continuing on
48 along those lines. You know, I've spoken to some of
49 the Staff and brought this issue up and I do
50 appreciate, actually, your response here, and it leads

1 into the whole matter of the annual report where when
2 the Councils put issues forward and in many other cases
3 we're told, sorry, that's the way it is when, you know,
4 for a fact it's an interpretation by administration. I
5 don't fault the Staff here, I want to make that clear,
6 it's not the Staff that's doing it, these are
7 administrative decisions. And the fact that I see
8 people having the ability to work here, and when we ask
9 for something and rather than get an answer back and
10 say, sorry, we can't do it, we're looking -- like Bev
11 mentioned earlier, what needs to be changed, what do we
12 need to do? In the whole broad gamut of what we have
13 when we bring concerns up through the annual report,
14 since you mentioned that, that's where I'd really
15 appreciate seeing what we need to do to fix it, don't
16 just say, sorry, we don't have the current authority,
17 that's why we submitted it, what needs to be changed,
18 what do we need to do.

19

20 MR. JACK: I think the only way I can
21 answer this is in a position where I am would be to
22 resubmit these concerns to the Federal Board. Actually
23 the law states the Councils will develop annual reports
24 to the Secretary, and right now the way the
25 infrastructure is set up, the Board represents the
26 Secretary.

27

28 So my suggestion, and I can put myself
29 out on the line, would be to be diligent in getting the
30 right response to the Federal Board.

31

32 Under .805(c) there's a deference
33 requirement where the Board will not just set aside the
34 recommendations of the Regional Councils. Although
35 there's a narrow interpretation by the solicitor's
36 office on that issue, that it only applies to the
37 taking of fish and game, I know that Mr. Boyd had
38 expressed his willingness to accept any recommendations
39 that may come from the Councils outside of -- even if
40 those are outside of the narrow interpretation of the
41 solicitor's office in reference to the deference
42 requirement that's stated in the law.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 MR. ROCZICKA: Just one final note on
47 that.

48

49 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

2

3 MS. HOFFMAN: Well, I'll go ahead and
4 wait and let Greg finish, I don't mind.

5

6 MR. ROCZICKA: The point of deference
7 is a sour one as well when seven out of 10 of the
8 Regional Councils speak to an issue, but just on this
9 whole point and to take the message back and you'll
10 certainly hear it from me and Mr. Boyd's heard it from
11 me one on one and in meetings, if the Federal
12 Subsistence Management regime continues to use
13 arbitrary numbers that are based on a Census Bureau of
14 the Lower 48 system of what's rural and what's not, you
15 know, farm agriculture communities their ultimate
16 result of that will be to phase subsistence out in the
17 long run and not protect it and not keep it here.

18

19 MR. JACK: Well, I think what you've
20 stated is consistent with some of the statements that
21 have been made. For example, Mr. Mayo has repeatedly
22 stated in the public arena is designed to sunset the
23 Alaska Native cultures. There may be a lot of truth to
24 that especially in the future when the rural
25 communities become nonrural.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

30

31 MS. HOFFMAN: And so, Greg, I guess we
32 would request that to be a topic of our annual report
33 most definitely, because I am in that boat, ONC
34 represents my interests and it is a concern. As prices
35 go up in outlying villages, people are moving here for
36 jobs, they're also moving to Anchorage and then we have
37 all those people that move to Anchorage feel that it's
38 their God-given right to come back here, even though
39 they haven't lived here in 40 years to participate in
40 the subsistence take of fish and game. We all know
41 people who do that.

42

43 And so Bethel is between a rock and a
44 hard place with this whole issue of rural determination
45 and the whole subsistence issues. So most definitely I
46 want that a part of our packet.

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council, other
49 questions to Carl.

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

4

5 MR. JACK: Guyana.

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next on our agenda
8 marine waters, Ann Wilkinson. You will find this on
9 Council booklets at Page 119.

10

11 MS. WILKINSON: Thank you, Mr.
12 Chairman. Council members. On Pages 123, 124 and 126
13 there are maps that show the waters in this region that
14 are affected by this proposed change of regulation.

15

16 When I got this assignment to come here
17 and speak to you about this I had to do some research
18 because this is not something I knew about very much so
19 I did a lot of study, I asked a lot of questions, I
20 read your transcripts from your last meeting and I
21 talked to Alex to find out what your concerns are. And
22 in my discussions with the people who do know about
23 marine jurisdiction, this is what the summary of it all
24 is.

25

26 The waters that are being reviewed now
27 were never under Federal jurisdiction, they've always
28 been under State jurisdiction. The problem is that
29 somebody made a mistake when they were describing the
30 waters.

31

32 If you ever have read regulations
33 sometimes, especially if they're describing land or
34 waters it gets very confusing to read those. And so
35 somebody was trying to make it simpler and easier to
36 read and understand and in doing so they misunderstood
37 the description of the waters and they wrote it wrong.
38 Then the next group came along to draw the maps. They
39 used that incorrect description to draw the maps. And
40 so basically what this proposed regulation is, is just
41 to go back and correct those mistakes.

42

43 The only thing that this change is
44 going to do is to correct the mistakes, no actual
45 ownership of lands is going to change hands or
46 jurisdiction over the water, nothing is going to change
47 from what it is now and has been since before
48 statehood.

49

50 That's basically it in a very short

1 summary.

2

3 Does anyone have questions.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

6

7 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 Yeah, I certainly have a lot more questions than
9 answers on this one, I just became aware of it here a
10 short while ago and actually I had a different
11 understanding of it, or the way it was explained to me
12 was it was actually the State -- since it hadn't ever
13 been officially designated as you say, the State has
14 put in a request for jurisdiction over those waters for
15 official recognition, and actually there was a
16 resolution passed at AVCP convention specifically
17 regarding that.

18

19 And so I guess I'm a little bit lost
20 here.

21

22 What you're saying is the Federal
23 managers, versus OSM, whoever it is, that it's being
24 done through OSM but they're just going to file the
25 notice in the Federal Register that these areas are
26 included within the Refuge boundaries; is that correct?

27

28 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
29 Roczicka -- excuse me, Greg. I believe what happened
30 is the State asked to have this clarified. That the
31 waters within those boundaries -- well, just for
32 example -- well, let me make it this way. The Federal
33 government can only have jurisdiction of marine waters
34 that are withdrawn either prior to statehood or are
35 within the lands of the Federal holdings.

36

37 MR. ROCZICKA: Oh.

38

39 MS. WILKINSON: Yeah. Anything -- any
40 waters -- any marine waters that go from the shore or
41 the mean high tide out into the ocean, we can --
42 Federal management can only have jurisdiction over
43 those if the State agrees.

44

45 MR. ROCZICKA: Well.....

46

47 MS. WILKINSON: We did not take out
48 those waters before statehood and, you know, say that
49 we wanted to have jurisdiction over them. And the
50 waters are not within the actual lands of the Refuge,

1 and so the State has not agreed that we should have
2 jurisdiction so we never have.

3

4 MR. ROCZICKA: So essentially what
5 you're saying here is this is what's being conceded,
6 that it's State?

7

8 MS. WILKINSON: Yes, it's the State's
9 and it has been the State -- the State's always managed
10 those waters, we have not.

11

12 MR. ROCZICKA: Falling within the three
13 mile limit.

14

15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Other Council
16 questions.

17

18 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair.

19

20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

21

22 MS. HOFFMAN: I see that the comment
23 period, though, is until October 21st?

24

25 MS. WILKINSON: Yes. Any time that the
26 Federal government is going to make a change to a
27 regulation, even if it's for housekeeping, which is
28 what this really is, it has to be published in the
29 Federal Register so that everyone can have a chance to
30 comment. And then we did that the first time and got a
31 comment where are the maps, so we've published again
32 showing maps.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Other questions to
35 Ann.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

40

41 MS. WILKINSON: Thank you, Mr.

42 Chairman.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next on our agenda
45 continues registration hunting report, I don't know,
46 news release, I don't know who's taking that.

47

48 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Don Rivard
49 with the Office of Subsistence Management. I hope
50 everybody had a chance to read the letter on Page 133.

1 We felt as the Federal Subsistence
2 Program, that Federal subsistence users should also be
3 fully aware of what the State is proposing on their
4 permits. And there are, I think it states in here
5 there are a number of Federal hunts where a State
6 permit is also needed, that's what's needed in order to
7 hunt. So the second paragraph there says there are 40
8 Federal subsistence hunts throughout the state which
9 require the use of Alaska Department of Fish and Game
10 registration permits. So the State is going to start
11 -- I guess I shouldn't really characterize it myself,
12 maybe somebody from the State would be willing to do
13 so, but they're going to be enforcing more the return
14 of these permits. And if permits aren't returned then
15 people may not get a permit the next year, so it could
16 affect those Federal hunts where a State permit is
17 required.

18
19 So just something you should be fully
20 aware of, and there it is.

21
22 Thank you.

23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: James.

25
26 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
27 How many other registration permits -- subsistence
28 hunting is there in YK-Delta besides moose hunting
29 permit up river and muskox permit?

30
31 MR. RIVARD: I don't have that answer
32 but can get that for the Council before the meeting's
33 up. I would need to call, probably Pete DeMatteo, to
34 find out on that.

35
36 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

39
40 MS. HOFFMAN: I just would like to
41 direct OSM and Fish and Game, you know, just to make
42 sure that word is widely spread via the papers and on
43 the radio and do it more than one time throughout the
44 year.

45
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: It's a little bit too

1 late to return your permits from 19(A) because they
2 have to be, you know, at the end of September was the
3 deadline. And another thing it's stated very clearly
4 on the permit what the consequences are going to be if
5 you don't return your permit.

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

8

9 MS. GREGORY: There's a reference to
10 Tier II, what's that has to do with registration and
11 drawing, eligibility for getting a permit; can you
12 explain that?

13

14 MR. ROGERS: Mr. Chairman. Members of
15 the Council. My name is Randy Rogers. I'm a wildlife
16 planner for the Department of Fish and Game. And I'm
17 here to report on some planning efforts but I'll do the
18 best I can to help you out on this question. I did
19 plan to put in a reminder of the requirement for
20 reporting.

21

22 I'm not sure exactly what your question
23 is, ma'am, but Tier II permits are one of the kind of
24 permits that will fall under the new regulation
25 requiring people to report or potentially and very
26 likely will be denied any type of permit the following
27 year. And this is a new requirement the Board of Game
28 put in effect for this year.

29

30 Does that help?

31

32 MS. GREGORY: I am aware of the Tier II
33 process but are we in that Tier II process right now?

34

35 MR. ROGERS: I don't know all the
36 regulations in this particular area, but I know for
37 moose hunting you've got a moratorium in Unit 18. Up
38 in Unit 19(A) as Bob was just describing there is a
39 registration permit system. I'm not personally aware
40 of Tier II hunts in this area right now. I'd have to
41 check the regulations to review every one. If Roger
42 Seavoy was here he, I'm sure, knows, but he's not.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

45

46 MR. ROCZICKA: Through the Chair, Mary,
47 here are no Tier II hunts anywhere within the Kuskokwim
48 or the lower Yukon, presently. There are Federally-
49 restricted hunts in 21(E) for residents only and then
50 the registration hunt for Federal lands applies to the

1 lower portion of the Aniak River and up about as far --
2 almost to Alakanuk, not quite, but just that lower
3 section in there. But other than that, no, there's no
4 Tier II hunts within our region.

5
6 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Perry.

7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Phillip.

9
10 MR. PERRY: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, Greg
11 already answered the question.

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions
14 from Council.

15
16 MS. GREGORY: I want to make a comment.

17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

19
20 MS. GREGORY: If we're not into this, I
21 wonder why this was included in there? I mean why are
22 you referencing it to Tier II hunt if it's not in
23 effect, it confuses people, like me.

24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Randy.

26
27 MR. ROGERS: Mr. Chairman. I believe
28 what OSM put in there was kind of a statewide
29 announcement just to try to get the word out as broadly
30 as possible and wasn't tailored specifically to each
31 individual area. Just trying to make sure everyone's
32 informed.

33
34 MS. GREGORY: Does that mean there's
35 Tier II going on somewhere else?

36
37 MR. ROGERS: Yes, there are several in
38 the state actually.

39
40 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.

43
44 MR. NICK: Yeah, I want to remind
45 Council that, you know, we do have lots of people
46 hunting in 19(A) from lower Kuskokwim area and this is
47 a very important topic and, you know, we need to make
48 sure that we understand very, very good in this area to
49 let people know what's going on with their registration
50 permit requirements and returns of those permits

1 because it's going to affect their hunting activities.

2

3 MR. ROGERS: Mr. Chairman.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

6

7 MR. ROGERS: This Randy Rogers again.

8 I don't know all of the absolute details of the

9 process, but I can in general terms describe it.

10

11 Recently the area biologist who's
12 covering Unit 19(A) and (B) just submitted a public
13 service announcement to KYUK, I don't know if that's
14 been aired yet or not. You folks, I'm sure would have
15 heard it if it has, hopefully it will be. But for
16 people who have signed up for these permits, if we
17 haven't received the report initially there will be a
18 letter sent to them and basically say that you are
19 going to be put on the list of people who will be
20 denied a permit the following year if you don't submit
21 your report right away. So there'll be an opportunity
22 for then people to take that reminder and get the
23 report in.

24

25 I think beyond that, if we don't
26 receive the report within a week or two after that, I
27 don't know exactly what the timeframe is, then there'll
28 be another notification that says that you will be put
29 on the list and then there will be an appeal process
30 set up. Because understanding sometimes there's
31 situations where people just don't get this.

32

33 So I guess Alex is pointing out to me
34 that the press release describes a fair amount of this.
35 At any rate, we agree that we do need to get the word
36 out on this. We appreciate the fact that Office of
37 Subsistence Management is helping with this.

38

39 And, you know, it may be a difficult
40 transition but the central Kuskokwim, the permits in
41 Unit 19(A) may be a good example, where we're managing
42 a moose population very closely and need to know what
43 the harvest level is in order to make management
44 decisions on it. And so that's part of the reasoning.
45 And at this point, this program doesn't apply to the
46 general harvest tickets. I believe the Board of Game
47 may be looking at extending it further down the line,
48 though, but it's being phased in with registration,
49 drawing and Tier II permits now.

50

1 Thank you.
2
3 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, we continue our
6 agenda, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, who's doing
7 this?
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If there's none
12 then.....
13
14 MR. NICK: Randy.
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Randy.
17
18 MR. ROGERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
19 This is the topic I actually came prepared to discuss.
20
21 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
22 Chairman.
23
24 MR. ROGERS: What I'd like to do, if
25 agreeable is give a report on some of the moose
26 management planning activities that.....
27
28 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, we're
29 confused where we're at. I am confused.
30
31 MS. HOFFMAN: 12C.
32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 12C.
34
35 MR. L. WILDE: 12C.
36
37 MS. GREGORY: Okay.
38
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, we
40 included an A4 regarding the no-fly zone proposal.
41
42 MR. L. WILDE: That was my request for
43 Item C under the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
44 report, which is now, I believe.
45
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay.
47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, I'm following
49 this agenda here and that's where it's at.
50

1 MR. L. WILDE: That's where it's at,
2 the next item.

3
4 MS. GREGORY: Thank you for explaining
5 that.

6
7 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Randy is here to
8 give you a report on one of the participation of this
9 Regional Advisory Council has o 21(E) moose planning,
10 which Bob Aloysius is a member of, the moose planning
11 committee, and he's here to give you an update on that.

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

14
15 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, I was just
16 wondering if there was any updates for future plans or
17 the latest, as well, on central Kuskokwim, I understood
18 that they might be meeting here, too, or hope to meet
19 sometime in the near future.

20
21 MR. ROGERS: Mr. Chairman.

22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

24
25 MR. ROGERS: Yes, I had planned to give
26 an update on both the central Kuskokwim and the Unit
27 21(E) and try to stick with the details, I think, would
28 be of interest to this Council and make it fairly
29 brief, but it is a fairly detailed report, and so I
30 know, you know, that moose management is a big issue
31 but I don't want to take more of your time than you
32 really have available for it.

33
34 So if you'll indulge, I'll go ahead and
35 try to go through this, if I start taking more time
36 than you want to spend on this, I'd be happy to cut
37 off, but I'll go ahead and proceed to report.

38
39 To start with, I just want to thank the
40 YK-Delta Regional Council for involvement in these
41 moose planning efforts. In particular, right now, I'd
42 like to thank Bob Aloysius, James Charles and Greg
43 Roczicka for participating in the Unit 21(E) moose
44 planning effort. And Greg has participated in the
45 central Kuskokwim moose planning effort before he
46 joined this Council, so it's good that he's informed on
47 both of these efforts.

48
49 First, I'll try to give a quick update
50 on some things involving the Central Kuskokwim Moose

1 Management Plan. The goal of that plan is to rebuild
2 the moose population in Units 19(A) and (B). It's
3 being done by a combination of reducing harvest and
4 conducting an aerial wolf control program in Unit
5 19(A). The nonresident season was closed in Unit
6 19(A), the winter season for residents was closed in
7 19(A). There's a resident registration permit program,
8 which we've just talked about and it's designed to more
9 closely manage harvest and avoid the need for Tier II
10 permits.

11

12 Last winter was the first year of the
13 aerial wolf control program and we didn't succeed in
14 taking the number of the wolves we'd hoped for to
15 effectively control the level of predation on moose.

16

17 Last February we were finally able to
18 conduct a moose population estimation survey in Unit
19 19(A). The survey verified that the population is as
20 low or lower than members of the planning committee and
21 others had stated during the planning process. So
22 right now we're collecting data from the registration
23 permit hunt and we need to determine what the level of
24 harvest is and prepare to discuss whether any changes
25 are needed in harvest management system for the area.

26

27 At this point I have a little start to
28 remind people that we need to make sure to turn in
29 those registration permits, you know, as per the
30 discussion we just had.

31

32 We're working right now to try to
33 schedule a Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committee meeting
34 for early November. We've looked at possibly doing
35 that in Kalskag, I was just speaking with Bob over
36 lunch on that. We're planning, the Department of Fish
37 and Game and/or the Central Kuskokwim Advisory
38 Committee, will submit a proposal to the Board of Game
39 this year to continue the nonresident closure in 19(A).
40 Initially this nonresident closure was put in with a
41 one year sunset. Last year we went back before the
42 Board of Game and recommended reinstituting that. This
43 year we'll go back to do that again and unless we see a
44 change in the moose population, we really would prefer
45 to keep this permanent until there is a change.

46

47 I'd like to give thanks also to the
48 Kalskag Traditional Council for the great deal of help
49 they've provided in issuing the permits, the
50 registration permits. They've taken on a huge load

1 there, and, of course, you folks know many people from
2 this area and other villages that need to go up river
3 to get permits, they go to Kalskag to get them and
4 Kalskag has really been helpful there.

5
6 I'll move on to Unit 21(E). It started
7 off, this planning process, with focus just on Unit
8 21(E). When folks got together, people on the working
9 group said that Unit 21(A) up river, in the Innoko
10 River area is also very important for local subsistence
11 use and some of the nonlocal use of people who fly in
12 through McGrath to the upper Innoko River affect
13 subsistence use down river. So we included that
14 portion of 21(A) in the planning effort and so now
15 we're calling it the Yukon/Innoko Moose Management
16 Plan. I brought extra copies of a newsletter that we
17 have out. I know that at least a few of you on the
18 Council are on the mailing list for this but I've got
19 copies for everyone if you'd like one.

20
21 So far we've had three meetings of the
22 working group and we plan to have the fourth meeting
23 November 1 to 2 in Holy Cross. We have this newsletter
24 out, it outlines the draft recommendation and asks for
25 public comment. This newsletter was mailed to all
26 people who have registered to hunt in Units 21(E) or
27 (A) in the last couple years. So anyone in this area
28 who's hunted over there and has reported, submitted
29 their harvest ticket reporting there should be on our
30 mailing list, but we'd still like to get the word out
31 to anyone else who's interested.

32
33 The mission of the plan is as follows,
34 and I want to emphasize one word in it that's
35 particularly important and that word is, proactive, and
36 I'll give credit to Mr. Roczicka for inserting that.

37
38 The Mission.

39
40 Maintain healthy and abundant moose
41 populations by proactively managing
42 moose, predation and habitat and
43 keeping moose harvest within sustained
44 yield so that subsistence needs for
45 moose are met on an annual basis and
46 there's sufficient moose to provide for
47 personal and family use of Alaska
48 residents and some nonresident hunting
49 opportunity for generations to come.

50

1 In the first working group meeting, the
2 group identified the need for a new moose population
3 survey to have a basis to form their management
4 recommendations. ADF&G, alone, didn't have the funding
5 to do this survey but we were able to accomplish it
6 with the support from the Innoko Wildlife Refuge,
7 Bureau of Land Management, Tanana Chiefs Conference,
8 and AVCP. The survey didn't show a significant change
9 in the population since the last survey conducted in
10 2000. Still hunters in Unit 21(E) are concerned about
11 the possibility of increased predation, increased
12 numbers of hunters. The working group wanted to take a
13 conservative approach to prevent a major decline in the
14 moose population that would be very difficult to
15 recover from.

16
17 Some of the draft recommendations that
18 are outlined in this newsletter include, legalizing use
19 of snowmachines to hunt wolves, eliminate the \$25
20 resident tag fee for grizzly bears in Unit 21(E),
21 revise the Federal requirements for salvage of black
22 bears in Unit 21(E) to match State regulations and
23 provide additional opportunity for subsistence use of
24 black bears.

25
26 At present there's no major changes
27 proposed to the moose hunting regulations. There's an
28 alternative in the newsletter there to consider
29 reducing nonresident season by five days and/or
30 establish a nonresident drawing hunt.

31
32 There's an option to consider
33 establishing a resident season of December 1 to 10 for
34 antlered bulls only. That was an option that was
35 advocated by Tim Andrew of AVCP and if that has appeal
36 to folks here, commenting to the working group would be
37 helpful.

38
39 We, at this point, have not proposed
40 any changes to the current Federal winter season in
41 21(E), but the recommendation is to manage for a
42 harvest in the wintertime of no more than 20 to 40 cows
43 to maintain productivity of the moose population.
44 There is not a change at this time being recommended to
45 the Federal customary and traditional determination for
46 Unit 21(E). The working group has recommended
47 deferring action on this topic to cooperative efforts
48 of Tanana Chiefs, AVCP and then the recommendations of
49 the YK-Delta and Western Interior Councils.

50

1 Because the draft plan isn't
2 recommending major changes in moose hunting or
3 predation management at this time, we're trying to
4 define what kind of changes in the moose population
5 would require changes in management. For example, if
6 the moose population does decline there may be a need
7 to restrict or eliminate nonresident hunting. There's
8 the possibility of eliminating the Federal winter
9 season. And the possibility of developing a wold
10 predation control plan. On the other than, if the
11 population were to increase it might be possible to
12 increase the allowable harvest of cows and open a State
13 winter season.

14
15 So a lot of what the plan is trying to
16 do is maintain the good moose populations that are in
17 21(E) right now. Not allow them to decline, but at the
18 same time make sure that if changes occur, that there's
19 management provisions worked in to address those
20 changes when they come along.

21
22 And I'll leave it at that. If there's
23 any questions, comments I'd be happy to do what I can
24 to address those.

25
26 Thank you.

27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

29
30 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, I think I'll hold
31 off on my comments until we get to Holy Cross because,
32 you know, I have really strong feelings about that
33 winter hunt and I think I'll just say if there is going
34 to be a winter hunt, it should be restricted to the
35 residents of that area, 21(E), Aniak, Kalskag, lower
36 Kalskag and Russian Mission.

37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Other questions from
39 Council.

40
41 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

44
45 MS. HOFFMAN: More just a comment on
46 Bob's comment, in that, you'll probably get a lot of
47 comments from folks that traditionally hunt from this
48 area during that winter hunt.

49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: Pardon?

1 MS. HOFFMAN: You'll probably get
2 feedback at that Holy Cross meeting from people here in
3 Bethel that traditionally go on that winter hunt and
4 there's a handful of people but it is -- there are
5 those that do that.

6
7 MR. ALOYSIUS: We can address that
8 under the C&T.

9
10 MR. ROGERS: (Nods affirmatively)

11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think, me, myself,
13 I'm looking at working group 21(E) decision or
14 recommend they make, I don't agree with it. Because I
15 been hunting up there for almost 52 years. I'm not a
16 resident, only a newcomer or something in that area,
17 there's a lot of them, even people from Bethel area,
18 lower Yukon area, we feel that we are looked at like
19 outsider. And same thing that right now that you go to
20 21(E) you cannot and able to go out hunting on only
21 after 5th of September, now they want to move it up to
22 15 days after. I don't know how that thing is going to
23 be.

24
25 A lot of people are talking about it
26 from lower Yukon, that people go hunting up that area
27 and there's some people here from Bethel area, Native
28 people that go subsistence and have to wait so many
29 days and all that and so I don't know. I think they
30 should think about others that who need subsistence
31 hunting instead of waiting long time for they come up
32 there.

33
34 Greg.

35
36 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
37 And to speak to the winter hunt, and I only went to one
38 meeting because Bob couldn't make it so I got asked to
39 go his behalf, I've only been to one meeting I wasn't
40 in the discussions earlier.

41
42 But in the meeting we had in Anvik at
43 the end of July, early August, I could really
44 understand where those guys are coming from, they do
45 have a healthy population, their main concern is that
46 they want to keep it that way.

47
48 And as far as the winter hunt goes, you
49 mentioned that as a concern, well, we did talk about
50 that at length. And they're worried about, in times

1 past, where it did get to be caravans of snowmachines
2 coming over in the winter time from across down by
3 Bethel. And that is, it'd scare the hell out of me if
4 I lived over there too. But what we're looking at
5 here, to try to address that and provide that
6 additional opportunity and recognition of people from
7 the lower river, both Yukon and Kuskokwim, that have
8 gone over there was a winter hunt in December for
9 antlered bulls only to keep away from -- it was --
10 there was a concern over that, I think it was, what,
11 150 cows were taken one year it was estimated for one
12 of the winter hunts that promoted the closure to go to
13 the limited Federal hunt only.

14
15 So there's no changes being given to
16 the C&T and it's a bulls only hunt early in the season
17 when the bulls that are going to still have horns are
18 probably going to be the younger ones where you have,
19 you know, they're the ones that are more likely to die
20 off anyway and they're the ones that are going to be
21 retaining their horns later.

22
23 So that's always incorporated in there
24 and was talked about at length, but it's not the same
25 kind of open hunt that was there before by a long shot.

26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

28
29 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, I agree with
30 Beverly, Mr. Roczicka and yourself in not limiting the
31 people to hunt in that area because people from Bethel
32 go to that area to get their moose.

33
34 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

37
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. My
39 comments were only directed to the winter hunt. I have
40 no problem with the fall hunt, period.

41
42 MR. ROGERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. We
43 haven't recommended any drastic measures under the
44 State seasons that would -- you know, the State season
45 apply for all Alaska residents and so we really haven't
46 looked towards cutting back opportunity there and have
47 sort of just maintained the status quo where there's
48 differences between the State and Federal regulations.
49 And, of course, that's where the Federal customary and
50 traditional determination comes into distinguishing,

1 you know, who gets to hunt there and who doesn't. And,
2 you know, down the line there may be change to that.

3
4 What we've done is focus more on the
5 biological side saying that this is the number of cows
6 that could be harvested in the winter, we feel, and not
7 adversely impact the population. And, you know, again,
8 we're hoping that the plan and liberalizing some of the
9 wolf and bear regulations, being cautious about cow
10 harvest, we can keep the population steady or
11 increasing and, you know, we look towards the time when
12 we could reestablish a State winter season that, you
13 know, all Alaska residents would be eligible for.

14
15 But I would encourage you, that if
16 there are specific parts of this plan or
17 recommendations that individual members or the Council
18 as a whole doesn't like or does like, then go ahead and
19 submit some comments to the working group, make sure
20 that Bob or whoever represents you at the next meeting
21 is aware of those and they will be taken into
22 consideration.

23
24 You know, again, I do really appreciate
25 the fact that your Council has been involved in this,
26 you've given me the time to present an update on it and
27 I encourage you to just give us feedback on it if you
28 want to.

29
30 Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions
33 from Council.

34
35 (No comments)

36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

38
39 MR. ROGERS: Thank you.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think we'll continue
42 our meeting here on our agenda. Next on our agenda, D,
43 Association of Village Council Presidents.

44
45 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

48
49 MR. L. WILDE: There's one more item
50 under Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the update on

1 the control-zone area, the proposal. I requested that
2 be discussed or the update be brought up under this
3 Item C, yesterday; is that possible?

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

6

7 MR. ROCZICKA: Before he starts, Mr.
8 Chairman, I had requested immediately following that
9 that we look at all the State proposals that were
10 affecting GMU 18 or the YK region.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The reason I try to
13 follow this agenda, if it'd be written down, it's not
14 written down here.

15

16 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, but the
17 control zone update, that was written down.

18

19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, go ahead.

20

21 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman, I was going
22 to ask at this time if -- my request was going to be
23 similar to Greg's, if the Committee wanted to talk
24 about Board of Game proposals at this time.

25

26 One of the proposals that I was
27 prepared to talk about is it's Proposal -- I have to
28 look real quick.

29

30 MR. ROCZICKA: Point of order, Mr.
31 Chairman. When I made that request we were told that
32 that would be included, that the Board of Game
33 proposals were going to be included in the Department's
34 report, so, yeah, I'd like to hear more on it.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So look like when they
37 approved this agenda they included control use area,
38 here, local -- yeah, go ahead.

39

40 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman, we have a
41 proposal packet of the proposals that have been
42 submitted that will be at the fall Board of Game
43 meeting in Kotzebue November 11th. The proposal that
44 addresses the controlled use area on the lower part of
45 the Yukon is Proposal 9 and Alex is passing those out
46 right now. I think those are on Page 2.

47

48 This proposal should be fairly familiar
49 to the committee her. The name of the two entities
50 that have their name on this proposal are both Harry

1 Wilde and the lower Yukon Advisory Committee. So this
2 proposal is coauthored by those two.

3
4 Essentially what the issue is is asking
5 for the establishment of a controlled use area on the
6 lower part of the Yukon and during the moose season. I
7 don't know, do you want to take a few minutes and look
8 this over, Harry, or what's the preference of the Board
9 here. I think all of you have seen it before. I'm
10 prepared to answer questions about it but I don't have
11 a lot prepared to present since it's something that
12 you're all fairly familiar with.

13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What's desire of
15 Council.

16
17 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
18 The reason I wanted some of these proposals
19 specifically to be a topic of discussion for this
20 Council, there's this proposal but also No.s 19 and 20
21 and I see them all so interrelated, and -- well, I'll
22 just go ahead and toss out the concerns that I have
23 here and that were brought forward to me and have seen
24 in other areas.

25
26 16 and 19 are both from the Lower Yukon
27 Advisory Committee and the Department, and that's the
28 one to establish a published 20 day season.

29
30 And then No. 20 is that including the
31 calf as a legal moose to take.

32
33 And then the other with the having a
34 no-fly zone.

35
36 It depends on what happens with 16, 19
37 and 20 on how I'd feel about No. 9 on prohibiting a
38 no-fly zone. And the reason I say that is because 16
39 and 19, when you have a published season, and this
40 happened up, I believe it was the Noatak area, GMU
41 Management 23, when they published a season within two
42 years they had people flying in with airplanes from all
43 over the state to participate in that winter hunt. And
44 their harvestable surplus was hammered and they ended
45 up, I believe, having to take it off the books as a
46 result of that.

47
48 And I wanted that out on the table for
49 people to consider. I know it did come from the
50 Advisory Committee, but it's something to consider when

1 you put it in there, once you have a published hunt
2 that's in the books that people can plan long range
3 for, whereas when you have an emergency ordered hunt,
4 that essentially is only giving notice within the local
5 region, people locally can respond to that and take
6 advantage of it, much more so than people who have to
7 plan vacation times around it months in advance.

8

9 (Pause)

10

11 MR. PERRY: The other proposal that
12 fits in there Greg is Proposal 4, so both 4, 16, 19 and
13 20 all involve a set winter season, and two of those
14 involve a calf hunt in the lowest Yukon area just below
15 Mountain Village. An area that I talked about a little
16 bit earlier today with a rapidly increasing moose
17 population.

18

19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

20

21 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman. The
22 question I wanted to know is how far this proposal on
23 the controlled zone area in the lower Yukon has gone,
24 has this proposal -- this proposal now is being
25 submitted to the Board of Game; is that right?

26

27 MR. PERRY: Yes. Mr. Chairman. Mr.
28 Wilde. Yes, this Board -- or this proposal is in the
29 Board packet for the meeting that will occur on
30 November 11th in Kotzebue. It's Proposal 9 so it will
31 be addressed at the Kotzebue meeting.

32

33 All of these proposals in here that
34 Alex handed out, those are in the proposal book, they
35 will be addressed at the meeting. And I guess I would
36 request from the RAC here to make recommendations on
37 all of them, most of them pertain to -- no, about half
38 of them involve moose but there are several other ones
39 that involve a wolf season and a couple trapping
40 seasons.

41

42 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, that
43 answers the question I had concerning this controlled-
44 zone area. Because we were having problems as the
45 Advisory Council, Federal Subsistence Advisory Council
46 with this one particular proposal but now that I see
47 it's going forward under the State, Fish and Game
48 proposals, then that satisfies my curiosity.

49

50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So right now these are
2 not forward or presented or talk about it in Kotzebue,
3 this whole paper here?

4
5 MR. PERRY: (Nods affirmatively)

6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So mean time, this
8 Council they know about it, what it's going to be, but
9 we never present it to the Board yet, at least, but we
10 -- I went down to Kotlik when Advisory, State Advisory
11 Council meeting, I had to go down there and present
12 them that -- especially lower Yukon controlled use
13 area. Because at the time in Toksook Bay, they were
14 supporting it, so I had to go down there and get more
15 support from the local State Advisory Committee. But I
16 see that they never present it to Council yet; is that
17 right?

18
19 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman. Yeah, this
20 proposal is a direct result of the meeting you're
21 talking about in Kotlik. It was talked about there and
22 the proposal was generated at that meeting and was put
23 into the Board book in August. So this is a result of
24 you going to that meeting and discussing the issue.

25
26 I guess I'm a little fuzzy on what the
27 second part of your question was.

28
29 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

32
33 MR. L. WILDE: My main concern was that
34 that proposal didn't die and fly away to where it
35 wasn't going to be retrieved again. But as long as I
36 see it's going forward, that was the main thing.

37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So the Council will
39 know now that they will be forwarded -- the State Board
40 of Fishery will talk about it at Kotzebue. The Lower
41 Yukon Advisory Council, they know what that controlled
42 use area that we're talking about.

43
44 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

47
48 MS. HOFFMAN: I just want to ask,
49 Phillip, has there been an effort made because there's
50 only handful of people that use aircraft, that qualify

1 for a Federal subsistence -- -- you know, that are
2 Federally subsistence users, you know, that qualify
3 under that program, there's only a handful and most of
4 them reside here. Is there an effort made to inform
5 them of this proposal for their comments or is it just
6 public knowledge and they're supposed to know about it?

7
8 MR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman. Bev, I guess
9 there hasn't been any special efforts made to inform
10 the public in Bethel beyond the normal what we do with
11 advertising with the Board of Game meeting and
12 proposals have been put out. So I guess that's the
13 short answer.

14
15 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.

16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: James.

18
19 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
20 Those proposals are already in the State proposal book
21 for review and Lower Kuskokwim Advisory Committee is
22 going to meet here in Bethel, I think it's going to be
23 on the 25th to review these game proposals and we are
24 planning to have a meeting here in Bethel and review
25 the proposals.

26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.

28
29 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30 One of the proposals is your proposal, Mr. Chair, and
31 also Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee's
32 proposal. I believe Proposal 9 is your proposal and
33 Proposal -- and there's another proposal, Proposal 45
34 from Goodnews for another controlled use area. They
35 faxed us a request for your support. They needed your
36 support when this comes up, so it's up to you how you
37 want to support their proposal, it's Proposal 45. What
38 Goodnews proposal is asking for is controlled use area,
39 I believe, they wanted to limit the outboard motors to
40 40 horsepower in Goodnews River. And they requested
41 support from this Council, it's up to the Council what
42 you want to do.

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

45
46 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
47 From prior experience I can tell you the Department of
48 Law is going to have a comment in the book about
49 Proposal No. 45 and say the Board has no authority to
50 act to grant the request.

1 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.
4
5 MS. HOFFMAN: And I don't know what our
6 time table is, you know, and how quickly we need to
7 move forward with the rest of the agenda so I guess I
8 would like some closure here.
9
10 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.
13
14 MR. L. WILDE: We seem to be slowing
15 down, bogged down a little bit and I think it's about
16 time for a 10 or 15 minute break to revive ourselves
17 and get back to work.
18
19 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.
22
23 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, I was concerned
24 that there wasn't going to be any formal meetings by an
25 agency, what James just mentioned as far as the lower
26 Kuskokwim meeting next week, I believe it is, I hadn't
27 been informed of that as yet. In the absence or not
28 knowing that, I was hoping to get some kind of a
29 discussion that I could carry forward when I go to the
30 Board. I did have ONC Subsistence Committee, which was
31 advertised and put out and we took action on the
32 various proposals through our Council. But I was
33 looking to get some more feedback and some more input
34 to bring forward but with the lower Kuskokwim and
35 you're looking -- bound for time, I won't press the
36 issue unless anybody feels strongly, differently that
37 we address the proposals through this Council as they
38 are State proposals in State jurisdiction.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Let's take 10 minutes
41 break.
42
43 (Off record)
44
45 (On record)
46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We will go back to our
48 meeting and go back and continue our agenda, No. D,
49 Association of Village Council Presidents.
50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, Bob.

4

5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Before you get into
6 that, I would really appreciate it when people give us
7 information that they tell us what we're supposed to do
8 with it. Are we supposed to review it, act on it,
9 support it or reject it. It's very confusing when
10 nobody knows what we're supposed to do with all these
11 packets, you know, I mean, me, and there's a lot of
12 confusion about, well, we're going to do this, we're
13 going to do that and there's no direction. We were
14 never given any instructions on why these proposals
15 were presented to us. Were they give to us for
16 support, to review, or what, you know, that's the thing
17 that's very confusing to me.

18

19 And I would appreciate it if the
20 leadership would take it upon themselves to say, okay,
21 why are you bringing these here because, you know,
22 we'll go around and around and around and never get
23 anywhere. So I'd appreciate it if we have something
24 that was given to us that's not on the agenda to
25 explain why it's given to us.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

30

31 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
32 Members of the Regional Council. For the record my
33 name is Timothy Andrew. I'm the director of natural
34 resources for the Association of Village Council
35 Presidents.

36

37 And I haven't really had the
38 opportunity to meet with Myron to see what he presented
39 at the -- or his presentation yesterday. But what I
40 plan to do is just basically really quickly go through
41 the outline that he provided you yesterday.

42

43 Alex is passing out two documents. One
44 is a flier from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.
45 It is this one here and it talks about the different
46 issue surrounding the H5N1 Avian flu virus and the
47 recommendations on how to address these issues as
48 people are out hunting or perhaps processing game, and
49 it also has some -- a little bit of historical
50 perspective on the H5N1 Avian flu virus.

1 During these past few years there's
2 been some research conducted within the area. I
3 believe it was conducted by Fish and Wildlife Service,
4 University of Alaska, Homeland Security and perhaps
5 other agencies were out testing birds this past summer
6 as a result of concern for the spread of this virus to
7 some of our wildlife populations or migratory birds
8 within the area.

9
10 It is currently in domestic poultry and
11 according to some news coverage the virus had decimated
12 quite a population of geese and sea gulls within the
13 western shores of China this past summer. And
14 currently the spread to humans is pretty limited.
15 There's been probably about 250 cases within the Asian
16 portion of the world and apparently there's probably
17 about 50 to 60 percent human mortality as a result of
18 this H5N1 spread being spread to humans.

19
20 One of the reasons why we're really
21 concerned about this H5N1 Avian flu virus is because 80
22 percent of the geese in the spring time is harvested by
23 people in the YK-Delta. 80 percent of the statewide
24 good harvest is harvested by people in this area. We
25 also take 43 percent of the statewide spring
26 subsistence harvest of migratory birds. So it's a
27 relatively high harvest that we take of migratory birds
28 and the people processing and consuming the birds is
29 also one of the reasons why we have concern about this
30 virus. And it's been traditionally -- or traditionally
31 in some of the (In Yup'ik) drives within the area,
32 people, once they complete the drive they take the
33 birds, ducks or geese or whatever it might be, take it
34 and stick it in hot water, pull it out and then eat it
35 with seal oil, and it's not completely done, it's not
36 completely boiled or processed completely. And the
37 other reason is -- and a lot of our people pluck the
38 geese -- or the migratory birds, they clean them out
39 with their bare hands and what not and then it really
40 makes people highly susceptible to perhaps contracting
41 the virus if some of our migratory birds were infected
42 with the virus.

43
44 In the current news, there's been a
45 confirmation from the CNN and various news sources, in
46 fact it was just covered this morning in the Anchorage
47 Daily News that the Avian flu virus was confirmed in
48 the die-off in some of the poultry in Turkey. The
49 other thing that really scares us is that right along
50 with our northern latitudes, our neighbor to the west

1 here in one of the areas of Siberia, July 30th, that
2 the Avian flu virus was detected in some of the birds
3 there, killing off a number of chickens within that
4 area.

5
6 In response to the potential threat of
7 the Avian flu virus infecting our migratory birds and
8 also our people within the area, AVCP adopted a
9 resolution or the executive board adopted a resolution
10 and addressed some of the issues that are outlined in
11 the whereas clauses and encouraged the different
12 research agencies and the health corporations and
13 various health agencies across the nation to coordinate
14 with us and with different agencies within the area to
15 develop ways to quarantine -- or develop quarantine
16 measures in perhaps a worse case scenario, if the H5N1
17 virus were to spread to human beings.

18
19 We've taken the lead and submitted this
20 resolution to the annual convention of the Alaska
21 Federation of Natives which is going to be held in
22 Fairbanks, and you'll see a draft resolution on the
23 following page of this here that's been handed out.
24 There is no action requested by AVCP for the RAC at
25 this time, or for your organization at this time, this
26 is just purely informational

27
28 And in the Convention -- I'll go on to
29 the other current migratory bird issues. At this
30 Convention, the Convention fully adopted and endorsed
31 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Goose Management plan. I
32 know the bird issues aren't what you normally work with
33 but the Convention had authorized Myron Naneng, the
34 Chairman and President of AVCP to sign the Yukon-
35 Kuskokwim Delta Goose Management plan. This plan has
36 been in effect since 1984 and has been revised and
37 addressed some of the conservation issues of the brandt
38 and the cacklers, and some of the other birds that are
39 currently in conservation -- that currently have
40 conservation concern.

41
42 The other issue that we had found out
43 in the September meeting of the Alaska Migratory Bird
44 Co-Management Council was that the subsistence hunters
45 in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta are considered
46 sporthunters during the September migratory bird hunt.
47 And the numbers that are reported are reported under
48 sportharvest. So we are currently trying to make a
49 change to make sure that the subsistence hunters are
50 classified as subsistence hunters even within the fall

1 season. And I do believe that the subsistence hunters
2 are still considered subsistence hunters in the
3 protocol amendments that have occurred in 1998, I
4 believe it was.

5
6 The WCC endorsed the closures of the
7 brandt colonies and have put it in through proposal,
8 it's been adopted. The other thing that some of the
9 villages are doing within the area, as Mike had
10 reported earlier, was that monitors are being done in
11 Hooper Bay to protect the brandt colonies and we've
12 seen -- we've obviously seen the benefits of that and
13 commendation to the community of Hooper Bay for taking
14 the lead in doing these conservation measures to
15 protect the brandt colonies within close proximity of
16 that community.

17
18 We are also taking the lead in the duck
19 stamp and State hunting license requirement for the
20 spring migratory bird hunt. The Federal and State
21 representatives to the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-
22 Management Council have expressed that it is a
23 requirement that subsistence hunters buy a Federal and
24 State duck stamp and also a hunting license for the
25 spring migratory bird hunt. We are currently in
26 opposition to that and the Alaska Federation of Natives
27 is currently contributing some of their resources to
28 try and address this issue.

29
30 The Unit 21(E) and 19 moose issues have
31 been addressed by the Alaska Department of Fish and
32 Game. We have participated in all of the -- in most of
33 the meetings that have occurred within the 21(E) moose
34 issues, the 19 issues as well, either myself or
35 Jennifer Hooper. The only thing that I have to point
36 out is that our working relationship with the Tanana
37 Chiefs Conference in trying to achieve an understanding
38 between each other, we've had limited dialogue as far
39 as proceeding to the direction of trying to recognize
40 some of our Unit 18 villages in the 21(E) moose hunt.
41 And hopefully within the next few months, Mike Smith
42 and I, along with a few others will try and work to try
43 and resolve the C&T issue.

44
45 We do have a concern about the
46 harvestable surplus within 21(E). There is a
47 substantial harvestable surplus that has been
48 identified in the area. We have been recognized in the
49 amounts needed for subsistence in the area, but it's
50 not codified, but for discussion purposes only.

1 And as mentioned earlier by Rich, we
2 have our Yukon River and Kuskokwim River biologist
3 positions filled, David Waltemyer and Eva Patton who
4 you have met earlier. They are extremely energetic and
5 wanting to work with the villages, so I encourage you
6 to tell your villages and people in your villages to
7 give us a call if you have any fishery-related research
8 proposals that you may want to address within the area
9 and work with them and they are fully -- I mean they're
10 ready to go, they're looking for work to do within the
11 area.

12
13 The other issue that has been presented
14 in the AVCP Convention was the tribal conservation
15 district. In fact, there was a resolution that was
16 adopted by the Convention and what these tribal
17 conservation districts would do would be -- they'd work
18 as an avenue to receive money from the USDA NRCS
19 office, the Natural Resource Conservation Service
20 office for tribal conservation district within the
21 area.

22
23 Some of the ways that the tribal
24 conservation districts have utilized the NRCS and USDA
25 is the private wildlife -- private lands wildlife
26 management program. And the only tribal conservation
27 district that was developed in Alaska was Tyonek and
28 they have utilized USDA to receive these private
29 wildlife management programs for their community
30 through cooperation with their village corporations and
31 their tribal councils.

32
33 The Donlin Creek Mine. On the issue of
34 the Donlin Creek Mine, the Convention has not taken a
35 position on this issue yet and they have deferred major
36 discussions about the Donlin Creek Mine and the Senate
37 Bill 40 to a special convention which would probably
38 occur some time in March in which they may take a
39 position on these two issues.

40
41 Mr. Chairman, I believe that concludes
42 my report and I'd be happy to answer any questions.

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

45
46 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
47 Thanks Tim. Just a little comment here on your -- you
48 guys had the briefing paper, you can also include under
49 your Unit 19 moose issues, you have -- in 21(E) you
50 mentioned about the State's amounts necessary being

1 included, Unit 18 villages being included in that,
2 that's also the case for Unit 19, I know you're aware,
3 it's probably just an oversight.

4
5 But I did want to ask you, I mean I
6 know you and Mike got both plates and half the table
7 full that you're trying to take bites out of as you
8 address things and so on, but I wondered if it was on
9 your radar regarding the statewide Board of Game call
10 for proposals that does open up for the first time, or
11 the only time in four years on possibly redescribing a
12 game management unit that I know was one of the items
13 that you guys had discussed is a possible option
14 regarding that C&T issue between 21(E) and 18, and just
15 in case the -- maybe it escaped you with everything
16 else, like I say I know you're doing 50 different
17 things at once.

18
19 MR. ANDREW: Mike and I have had
20 limited dialogue as I said. We haven't had the
21 opportunity to sit down formally to talk about some of
22 the C&T issues in 21(E). We've talked about, perhaps,
23 taking a small portion of 21(E) and perhaps
24 transferring it to Unit 18, that type of thing. But
25 nothing has -- we haven't gotten down to any type of
26 agreement yet.

27
28 MR. ROCZICKA: Well, again, the reason
29 I mentioned that is the proposal deadline, and you only
30 get to address it every four years under the statewide
31 proposal, the deadline on that is November 18th.

32
33 MR. ANDREW: Thank you.

34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

36
37 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair. I just wanted
38 to thank AVCP for this report to our Council and
39 support your efforts in putting the resolutions
40 together on the concerns about the Avian flu virus and
41 also hope that you attend our meetings in Emmonak also.
42 I think that it's important to have us working on these
43 issues together.

44
45 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. Beverly.
46 Thank you. And this past year we have -- there's just
47 only two of us in the office and unfortunately we get
48 called to different places and different meetings and
49 sometimes we have to sit down and prioritize, okay,
50 need to go to this, need to go that and unfortunately

1 this past year, the RAC meeting that was held in
2 Toksook Bay conflicted with some of the extremely
3 pressing issues that we had to face, I can't quite
4 remember what it was.

5
6 Mr. Chairman, if I may, I just realized
7 I put a star on another issue that I forgot to mention,
8 if I may.

9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (Nods affirmatively)

11
12 MR. ANDREW: The AVCP Convention had
13 adopted a number of resolutions that addresses some of
14 our subsistence issues within the area, Resolution
15 051011 was in support of the Kuskokwim Interim
16 Watershed Council. This council in which Greg had
17 taken a major part in and Jennifer Hooper had taken a
18 major part in, addresses some of the watershed issues
19 within the Kuskokwim River, it covers, I believe 29
20 villages, from the headwaters all the way down to the
21 coastal communities, and it's designed to protect the
22 water resources and also the subsistence element within
23 the watershed area as well.

24
25 The other resolution that was adopted
26 was Resolution 051012 and it's encouraging Federal
27 Subsistence Board to adopt measures to exclude bays
28 from State jurisdiction, and which you had an
29 opportunity to talk about earlier with -- I'm sorry, I
30 can't remember her name.

31
32 MR. RIVARD: Ann Wilkinson.

33
34 MR. ANDREW: Ann earlier. And this is
35 something that Eric Johnson has been working on for a
36 number of years and unfortunately he had passed on
37 before completing his work there.

38
39 Resolution 051013 was an ONC
40 resolution, or an ONC sponsored resolution in which it
41 asked for support of the State administration to
42 rebuild, maintain and enhance Alaska's moose population
43 opposition to initiatives preempting effective
44 management actions to provide for reasonable
45 subsistence opportunity. And this resolution basically
46 encourages the State administration, the Governor's
47 office to -- well, to do exactly that, to rebuild,
48 maintain and enhance and Greg has a lot of knowledge
49 about this.

50

1 Resolution 051014 requesting the Alaska
2 Department of Fish and Game to improve their salmon
3 enumeration projects and this resolution was sponsored
4 by the Scammon Bay Traditional Council. And this asks
5 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to improve their
6 Pilot Station sonar project, if that's the sonar
7 project that they rely on -- or if that's the project
8 they rely on to open up the commercial fishery on the
9 lower Yukon area or perhaps the test fishing sites as
10 well. I know this has been a pretty contentious issue
11 this past summer during the subsistence and commercial
12 chinook fishery on the Yukon River.

13
14 As I mentioned earlier, Resolution
15 051015 was adopted to -- for the adoption of the Yukon-
16 Kuskokwim Delta Goose Management Plan, and this
17 resolution formerly charges President Naneng to sign
18 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Goose Management Plan on
19 behalf of the villages.

20
21 Resolution 051016 is a resolution to
22 support tribal conservation districts.

23
24 Resolution 051017 is a resolution or
25 was adopted by the Convention -- it's a resolution in
26 opposition to proposed Secretary of instruction to the
27 Federal Subsistence Management Program. And this is in
28 response to a white paper that was submitted by the
29 State of Alaska which the State encouraged the Federal
30 Subsistence Management Program to adopt to the ways
31 that -- to -- in ways that would be to their benefit.

32
33 The other resolution was 061018 Alaska
34 Coastal Management Program, subsistence provisions.
35 This was submitted by the coastal resource area. It
36 just basically wants to reinstate some of the
37 subsistence protections within the Coastal Zone
38 Management Program.

39
40 And, Mr. Chairman, that concludes my
41 presentation.

42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, I have a question.
46 When you guys deal with the resolutions, has anybody
47 ever brought up the point of how the State of Alaska
48 has funded so many hatcheries that has totally
49 decimated our chum harvest for this area?

50

1 MR. ANDREW: There are some proposals
2 or there have been a number of proposals submitted by
3 different areas and also in which we supported to
4 decrease the amount of chums that the State produced in
5 their hatcheries in Prince William Sound and also
6 Southeast Alaska to address exactly that. And also to
7 address the competing -- the competition for food
8 sources, you know, within the ocean feeding environment
9 of our chum salmon. And also there was a proposal to
10 try and limit the Japan production, the Hokido (sp)
11 production of hatchery chums to decrease the
12 competition for food sources in the ocean.

13

14 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions to
17 Tim. These resolutions are -- you want us to support
18 or just information?

19

20 MR. ANDREW: It is basically just
21 information to the Regional Advisory Council. Notifying
22 you that the Convention did adopt these resolutions.
23 The AFN resolution is just purely draft, it is going to
24 be considered at the AFN Convention in Fairbanks.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council do you have a
27 question or comment to Tim.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If there's not, okay,
32 thank you.

33

34 MR. ANDREW: Okay, thank you, Mr.
35 Chairman.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We will continue our
38 agenda, tribal representatives, Bill Alstrom.

39

40 MR. ALSTROM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
41 Council members. For the record my name is Bill
42 Alstrom. I represent the Yukon Drainage Fisheries
43 Association on the lower Yukon side. I sit as co-
44 Chair.

45

46 First of all I'd like to thank the
47 members of this Council for inviting our organization
48 to sit in on your meeting.

49

50 For your information we will be holding

1 our fall board meeting at the end of this month on the
2 26th, 27th, and 28th of October over in Anchorage. And
3 many of the proposals that were discussed here will
4 also be discussed at our board meeting, specifically,
5 mostly on the Yukon issues. Our organization
6 represents fishers from the entire Yukon River drainage
7 from the coastal areas all the way up to the Canadian
8 border. So we have at least three RACs, the Eastern
9 Interior, the Western Interior and the Yukon-Kuskokwim
10 RACs that are represented also by users of the salmon
11 resource on this organization. So our issues get a
12 little more complex with all these different RACs
13 discussing proposals and issues that affect the users
14 of the Yukon.

15
16 So we would like to work together with
17 the different regional -- Federal regional Councils and
18 also AVCP and to be supportive of positive fishery
19 changes that affect the Yukon and try to solve problems
20 river-wide on the Yukon River.

21
22 I just wanted to inform you about our
23 upcoming fall board meeting.

24
25 And I would like to address another
26 issue and this pertains to the Y2 of the lower Yukon
27 fishery and I'd like to address this as a subsistence
28 users and also on that, specifically, the St. Mary's
29 Pitka's Point area in the Y2 area, concerning this year
30 that's been on the minds of -- I also -- before I say
31 that I also got representatives here from the tribal
32 Council of St. Mary's, Yupit of Andreafsky, St. Mary's
33 and Pitka's Point Traditional Council. And recently in
34 the past -- I'd say in the past maybe five years or so
35 we've been having an individual and maybe some of his
36 cohorts that are coming into that area of our Y2 region
37 during the subsistence fishery before the commercial
38 fishery opens that are -- we've seen this on a yearly
39 basis, these individuals coming out there as outsiders
40 and I believe they are out of the city of Anchorage,
41 they are not residents of our area and they've been
42 taking subsistence caught fish and shipping them out of
43 St. Mary's into Anchorage and God knows where. And the
44 amount of fish they take out of our subsistence fishery
45 is humongous. We've seen totes, they're not the big
46 sized totes that we usually unload our fish in but the
47 cooler type containers that are shipped out during our
48 subsistence fisheries in the early part of June.

49
50 And it is our understanding that the

1 Fish and Game, I think the Alaska State Fish and Game
2 enforcement agency are looking into this but so far we
3 haven't heard an update on what's the results of their
4 investigation. But we, as subsistence fishermen on the
5 Y2, that area, would like this Regional Council to be
6 aware of this operation that's been going on. And it
7 seems like we see it expanding, getting bigger every
8 year.

9
10 In the past couple years it was just a
11 small operation and last summer they came out with a
12 pretty good sized boat and seems like they were about
13 -- not only this individual but about four or five
14 other people that are not residents of the villages
15 there. And we're just concerned that they're using the
16 subsistence fishery, we don't know what they're doing,
17 they go into Anchorage, the containers go into
18 Anchorage and from there we lose track of them. And
19 we, as subsistence on the river banks there, on the
20 Yukon, every one of us watch them, you know, they're
21 out there during these windows openings, two 36 hour
22 periods per week fishing day and night, targeting
23 chinook, and we don't know what they do with the
24 nonsalmon species or the chums. But it's been observed
25 by some users in that certain area that they've been
26 chucking the carcasses of these nonsalmon and most
27 likely summer chums overboard and just utilizing the
28 chinook. And they got their own little operation there
29 where they -- as soon as they take the fish out of
30 their nets, they head and gut them and bleed them, and
31 where they ship them over in Anchorage we don't know.
32 Like I said before, we think -- we've been informed
33 that the enforcement agency of the State are looking
34 into this but they haven't come up with any -- or we
35 haven't heard of any results from the State.

36
37 And with the amount of subsistence
38 caught fish that are going out of this area, because
39 there is documentation of the amount of poundage that
40 flies out on the cargo, cargo airlines -- specifically
41 Northern Air Cargo, that these amounts are into the
42 hundreds, if not, thousands of pounds that these
43 subsistence caught fish are being flown out. And we
44 are concerned that there are some kind of loopholes or,
45 you know, cracks that these certain individuals, they
46 seem to be legal, and, you know, this is really
47 detrimental to our subsistence fisheries with the
48 amount of subsistence fish that are going out of this
49 area, it'd detrimental, we think to our -- this affects
50 our commercial fisheries.

1 So we're just wondering if any of the
2 Federal or State agencies can look into this to see if
3 there's -- what, you know, what sort of regulations
4 that -- I know there's regulations out there that
5 addresses that only residents of the area are allowed
6 to fish for this subsistence fish that we go after for
7 our needs.

8
9 So I just wanted to make the RAC in
10 this area aware of that problem that we're having out
11 there.

12
13 Thank you.

14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

16
17 MS. HOFFMAN: I guess I just wanted to
18 ask our Fish and Game reps here if they're aware of
19 that and also in documenting this, has there been video
20 documentation or anything like that done by your group
21 of this type of activity, and also ask -- I know John
22 Linderman is here -- or ask Fish and Game if they know
23 about this?

24
25 Have you documented it on video or
26 anything like that, this type of activity?

27
28 MR. ALSTROM: Well, I'm not aware of
29 any documentation but we did speak Mike Rearden and he
30 informed me that the enforcement agency, I don't know
31 which, probably Alaska State Troopers are the
32 enforcement -- maybe the enforcement agencies of the
33 Alaska Department of Fish and Game are investigating
34 this but maybe this gentleman here can give me a more
35 specific answer.

36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Say your name.

38
39 MR. LINDERMAN: Mr. Chair. Council
40 members. My name is John Linderman. I'm the Kuskokwim
41 area management biologist for the Alaska Department of
42 Fish and Game. I can't give you a direct answer in
43 regards to this. As I understand you say that a State
44 agency or Alaska Department of Fish and Game is looking
45 into this situation currently. I don't know the
46 details of the situation. It is under State law, it is
47 my understanding, that all residents of the State of
48 Alaska are allowed to subsistence fish. Now, how that
49 reflects in regards to Federal regulations of being
50 Federally-qualified for subsistence use in Federal

1 waters, I can't give a direct answer to that question
2 at this moment.

3
4 It is something that can be looked into
5 but again the Yukon, and if this is occurring on the
6 Yukon, somebody from the Yukon would be better suited
7 to respond to this situation.

8
9 So I apologize that I can't give a more
10 detailed answer at this time. But it is something that
11 -- it sounds like it is being looked into. Other than
12 that, I can't say any more.

13
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob. Okay. (In
17 Yup'ik)

18
19 MR. MOSES: As I was listening it's my
20 mind that even though I am not from that area because
21 the Yup'ik people, the Yukon are trying to subsist and
22 our ancestors -- and they would allow fishing even
23 people from other regions and they would share the
24 resources. But the people of the Yukon -- maybe you
25 need to ask Fish and Game, that how are the people on
26 the Yukon -- maybe you need to ask the people on the
27 Yukon -- they need to ask the residents before they can
28 come from elsewhere in the state to fish, that they
29 should ask permission from the people of the Yukon to
30 come and fish.

31
32 I heard earlier about the Federal and
33 State jurisdictions. If those people from the Yukon
34 don't want others to come to their rivers to fish, I
35 think the Federal and State authorities need to listen
36 to the people of the Yukon. And there are more salmon
37 in other regions in the state where they commercial
38 fish for salmon as well. So the Department of Fish and
39 Game should respect the wishes of the Yukon people.
40 They are the original gathers, fishermen of that
41 resource.

42
43 That is my thought.

44
45 Should people from outside come to
46 harvest fish and send it out -- send them out, as I was
47 thinking I don't think the people on the Yukon
48 appreciate outsiders coming in and harvesting all this
49 fish without even asking permission.

50

1 And that is my comment even though I am
2 not from that area. And the Yukon and Kuskokwim have
3 original inhabitants that live and survive and fish off
4 the rivers and the land. So if the Yukon people are
5 saying they don't want outsiders coming into harvest
6 their resources, you should respect their wishes.

7
8 That's all, thank you.

9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

11
12 MR. LINDERMAN: Mr. Chair. Council
13 members. After further clarification, talking to
14 Federal colleagues here, under State law it is legal
15 for all State residents from Alaska to take subsistence
16 caught fish. The only time where Federal regulations
17 would trump that is in times of shortage.

18
19 In this case, again, I don't know the
20 specifics in regards to the situation Mr. Alstrom
21 speaks of, but on the surface it would appear that if
22 there was no shortage, if there as not a low run
23 abundance of any kind occurring in this area, then I
24 suspect that it was not illegal, what these individuals
25 were doing, again, that's saying that without knowing
26 the details of this situation. In a time of shortage
27 then there would be recourse for the Federal government
28 to step in and restrict it to Federally-qualified
29 individuals. At least that's my understanding.

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bill.

34
35 MR. ALSTROM: Mr. Chair. Okay, what
36 we're concerned about is the local residents there, is
37 the huge amount of fish that are going out of that area
38 when all the local residents there are all done with
39 their subsistence fisheries, already their racks are
40 filled up and they're smoked and they're all done with
41 their subsistence fishing there and these people are
42 still going full bore using this window operation,
43 these two 36 hour openings and continuing fishing
44 through the whole 36 hours. Obviously there's
45 something going on.

46
47 And what we're concerned about that
48 this might start a precedent of other people coming in
49 from out of our area, out of the villages and starting
50 an operation like this.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tim.

4

5 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
6 We were made aware of this situation that was
7 occurring down around St. Mary's Pitka's Point area,
8 and we share the same concern as Bill because this may
9 potentially open -- make the subsistence fishery on the
10 Yukon River wide open to that type of abuse.

11

12 I do believe it's an abuse of our
13 subsistence opportunity and also abuse of the
14 subsistence priority as well. And if this practice
15 were to continue it would decimate our subsistence way
16 of life because people from Anchorage, people from
17 Fairbanks, people from Juneau or other nonsubsistence
18 regs can come in to the Yukon River and fish in
19 subsistence areas and just totally wipe out the
20 subsistence way of life for our people out here as well
21 as the entire Yukon or perhaps the Kuskokwim River.

22

23 It's a concern that we should be
24 looking at to be making changes in Federal regulation,
25 perhaps State regulations if that's at all possible, to
26 avoid this type of situation from occurring.

27

28 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

29

30 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

33

34 MS. GREGORY: I'd like to hear from the
35 representatives of Andreafsky and Pitka's Point.

36

37 (In Yup'ik)

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: John.

40

41 MR. RILEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
42 want to follow up on what William Alstrom said.

43

44 I have a fish camp right across this
45 gentleman taking subsistence fish away.....

46

47 MR. RIVARD: State your name please.

48

49 MR. RILEY: John Riley, Sr., from
50 Pitka's Point, commercial fisherman and subsistence

1 user and vice-President and Traditional Councilman.

2

3 I have a fish camp right across this
4 gentleman, where he has fish camp. All day long I here
5 a generator going and doing our commercial fishing, he
6 has a big boat and I haven't seen him catch one fish,
7 not even a stick because you don't commercial fish with
8 a boat that high because your fish are not going to
9 hang on -- not going to stay on your net when your net
10 with that roller.

11

12 I believe one of the Board there,
13 Council Bev Hoffman stated if we -- or asked William if
14 we had camera, I don't think we need camera, doesn't it
15 prove right in the airport with all the tons of fish
16 and pounds he send out.

17

18 The concern is the local people there.
19 We're having trouble with our commercial openings, very
20 little opening, and subsistence closing and like
21 William stated, we're done fishing in early part of
22 June but this guy, I don't know where his -- he seem to
23 have a lot of room fishing night and day while the
24 locals are already smoking their fish. And that's my
25 concern about this gentleman shipping our fish out.

26

27 I recall, way back when I was living in
28 Bethel here, when -- I hate to use the word, White,
29 when the White folks were shipping king salmon out of
30 this area, Eddie Hoffman, immediately put up a stop to
31 that. I know Eddie Hoffman much as you do, Eddie
32 Hoffman don't go to cameras and all that, he go direct
33 to Juneau.

34

35 And if I may take -- I had two
36 concerns, if I may, Mr. Chairman.

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (Nods affirmatively)

38

39 MR. RILEY: Mr. Chairman. The Board --
40 Councilmen. My other concern is this commercial
41 fishing. We have been put commercial fishing into the
42 river by Alaska Department of Fish and Game, they're
43 our boss.

44

45 As soon as month of June hits. we're
46 under them, regardless of how we look at it,
47 subsistence way, commercial way, you know, I think the
48 Department of Fish and Game need to be educated much as
49 we know. When they put us out, when the fish slack,
50 the slack is slack, we all know, I know, everyone

1 knows, even our buyers which have been with us for 32,
2 33 years, they know when the fish slack off, the fish
3 get color, fish get marked and it's been just years --
4 it's just getting worse, Alaska Department of Fish and
5 Game would put us in the river with -- open our
6 commercial fishing when there is no fish. Don't they
7 know there's no fish, you know, that's just getting --
8 it's just not going to work for us anymore. When are
9 we going to stick up for our own rights. Are we going
10 to go -- let Department of Fish and Game do the same
11 thing over and over, are we going to live under their
12 rule the month of June, too many closures. June is
13 only -- it's just like any other month, 30 days or 31
14 days, too many closures. If they didn't close so many
15 times subsistence closures, commercial closing, closing
16 18 hours before, another closure after closing, pretty
17 soon there's no more in June. If there was no windows
18 I believe that the -- we'd be at least two weeks ahead
19 and then perhaps we would have a chance for commercial
20 opening.

21

Thank you very much.

22

23

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

24

25

26

MS. HOFFMAN: I just wanted to comment.
27 I don't know when -- I know when I don't like something
28 that's happening, I can make a situation very
29 uncomfortable for somebody, you know, and my comments
30 about cameras was just for example, if I don't like the
31 fact that I have a bootlegger next to me here in
32 Bethel, I will videocamera that person and so that --
33 my cam -- maybe you don't need cameras, maybe you just
34 need to bring it forth like this, but I'm saying that
35 if you are very concerned about this, you know, I mean
36 it's so easy to make this person uncomfortable and one
37 is doing what Uncle Eddie did, just go and talk to
38 these people, what are you doing, where is this going,
39 why are you doing this, we're bothered by this, you
40 know, you do have voices.

41

42

And the other thing about the
43 Department, and that's why I think I would like to see
44 a working group similar to our working group here on
45 the Yukon, it's really bridged some gaps and built some
46 positive relationships that I think, just listening to
47 you, John, is suffering on the Yukon, a stock of
48 concern, you know, the chinook stock of concern.

49

50

MS. RILEY: Mr. Chairman. Ms. Hoffman.

1 I went directly to Fish and Game Commission and his
2 response was that this guy shouldn't be doing that. I
3 believe I will go home and buy a camera.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 (Laughter)

8
9 MS. HOFFMAN: You can borrow mine.

10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

12
13 MR. RILEY: Thank you.

14
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: Charlie.

16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Charlie.

18
19 MR. PAUKON.: Good afternoon Council
20 members. My name is Charles Paukon, Sr.

21
22 I have concerns, same as Bill Alstrom's
23 concern that he brought up this afternoon. I know I am
24 a resident of Alaska. As a resident I'm a commercial
25 fisherman, subsistence user. I been fishing the Yukon
26 as long as I can walk.

27
28 During subsistence season we go to our
29 camps get ready to put up fish. And as soon as the
30 fish hit the Yukon we start fishing. We put enough
31 fish to make it through the winter. We know how much
32 chum to put away, how many kings to take and how many
33 kings to freeze to make it through the winter.

34
35 You know this type of activity, you
36 know, when you're resident of Alaska, according to Fish
37 and Game and Fish and Wildlife, if you're a resident,
38 you can either fish in the Yukon or you can come over
39 and fish on the Kuskokwim area and take whatever fish
40 you want.

41
42 I have a deep concern in our area,
43 Yukon River. Since 1998 we've had a poor run return of
44 kings, and one summer we didn't fish all summer and we
45 couldn't make it through the winter. We couldn't buy
46 fuel, buy grub because there was no commercial opening.
47 You know when we don't have any set regulations or how
48 much fish to take, anybody can come up if you're a
49 resident and take any much fish you want.

50

1 We know -- I have a concern. I've seen
2 this operation going on for five -- four or five years
3 and I keep my mouth shut. I call Fish and Game this
4 summer concerning this person commercial fish during
5 our subsistence and the reply was as long as you're a
6 resident of Alaska you can take any as much fish as you
7 want.

8
9 I think if we have no set limits to how
10 much a person can take, that's okay, there's no
11 enforcement in that, and I think as a concerned
12 subsistence user, we need to set the limits on how much
13 a person can take from each, either Yukon or Kuskokwim
14 area. We all know, we're trying to build our king
15 salmon stock to where we can fish again. These past
16 few years, you know, we're limited to commercial
17 fishing on the Yukon. If we're lucky we'll have three
18 six hour openers, 18 hours. And when we fish, you
19 know, sometimes those fish are up the river or down the
20 river, you got to be at the right place at the right
21 time to catch fish, put money in your pocket to make it
22 through the winter.

23
24 This summer, you know, with the price
25 of fuel coming up, groceries coming up, it's not easy.
26 I call Fish and Game, Fish and Wildlife concerning
27 this, this person fishing Y1 and Y2, this person's
28 operation has four or five people, and I've seen him
29 bring up his bring totes every morning to ship them
30 out. When you see something with your own eyes, you
31 know, and you see the activity going on and you report
32 that to a higher power, Fish and Game, Fish and
33 Wildlife, they always come up with something like this,
34 as long as it's in the book, you know, as long as
35 you're resident of Alaska, that's okay. But what
36 happens is, you know, is it's hurting our way of life.
37 When we're trying to build our stock of fish back up so
38 everybody on the mouth of the Yukon all the way from
39 the mouth all the way up to Canada can get their own
40 subsistence needs, and if there's enough surplus they
41 can allow commercial fishing.

42
43 That is my concern.

44
45 Doi.

46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

48
49 MR. ALOYSIUS: I am happy to hear you
50 guys bring this out here because, you know, I've heard

1 it over there many times and finally you guys have
2 enough courage and the willpower to bring it up to here
3 and hopefully something can happen and I thank you
4 guys, Bill, John, Charlie for taking the courage to
5 come up here and present it, it takes a lot of guts to
6 do that.

7

8 Thank you, very much.

9

10 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

13

14 MS. HOFFMAN: Yeah, I want to thank you
15 guys, too, for being here. This issue has also come in
16 front of our Kuskokwim Salmon Working Group in past
17 years that there have been concerns that large amounts
18 of chinook were going out to L.A. markets, people were
19 -- especially of certain indig -- not indigenous
20 groups, you know, concern has been raised here to the
21 same thing and it's very difficult to work with some of
22 the residency subsistence rights of all Alaskans. But
23 I know the same thing has come up here and it's a
24 concern that people are abusive of that right.

25

26 MR. PAUKON: Quyana.

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Pat Beans.

29

30 MR. BEANS: Mr. Chairman. Council
31 members. My name is Pat Beans, Jr., I represent Yupit
32 of Andreafsky, I'm from St. Mary's. I will follow up
33 on what William, John Riley, Charlie Paukon were
34 talking about.

35

36 We are really concerned about what the
37 activity that's going on for the last four or five
38 years regarding these people. You got the whole report
39 from these people, started a small operation but this
40 summer they came out with two boats, one was a big, I
41 don't know \$100,000 boat, I guess, and if you're
42 subsistence fishermen you don't go running around with
43 \$100,000 boats, I don't. I'm commercial and
44 subsistence fishermen. And those people are fishing
45 right, about a quarter mile, half a mile from where I
46 got my fish camp. And I go to bed at 2:00, 3:00 in the
47 morning, dead tired after we work on what subsistence
48 caught fish we got and those guys are still out.
49 They're fishing 36 hours, almost 36 hours, over and
50 over, it's a different guys, I guess in the boat, and

1 their Pacific skiff, with what fish they catch, they
2 got these little table, I seen, they put them on the
3 side of the boat, they flip the little table and they
4 bleed their fish and what not and put them in totes.
5 They probably throw all their heads and guts out in the
6 river, I don't know what they do.

7
8 But anyway, I was starting to think
9 with all the reports we've been making to Fish and
10 Game, Troopers and what not and seem like they say,
11 yeah, we're checking, we're checking and I'm glad that
12 we came up -- we've been -- you know, I've been
13 wondering are they really checking, how come nothing --
14 anything hasn't been done.

15
16 If something -- if I was doing that, I
17 was fishing those two big boats, two 36 hours a week
18 and it don't go into my smokehouse and it don't go into
19 my fish rack, you know, somebody would nail me I'm
20 pretty sure, and, you know, these people, they don't
21 have no smokehouse, they don't have no fish rack, still
22 they fish like crazy, and when commercial opens up,
23 what little commercial time we got they're out there
24 again with two boats. And the thing that really
25 bothers me is we're limited on our subsistence time, we
26 got closures, we got certain time to fish because on
27 account of fish being -- shortage of fish, but these
28 guys they come out from Anchorage, somewhere else and
29 they fish the whole time the subsistence time is
30 allowed and then ship them out.

31
32 Like the other boys was saying,
33 something really definitely is wrong. And the agencies
34 have been notified and so far we haven't had any reply.
35 We never got no answers back. We don't know what's
36 going on. Nobody's saying anything, all they're saying
37 is, oh, they're checking on them, they got loopholes,
38 they're checking on them, well, you can check so much
39 and somebody should be able to find out something if
40 they're -- you know, if something's wrong.

41
42 And the reason we're bringing this up
43 so everybody will know or some people will know what is
44 going on, you wouldn't get caught and say, oh, I didn't
45 know that, well, at least now some people know. But
46 the last four or five years we've been, you know, we
47 knew about it. And I'm pretty sure if we dig hard
48 enough there's some cameras and pictures taken of those
49 people, I'm pretty sure.

50

1 So that's where we are. I'm glad this
2 is brought up and I hope something will be done.
3 Because it's just like -- if we just let it go or they
4 let it go, it's just like opening the door for other
5 people to do that. They'll say, oh, this guy did it,
6 they've been doing it, oh, why can't we do it, how come
7 we can't make money like that -- you know, and no doubt
8 they're shipping their fish -- they're shipping their
9 fish to Anchorage and from there no doubt they're
10 selling it, maybe to the restaurants or whatever, but
11 anyway all that subsistence caught fish, no doubt
12 they're not eating it, they must be selling it.

13

14 So I hope the agencies and if you get a
15 chance, the Council, please stay on top or people near
16 out and if you hear something, please, try to use your
17 power or whatever, push for it.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tim.

24

25 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, while he is
26 walking up I just would like to ask that the Department
27 give these folks a response and follow up on this.
28 That's what I would like to see done.

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Tim.

31

32 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
33 Well, it's pretty obvious, you know, that these folks
34 from St. Mary's have made multiple attempts to try and
35 get enforcement to do something to address this problem
36 and, you know, I see it as a threat to our subsistence
37 way of life through these nonFederal Subsistence Board
38 related activities, shipping fish out, I mean in just
39 total disregard of our way of life. What I would like
40 to do is try to enlist the help of our attorney and our
41 administration to try and draft a proposal to try and
42 close this loophole that allows this type of activity
43 to occur.

44

45 And I will check up with them and
46 hopefully we'd be able to submit a proposal sometime in
47 the near future.

48

49 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.
2
3 MS. HOFFMAN: Is it possible, John,
4 Rich, just to something simple as follow that tote of
5 fish out of St. Mary's, have somebody meet that flight
6 in Anchorage and see where it goes?
7
8 MR. LINDERMAN: Mr. Chair. Beverly. I
9 can imagine that -- again, not working on the Yukon,
10 not being familiar with this situation before this day,
11 if the scale of what I'm hearing here at this meeting
12 sounds like it's a significant issue. I would imagine
13 that if they've been in contact, these folks from the
14 area, as they've stated, have been in contact with
15 State authorities, including wildlife protection, that
16 they are trying to do something to track this down.
17 Now, what they can do I can't answer that question
18 directly, Bev, but I would imagine that there would be
19 some sort of investigation into trying to find out if
20 there's any impropriety going on in this situation.
21
22 Beyond that, I can't say specifically
23 what that would be because I'm not familiar with this
24 case.
25
26 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, just to follow
27 up on that. Since the Yukon boys, Fish and Game guys
28 are gone and you're the one here, could you follow up
29 on that with them and call for an investigation and
30 give these folks an answer within the next month?
31
32 MR. LINDERMAN: Yes, definitely. I
33 will be sure to inform the Yukon Staff as well as
34 regional Staff about the discussion that went on here
35 today with regards to this situation and at least for
36 myself try and find out what's going on and at least
37 have those individuals from the Yukon contact somebody
38 from the RAC and/or the individuals that are here today
39 from the lower Yukon.....
40
41 MS. HOFFMAN: Maybe by next week.
42
43 MR. LINDERMAN: I can try.
44
45 MS. HOFFMAN: Okay.
46
47 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester, then Ray.
50

1 MR. L. WILDE: I would like to request
2 our coordinator to put this on our next winter agenda
3 and make sure we have an update on it.

4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray.

6
7 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
8 I'd like to thank the representative from the Yukon for
9 coming over to make those statements. You know it
10 takes courage to come forward and report this to a body
11 that is being represented by Fish and Game and also
12 body from Fish and Wildlife.

13
14 And if it's not going anywhere, you
15 know, then we need to keep following it up until
16 something is done. You know, what I'd like to see as
17 mentioned earlier, that this be followed up and if
18 there is citation or if there is an illegal activity
19 that's going on, once you find out it's going into
20 Anchorage, it might even be going into restaurants and
21 if they are benefitting monetarily as a result of the
22 subsistence caught fish then they should be cited for
23 it, rather than get a slap on the hand and saying, you
24 know, you're doing something wrong, you know, don't do
25 it anymore. You know if it was us, as Natives, doing
26 that as mentioned earlier by one of the -- I think,
27 Pat, then, you know, we'd probably go to jail for a
28 month or two. But like Beverly said if you could
29 follow that up and if there's illegal activity going on
30 beyond what goes on after it gets to Anchorage, then if
31 a citation needs to be issued then do it and let the
32 public know, you know, if they do this kind of activity
33 then they'll be punished for it, especially when it's
34 subsistence caught salmon.

35
36 Thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think this been
39 happening for long time in the lower Yukon. My fish
40 camp from Mountain Village is 36 miles down from
41 Mountain Village. We had a person almost across from
42 us doing the same thing. We reported and some of them
43 they were documented and all that and when we reported
44 to Fish and Game in Emmonak they told us next time if
45 they do that and document it and all that, what we do,
46 that's what we did but when we talk to Fish and Game,
47 it comes in one side and come out in other side.
48 That's the problem. They don't do and supporting us
49 because we're Yup'ik (In Native), that's the problem
50 right now, maybe they move up to St. Mary's and do

1 things has been, and this is something that been
2 continued there for a long time.

3

4 MR. LINDERMAN: Mr. Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

7

8 MR. LINDERMAN: Yeah, again, Mr. Chair
9 and Council members. I can understand the Council's
10 concern and I definitely understand the concern of
11 residents of the lower Yukon with regards to this
12 situation and rest assured in response to Bev's
13 comments I will be mentioning this to Yukon Staff as
14 well as regional Staff. And I would like to think that
15 if there is impropriety, if there is illegality in what
16 is going on in this situation, depending on what the
17 status is of any investigations that are going on in
18 regards to this situation, that some action will be
19 taken or may be taken in the future in regards to this.

20

21 And, again, for the next meeting if
22 this comes up as an agenda item, I will make sure that
23 individuals from the Yukon Staff know that this is
24 going to be discussed again and, hopefully have further
25 answers for the Council.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

32

33 MS. GREGORY: I'd like for you to,
34 because our meeting is in, what, February, to contact
35 those people who came in here and enlightened us about
36 this thing, Andreafsky, (In Yup'ik) and Pitka's Point,
37 that you work with their tribal councils or have the
38 other people from the Yukon Fish and Wildlife work with
39 the ADF&G and not disregard them, just continue to work
40 with them.

41

42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more from Council.

43

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Now, we
48 continue our agenda, Donlin Creek Project update.

49

50 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Don Rivard

1 with OSM. I just wanted to give you a little
2 background information as to how this item came on your
3 agenda. I think at your last meeting in Toksook Bay,
4 this was brought up about wanting to have more
5 information about the Donlin Creek Project and Mr.
6 James Fueg, who's here today, he gave a presentation to
7 regional office Staff of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
8 Service a couple of months ago, about the same time
9 that your agenda was being developed. I did not attend
10 that presentation but Tom Boyd of our office did and he
11 gave me a briefing on it and told me it was a good
12 presentation, informative so I immediately contacted
13 Mr. Fueg here and he agreed to be on the agenda and
14 then talked with Alex and Chairman Wilde also agreed
15 that this could be an agenda item.

16
17 So I just wanted to give you a little
18 development and I'll pass it on to Mr. Fueg.

19
20 Thank you.

21
22 MR. FUEG: Thank you. Mr. Chairman.
23 Members of the Council. My name is James Fueg. I am
24 the technical and permitting manager for the Donlin
25 Creek Joint Venture and I work for Placer Dome.

26
27 I'd like to thank you for the
28 invitation to address you today. I recognize that it's
29 getting late and I know you have a lot of issues you
30 need to cover so I will attempt to move through this
31 presentation fairly quickly. If anyone has any
32 questions or if they'd like more detail, please stop
33 me.

34
35 I also recognize that members of our
36 company have given several presentations in Bethel
37 recently and some people may have attended these and
38 there may be some repetition in what I'm saying, so I
39 apologize for that in advance. But I know there also
40 people here who haven't attended any of these
41 presentations so I hope I can strike a balance.

42
43 MS. HOFFMAN: How long is your
44 presentation.

45
46 MR. FUEG: I had originally anticipated
47 having about a half an hour, and I can try and speed
48 that up a little.

49
50 MS. HOFFMAN: Because there will be

1 questions.

2

3 MR. FUEG: I assumed there would be,
4 yeah.

5

6 For those who are not familiar with the
7 location of the Donlin Creek project it's about 12
8 miles north of the village of Crooked Creek, so we're
9 about 12 miles off the river up the Crooked Creek
10 Valley. I'm sure everyone here knows where Crooked
11 Creek is, I have had audiences where I've had to
12 explain it a little further.

13

14 Donlin Creek is a joint venture.
15 Placer Dome, the company I work for, is the managing
16 partner, Gold Resources is the other partner in the
17 Joint Venture. Calista Corporation is the subsurface
18 estate owner, as such, they actually own the deposit
19 and we have a mining lease agreement with Calista.
20 TKC, The Kuskokwim Corporation is the surface estate
21 owner and we have a separate surface lease agreement
22 with TKC.

23

24 A brief bit of property history.
25 Activity, looking for a load gold deposit in the Donlin
26 Creek area dates back to about 1974, from about '74 to
27 '93 was the early exploration phase. Principally work
28 conducted by Calista geologists and consultants, some
29 other mining companies. In 1995 the first potential
30 for a major goal, load gold resource was identified
31 there and detailed geological and environmental and
32 engineering studies started to occur.

33

34 Between 2000 and 2003 the resource was
35 significantly expanded leading to additional interest
36 in the property. And in 2004 Placer Dome resumed
37 operation and we began detailed engineering studies,
38 environmental studies were extended and the in-field
39 drilling is continuing, we just completed a larger in-
40 field drilling program this year.

41

42 I get asked, very often, what is
43 actually going on at Donlin Creek at the moment, is
44 there any kind of construction going on, the answer is,
45 no, the principal activity going on on the ground is
46 drilling, which typically involves drill rigs similar
47 to what you see on the photographs up here. In winter
48 they're sledged around. In summer we have several
49 roads that have been built in the immediate deposit
50 area, they're moved around on the roads or they're

1 flown around with helicopters, depending on where we
2 want to go. At this point in time there are no
3 construction-type activities going on. The only major
4 sort of construction effort that has happened out there
5 was 10 years, which was the construction of a 5,000
6 foot air strip on a ridge top and a camp site.

7
8 This year we had approximately 117
9 Calista shareholders on our payroll. Our payroll
10 through August was about \$1.3 million. So we have a
11 fairly sizeable camp. By sizeable it gets up to about
12 65 people when we're in full operation out there.
13 Right now it's probably down to about 10 people. We'll
14 have a small program next month, it will push the camp
15 population up to maybe 25 and then over the --
16 beginning of the winter we'll probably drop down to
17 half a dozen people or less.

18
19 This is the summary of the gold
20 resource at Donlin Creek. Currently 11 million ounces
21 of gold in what is called the measured and indicator
22 category. This means there's high level of confidence
23 that that gold is actually in the ground. There's an
24 additional 14 million ounces of inferred gold, which
25 means -- in a nutshell, that means we're pretty sure
26 it's there but the drilling hasn't been done that we
27 know definitively how much of that 14 million ounces is
28 there. That makes for a total resource measured
29 indicated and inferred of about 25 million ounces which
30 does make this one of the largest undeveloped gold
31 deposits anywhere in the world.

32
33 What are the preliminary operating
34 concepts for a mine at Donlin Creek. It would be a
35 conventional large open pit mining operation similar to
36 what is happening at Fort Knox near Fairbanks, and
37 following this slide I have a few photographs of Fort
38 Knox to show people.

39
40 We'd be looking at two separate pits,
41 which would merge into one bigger one eventually. And
42 it would be standard truck and shovel mining where the
43 rock is blasted to break it up and then it's loaded
44 into trucks with a front end loader, shipped to a
45 crusher, crushed, put on a conveyor belt, conveyed to
46 the mole and then processed in the mole. It would be
47 what's called as three-stage crushing and primarily
48 bore-moling. This process would result in the rock
49 going into the recovery part of the mole as a really
50 fine grind, something almost like a flour type

1 substance. That would be followed by a process called
2 floatation. Where the mineralized part of the rock,
3 the sulfide parts of the rock are floated off or
4 separated from the barren parts of the rock. The
5 sulfide material is what contains the gold at Donlin
6 Creek. That material would then go into something
7 called an autoclave, which you can think of as
8 essentially a giant pressure cooker. The material is
9 cooked at very high pressure and high temperature and
10 high acidity for a period of time. And what that
11 basically does is it oxidizes or rusts the sulfide. So
12 essentially it's the same process that's occurring in
13 nature but instead of happening over years or tens of
14 years or hundreds of years it's happening in minutes.
15 Once that process has occurred the gold can be
16 extracted using a standard carbon and leech recovery
17 circuit. And I apologize if I'm using sort of
18 metallurgist terms here, I'm not a metallurgists
19 either, but essentially it's the chemical process that
20 is used to extract the gold from the oxidized material.
21 And Donlin Creek would have a conventional tailing
22 storage facility which means that it would be a damn
23 with what's known as wet tailings behind it.

24
25 As I mentioned, I have a few slides for
26 those people who are not familiar with what mining
27 operations look like. What we're looking at here is
28 the Fort Knox mine near Fairbanks. And you can see the
29 pit in the foreground and the tailings damn in the
30 background.

31
32 MS. HOFFMAN: How big is that.....

33
34 MR. RIVARD: Microphone.

35
36 MS. HOFFMAN: How many miles is, you
37 know, square miles is this operation?

38
39 MR. FUEG: I have to be honest, I have
40 not visited the Fort Knox mine in quite a few years and
41 I know it's a lot bigger than it used to be. I would
42 guess that their pit is probably somewhere between half
43 and three-quarter mile across but don't quote me on
44 that, it's going to be of that order of magnitude, and
45 the tailing stand would probably be, you know,
46 something similar to that.

47
48 That is the mole facility at Fort Knox.
49 And that is the area below the tailings damn. It's a
50 wetlands that they've established there with a pump

1 back system.

2

3

4 A lot of people wonder why we've been
5 working out at Donlin Creek for 10 years and no
6 definitive decisions have been made about whether or
7 not to develop a mine. It seems like things happen for
8 awhile and then they die down and then they flare up
9 again. The answer to that is even though this is a
10 very large deposit it faces a lot of engineering and
11 technical challenges to demonstrate that it can be
12 turned into a profitable mine essentially.

12

13

14 The biggest one of these, I think
15 everyone's familiar with, is the issue of power. We
16 have no regional power grid out there. However we
17 generate electricity in this mine would require large
18 amounts of electricity because of the process that
19 needs to be used. It's got to be done on site, either
20 that or you have to build a very long transmission
21 line.

21

22

23 Secondly, we need significant
24 quantities of lime. Because of the autoclave process,
25 a byproduct of that process is acid. That acid
26 obviously can't be released into the environment. So
27 that acidic material has to be treated in the mole to
28 neutralize it so that you're not putting unacceptable
29 or elevated levels of acidic material out into the
30 tailings dam. For that reason we need large
31 quantities of lime.

31

32

33 And then finally just the logistical
34 issues of supplying a large scale industrial operation
35 like this in such a remote part of the world where you
36 do not have road access. We, essentially, have limited
37 river access, maybe a 90 to 120 day season that you can
38 realistically look at getting barges up the river as
39 far as Crooked Creek.

39

40

41 So what are our proposed solutions to
42 some of these problems.

42

43

44 As far as power goes we are now
45 focusing on a base case of diesel generation but we're
46 hoping to be able to supplement this with wind
47 generation. Our target would be to reduce fuel
48 consumption by something of the order of 40 percent.
49 In other words, offset 40 percent of the diesel
50 generation requirement by using wind. We've recently
51 completed the installation of four wind monitoring

1 towers and we need to collect approximately a years
2 worth of data to confirm that this option is going to
3 be viable, basically that the wind resource is there.

4
5 MS. HOFFMAN: Is it all right to ask
6 questions as he goes along?

7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

9
10 MS. HOFFMAN: Thanks. When I said
11 earlier about the need for two barges a day, is that
12 correct, to supply this Donlin Creek with amount of
13 diesel it needs for power.

14
15 MR. FUEG: Sorry, let me just do a
16 mental calculation here for a moment, I've -- yes,
17 that's about -- that's approximately correct. It's
18 going to be in that ball park.

19
20 MS. HOFFMAN: Every day.

21
22 MR. FUEG: Yep. Exactly how things
23 would be structured is a level of detail we haven't
24 gone into yet in terms of how many barges you could
25 raft together and I think what we would attempt to do
26 is to get the maximum amount of material up river when
27 the water is at its highest so there may be periods
28 where you're trying to do more than that in a
29 particular day and there may be days when you don't do
30 anything. At this point we haven't addressed these
31 issues in that level of detail yet, but if you're
32 looking for an average number, that's a good one to
33 use.

34
35 Lime. What are we doing to address the
36 issue of lime. The amount of lime we're looking --
37 we're talking about here is of the order of 50,000 tons
38 per year. Obviously anything we can do to get at least
39 part of that material off the river would be
40 significant. We've now identified, what's known as a
41 calcareous sandstone on site. This is essentially like
42 a low grade type of limestone and we're hoping that
43 we'll be able to use that material to substitute for at
44 least some of the lime. That calcareous sandstone is
45 located right on the edge of the pit. If we can use
46 that material, it would have a significant effect in
47 terms of reducing the barge traffic on the river.

48
49 And the logistics, we're looking at
50 barging materials up the Kuskokwim River. We'd

1 construct a small dock, somewhere near the mouth of
2 Jungjuk Creek and a 25 mile road from the dock up to
3 the deposit site to transport materials up.

4

5 MS. GREGORY: James.

6

7 MR. FUEG: Yes.

8

9 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Madame Chair.
10 James. I was up at Donlin Creek back in July with
11 maybe nine other people and we were told that the barge
12 might go more than 100 times per summer or at that
13 time, to haul fuel for the generators and is that
14 right, more than 100 times per summer?

15

16 MR. FUEG: Yes. We would need more
17 than 100 barges over the course of the summer. I can't
18 give you a precise number on how many we would end up
19 needing. A lot of it's going to depend on issues like
20 whether or not we are able to use this calcareous
21 sandstone, how much energy we could draw from the wind,
22 but it's safe to day that it would be at least 100
23 barges over the course of the summer.

24

25 MR. CHARLES: With that many trips up
26 the Kuskokwim River, I'm with the Kuskokwim Salmon
27 Management Working Group, and I have been thinking
28 since that time what the barges are going to do to the
29 fish that's going up river. Because we work with the
30 managers here in Bethel, both Federal and State,
31 subsistence and commercial fishing managers and that
32 made me wonder what barges, that many barges are going
33 to do to the fish that's migrating up river. Is there
34 any -- do you have idea what they're -- if there's
35 going to be some fish that's going to be killed or hit
36 by the propeller or wake throw them up on the beach or
37 is there -- have you studied anything into that?

38

39 MR. FUEG: I couldn't give you a good
40 answer on that right now, what I can tell you is that,
41 you know, we obviously recognize the importance of the
42 potential influences of barging and the sensitivity of
43 subsistence fisheries, and that some very --and that
44 very detailed studies, baseline studies, and
45 environmental studies of these issues will have to be
46 undertaken as part of the permitting and EIS process
47 for the project.

48

49 So I don't have all the answers for you
50 now. All I can do is assure you that this is something

1 that will be studied, and not just by Placer Dome, but
2 will be studied very closely by the Federal and the
3 State agencies that would need to issue all the permits
4 to us.

5
6 MS. HOFFMAN: Following up on that, Mr.
7 Chair, I just -- what is the baseline data that Placer
8 Dome is funding, you know, to ensure that these kind of
9 compliances that you're going to have to comply with
10 State and Federal water quality and fish and wildlife
11 resource conservation and our subsistence requirements
12 and regulations.

13
14 MR. FUEG: If I get a little further
15 into this presentation I was actually hoping to touch
16 on just a few of the baseline environmental studies
17 that we have performed this year and that have gone on
18 in the past. Maybe it's easiest if I go through those
19 and then we address those, if that works for everyone.

20
21 MS. HOFFMAN: Yeah, that will work.

22
23 MR. FUEG: This is just a slide of
24 setting up some of the monitoring towers that we're
25 using to gage the wind resource near Donlin Creek.

26
27 And that's an example of a wind
28 generation facility in -- this one's located in
29 Colorado, I believe.

30
31 Environmental baseline data collection.
32 Environmental baseline data is required for multiple
33 reasons. Firstly it's required by us, so that we can
34 plan and design a mine that will meet all corporate and
35 regulatory government environmental standards, and,
36 secondly so that regulatory agencies can evaluate any
37 impacts and develop permits that will ensure protection
38 of natural resources within the region. The baseline
39 and environmental data collection at Donlin Creek has
40 been going on since we started on the project back in
41 1995, 1996.

42
43 As to what types of data have been
44 collected and will be collected. It's a fairly
45 comprehensive list.

46
47 Traditional knowledge.

48
49 Subsistence resources.

50

1 Archeological resources.
2
3 Surface water.
4
5 Ground water.
6
7 Fisheries.
8
9 Habitat and animal species.
10
11 Barge impacts.
12
13 Meteorology and air quality.
14
15 Wetlands delineation studies.
16
17 Rock characterization studies.
18
19 Social and economic studies.
20
21 Noise levels.
22
23 And that list is probably not
24 comprehensive.

25
26 In an effort to avoid repeating what I
27 know a lot of people have seen in recent weeks in other
28 studies, I thought just to have a slides to kind of
29 focus on some of the work that we've done out there
30 this year as an intro to any questions or specific
31 questions that people may have.

32
33 But some of the work that was going on
34 this year included quarterly water sampling, regional
35 habitat studies, some fisheries studies in the Crooked
36 Creek drainage, rock geochemical studies, wetlands
37 mapping and noise studies on the Kuskokwim River.

38
39 Quarterly water sampling. That program
40 has been going on since 1996 on at least a quarterly
41 basis. Some years water sampling was performed on a
42 monthly basis. This last quarter we sampled 19
43 groundwater wells as well as 15 surface water
44 locations. All samples are sent to an independent
45 State certified laboratory for analysis. They're not
46 analyzed by in-house laboratories or anything like
47 that. All data is placed into a project database that
48 will be made available to regulatory agencies for the
49 permitting process.

50

1 A couple of slides from the watering
2 monitoring. Some of the project staff, Tisha Kuhns,
3 Greg Sikar sampling water wells and recording well
4 conditions.

5
6 Habitat studies. We have a program to
7 map and sample habitat types in the project area and
8 along the transportation corridor up the Kuskokwim
9 River. This data will be used to help ensure
10 protection of subsistence resources in the region. And
11 essentially what they do is start by mapping the area
12 using satellite data and trying to define all the
13 various types of habitats. And I'm not enough of a
14 biologist to get into the specifics. But, you know,
15 identify areas that may be suitable moose habitat,
16 furbearer habitat, caribou habitat, categorize areas in
17 those particular ways. And then they follow up
18 visiting various stations on the ground to check the
19 accuracy of this mapping and record animal and plant
20 species that are using the habitat types. In 2004 this
21 program focused on the Donlin Creek area, and the 2005
22 program focused on the road and river corridor.
23 Unfortunately due to the smoke and fires this year they
24 were not able to complete the full program of work so
25 they'll have to come back next year to do some
26 additional follow up work. But these are some of the
27 areas that were visited. And essentially what they do
28 is land with a helicopter, and record any animal and
29 plant species or indicators within a defined radius
30 around that point. And then the plan is to come back
31 in successive years and see how conditions and usage
32 types have changed.

33
34 Fisheries studies. Baseline data
35 collection has been going on since 1996. Fish counts
36 and mapping fish passage and types of fish within the
37 various tributaries in the region.

38
39 We started a detailed aquatic
40 biomonitoring program last year. And this includes
41 fish tissue sampling for metals and invertebrate tissue
42 sampling. We've just completed the fall fish count in
43 Crooked Creek and its tributaries last month.

44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Is there any way you can
46 lower that?

47
48 MR. FUEG: Certainly. I wasn't sure if
49 I was going to be blinding anybody if I did.

50

1 Is that better?

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmatively)

4

5 MR. FUEG: The biomonitoring program,
6 what we've done for that is identified sites above the
7 deposit which would be away from the influence, any
8 potential influences of mining should it occur in the
9 future, and then areas immediately below the deposit so
10 that we could bracket any effects that may or may not
11 be caused by the mine and we will sample, over time,
12 continue to sample fish tissue from these areas. And
13 this will allow tracking of conditions both before,
14 during and after any mining activity. Sites are
15 sampled, as I said, for both micro-invertebrates, which
16 I believe are the most sensitive to changes in quarter
17 quality, and fish tissue. Again, all samples are
18 independently analyzed, the data is shared with
19 regulatory agencies the same year it's collected so any
20 data we collect, copies of that also go to Fish and
21 Game.

22

23 And what have we learned from the data
24 to date. Essentially that metal levels in fish tissue
25 are at typical background levels for Western Alaska.

26

27 Rock geochemistry studies. As part of
28 the mining process, large quantities of, for want of a
29 better word, barren or unmineralized rock will have to
30 be removed so that we can access the gold bearing oar.
31 This rock will have to be stored in dumps and obviously
32 we need to understand the behavior of this rock over
33 time. Various types of studies have been undertaken to
34 investigate the behavior of the rock, what's known as
35 acid based accounting studies. We have more than 700
36 of those samples that have been analyzed. Humidity
37 cells where representative samples of rock are taken
38 and essentially put in a water column and water is run
39 down over them on a continuous basis. We've had 16
40 humidity cells that have been running for more than a
41 year now. And this process, essentially, simulates the
42 behavior of the rock over a period of decades so that
43 you develop an understanding of what the long-term
44 behavior of this rock is going to be like. And we
45 recently installed several on-site monitoring pads to
46 study water run off from these. Each of these pads has
47 more than a thousand pounds of material put on them and
48 every time it rains the water coming off of these pads
49 is sampled.

50

1 And that's just a visual of what these
2 pads look like, Mr. Kameroff, a shareholder, hired
3 coordinator supervising the final construction. And
4 then as I said any time it rains or there's any kind of
5 precipitation it builds up in the collection bucket it
6 is taken -- a sample is taken and sent off for
7 analysis.

8
9 Wetlands mapping. As you know
10 essentially all parts of Alaska consist of wetlands,
11 anything that has any kind of permafrost layer
12 underneath in terms of Federal regulations is
13 considered wetlands. And as such there is no doubt
14 that the project will be impacting large areas of
15 wetlands. So we recently completed mapping of the
16 deposit area, any facilities area, the road and port
17 site. This data will be used to design project
18 facilities in such a way that we can minimize impacts
19 to wetlands. And the data will also be used to
20 calculate the area of wetlands that will need to be
21 full for the project. Based on that calculation
22 resources -- the permitting agencies will essentially
23 require resources from the company for the development
24 and restoration of other wetlands in the area. There
25 is a policy, or Federal policy dictates no net loss of
26 wetlands so we will be looking at efforts to mitigate
27 any wetlands impacts we have and these may include
28 financing and assisting in the restoration of other
29 wetlands within the region.

30
31 Noise studies. This summer we did
32 noise studies at five sites along the Kuskokwim River.
33 Data recorded for 24 hour periods at each site and are
34 then analyzed. An additional recording was performed
35 to document and characterize specific events, such as
36 the passage of barges, motorboats, hovercrafts, and
37 aircraft so that we can model the noise impacts of the
38 elevated level of barge traffic. And the map in the
39 corner, I apologize, it's very poor quality, just shows
40 where two of those sites were.

41
42 A few words about the permitting
43 process. Donlin Creek is still what Placer Dome would
44 consider an advanced exploration project. We spent a
45 lot of time and money on this project but no decision
46 has been made yet on whether or not it's feasible,
47 economically feasible to construct a mine here. We
48 cannot make a decision to start constructing a mine
49 before the final engineering and economic studies have
50 been completed by the company. Before completion of an

1 environmental impact statement or an EIS by the Federal
2 agencies overseeing the project and before the multiple
3 permits that we need there will be more than 50 of
4 them, including water, air, wetlands and many others,
5 are issued by the various State and Federal agencies
6 that will be overseeing the project. Currently, we
7 hope to start the permitting process sometime in the
8 first half of 2006.

9

10 This slide shows a possible permitting
11 timeline. As you can see we have not yet entered what
12 you might consider the formal NEPA process, or EIS
13 process, which we would anticipate to take two or three
14 years from the time we first file a permit application
15 which is what triggers this process. And I apologize
16 that slide's not very clear. But essentially the point
17 I would like to make with that slide is that there is
18 going to be a two or three time period for people to
19 comment and interact with the agencies on this project.

20

21 What are our objectives for 2005. To
22 try and validate the wind generation option. We've put
23 in all the instruments we need for that. That's an
24 ongoing process.

25

26 To determine whether or not we can use
27 the on-site calcareous sandstone to reduce the amount
28 of lime we need. That's an ongoing process.

29

30 We've done additional drilling to
31 invert more of that inferred gold resource into the
32 measured indicator category, which doesn't change the
33 total amount of ounces in the deposit, it just ups our
34 level of confidence that the gold is actually there.

35

36 We hope to complete a pre-feasibility
37 study which is essentially the preliminary engineering,
38 not the detailed engineering sometime in early 2006.
39 Based on the results of that pre-feasibility study we
40 would then make a decision whether or not to start the
41 permitting process. And then as I mentioned, assuming
42 we see what we need to see in the pre-feasibility study
43 we will begin the permitting process sometime in early
44 2006.

45

46 And just my name and contact
47 information. If anyone has any questions that we don't
48 get to address now or would like to contact me for
49 additional information or anything at any point in the
50 future, please feel free to give me a call or send me a

1 fax or however you'd like to contact me.

2

3

4 And with that I'm sure there's some
5 questions so I'd be happy to try and answer them if I
6 can. I'll just shut this down quickly so it can cool
7 down and I can get out of people's way when we're done.

7

8

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly

9

10

11 MS. HOFFMAN: While you're doing that,
12 you know, I could probably be here all night with all
13 my concerns and questions of the magnitude of, and the
14 impact this is going to have on our life here and our
15 wildlife and I worry about the assurance by Placer Dome
16 and Calista, that protect these salmon and the moose
17 and other wildlife. I worry about how the promise of
18 jobs and all this growth is going to affect, even our
19 rural subsistence status. And I worry about after I'm
20 dead and gone, all those concerns of toxic waste
21 possibly seeping into our rivers and into our lands
22 will affect future generations ability to subsist. And
23 I just worry.

23

24

25 Born and raised in this area, like all
26 of us here, I just have so many concerns that I think
27 are going to be forgotten with that lure of jobs and so
28 I'm not going to ask too many questions but just know
29 that there's a lot of concern from me.

29

30

31 MR. FUEG: We certainly recognize that.
32 And speaking as an individual I think it's very
33 understandable, you know, I certainly can't sit here
34 and tell you that this is not going to influence life
35 in the region, clearly it is. And if I was you I would
36 want to understand what the impacts are as well. And
37 that's why we -- you know there will be this long
38 public process before any permits to construct a mine
39 are issued. And Placer Dome certainly encourages
40 people to get involved in this process and make your
41 voice heard.

41

42

43 What I can tell you is that in the
44 permitting process we will not just be required to
45 demonstrate that we can operate this mine in a safe and
46 environmentally sound manner, we need to be able to
47 show that we can shut this mine down, that we can
48 reclaim what's been disturbed and that we can leave
49 things in perpetuity so that they will not pose an
50 environmental hazard to future generations. The
51 permitting process doesn't just look at the 15, or

1 whatever -- however many years it may be that the mine
2 will operate, it looks decades or centuries into the
3 future.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: William.

6

7 MR. BROWN: Yeah, I'm from the mouth of
8 the Kuskokwim where the activities are from -- one time
9 we had a tendering boat accident in previous years, and
10 these drivers were expert, they know every sand bar, I
11 guess, one time they had accident and that boat was
12 capsized and fish that they were carrying were
13 scattered all over on the bay, and according to the
14 people that are supposed to watch the environment,
15 protection, there was no accident that time, and was
16 delaying for about three, four weeks, finally they come
17 over and surveyed that area. So in my mind you guys
18 might have an accident somehow when you're carrying
19 those toxic loads. The way I heard from those folks,
20 that they don't want to disturb that bay, the mouth of
21 the Kuskokwim, where I'm from. The place is our
22 subsistence fishing area in the summer time, from June
23 to late September.

24

25 MR. FUEG: Obviously everything will be
26 done, from both an engineering and sort of a maritime
27 perspective, if you will, I'm just trying to see how I
28 should answer this. Everything will be done to
29 minimize any chances of accidents, and we'd be looking
30 at, you know, whether that would be custom built barges
31 or, you know, special navigation equipment, however
32 that may be done, we would plan on using whatever state
33 of the art equipment is available.

34

35 But in addition to that, as part of the
36 permitting process, we will be required to have a spill
37 plan that identifies pretty much any type of material
38 that we are going to be transporting up the river that
39 may pose any kind of hazard. So not just fuel, but any
40 of the processed chemicals that are going to be carried
41 up there, and, yes, it will include cyanide and it will
42 include lime and other chemicals. Each one of those
43 chemicals will have to be listed and there are strict
44 regulations on how those particular materials may be
45 packaged, how they may be transported, and the spill
46 plan that we have will have to identify exactly how we
47 would respond to a spill of any one of those particular
48 materials. We would have to demonstrate that we have
49 the resources on hand to respond to a spill in a quick
50 manner. And that may include having to station a boat,

1 to station equipment at various points along the river
2 so that we can immediately respond to any kind of a
3 spill and, you know, we'd have to demonstrate that
4 we're not leaving anything out there, that we're
5 cleaning everything up.

6
7 I think that a lot of those concerns
8 can be addressed with the correct planning and the
9 correct equipment. And we will be forced to address
10 them as part of the permitting process before we can
11 put a single barge on the river.

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

14
15 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I echo
16 everything what Bev said, of course. One question I've
17 been posing to people as they come through and I
18 haven't got a satisfactory answer on it yet, to
19 specific to the barge impacts that you do have
20 referenced in there. And I don't believe there's any
21 other place in the world, really, where that level of
22 traffic would be going on to a river that has the
23 ecological integrity and the salmon runs and such as
24 the Kuskokwim does. And I don't know if you've ever
25 been on the river, coming up behind a barge that's
26 going up river pushing a full load, but you start
27 feeling that wake one to two miles back and then by the
28 time you're getting there you're crawling because
29 you're just getting slammed up and down in your boat
30 and fuel barges are worse, because they're much deeper
31 in the water, they're displacement is much greater than
32 just a regular loaded freight barge. And you speak of
33 two a day on the average but you also mentioned that,
34 of course, you're going to want to be doing that when
35 there's higher water and that's also earlier in the
36 season so we may be looking at caravans of barges
37 earlier in the season. When we talk about one of our
38 major stocks of concerns and the one that's most
39 important to subsistence is the king salmon, chinook
40 salmon. Those where we're having problems with getting
41 our escapements are the ones that are coming in the
42 earliest that are heading the farthest up the river, I
43 guess the big fear is we don't want to be the great
44 grand experiment here. And you have, like you say, you
45 know, best of intentions and that infamous road to
46 wherever.

47
48 You know, and I haven't gotten an
49 answer from anybody on that and we don't want you
50 walking away saying we're sorry we didn't mean to but

1 there you are.

2

3 MR. FUEG: I cannot tell you right now
4 what the impacts will be. Again, all I can tell you is
5 that we have plans to study this particular issue
6 further. Starting early next year, specifically we'll
7 be looking at direct impacts of barging, including
8 things like bank line erosion and other types of
9 impacts. I guess I would actually pose the question to
10 people here in the audience who have seen more of it,
11 you know, what does barging do to the fisheries, have
12 you seen any evidence that it affects it negatively,
13 positively, in any way.

14

15 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

18

19 MS. HOFFMAN: When it became a stock of
20 concern, you know, all of those things go into effect,
21 high seas, barge impact, overfishing, commercial
22 fishing, weather and so we know that the barge traffic
23 will have an impact, especially in June when we're out
24 there trying to get that fish up the river.

25

26 MR. ROCZICKA: And I'll follow that
27 with a personal observation. I used to do commercial
28 fishing pretty regularly and occasionally there'd be a
29 barge coming by when people were out there during the
30 commercial period, and I don't know what other people
31 saw but after a barge would pass and fish were hitting
32 you wouldn't see them hitting for awhile, it's like it
33 drove them down, deep and low. And so, you know,
34 again, what disruption not only to the fish in that
35 early run where we do have a major concern, integrity
36 and channel or whatever that -- what that might have as
37 well, but, yeah, when you're talking large numbers of
38 barges, making that amount of disruption to the
39 current. And I told you one to two miles for a regular
40 barge, it's three to five miles for a loaded fuel
41 barge.

42

43 MR. FUEG: Well, again, all I can do is
44 promise you that I'm noting these concerns and that we
45 will what we can to study and address these issues.

46

47 I apologize I don't have any good
48 answers for you at this point but again I'd like to
49 just make the point that we're probably, you know,
50 three or more years out from the point of anyone giving

1 us a permit to do anything. And that the purpose of
2 those three years is to address many of these issues
3 and concerns.

4
5 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, just one last
6 question.

7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

9
10 MS. HOFFMAN: I know we're kind of in a
11 time crunch here of getting the rest of the business
12 done, but I hope that at our next meeting maybe you
13 would supply us with even more information at our
14 February winter meeting, just of some of the results of
15 the stuff that you're doing right now.

16
17 MR. FUEG: We'd be happy to do that.

18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray.

20
21 MR. ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
22 Chairman. I know there's a lot of work that is being
23 put in place right now to do an environmental impact
24 statement, all these preplanning things before you
25 actually go in and do the work. I think my concern is
26 that, you know, once the mine is all done, all the gold
27 is all extracted and the work is completely restored
28 and everything is back in order, you know, I'd like to
29 see your organization, at least monitor the place for a
30 period of time to ensure that what you're studying is
31 still there once you're done and gone to -- because a
32 lot of times -- the reason why I'm saying that is
33 because a lot of contractors, even the BIA school and
34 even the cannery in my area have left some things that
35 we needed to clean up after they left and, you know,
36 that is a concern of ours in our area. So, you know,
37 that's a point that I wanted to bring up to your
38 organization, is to make sure that it's monitored once
39 the mine is all extracted and your work is complete, to
40 at least, you know, be there for a period of time to
41 ensure that what you've already studied is still there
42 once you're done.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 MR. FUEG: If I may respond to that
47 quickly. We certainly would have no intention once
48 we're done mining of walking away from the project and
49 saying, well, you know, we've got what we want we're
50 gone. And we have several very good reasons to do

1 that. One, because we're a big company, we operate in
2 many places around the world and we have many mines.
3 The last thing we'd want to do is leave a mess behind
4 us and a bunch of unhappy people because it would look
5 bad for us and it would affect our options to operate
6 in other areas.

7
8 We also wouldn't want to do it just
9 because that's not the way my company operates and
10 we're proud of our record in responding to -- firstly
11 building good mines and when issues have been
12 identified and responding to those issues.

13
14 But thirdly, and maybe most convincing
15 to some people, is that before we can turn over a
16 single blade of earth at Donlin Creek, so this is
17 before we start mining or even building a mine, we will
18 be required to post a bond and we're anticipating that
19 that bond will be somewhere in excess of 40 or \$50
20 million, maybe more than that. We don't determine the
21 amount, that amount is determined by the permitting
22 agencies. We do not get that bond released, we don't
23 get that money back until he permitting, the Federal
24 and State agencies are satisfied that that mine has
25 been reclaimed and that everything is in a satisfactory
26 condition for the long-term and maybe following the
27 mine, you know, we'll go through the closure and
28 buildings will be removed and things will be
29 recontoured and revegetated, we'll get a portion of
30 that bond back at that point or a portion of that bond
31 will be used to finance that closure. But there is
32 always going to be a portion of that bond that's kept
33 back and it may take decades until we get that money
34 back, until people are -- until the environmental
35 scientists and people are convinced that the closure
36 has gone properly and that there's no more potential
37 for anything to go wrong.

38
39 So there is several mechanisms and
40 several good reasons in place why we would not just
41 walk away from things. But I certainly recognize your
42 concern.

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: James, then Greg.

45
46 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
47 That area where the mountain is going to build out of
48 tailings on the north side and you look at the camp
49 from that area, I see that creek, I think it's called
50 American Creek.

1 MR. FUEG: Correct.
2
3 MR. CHARLES: Which way is the water
4 flowing in that creek and mountain is going to be built
5 right there on the north side.
6
7 MR. FUEG: That's correct. And also
8 the pit will be such that it will take part of the
9 American Creek drainage. So our current plans would
10 call for intercepting the water in American Creek above
11 the waste rock and above the pit and diverting that
12 water across into the drainage to the south so that it
13 never actually runs through the mine operating area.
14
15 MR. CHARLES: So it's draining down to
16 Kuskokwim?
17
18 MR. FUEG: It's draining down into
19 Crooked Creek and then into the Kuskokwim, correct.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.
22
23 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
24 I've had it put to me a couple different directions
25 from people with extensive mining experience who state
26 that this project will never go forward in the long-
27 run, that it's more of a stock market scam because of
28 the -- that the cost of recovery and refinement and so
29 forth, the gold being so, whatever, integrated into the
30 source rock or the source material, it'll never go
31 forward so they told me not to worry, but realistically
32 speaking and as honest as you can be, it's told to us,
33 and I notice not only yourself but many others when
34 they're making a presentation, well, we haven't made
35 this decision to go forward yet, you know, we won't
36 know yet, we won't know yet, but realistically speaking
37 after how many millions of dollars of your research and
38 going through all this, you know, through the entire
39 permitting process where you say the final decision
40 will be made, I mean how realistic is it really to
41 think that people aren't going to try to get some kind
42 of recovery on their investment and we can be pretty
43 much assured that there's a definite intent that it
44 will happen?
45
46 MR. FUEG: Well, let me see how I
47 should respond to that one. Firstly, Placer Dome is a
48 big company. I mean we've been around for a long time
49 and we operate many, many mines around the world. As a
50 company we don't, sort of, get judged on our stock

1 price and, you know, on how good a story we can spin,
2 we get judged on how many ounces of gold we produce
3 every year and we produce somewhere between 3.5 and 4
4 million ounces of gold every year. Smaller companies
5 get judged on different criteria. Our company doesn't
6 get judged on that kind of criteria, we get ranked on
7 how much gold we produce, to do that we have to put
8 things into production.

9
10 Placer Dome has several advanced scale
11 projects, there were four of them going into the
12 beginning of this year, one in Nevada, one in the
13 Dominican Republic, one in Chile, and Donlin Creek.
14 Today we've spent about \$60 million plus on Donlin
15 Creek, us and our partner, I should clarify that.
16 That's pretty similar to what's been spent on some of
17 the other operations, in fact, slightly less than has
18 spent on some of them. And about two or three weeks
19 ago Placer Dome released an announcement saying that
20 the project we had in Chile, which is on a similar
21 scale to the one that we're looking at here and which
22 they have spent just as much time and money on studying
23 was not economically feasible and at this time they're
24 shelving the project and they may or may not be walking
25 away from it. But they're not planning any immediate
26 work on it.

27
28 So, no, it's not inconceivable that we
29 could spend all this money and walk away from it.

30
31 To put it into perspective, if we were
32 to build a mine at Donlin Creek, the company would be
33 looking at probably investigating somewhere between
34 1.25 and 1.5 billion dollars, so somewhere between
35 1,200 and 1,500 million dollars. Quite frankly, if we
36 mess that one up that's the kind of thing that can
37 destroy a company, even a big company like Placer Dome
38 so we're not going to gamble on something like that.

39
40 And that's the reason why we've been
41 working on this since 1996, it is not an easy deposit.

42
43 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chairman.

44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

46
47 MR. MIKE: From my understanding the
48 Donlin Creek is exploration, if I'm wrong you could
49 correct me, and AVCP is supposed to have special
50 convention concerning Donlin Creek in the near future.

1 MR. FUEG: That is my understanding as
2 well. I wasn't at the recent AVCP meeting but
3 according to what I was told is there's talk about
4 having a special convention sometime in the first
5 quarter next year.

6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions.

8
9 (No comments)

10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

12
13 MR. FUEG: Mr. Chairman. Members of
14 the Council. Thank you again for the invitation. And,
15 please, I urge anyone who has any questions or concerns
16 feel free to contact me at any point and I will do my
17 best to respond to those and if I can't, find somebody
18 that can give you the answers that you want.

19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

21
22 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

23
24 INTERPRETER: I have no reservations
25 about what's happening here regarding this project but
26 if there is environmental precautions taken, I have
27 gone to meetings -- or I've gone to a mine, Nyiak (ph),
28 I have worked with the youth at that camp where there
29 was an earlier mine, they take us to Nyiak. They will
30 be using a lot of diesel for its operation and the
31 community at the mouth of Nyiak have not been -- are
32 still feeling the affects of their mine on their creek.

33
34 Whatever is extracted from the mine, if
35 this project becomes a reality, if all chemicals are
36 incinerated -- or if this happens to become a reality,
37 if chemicals are properly stored, since there will be
38 diesel that will be imported and transported, that is
39 my main concern on to the river and its effect on the
40 environment.

41
42 But I've seen the Nyiak mine in
43 operation and since I've seen it in operation, I just
44 wanted to share the concern that environment be of
45 concern.

46
47 MR. FUEG: Thank you. Again, you
48 know, we recognize the concerns about the environment
49 and we certainly recognize the importance of the
50 subsistence harvest. And I cannot sit here and tell

1 you that in the past the mining industry has done
2 everything right, clearly the evidence speaks to the
3 contrary. What I can say is mining, like many other
4 industries, be it timber or oil or heavy industry has
5 come a long way in the last decades in terms of its
6 ability to operate in a clean and environmentally sound
7 manner. The regulations that govern these activities
8 have become a lot stricter. And I think it's safe to
9 say that in modern mining operation is very, very
10 different to anything that might have been done 50 or
11 100 years ago.

12

13 Placer Dome has been taking people and
14 so far, I think it's been primarily Calista and TKC
15 board members, but we hope to expand the program, we've
16 been taking people from the region to visit some of our
17 other modern mining operations in Montana and Nevada so
18 that they can get an understanding of how modern mines
19 operate and I would encourage people here if they can
20 make contact with some of those people who've been to
21 visit some of those modern operations, please talk to
22 them and get their perspectives. You know, they have
23 the same concerns and the same insights and the same
24 background that you do, and speak to them, ask them
25 what they saw and get your feedback from them rather
26 than me as an independent third party.

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions from
29 Council.

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

34

35 MR. FUEG: Thank you.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Now, we get into No.
38 13, Regional Council business. Alex Nick.

39

40 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. As Council are
41 aware next meeting is scheduled to be held in Emmonak
42 on February 23, 24, 2006 and the Council needs to
43 confirm this.

44

45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

48

49 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we have our
50 next meeting in Emmonak February 23, 24 in the year

1 2006.

2

3

MR. ONEY: Second.

4

5

MR. ROCZICKA: Question

6

7

8

CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the floor and a second to have a meeting at Emmonak. All who favor say aye.

9

10

11

IN UNISON: Aye.

12

13

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oppose, say no.

14

15

(No opposing votes)

16

17

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried.

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MS. HOFFMAN: What about the 5th and 6th.

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, the 5 and 6 could
2 work, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday's the convention but
3 generally the last day is like awards and so forth now
4 since they changed their format, resolutions are
5 addressed on the second day.

6
7 MS. HOFFMAN: I move that we have our
8 meeting October 5 and 6 here in Bethel.

9
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.

11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion, is
13 there a second.

14
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: Right here.

16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob seconded it.
18 Discussion.

19
20 (No comments)

21
22 MR. ONEY: Question.

23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called
25 for. All who favor say aye.

26
27 IN UNISON: Aye.

28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed, say no.

30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: Aye.

32
33 (Laughter)

34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried here in
36 Bethel. Now, is the next to last -- election of
37 officers, Alex Nick.

38
39 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Last winter when
40 the Council met in Toksook Bay, election of officers
41 was on the agenda and the Council present didn't hold
42 elections because some of the Council members were
43 absent and they -- rather the Council wanted to hold
44 election of officers at this meeting.

45
46 So Mr. Chair, the rule is that I take
47 over the Chair, with your permission, to conduct the
48 first portion of this to elect a Chair and then I turn
49 over the Chair over to the newly elected or reappointed
50 Chairman after that.

1 Mr. Chair.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.
4
5 MR. NICK: Nominations are now open for
6 Chairman of YK Council.
7
8 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
9 Chairman, if in the event that we have a new officers
10 elected today, how many meetings will the Chairman be
11 chairing?
12
13 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. With
14 understanding that some Council members might be
15 reappointed this fall, it depends on who's nominated or
16 elected.
17
18 MR. L. WILDE: I was asking -- I can't
19 remember how often we elect our officers, is the reason
20 why I ask is because if we elected our officers today,
21 would that Chairman be Chairman for one meeting or how
22 would that work?
23
24 MR. NICK: Lester, it would depend on
25 the terms on the roster in your book, if you look at
26 your book there is a roster right after the agenda.
27 And maybe Ann has answer to that, hold on.
28
29 MS. HOFFMAN: How often do we elect our
30 officers?
31
32 MR. NICK: I'll let Ann, it depends on
33 your charter, I think.
34
35 MS. HOFFMAN: Well, what is that, thank
36 you.
37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ann go ahead.
39
40 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman. Officers
41 are elected every year, so if you have this election in
42 the fall, I don't know if you want to get back on your
43 normal schedule and have it again in the spring or if
44 you want to just having them every fall from now on,
45 but you do it once a year.
46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.
50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Based on that
2 information I think we should just hold off on election
3 of officers until February.
4
5 MR. NICK: Is that a motion.
6
7 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we postpone
8 our election for officers until the February meeting in
9 Emmonak.
10
11 MR. ONEY: Second.
12
13 MR. NICK: Is there a second.
14
15 MR. ONEY: Second.
16
17 MR. NICK: There is a motion on the
18 floor to hold off the election of officers for the YK
19 Council until winter meeting, seconded by Ray Oney.
20
21 Any further discussion.
22
23 MS. HOFFMAN: Let me see I lost my
24 train of thought with my discussion so never mind.
25
26 MR. BROWN: Question.
27
28 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I was
29 just wondering, maybe if we wanted, so it doesn't go to
30 the end of the meeting again and at the end of the
31 meeting we say maybe next fall, that it be somewhere on
32 the forward part of the agenda, maybe by the end of the
33 first day or something like that.
34
35 MS. HOFFMAN: Yeah.
36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Or first out of the
38 chute, whatever, yeah, but at least on first day.
39
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.
43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: The reason I made that
45 motion is because there's a lot of people that are
46 either going to be renewed or replaced during this
47 October through January.
48
49 (In Yup'ik)
50

1 INTERPRETER: (No translation)
2
3 MR. NICK: Bob just explained what the
4 motion is all about. And I think I heard a question on
5 the floor, was that you, Mr. Brown?
6
7 MR. BROWN: (Nods affirmatively)
8
9 MR. NICK: I guess we're ready for a
10 vote. All those in favor of the motion signify by
11 saying aye.
12
13 IN UNISON: aye
14
15 MR. NICK: All opposed, same sign.
16
17 (No opposing votes)
18
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.
22
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we adjourn.
24
25 MS. GREGORY: I oppose.
26
27 MR. NICK: I'll turn the floor over to
28 Harry first before you do that.
29
30 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.
33
34 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we adjourn.
35
36 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I opposed.
37 I'd like to make some comments before we adjourn. If
38 Mr. Aloysius needs to go, he can go.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Was there a second to
41 the motion. Mary.
42
43 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)
44
45 INTERPRETER: I am concerned about
46 quitting abruptly so I want to go through.....
47
48 MS. GREGORY: It will only take five
49 minutes.
50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay.
2
3 MS. HOFFMAN: I would just like to
4 thank everybody for being here and I do plan to
5 reapply.
6
7 MR. L. WILDE: Well, Mr. Chairman,
8 according to our agenda that we already voted on there
9 was one segment that we missed and that was closing
10 comments, Item 14, before the adjournment.
11
12 MS. GREGORY: May we have some decorum
13 here. I know we're going to quit but don't start
14 walking around. I want to thank everybody that had
15 come and spoke in front of us, especially those people
16 from the Yukon who are witnessing an illegal
17 bootlegging going on with our fish. And I want to
18 encourage other people to do that and not be scared to
19 come around if they see things like that. This was a
20 very good meeting for me because I learned more. I've
21 been here for quite a while but I learned more about
22 things that are happening and why we should be
23 continuing to be a Council for our people in the way of
24 subsistence.
25
26 Quyana.
27
28 (In Yup'ik)
29
30 INTERPRETER: And I appreciate the
31 people from Kwethluk -- the Yukon for coming and
32 speaking.
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there any other
35 comments from Council.
36
37 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)
38
39 INTERPRETER: I appreciate the changes
40 in the process and the participation and receptiveness
41 of Fish and Wildlife and Fish and Game representatives.
42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments.
44
45 (No comments)
46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If there's no more
48 comment I'm going to ask our elder (In Yup'ik).
49
50 INTERPRETER: (No interpretation)

1 MR. NICK: Yeah, before invocation I
2 would like to remind everyone that you're invited to
3 eat with us this evening, those of you that are here,
4 the address is 130 Ptarmigan. 130 Ptarmigan and I'm
5 listed in the phone book.

6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

8
9 INTERPRETER: (No interpretation)

10
11 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

12
13 (Invocation)

14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Meeting adjourned.

16
17 (Laughter)

18
19 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

