

1 YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA  
2 SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
3 PUBLIC MEETING  
4

5 VOLUME II  
6

7 October 15, 2004  
8 9:00 o'clock a.m.  
9 Long House, Bethel, Alaska  
10

11

12 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:  
13

14 Harry Wilde, Sr. Chair

15 Bob Aloysius

16 Nick Andrews, Sr.

17 Mary Gregory

18 John Hanson

19 Beverly Hoffman

20 Joseph Mike, Sr.

21 Phillip Moses

22 Robert Nick

23 Raymond Oney

24 Greg Roczicka

25 Lester Wilde, Sr.  
26

27

28 Regional Coordinator, Alex Nick  
29

30

31 Sophie Evan, Interpreter

32 Joseph "Trim" Nick, Interpreter  
33

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Bethel, Alaska - 10/15/2004)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Good morning. We're ready and we have one proposal left, Kuskokwim fishery proposal, Proposal 08, revise C&T use determination for the Kuskokwim River drainage. Councils, you'll find it in your booklet, Page 133.

Please say your name and.....

MS. WHEELER: Thank you. Good morning, Mr. Chairman. Council members. My name is Polly Wheeler, and I work with the Office of Subsistence Management, and I'll be presenting the proposal analysis for Proposal 8.

And, Mr. Chair, as you mentioned, it begins on Page 134 in your book.

A lot of the information for this proposal, Mr. Chair and Council members, was covered in last night's review of the analysis for Proposal 7, so I'll hit on some of the highlights, specifically the regulatory history that we talked about last night for rainbow trout in the Kuskokwim area is the exact same for this proposal as it was for the proposal that we covered last night. So rather than go through that, the regulatory history today, I'll just reference that discussion that we had last night, if that's okay with you, Mr. Chair.

Okay. Excuse me. Proposal 8 was submitted by the Western Interior Regional Advisory Council, and it requests that the existing positive customary and traditional use determination for rainbow trout in the Kuskokwim area be expanded to include the communities of Aniak, Chuathbaluk, and Crooked Creek. The existing regulation for customary and traditional use for rainbow trout in the Kuskokwim area is on Page 134 in the book. Again, as we reviewed it last night, the existing Federal regulation for a positive customary and traditional use determination for rainbow trout in the Kuskokwim area currently covers the -- currently includes rather the communities of Quinhagak, Goodnews Bay, Kwethluk, Eek, Akiachak, Akiak and Platinum.

1 Now, last night when you considered  
2 Proposal 7, you supported the idea or the Staff  
3 recommendation which include the communities of  
4 Tuntutuliak, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Oscarville, Bethel,  
5 Atmauluak, Nunapitchuk, Kasigluk, Tuluksak, Upper Kalskag  
6 and Lower Kalskag. So, Mr. Chair, what you have before  
7 you, Proposal 7 covered those communities. Proposal 8  
8 covers Aniak, Chuathbaluk and Crooked Creek.

9  
10 In requesting the inclusion of the three  
11 communities, the Western Interior Regional Advisory  
12 Council stated that the residents of these three  
13 communities have used rainbow trout in the middle  
14 Kuskokwim River drainage where they are present.

15  
16 As we covered a little bit last night,  
17 rainbow trout are at the northern range of their  
18 geographic distribution in the Kuskokwim area, and  
19 Kuskokwim river tributaries that are known to produce  
20 rainbow trout in the areas of concern include all  
21 drainages up to and including the Aniak River.

22  
23 Residents of Aniak and Chuathbaluk also  
24 report harvesting rainbow trout on Holokuk River and  
25 other drainages and locations upriver of Aniak. And that  
26 information actually came from Ms. Krauthoefer in a  
27 project that she did which we'll be talking about a  
28 little bit later. And there are other scattered reports  
29 of rainbow trout being caught in tributaries above the  
30 Aniak River.

31  
32 A map of the Federal waters in the  
33 proposed areas can be found on Page 135 of your book, if  
34 you want to look at that.

35  
36 And, again, in reviewing the analysis for  
37 Proposal 7, I covered in detail the regulatory history  
38 for rainbow trout in the Kuskokwim area as far as  
39 customary and traditional use determinations go, so  
40 rather than repeat that here, I'll reference the  
41 discussion last night, and also refer you to Pages 136  
42 and 137 in your book which covers that regulatory history  
43 in detail.

44  
45 As far as community characteristics go  
46 for the three communities, there's a discussion on Pages  
47 137 and 138 in your book which provides information on  
48 the characteristics of the three different communities  
49 under consideration in this proposal.

50

1                   In 2000 the communities ranged in size  
2 from 97, which was the size of Chuathbaluk, to Aniak,  
3 which is about 540 people in 2000. And the population  
4 figures for those communities from 1960 to 2000 can be  
5 found on Page 137 of your book.

6  
7                   As was true of the lower Kuskokwim  
8 communities, residents of these middle Kuskokwim  
9 communities all rely on subsistence harvest of fish and  
10 wildlife for their way of life.

11  
12                   Now, as you know, with the C&T, or the  
13 customary and traditional use determinations, we deal  
14 with the eight factors. On Pages 138 to 140 in your book  
15 you will find a detailed discussion of the eight factors  
16 that a community or area must generally exhibit to be  
17 considered for a positive customary and traditional use  
18 determination. As again I covered last night, the  
19 Federal Subsistence Board will make a customary and  
20 traditional use determination based on application of  
21 these eight factors. In addition, the Board will take  
22 into consideration the reports and recommendations of the  
23 appropriate Council regarding customary and traditional  
24 use of subsistence resources.

25  
26                   Just in brief, in considering the  
27 application of the eight factors for these three  
28 communities, I can say that reliance on the harvest and  
29 use of wild resources has long been a central element of  
30 life in the middle -- of middle Kuskokwim River  
31 residents, and subsistence use of resources continues to  
32 be a vital and essential component in the economy of  
33 Aniak, Chuathbaluk and Crooked Creek.

34  
35                   While somewhat dated, the primary sources  
36 of information on resource use by residents of the middle  
37 Kuskokwim area all point to a wide diversity of fish and  
38 game resources used by residents of the area, and to the  
39 foundation of harvest and use of resources to the economy  
40 and well being of residents of the area.

41  
42                   Rainbow trout are harvested throughout  
43 the year in the middle Kuskokwim area, although some  
44 areas reportedly have primary and secondary periods of  
45 harvest.

46  
47                   I would note that there's little  
48 indication in the published material that Crooked Creek  
49 uses rainbow trout in Federal waters. Where Crooked  
50 Creek is, it's enough above the Aniak where there's not a

1 lot of indication that they do -- at least in the  
2 published literature, that they use that, although at the  
3 Aniak -- or the Western Interior meeting in Anvik,  
4 several of the members there recounted personal stories  
5 of people from Crooked Creek fishing down in the Aniak,  
6 and I'll mention that a little bit later, because that  
7 affected their consideration of this proposal.

8  
9                   As far as the effect of the proposal  
10 goes, Mr. Chair, adoption of the proposal would result in  
11 expansion of the positive determination for rainbow trout  
12 in the Kuskokwim area to include the residents of Aniak,  
13 Chuathbaluk and Crooked Creek, which in 2000 contained an  
14 estimated 245 households. Expanding the existing  
15 customary and traditional use determination for rainbow  
16 to include residents of these three communities would not  
17 likely change the existing pattern of harvest and use of  
18 rainbow trout, but rather would acknowledge the existing  
19 harvest and use. However, while residents of Aniak and  
20 Chuathbaluk clearly fish for rainbow trout in waters over  
21 which there is Federal jurisdiction, as I mentioned  
22 earlier there's -- I couldn't find a lot, anything  
23 really, in the written literature that indicates that  
24 residents of Crooked Creek do so, although as I  
25 mentioned, at the Western Interior Regional Advisory  
26 Council meeting several of the members spoke of people  
27 from Crooked Creek coming down to Aniak to fish for  
28 rainbow trout.

29  
30                   So the preliminary Staff conclusion, Mr.  
31 Chair, is to support the proposal with modification to  
32 include only the communities of Aniak and Chuathbaluk,  
33 with the justification that residents of the middle  
34 Kuskokwim area have utilized rainbow trout for many  
35 generations, and expanding the existing customary and  
36 traditional use determination to include Aniak and  
37 Chuathbaluk would merely acknowledge that use. Because  
38 there's not a lot of indication in the information that's  
39 currently available that residents of Crooked Creek fish  
40 for rainbow trout in waters over which there is Federal  
41 jurisdiction, including Crooked Creek in this customary  
42 and traditional use determination would be inappropriate  
43 for Federal subsistence fisheries management.

44  
45                   Now, again, that was the preliminary  
46 Staff conclusion prior to the Anvik meeting. As I  
47 mentioned, the Federal Board considers the Staff  
48 analysis, but they also consider any information that  
49 they get out of Regional Advisory Council members, both  
50 at the individual Regional Advisory Council meetings and

1 at the Federal Subsistence Board meeting. And as I said  
2 earlier, I would note that the Western Interior Council,  
3 because of the accounts by several members at that  
4 meeting, voted to -- their recommendation was to support  
5 the proposal with the modification to include Crooked  
6 Creek. So that the preliminary Staff recommendation is  
7 just to include Aniak and Chuathbaluk. The Western  
8 Interior Council opted to include all three communities.  
9 Mr. Chair.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Councils, do  
12 you have a question for Polly? Greg.

13

14 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. Polly, you  
15 mentioned that the preliminary recommendation, if you  
16 would have had the information from the Western Interior  
17 Council at that time, do you feel that might have changed  
18 that recommendation? I know I've caught rainbow out of  
19 Holokuk before, and I've also close on to 20 years ago  
20 now had somebody tell me they got one in Askawalek as  
21 well. But having this information, do you feel that  
22 would have changed the Staff's preliminary  
23 recommendation?

24

25 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, Member Roczicka,  
26 I think that it certainly makes sense. Again, the Board  
27 considers what's available in the written literature,  
28 which is what I did in doing the analysis, and I had done  
29 some investigation trying to find out from personal  
30 accounts, but that certainly was fairly -- was convincing  
31 when several of the members from Aniak talked about their  
32 relatives basically fishing, from Crooked Creek going  
33 down and fishing down there. So it certainly makes sense  
34 to me, Mr. Chair.

35

36 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. Thank you. And  
37 just as a point of clarification, too, it sounds to me  
38 like Western Interior supported the proposal as written,  
39 not modified, because it does have Aniak, Chuathbaluk and  
40 Crooked Creek, and the modification is the Staff's  
41 modification, not the proposers. So they supported the  
42 original proposal as written.

43

44 MS. WHEELER: (Nods affirmatively)

45

46 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

49

50 MS. GREGORY: On Page 141, your

1 justification, can you explain that, because it's not  
2 clear to me, because it sounds like contradictory.

3

4 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. Member Gregory,  
5 yes, what we do when we do these Staff analyses is we  
6 took to the written literature as much as possible. In a  
7 review of the written literature, I couldn't find  
8 reference to members of -- or, you know, the community of  
9 Crooked Creek using rainbow trout, and so that was what  
10 the preliminary conclusion is to only include the  
11 communities of Aniak and Chuathbaluk. However, and  
12 that's what the justification is, because we couldn't  
13 find any evidence that people from Crooked Creek used  
14 rainbow trout.

15

16 But at the Western Interior Council  
17 meeting last weekend, several members of the Western  
18 Interior Council said that they in fact knew of people  
19 from Crooked Creek using rainbow trout, so that would  
20 change -- I know it's a little confusing, because we've  
21 got the book here which says one thing, and I'm telling  
22 you something slightly different. But at the Western  
23 Interior Council there were several members that spoke of  
24 people from Crooked Creek fishing for rainbow trout down  
25 in the Aniak area. So as Member Roczicka just said, it  
26 would make sense to include the Community of Crooked  
27 Creek, so the proposal as written is to include the  
28 communities of Aniak, Chuathbaluk and Crooked Creek.

29

30 If that makes any sense. I don't know if  
31 I confused you more.

32

33 MS. GREGORY: It's okay.

34

35 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

38

39 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Page 137 on  
40 the last paragraph, the notes say that Chuathbaluk is  
41 located on the site of Deg Hi'tan Athabascan fish camp or  
42 summer village on the north side of the Kuskokwim River  
43 approximately 11 miles upstream from Akiak.

44

45 Where did you guys get that information  
46 from?

47

48 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. Member  
49 Aloysius, that was -- I got that information of a  
50 document written by an anthropologist, Wendell Oswalt,

1 and it talks about the locations of Kuskokwim River  
2 villages. If that's incorrect, I would appreciate the  
3 clarification.

4  
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: There are no Athabascans  
6 living in that area, never was. And the history of  
7 Chuathbaluk is that its initial name was Little Russian  
8 Mission. It was a Russian outpost, and a first mission  
9 on the Kuskokwim River after the founding of Russian  
10 Mission on the Yukon. And there never was a village  
11 before until the Church was built. Then later on people  
12 started moving from across the river, as the village  
13 itself was across the river on the southside, but the  
14 mission was established up on the hill. So, you know,  
15 that's the only thing that only struck me was how can we  
16 have an Athabascan fish camp in Yup'ik country.

17  
18 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, that's the  
19 beauty of having transcripts. In about a week I'll have  
20 this written testimony and I can revise the analysis  
21 based on your comments.

22  
23 Thank you.

24  
25 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

28  
29 MS. HOFFMAN: Polly, I don't -- you know,  
30 my concerns, you know, I understand customary and  
31 traditional use of all of our resources. I was born and  
32 raised here, and utilized many, many of these resources.

33  
34  
35 Your analysis or your determination to  
36 support the proposal is based on just, you know, the  
37 customary and traditional, those eight points. But  
38 there's no data collected by the Federal and State  
39 agencies on this specific stock, rainbow. Rainbow. And  
40 it's not like the salmon stock. It's not like some of  
41 the other resources. I believe that our people for the  
42 most part take what they need, you know, but, again, my  
43 same concerns are of those that take coolers and netfuls  
44 out of rainbow trout. Not other species, not like the  
45 salmon that we counsel heavily on.

46  
47 The Board in other years have voted to  
48 postpone action. They opted to delay implementing a  
49 harvest program on rainbow trout until use areas could be  
50 mapped, and to evaluate existing information, and really

1 looking at the stock. And that has not been done. It  
2 has not been done. And because the rainbow trout, just  
3 this one species, is different than many other resources,  
4 I have so much concern that your agency has done little  
5 to collect more information, more data, when we do it on  
6 so many other of our resources. You spend millions of  
7 dollars on projects and nothing has been done on this  
8 specific stock and it concerns me.

9

10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Polly.

11

12 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. Member Hoffman,  
13 I share your concern. I guess I have two comments. One  
14 is, and it's sort of reiterating what I had said last  
15 night, and that is that when we do customary and  
16 traditional use determinations, we're just looking at the  
17 uses, not the populations. And I know it's confusing and  
18 it's hard to sort of separate the two, but for the  
19 purposes of customary and traditional determinations,  
20 we're just looking at the patterns of use. We're not  
21 looking at the stocks at issue or whatever. So your job  
22 is difficult, really, because you have to look at the  
23 uses sort of in a vacuum where you're not considering  
24 what's going on with the population of the resources at  
25 hand.

26

27 My second hand is, you're correct. I  
28 mean, in this area the bulk of the research dollars are  
29 being spent on salmon. And it's -- I've noted your  
30 request. There's clearly a need to do some baseline  
31 information on rainbow trout stocks. First and foremost,  
32 find out exactly where they are, because in talking to  
33 several different sport fish biologists, they were sort  
34 of vague, you know, they're not really clear on where  
35 exactly they are. So what my recommendation would be to  
36 -- you know, we have this Fisheries Information Service,  
37 the fisheries Resource Monitoring Program that Mr.  
38 Cannon's going to speaking to later on this morning. And  
39 the Council might want to consider adding the status of  
40 rainbow trout populations as an issue of tremendous  
41 concern to this Council, and when we do a call for  
42 proposals, for research proposals, that could be  
43 something that some of our researches could think about,  
44 specifically Sport Fish Division within the Department.  
45 So I don't know, it doesn't address your immediate  
46 concern, but -- Mr. Chair.

47

48 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

49

50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

1 MS. HOFFMAN: You know, it's always  
2 attached to the sports fish, and, of course, you know,  
3 subsistence is a priority here, and customary and  
4 traditional use. It's a good thing. It's a good thing.  
5 When you attach this specific species just to that  
6 entity, that's not a good thing, and that bothers me that  
7 it always has to fall under that.

8  
9 I just, again, am concerned about that  
10 species. Spend your dollars on the salmon, yes. That's  
11 the most important. That feeds us and nourishes us.  
12 Don't under estimate the value of the dollars that's  
13 spent there, that's spent necessary. You want to know  
14 where the rainbow trout are, you know, ask me, ask some  
15 of these people that live on these rivers. I don't know  
16 how many fish go up the river, but I know where they are.

17  
18 Thank you.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Polly.

21  
22 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chairman. Member  
23 Hoffman, and I know that this is probably a weak response  
24 in some ways, but the reason why I specifically said  
25 Sport Fish Division, it's kind of -- it's a weird thing,  
26 but within Fish and Game, the Subsistence Division is  
27 comprised of social scientists, and believe me the  
28 biologists would shudder to have the Subsistence Division  
29 do research on rainbow trout populations. But Sport Fish  
30 typically does research. They have biologists on staff  
31 that do research on species other than salmon. And Comm  
32 Fish primarily focuses on salmon. So that's one of those  
33 weird distinctions, and I know it doesn't always make  
34 sense, but that was what that reference to. Mr. Chair.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

37  
38 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, not a  
39 question, but just kind of a comment on some of Bev's  
40 thoughts that she laid out there. She's always good for  
41 making me think a little harder. I think one point they  
42 mentioned about rainbow trout treated as separate, and if  
43 you recall from the working group meeting, Mr. Swanton  
44 from Sport Fish Division was quick to remind us that  
45 rainbow trout are actually are actually a member of the  
46 species ornahinkas (ph), which is Pacific salmon is also.

47  
48  
49 And we also -- the Fisheries Resource  
50 Monitoring Program is also conducting project dealing

1 with whitefish and so forth, so we're not out of our  
2 realm there.

3  
4 But another thing that you touched on  
5 that I wanted to because it's rather a sore point with me  
6 and many people that are perhaps more familiar with the  
7 inner workings of the whole Federal management program,  
8 and that's just the difficulty of understanding why only  
9 the human harvest is ever treated as the focus of  
10 management, and basically saying we're not going to  
11 manage the populations at issue, whether it's be a game  
12 animal or any fish species. And that actually is a  
13 matter of interpretation by the powers that be, and in  
14 discussions with legal counsels, including the Federal,  
15 again that is a matter of interpretation, and that's a  
16 choice that's been made by the Boards as set up through  
17 the Federal management program, so I just wanted to get  
18 that out.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Councils, any more  
21 questions to Polly. Ray. Bob. I don't know.

22  
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: I was trying to tell you  
24 to use your mic.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh, I was trying to  
27 listen to these two here. If it's not any more questions  
28 to Polly, following our presentation procedure we ask  
29 Department of Fish and Game, do you have a comment.

30  
31 MR. LINDERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair,  
32 Council members. Again my name is John Linderman. I'm  
33 the assistant or Kuskokwim assistant area management  
34 biologist. This response was prepared by the Sport Fish  
35 Division of Department of Fish and Game.

36  
37 The Federal analysis for this proposal  
38 adequately addresses the documented information regarding  
39 customary and traditional use of trout of the communities  
40 of Aniak and Chuathbaluk. We consider that under the  
41 current Federal and State subsistence regulations, we  
42 would not expect to see a change in harvest as an effect  
43 of this proposed regulation as modified by Federal Staff.

44  
45 The Department's comments are similar to  
46 those for Proposal No. 7 that was discussed last night.

47  
48 There is a finding in State regulations  
49 for the Kuskokwim area for customary and traditional of  
50 fin fish, of all fin fish, which includes trout.

1                   In order to provide -- or efforts have  
2 been made to try and secure funding to gain more baseline  
3 information on these species. In order to provide for  
4 sustainable populations and harvest of fish, it is  
5 intrinsically important to gain support for such  
6 projects. Baseline information is needed, as well as  
7 monitoring to assess potential changes, and to ensure  
8 that the resource and harvest will be fully sustainable.  
9 These issues can also be considered when the FIS develops  
10 a strategic research plan for this part of the State.

11  
12                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13  
14                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Councils, do you have a  
15 question to John. Thank you.

16  
17                   MS. HOFFMAN: One second, Mr. Chairman.

18  
19                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Beverly.

20  
21                   MS. HOFFMAN: Oops. I'm getting like  
22 Harry. You concur with the Federal Department, but  
23 there's no information. No information again. And you  
24 feel like it's increasingly important to have this  
25 information, and to collect the data, so that you can  
26 make these recommendations, yet there's a recommendation  
27 there with no data on a specific species. How can you do  
28 that? I understand C&T and the eight points.

29  
30                   MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. One point that  
31 I didn't mention, Member Hoffman, one point that I didn't  
32 mention earlier is that we actually -- Tracie Krauthoefer  
33 with Fish and Game is just wrapping up a project, it's  
34 called Aniak freshwater fish, that was looking at the  
35 harvest and use of freshwater fish in the Aniak area.  
36 And I'm eagerly awaiting the draft report which I've been  
37 promised I'm going to get by the end of the day, but that  
38 is one project that has been funded and has been  
39 accomplished, and we're looking forward to the report.

40  
41                   And another one that Tracie and I will be  
42 working on for consideration for the next call is looking  
43 at freshwater fish use in the Nunapitchuk area. And that  
44 is one project that, I'm jumping the gun a little bit,  
45 but that's one project that wasn't recommended for  
46 funding this time around because of technical issues, but  
47 I'll be working with Tracie, and we'll get those issues  
48 addressed and hopefully get it funded for next time  
49 around. Member Hoffman.

50

1 MS. HOFFMAN: One more thing, Mr. Chair.  
2 I understand that this information is coming, but I'm  
3 talking about this one species, that this one -- this  
4 proposal and 07 proposal dealt with just one species, and  
5 that's my concern.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: John.

8  
9 MR. LINDERMAN: Yeah, Mr. Chair, Member  
10 Hoffman, there is some information that we do have on  
11 these species. It is as you've mentioned and as many  
12 members have mentioned, or had concern in regards to the  
13 amount of information for a baseline that's out there.  
14 But just to read off some of the information that is out  
15 there, now, keeping in mind that most of this is sports  
16 fish information, or sports fish harvest information.

17  
18 For the lower Kuskokwim River drainage  
19 streams, for the Aniak, the average harvest is 183 fish.  
20 Prior to 2001 when catch and release regulations were  
21 implemented, the average catch was 3,703. On the  
22 Kisaralik River, the average harvest is 15 fish. The  
23 average catch is 2,554. On the Kwethluk the average  
24 harvest is 45 fish, the average catch is 1,319. Others,  
25 which include the Eek and other systems in the lower  
26 drainage, the average harvest is 10 fish, and the average  
27 catch is 733 fish. For Kuskokwim Bay, the average  
28 harvest is 73 fish and the average catch is 14,820 fish.

29  
30  
31 With respect to some of the research  
32 needs that the Sport Fish Department would like to see,  
33 is a full stock assessment in regards to abundance of  
34 rainbow trout. These types of projects need to be  
35 conducted on the Aniak, the Kisaralik, Kwethluk, and  
36 Kasigluk Rivers, and also estimates of the subsistence  
37 harvest of rainbow trout need to be made by river and by  
38 gear type. Specifically there is a need to know what the  
39 rod and reel subsistence harvest is. Research projects  
40 to address these data gaps should be conducted  
41 concurrently to determine annual exploitation rates for  
42 evaluating stock health and the stability of these  
43 stocks.

44  
45 Thank you, Mr. Chair, Member Hoffman.

46  
47 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, we're talking  
48 about C&T use, not that data, and your peer from your  
49 agency over there is just frantically shaking her head,  
50 disagreeing with you.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tracie.

2

3 MS. KRAUTHOEFER: Thank you, Chairman  
4 Wilde. My name is Tracie Krauthoefer, and I'm with the  
5 Division of Subsistence at Fish and Game. These  
6 subsistence harvest, we did two years of subsistence  
7 harvest surveys for freshwater fish in the Aniak and  
8 Chuathbaluk communities. And the subsistence harvest is  
9 significantly smaller than the sport fish harvest. Our  
10 results show that Aniak and Chuathbaluk combined caught  
11 roughly a total of 300 rainbow trout in an annual year  
12 for each of those surveys. So it's much smaller than  
13 that sport fish harvest that you just heard about.

14

15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

16

17 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair, and just again  
18 to follow along that sport fish, it does belong in this  
19 discussion if we're talking concerns of mortality on  
20 rainbow trout, and looking at the numbers that you have  
21 there for catch and release, and sport fish has been  
22 under a lot of pressure in the past years on the  
23 incidental mortality rate that takes place, depending on  
24 which group you may ask for, it can be as high as 50 to  
25 60 percent. I believe they admit to on a national level  
26 in the neighborhood of 10 percent. And if we're looking  
27 at those numbers you just gave us for catch and release,  
28 of 17, 19, 25, 54, 3708 and 14,000 plus in Kuskokwim Bay,  
29 that 10 percent, you're still talking thousands, you  
30 know, 1500 to 2,000 fish that may die of incidental  
31 mortality from catch and release. And that's only at 10  
32 percent that they admit to.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Carl Jack.

35

36 MR. JACK: Mr. Chairman. Carl Jack for  
37 the record.

38

39 I just wanted to point out that when I  
40 started working for the Office of Subsistence Management  
41 as a Native liaison, it didn't take me long to make an  
42 observation. Mainly, four types of professions work in  
43 Federal management. There's managers that deal with  
44 policy issues like Mr. Tom Boyd. There's Office of the  
45 Solicitor, lawyers, that advise the managers whether it's  
46 appropriate to go in this direction or not. And there's  
47 biologists that look at population status. And then  
48 there's anthropologists.

49

50 What you're dealing right now is to look

1 at who uses the resource and from what villages. You're  
2 not dealing with harvest levels or -- even though that  
3 may have an impact on that. Once a C&T determination is  
4 made, then the next accompanying proposal would be to  
5 establish harvest guidelines, means and methods. So  
6 right now you're basically dealing with who uses the  
7 resource from what village, and you're not making a  
8 determination of the means and methods or the quotas.

9

10 I just want to point that out. Perhaps  
11 this can -- I don't know quite how to put it, because  
12 this Yup'ik issue standard involved in this.

13

14 (In Yup'ik).

15

16 MR. R. NICK: Mr. Chairman.

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Nick.

19

20 MR. R. NICK: In keeping with the thought  
21 that Mr. Jack just stated to us, I would look at myself  
22 as a subsistence user who is charged with the  
23 responsibility of advocating for the subsistence needs of  
24 my people in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. And this Board  
25 here is one of 10 in the great State of Alaska, and their  
26 primary goal is to see that resources, fish and game, is  
27 available for the consumption of the people so that they  
28 can survive in this harsh country here. I would like to  
29 ask you to imagine living in a village with king salmon,  
30 chum salmon, red salmon, dried. If you eat it for lunch  
31 and supper for seven days, 30 days, nine months, the  
32 whole winter, you will start craving for fresh fish. In  
33 the tundra, we have blackfish. That blackfish saves us  
34 from getting tired of eating dried fish for lunch, supper  
35 seven days a week, 30 days a month. I think upriver in  
36 these villages they have rainbow trout, because I read  
37 that they fish it in the wintertime by hook and line. So  
38 I think this customary and traditional use has been -- we  
39 read it here, we know it, they fish it. Rainbow  
40 trout.....

41

42 I'll tell you a story. I was going to  
43 wait until the end when my times come, but the latter  
44 part of September, for one week I fished whitefish.  
45 That's an anadromous fish in the tundra. In that one  
46 week, I caught two rainbows in my net. I'm actually  
47 fishing for whitefish, but there's two rainbows got  
48 caught in my net. I won't throw it away, because that's  
49 not how I was taught. I'll take them home, which I'll  
50 did. Well, lo and behold, it wasn't 30 minutes from the

1 time I took it from my boat to where my wife's cutting  
2 table is, she had them hanging on a rack. And in five  
3 days, six days, we had them in the smokehouse smoked, and  
4 we ate it, those two rainbows. My grandsons ate it.  
5 They liked it. So I think that is customary and  
6 traditional use.

7  
8 And upriver in Aniak, Chuathbaluk, I  
9 think they do that in the wintertime when they're craving  
10 for fresh fish. So I think this is customary and  
11 traditional use for Chuathbaluk and Aniak. They go up  
12 the Aniak River. But for Crooked Creek, they're on the  
13 Kuskokwim River I think. And if any of the families in  
14 Crooked Creek had gone to any of the tributaries, because  
15 I read here that, you know, Federal Subsistence Board has  
16 allowed the catch of rainbow from the confluence of the  
17 Holitna River on down and the tributaries, which includes  
18 the sloughs, you know, that's in between. So I think all  
19 three, even Crooked Creek residents use rainbow for  
20 subsistence.

21  
22 I'm not talking about sports, for fun  
23 fishing, for fun, letting it go. I'm talking about  
24 catching it, taking it home, drying it, cooking it, and  
25 eating it.

26  
27 Thank you.

28  
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

32  
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. If I had heard  
34 Carl yesterday afternoon, I wouldn't have voted the way I  
35 did on that last proposal.

36  
37 But getting to this one here, I'd like to  
38 point something out, that Robert Nick just touched on.  
39 On Page 143 it says rainbow trout is primary months of  
40 harvest. Resource harvest time reported, and all those  
41 things, you know. It says, the big X, rainbow trout in  
42 Aniak, 12 months a year. And the same thing for  
43 Chuathbaluk. Rainbow trout, big X 12 months a year.  
44 These are very misleading, because like Robert said,  
45 rainbow trout is only harvested for human consumption  
46 during the winter, because that's the only fresh fish we  
47 can get, because salmon is there all summer, so we leave  
48 the rainbow alone.

49  
50 And like I said yesterday, you know, I

1 haven't caught a rainbow trout in the last 52 years,  
2 because I haven't lived in Aniak area since 1952. It was  
3 one of the major activities we had in the wintertime,  
4 especially during the peak of the cold, you know,  
5 December and January, for us to go up to Hooking (ph)  
6 Creek or up to Billy Burg's, Orneagaluk (ph), or any of  
7 the other places that we fish for rainbows, and spend  
8 three or four day there. And also during the beaver  
9 season, which is February and March, we also fish through  
10 the ice trying to get rainbows or dollies. And  
11 occasionally you get a grayling.

12  
13 But when you look at statistics like this  
14 that say that Aniak residents and Chuathbaluk residents,  
15 you know, really go after rainbow trout 12 months a year,  
16 it's very misleading, because they don't. Maybe the  
17 sports fishermen who go after them 12 months a year.

18  
19 As far as the Crooked Creek residents,  
20 they go after rainbow trout in Crooked Creek and up the  
21 George River. Those two streams produce rainbow trout.  
22 There's no rainbow trout that reside on the Kuskokwim  
23 River between Aniak and Chuathbaluk, but the residents of  
24 Chuathbaluk go to Aniak River to harvest rainbow trout.

25  
26 So those are just some of the -- a couple  
27 of the two observations I have that are very misleading.  
28 And I hope that you guys take more time to really delve  
29 into what is accurate on harvesting and harvesting times.

30  
31 Thank you.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, we're going to  
34 continue our procedures. At this time Federal, State and  
35 tribal agency comments. If we have tribals here.

36  
37 (No comments)

38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We don't have any, so  
40 InterAgency Staff Committee comments.

41  
42 (No comments)

43  
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Fish and Game Advisory  
45 Committee comments. Go ahead, Carl.

46  
47 MR. JACK: For the record, Carl Jack,  
48 InterAgency Staff Committee member.

49  
50 The Staff Committee do not have any

1 comments that departs from the Staff conclusions or Staff  
2 recommendations.

3  
4 Thank you.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Carl. Fish  
7 and Game Advisory Committee.

8  
9 (No comments)

10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Summary of written  
12 public comment.

13  
14 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chair, there were no  
15 summary of written public comments.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Public testimony.

18  
19 (No comments)

20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Regional Council  
22 deliberation, recommendation and justification.

23  
24 John Hanson.

25  
26 MR. HANSON: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.  
27 Chairman. I just want to bring up what's in my mind on  
28 the C&T. Ever since I've been on this Board, we work on  
29 C&T for all the villages in AVCP region. Every time a  
30 C&T proposal comes up for some village, we're bogged down  
31 with questions and answers.

32  
33 We all know AVCP is dominated by Yup'ik  
34 people. Every Yup'ik people in AVCP region has a C&T  
35 that was carried on from way back before I even was born.  
36 I'm 74 years old, but I'm still young. But the older  
37 ones are the ones that had C&T before sport fishermen,  
38 before Fish and Game or before white people came. And  
39 that's passed on to every village in AVCP region. So for  
40 all these fish that migrate or stay in the lake, the  
41 people of AVCP region have C&T, which was carried on from  
42 way back in 15, 1700, and every C&T passed on to each  
43 individual in the villages.

44  
45 So when we get to C&T for some village,  
46 we're always bogged down. They have certain questions  
47 from certain people and I don't think that that should  
48 happen. When this Board tries to give C&T to a village,  
49 they give the C&T to a community or village in AVCP  
50 region, or up and down the Yukon, up and down the

1 Kuskokwim, because they own it, they take care of it.  
2 Under subsistence C&T goes a long ways.

3  
4 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5  
6 MR. R. NICK: Mr. Chairman.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Robert.

9  
10 MR. R. NICK: In one of my many or  
11 thoughts that I put on paper, in the newspaper in Bethel,  
12 I spoke about land claims briefly. And one section of  
13 land claims that was grave error that United States  
14 Congress did was to extinguish the aboriginal hunting and  
15 fishing rights of Alaska Natives. It's in there. Black  
16 and white. Right at the start of the Land Claims Act.  
17 And ANILCA in 1980 is an amendment to that Act, and one  
18 of the primary purposes expressed in that amendment is to  
19 allow -- or to make some amends to that mistake that  
20 Congress made in extinguishing our aboriginal hunting and  
21 fishing rights. And it's Title VIII.

22  
23 I view the establishment or determination  
24 of customary and traditional use as the effort to correct  
25 the previous mistake.

26  
27 So I think Carl is correct. And in  
28 speaking for myself, every species that is anadromous  
29 that stays in the region, that swims out to the ocean,  
30 and goes out and comes back in spring, I catch them and I  
31 eat them. And I think the same is true for almost  
32 everybody that sits here.

33  
34 So for that fact, we have customary and  
35 traditional use. but it's not stated so in some species  
36 and in some communities, but it is there, and the  
37 establishment of a customary and traditional use of every  
38 villager that utilizes the resources, the rich resources  
39 of this region is a much.

40  
41 How we harvest those salmon, and when we  
42 harvest those salmon will be determined later afterwards  
43 based on resource numbers, times it's available, and then  
44 it's academic, you know, it's just the way things happen  
45 with ANILCA.

46  
47 And I think with that, since motions need  
48 to be positive, I'd like to move that we adopt the  
49 proposal.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the  
2 floor to accept Proposal 08. If there's any second to  
3 the motion.  
4  
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second by Bob Aloysius.  
8 Discussion.  
9  
10 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
13  
14 MS. HOFFMAN: You know, I'm 53 years old  
15 and I'm new at this, all of this process, only the last  
16 couple years, but I appreciate the privilege that I have  
17 of being from a big family that has counted on customary  
18 and traditional use, subsistence take of salmon and moose  
19 and caribou.  
20  
21 And I just, you know, it gets back to  
22 when you specify one species, it's not the only -- Bob  
23 said it, that it wa the only fresh fish. But then he  
24 pointed out he caught dolly and grayling, and we count on  
25 pike and whitefish and blackfish and lake trout for that  
26 fresh fish. I mean, I grew up eating fish sometimes  
27 seven days a weak, and once in a while we'd have chicken  
28 on Sunday, and that was a big thing. And I know the  
29 importance of eating fresh. It's good.  
30  
31 I guess my whole issue here is, and maybe  
32 I'm being tunnel visioned, I now the importance of C&T to  
33 our people, but I also look at the growing population and  
34 the effect it might have on one species, whether it be  
35 moose, whether it be rainbow trout.  
36  
37 Here in Bethel is a growing community,  
38 not only people are moving in from the villages, but  
39 people are moving from outside in, and they have the same  
40 privileges once they're residents as Harry, our  
41 forefathers, and our parents, our grandparents. And I  
42 just worry about the impact with so little data on, when  
43 you target a specific species. And that's my concern.  
44 And that's why I voted no yesterday was because of that,  
45 that it was specifically targeted towards a species.  
46  
47 And I'm still angry about what happened  
48 that created this whole thing, that it was a young man  
49 from Napaskiak with one rainbow in his boat, and he  
50 stopped at my camp, and they told -- the brothers told me

1 their story, and I was very angry about that. I  
2 understand -- I mean, it all could have been avoided, you  
3 know, but it still gets back to the future and a specific  
4 stock and little data.

5  
6 But we're dealing I guess with a specific  
7 C&T, and it's very hard for me.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Philip.

10  
11 MR. MOSES: Yeah. (In Yup'ik)

12  
13 INTERPRETER: What we eat from in the  
14 wilderness and from the resources that are available, the  
15 elders know the fish and where they are, and what rivers  
16 they navigate or swim in. That is what we subsist on and  
17 we have that knowledge and acknowledge.

18  
19 Beginning in October that have -- all  
20 people that have blackfish, the Yup'ik people, will be  
21 eating and -- harvesting and eating the blackfish and  
22 they are very grateful for it, and those that have  
23 blackfish, and are very grateful for it, because they  
24 have not eaten it all summer, or actually since last  
25 year. Blackfish, for those that have it in their regions  
26 or area will be consumed along with the frozen fresh  
27 fish, also aged fish. We eat fresh blackfish through the  
28 winter. We also consume it with a lot of the dried  
29 goods, dried fish.

30  
31 Many biologists are seeking new  
32 information from the wilderness. Not all rivers or  
33 tributaries have fish, and those that harvest and subsist  
34 on them know where they are. Blackfish are getting ready  
35 now, and at this moment, they are moving, swimming out.  
36 They are collected and frozen into boxes and are consumed  
37 frozen through the winter.

38  
39 When we talk about analyzing the  
40 freshwater fish and seeking more information, the elders  
41 and the people of our region know where they are and how  
42 much there are out there, and they know a year when they  
43 will be abundant, and another year when they won't,  
44 because it is our lifestyle, it's our subsistence food.  
45 We have that knowledge. And when the summer comes around  
46 the blackfish will no longer be our focus, and no longer  
47 eaten. And we await the fall when they will come back.

48  
49 We in our areas have different freshwater  
50 fish that are caught and boiled, different kinds of

1 freshwater fish, because we eat all forms of small  
2 freshwater fish.

3  
4                   It is especially important right now that  
5 this not be a sport fish. In the earlier days we did not  
6 have structure, we had no councils, or we had no local  
7 government, we had no -- there were no white people. The  
8 man who hunted and fished in the wilderness owned that  
9 area. There was no fear of being -- or being regulated.

10  
11                   If he is catching and has a little bit of  
12 excess amount of harvest, that is shared within the  
13 community. And the members of the community are  
14 extremely grateful for what is being shared, because that  
15 is fresh food on the table. And that's the way things  
16 were and that's the way things are.

17  
18                   When we discuss studies or analysis and  
19 the need for more information, we that subsist and eat  
20 this food know where they are and when they will come and  
21 when they will not come. At this moment the blackfish  
22 are still -- most of them are still in the lakes, the  
23 lake regions. These people know where they are and when  
24 they will come. These folks that subsistence -- harvest  
25 and subsist on them every year. And it's not the only  
26 form of frozen fish that we eat through the winter. We  
27 eat other freshwater fish frozen in the winter that are  
28 caught.

29  
30                   Biologists and other agencies seem to  
31 think that the local knowledge is not there, whereas it  
32 is, and abundant. And I would not like for it to be  
33 played with. Perhaps it will be okay now to analyze it,  
34 or to study it, because the things have not changed.

35  
36                   Our elders, our ancestors used to tell us  
37 that the fish is the most important resource, because we  
38 had no means -- we did not have the technology we have  
39 today or the means to go out and get it.

40  
41                   The freshwater fish under the ice was  
42 harvested and we did not have the implements to break  
43 through the ice. We had bones and rocks to break through  
44 the ice to get to the fish.

45  
46                   Those that came before me -- a lot of our  
47 Yup'ik people that subsist on this food really do not  
48 appreciate it when they are played with, and not only the  
49 fish, but also the birds, the eggs during the nesting  
50 season that are handled and studied and bothered when

1 they are here. We were not to, to leave them alone and  
2 to respect them in their time. But biology as it is  
3 today is going out and playing -- as if playing with our  
4 resource, and for you it's a source of income, for  
5 economic purposes, it's a source of income.

6  
7 And this fish -- our ancestors that  
8 harvested and subsisted and ate this resource knew how  
9 they are. Perhaps they will -- things will remain the  
10 same without the studies and without it being a form of  
11 contention or debate. They may eventually diminish and  
12 the resource may be gone at some point. This resource is  
13 here for our consumption, for our survival, and to use to  
14 -- as to the best of our ability.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Before I request for  
17 roll call, it always be my hardest part when you are out  
18 of order. I could not always be -- couldn't say you're  
19 out of order. I think you Councils, you guys know. You  
20 guys are spark and know when you're out of order or  
21 someone out of order. Especially the elders are  
22 speaking, that's my hardest part, to tell the person, you  
23 are out of order.

24  
25 This is the last proposal that we have  
26 here. Proposal 08, revisit C&T use determination for the  
27 Kuskokwim River drainage. This has been comment and all  
28 that. And we go over it, and I suppose we are clearly  
29 understand. Now that I'm going to ask for -- I request  
30 roll call.

31  
32 Mary.

33  
34 MS. GREGORY: Harry Wilde.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

37  
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, point of  
39 order. The question has not been called for.

40  
41 MS. GREGORY: Question. Harry Wilde.

42  
43 MR. HANSON: Question.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

46  
47 MS. GREGORY: John Hanson.

48  
49 MR. HANSON: Yes.

50

1 MS. GREGORY: Mary Gregory, no. Nick  
2 Andrew.  
3  
4 MR. ANDREW: Yes.  
5  
6 MS. GREGORY: Ray Oney.  
7  
8 MR. ONEY: Yes.  
9  
10 MS. GREGORY: Robert Nick.  
11  
12 MR. R. NICK: Yes.  
13  
14 MS. GREGORY: Philip Moses.  
15  
16 MR. MOSES: Yes.  
17  
18 MS. GREGORY: Joseph Mike.  
19  
20 MR. MIKE: Yes.  
21  
22 MS. GREGORY: Greg Roczicka.  
23  
24 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.  
25  
26 MS. GREGORY: Robert Aloysius.  
27  
28 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
29  
30 MS. GREGORY: Beverly Hoffman.  
31  
32 MS. HOFFMAN: No.  
33  
34 MS. GREGORY: One, two, three, four,  
35 five, six, seven, eight. Eight yea's. One, two nays.  
36  
37 MS. HOFFMAN: I believe, Mr. Chair, that  
38 was one nay, and if there's 13 of us here, or 12 of us  
39 here, that would be 11 yea's.  
40  
41 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: There's only one  
42 nay.  
43  
44 MS. GREGORY: There's two of them. I  
45 voted no.  
46  
47 MS. HOFFMAN: Oh, my apologies.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So the motion carried.  
50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bobby.

4

5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Like the old Eddie Hoffman  
6 years ago said, point of order my eye. And the reason I  
7 brought that up is because it is our custom and our  
8 tradition as Yup'ik people to honor and listen to an  
9 elder, whether he's out of order or not. He was in order  
10 to remind all of us in this room about how we are as  
11 Yup'ik people. And how we honor and respect every living  
12 thing on this planet. Everything that flies, that roosts  
13 on trees, that climbs on trees, that walks on four legs  
14 and two lets, that crawls, slithers, burrows or swims on  
15 Mother Earth. And I'm glad that he had the time to  
16 remind us, all of us, that we're here not only to follow  
17 a piece of paper and follow the order, but to remind us  
18 again why we're here. We're here to preserve something  
19 that is very dear to us right here. And I think Mr.  
20 Philip Moses for reminding us. And to me it's like, you  
21 know, I said point of order my eye.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Before we have a  
24 10 minutes break, I want to kind of teasing Bob over  
25 there. I know Bob a long time. No wonder my grandpa,  
26 he's a good engineer, you know, he's -- what I learn, I  
27 never forget. He works, everybody respect him in the  
28 fisheries there -- I mean engineer there, CPR in St.  
29 Michael. He never go to school, but he could speak  
30 English and talk with the people, and he know very well  
31 about engineer business of what's in an engine. One time  
32 he come home from meeting and he was kind of mad, the way  
33 it looks or something. After he was eating, and I look  
34 at him. He don't feel good. I never forget. I was  
35 young then. I never forgot what he say. He said, engine  
36 give you no, but the white man give you trouble.

37

38 MR. R. NICK: Mr. Chairman, before we go  
39 on a break could I just add one comment.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

42

43 MR. R. NICK: It is serious, the things  
44 that we discuss in our meetings are very serious, so  
45 sometimes it doesn't hurt to maybe laugh a little, get a  
46 little humor. But I just wanted to add to what Mr.  
47 Aloysius commented on the comments made by Mr. Moses.

48

49 And I think as I read justifications,  
50 determinations and all that, I see names like Oswalt,

1 Zagoskin, Charnly (ph), Stikne, Krauthoefer. I don't  
2 know who they are, but I know who Oswalt is. I know when  
3 he came to Napaskiak and when he left, and he didn't stay  
4 there very long, probably less than 10 years, but what  
5 Mr. Moses told us in the brief comments he made, he's  
6 been around a long, long time. And he told us of basic  
7 beliefs and truths of way past his time, too, before his  
8 time. So I think he was in order, because he did make  
9 some strong comments, kind of in relation to  
10 justification and everything else. But I agree with Bob  
11 that sometimes Mr. Hoffman say, you know, out of order my  
12 eye has its point.

13  
14 But I'd like to make -- just see if I can  
15 get a chuckle from this. Three years ago, I sat at AVCP  
16 offices, and I think -- pardon me for not even  
17 remembering my niece's name, but she just started  
18 working. And the fishing was about fish, for to  
19 determine how we're going to allow fishing, you know,  
20 windows and all that for the summer. And there was a  
21 long table, and then Dario Notti was sitting on other end  
22 of the table. He was in Natural Resources. Jennifer,  
23 yeah. Jennifer was his boss. And I was sitting at the  
24 other end of the table. And here's all these guys from  
25 Federal Fish and Wildlife, State Fish and Wildlife. None  
26 of them are here today, because I guess they do change.  
27 But they said that we'll be over by 4:00 o'clock, because  
28 I told them, I've got to check in at 4:30. Well, 4:30  
29 came around, and they're still arguing, you know, about  
30 points and all that.

31  
32 So I said, I'd like to tell them a little  
33 joke, and it's about fish, since we're talking about  
34 fish, it's about fishing. I said, if Dario Notti went  
35 fishing with rod and reel, Dario's an Athabaskan. It's a  
36 long name, Yup'ik name, and I went fishing with him. I'm  
37 a Yup'ik. And Art Lake was president of AVCP then, and  
38 Art Lake went with us, the three of us went fishing.  
39 Then two of us caught fish, one got a big fish, one got a  
40 little fish. The third one didn't catch any. We're  
41 going to have a problem at the end of the day. Who gets  
42 the big fish, who gets the small fish. So Dario Notti  
43 would have an idea, he says, well, I'll do it this way.  
44 Whoever has the longest Yup'ik name, or culture or title  
45 would get the big fish. He said, well, I'm an  
46 Athabaskan. Whoever has the longest cultural name,  
47 tribal name, will have the big fish. He says, I'm an  
48 Athabaskan. He spell his name, he gets all the words,  
49 and he look to his right immediately as we always do. He  
50 look at Art Lake, he's a Copik, because his name is C-O-

1 P-I-K. And he tried to look at me, Yup'ik. And I  
2 immediately raise my hand, and I says, yeah, I'll pick  
3 the big one.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 10 minutes break.

6  
7 (Off record)

8  
9 (On record)

10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Before we going into No.  
12 10 on our agenda, Subsistence Fish and Wildlife Service,  
13 I mean issues, I'm going to introduce one of our  
14 important AVCP Chief, the person name Chulumack.  
15 Chulumack is the chief of AVCP, 57 villages, and he would  
16 like to say something. Joe Lomack, I give you that, this  
17 opportunity that you could come here in the front, and  
18 just for the record you could say your name.

19  
20 MR. LOMACK: (In Yup'ik)

21  
22 INTERPRETER: I will just say a little  
23 bit this morning about the fish. Since I did observe  
24 where they had skin nets, when we didn't have -- when  
25 there were no outboard motors. And the fish, we live on  
26 fish and we love to eat fresh fish. And then all the  
27 little streams, we know them up to the Holitna and beyond  
28 the Holitna. His father would talk about those rivers.

29  
30 There was a few moose and they were  
31 trying to increase their numbers and then they're now  
32 many.

33  
34 And then we would see the fish spawned  
35 out on the Holitna as well, but when the Holitna had no  
36 water the fish could not spawn there. And when that  
37 happens, they would teach us where to fish during the  
38 winter. And then when they observed the wind and it was  
39 continually from the south, they would say we would have  
40 strong fish runs.

41  
42 And since he's been a little boy, he's  
43 been hearing about arsenic and the other, mercury, that  
44 those two go into our river streams from the Red Devil  
45 area, that we will have no more fish on the Kuskokwim.  
46 That is a danger to watch out for.

47  
48 And the other warning towards the fish,  
49 when we make a mess of fish on the land and our fish  
50 traps are filled and there had pike, and then at that

1 time that if there were little pike in with the blackfish  
2 in those fish traps we had to keep every single fish for  
3 ourselves.

4  
5                   And then now with -- since we were not  
6 raised the Western way or on a Western diet, always some  
7 -- a meal off the land. That is how we have lived and  
8 survived. And people who are sick, they drink fresh fish  
9 broth, that was the medicine. And then they would say,  
10 I'm warning you that some day the fish, when we have a  
11 winter -- a small winter and then spring is here, salmon  
12 will migrate up under the ice. If that happens and we  
13 will not be able to harvest the salmon. And then out in  
14 the ocean.....

15  
16                   And our Creator has different names in  
17 the villages, in other lands where we do not speak the  
18 same language. When I am traveling, even though I speak,  
19 why do I not understand. But when we have to take care  
20 of the animals of the land, that a fish knows not to be  
21 caught in someone's net. He can swim around a net. And  
22 some don't catch any, as many as their neighbors. The  
23 fish will not go anywhere, they are a gift from God for  
24 us to eat and live on and to respect. And we were given  
25 all this land to live off.

26  
27                   And then on the Yukon-Kuskokwim, all the  
28 streams between the two rivers, they are full of fish and  
29 we also have -- we know all the various insects, we know  
30 their names. The fish eat those insects, and not to kill  
31 those insects. And before the White man came to our  
32 country, those were the laws we lived by and we were  
33 taught those laws in the men's house.

34  
35                   We were taught that in the spring when we  
36 go home, not to kill a bird and not to touch. Just by  
37 human contact you kill a lot of waterfowl, because that  
38 was a law, that we do not handle waterfowl or birds. So  
39 we need to agree on how to conserve our resources, but we  
40 as Yup'ik people we were given this land and it's  
41 resources to live on. And we need to pass that on to our  
42 children and grandchildren. We need to teach them our  
43 laws, but we need to agree what we -- how to go forward.

44  
45                   Even though I have a lot to say, this is  
46 all.

47  
48                   (Applause)

49  
50                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Qu yana, Joe.

1                   Next on our agenda subsistence fish and  
2 wildlife issues, fisheries topics, Fisheries Resource  
3 Monitoring Program, Rich Cannon.

4  
5                   MR. CANNON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
6 Regional Council members. My name is Richard Cannon. I  
7 work with the Office of Subsistence Management, Fisheries  
8 Information Services Division.

9  
10                  Today I would like to present to you some  
11 highlights from the briefing materials that the Councils  
12 will want to consider during your discussions of the 2005  
13 Fisheries Resource Monitoring program. And I'd like to  
14 refer the Councils to your yellow Council book, and we'll  
15 go through the pages, some of the pages there, and  
16 highlight some of the material in that book. And then I  
17 also -- Alex has handed out a summary of the proposal,  
18 some of the proposals that you will be considering, and  
19 on that handout, there are the Technical Review Committee  
20 recommendations, and the recommendations of the Western  
21 Interior and Eastern Interior Councils on these same  
22 proposals that you will be discussing. And we'll get to  
23 that handout a little later in our presentation.

24  
25                  To begin with, I'd like to refer the  
26 Council members to Page 148 of your Council books. We  
27 have three agenda items we're going to be talking about  
28 is the 2005 monitoring plan, then I'm going to talk a  
29 little bit about strategic planning that's going to occur  
30 on the Yukon and the Kuskokwim, and just a very short  
31 summary of some highlights of the Partners for Fisheries  
32 Monitoring Program.

33  
34                  Page 149 through 153 of the Council books  
35 provide a history and a statewide perspective on the  
36 monitoring program.

37  
38                  On Page 149 in the introduction, I want  
39 to bring to your attention in the third paragraph, that  
40 statement that is in bold, and this states the mission of  
41 the Fisheries Monitoring Program, and I'm just going to  
42 read that. It says, the mission of the Monitoring  
43 Program is to identify and provide information needed to  
44 sustain subsistence fisheries on Federal public lands,  
45 for rural Alaskans through a multidisciplinary and  
46 collaborative program.

47  
48                  What these words are saying is that this  
49 program is designed to help people in the tribal  
50 organizations, the regional organizations, the Council,

1 the State managers and the Federal managers to work  
2 together to cooperate in conducting studies to help  
3 provide information that can lead to wise and good  
4 decisions about your subsistence resources, your  
5 subsistence fisheries resources.

6  
7                   Because we have some new Council members,  
8 I want to just take a few minutes to talk about what  
9 happens with these proposals before they come to you  
10 today. Each year in November we put out a call for  
11 proposals. It's sent out very broadly to State, Federal,  
12 tribal organizations, as well as others who have an  
13 interest in this subject. That call for proposals  
14 includes with it a listing of information priority  
15 information needs and issues that have been developed  
16 with your Council. This helps us to focus the program on  
17 those things that you have told us are important needs in  
18 your region.

19  
20                   We're continuing to update that. It's  
21 something that we have to continue to look at as  
22 questions change, as needs change for fisheries in your  
23 region. So each time we meet with the Councils, we are  
24 asking and listening for things that the Councils feel  
25 are important areas where there's a need for information.  
26 You talked today about the need for information for the  
27 non-salmon species, and particularly for rainbow trout.  
28 That kind of input is important to this process. And it  
29 takes time to get to the point where we can actually  
30 deliver that, but that's an important starting point, to  
31 identify that need.

32  
33                   Once the proposal goes out for -- a call  
34 for proposals go out, then the various investigators will  
35 send in a very short proposal idea which an InterAgency  
36 Technical Review Committee reviews. And they look at  
37 these ideas and they get back to the people who propose  
38 them, and they make suggestions about other proposals,  
39 but they also then make an initial selection of those  
40 that seem to fit best with the program. And then they  
41 ask for those proposals that are best suited -- best meet  
42 the needs of this program, they ask them then to develop  
43 a more detailed study plan. And these then come back to  
44 us sometime in the spring.

45  
46                   And then the Technical Review Committee  
47 will take a look at those, the investigation plans. The  
48 investigation plans actually come in about June, and they  
49 do another review, and they make then a selection of  
50 those investigation plans that they feel meet the

1 priorities of this program, and that then becomes the  
2 basis for this fisheries resource monitoring plan that is  
3 before you today.

4  
5                   There's public review, we talk to the  
6 fisheries managers, we talk to groups about priorities  
7 and about the needs as well. So there's a lot of input  
8 goes into these before they come to you.

9  
10                   I'd like the Council then just to become  
11 familiar with some of this information. If you look at  
12 the -- begin on the tables on Pages 151 through 153, will  
13 provide a summary of the 2005 monitoring budget that's  
14 available statewide. That's on Page 151. And you'll see  
15 in that table at the bottom of the page, for the Yukon  
16 River there's about 20 percent of the available budget  
17 will be for -- is available for the Yukon and about 20  
18 percent for the Kuskokwim.

19  
20                   If you look at Page 153, at the top of  
21 the page, there is a figure that shows that -- how the  
22 budget is divided among statewide -- statewide among  
23 State, Federal and Native organizations. You'll see that  
24 most of the pie for 2005 will go to the State, about 31  
25 percent to Alaska Native organizations, and about 10  
26 percent to the Federal organizations.

27  
28                   Pages 154 through 163 provide the  
29 regional overview for the 2005 Yukon fisheries monitoring  
30 program. This section provides the Technical Review  
31 Committee's recommendations and justifications for the  
32 seven investigation plans being considered for 2005.

33  
34                   I want to refer you to -- please go to  
35 Page 156, this is a long table, but what it provides you  
36 is an overview of the 62 projects that have been funded  
37 for the Yukon since 2000 when this program began. And it  
38 provides a cost by year, and this has amounted to about  
39 \$8.8 million.

40  
41                   If you look across the top of this table,  
42 you will see that the funds for the monitoring program  
43 are committed all the way through the year 2006. This is  
44 because the projects can receive up to three years of  
45 funding. For example, of the 17 projects the Councils  
46 recommended and the Board later approved in 2004, 14 of  
47 these projects for the Yukon will receive funding again  
48 in 2005. So, for example, if you go down this list, and  
49 you go down to where it says 04-22 -- I'm having a hard  
50 time reading it, it's small print, 226 I believe. It's

1 the Tozitna River weir. You'll notice that there's  
2 funding there for both 2005, 2006 and -- 2004, 2005, and  
3 2006.

4  
5 Okay. So this is important. I want to  
6 bring this to your attention, because the projects that  
7 we're going to be talking about today for the 2005  
8 monitoring program will be added to these projects that  
9 have the 04 in front of them, that you approved last  
10 year. So that would mean that those projects would be  
11 added to the 14, and that budget that will be spent for  
12 the total budget in 2005, which amounts to over \$1.5  
13 million.

14  
15 Okay. On Page 159 there's a map that  
16 shows where the projects that you'll be talking about  
17 today are located in the drainage. So if you look at,  
18 for example, Henshaw Creek Weir is Project 211, you can  
19 see there on the map where up on the Koyukuk where 211 is  
20 located. It's just a reference map to show you where the  
21 projects are located.

22  
23 On Page 160 we're going to look at then  
24 the Technical Review Committee's recommendations. This  
25 is on Table 4. These are for the stock status and trends  
26 projects. These are the biological studies, and you can  
27 see that there are four proposed studies, and the  
28 Technical Review Committee has recommended approval for  
29 all four of those studies, and we'll talk about them in a  
30 little more detail in a minute.

31  
32 If you go to Page 162, on Table 5 at the  
33 top of the page, these will -- this presents the  
34 Technical Review Committee's recommendations for the  
35 harvest monitoring and traditional knowledge studies, and  
36 you will see there were three considered, and there was  
37 one that is being recommended for funding. Okay.

38  
39 Now, we're going to just talk a little  
40 bit about the process that we could use to go through  
41 these proposals, and to do that, I'd like you to refer to  
42 the handout that Alex provided you. It has the fish on  
43 it. Okay.

44  
45 On here we have listed the projects in  
46 the top box. It says proposed Yukon River investigation  
47 plans. And it starts out with 05-208, Aniak River sonar  
48 project, and you'll notice that there is -- it says TRC,  
49 that means Technical Review Committee, and it has their  
50 recommendation for funding or not funding, and then in

1 the next two columns you'll see the recommendation for  
2 the Western and the Eastern Interior Councils.

3  
4 The way that we've worked with the  
5 Councils in the past to help you go through this process  
6 is that I can give you just a little bit of information  
7 about each project and what it does, and then at the end  
8 of that you can discuss this recommendation and decide if  
9 you want to accept it as it's been presented, accept all  
10 the recommendations, or you can go in and talk about  
11 specific proposals and things that you would like to  
12 either get more clarification on, or things that you  
13 would like to change in terms of your Council's  
14 recommendation about specific projects.

15  
16 So at this point I'm just going to ask  
17 the Councils if you have any questions about some of the  
18 -- about the information I've presented up to this point,  
19 and, if you don't, or if once we get -- if you understand  
20 where we're at, then I will go through in order of these  
21 projects and tell you a little bit about each one and  
22 then allow you then to discuss this recommendation.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

25  
26 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I have I  
27 think two. I've marked them, but I lost them. I should  
28 have acted right then when it was -- it was on Page 157,  
29 humpback whitefish and beaver interactions. That's my  
30 question. What was the outcome. I'd like information on  
31 it. And also on beaver/whitefish interactions on  
32 technical knowledge.

33  
34 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, Polly Wheeler  
35 with the Office of Subsistence Management for the  
36 record.

37  
38 Member Gregory, that project was  
39 conducted on the Yukon River Flats region, pretty far  
40 upriver from here, or from the other side. And I have a  
41 final report which I can send it to you. I don't have it  
42 with me, but I can send it to you if you're interested.

43  
44 What that project did is interview about  
45 15 people that had lived in Fort Yukon and the  
46 surrounding area for quite a long time, and look at  
47 what's going on on the Yukon Flats in terms of the  
48 ecology of the area and then the interactions between  
49 beavers and whitefish. And some of the things that they  
50 found is that some people up there actually use the

1 beaver dams to catch whitefish. They'll cut a hole in  
2 them and put a net underneath it, and catch their dog  
3 food for the winter. Or some human food. There's a lot  
4 of different things that they found in that report.

5  
6 One of the interesting things that they  
7 did find though is there are increasing beaver  
8 populations, which we hear probably in most -- from most  
9 of these Councils, and that there seems -- it seems to be  
10 that the Yukon Flats is getting a lot drier.

11  
12 But if you would like a copy of that  
13 report, I'd be happy to send it to you, Member Gregory,  
14 Mr. Chair.

15  
16 MS. GREGORY: Good. Thank you. We have  
17 a lot of problem with beaver even in the Bethel, proper  
18 Bethel, because we have a lot of sloughs and habitats  
19 that we use. My husband has a blackfish trap just above  
20 the -- on the Wevik (ph) Subdivision, and going up to  
21 Tundra Ridge, there's several beaver dams that they just  
22 built this year, this fall, and it's messing up the  
23 slough system we have, which we have, which we use for  
24 freshwater fish, like Mr. Philip was telling us about.  
25 We have needlefish, blackfish, and that we enjoy fall  
26 time, a good break from summer dry fish.

27  
28 And a lot of time we always talk about  
29 it, but there's a lot open for beaver right now, there's  
30 no limit. Anybody can go hunt beaver any time, but  
31 they're not getting them. Nobody's hunting them that  
32 much.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: John Hanson.

35  
36 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.  
37 Chairman. Yeah, Rich, I was going through your project  
38 titles here. I see east fork and, excuse me, east fork  
39 Andraefsky all the time. About three, four years ago I  
40 think I gave you a list of projects that I thought were  
41 most important other than the east fork. But I mentioned  
42 north fork Andraefsky, and then I gave you Black River.  
43 But what happened to those? How come north fork  
44 Andraefsky doesn't have any projects?

45  
46 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Member  
47 Hanson, yes, I do remember the list and talking to you  
48 about it. And that -- the need for projects on the north  
49 fork has been discussed. I believe there was a proposal  
50 came in from the investigators who do the project on the

1 Andraefsky to extend the work into the other tributary.  
2 The problem's been, John, is the cost when you consider  
3 all of the other priorities that this program is  
4 addressing. It simply, you know, has not made it through  
5 the priority -- looking at the priorities. There's just  
6 too many important needs and not enough money to fund  
7 everything that we would like to do. And that's true of  
8 some of the other projects as well.

9  
10 You'll see that a lot of projects that  
11 you're very familiar with that had been funded by State  
12 funds in past years are now being funded by this program,  
13 and it's because there's less money from State general  
14 funds to fund fisheries in your region. And this  
15 program, because of, you know, the commitment to  
16 subsistence, these projects are still important, and so  
17 this -- your program is picking up more and more of those  
18 costs.

19  
20 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thanks, Rich. The  
21 north fork Andraefsky, or I guess you call it west fork,  
22 where the project that have is a weir on the east fork,  
23 the north fork, there's probably more fish that go up  
24 north fork than the east fork, because it's longer, or  
25 maybe -- I guess nobody has studied it. I know when you  
26 were on Department of Fish and Game, I brought this up at  
27 one of the meetings, but nothing has ever happened.

28  
29 MR. CANNON: Yes, Member Hanson, John, I  
30 understand that, you know, these kinds of questions from  
31 the Councils really help us to go back and examine our  
32 priorities. In many cases, what we have to do is look at  
33 projects where we can actually physically put them in the  
34 water. And in cases like this where we can do surveys  
35 above a weir, and then in an area that's close by in  
36 another tributary where there's not a weir, we can use  
37 that information to help us understand what's going in in  
38 the entire drainage. And it's a matter of cost and  
39 trying to set priorities for projects.

40  
41 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

44  
45 MS. GREGORY: On Page 162, on your Table  
46 5, 05-252, subsistence fishing schedule impacts on  
47 traditional lifestyles, and also on 05-254, Yukon River  
48 in-season salmon harvest assessment. And I'd like to  
49 know how you go about it, or how you're going to achieve  
50 that goal.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Polly.

2

3 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, Member Gregory,  
4 Project 252, the 05-252, the subsistence fishing schedule  
5 impacts on traditional lifestyles, that was a tough one,  
6 because it clearly -- addresses a really, really  
7 important issue that came up yesterday a lot. And the  
8 Technical Review Committee felt that it was such an  
9 important issue that it really needed to have a really  
10 strong approach, and it was felt that the approach or the  
11 way that the investigators had outlined doing the  
12 project, there were enough problems with it that they  
13 were afraid that we wouldn't get the information that was  
14 really important or really needed, so the Technical  
15 Review Committee recognized that the issue is really  
16 important, but that the approach that was outlined in the  
17 proposal didn't quite get there, so they didn't recommend  
18 that project for funding, but they recognize that the  
19 issue is really important.

20

21 For Project 05-254, the Yukon River in-  
22 season salmon harvest assessment project, that project  
23 involves RITs along the river, and also some research  
24 assistants that are going to be hired by the Yukon River  
25 Drainage Fisheries Association, and they'll have people  
26 in seven villages along the Yukon River, and they'll  
27 interview fishing households, and then they'll report at  
28 the weekly teleconferences, the YRDFA teleconferences.

29

30 MS. GREGORY: Can you tell me what  
31 villages you're working with?

32

33 MS. WHEELER: If you give me about 30  
34 seconds, I can. There's so many different projects, I  
35 sometimes forget. It's Emmonak, Holy Cross, Nulato,  
36 Huslia, Galena, Beaver and Fort Yukon. And a lot of the  
37 focus on this project is on villages that haven't  
38 historically participated in the weekly teleconferences.  
39 There's historically been more involved participation on  
40 the lower parts of the river, and as we go upriver, there  
41 hasn't been as wide participation. Mr. Chair.

42

43 MS. GREGORY: And who is doing the study?  
44 Are you hiring local people or what?

45

46 MS. WHEELER: Yes, that study, the people  
47 that are in charge of that study, actually Russ Holder,  
48 the Federal in-season manager is the person overseeing  
49 the project, but it's going to be all local hire. It  
50 will be either RITs or people hired by the Yukon River

1 Drainage Fisheries Association in the villages. Mr.  
2 Chair.

3

4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

5

6 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
7 Rich, having had some exposure and familiarity with  
8 working with the Kuskokwim Fisheries Resource Coalition,  
9 I know the difficulty of trying to spread limited dollars  
10 around to a lot of worthy projects and prioritizing  
11 those, but I'm wondering here, and you can tell me how or  
12 if I'm reading this wrong, or misapplying it perhaps,  
13 under the available funds that you have on Page 160, that  
14 you have the Federal Subsistence Board guidelines  
15 directing that distribution of funds, and then it says  
16 two-thirds of the dollars should go to the SST and one-  
17 third, you know, of 138.5 for the TEK projects, but yet  
18 in your tables of the projects you have, the SST has a  
19 funding guideline of 277 and the recommendations go up to  
20 334, whereas when you get over to TEK, with a funding  
21 guideline of 138.5, the TRC recommendation is only 34.  
22 Does this review committee have that ability to opt not  
23 to follow the guidelines set by the Federal Subsistence  
24 Board as far as distribution of those funds amongst SST  
25 or TEK projects?

26

27 MR. CANNON: Well, if your question is  
28 can the Regional Council discuss and develop  
29 recommendations that are your own and based on your own  
30 perspectives on these, of course you can.

31

32 But I wanted to mention that these  
33 funding percentages between harvest monitoring and  
34 traditional knowledge and the stock status and trends  
35 projects are guidelines. And we start from there. We  
36 try to -- we want a balance of different projects, but  
37 when -- for example, when we go through and consider  
38 strategic priority, is there really a Federal nexus to  
39 Federal -- to subsistence, are these really high priority  
40 projects, when we look at technical merit, capacity  
41 building, you know, we look at the capability of the  
42 investigator to do the work, sometimes there's not a  
43 perfect balance. And in those cases then what we look at  
44 is trying to make sure that the money is best used within  
45 the region. And so we see in some years, we'll see that  
46 more of the money may go towards the stock status and  
47 trends projects, and less to the harvest  
48 monitoring/traditional ecological knowledge, but that  
49 does not mean that these -- that the harvest  
50 monitoring/traditional knowledge isn't extremely

1 important.

2

3 I didn't -- you know, when you look at  
4 your worksheet, the Technical Review Committee put those  
5 in priority, and in many cases the highest priority are  
6 those that are at the top of the list, are harvest  
7 monitoring projects. So we are trying to maintain that  
8 balance, and, you know, we're still talking about this,  
9 but we're going to have a very small call for proposals  
10 next year, because we've got a lot of the funds already  
11 committed. We may see a call for proposals for next year  
12 that primarily focuses on harvest monitoring and  
13 traditional ecological knowledge. So we're trying to  
14 maintain a balance.

15

16 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, and I do understand  
17 that. It's just going from a 60/40 split to a 90/10  
18 split type of thing is -- that's what jumps out at me.

19

20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Polly.

21

22 MS. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
23 Member Roczicka, if I could just add a little bit to  
24 that, too, I think it's important to look at, you know,  
25 historically most of the research has been directed at  
26 the conventional biological projects, you know, the  
27 weirs, the towers, the counting projects, or the ASL  
28 projects. The federal program just started in 2000.  
29 They have a strong commitment to these traditional  
30 knowledge projects, and to the monitor harvesting  
31 projects.

32

33 I will say, you know, that I think the  
34 traditional knowledge projects are a lot harder to do,  
35 and this is a new program. There's a commitment to these  
36 projects. But this information is so important that the  
37 projects really need to be done well. And what we found  
38 is that if the projects aren't really solidly designed,  
39 it's almost more detrimental to do a bad TEK project than  
40 to not -- you know, than to not fund it. So I'm trying  
41 to work with people to get really strong TEK projects so  
42 that we can say to the biologist that will say, oh, yeah,  
43 you know, what's the use of these projects. We should  
44 fund another weir. You know, if we fund these really  
45 strong TEK projects, we can hold them up and say, look,  
46 you know, this is really important, valuable information.  
47 This is how it ought to be used. But it needs to be  
48 designed really well from the get go. And we've -- it's  
49 been a struggle in part, because it's new, and tis' -- in  
50 my opinion, and I'm an anthropologist, so I'm probably a

1 little biased, but I think these TEK projects are really  
2 a lot harder to do.

3

4 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

7

8 MR. ROCZICKA: Just let me -- if I could  
9 just add a little bit on that, and I guess I would say  
10 that would provide more impetus to make sure that we get  
11 them done. Well.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

14

15 MS. HOFFMAN: Just so that I -- this  
16 Technical Review Committee that these proposals go to,  
17 project proposals, is that you guys? Or who is that in  
18 this room?

19

20 MR. CANNON: That's something that is in  
21 the report, and I didn't really bring it out, but what  
22 they're composed of, they're not us. We're Staff to the  
23 Office of Subsistence Management. We do a review, and  
24 then we'll report to the Technical Review Committee, and  
25 that committee is made up of members -- there are  
26 fisheries scientists and anthropologists from the  
27 agencies that are involved in Federal subsistence  
28 management, all the Federal agencies, as well as the  
29 State of Alaska, and this last year we had also members  
30 from some of the tribal organizations that were one  
31 fisheries biologist and one anthropologist from our  
32 Partners for Fisheries Monitoring program. So it's an  
33 interagency group. They're chosen for their expertise  
34 in, you know, fisheries science as well as in  
35 anthropology.

36

37 MS. HOFFMAN: One further question, Mr.  
38 Chair. Any of those folks in this room?

39

40 MR. CANNON: Member Hoffman, yes. Glenn  
41 Chen with the Bureau of Indian Affairs is one of the  
42 members.

43

44 MS. HOFFMAN: Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Robert.

47

48 MR. R. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
49 guess since Polly's here, I'll put my question here. For  
50 both, in looking over the monitoring plan, I noticed the

1 recommendations by the Technical Review Committee and by  
2 West -- I guess that means Western Regional Council, and  
3 the previous question by Council Member Mary on 05-252,  
4 it's been recommended for 68,000 I believe according to  
5 this book. In this document here, 05-252, it's a no, no,  
6 no recommendation, but still it's being -- it's going to  
7 be funded, it is go ahead in this proposal. And then  
8 that brings me to my next question, in 05-55, it's a no,  
9 no also. I guess we haven't expressed our position yet.  
10 In both that I've referenced here.

11  
12 But I'd like just to make a comment in  
13 reference to whitefish. I'm from the Johnson River, and  
14 we in the Johnson River in western region, west of  
15 Bethel, that's our fish from probably mid May until next  
16 month. So it's an anadromous fish, it stays in the  
17 river. Summertime it goes into the Johnson, wintertime  
18 it comes out to the Kuskokwim, but it never goes out to  
19 the ocean. That's not -- I haven't heard it going out to  
20 the ocean from my elders in all these years. But it's  
21 something that belongs to the region. It's a regional  
22 fish. So my thought, my analysis that I should have more  
23 concern about regional fish than I do of seasonal fish  
24 that comes out from way on the Pacific Ocean, from way  
25 out donut hole, Atlantic Ocean, and then we have -- it's  
26 good that we study those, because we catch a lot of them,  
27 but in this whitefish, freshwater whitefish studies, by  
28 the fact that it said no, no, and it's not even here for  
29 funding. I'm assuming that it's not going to go forth.  
30 Is that my understanding.

31  
32 MR. CANNON: If I understand your  
33 question, Mr. Nick, Member Nick, are you asking with the  
34 -- if the recommendation from the Technical Review  
35 Committee is no, and the Council's.....

36  
37 MR. R. NICK: Right.

38  
39 MR. CANNON: .....is no, then the  
40 recommendation would be that it would not be funded.

41  
42 MR. R. NICK: Okay. That answers one  
43 part of the question. but there's a recommendation of  
44 no, no, no on the other, but it's being funded for  
45 68,000, so does 05-253. So -- I'm ending my whitefish  
46 comments. Should I end? Continue? Okay.

47  
48 Whitefish, for this region, for members  
49 of the Council, and I guess most -- some people in  
50 Bethel, that ask of our fish resources in terms of

1 whitefish and blackfish, both, whitefish in summertime,  
2 to our surprise this fall, the whitefish came back, the  
3 broadhead. There's five different species of whitefish  
4 in this Kuskokwim region. And they stay in the region.  
5 Summertime, you know, they're up there in the tundra. In  
6 the wintertime they come out to the Kuskokwim River. And  
7 then for some reason they showed up thanks to whomever or  
8 whatever happened. But in the last three weeks, I talked  
9 to my other fishermen up there that sent it, I've been  
10 trying to analyze, you know, why did they come back this  
11 fall. And I'm trying to think back four or five years.  
12 One of the situation up there is decline in beaver  
13 population. It's declining in the area, west of there.  
14 And I go west -- in springtime, I go west. Summertime  
15 and fall time, all the way out to Baird Inlet, and the  
16 whitefish population is declining. And all the food  
17 sources, willows, the alder, they've kind of eaten them  
18 out. And my elders says that furbearer resources go from  
19 mainland and they migrate out into the ocean and they  
20 disappear. So that's one of my concerns is that maybe  
21 beaver dams that prevent whitefish to go to the spawning  
22 areas in the tundra are gone, because we open them up,  
23 and then the high waters in the spring allow the salmon  
24 to come up, so that's probably one reason.

25  
26                   And then I truly trust my elders saying  
27 that when we bicker and fight about a certain resource  
28 like fish, game, migratory birds, that they disappear.  
29 And then I'm thinking back in the tundra about five, six,  
30 seven, eight years, we were bickering on the whitefish  
31 between the two villages especially. We were fighting  
32 over fishing lakes. But in the last two or three years  
33 we eased back, and we are no longer fighting. And now  
34 they showed up. And nobody's making any assertions that  
35 we shouldn't fish over in the lakes west of us. And  
36 maybe that's another analogy. But something happened to  
37 the whitefish that they're coming back.

38  
39                   So I think we study fish when they  
40 disappear, and we try to find out why they're diminishing  
41 or decreasing. We also should try to find out when they  
42 come back, what makes them -- what is making them come  
43 back, so that we can learn and maybe have better practice  
44 of how to incite fish and game to become abundant again,  
45 because that's our main goal is abundance of resources.

46  
47                   I'd better stop here. I'm talking too  
48 long. Thank you, Chairman.

49  
50

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Rich.

1 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Council  
2 members, I also want to point out that if you look on  
3 Pages 164 through 182, you'll find summaries of each of  
4 the projects for the Yukon. And you'll find the  
5 investigators identified, the budgets, the issues  
6 identified, and at the end of that overview of each of  
7 these projects. If you look, for example, on Page 164,  
8 just as an example, for Yukon River coho salmon genetics,  
9 you'll see each of these things discussed. And at the  
10 end of that, you'll see a justification. That section is  
11 -- that summarizes the findings of the Technical Review  
12 Committee, that's for your reference, about these  
13 projects.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions to  
16 Rich Cannon and Polly.

17  
18 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

21  
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Page 153, your  
23 pie chart up there, where does the money come from? And  
24 how is it used by these four entities?

25  
26 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman. Member  
27 Aloysius, the money comes from the -- an allocation  
28 that's given to the Fish and Wildlife Service annually to  
29 support the fisheries monitoring program. And that money  
30 essentially then is prioritized and allocated through the  
31 process that we've been discussing. It comes into the  
32 Fish and Wildlife Service budget annually.

33  
34 MR. ALOYSIUS: And what does these four  
35 entities use it for? I mean, you know, I'd like a little  
36 better information on it. State gets 52 percent, the  
37 Feds a little chunk, other, and then Alaska Native. What  
38 is it?

39  
40 MR. CANNON: This pie chart is simply a  
41 statewide summary of how the budget is divided up among  
42 these different participant groups. So if -- what I  
43 understand your question is, for example, the money that  
44 goes to that part of the pie called the State, that's  
45 primarily all going to the Alaska Department of Fish and  
46 Game, to their divisions who then take that money and go  
47 out and do these projects. With the Alaska Native  
48 portion of that pie, that's divided among -- I forget the  
49 number, but it's how many different -- I think it's close  
50 to 30 or 40 different tribal and regional organizations

1 across the State who are involved in this process. And  
2 the 10 percent for Federal goes among the Federal  
3 agencies that are participating in the program. That  
4 includes Fish and Wildlife Service, Park Service, Forest  
5 Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and BLM.

6  
7 MR. ALOYSIUS: All for monitoring?  
8 Strictly for monitoring?

9  
10 MR. CANON: Right. This is -- these  
11 funds are dedicated for that purpose, and that was  
12 established essentially in 1999 when the fisheries  
13 management essentially came into -- under the Federal  
14 subsistence management program. Those funds were made  
15 available.

16  
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: Another question. We talk  
18 about the relationship between whitefish and beaver. At  
19 home that's one of the biggest problems we face, not the  
20 beaver, but the abandoned beaver dams that have plugged  
21 up all these streams that the whitefish, sheefish, plus  
22 pike, blackfish, and salmon go up and spawn.

23  
24 And there's a 30-square mile lake right  
25 behind my home that's pretty much dead, because the five  
26 streams that feed into that lake are plugged up with old  
27 beaver dams, and the water behind those beaver dams is  
28 dead, and the lake itself is dying because all the  
29 sediments that is flushed down from the lower part, from  
30 the lowest beaver dams, it's just collecting in that  
31 lake, and it's not flushing out normally. I've brought  
32 this issue out many times in many different  
33 organizations, and I know that the EPA had a stream  
34 restoration project, or projects, and one of the people  
35 said that why don't organizations from around here apply  
36 for funding through them so that we can do some projects  
37 to restore those streams. And -- because, you know, like  
38 Robert Nick said, the whitefish are a native species of  
39 fish here. They stay here, they live here, and yet if we  
40 plug up their migratory streams to where they spawn, you  
41 know, their numbers are going to dwindle. And that's  
42 what's happened to that lake behind Kalskag.

43  
44 We used to get sled loads of pike back in  
45 the days when we had dog teams. For a month every time  
46 we'd go out there and get a sled load of pike from that  
47 one lake, from the mouth of one stream to feed their dogs  
48 for the rest of the season, you know, March, April, May.  
49 Nowadays you set a net, and there's -- right after freeze  
50 up, you're not going to catch one fish. And the same

1 thing has happened to the burbot or luke, whitefish,  
2 sheefish, and the salmon, affect the whitefish that used  
3 to reside in that lake. There's virtually nothing left,  
4 because those streams that feed that lake are dying or  
5 dead. And we have no means of restoring those streams.  
6 And just because, you know, those native fish are not  
7 salmon, it seems like the Feds and the State could care  
8 less, because there's money in salmon. Yet there's no  
9 money, but most importantly there's life in the native  
10 fish we have. And we have to start looking at ways to  
11 reclaim those streams.

12

13 And, you know, if there's some way that  
14 we as the RAC Council can work with, you know, the Feds  
15 and the State to restore these streams, you know, I'd be  
16 willing to spend any amount of time with you guys to let  
17 you see exactly what I'm talking about, because, you  
18 know, the old people at home, like Robert said, subsist,  
19 they live on our native fish. And when they're not  
20 there, we have to turn to other means to get fish. And  
21 they've got -- because those fish are there year round.  
22 We can get them year round. It's important that we bring  
23 the stock back to what it used to be so that our people  
24 can have fresh protein.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, and we're  
29 going to have our lunch break at this time.

30

31 Thank you, Rich and Polly.

32

33 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

36

37 MS. HOFFMAN: Before we break for lunch,  
38 I guess I'm just concerned looking at the schedule that  
39 we're just not going to have enough time to go through  
40 everything before 5:00 o'clock, and I'm just trying to  
41 get a feel for what this Council is thinking as far as  
42 time. Are we going to go to almost 11 again tonight?  
43 Tomorrow? Because I know some people have -- I'm just  
44 trying to get an idea of what this Council, and you as  
45 chair is thinking.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, I suppose we'll go  
48 as far as -- until we are adjourned. We'd be doing that  
49 if we left some of them behind, it would be just whatever  
50 you call the waste of time.

1 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, I didn't call  
2 anything a waste of time. I just was trying to figure  
3 out what the thought is as to -- I had planned to be here  
4 until about five tonight, and I'm just trying to figure  
5 out my schedule through the next week.  
6  
7 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.  
10  
11 MS. GREGORY: Most of these proposals are  
12 not that -- are not long. And if we didn't talk too much  
13 on one subject, we'll be done.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. That's what Mary  
16 say, we will.  
17  
18 MR. ALOYSIUS: What time are we coming  
19 back?  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik) 1:00  
22 o'clock.  
23  
24 (Off record)  
25  
26 (On record)  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next on our agenda, Item  
29 B, subsistence fisheries, post season review. This will  
30 be presentation by State and Federal.  
31  
32 MR. A. NICK: We're still right here.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I thought we finished  
35 that.  
36  
37 MR. A. NICK: No, we still need to --  
38 we're still right here. Rich. He's still presenting.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I thought we were  
41 through with that.  
42  
43 MR. A. NICK: We're not done.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. We never through  
46 with this then, Fishery Resource Monitoring Program,  
47 Rich.  
48  
49 MR. CANNON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I think  
50 you're very close. We've -- you've talked about the

1 fisheries monitoring plan report. We've talked about the  
2 process that was used starting last year when the call  
3 for proposals went out, all the review and what the  
4 Technical Review Committee has done, and now it's coming  
5 back to you for a recommendation on what this -- what is  
6 proposed for funding. And this worksheet that I handed  
7 out, your Council can use simply to look at these  
8 proposals. It's at the top of the -- this first box at  
9 the top. It says proposed Yukon River investigation  
10 plans. It starts off with 05-208, Anvik River Project,  
11 and you can see what the Technical Review Committee, the  
12 TRC, what it recommended was yes. What the Western  
13 Interior recommended was yes. I can tell you that the  
14 other councils have agreed, their position was to agree  
15 to go ahead and recommend that this list of  
16 recommendations go forward to the Federal Subsistence  
17 Board. But your Council, it can look at this  
18 recommendation from the Technical Review Committee and it  
19 can agree as the other Councils did to see it go forward,  
20 or it can make some changes if it chooses to do that.  
21 And that's what's before you at this point.

22

23 Mr. Chairman.

24

25 Yes, Mr. Wilde.

26

27 MR. L. WILDE: Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council, do you have a  
30 question to Rich Cannon.

31

32 MR. L. WILDE: Rich, was there -- what  
33 was the reason why both Western and Eastern Interior  
34 recommended not funding the last two? Do you have any  
35 reason as to what their rationale was?

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Polly.

38

39 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, Member Wilde, my  
40 understanding, I wasn't at the Eastern Interior -- oh,  
41 for the record, this is Polly Wheeler with Office of  
42 Subsistence Management.

43

44 I wasn't at the Eastern Interior meeting,  
45 but I was at the Western Interior meeting. And my  
46 understanding about the Eastern Interior meeting is  
47 consistent with what happened at the Western Interior  
48 meeting, and that was that they agreed with the  
49 recommendations of the Technical Review Committee. They  
50 agreed that those projects both addressed important

1 issues, but that they had some technical weaknesses that  
2 they were concerned about. Mr. Chair.

3

4 MR. L. WILDE: Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions to  
7 Rich.

8

9 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, do you want us  
10 to act on each proposal separately, or do you want us to  
11 act on each individually? I mean, as a whole.

12

13 MR. CANON: Mr. Chairman. Member  
14 Hoffman, the Council can do what it chooses in that  
15 regard. The other Councils have, after looking at the  
16 report and discussing it, felt that they could agree with  
17 the entire set of recommendations. And they simply made  
18 that recommendation and acted on it.

19

20 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

23

24 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, I think for my part,  
25 I -- not being from the Yukon, I certainly don't feel  
26 comfortable at all second guessing the groups that are  
27 over there, and unless the members of this Council that  
28 are from the Yukon have any specific concerns or changes  
29 they'd like to see in this package of proposals, that  
30 would be -- for my part, I would be comfortable going  
31 along with the other Councils and the TRC recommendations  
32 at this point for that package of Yukon proposals.

33

34 MR. L. WILDE: I'll second your motion,  
35 Greg.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

38

39 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I'd move  
40 that we go along with the Technical Review Committee's  
41 recommendations in adopting the funding, for the record,  
42 the Anvik River sonar project, the abundance run timing  
43 of salmon on the Henshaw Creek -- I'll just read the  
44 numbers down. 05-254, 05-210, 05-202, and proposed  
45 Kuskokwim investigation plans, study number 05-356, 05-  
46 303.

47

48 MR. ROCZICKA: No, that's the Kuskokwim.  
49 We're doing just the Yukon right now.

50

1 MR.L. WILDE: Oh, okay. I'm sorry.  
2 Okay. My motion will include the ones on the Yukon then  
3 as I read.  
4  
5 MR. ROCZICKA: I'll second.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.  
8  
9 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
10 Lester was just making a formal motion. Recognize my  
11 earlier statements, so essentially it sounds like there's  
12 no concern by -- or any specific projects here where  
13 anybody has any significant disagreement with the  
14 existing recommendations either of the other Councils or  
15 the Technical Review Committee, and Lester's motion does  
16 reflect that to vote them as a package to concur with the  
17 recommendations that are on record before us. And so for  
18 my part, I'm ready for the question.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg, will you say  
21 again? I'm having a hard time kind of hearing you. Will  
22 you repeat that, what you say.  
23  
24 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
25 I seconded the motion by Lester. He reiterated what I --  
26 he put into a motion my earlier comments that unless  
27 there were any specific proposals or concerns that  
28 members of this Council from the Yukon drainage had, that  
29 we would concur with the recommendations of the Western  
30 and Eastern Interior Councils and the Technical Review  
31 Committee, and the motion is to do exactly that and I'm  
32 going to vote that way, and I'm ready for the question,  
33 unless anybody else has got more to add.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion and a  
36 second and you ask for question.  
37  
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question, yes.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: These items look like  
41 they're -- Alex, go ahead.  
42  
43 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chairman. Lester, I  
44 just want clarification on -- I mean, I just want to make  
45 sure that I write down your motion correctly. I  
46 understand that your motion -- rather you moved that YK-D  
47 Council go along with TRC's recommendations on 05-254,  
48 05-210, and 05-202, is that correct?  
49  
50 MR. L. WILDE: 203.

1 MR. A. NICK: 203, okay. Thank you.  
2  
3 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, through the  
4 Chair, Alex, you start -- when Lester began his motion,  
5 he read the titles of the first two, the Anvik River  
6 sonar project and the abundance and run timing of adult  
7 salmon at Henshaw Creek, and then he went to referring to  
8 the numbers for the remaining three, so it's essentially  
9 to vote those as a block as recommended is my  
10 understanding.  
11  
12 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
15  
16 MS. HOFFMAN: I believe that Lester's  
17 motion had to deal with all of the proposals for the  
18 Yukon River, and that's what was seconded, starting from  
19 208 all the way down to 253.  
20  
21 MR. L. WILDE: No.  
22  
23 MS. HOFFMAN: Oh, it wasn't?  
24  
25 MR. L. WILDE: Beverly, my motion was for  
26 from 208 down to 203.  
27  
28 MS. HOFFMAN: Oh, to 203. Okay.  
29  
30 MR. A. NICK: Okay. So you include.....  
31  
32 MR. L. WILDE: We could include in my  
33 motion if somebody wants to make a friendly amendment, it  
34 seemed like that's the way it's been going the last  
35 couple days to include the recommendations also for 252  
36 and 253, no on both of those. Friendly amendment,  
37 second?  
38  
39 MS. HOFFMAN: I would like to make a  
40 friendly amendment to Lester Wilde's motion to add 252  
41 and 253.  
42  
43 MR. L. WILDE: That's fine with me, thank  
44 you.  
45  
46 MR. ROCZICKA: The second concurs.  
47  
48 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bobby.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, it's going to be  
2 confusing, because if we follow the voting of the first  
3 five, we're going to be voting for all seven, so I would  
4 not recommend a friendly amendment to that motion,  
5 because if you're going to vote the same way as the TRC  
6 and the Western and the East Interior Councils, you're  
7 going to be voting yes on 525 and -- I mean, 252, and  
8 253. So, you know, that's just.....

9  
10 MS. HOFFMAN: Yeah.

11  
12 MR. ALOYSIUS: .....do the two blocks in  
13 understandable fashion.

14  
15 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I tend to  
16 disagree, because my motion stated that we would go along  
17 with the recommendations of the TRC and the West and  
18 East, which include 252, no, and 253, no, which is  
19 included as the recommendations of these three entities.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.

22  
23 MR. A. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
24 Lester, and maybe Rich and someone can help us here. If  
25 my understanding is correct, what the Council wants to do  
26 is to adopt TRC's recommendations on box number 1, right,  
27 on this?

28  
29 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, you heard my  
30 motion. If you don't like, then disagree with it, and  
31 we'll go on from there.

32  
33 MR. A. NICK: I'm just trying to make it  
34 correctly -- I mean, worded properly. That's all.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There was a motion on  
37 the floor and seconded. And I think you called question  
38 over there, Greg. So all we have to do is call for a  
39 vote right now. Right now. Let's so it because it's  
40 moneywise, this what that are looking at. Call for roll  
41 call.

42  
43 MS. GREGORY: I ran out of roll call  
44 forms so bear with me. I have to improvise. Okay.  
45 Harry Wilde.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

48  
49 MS. GREGORY: Lester Wilde.

50

1 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.  
2  
3 MS. GREGORY: Beverly Hoffman.  
4  
5 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes.  
6  
7 MS. GREGORY: Bob Aloysius.  
8  
9 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
10  
11 MS. GREGORY: Greg Roczicka.  
12  
13 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.  
14  
15 MS. GREGORY: Philip Moses.  
16  
17 MR. MOSES: Yes.  
18  
19 MS. GREGORY: Robert Nick.  
20  
21 MR. R. NICK: Yes.  
22  
23 MS. GREGORY: Ray Oney.  
24  
25 MR. ONEY: Yes.  
26  
27 MS. GREGORY: Nick Andrew.  
28  
29 MR. ANDREW: Yes.  
30  
31 MS. GREGORY: Myself, yes. John Hanson.  
32  
33 MR. HANSON: Yes.  
34  
35 MS. GREGORY: Joseph -- did I call Joseph  
36 Mike? Joseph Mike.  
37  
38 MR. MIKE: Yes.  
39  
40 MS. GREGORY: What did he say?  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
43  
44 MS. GREGORY: Yes. Two, four, six,  
45 eight, 10. 12 yea's, one absent. Okay. Motion carries.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So the notion carry.  
48  
49 MS. GREGORY: Unanimous.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Unanimously supported.  
2 Rich.

3  
4 MR. CANNON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
5 Then we could now move into the Kuskokwim.

6  
7 The proposed Kuskokwim fisheries  
8 monitoring plan for 2005 begins on Page 183 of the  
9 Council books. It is organized just like the Yukon plan.  
10 Pages 183 through 194 provide a regional overview. You  
11 will find the same tables that you looked at for the  
12 Yukon are available for the Kuskokwim. I'm going to  
13 point you to a few of those that will help you get some  
14 understanding of what's before you I hope, and one of  
15 those would be looking at Table 1 on Pages 185 and 186.  
16 And this presents all the projects that have been funded  
17 and commitments for funding that have been made in the  
18 past years. There are 46 projects, and they've been  
19 conducted at a cost of about \$8 million. That's just to  
20 give you some background on where we're at on the  
21 Kuskokwim.

22  
23 In terms of the new proposals that we're  
24 looking at for this year, those that are before you  
25 today, you can look at Map 1 on Page 187, and that shows  
26 the location of these nine projects for the Kuskokwim  
27 proposed for 2005.

28  
29 Like with the Yukon, the Technical Review  
30 Committee evaluated these proposals, and they have made a  
31 recommendation to fund a number of these proposals, and  
32 they've prioritized them, and that -- their  
33 recommendation and the priority is in that second block  
34 on your handout. So you can go to that handout and see  
35 what the Technical Review Committee, has -- how they have  
36 prioritized the Kuskokwim projects, and whether they've  
37 recommended them for funding or not. You will also find  
38 there, like you did on the Yukon, the recommendation that  
39 was developed by the Western Interior Council at their  
40 meeting. And you will see that like with the Yukon, this  
41 Council agreed with the Technical Review Committee in  
42 terms of what they recommended.

43  
44 Again, we can take these as a group, or  
45 we can go down and talk about individual ones.

46  
47 I'll just mention that many of these  
48 projects are continuation projects. For example, the one  
49 that's the highest priority, 05-356, Kuskokwim area post-  
50 season subsistence harvest surveys, this is a long-

1 standing project. It's one of the longest-running  
2 projects for the Kuskokwim, where the Department of Fish  
3 and Game, Subsistence Division goes out and collects  
4 important post-season harvest information from the  
5 communities. And because of funding needs for this work,  
6 State funds are able to cover it any more, they've asked  
7 this program -- the State of Alaska has asked this  
8 program to cover the funding. It's 50/50 on this one.  
9 Yeah. And again the -- we're contributing from this  
10 program 50 percent of the funds to cover the cost of that  
11 project.

12  
13 If you look at 05-302, Kuskokwim River  
14 chinook salmon telemetry that's a project that program,  
15 our fisheries monitoring program, initiated. And it's  
16 now going into its fourth year. And it's been a good  
17 project. It gives us estimates of the abundance of  
18 chinook salmon in the Kuskokwim River. This is  
19 information we've never had before, and when they put  
20 these radio tags on these fish, we can see actually where  
21 they're going to spawn. So it's a very, very useful  
22 project, and they're asking to continue this work for  
23 another two years.

24  
25 Continuation of funding is being asked  
26 for Project 05-304, which is the Takotna/George River  
27 weirs project. The two weirs that have been operating  
28 for some time. There's good cooperation.

29  
30 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. Is Takotna a  
31 Kuskokwim, or is it Yukon? George River as well.

32  
33 MR. CANNON: It's a Kuskokwim project.  
34 Takotna River.

35  
36 MS. GREGORY: Takotna and George? I  
37 didn't now we had a Takotna in the Kuskokwim.

38  
39 MR. CANNON: Yes. Mr. Chairman, these  
40 weir projects have good capacity building. They're being  
41 -- or good participation between the Kuskokwim Native  
42 Association on the George River and the Takotna Tribal  
43 Council on the weir on that river. So, again, these are  
44 continuation projects.

45  
46 05-305 is asking for funding to do the  
47 laboratory work, to develop genetic markers for chinook  
48 salmon. This is also a project that was started with  
49 this program. And they've made a lot of progress, and  
50 now they want to continue that development and actually

1 try to apply it in some mixed stock fishery situations.  
2  
3 306 is a Kuskokwim in-season subsistence  
4 salmon harvest monitoring and ASL data collection.  
5 You'll notice that this one the Technical Review  
6 Committee had decided to fund, but with a modification.  
7 And we can talk about that modification if you'd like to,  
8 but they want to at least fund part of that project.

9  
10 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

11  
12 MR. CANNON: Yes.

13  
14 MS. HOFFMAN: I have a question in  
15 regards to that. The Kuskokwim River Salmon Management  
16 Working Group at their fish summit most recently passed a  
17 resolution in regards to support without modification in  
18 regards to this project. And so I don't know if we  
19 should present that at this time or wait until we go to  
20 decide whether or not we're going to support all of these  
21 proposals in a group or not, but I just want to make  
22 sure, you know, that at this point it's understood by  
23 this body that there are some resolutions that are going  
24 to be brought forward in regards to some of these  
25 projects.

26  
27 MR. CANNON: Member Hoffman, the Council  
28 might want to wait until you get into your discussions  
29 about that to raise those questions. That is just a  
30 suggestion.

31  
32 MS. HOFFMAN: Thank you.

33  
34 MR. CANNON: Project 05-353, Nunavak  
35 Island subsistence cod, red salmon, and grayling  
36 fisheries. This is a traditional knowledge project, a  
37 very strong project with good cooperators. The TRC felt  
38 this was a very strong project, and is recommending it  
39 for funding.

40  
41 05-301, Kuskokwim River whitefish PIT  
42 tagging. This an effort to learn about new technologies  
43 that may help us study whitefish by putting these very --  
44 these small tags into the fish so that we can track them  
45 during most of their life history. And so this will --  
46 we are looking at ways to help us better understand where  
47 these fish are going throughout, you know, their long  
48 lives, and this is one way to do that with this kind of  
49 technology, so we wanted to work with that to see if it  
50 could help us.

1                   Project 05-303, DIDSON sonar upgrade to  
2 the Aniak River, this was a good project, but the  
3 Technical Review Committee felt that it just didn't reach  
4 the level of priority and the urgency to fund it at this  
5 time, and so there's just not enough money to do  
6 everything, and so they decided not to fund this one.

7  
8                   And then finally 05-355, again it's the  
9 Nunapitchuk freshwater fisheries studies. A very  
10 important issue, important work to be done, but the  
11 Technical Review Committee, a majority of them felt that  
12 this -- because of the importance of this project, they  
13 wanted the project design to be worked out in more  
14 detail, so there would be a better chance of success with  
15 this work, and so they're asking the investigators to go  
16 back in and continue work on the proposal, and Dr.  
17 Wheeler can talk to you more about that if you have  
18 questions about it.

19  
20                   So that's basically an overview of what  
21 the recommendation that's before you, and I'll just end  
22 my comments and open it up for questions.

23  
24                   MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

25  
26                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

27  
28                   MS. HOFFMAN: And than you for this  
29 report. My concerns are coming from -- in regards to 05-  
30 356 first. At our fish summit meeting of the Kuskokwim  
31 River Salmon Management Working Group recently, we  
32 discussed the importance of post-season subsistence  
33 harvest surveys, and you've cut the funding -- the  
34 funding was cut to that? Go ahead.

35  
36                   MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, Member Hoffman.  
37 The funding wasn't cut. What happened is that project  
38 has been funded by the State since 1960, and they've had,  
39 as you know, some cuts to their general fund. So they  
40 felt -- last year they said they didn't have the money to  
41 do it at all, but they came to us, to OSM, and OSM did  
42 pay the full cost of the project. But this year there  
43 was sort of a policy call, feeling -- I mean, this  
44 information is critical. It is the critical piece of  
45 information that both State and Federal managers use to  
46 make some management decisions, and it was felt that the  
47 State needs to -- since they've funded this project since  
48 1960, it's reasonable for the State to provide half the  
49 funding, and the Federal Government to provide half the  
50 funding, and they agreed to that. So they didn't cut the

1 funding, they're just providing half and half.

2

3 MS. HOFFMAN: Okay. Just one more  
4 question. But you did fund it in full, recognizing its  
5 importance last year, was that correct?

6

7 MS. WHEELER: It was funded in full by  
8 the Federal Program last year, recognizing that it was  
9 important, but saying that this is important for both  
10 State and Federal managers, and the State needs also to  
11 step up to the plate.

12

13 MS. HOFFMAN: That's the message that  
14 you're giving to the State that's here?

15

16 MS. WHEELER: Correct.

17

18 MS. HOFFMAN: And that's why you didn't  
19 fund it in full this year?

20

21 MS. WHEELER: Correct.

22

23 MS. HOFFMAN: All right. Okay. I just  
24 had some concerns with that. I feel that it should be  
25 given the same recognition by the Federal program that it  
26 was given last year.

27

28 The other one that I wanted to make sure,  
29 and I guess it would be at this time, 05-306, the in-  
30 season subsistence salmon harvest monitoring project was  
31 -- the funding for that was also cut, and that's where we  
32 had the resolution from the Kuskokwim River Salmon  
33 Management Working Group.

34

35 And so, Mr. Chair, I guess at this time I  
36 guess I would say, you know, I want to treat these  
37 proposals a little bit differently than we did the Yukon  
38 proposals, because there are some specific issues to  
39 specific proposals. And specifically in regards to the  
40 resolution from the fish summit and 05-306. So I would  
41 like to present that resolution at this for consideration  
42 or be given advice as to the appropriate time to present  
43 it.

44

45 MR. L. WILDE: Rich -- Mr. Chairman.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

48

49 MR. L. WILDE: May I ask a question of  
50 Rich? What is the with modification on 306? What is the

1 modification of it?

2

3 MR. CANNON: Member Wilde, the  
4 modification to that project was to look at the two parts  
5 of it. One part was a project to work with local  
6 subsistence users through tribal organizations, regional  
7 organizations like ONC, and KNA to go out and actually  
8 train people to collect the age, sex, length information  
9 from their -- the fish that they caught. And that's been  
10 a very valuable new data collection. And so that part of  
11 the project, in order to contain the cost, was modified  
12 to simplify give the money to the Department of Fish and  
13 Game, so that they could continue that work at some  
14 level.

15

16 However, the other part of the project  
17 was the in-season harvest monitoring, and that part of  
18 the project, there's been -- although a very popular  
19 project, it's, you know, used by the managers, when the  
20 Technical Review Committee looked at it, this has been an  
21 on-going question now for several years, they wanted to  
22 know what is the long-range value of this project in  
23 terms of answering questions about the management of the  
24 fishery. And there was a request made by the Technical  
25 Review Committee to the investigators to begin to address  
26 that more thoroughly.

27

28 Polly, you may have some comments about  
29 that as well, but that's the challenge that the Technical  
30 Review Committee has given back to the investigators, is  
31 to reshape, redesign that project, to try to get more out  
32 of it.

33

34 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

37

38 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
39 Maybe to help focus and move things along here a little  
40 bit, and recognizing what Bev has said, and I was also  
41 part of that working group where these projects were  
42 addressed, at this time I would move to adopt the  
43 proposals -- or support the proposals on the Kuskokwim,  
44 05-302, the Kuskokwim River chinook salmon telemetry, 05-  
45 304, the Takotna and George River weirs, 05-305,  
46 continuing Kuskokwim chinook genetic base lines, 05-353,  
47 the Nunivak Island subsistence cod, red salmon, and  
48 grayling fisheries, 05-301, the Kuskokwim River whitefish  
49 PIT tagging studies, and 05-303 DIDSON sonar upgrade, 05-  
50 355, Nunapitchuk freshwater studies, that we would concur

1 with the recommendations that are there, but we would  
2 pull Proposals 05-356 and 05-306 to be discussed  
3 separately, and that we move to support the remaining  
4 proposals consistent with the recommendations of the  
5 Technical Review Committee and the Western Interior.  
6 with the exception of the two in question.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If there's a second to  
9 the motion.

10  
11 MR. HANSON: Second.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second has been called  
14 for. Discussion.

15  
16 (No discussion)

17  
18 MR. HANSON: Question.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question now would be  
21 called for. Roll call. Robert, go ahead.

22  
23 MR. R. NICK: Mr. Chairman, I just want  
24 to make a comment. I understood the motion to be similar  
25 to the one on Yukon proposals with exception of those  
26 two. But I just wanted to make a comment to 05-355, in  
27 the last sentence, I just want to reiterate that I  
28 understand that freshwater fish in lower Kuskokwim isn't  
29 identified as a high priority information need for 2006  
30 call for proposals. And the reason I reiterate that is  
31 because the proposal for freshwater fish studies for  
32 Nunapitchuk and the entire villages is not going to be --  
33 recommended to be not funded, and then I just wanted to  
34 indicate that we brought this up, I was on the tribal  
35 council then. When the whitefish numbers declined  
36 drastically, and we had user conflicts, and then we had  
37 beaver populations, and we had waste, you know, of the  
38 resource, but we've taken care of all of those. And one  
39 of the noticeable things that -- for those that travel to  
40 my village area is that areas where we had a lot of waste  
41 on food policy (ph), everything's been through our  
42 environmental programs up there, been taken care of, and  
43 our user conflicts are pretty much resolved, and the  
44 beaver population in the immediate area has declined, and  
45 the fish are back. But for 2006 I think we -- I still  
46 consider that for abundance, distribution and life cycle  
47 of the species to be considered for 2006 population.

48  
49 Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Polly.  
2  
3 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chairman. Member Nick,  
4 just briefly, I will be working with Jennifer Hooper at  
5 AVCP and Tracie Krauthoefer with Fish and Game to work on  
6 a revised investigation plan and we fully expect to have  
7 it up from consideration for funding for next year. Mr.  
8 Chair.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Still a request for roll  
11 call.  
12  
13 MS. GREGORY:  
14  
15 MR. HANSON: Yes.  
16  
17 MS. GREGORY: Myself, yes. Harry Wilde.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
20  
21 MS. GREGORY: Robert Aloysius.  
22  
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
24  
25 MS. GREGORY: Ray Oney.  
26  
27 MR. ONEY: Yes.  
28  
29 MS. GREGORY: Nick Andrew.  
30  
31 MR. ANDREW: Yes.  
32  
33 MS. GREGORY: Greg Roczicka.  
34  
35 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.  
36  
37 MS. GREGORY: Joseph Mike.  
38  
39 MR. MIKE: Yes.  
40  
41 MS. GREGORY: Bev Hoffman.  
42  
43 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes.  
44  
45 MS. GREGORY: Robert Nick.  
46  
47 MR. R. NICK: Yes.  
48  
49 MS. GREGORY: Philip Moses.  
50

1 MR. MOSES: Yes.  
2  
3 MS. GREGORY: And Lester Wilde.  
4  
5 MR. L. WILDE: Yes. Yes.  
6  
7 MS. GREGORY: 11 yea's. The motion  
8 carries.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried.  
11  
12 MS. GREGORY: I had eight smelts, making  
13 me sleepy.  
14  
15 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
18  
19 MS. HOFFMAN: I would like to talk about,  
20 discuss 05-356, the post-season. I feel strongly that we  
21 should accept this, but that the TRC committee support  
22 funding of this without modification. I'll make that in  
23 the form of a motion, that we support this, but with full  
24 funding from the Federal program.  
25  
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.  
27  
28 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.  
31  
32 MR. L. WILDE: Before I vote on it, could  
33 you clarify in my head what the modifications were to  
34 this, please.  
35  
36 MS. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
37 Member Wilde, as I said earlier, this project, the post-  
38 season survey project is a project that's been conducted  
39 by the State since 1960 or so. And last year they State  
40 said that they didn't have the money to do the project at  
41 all, and so the Federal program jumped in to pay for the  
42 full cost of the project, but at that time said that  
43 because this project is so important to State management  
44 as well as Federal management, it's reasonable to expect  
45 that the State should pay some of it, and the Federal  
46 program should pay some of it. And so that was the  
47 rationale. Last year's full funding was done with the  
48 understanding that there would be some sort of a cost-  
49 sharing in future years. So that was the modification  
50 there is that.....

1                   And the other modification, too, is that  
2 project was submitted just as a one-year project. The  
3 TRC felt that it was such an important project, that it  
4 needed to be a three-year project, so they recommended  
5 that it be extended to a three-year project for that.

6  
7                   There are some other sort of technical  
8 issues that need to be addressed, and those are being  
9 addressed between the two programs in terms of sort of  
10 some sampling procedures and that sort of thing.

11  
12                   But actually the modification before you  
13 I believe is the technical issues, not the funding  
14 issues, because that was resolved. The State submitted  
15 the project just with half the funding with the  
16 recognition that they indeed did need to put forward some  
17 of the funding for that project.

18  
19                   MR. L. WILDE: So you're saying the  
20 project will be fully funded?

21  
22                   MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, as far as we  
23 know, the project will be fully funded. The project was  
24 submitted -- the TRC funded the full \$74,000 that was  
25 requested, and the State is funding the other \$74,000, so  
26 it's a good example of State/Federal cooperation. Mr.  
27 Chair.

28  
29                   MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

30  
31                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

32  
33                   MS. HOFFMAN: From what I understand of  
34 the project, they had to do a lot of revision to fit to  
35 this project so that they could still conduct the post-  
36 season surveys. They had to do a lot of revision in  
37 order to fit the budget or the funding that was given.  
38 The State didn't put in extra funding. They put in  
39 staff. They have staff to conduct the surveys, but as  
40 far as I understand, there was no additional funding, and  
41 so there was revisions so that they could still do the  
42 project. Is that -- and maybe Tracie is here and can  
43 clarify it. I just want to make sure that the project is  
44 done in a way that it's been done in the past, that we're  
45 getting all the information that's necessary for it to be  
46 done well, and not halfway.

47  
48                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tracie.

49  
50                   MS. KRAUTHOEFER: Thank you, Chairman

1 Wilde. My name is Tracie Krauthoefer. I'm with the  
2 Division of Subsistence, Alaska Department of Fish and  
3 Game.

4  
5 And actually I wasn't aware of that  
6 condition with last year's funding, that it would be 50  
7 percent this year. We do anticipate being able to make  
8 up the 50 percent that the State will have to pay for,  
9 but we are sort of scrambling in order to meet that 50  
10 percent. This does come, however, with a complete  
11 redesign of the project, because we do recognize that it  
12 is an extremely costly project, and we are trying to  
13 scale down and make it more cost-effective for both the  
14 State and the Feds. So does that answer your question?

15  
16 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

19  
20 MS. HOFFMAN: I just want to make sure.  
21 To our working group where it was discussed, made up of  
22 many different people up the river and down the river,  
23 agencies, all different fisher groups, were concerned  
24 that it wasn't funded fully. And at that time, we didn't  
25 know where other funding was coming from. I just did not  
26 want the project to be jeopardized, because I feel like  
27 the information that is gathered from people, from the  
28 users, is important in decision-making process on Federal  
29 levels and on State levels. That's my concern.

30  
31 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

34  
35 MS. GREGORY: Beverly, I wanted to ask  
36 you why you were against the modification when they just  
37 explained that it would cost sharing both by the Federal  
38 and the State Government, and that they extended it to a  
39 three-year project instead of a one-year.

40  
41 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

44  
45 MS. HOFFMAN: It was my understanding  
46 that funding was lost, that there was not any funding put  
47 forth by the State, so funding was cut on the project, it  
48 wasn't cost sharing. That it had been funded in full by  
49 the Federal monitoring projects or funds last year, and  
50 this year they cut it in half. And so that was my

1 concern, that it would jeopardize the importance of the  
2 project.

3

4 MR. R. NICK: Mr. Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Robert.

7

8 MR. R. NICK: Thank you. I, too, would  
9 like to say a comment in regards to this proposal. And  
10 for maybe upwards of 20 years I went and visited Mike  
11 Coffing many, many times, spent many hours on -- probably  
12 hours on the phone with him after the summer reviews, and  
13 he gives me data. and I've used those figures as I think  
14 about the resources, whether there will be enough salmon,  
15 enough fish resources for our people in the Kuskokwim  
16 region. And he's also been giving me his thoughts on the  
17 resource data in the Yukon River also. And as a member  
18 of the Kuskokwim Salmon Working Group for years, I know  
19 that the information that Mr. Coffing provided was very  
20 instrumental in our thinking, in our deliberations for  
21 commercial openings. And I'm glad that we know -- when  
22 Mike decided to retire, I wasn't very happy, because I  
23 viewed that the work he did for the Department of Fish  
24 and Game in gathering the subsistence use data was very  
25 useful for our planning purposes. And I'm glad that we  
26 now have someone working. And I totally support full  
27 funding or whatever funding that we can find to keep the  
28 program going.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Polly.

33

34 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, if I could, I  
35 think it's important to recognize that the Federal  
36 program is committed to this project, and as I said, it  
37 was funded in full last year, but there were on-going  
38 discussions with the State, and the State agreed that the  
39 State did need to put forward some funding on this  
40 project, because it's such an important project for both  
41 State and Federal managers.

42

43 The other issue is that there's a limited  
44 amount of funding by region, so -- I mean, the Council  
45 can surely say that the funding request for this project  
46 should be doubled. I mean, the Technical Review  
47 Committee recommended funding, the full funding -- the  
48 amount of money that was asked for by the State, the  
49 \$74,000, that was the amount of money that was asked for  
50 by the State. The Technical Review Committee recommended

1 funding that in full. But because there's a limited  
2 amount of money available, if this Council decides to  
3 double that funding, for example, we would ask that you  
4 consider which other project you're going to remove of  
5 those projects, because there is the limit, you know, the  
6 funding guidelines by region. So something to think  
7 about.

8

9 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

12

13 MS. HOFFMAN: These are our  
14 recommendations, and I don't know what ear it goes in and  
15 out of from here. Board of Fish I suppose. But I just  
16 felt like I want to again say that I think my motion on  
17 the floor is to support this, but without the  
18 modifications, not -- I don't want to decide where the  
19 money's coming from.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tracie.

22

23 MS. KRAUTHOEFER: Thank you, Chairman  
24 Wilde. Just to clarify for Member Hoffman, the way that  
25 the funding came about, when we submitted the proposal,  
26 we requested \$158,000, that is the current price tag of  
27 the project. When we received back word that our  
28 proposal was being considered for investigation plan  
29 development, which is the next stage of funding from the  
30 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, we were told that  
31 they would fund -- they recommended the proposal for  
32 investigation plan development, but with a 50 per -- they  
33 would fund it 50 percent. And so that is why the  
34 existing proposal, investigation plan has a price tag of  
35 \$74,000. Does that.....

36

37 MS. HOFFMAN: I understand that.

38

39 MS. KRAUTHOEFER: Okay. Yeah. I guess  
40 that's all.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair, who seconded  
43 your motion, Beverly.

44

45 MR. ALOYSIUS: I did.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Who second it? Bobby.

48

49 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bobby.  
2  
3 MR. ALOYSIUS: So does that clarify your  
4 question about if we're going to get full funding of  
5 \$158,000?  
6  
7 MS. HOFFMAN: My motion is to support 356  
8 without that modification, that's what my motion was.  
9  
10 MS. GREGORY: And that's what I have  
11 written down.  
12  
13 MS. WHEELER: I think the confusion here,  
14 and I think I probably started it, is that the  
15 modification that is referred to here on this table has  
16 to do with technical issues, it's not funding issues.  
17 Because the Technical Review Committee, the investigation  
18 plan came in with a \$74,000 price tag. The Technical  
19 Review Committee recommended funding that project at  
20 \$74,000. So the modifications that are mentioned are  
21 technical issues, they're not price tag issues. And I  
22 apologize for the confusion.  
23  
24 MS. HOFFMAN: I'm no longer confused, so  
25 I suppose I should add a friendly amendment to my motion,  
26 or is that someone else, that we accept the -- we support  
27 the proposal with the modifications, or does someone else  
28 do that?  
29  
30 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, all she has  
31 to do is withdraw her motion.  
32  
33 MS. HOFFMAN: Okay. Thank you. I  
34 withdraw my motion.  
35  
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: I withdraw my second.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.  
39  
40 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
43  
44 MS. HOFFMAN: I'd like to make a motion  
45 that we support 356 with modification.  
46  
47 MR. R. NICK: Second.  
48  
49 MR. ALOYSIUS: I second the motion.  
50

1 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, wait. Beverly,  
4 you make a motion. And, Bobby, you second it?  
5  
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmatively)  
7  
8 MR. R. NICK: I did.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, there are two  
11 here. We could make a third one. So I'll say Bob  
12 seconded it. So discussion.  
13  
14 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.  
17  
18 MR. L. WILDE: Since we're all happy with  
19 this, I'd call for the question.  
20  
21 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.  
24  
25 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you. Mr. Chairman.  
26 I was remiss at the beginning of this meeting during the  
27 conflict of interest, and the reason I've been -- one  
28 reasons I'm sitting quiet, which is rather unusual, but I  
29 do believe I have a conflict of interest with this  
30 proposal, and also the one following in that ONC is one  
31 of the partners in conducting this project, and so I will  
32 be abstaining from the vote. And before we get there,  
33 however, I'd ask or a call or ruling from the Chair. I'm  
34 not sure how you guys have worked it in the past, but  
35 we've had a member of the audience, or a member of the  
36 public that wishes to speak to this, and I know they get  
37 the opportunity when we're dealing with proposals, but  
38 how do you deal with it when we're conducting other  
39 issues, and whether they're recognized.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, I think I'm going  
42 to ask Tom, because there's some audience here that would  
43 like to talk to this special.  
44  
45 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair, Tom Boyd.  
46  
47 I think given where you are, you have a  
48 motion on the table and a second. If the Council so  
49 desires to hear from the public, that's perfectly okay at  
50 this point. I think just have someone from the Council

1 wanting to recognize a member of the public to speak to  
2 this proposal, or to this recommendation or motion is  
3 perfectly acceptable.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Tom. So I  
6 give you a chance to talk about this certain thing. Say  
7 your name and who you are.

8

9 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
10 My name is Frank Charles. In this case I'll speak as a  
11 member of the Orutsararmiut Native Council, and resident  
12 of the Y-K Delta.

13

14 During the Kuskokwim River Salmon  
15 Management Working Group meeting, Mr. Chairman, it was  
16 reported by Tracie Krauthoefer with the State of Alaska,  
17 Subsistence Division, that the program would be cut. Not  
18 only that, because of the cutbacks, the program would be  
19 redesigned in such a way that it would probably not  
20 reflect at all what we're accustomed to, Mr. Nick, Mr.  
21 Chairman, Beverly.

22

23 As was pointed out by Mr. Nick, the data,  
24 as being a past member of the working group, and past co-  
25 chairman, the data was very important to my thinking,  
26 and, in fact, it was relied on by not just myself, not  
27 just the agencies and Native organizations within the  
28 area, but members of the public, so that they can get a  
29 sense being part of this family out here.

30

31 And to begin with, I'm very disconcerted  
32 about the fact that the State would even cut it out.  
33 It's stated in the State's constitution that beyond  
34 escapement, and assuring the amounts necessary to  
35 propagate the species, subsistence has a priority. I  
36 understand the politics and everything, but I think this  
37 program, and in fact this Council should make a very  
38 strong statement about the fact that this issue is very  
39 important to us. It was reported at that same time by  
40 Tracie that this area, the Y-K Delta, per house, on a per  
41 capita basis, per household, has the greatest consumption  
42 of subsistence salmon and other uses anywhere in the  
43 State, anywhere in the nation. I'd go so far as to say  
44 anywhere in the world if you think of it in terms of what  
45 we believe in.

46

47 And I think I understand your need to try  
48 to find a way and wend your way through the current  
49 circumstance, and I certainly appreciate U.S. Fish and  
50 Wildlife Service stepping in when the State was at the

1 doorstep.

2

3                   And a bit of history. When we lost Mr.  
4 Coffing, I understood that there was no plans for  
5 replacement of him. No position at all. It was going to  
6 be cut. We were fortunate to get Tracie out here, and  
7 I'm glad that she's made the commitment to come to this  
8 area. And I understand her belief in trying to help  
9 people, and I appreciate that, along with the U.S. Fish  
10 and Wildlife Service.

11

12                   But I think the funding issue has got to  
13 be resolved. And the technical modifications as I  
14 understand it from this, and maybe, Polly, I don't mean  
15 to put you on the spot, but I think you need to  
16 understand what those technical modifications that were  
17 recommended by the review committee are. If it includes  
18 a complete redesign of the survey and the process and the  
19 interpretation of the data, I would personally have a lot  
20 of problem with that. Certainly there may be statistical  
21 avenues and ways in looking at data and massaging it so  
22 that it appears that we're getting valid data. You can  
23 do that. I know so many biomagicians within the U.S.  
24 Fish and Wildlife Service and Fish and Game, I mean, it  
25 just goggles my mind as to what they can do. But mainly  
26 times that data is of question.

27

28                   And if you are going to accept this with  
29 modifications, and it does include a redesign of that  
30 survey, I think a very careful scrutiny, not just by the  
31 scientists and the people within Fish and Wildlife and  
32 U.S. Fish and Wildlife should occur, but a review by our  
33 people, because we deserve it.

34

35                   Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

36

37                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Frank. Now  
38 I'll request for a roll call.

39

40                   MR. ROCZICKA: Abstain.

41

42                   MS. GREGORY: Greg.

43

44                   MR. ROCZICKA: Abstain.

45

46                   MS. GREGORY: Abstain. Thank you. Bev  
47 Hoffman.

48

49                   MS. HOFFMAN: Yes.

50

1 MS. GREGORY: Joseph Mike.  
2  
3 MR. MIKE: Yes.  
4  
5 MS. GREGORY: Philip Moses.  
6  
7 MR. MOSES: Yes.  
8  
9 MS. GREGORY: Robert Nick.  
10  
11 MR. R. NICK: Yes.  
12  
13 MS. GREGORY: Harry Wild.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
16  
17 MS. GREGORY: John Hanson.  
18  
19 MR. HANSON: Yes.  
20  
21 MS. GREGORY: Lester Wilde.  
22  
23 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.  
24  
25 MS. GREGORY: Bob Aloysius.  
26  
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
28  
29 MS. GREGORY: Nick Andrew.  
30  
31 MR. ANDREW: Yes.  
32  
33 MS. GREGORY: Ray Oney.  
34  
35 MR. ONEY: Yes.  
36  
37 MS. GREGORY: Myself, yes. 12 yea's, the  
38 motion carries.  
39  
40 MR. ROCZICKA: That was one abstention,  
41 Madam Secretary.  
42  
43 MS. GREGORY: I'm sorry, one abstention.  
44 11 yea's, one abstention. It still carries.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly, you want to say  
47 something.  
48  
49 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, and just to  
50 address Mr. Charles, I'm sure that this revised program

1 is going to come back to the working group, and it will  
2 be looked at, and we'll help the State through this.  
3 And, of course, the Federal people, too.

4  
5 I'd like to address 306 this time. The  
6 Kuskokwim in-season subsistence salmon harvest monitoring  
7 and ASL data collection. I do have a resolution from the  
8 Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group, at the  
9 fisheries summit September 30/October 1, 2004, that I  
10 would like to have our Council consider in their  
11 recommendations on this matter. I'd like to pass out  
12 copies, and I'd like to read the resolution, Mr. Chair.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Beverly.

15  
16 MS. HOFFMAN: The title is supporting  
17 continued funding of ONC in-season subsistence survey  
18 project, Resolution No. 04-02.

19  
20 Whereas the Kuskokwim River Salmon  
21 Management Working Group, and I'll refer to it as KRSMWG,  
22 formed in 1988, is an organization which is charged with  
23 the responsibility of managing Kuskokwim River salmon  
24 resources, that in its 16 years of existence has become  
25 an integral component of seasonal management structure;  
26 and

27  
28 Whereas the in-season subsistence harvest  
29 monitoring project conducted over the last four years in  
30 cooperation with Orutsararmiut Native Council, ONC, and  
31 State managers in the Bethel area has had its scope and  
32 recommended funding significantly reduced by a review  
33 committee that states concerns over scientific rigor of  
34 the project; and

35  
36 Whereas the information gathered through  
37 this project provides area managers with scientific and  
38 local knowledge that is not cost-effectively available  
39 through any other means, has never been obtained before,  
40 and will be lost for establishing further base line data,  
41 that maintains a sufficient level of scientific  
42 credibility; and

43  
44 Whereas critics should work with the  
45 partners in this project to enhance the goals and the  
46 intent of this significant capacity-building potential  
47 that is directly associated with this project, rather  
48 than summarily dismiss or lose the TEK and scientific  
49 data from this project's proven capabilities; and

50

1                   Whereas the information gathered through  
2 this project is considered highly beneficial to Federal  
3 and State managers in making comprehensive decisions  
4 regarding salmon harvests in the Kuskokwim drainage that  
5 comprises almost half of the subsistence harvest  
6 statewide;

7  
8                   Now therefore be it resolved that to  
9 fulfill its many associated responsibilities for  
10 subsistence management in the Kuskokwim draining, the OSM  
11 should continue to fully fund this important project to  
12 provide for the future in-season management of Kuskokwim  
13 subsistence salmon fisheries;

14  
15                   Be it further resolved that the OSM Staff  
16 of concern should work with ONC and local area management  
17 staff to address their expressed concerns of enhancing  
18 scientific rigor of the project, along with expanding its  
19 capabilities and furthering the stated agency policy of  
20 increased capacity building.

21  
22                   Adopted this 1st day of October, 2004, at  
23 the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group's  
24 fish summit in Bethel, Alaska, at which an established  
25 quorum of members was present.

26  
27                   That, Mr. Chair is the resolution. My  
28 concern, of course, and maybe my confusion is I'd like to  
29 ask about the modification and what it means to this  
30 project.

31  
32                   MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

33  
34                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

35  
36                   MS. GREGORY: Can I ask those people  
37 about what the modifications were.

38  
39                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Polly.

40  
41                   MS. GREGORY: Of 05-0306.

42  
43                   MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, Members Gregory  
44 and Hoffman, the suggested modifications to that project,  
45 there were some questions asked of ADF&G Comm Fish staff  
46 with regard to sort of the long-term use of this  
47 information, and these questions have been asked by the  
48 TRC for several years and -- for two or three years  
49 really, and Comm Fish hasn't responded to the questions  
50 that have been asked by the TRC.

1                   Having said that, you know, we recognize  
2 -- Greg and I had lunch together and we talked about this  
3 project, and we clearly recognize the value of this  
4 project, and we certainly respect the resolution and  
5 we'll take it back to the Federal program, if that  
6 answers your question. Mr. Chair.

7  
8                   MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

9  
10                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly and Greg.

11  
12                  MS. HOFFMAN: So I would like to make a  
13 motion that we support this project without modification.

14  
15                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: There is a motion on the  
16 floor. If there's any second to the motion.

17  
18                  MR. R. NICK: Second.

19  
20                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Robert.

21  
22                  MS. GREGORY: Did you say without?

23  
24                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, there's a motion to  
25 support without modification 05-306, and second by Robert  
26 Nick.

27  
28                  Discussion. Greg.

29  
30                  MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
31 I had hoped to say something before a motion was on the  
32 floor, but I just want to make a brief statement, and  
33 then again because of the potential conflict of interest  
34 concerns, I'm not going to take part in the debate, and  
35 I'll abstain from the vote.

36  
37                  When this issue came up at the working  
38 group meeting, I was aware of the TRC's recommendations,  
39 and was prepared to try to make the best of what you got  
40 type of situation, but hearing from all the members which  
41 that working group contains people from the processing  
42 industry to subsistence users, from down at the mouth of  
43 the river all the way up to Takotna and McGrath, and the  
44 value that they related and the importance of this  
45 project just really kind of caught me by surprise and,  
46 you know, will make you kind of embarrassed.

47  
48                  But I'm -- I do feel that what we have in  
49 place through that program is -- it's actually highly  
50 under-utilized. There's so much more that can be done

1 with it, and to say that -- and I guess it kind of raises  
2 a question in my mind if the concern is with technical  
3 questions that have gone unanswered by Comm Fish, then  
4 why having the project cut out, and give all the  
5 remaining monies to the Department, and lose that  
6 component in such a strong collaborative effort that's in  
7 the mission statement of the Office of Subsistence  
8 Management that's been built up, and again is, in my  
9 mind, and no false modesty or whatever, works very well,  
10 and is an exemplary program for what this whole TEK and  
11 what that component of the Federal subsistence program is  
12 all about.

13  
14 So with that, I'll sit back and listen to  
15 you guys go.

16  
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

20  
21 MR. ALOYSIUS: I just have a couple of  
22 questions. Greg, you said from the mouth of the  
23 Kuskokwim to McGrath, that one of the.....

24  
25 MR. ROCZICKA: That is correct, yeah. We  
26 have a middle river subsistence user, we have upriver  
27 elders, and we have the Western Interior representative.

28  
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, I mean for the.....

30  
31 MR. ROCZICKA: For the working group?

32  
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: For the project.

34  
35 MR. ROCZICKA: For the Kuskokwim Working  
36 Group. No, this project is in the lower river area. It  
37 takes place.....

38  
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: And the other thing that  
40 caught my eye was only talking about the -- what's ASL,  
41 composition of the chinook salmon?

42  
43 MR. ROCZICKA: Age.....

44  
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Is that the only salmon  
46 that you're targeting?

47  
48 MR. ROCZICKA: That's correct. Yeah, and  
49 it targeted primarily for chinook salmon only. The age,  
50 sex, length data, to get the.....

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: What is ASL?  
2  
3 MR. ROCZICKA: ASL stands for age, sex  
4 and length, which gives you the stock composition and  
5 what year they -- the parent year is and so forth for  
6 this year, and it helps with the next year's forecast  
7 with the majority of what you return, whether it's a  
8 four, five, six, seven or eight-year-olds.  
9  
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.  
13  
14 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka, am I  
15 understanding you correctly when you say it that you're  
16 happy with the modifications, or were you -- or.....  
17  
18 MR. ROCZICKA: No, you're  
19 misunderstanding me if you think I'm happy with the  
20 modifications. I said when I had first heard them, I was  
21 aware that it had been cut. I was not aware that all the  
22 money was going to be going -- dedicated to the  
23 Department of Fish and Game, and that the component that  
24 ONC conducted with actually having our technicians in the  
25 field and contacting the 50 plus families at their fish  
26 camps on a consistent basis throughout the summer was no  
27 longer a part of it. And I would hardly question whether  
28 Fish and Game would even be able to obtain that data  
29 given the stigma that some people have about government  
30 officials coming into their fish camps and whether  
31 they're going to want to do it for them, and be able to  
32 get out there and collect it as my technicians have done  
33 for the last four years.  
34  
35 MR. L. WILDE: Guyana.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions.  
38 Robert.  
39  
40 MR. R. NICK: I just want to make a short  
41 comment. When the Federal and State management came  
42 about, the same team was working together, and it was  
43 established with an MOA, a memorandum of agreement, that  
44 management of fisheries whether Federal water or State  
45 waters exist, that Federal managers and State managers  
46 would work together. And I think we've done that  
47 successfully. And lately in the last few years with  
48 declining revenues for both State and Federal, the effort  
49 was working together, and I think we've done that with  
50 the State and the Federal Fish and Wildlife working with

1 tribes in the region and AVCP, all regional organization,  
2 and in doing some of the work in the contracts that has  
3 been let out, and one of the works that I thinks been  
4 helpful for the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working  
5 Group is information that ONC reports at every meeting on  
6 subsistence harvest. And there's also interest and  
7 concern about age, sex and length of chinook salmon, king  
8 salmon. And there's no better person in the world than  
9 the lady who cuts the salmon. The say it's with fish  
10 eggs, whether it's got fish eggs, it's male or female,  
11 and they know the length. And then whenever there's some  
12 problems, like lesions inside, the ladies tell us. And I  
13 think that information could also be obtained maybe with  
14 some forum. But I think with what has been done of the  
15 -- by ONC is something that will continue to be useful  
16 for future management, and I support the motion. The  
17 motion is to support without modification.

18

19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Request a roll call.

20

21 MR. ALOYSIUS: I want to call for the  
22 question.

23

24 MS. GREGORY: I was going to call the  
25 question anyway.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, it's a question.  
28 Call for roll call.

29

30 MS. GREGORY: Ray Oney.

31

32 MR. ONEY: Yes.

33

34 MS. GREGORY: Nick Andrew.

35

36 MR. ANDREW: Yes.

37

38 MS. GREGORY: Bob Aloysius.

39

40 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: John Hanson.

43

44 MR. HANSON: Yes.

45

46 MS. GREGORY: Beverly Hoffman.

47

48 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes.

49

50 MS. GREGORY: Robert Nick.

1 MR. R. NICK: Yes.  
2  
3 MS. GREGORY: Lester Wilde.  
4  
5 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.  
6  
7 MS. GREGORY: Myself, yes. Joseph Mike.  
8  
9 MR. MIKE: Yes.  
10  
11 MS. GREGORY: Philip Moses.  
12  
13 MR. MOSES: Yes.  
14  
15 MS. GREGORY: Greg Roczicka.  
16  
17 MR. ROCZICKA: Abstain.  
18  
19 MS. GREGORY: And Harry Wilde.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
22  
23 MS. GREGORY: One, two, three, four,  
24 five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten. 11 yea's, one  
25 abstention. The motion carries. Abstention. Okay.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Rich.  
28  
29 MR. CANON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As  
30 the Council can see, we have one box left on our  
31 worksheet. There's one.....  
32  
33 MR. L. WILDE: Wasn't 301 held back also?  
34  
35 MS. GREGORY: No.  
36  
37 MR. L. WILDE: Beverly, when you made  
38 that motion, you excluded also 301?  
39  
40 MS. HOFFMAN: No, I did not. I only  
41 excluded 356 and 306.  
42  
43 MR. L. WILDE: Okay. I stand to be  
44 corrected. Thank you.  
45  
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, I have  
47 marked 301 for discussion purposes, because that.....  
48  
49 MR. L. WILDE: I have that marked, too.  
50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. And I thought that  
2 she had 356, 306 and 301 for discussion.

3  
4 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

7  
8 MS. HOFFMAN: No, that wasn't what I  
9 said. It was just 356 and 306.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Rich, we'll go  
12 down to the third box, whatever.

13  
14 MR. CANNON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
15 There's one inter-regional project that I would like to  
16 bring to your attention, and this -- in your Council  
17 books, they're found at Pages 221 through 226. And,  
18 again, these type of projects address benefits for more  
19 than one region.

20  
21 For 2005, the Technical Review Committee  
22 is recommending funding of a Project 05-702, genetic  
23 studies of whitefish. As you can see on -- Pages 221 and  
24 226. As you can see from your worksheet, both the  
25 Eastern and Western councils supported this proposed  
26 investigation, and it compares population structure of  
27 humpback and lake whitefish using genetic markers, as  
28 well as to develop genetic markers for sheefish and  
29 several other whitefish species. And it will help  
30 fisheries biologists answer important questions that we  
31 cannot answer about these stocks presently. It's a small  
32 amount of money. The samples are already -- have been  
33 collected by biologists, and this money would go to do  
34 the laboratory work.

35  
36 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Questions, Counsel.

39  
40 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

43  
44 MS. HOFFMAN: I just want to know what  
45 the modifications were, and how it affects the project.

46  
47 MR. CANNON: Member Hoffman, yes, in this  
48 case the modification meant to essentially try to reduce  
49 the budget down, and to deal with several technical  
50 issues, which the investigators did to the satisfaction

1 of the TRC, so with those modifications, this project is  
2 fully ready to be considered.

3  
4 MS. HOFFMAN: Thank you.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

7  
8 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
9 I couldn't find nothing to criticize in here, so I guess  
10 I'd move to support the recommendations as stated for  
11 Project No. 05-702.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You move to support 05-  
14 702.

15  
16 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes, as recommended.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If there's any second to  
19 the motion.

20  
21 MR. R. NICK: Second. Second.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second by Robert.

24 Discussion.  
25  
26 (No discussion)

27  
28 MR. ROCZICKA: Question

29  
30 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called  
33 for. Roll call.

34  
35 MS. GREGORY: I'll have to write the  
36 names down first.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, take your time.

39  
40 MS. GREGORY: Robert Nick.

41  
42 MR. R. NICK: Yes.

43  
44 MS. GREGORY: Greg Roczicka

45  
46 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.

47  
48 MS. GREGORY: Ray Oney.

49  
50 MR. ONEY: Yes.

1 MS. GREGORY: Bob Aloysius.  
2  
3 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
4  
5 MS. GREGORY: John Hanson.  
6  
7 MR. HANSON: Yes.  
8  
9 MS. GREGORY: Beverly Hoffman.  
10  
11 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes.  
12  
13 MS. GREGORY: Lester Wilde.  
14  
15 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.  
16  
17 MS. GREGORY: Myself, yes. Joseph Mike.  
18  
19 MR. MIKE: Yes.  
20  
21 MS. GREGORY: Harry Wilde.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
24  
25 MS. GREGORY: Nick Andrew.  
26  
27 MR. ANDREW: Yes.  
28  
29 MS. GREGORY: And Philip Moses.  
30  
31 MR. MOSES: Yes.  
32  
33 MS. GREGORY: 12 yea's. The motion  
34 passes. Okay. Passed.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more on this.....  
37  
38 MS. GREGORY: Mic on.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Any more of these  
41 to discuss. If it's not, we'll go to the Number -- oh,  
42 we still have to go No. 2 on the fishery resource. Rich.  
43  
44 MR. CANNON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
45 have just two very, very brief updates for the Regional  
46 Council. One -- the first on is on the strategic  
47 fisheries planning for Yukon and the Kuskokwim. On Page  
48 227 of your Council books, you will find a strategic  
49 planning update, just a one-page update, which lays out  
50 how the Office of Subsistence Management intends to

1 update and prioritize the resource goals, objectives, and  
2 data needs associated with the fisheries resource  
3 monitoring program. Fisheries experts knowledgeable  
4 about their respective fisheries, and social scientists  
5 will be invited to work with representatives of each  
6 Council to prepare a strategic subsistence fisheries plan  
7 for their regions.

8  
9                   These planning efforts are currently  
10 under way for the Bristol Bay and Southcentral regions.  
11 Once these first two plans are done, efforts for the  
12 remainder of the State will be started over the next  
13 three to four years. We're simply letting you know that  
14 we're going to be doing these things in the future.

15  
16                   However, for the Yukon and Kuskokwim,  
17 work on plans that are already on-going in your region  
18 will -- such as the Arctic Yukon/Kuskokwim Sustainable  
19 Salmon Initiative Planning which your Council's been  
20 briefed on in past meetings, the Yukon Joint Technical  
21 Committee Planning which is on-going, and the Kuskokwim  
22 Fisheries Resource Coalition Planning, which will be  
23 completed here by a year from now, we're going to wait  
24 for those to be completed, and then we will make use of  
25 that information. We're not going to try to duplicate  
26 that work. And so we're simply giving you this  
27 information to know that this is something that we're  
28 planning to do here in the next several years with regard  
29 to improving the issues and information needs for the  
30 region.

31  
32                   That's all I wanted to pass on to you,  
33 Mr. Chairman.

34  
35                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Do we have a question  
36 for Rich. Robert.

37  
38                   MR. R. NICK: I just have a short  
39 comment. Is Mr. Boyd here?

40  
41                   UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: He's out in the  
42 hall.

43  
44  
45                   MR. R. NICK: Oh, okay. I just wanted to  
46 complicate Mr. Boyd in his efforts for the development  
47 and assistance to Regional Councils in development of  
48 strategic plans. As we all know, again with the  
49 declining and limited funding for basic services for the  
50 members of the State of Alaska different regions, and all

1 their efforts of survival, there's a strong push for the  
2 development of future planning, strategic planning. In  
3 fact, funding agencies with the Denali Commission  
4 especially have stressed in the consortium of 24  
5 agencies, Federal and State, in our State are working  
6 together. One of the prerequisites for any community to  
7 be considered for future funding or any type of  
8 developmental work is that they must have a strategic  
9 plan. A comprehensive strategic plan. I think the  
10 efforts to help these two regions, you know, should be  
11 expanded to include the other seven regions that give  
12 advice to the Federal Subsistence Board. I think it  
13 behooves the Federal Subsistence Board and the Division  
14 of Fish and Wildlife to render that assistance that we  
15 are in keeping with the demands are for our input.

16  
17 We do not -- I do not like to be a stamp  
18 to what somebody else does. I'd like to be a partner,  
19 and have input the ideas and the plans and whatever needs  
20 that can be identified, especially in the rural Alaska,  
21 because we that live in villages know more of the  
22 conditions and issues that beset the 231 tribes now they  
23 say in the State of Alaska. And I think that information  
24 would be very helpful for Federal managers, and also  
25 State managers.

26  
27 So I strongly support the development of  
28 a plan to have a strategic planning workshops in all 12  
29 management areas.

30  
31 Thank you.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more from the  
34 Council. Thank you, Rich.

35  
36 MR. CANNON: Mr. Chairman, I just have  
37 one additional briefing, and it concerns the Partners for  
38 Fisheries Monitoring. I'll just take a minute.

39  
40 This is found on Page 228 of your Council  
41 books, and just to let you know that there are -- in your  
42 region, you have five fisheries biologist positions that  
43 are being funded by this program, and they are -- these  
44 funds are made available to regional organizations like  
45 AVCP, Tanana Chiefs, the Council of Athabascan Tribal  
46 Governments, and Kuskokwim Native Associations. And  
47 these biologist positions not only work with the  
48 monitoring program, they are doing outreach work.

49  
50 They also are funded to have college

1 interns that work with them, and they mentor these -- and  
2 these interns are from the region. We want young people  
3 who are interested in going into resource management to  
4 have this opportunity to work with the Partner biologist  
5 or in some regions we have anthropologists. And they  
6 give an opportunity to really get involved with these  
7 kind of projects. And so each of these partners also has  
8 funds for a college intern.

9  
10 And so this is an exciting program, and  
11 at your spring meeting we do a status report on this  
12 program, and we can give you more information about that.

13  
14 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15  
16 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

19  
20 MS. HOFFMAN: At the spring meeting I  
21 would also like you to highlight some of those folks.  
22 I'd like to put a face out there to see who is involved  
23 in the intern program, so I have a better idea as to, you  
24 know, what's going on.

25  
26 MR. CANNON: Okay.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

29  
30 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, Rich, this  
31 has been in place for close on to two years now, is that  
32 correct?

33  
34 MR. CANNON: Yes, that program has  
35 essentially been developing here for over a two-year  
36 period. We've got people on. We've had some changes,  
37 and fortunately we're seeing those vacancies filled here.

38  
39  
40 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, I know there have  
41 been some vacancies, and that's what I was going to ask  
42 you is how many of the positions are currently vacant, or  
43 how many people you've actually got working and what's  
44 the status of those five positions? I know KNA's got  
45 their guy there that they hired away from us.

46  
47 MR. CANNON: Yes, I was hoping he would  
48 be here today. I wanted to introduce Dave Orgbutt. I  
49 don't -- he didn't make it in. Right now I think the  
50 vacancies that we're trying to fill are with AVCP and

1 they're in the process of going through interviews right  
2 now, so we hope to have that complete slate of our  
3 Partners positions here very soon, everybody essentially  
4 having their Partners positions filled.

5  
6 Thank you.

7  
8 MR. ROCZICKA: So you've got two of the  
9 five are presently filled.

10  
11 MR. CANNON: We have -- I believe we only  
12 have two left to fill.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If there's anymore,  
15 Rich, thank you.

16  
17 Robert -- what I'm trying to do. Alex  
18 Nick.

19  
20 MR. A. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
21 just wanted to remind the Council that the next items,  
22 with the exception of two or three agenda topics from  
23 here forward are informational presentations. There are  
24 only a few, maybe a couple of action topics that the  
25 agenda will, you know, call for your actions, so I think  
26 the Chair would like for us to go forward.

27  
28 Thank you.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next on our agenda is B,  
31 subsistence fisheries post season review. This is going  
32 to be joint presentation from Federal and State at this  
33 time. Say your name and who you're working for.

34  
35 MR. MUSHMAN: Mr. Chairman. Council  
36 members. And attendees. My name is Gerald Mushman, and  
37 I work for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service out of the  
38 Fairbanks office. I assist Russ Holder, who is the Yukon  
39 River in-season subsistence manager. And he has given me  
40 a 2004 Yukon River season overview, and I have handouts  
41 for Council members.

42  
43 I'd also like say that Dan Bergstrom with  
44 ADF&G had to leave earlier, and there's some handouts  
45 coming to you from him. Three of them I believe.

46  
47 I'm presenting the overview of the 2004  
48 Yukon River salmon season authored by Russ Holder, the  
49 Yukon River Federal subsistence fisheries manager. The  
50 overview consists of two written pages. Page 3 is a

1 table of the Federal monitoring projects for 2004, and  
2 Page 4 is a figure showing the harvest progress for  
3 interviewed households in five villages toward meeting  
4 their subsistence salmon needs by the date identified on  
5 the figure.

6  
7                   And I'd just like to repeat what Alex  
8 said, that this report is for your information, and no  
9 actions need to be taken by the Council.

10  
11                   Pre-season both Federal and State Yukon  
12 River fisheries managers were entering the season with  
13 the hope that the salmon runs would be similar or better  
14 than the runs experienced in 2003, but with the  
15 uncertainty and the concern that the poor salmon runs  
16 experienced since 1998 might continue.

17  
18                   Fish and Wildlife staff worked  
19 cooperatively with ADF&G staff to develop the pre-season  
20 and in-season management approaches which were finalized  
21 and published with the assistance from the Office of  
22 Subsistence Management as the green information sheet,  
23 2004 Yukon River salmon fisheries. This sheet was mailed  
24 to all Yukon River subsistence and commercial fishing  
25 households.

26  
27                   Summer season. The summer season began  
28 with a very early ice breakup and with two special action  
29 requests received in mid May, one requesting the windows  
30 schedule be removed on the Yukon River from Holy Cross to  
31 the mouth of the Yukon River. The second requested the  
32 window schedule be implemented earlier than the published  
33 May 31st starting date for District 1. The Federal  
34 manager's response to both requests was that it was  
35 premature to change the conservative pre-season  
36 management approach agreed to by agencies, other  
37 organizations, and fishermen without additional run size  
38 information.

39  
40                   As the season began, subsistence salmon  
41 fishermen were delaying their fishing effort due to high  
42 water, debris and unavailable or high gas prices. As the  
43 water level and debris decreased, as gas became  
44 available, and fish abundance improved, subsistence  
45 fishing effort increased. Subsistence salmon harvest  
46 information collected during the second week of June by  
47 both ADF&G staff and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
48 in-season harvest assessment project confirmed that the  
49 lower Yukon subsistence fishing households were on track  
50 to meet their subsistence salmon needs.

1                   The in-season run abundance of chinook  
2 and summer chum salmon runs were based on the lower Yukon  
3 set net test fishery, Pilot Station sonar, and  
4 subsistence fisher harvest reports. Approaching the  
5 middle of June, managers were projecting that sufficient  
6 chinook salmon had entered the river to provide for  
7 escapement, including Yukon agreement, border passage  
8 commitments to Canada, and subsistence needs throughout  
9 the drainage with a surplus of chinook salmon available  
10 for other harvest, including commercial.

11  
12                   Consistent with the pre-season management  
13 approach, and after a teleconference with YRDFA board of  
14 directors and coordinating fisheries committee members on  
15 June 14th, ADF&G began implementing commercial periods in  
16 the lower Yukon River beginning June 15th in District 2.  
17 Fishing Districts 3 and 4, which did not have commercial  
18 markets were liberalized to five or seven days per week  
19 subsistence fishing consistent with the pre-2001  
20 subsistence fishing regulations.

21  
22                   Assessment of summer chum salmon was  
23 primarily based on in-season subsistence harvest reports  
24 and Pilot Station sonar, because the ADF&G summer drift  
25 test fish project was not funded. Summer chum salmon run  
26 strength appeared improved over the abundance experienced  
27 in 2002 and 2003. Although the abundance of summer chum  
28 salmon would have allowed directed commercial periods, no  
29 commercial periods occurred for summer chum salmon,  
30 because there were no commercial buyers.

31  
32                   The by-catch of summer chum salmon in the  
33 chinook salmon directed commercial fishery did not  
34 negatively impact escapement goals or upriver subsistence  
35 users.

36  
37                   Overall it appears that summer season  
38 subsistence fishers were provided a reasonable  
39 opportunity to fish on adequate numbers of fish, and that  
40 nearly all, if not all fishermen who tried met their  
41 subsistence salmon needs as documented by the weekly  
42 YRDFA teleconferences, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
43 Service in-season salmon harvest assessment project. The  
44 exception were coastal communities who reported  
45 difficulties harvesting their fish due to offshore winds,  
46 which pushed the fish further offshore than normal.

47  
48                   Post-season evaluation of the chinook and  
49 summer chum salmon escapement numbers, and the chinook  
50 border passage into Canada confirm that the 2004 summer

1 season management approach provided adequate numbers of  
2 fish for these upstream obligations.

3  
4                   Fall season. ADF&G management staff was  
5 projecting a pre-season fall chum salmon run size ranging  
6 between 350 and 670,000 fish, with a weak Porcupine river  
7 stock component. This was updated as we entered the fall  
8 fishing season in mid July with an outlook for returning  
9 -- for a return ranging between 500,000 to 600,000 fall  
10 chum salmon, which incorporated this years summer chum  
11 salmon run performance.

12  
13                   Consistent with the fall chum salmon  
14 management plan, windowed subsistence salmon fishing was  
15 implemented sequentially as fall chum salmon migrated  
16 upstream. Beginning in mid August after the mid point of  
17 the run, subsistence fishing time was relaxed to five to  
18 seven or five days a week as projected run size was  
19 assessed to be sufficient to meet escapement and  
20 subsistence needs. The outlook appeared consistent with  
21 in-season run indicators until very late in the season  
22 when an unexpected large pulse of approximately 100,000  
23 fall chum salmon entered the river at the end of August  
24 when on average more than 90 percent of the fall chum  
25 would be in the river. This last pulse expanded the run  
26 size to 610,000 fish, and allowed ADF&G to provide for a  
27 small commercial harvest at the end of the season.

28  
29                   Based on information collected in-season,  
30 it appears that subsistence needs were met, that a  
31 majority of the escapement objectives were achieved, with  
32 the exception of the Sheenjek River, and that our Yukon  
33 panel agreed-to fall chum salmon commitments were  
34 exceeded.

35  
36                   This fall season the U.S. Fish and  
37 Wildlife Service genetics lab, in cooperation with ADF&G  
38 and Canadian staff, began providing in-season genetic  
39 assessment information of fall chum salmon pulse passage  
40 samples collected at Pilot Station sonar. This is a new  
41 fall season -- fall in-season assessment tool for  
42 managers. Like any new project information coming on  
43 line, managers are cautious about implementing the  
44 information until we have several years to learn how to  
45 interpret this new in-season information in light of  
46 post-season results. We hope to have the project start  
47 July 1st next year to assist managers in assessing the  
48 percentage of fall chum salmon entering the river prior  
49 to the official July 16th fall chum salmon monitoring  
50 date.

1 Post-season. Overall I would  
2 characterize the 2004 as a successful fishing season in  
3 light of meeting escapement objectives, providing maximal  
4 subsistence opportunities consistent with regulations and  
5 ADF&G providing additional harvest opportunities.

6  
7 The outlook for 2005 will be prepared  
8 after escapement information and age composition and  
9 analyses are completed over the next several months.

10  
11 I'd like to say that that's the end of  
12 the Federal overview of the 2004 Yukon River salmon  
13 season. And if there's not any more questions, that's  
14 end of my review.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

17  
18 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, I've got a question.  
19 I'm always hearing this summer chum, fall chum. You guys  
20 from the Yukon should be able to tell what you mean,  
21 what's the difference between a summer chum and a fall  
22 chum?

23  
24 MR. MUSHMAN: Would you like me to  
25 answer, or would you like one of your colleagues to  
26 answer.

27  
28 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'm sorry. I always hear  
29 people talk about, you know, the early chums, summer  
30 chums and the fall chums. Is there a difference? Are  
31 they a different species, or what are they? I mean, you  
32 know, around here we have ugashuk (ph) and oholik (ph),  
33 and to me, you know, there's more than what the White man  
34 calls the chinook. We call them kings, the pinks, the  
35 reds, chums, silvers, but we also have a sixth species,  
36 what we call oholik (ph), and to me they're like a cross  
37 between a red and a chum, because they have -- they're  
38 really big, they're round. They have very small eggs  
39 like a red, but they're orange, and their meat is orange,  
40 and they have the same number gill rakers as reds. So, I  
41 mean, maybe you guys can make it clear for me what you  
42 mean by summer chums and fall chums.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: John.

45  
46 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.  
47 Chairman. Well, I thought you would know fall chum and  
48 summer chum, because you had a wife from Kotlik.

49  
50 A summer chum is smaller than fall chum.

1 What we call fall chum, it's a big chum, round, a lot of  
2 fat in it, and the tail is where it comes out like this,  
3 right behind, it's smaller than summer chum. The summer  
4 chum come in with the king salmon. Fall chum wait until  
5 July 15th to come in.

6

7

8 And the coho, I guess that's what you  
9 call silver. A lot of them call it silver, a lot of them  
10 call it coho, I guess which is identical to Kuskokwim  
11 silver.

12

13 So we've got summer chum, fall chum and  
14 coho, besides the king salmon. And then a few reds here  
15 and there.

16

17 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay. Yeah. Now I know  
18 the difference, because, you know, to use we call them  
19 two different species, because the one is what the  
20 ordinary people a chum or a dog salmon, but us the oholik  
21 (ph) are a total different species, and they're not  
22 chums. If you look at them, you can tell they're not  
23 chums, you know.

24

25 So I guess that's where my confusion was  
26 because I could not find anybody to tell me the  
27 difference between a summer chum and a fall chum. But  
28 now I know.

29

30 Quyana.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: John.

33

34 MR. HANSON: I think you're the wrong  
35 person to get asked on this report that you gave.

36

37 Okay. On your thing here you had through  
38 the sonar -- where is it. 350 to 670,000. It was  
39 ranging in between on the fall chum. Are you sure  
40 they're all chums? There's probably a lot of humpies  
41 that's mixed with this figure here, because this summer  
42 we had humpies right up to our area, not just on the  
43 lower part, but a lot of them went up -- a lot of them  
44 went into Andrafsky and probably a lot of them went into  
45 Chuitalnuk (ph), which is just above Pilot Station all  
46 the way up. Because this figure that I'm looking at is  
47 -- I don't know if that sonar is correct or miscounting.  
48 Maybe it's miscounting with the humpies.

49

50 MR. MUSHMAN: The Pilot Station sonar is

1 an Alaska Department of Fish and Game project, and they  
2 have assured us that their -- what they call the  
3 apportionment, where they use the sonar to make counts,  
4 but then they have nets in the water that then sample  
5 those fish, and based on that sampling, they apportion a  
6 certain percentage of their counts, their sonar counts to  
7 a certain species of fish. They've assured us that their  
8 apportionment project is as accurate as they can get it.

9

10 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Nick.

13

14 MR. ANDREW: (In Yup'ik)

15

16 INTERPRETER: Nick Andrew. These fish  
17 that we're talking about, chinook, our elders call them  
18 different names. The first one had a black head. And as  
19 they come in the whitenosed chinook would show up. They  
20 don't swim at the same time although they're called the  
21 same thing, the same name. After the whitenose chinook,  
22 asakgalik (ph), their scales are lighter and shimmery,  
23 because our elders watched what they ate. The chinook  
24 swam at -- different subspecies swam at different times,  
25 and they all have names, they all have Yup'ik names.  
26 Some of the elders measure when and where the migration  
27 is, because they see these different subspecies of  
28 chinook.

29

30 MR. ANDREW: Quyana.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

33

34 MR. MUSHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
35 know that last year YRDFA was attempting to get a handle  
36 on the different types of fish that the elders have  
37 described, such as bluebacks and whitenose, and, you  
38 know, I'm not aware that they're still continuing that  
39 project, but I could find out for the Council, or the  
40 Council can ask the YRDFA representative.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Harry.

43

44 (In Yup'ik).

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Five minutes break. I'm  
47 talking good right now. Don't make me get mad.

48

49 (Off record)

50

1 (On record)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We'll go back to our  
4 meeting.  
5  
6 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
9  
10 MS. HOFFMAN: You know how I hate to  
11 cause problems, it just came to my attention, under Item  
12 C, No. 10, environmental impact and concerns of proposed  
13 coal-fired Bethel area power plant on Kuskokwim River  
14 fish stock. I was opening, Frank Charles is going to  
15 have it looks like a powerpoint. Valarie Thomas couldn't  
16 be here. Jill Maynard is here, but she has to leave.  
17 Jill. She's going to be leaving and can't be here much  
18 longer, and had a handout and some information she wanted  
19 to share. And so I didn't know if this is an appropriate  
20 time to ask her just to present this part of Item C, and  
21 then let them continue. They do not have a problem with  
22 that, if Council would agree with that.  
23  
24 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, are we  
25 working under approved agenda.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.  
28  
29 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to  
30 suspend the rules to include at this time Valarie Thomas  
31 so she can get her problems that Beverly keep --  
32 otherwise she will keep bothering us all day about.  
33  
34 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, I do have Jill  
35 Maynard representing Valarie Thomas here.  
36  
37 MR. ROCZICKA: I'll second Lester's  
38 motion.  
39  
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the  
43 floor to suspend the rule and give this person the  
44 opportunity. If there's any second.  
45  
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question been --  
49 second?  
50

1 MR. L. WILDE: There's a second over  
2 here.  
3  
4 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, I seconded it.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second. Question been  
7 called for. All who favor say aye.  
8  
9 IN UNISON: Aye.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed say no.  
12  
13 (No opposing votes)  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried.  
16  
17 MS. HOFFMAN: Alex, did you hand this out  
18 to us already, this same thing?  
19  
20 MR. A. NICK: Yeah.  
21  
22 MS. HOFFMAN: Yeah.  
23  
24 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chairman.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.  
27  
28 MR. A. NICK: Extra -- I believe extra  
29 handouts are on the table I think. I already handed out  
30 the handout from Jill.  
31  
32 MS. HOFFMAN: Oh, this is different.  
33  
34 MS. MAYNARD: It's the same, it's just a  
35 larger of the PowerPoint. Thank you.  
36  
37 I really appreciate you letting me go. I  
38 have to leave on the night flight and have to be back at  
39 work before then.  
40  
41 My name is Jill Maynard, and I work in  
42 the Realty Department at AVCP. I work as the  
43 environmental rights protection coordinator.  
44  
45 And Val Thomas with the BIA was supposed  
46 to be here to speak on NEPA, which is the National  
47 Environmental Policy Act and it's relation to the  
48 potential coal-fired power plant. So she wasn't able to  
49 make it, so I'm going to give her presentation, and I  
50 will try and answer any questions you all might have. If

1 I don't have the answer, I'll try and find it, or else  
2 Valarie's contact information is in here. So I'll try  
3 and make this brief, too.

4  
5 So what we're talking about is NEPA,  
6 which is the National Environmental Policy Act, which is  
7 an act that applies to all Federal agencies, or applies  
8 to people who are using Federal agencies, whether it's  
9 with money, using Federal funds, Federal permits, whether  
10 a Federal employee is working on the project. Any time  
11 there's Federal involvement, it's going to trigger NEPA.

12  
13 And the intent of NEPA is to analyze  
14 potential environmental effects on these Federal actions.  
15 It's to look at the proposed action, see what the  
16 potential environmental consequences are.

17  
18 And when they're speaking of  
19 environmental consequences, they're speaking of impacts  
20 to the water, to the air, to the land, but they're also  
21 speaking of socio-economic impacts, impacts to the human  
22 environment. It's a pretty broad Act.

23  
24 Another major aspect of NEPA is it's a  
25 means of disclosing information to the public, so the  
26 intent is that any time there is a Federal action that is  
27 proposed, it's going to potentially affect the  
28 environment. The information is supposed to be  
29 distributed to the public, and it's supposed to be out  
30 there for a large public review period, to get feedback  
31 on people concerns, what they like, what they don't like  
32 about the project. And those considerations are supposed  
33 to go into the decision-making about whether that action  
34 is going to be carried through or not.

35  
36 And again the people that NEPA applies to  
37 is Federal agencies, and whether it's the DOT or the BLM,  
38 U.S. Fish and Wildlife. Any Federal agency falls under  
39 this Act.

40  
41 And working at AVCP, since with realty  
42 we're working with Federally restricted lands, any work  
43 we do, any work that is affecting people's allotments or  
44 townsites is going to trigger NEPA. So I mean anything  
45 from doing a right-of-way, you know, for water and  
46 sewage, doing revocable use permits to leases, all of  
47 that is going to trigger the National Environmental  
48 Policy Act.

49  
50 The two things I guess I'd like to speak

1 on a little bit more about is relationships within NEPA  
2 and then the three different tiers of NEPA and how they  
3 might apply out here.

4  
5                   Even though it applies to Federal  
6 agencies, you know, you end up having a lot of  
7 stakeholders involved, and so the lead agency in these is  
8 supposed to -- most of the time it's a Federal agency.  
9 The lead agency is the one who has the primary I guess  
10 responsibility in the project, and I know I spoke with  
11 Frank a little bit, I don't know who that would be at the  
12 moment with the coal-fired power plant, but it's usually  
13 the person that's been involved for the longest period of  
14 time, the agency that has the most invested in it.

15  
16                   But below the lead agency you have  
17 cooperating agencies, which are either other Federal  
18 agencies or the people who have specific expertise in  
19 that field, which would people, you know, going in and  
20 doing the water testing or soil analysis. But a large  
21 part of that is also using traditional knowledge, and so  
22 tribes always fall under a cooperating agency under NEPA,  
23 and it's something that is not -- I don't think it's --  
24 it's used all the time out here, but I -- which is  
25 recommended especially with a coal-fired power plant  
26 coming that that if -- though it's not a proposed action  
27 yet, so this NEPA doesn't apply, but if it does, the  
28 tribes should be cooperating agencies, and should be  
29 involved in the NEPA process along with the lead agency.

30  
31                   The three tiers of NEPA, and I'll try and  
32 go through them kind of quickly, but the two -- well,  
33 there are categorical exclusions which are for smaller --  
34 kind of smaller claims, they're more routine and things  
35 that tend to have minor to no impact on the environment.

36  
37  
38                   But if when you're doing that review, you  
39 do have something trigger that there is a potential  
40 impact, then you're going to do an environmental  
41 assessment, which is kind of the second tier of NEPA.  
42 And those are proposed actions that have -- that are  
43 considered major actions, so it doesn't necessary apply  
44 to the size of it, but the impacts that could possibly  
45 come from that.

46  
47                   And, you know, environmental assessments  
48 are done out here. Regionally they're doing one right  
49 now on the regional forest plan, and so they're doing --  
50 they're in the public workshop process right now where

1 they're trying to get feedback from communities on that,  
2 you know. Another example is with the airport right now  
3 in Bethel, the possible expansion of it, that they're  
4 bringing people out to do an environmental assessment.

5  
6                   And those -- in that step of this process  
7 it's a lot of scoping, a lot of public review, and based  
8 on the Federal agency's findings, and the review from  
9 community feedback, they then decide whether to do an  
10 environmental impact statement, which is more involved,  
11 or to sign off.

12  
13                   And environmental impact statements are  
14 done when you have -- when it is known that there is  
15 going to be some sort of consequence, environmental  
16 consequences. And I would feel almost certain that were  
17 the coal plant to be placed in Bethel, if that becomes a  
18 proposed action, you know, that there would be an  
19 environmental impact statement being done, which I feel  
20 like often might be viewed as a negative thing, but I  
21 don't think it is. It's a period to get more firm  
22 environmental analysis, and as far as for communities out  
23 here, it's an opportunity for people to voice their  
24 opinion. It's an opportunity for the tribes to become  
25 cooperating agencies in working with it. And I think  
26 that the NEPA is a very valuable tool as far as public  
27 input into these processes and these projects that might  
28 be brought to the area.

29  
30                   So that's kind of a broad overview, but,  
31 you know -- and aside from the topic of the coal power  
32 plant, the potential of that, it's something that I  
33 would, you know, just to be aware, because it's supposed  
34 to be working with government-to-government, and the  
35 tribes should be contacted where there are any sort of  
36 Federal actions, and they often are not. So it's  
37 something that we were asked just to give an overview on,  
38 to make you aware of this process and the importance of  
39 feedback in it, because it is, I mean, people's feedback  
40 in that, an environmental impact statement, it goes into  
41 consideration when people are, agencies are making  
42 decisions. And I think the knowledge that people can  
43 contribute is very important to those decisions.

44  
45                   So if people have any questions on it,  
46 I'd be happy to try and answer. And specifically with --  
47 particularly with this, the coal-fired plants, it's not a  
48 proposed action, so it's something that NEPA doesn't  
49 necessarily apply to right now, so I'm not really able to  
50 speak directly towards that, but if anyone has questions,

1 Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Jill. I mean, Beverly.

4

5 MS. HOFFMAN: Jill, you work for AVCP, is  
6 that correct?

7

8 MS. MAYNARD: Yes.

9

10 MS. HOFFMAN: And you're representing  
11 Valarie Thomas, and she works for the Bureau of Indian  
12 Affairs?

13

14 MS. MAYNARD: Yeah, she is the  
15 environmental protection specialist who once NEPA  
16 documents are filled out here, they -- and throughout the  
17 State, they go to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and she's  
18 the one who reviews them.

19

20 MS. HOFFMAN: All of this is -- NEPA,  
21 it's a new term to me that I'm sure I'm going to become  
22 more familiar with. When you talk about lead agencies on  
23 a project, the scope of something like Donna Creek or  
24 coal-fire power plant, is that like -- would AVCP get  
25 involved, or when you talk about agencies, what -- give  
26 me some examples of agencies that would be lead agencies.

27

28 MS. MAYNARD: Sure. I mean, AVCP would  
29 definitely be involved, because it would be affecting  
30 allotment owners, you know, if they're going to be  
31 putting in a power line, it's going to be going through  
32 allotments, so AVCP would be an agency. But lead  
33 agencies would be people who have a financial interest in  
34 it or the people who have been involved with it for the  
35 longest duration of time, and Frank -- I don't know where  
36 they're at right now about who is going to be the lead  
37 agency in that. And Frank might be able to speak on  
38 that. We briefly discussed it yesterday. I don't think  
39 it's known yet, but it's -- I'm not quite sure who it  
40 would be. And I don't know exactly what -- all the  
41 Federal agencies that they have involved with the  
42 project.

43

44 MS. HOFFMAN: Okay. Mr. Chair, I don't  
45 know without Frank going into his whole presentation, you  
46 know. He can maybe speak to that during that time. But  
47 I just was curious.

48

49 MS. MAYNARD: Sure.

50

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions to  
2 Jill.  
3  
4                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.  
5  
6                   MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair.  
7  
8                   MS. MAYNARD: I appreciate your time.  
9 Thank you for letting me to go.  
10  
11                  MR. ROCZICKA: Jill.  
12  
13                  MS. MAYNARD: Yes.  
14  
15                  MR. ROCZICKA: Just so I have it clear in  
16 my head then, a NEPA process then is not something that  
17 public interest, or a public organization or a private  
18 interest group would initiate on their own. It's  
19 something that's triggered automatically within the  
20 governmental process as far as obtaining permits.  
21  
22                  MS. MAYNARD: Yeah, it -- I mean, it is,  
23 yes. And, you know, I mean local groups become  
24 commenting agencies, but it is triggered any time that a  
25 Federal agency is involved in.....  
26  
27                  MR. ROCZICKA: I guess I'm trying to  
28 relate it to things that I'm a little bit more familiar  
29 with, such as anybody in the nation can submit a request  
30 that a certain species of duck or something like that be  
31 considered for threatened or endangered. It wouldn't be  
32 like if I was part of an active group of citizens in  
33 Bethel that wanted to really ride herd on the power plant  
34 that I couldn't write the EPA and say we want to have a  
35 NEPA, a full EIS conducted.  
36  
37                  MS. MAYNARD: Yeah.  
38  
39                  MR. ROCZICKA: It wouldn't be -- that  
40 wouldn't be a trigger?  
41  
42                  MS. MAYNARD: No.  
43  
44                  MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. Thank you.  
45  
46                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Jill, you still have  
47 time to answer some questions?  
48  
49                  MS. MAYNARD: Yeah, if there are more  
50 questions, I'd be happy to.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council, do you have a  
2 question for Jill.

3  
4 (No questions)

5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

7  
8 MS. MAYNARD: You bet. And I work right  
9 down at the Lomack Building, so I'd, you know, be happy  
10 to talk to anyone any time. Thank you.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Now, we go  
13 back to subsistence fishery post-season review.  
14 Kuskokwim River.

15  
16 MS. KRAUTHOEFER: Thank you, Chairman  
17 Wilde. My name is Tracie Krauthoefer. I'm with the  
18 Division of Subsistence, Alaska Department of Fish and  
19 Game. And I guess I'll start off.

20  
21 We are just now starting our post-season  
22 subsistence salmon surveys here on the Kuskokwim. We  
23 started the first week of October with the area villages,  
24 and last week -- or actually this week we have ONC  
25 technicians who have started surveying Bethel. We will  
26 be continuing these surveys through December, at which  
27 time we will start processing and analyzing all of the  
28 information that we've received from everybody, and we'll  
29 have that available for distribution hopefully next  
30 April, but probably more likely by next May. At that  
31 time I will be sending all of the Council members a  
32 report based on our findings, and if I should have  
33 information available earlier than that, I will try to  
34 present it at the next Regional Advisory Council meeting  
35 in February or March. I'm not sure when it's scheduled  
36 for.

37  
38 Sir. I'm going to -- if it's okay, I'm  
39 going to have John Linderman talk briefly about  
40 escapement, salmon escapement this summer.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

43  
44 MR. LINDERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
45 Council members.

46  
47 I'd like to direct everybody's attention,  
48 there was two handouts that Michael Marks passed out just  
49 a little bit ago. The first one is just for everyone's  
50 reference. It's titled Preliminary 2004 Kuskokwim Area

1 Salmon Fisheries Summary. There is some items here that  
2 I'll be touching on that are within this summary report,  
3 but it's more for your reference, that goes into more of  
4 the details of the overall 2004 season.

5  
6 The second handout that I'll be going  
7 through is the figure handout. It starts off with a  
8 title of Salmon Utilization. And I'll be going through  
9 some of those figures as I discuss some of the escapement  
10 information that we have, the preliminary escapement  
11 information we have from the 2004 season.

12  
13 So on the first page, just a brief  
14 history of some of the salmon utilization on the  
15 Kuskokwim area. Looking at Figure 1, chum -- or chinook  
16 and chum salmon, Figure 1, we can see that -- now this  
17 figure may be a little bit misleading in the sense that  
18 if you look at 1970, for example, the actual utilization  
19 or harvest from commercial for chinook salmon was not  
20 100,000. It was actually, if you subtract 100,000 from  
21 where the subsistence portion starts. So the overall  
22 utilization for chinook salmon in the Kuskokwim area,  
23 dating back to 1970, is less than the subsistence  
24 utilization. The majority of chinook salmon are utilized  
25 towards subsistence uses in the Kuskokwim area.

26  
27 Also, if you move down to the chum salmon  
28 figure, you can see that commercial has historically been  
29 the largest utilization compared to -- or at least back  
30 to 1970, compared to other uses. And you can see that  
31 there's been kind of a consistent, if slightly decreasing  
32 trend in chum salmon utilization that's primarily  
33 attributed to the reduction in the use of dog teams  
34 within the area.

35  
36 If you'd turn to Page 2, there's more  
37 salmon utilization figures there. For sockeye salmon,  
38 you can also see that commercial has been historically  
39 through 1970s been one of the larger utilizations for  
40 sockeye salmon. It's decreased dramatically since about  
41 the mid 1990s to the point where now sockeye salmon  
42 utilization for subsistence purposes has exceeded  
43 commercial utilization. That is primarily due to the  
44 reduction in the market for commercial salmon in the area  
45 overall.

46  
47 And the last figure for utilization is  
48 for coho salmon. You can see that the largest use of  
49 coho salmon is for commercial use. Subsistence use has  
50 always been fairly low in comparison, and that trend has

1 been fairly consistent over time as well.

2

3 Moving on to Page 3, this is a brief  
4 summary of the in-season report from 2004. And I'm not  
5 going to spend too much time on this, but overall, if you  
6 look at the total and average columns at the base of that  
7 table, you can see that the majority of families that  
8 were interviewed for subsistence users this year rated  
9 almost all of the fishing this year as either good or  
10 normal. And that pretty much applies to all species  
11 except sockeye salmon. That pretty much applies to all  
12 species, that they were rated as good or normal. That's  
13 been one of the major indications that we use to try and  
14 evaluate how the runs were doing this year. And a lot of  
15 the escapement information that we have start to back  
16 that up as well.

17

18 Turning to Page 4, this table shows  
19 chinook salmon from the Bethel test fishery. The Bethel  
20 test fishery is one of the longest-running escapement  
21 index projects that we have in the Kuskokwim area. For  
22 2004 we saw one of the highest chinook salmon escapement  
23 indexes that we've seen compared to other years that have  
24 comparable water levels. Now the other years that you  
25 see there that have comparable water levels are 2002 and  
26 2000, the ones that are kind of highlighted or a little  
27 bit darker so to speak compared to '03 and 1998. The '03  
28 and 1998 figures are put in there just to give a  
29 comparison of what were low years and the most recent  
30 years. But again we saw one of the highest chinook  
31 salmon Bethel test fishery indexes this year in quite  
32 some time.

33

34 Oh, and I guess to make another point in  
35 regards to why we only compared it to years with similar  
36 water levels is that it's thought that with changing  
37 water levels within the river, that if you have a higher  
38 water level, that the fish may not be as easy -- or  
39 catchability of the fish may not be as much as if you  
40 have lower water levels.

41

42 Moving on to Page 5, I'll just briefly go  
43 through some of the different weir escapement projects  
44 that we have on the Kuskokwim -- within the Kuskokwim  
45 drainage. Overall, chinook salmon escapement was very  
46 good. There were some systems that were kind of outliers  
47 to that, but the majority of systems that have weir  
48 escapement projects on it did show extremely good  
49 escapements.

50

1 I'm not going to go through each of these  
2 in detail, besides focusing on Kogrukluuk River, which is  
3 the only system or only weir project where we have  
4 escapement goals determined for chinook salmon. And as  
5 you can see, one thing that doesn't show up in these  
6 printouts, and I apologize to the members, is that we  
7 don't have the range that we have for the new escapement  
8 goal or sustain -- SEGs that we have put in place for the  
9 Kuskokwim that went into place this year. But that range  
10 is 5300 to 14,000 fish. The line that you see across  
11 there is the old escapement goal, which was 10,000 fish.  
12 Looking back to 1991 at least, this year's chinook salmon  
13 escapement at the Kogrukluuk was the second highest on  
14 record back to 1991. It was actually the second highest  
15 on record back to the beginning of the project as well.

16  
17 If you turn to Page 6, the bottom, Figure  
18 8, aerial survey, chinook index, this shows -- what the  
19 aerial survey index is, is a composite of 13 different  
20 systems or different tributaries throughout the Kuskokwim  
21 River drainage that we do aerial survey escapement -- or  
22 aerial escapement surveys on by fixed wing aircraft.  
23 This year the numbers that you see above each one of  
24 those individual bars shows the number of streams that  
25 were surveyed in a given year. And as you can see, this  
26 year it's by far the highest aerial survey escapement  
27 goal for chinook salmon that we've seen all the way back  
28 to 1975.

29  
30 And the following, Page 7, is just a map  
31 that shows all the different tributaries within the  
32 Kuskokwim drainage that we do aerial surveys on.

33  
34 Turning to Page 8, this is a figure for  
35 the Bethel test fishery for chum salmon. What we saw in  
36 2004 was the second highest chum salmon Bethel test fish  
37 index for years with comparable water levels. Again,  
38 it's a good indication that chum salmon escapement into  
39 the Kuskokwim was fairly good this year. And again just  
40 similar reasons for why we show comparisons only to years  
41 with similar water levels.

42  
43 Turning to Page 9, again I won't -- I'll  
44 focus on one or two specific figures here, but we did see  
45 a little bit of a mixed bag with chum salmon this year.  
46 Some systems or some tributaries within the Kuskokwim  
47 drainage had good chum salmon escapements, or average  
48 chum salmon escapements, and some were a little bit  
49 outliers of that as well. One example of -- or I guess  
50 one example of very good escapement was at the Aniak

1 River sonar project where we saw the second highest Aniak  
2 River sonar count on record since that project began in  
3 1981. To clarify that, there was the potential for a 20  
4 percent increase because they're using a new sonar up  
5 there at that project, that the actual count could have  
6 been 20 percent higher than what it was in previous  
7 years. But even if you factor in that 20 percent over-  
8 estimate, so to speak, that would be the maximum would be  
9 20 percent. But even if you factor that in, it would  
10 still be the third highest total count on record, even  
11 factoring in up to 20 percent higher.

12  
13 The second figure I'd like to point your  
14 attention to is Figure 6, which shows Kogrukluk River  
15 chum salmon. This is an example of one of the lower or  
16 one of the different tributaries that saw a smaller  
17 escapement for chum salmon this year. We did not achieve  
18 the pre-2004 escapement goal this year for chum salmon,  
19 but we were within the new range escapement goal that's  
20 put into place. And again that doesn't show up, but that  
21 range is 15,000 to 49,000 fish. So again we did see a  
22 little bit of a mixed bag with chum salmon, but overall  
23 we had fairly good escapement on chums in the Kuskokwim.

24  
25 Turning to Page 11, this is a figure for  
26 Bethel test fishery of sockeye salmon. Sockeye salmon is  
27 fairly small in abundance compared to some of the other  
28 species that we see on the Kuskokwim, but it's still a  
29 well sought-after fish. There aren't too many  
30 tributaries that we actually have large numbers of  
31 sockeye salmon returning to, and there's not as much  
32 information about sockeye salmon escapement within the  
33 Kuskokwim compared to some of the other species.

34  
35 But again you'll see in the Bethel test  
36 fishery we had one of the highest Bethel test fishery  
37 indexes for sockeye salmon that we've seen compared to  
38 other years with similar water levels. Or actually the  
39 highest compared to other years with similar water  
40 levels.

41  
42 On Page 12, two of the systems that have  
43 weirs or tower projects on them that do receive  
44 substantial runs of -- or larger runs of sockeye salmon  
45 is the Kwethluk River weir and the Kogrukluk River weir.  
46 And if we look at the average numbers at the bottom of  
47 that short table, we can see that for Kwethluk River, the  
48 escapement they saw this year was slightly above average,  
49 and for the Kogrukluk River, the sockeye escapement was  
50 slightly below average, even looking at the historical

1 average for Kogrukluk all the way back to 1996 -- or  
2 1976, excuse me.

3  
4 And moving on to Page 13 in your packets,  
5 this is again the Bethel test fishery figure for coho  
6 salmon. The index shows one of the highest coho salmon  
7 in Bethel test fishery indexes compared to other years  
8 with similar water levels.

9  
10 One thing that comes to mind, and I'm  
11 sure folks especially from the Kuskokwim, or the Yukon  
12 for that matter, that heard a lot about the low water  
13 levels that we saw this year, and on the Kuskokwim we  
14 actually saw record low water levels. And on Page 14,  
15 this is going all the way back when records started being  
16 kept in 1951. We had the lowest water levels as of  
17 around the 24th of August that we've seen since 1951 in  
18 the Kuskokwim area. So that does kind of complicate  
19 trying to do the comparative water levels, but still the  
20 overall abundance seen with that Bethel test fishery  
21 index was so high in regards to its record status so to  
22 speak, that the run is still considered to be fairly good  
23 based on that -- or good based on the Bethel test fishery  
24 index.

25  
26 And again if you turn to Page 15 in your  
27 packets, this goes through some of the figures for coho  
28 salmon escapement projects. Coho salmon was overall  
29 average compared to previous years. 2003 that you see in  
30 your packets, you could see that just about every single  
31 project, including the projects that are listed on Page  
32 16, and I apologize, but there's a blank space there  
33 between 15 and 16, but 2003 for those systems or those  
34 tributaries that did have operational projects saw record  
35 escapements for coho salmon throughout the drainage.

36  
37 2004 was definitely not as high in  
38 regards to escapements for coho salmon as 2003 was, but  
39 several different tributaries showed above average  
40 escapements. And, for example, Kwethluk River was much  
41 higher than any of the previous years that they saw. And  
42 Kogrukluk River certainly wasn't as high as the 2003  
43 escapement, but if you look at other escapements back to  
44 1991, it's above average compared to some of those other  
45 ones. And it also exceeded the old 2004 escapement goal  
46 for coho salmon, as well as being at the high end of the  
47 new range escapement goal that's in place for Kogrukluk  
48 River coho salmon.

49  
50 And lastly, on Page 17 of your packets

1 there's a mark/ recapture project that's been in place  
2 since 2001. It's operated around Aniak and Kalskag area.  
3 The primary goal of that project is to do a  
4 mark/recapture population estimate on both chum, sockeye  
5 and coho salmon. It's also used for the radio telemetry  
6 project on chinook salmon to put radio telemetry  
7 transmitters on chinook salmon.

8  
9                   What we decided to look at last year is  
10 using the catch from the fish wheels that are used at  
11 that project. They use both fish wheels and drift gill  
12 nets to catch the fish, to place these tags on the fish.  
13 So we decided to look at the catch as an index of  
14 escapement, similar to how we look at Bethel test fish,  
15 or any kind of test fishery as an index of escapement as  
16 well. So the last figure shows coho salmon catch at the  
17 Bethel -- or at the Kalskag and Birch Tree fish wheel  
18 project, and you can see that overall the daily catch,  
19 which is in Figure 9, shows a very similar distribution  
20 to what we saw in 2003, the primary difference being that  
21 there is a large pulse of fish right around the 20th or  
22 the 19th of August last year, in 2003, and we didn't see  
23 a similar pulse this year. Otherwise, the 2004 curve  
24 follows very, very closely to that 2003 curve, which has  
25 been seen as one of the largest record coho escapements  
26 seen in the Kuskokwim in quite a long time. At least in  
27 regards to the escapement information that is available  
28 in the Kuskokwim.

29  
30                   For Figure 10, that also shows the  
31 cumulative graph, so again it wasn't quite as high as  
32 what we saw in 2003, but it's still well above the  
33 numbers, or the catch that was seen in 2001 and in 2002.

34  
35                   And I was going to do a brief summary as  
36 well for the Kuskokwim Bay tributaries, if you'll just  
37 bear with me here with the pages. I don't have any  
38 figures handy to show you folks for the Kuskokwim Bay  
39 area. For District W-4, which includes Quinhagak and the  
40 Kanektok River, in regards to escapements, preliminary  
41 salmon escapement counts at the Kanektok River Weir were  
42 above average, but unfortunately that average number only  
43 refers to three years for chinook, chum and sockeye  
44 salmon -- three years worth of data for chinook, chum and  
45 sockeye, and four years of data for coho salmon. But if  
46 we take that into context of a historical data set of  
47 aerial survey information, aerial surveys were conducted  
48 on August 1 on the Kanektok River, and a total of 28,375  
49 chinook salmon were counted during that aerial survey.  
50 That represents the highest chinook salmon aerial survey

1 count ever made since the 1960s. If we combine that  
2 information with the escapement that we saw on chinook  
3 salmon, it's possible that we saw one of the highest  
4 chinook salmon escapements on the Kanektok river, but as  
5 of now the information is still a little deficient to say  
6 that in any certainty.

7  
8                   Additionally, we had 78,000 sockeye  
9 salmon were observed in the aerial survey counts, and  
10 that exceeds the aerial survey escapement goal that's in  
11 place for sockeye salmon. So we had very good runs of  
12 all salmon species on the Kanektok River.

13  
14                   And for the Goodnews Bay area, or  
15 District 5, for escapement numbers, the preliminary  
16 escapement to the Goodnews River achieved or exceeded the  
17 escapement goals that were in place for all species that  
18 have them. The escapements to the middle fork Goodnews  
19 River weir showed 4,244 chinook, 53,532 sockeye, 47,916  
20 coho, and 30,422 chum salmon. And with respect to that  
21 coho salmon number, that is the highest coho salmon  
22 escapement that's been counted at that weir. And on the  
23 day that the project was -- or that the weir discontinued  
24 counting and the project was pulled, they were still  
25 getting over 2,000 fish per day. So that number was  
26 expected to go up considerably beyond that time period.

27  
28                   Aerial surveys were also conducted on the  
29 Goodnews River and all escapement goals for chinook  
30 salmon and sockeye salmon were exceeded on the Goodnews  
31 River drainage.

32  
33                   That's about all I have for the Council.  
34 I'll be happy to entertain any questions. Thank you.

35  
36                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Councils, you have a  
37 question to John. Greg.

38  
39                   MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, no question, I  
40 guess, just that we -- for the Kuskokwim side, we just  
41 got done going all over all this information at our fish  
42 summit barely two weeks ago, so we chewed it over and  
43 hashed it out and asked all our questions in depth for  
44 this side, so it's up to you Yukon guys if you're  
45 wondering what's going on over here, to ask him  
46 questions.

47  
48                   MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

49  
50                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

1 MS. HOFFMAN: The other comment, I guess  
2 I would make is how to look into that crystal ball. This  
3 year it seemed like life was pretty good on the Kuskokwim  
4 for our salmon stock. Projections for next year seem to  
5 be -- the outlook seems to be good. And I guess, you  
6 know, the working group, we'll always proceed with  
7 caution with data figures, but my concern is this record  
8 low water and it will continue to be a concern of -- we  
9 had great escapement goals, but the spawning grounds,  
10 spawning beds, and I'm sure you're concerned with that,  
11 too.

12  
13 MR. LINDERMAN: Yes, Mr. Chair, Member  
14 Hoffman, it's definitely of concern with regards to low  
15 water levels and having an effect on the survival of  
16 salmon and their eggs in their streams. But it should  
17 also be taken into account that there's many factors that  
18 can contribute to the potential for harm throughout the  
19 salmon life cycle, that this one factor, using an example  
20 with respect to the good returns that we saw this year,  
21 they came off the extremely poor returns that we saw in  
22 1999 and 2000. So a poor return doesn't necessarily mean  
23 a poor return in coming years, in the same respect that  
24 works both ways. So we try to be optimistic, but  
25 cautious as the same time.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Robert.

28  
29 MR. R. NICK: I just wanted to make some  
30 observations here. The Kuskokwim Salmon Rebuilding Plan  
31 for stocks of concern, chum salmon and chinook. In  
32 looking at the tables on --for chum salmon on Table 9,  
33 2000, you know, it's way -- maybe 50 percent or close to  
34 50 percent below the escapement goal prior to that date,  
35 but after they initiate the beginning of the building  
36 plan, the numbers of escapement in the Aniak River, which  
37 is where most of the chum go up, started exceeding the  
38 escapement goal, and it progressively increased, and it  
39 skyrocketed this summer. And I think to me it's  
40 indicative that the rebuilding plan is working. And that  
41 the sacrifices that we made along with the lack or little  
42 commercial harvest in those areas has helped to rebuild  
43 the stock of concern.

44  
45 And then in my initial readings of  
46 reports, you know, as we I say, I can't -- the working  
47 group meetings, the graphs were almost like my heartbeat,  
48 you know, up and down, but now they're going up, you  
49 know. In fact they're just gone an upward curve, which  
50 is indicative, like in the sockeye salmon for 2003, 2004

1 at the Bethel test fishery, the count was -- went way up.  
2 We know.

3  
4 We subsistence fishermen know. As I fish  
5 for chum salmon, I get more sockeye than chum salmon, and  
6 I know where they swim. So three years ago, not this  
7 year, but last year, my first drift, I counted my -- I  
8 separated my catch, but more than 50 percent of my catch  
9 was red salmon. So I know that they swim in shallow  
10 water at high tide. So the next drift I went to the main  
11 channel, that real deep water, and then I caught my chum  
12 salmon, because that's what my wife wants me to catch.

13  
14 But it's very indicative that the  
15 technical knowledge of the fishermen in the region is  
16 very valuable, because we know -- I knew this was going  
17 to go up with red salmon count, because we were catching  
18 them more than we were catching chum. But hopefully with  
19 the indications of the good escapement we have in the  
20 Aniak River this summer the chum numbers will, you know,  
21 get high enough so that maybe one day we will have an  
22 early open for a chum commercial fishery.

23  
24 But these reports that you're presenting  
25 now, the working group at their meetings all summer read  
26 these and they're very good, so I think the Federal  
27 Office of Subsistence Management in support of the  
28 sonars, the weirs and of contractors like ONC, AVCP, are  
29 a very important means of gathering information so that  
30 we can reasonably and with good confidence manage the  
31 resource. So this is very enlightening.

32  
33 Thank you.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, John.  
36 Robert, do you have anything?

37  
38 MR. SUNDOWN: I don't, Mr. Chairman,  
39 thank you.

40  
41 MR. R. NICK: Mr. Chairman, I just want  
42 to make a comment, because I made a note on the page, the  
43 last page, the Birch Tree fish wheels. You had on about  
44 August 26th a very high curve, and also August 19th. To  
45 me that indicates a migration curve, because of the  
46 abundance, run abundance that was below this Birch Tree  
47 fishery location, the fish that were moving up were  
48 moving up in abundant numbers. So at this date, August  
49 19th and August 12th they reached that point. So that's  
50 how come you have that curve, and the drop. And by the

1 time September came around, they have gone by. That's  
2 how I read this.

3  
4 Thank you.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Frank  
7 Charles, give your presentation. I'll give you 10  
8 minutes.

9  
10 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, since I brought  
11 this to the agenda to be put on the agenda with this  
12 council, I would like to open up with my statements prior  
13 to his PowerPoint presentation, please.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead, Beverly.

16  
17 MS. HOFFMAN: Thank you. I don't have a  
18 PowerPoint presentation, but I brought this to the table  
19 as it's a topic of much concern in our region, because of  
20 the impact that it might have on our environment, our  
21 fish and our people.

22  
23 The coal-fired power plant was proposed  
24 by my and your Native corporation, Calista, for two  
25 reasons: to supply power, to develop the huge gold mine  
26 upriver, Donlin Creek, and to provide cheaper power to  
27 the region.

28  
29 My red flag went up with Donlin Creek,  
30 and how it might affect our fish resources, our  
31 environment and our people. And it really went up, red  
32 flags went up with the possibility of a coal-fired power  
33 plant anywhere on the Kuskokwim, but mostly three miles  
34 away from my house.

35  
36 \$100 million, Federal dollars, was given  
37 to pursue feasibility studies of this power plant. That  
38 study that was done, oh, maybe it's, about that time  
39 maybe the company that did this study put forth documents  
40 and came to Bethel, and I attended those meetings, to  
41 present a coal-fired power plant in Bethel. The picture  
42 that's painted for us by the feasibility study, by  
43 Calista and by the people who presented, it's pretty.  
44 Cheaper power, more jobs. Life will be better.

45  
46 The picture that I see, and the reason I  
47 brought it forth to this Council, it's not so pretty.  
48 Some of the news stories I've read and hear, they're not  
49 so good, and I have lots of questions.

50

1 I'm -- I count on a lot of people with  
2 more expertise than me. And so I go to try and get more  
3 information. And I go on search engines on the internet,  
4 and I always tell people I'm impaired when it comes to  
5 computers, but I learned how to do search on search  
6 engines. And I go to Google, Google, on the internet,  
7 and I put in coal-fired power plants. And the questions  
8 that I ask that I think we as a Council need to be aware  
9 of, is that while there have been strides to improve  
10 emissions of coal-fired power plants, this administration  
11 under Bush has lowered those standards.

12  
13 And as I went through some of those news  
14 stories, there was 917 news stories the first time I hit  
15 Google's search. And while there are some stories that  
16 present that pretty picture of cheap power and all of  
17 that, there were also some stories of what was the cause  
18 of 243 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions in the  
19 State of Texas in 2003? Coal-fired power plants. And  
20 then why is it that some states on CNN in a story in  
21 Google search can only eat one fish a month due to high  
22 mercury levels. And people researching it said that it's  
23 from coal-fired power plants.

24  
25 Well, I'll tell you right now I'm  
26 worried. I don't want to eat just one fish a month.

27  
28 I've got pages and pages. I mean, there  
29 was more pages on just one search engine of the concerns  
30 of emissions into the air, and carbon dioxide and mercury  
31 levels with coal-fired power plants. There's letters to  
32 the editor from people that went through the stacks of  
33 booklets and raised the questions, and Frank also writes  
34 articles in the papers about how coal-fired power plants,  
35 coal-power can bring independence to this region.

36  
37 And then there's another article, because  
38 my Native corporation, Bethel Native Corporation, and my  
39 traditional council, ONC, both at their annual meeting  
40 voted to oppose the coal-fired power plant.

41  
42 Maybe the Napakiak Traditional Council  
43 and their people might take it on. It was proposed. So  
44 they're down there. And Napakiak weighs safety and jobs  
45 of coal-fired power plants. They asked hard questions,  
46 too, down there, because they had the same concerns. And  
47 any of us that live in the Kuskokwim -- on the Kuskokwim  
48 River need to be concerned and need to be asking these  
49 questions.

50

1 I was glad to see my Calista president  
2 say he was raised in Kwethluk, he's, too, concerned that  
3 the project has to be sensitive to the health of the  
4 people in the region. We have high respiratory disease  
5 already. To preserving salmon beds and to the  
6 environment in general. Subsistence is an important part  
7 of our way of life, and we are concerned about any  
8 potential impact. The design of the plant would be  
9 conscious of that. And there's a lengthy list of  
10 environmental agencies that he felt would address these  
11 concerns. One of them, the Federal U.S. Fish and  
12 Wildlife, as well as things like this NEPA.

13  
14 I brought it to the table, because I  
15 feel, one, both the Donlin Creek and the coal-fired power  
16 plant, lots of money has -- millions, a hundred million  
17 dollars just for the study. It could affect our fish  
18 more than anything that has happened thus far. And so I  
19 ask hard questions as a shareholder, and because I worry  
20 about the impact on our fish stocks that are already seem  
21 to be in so much jeopardy. I just want this Council to  
22 be aware of it. I want them to ask those questions,  
23 because if our fish and our land is important, we have to  
24 ask, is it worth losing a way of life. Our way of life  
25 will be changed. Yes, there will be economic benefits,  
26 but at what costs.

27  
28 I'm anxious to see the presentation, the  
29 PowerPoint presentation being brought forth by Frank  
30 Charles, Calista shareholder, relations person here in  
31 Bethel.

32  
33 I'm very scared and very concerned, and  
34 so I just wanted to put it on the table for our Council  
35 to be aware of this project, to know of the impact that  
36 it could have on this region, and on our fish resources,  
37 and is it -- is all of this caution that researchers are  
38 talking about, is that the only alternative, coal-fired.

39  
40 That's it. Doy.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Frank Charles, your name  
43 and for the record and what you do.

44  
45 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
46 appreciate the opportunity that Ms. Bev Hoffman has  
47 presented to Calista Corporation. On behalf of Calista,  
48 it's board of directors, management, and you, the owners,  
49 I appreciate this opportunity to present to you today  
50 information for your purposes and thinking regarding the

1 coal-fired plant, it's potential environmental impacts to  
2 both the resources in the area and to our people.

3  
4 I will start my presentation with a  
5 handout, if I may, Mr. Nick, to give to the Board -- or  
6 to the Council. You don't need to review this right  
7 away, but I will be making reference to that in addition  
8 to my PowerPoint presentation today, along with a written  
9 statement that may have been read by a number of you  
10 before, but is pretty much the official position of  
11 Calista at this time.

12  
13 As you know, Calista Corporation has been  
14 since its inception our company. Many people may have  
15 had differences over the years, but at the root of it,  
16 the Calista Corporation is about our shareholders, our  
17 owners and their descendants. One of our charges is to  
18 look to the well being and into the future for this  
19 region, not only of our people, but of the resources that  
20 have sustained us for many generations.

21  
22 I appreciate the concerns that Ms.  
23 Hoffman has raised, as have others. I think they're  
24 valid. We need to acknowledge them, and those points  
25 that they raise, we need to explore and consider very  
26 carefully. But there is a process for doing so.

27  
28 To start my presentation, I'll go over  
29 the basics of the power plant as it's proposed. Many of  
30 you may have had the opportunity to hear a bit about it  
31 in the paper, but I'll give you a bit more of a visual,  
32 graphical representation of how it works.

33  
34 Again, before I begin, Mr. Chairman, I  
35 appreciate the opportunity. For the record my name is  
36 Frank L. Charles. I am the director of shareholder  
37 relations for the Calista Corporation.

38  
39 Bear with me. I thought this was all set  
40 up.

41  
42 (Getting PowerPoint set up.)

43  
44 MR. CHARLES: By the way, while this is  
45 going on, the materials I passed out to you contains a  
46 number of things. First of all, my business card so you  
47 can get ahold of me one way or the other.

48  
49 Then underneath the colored sheet is a  
50 summary as it's called of the power plant environmental

1 preliminary planning. And I emphasize the word  
2 preliminary. Because the plant is not yet in its final  
3 design and implementation, those details have yet to be  
4 worked out. Ms. Hoffman referred to the preliminary --  
5 or the final report which covers the basics of the plant,  
6 even as complicated as it may sound. The process for  
7 final design and engineering is yet to be done. And, by  
8 the way, that process as I understand will incorporate  
9 those findings that may be brought about by -- as a  
10 result of the findings from an environmental impact  
11 statement.

12  
13                   Okay. I'm going to give it a go again.  
14 You'll get to see some of my personal stuff, too. And,  
15 by the way, that's my mom. I keep asking for a bigger  
16 screen so I can see what I'm doing, but we operate pretty  
17 lightly at the company. I think I may have it here.

18  
19                   Again, Mr. Chairman, I apologize for the  
20 delay in getting started.

21  
22                   Okay. Again, this is regarding the  
23 Donlin Creek and regional power supply alternatives. And  
24 Ms. Hoffman mentioned Donlin Creek as being one of those  
25 flags that brought up her concern and thoughts about  
26 this.

27  
28                   And I'm presenting this on behalf of  
29 Nuvista Light and Power Company. It's a non-profit  
30 corporation formed by Calista Corporation at the behest  
31 of our shareholders some years ago to serve as a regional  
32 generation and transmission utility in the Calista  
33 region. It also seeks to provide some of the direct --  
34 follow through with some of the directives that were  
35 given to us by owners and board members.

36  
37                   And to begin, I think a statement by Mr.  
38 Bob Charles, who, by the way, happens to be my brother,  
39 vice president, director of government and corporate  
40 relations, provides this statement. And in there it  
41 states that we respect environmental concerns, but we do  
42 so -- and we bring it in without compromising the ability  
43 of future generations to meet their needs.

44  
45                   It's important to understand this concept  
46 in light of the proposed development of a coal-fired  
47 plant here in Bethel, or in the region if you would. And  
48 it speaks to many things.

49  
50                   Okay. Let's get down to some meat and

1 bones here. This is pretty self-explanatory. There's  
2 always been efforts to find alternative power sources to  
3 meet the needs of our people out here, either  
4 individually in communities or through the region, as you  
5 can see here. And, by the way, those were times when we  
6 were flush with oil money, and everybody had their grand  
7 ideas about what it is we could be doing, and how best to  
8 meet things.

9  
10 More recently though I would note that a  
11 Calista Region energy needs study was conducted -- or  
12 completed two years ago. This was brought about as the  
13 result of efforts by communities as Mr. Robert Nick  
14 pointed to, who need to conduct and develop strategic  
15 planning implements and programs in order to receive  
16 Federal funding in order to better meet the needs of  
17 their communities now and into the future. And as a  
18 consequence, the Calista Region energy needs study was  
19 conducted.

20  
21 At the same time, because of recent  
22 developments or developments related to the findings of  
23 gold in extractable -- economically extractable  
24 quantities, the feasibility study for Donlin Creek was  
25 implemented. Its release date is not yet known. By the  
26 way, the Donlin Creek project is a separate one which I  
27 can go into at some other time, maybe at your spring  
28 meeting, or actually they can along with Calista. But  
29 that, too, went through a number of processes to conduct  
30 its development, as it has with the coal-fired plant.

31  
32 Feature studies will look to -- along the  
33 lines of providing power, look to the transmission line  
34 environmental studies, and with the Bethel power plant.  
35 Again, these are in the future. The beginning date is  
36 unknown. And the reason for that is as I mentioned  
37 before, although we have a final report, that is not the  
38 end to beat all. Contained and interspersed through the  
39 report and all of the several volumes that you'll find  
40 are clear references to the fact that extensive and full  
41 public involvement through our own company, our  
42 contractors, the various Federal and State agencies,  
43 along with the tribal entities will occur.

44  
45 And the purpose of these recent studies  
46 were, of course, to identify our regional power  
47 requirements both with and without Donlin Creek, and  
48 identify a preferred alternative.

49  
50 Now, this next graphic is very important.

1 If we include Donlin Creek, by itself you're looking at  
2 60 megawatts. That's in order to operate the mine and do  
3 all the opportunities with it. Individually, though, the  
4 Calista Region is projected to have the need for 30  
5 megawatts of power by 2020 based on current population  
6 estimates.

7  
8                   Bear in mind as you'll see a little  
9 later, that that is important. As I mentioned, 25 to 30  
10 megawatts by 2020 it's estimated. Population growth  
11 factors may change or even be erroneous. We all have had  
12 qualms with the 2000 census that was conducted recently,  
13 but wasn't full and complete. They're in fact working on  
14 developing other avenues to ensure that they get an  
15 adequate count. And that will factor into our population  
16 growth and need.

17  
18                   But the focus of this particular study  
19 and final study was on regional power demand with Donlin  
20 Creek.

21  
22                   The managing partner for Donlin Creek  
23 that Calista is in partnership is Placer Dome. They're  
24 based out of Canada. They recently came out with three  
25 preferred options, and this is what they are: to import  
26 power from the railbelt; construct new power facilities  
27 in the Calista Region; and to construct new power  
28 facilities at the mine site. Within those are contained  
29 a number of options. Actually only under the third  
30 bullet. They may look to liquified petroleum gas or  
31 diesel.

32  
33                   This relates to bringing in power from  
34 the outside. Or, excuse me, from Bethel, I'm sorry. And  
35 at this stage, what we're looking to, and the most  
36 feasible for us is the coal-fired plant, the third minor  
37 item there.

38  
39                   The second option that was considered by  
40 Place Dome was to construct power at the mine site, a  
41 slow-speed diesel plant, a combined cycle combustion  
42 turbine which would likely use liquified petroleum gas or  
43 coal even. The study process considered a number of  
44 fuels. As you can see, coal is down there along with  
45 wind, and other various kinds of things.

46  
47                   And, by the way, diesel as it stands now  
48 as a sidebar note will actually -- I'd love to have the  
49 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service present to you as they're  
50 obligated to I believe, and I may be wrong, Tom, but the

1 Alaska Public Interest Research Group recently conducted  
2 a campaign on what they call dirty diesel. I don't know  
3 if you know this, but Alaska has an exemption to use and  
4 burn dirty diesel until the year 2007. But it only  
5 applies to the urban areas. The current diesel that  
6 we're burning in our homes, to light our plants, to light  
7 our lights here, is exempt. It has the highest sulphur  
8 emissions -- and emissions and pollution. And it turns  
9 out a recent study, a national study, found that diesel  
10 emissions at any level, any level, zero to whatever, is  
11 carcinogenic, especially to people and children who live  
12 in the near vicinity, at or around any kind of diesel  
13 burning engine. And it turns out that here in Alaska, we  
14 burn the dirtiest diesel in the nation, and we're using  
15 it to upgrade our plants. We're continuing to heat our  
16 homes with it.

17  
18 The study also looked, as I mentioned,  
19 bringing in power from the outside. It turns out that  
20 though every one of those little colored bars, I'm sorry  
21 they're difficult to see, is very logistically difficult,  
22 expensive, crosses so many different kinds of lands, and,  
23 in fact, poses its own environmental concerns and  
24 whatnot, by increasing the loads at the power plants that  
25 they occur in, and along the power transmission lines.

26  
27 Transmission line discussion would  
28 center, of course, between Bethel and Donlin Creek which  
29 is 191 miles, and the outside power source possibility.  
30 And these are potential sources here from wherever. But  
31 you can see that it is very expensive.

32  
33 But I'd like to quickly talk about our  
34 fuel prices. This is not right, as you all know, and  
35 your pocket books are showing. But this is just at  
36 Bethel, and as we know, it's going to increase, and it's  
37 projected to increase, in fact, we were told by 20 plus  
38 percent this winter. In fact, I read this morning on the  
39 Anchorage Daily News e-mail that fuel, a barrel of -- a  
40 drum of crude oil or Alaska sweet is now going over 50-  
41 some dollars, and that the State of Alaska, by the way,  
42 if you want to talk about your funding substance, is  
43 projected to have a surplus of \$850 million this year.

44  
45 This is one option that was considered,  
46 and has been narrowed down by the managing partner, and  
47 that is to construct a diesel fired, a slow-speed diesel  
48 fired plant or combined combustion turbine plant there  
49 using liquified petroleum gas and/or diesel.

50

1                   And, of course, we're talking about our  
2 particular concern here, and as it turns out, our  
3 preference is for coal-fired generation for many reasons.  
4 And if we do so, it would be either land-based or barge  
5 mounted. It turns out that at this point our preference  
6 for economics and being able to add on with the latest  
7 technology is barge mounted.

8  
9                   Here's the proposed site. We're basic --  
10 we're probably right -- where are we? We're right over  
11 here. If you walk down to the river, you'll be able to  
12 see the proposed site for the plant. This would be the  
13 barge-mounted plant option placement, along -- this area  
14 here would hold the proposed coal, and this would be a  
15 proposed cooling plant. And I think everybody knows  
16 pretty much where we are. At least I hope. I don't know  
17 about you guys from the Yukon, but the river's over  
18 there.

19  
20                   (Laughter)

21  
22                   MR. CHARLES: This is the general -- this  
23 is just to give you a general idea of the barge-mounted  
24 coal plant. These are gas turbines that are fired up by  
25 the coal that's brought in there, and then there's an  
26 alternate or back-up diesel plant. And, in fact, the  
27 report covers that very extensively. And I'm not at all  
28 -- pardon?

29  
30                   MS. HOFFMAN: How big is that? Like  
31 that's just the whole plant? I mean, that's where you  
32 store the coal or.....

33  
34                   MR. CHARLES: No, it isn't. I have a  
35 slide here, Bev, if you'll bear with me.

36  
37                   MS. HOFFMAN: How big is that?

38  
39                   MR. CHARLES: How big? We're  
40 anticipating anywhere -- this would be approximately  
41 three to 400 feet. It depends on the final  
42 configuration. As I mentioned, the final design and  
43 engineering is not yet complete.

44  
45                   I'd like to mention as a sidebar, we're  
46 continually looking for new and proven technology that we  
47 can apply in this instance. Given the fact that we're  
48 looking to a huge capital outlay, it only makes sense for  
49 us to continually -- in fact, we're demanded to  
50 continually find any types of technology or aspects of

1 the coal -- proposed coal-fired plant development that  
2 might be a benefit.

3

4                   As an example, I'm sorry I don't have it  
5 on slide or as a handout, but just the other day, as part  
6 of our regular round of discussions within the  
7 corporation and with our contractors, by the way, of  
8 which there are many that have long experience in dealing  
9 with design and development of the new and improved coal-  
10 fired plants throughout the nation, which, by the way,  
11 also includes the Clean Coal-Fired Plant Technology  
12 Foundation and groups which are also nationally funded  
13 and Federally funded. This, by the way, is for what's  
14 called ESCRUB, which is a process that will even further  
15 reduce emissions or, in fact, do so in a manner where  
16 there's zero emissions, and the resultant would be  
17 fertilizer.

18

19                   Anyway, just to briefly and quickly show  
20 you, this is the transmission way down at the bottom  
21 here. I don't have my pointer up, here we go, is Bethel,  
22 and that's the Donlin Creek mine. This is the power  
23 transmission line route proposed if we were to place it  
24 here in Bethel. This is the community, we're  
25 approximately here. This line would cross existing  
26 utility lines and rights-of-way with approximately 50  
27 feet, and the types of poles and whatnot will be  
28 configured to minimize impacts on the environment, and  
29 those also will be studied extensively.

30

31                   Quickly, capital costs. We're looking at  
32 this particular option here at about 369 or \$370 million  
33 at present. I'll talk about possible financing that has  
34 a bearing on who may be the lead agency for NEPA.

35

36                   We evaluated a number of coals as part of  
37 this process. Eight coals were evaluated from BC, in  
38 Alaska. Our preference is for Luscar Valley coal, not  
39 because we don't want to do anything to Alaska or keep  
40 the economy going out, but this coal happens to be about  
41 the lowest sulphur content, low moisture content coal  
42 that we can look it, and it's comparable cost. It comes  
43 in closer, even better than Usibelli because of the  
44 savings that we'd achieve in the amounts of -- the BTUES  
45 that we'll be able to get out of it.

46

47                   To give you an idea of how the coal may  
48 get here, if we're to place it here in the region, it  
49 would come in with a very large, ocean-going, fully  
50 contained, covered, self-unloading freighter, that would

1 bring in coal to the, excuse me, Kuskokwim Bay area, and  
2 that in turn would serve as an off-loading point to  
3 barges that would then be brought up Bethel, then  
4 unloaded with these -- a possible -- this is the type of  
5 barge unloader that may be used. That coal will be then  
6 contained in a fully contained, air-filled structure that  
7 minimizes dust getting out anywhere in the area. In  
8 fact, through the trench development and movement of the  
9 coal, it's likely that there will be little or no dust  
10 than anybody can see anywhere throughout the process in  
11 movement of the coal to the plant.

12  
13 And this is the area of prime concern to  
14 Ms. Hoffman and many others.

15  
16 The power plant, whether coal-fired or  
17 combined cycle turbine, and in this case I'll speak to  
18 coal-fired plants, will be signed, as it's been mentioned  
19 in the report using the best available control  
20 technology. And as I mentioned, we continue to seek new  
21 and improved technology to reduce or eliminate emissions  
22 wherever possible. And we're expected to meet or exceed  
23 all emission standards.

24  
25 Now, Ms. Hoffman mentioned that there was  
26 concern about under the Bush administration environmental  
27 requirements being lowered. It turns out that in this  
28 instance, although they be coming under that umbrella,  
29 because of the intensity and scrutiny of the project,  
30 especially under Calista, it's likely that we will exceed  
31 all emission standards, even, in fact, going back prior  
32 to. I can't say that as an assurance, but that's  
33 something that we continually have at the top of our mind  
34 within Nuvista and Calista, and, in fact, through all of  
35 our contractors, and we choose them on those basis.

36  
37 Nuvista Light and Power retained the  
38 Steigers Corporation to conduct a preliminary  
39 environmental requirements assessments. That, by the  
40 way, is contained in Volume 5 of the report, which is  
41 available on the Calista web site.

42  
43 I dare not print that out for you,  
44 because of the length and the weight of the thing. You  
45 wouldn't be able to take it home with you. I dare not  
46 print out all of it. I only printed out a couple  
47 excerpts and volumes that are key and important at this  
48 stage. But I would encourage you to get -- in fact, if  
49 you e-mail me, or Mr. Nick, you can get me addresses, I  
50 can ensure that people get copies of the final report on

1 disk, which, by the way, the report has been mailed out  
2 to over 300 people or agencies and entities here in the  
3 region, including Bethel and in the State of Alaska and  
4 across the nation.

5  
6 And as you note, we looked to input from  
7 a number of agencies: State of Alaska, the Feds,  
8 communities in the region, and many other stakeholders.  
9 And that was done from day one. In fact, almost from the  
10 time that the ink was dry on the regional power needs  
11 report.

12  
13 The input requested was for Federal,  
14 State, and local permits, general and specific resource  
15 issues, and concerns to be addressed in the environmental  
16 analysis, existing information to assist in conducting  
17 accurate and thorough analysis of the effects, specific  
18 resource studies that will or may need to be conducted,  
19 to look at existing or reasonably foreseeable projects or  
20 activities that should be considered in the assessment of  
21 cumulative impacts.

22  
23 Now, I note that Ms. Maynard from AVCP on  
24 behalf of Valarie Thomas of BIA brought you some  
25 materials, and she states in there, what is NEPA. The  
26 second bulletin point. Is that it is the premier  
27 environmental policy in the world. And that's part of  
28 the reason why.

29  
30 Our initial consultation letter described  
31 why we're proposing the development of the mine. WE  
32 talked about the Donlin Creek gold mine project as we  
33 currently envision it and understand it. We talked about  
34 the transmission line from Bethel to the mine and  
35 possibly a power grid throughout the region. And we  
36 requested that the evaluation by these individual tribal  
37 entities, agencies and whoever look at this  
38 independently, and that our cooperation with the  
39 cooperative -- to look at these aspects all  
40 independently.

41  
42 Now, you were concerned about NEPA  
43 compliance. Any Federal action, as Ms. Maynard pointed  
44 out, requires compliance with the National Environmental  
45 Policy Act. They include authorizing development of  
46 Federal lands, of which there are a great deal of as you  
47 know. And includes Federal funding of a project or  
48 issuances of permits that authorize activities with the  
49 potential for environmental effects. Pretty clear.  
50 Obvious.

1                   As envisioned, and your concern, Ms.  
2 Hoffman, about the lead agency, excuse me, as envisioned,  
3 partial funding would be obtained through the U.S.  
4 Department of Agriculture, USDA, Division of Rural  
5 Utilities. This would trigger NEPA. Other Federal  
6 actions may include the Environmental Protection Act,  
7 National Pollution Discharge Elimination System, and the  
8 other stuff, Section 404, primarily due to our cooling  
9 pond, or proposed cooling pond.

10  
11                   And it's important to understand this,  
12 that with respect to NEPA compliance, an environmental  
13 impact statement will normally be required in connection  
14 with proposed actions involving the following types of  
15 facilities: 1) new electric generating facilities of  
16 more than 50 megawatts, excuse me. In this case, our  
17 coal-fired plant and so.

18  
19                   In this case then, we understand that an  
20 environmental impact statement must be prepared for both  
21 the transmission line and power plant. And those  
22 agencies that we've contacted, as I've mentioned again,  
23 of which are many, including U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
24 Service and ADF&G, all agree that an EIS must be  
25 prepared.

26  
27                   Again, I don't know if it's fully  
28 contained in this packet, but an EIS is laid out this  
29 way. You determine a lead agency. The lead agency  
30 submits a notice of intent as to what it's going to be  
31 doing, and how it's going to do it. They complete  
32 scoping process as you know that covers those areas and  
33 so on. That's important to your understanding. I  
34 believe it's contained in that packet of material, and it  
35 will be in your summary that I provided to you. And, in  
36 fact, it's contained in the very back, and it looks as  
37 follows. It's a very simplified flow chart that gives  
38 you an idea of the process.

39  
40                   Certain agencies, as I mentioned,  
41 including the Fish Service, see the development of the  
42 power plant as being closely tied to the development of  
43 Donlin Creek, and that Donlin Creek would be a major  
44 consumer. And their question is, under NEPA, can this  
45 CFP (ph) coal-fired plant be separated from Donlin Creek.  
46 And I'll let this speak for itself.

47  
48                   U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services comments  
49 that the entire scope of comment -- the project be  
50 comprehensively evaluated, including direct and indirect,

1 and cumulative project impacts, as did the U.S. Corps of  
2 Engineers.

3

4                   And now I'd like to move on real quickly.  
5 If there's any -- I know I've taken a great deal -- a bit  
6 more time than I mentioned, but lastly I'd like to read a  
7 real brief statement, if I may, Mr. Chairman, on behalf  
8 of the Calista Corporations.

9

10                   Charting a course for the future is  
11 challenging. It involves change, which by the laws of  
12 nature will always meet resistance, and it involves the  
13 unknown, which I'm sure we're all concerned with,  
14 especially with this. But we need to make these  
15 decisions, if any, based on assumptions, instincts, and  
16 lessons learned from others. At the same time, change is  
17 the only way to grow and improve.

18

19                   Our region faces serious problems that if  
20 not dealt with in a results-oriented way will continue to  
21 deny our people a better quality of life. And that is  
22 something I believe that you folks strive for here. As  
23 you know, we have poverty rates that rank with some  
24 third-world countries. Unemployment is staggering,  
25 combined with high cost for necessities, including those  
26 that we need to use to subsist. We face health care  
27 problems, including growing rates of drug and alcohol  
28 abuse and suicide.

29

30                   Although we've made past -- over the past  
31 several years we've made significant strides at improving  
32 life for our people, it's time to take another step that  
33 will begin to offer immediate and sustainable  
34 development. And I gave you a definition earlier.

35

36                   The proposed coal-fired plant is a  
37 relevant example of sustainable development. We will  
38 comply with Federal and State laws, but we'll also  
39 acknowledge our heritage and follow a process of careful  
40 consideration and public input to the greatest extent  
41 that we can, and as you demand of us. And we'll do this  
42 as the project moves forward, and if it moves forward,  
43 throughout the development, design and engineering,  
44 application, and throughout the life of the project. We  
45 will comply with NEPA. In fact, we may even exceed it  
46 given the kind of scrutiny that we've received over the  
47 last few years. We will likely exceed it given the scope  
48 and the need for the project.

49

50                   And if we don't do this here in the

1 region, much less consider it, and to assume that it  
2 won't work in the region, is premature and short-sighted.  
3 We've committed ourselves to a process of planning for  
4 real change that will be accountable, measurable,  
5 sustainable and consistent with our cultural values.  
6 And, Mr. Chairman, our well being is our survival and as  
7 you know, as you attempt to do here so well, many times  
8 we find that it's only we who can help ourselves.

9

10 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Next on our  
13 agenda, I'd like to see the Council suspend the rule and  
14 give Tom Boyd the opportunity to speak on a couple items.  
15 He will be leaving at 6:00 o'clock. We're going to have  
16 a meeting tonight again, the same as yesterday.

17

18 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I move to  
19 suspend the rules to hear Mr. Boyd.

20

21 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the  
24 floor to suspend and second. Discussion.

25

26 (No discussion)

27

28 MR. ONEY: Question.

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called  
31 for. All who favor say aye.

32

33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed say no.

36

37 (No opposing votes)

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried. Tom.

40

41 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, before we start,  
42 we're going to be having a working session also tonight.  
43 Will we be doing this through dinner? Is it possible to  
44 -- well, either that, or is it possible to have -- not  
45 come out of Alex's pocket, but order dinner and work  
46 through dinner. Maybe it will come out of Tom Boyd's  
47 pocket.

48

49 (Laughter)

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tom.

2

3 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair. If I will refer  
4 you to the Agenda Item 12, which is labelled Office of  
5 Subsistence Management reports, and under that item there  
6 are five items, A through E, listed. And just as we have  
7 done in all of the Regional Advisory Council meetings  
8 during this fall meeting cycle, we have presented these  
9 as written briefings in your book. Our intention was not  
10 to give you a verbal briefing in the meeting unless there  
11 were questions, or unless the Council requested it.  
12 They're presented as written so that you could read them  
13 on your own, and determine whether or not that was  
14 sufficient for the Council to understand what was in  
15 those.

16

17 They're largely items that have been  
18 briefed to the Council in previous meetings, or  
19 administrative items. We primarily wanted to lay these  
20 out to you and inform you, but not to take up the meeting  
21 time to conduct briefings, unless the Council wanted to  
22 highlight specific things that they wanted to discuss,  
23 Mr. Chair.

24

25 Mr. Chair, I might add that these items  
26 are written and are contained on the pages shown in the  
27 -- under Item 12 on your agenda are at Pages 248 through  
28 256.

29

30 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Tom. If  
33 there's any questions for Tom.

34

35 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

38

39 MS. HOFFMAN: There was some concern, and  
40 Greg, I don't know where he is right now, had some  
41 concern about the policy to do with Council  
42 correspondence. And some concerns about how that policy  
43 is developed. And it seemed like we're regulated as to  
44 what we can say, and how we say it, and who we say it to.  
45 And I think that just bothers us when we're dictated to  
46 like that. And I'm wondering, you know, you want us to  
47 be a part of this process, yet we're told we have to  
48 abide by policy and can't say certain things to certain  
49 people. Can you comment on that.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tom, go ahead.

2

3 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair, I'd be happy to  
4 comment on that question that Member Hoffman has raised.

5

6

7 The Council correspondence policy has  
8 been recently formalized. In other words, we made it  
9 official, but it's actually been in place in an  
10 unofficial way, or an informal way since the beginning of  
11 the Federal subsistence program.

12

13 What we have asked for always is that any  
14 correspondence generated by a Regional Advisory Council,  
15 any draft correspondence come through my office for  
16 review prior to becoming final and being sent. As we  
17 have sought to state that policy when issues have come  
18 up, some of the Councils have questioned it, and have  
19 also requested that a formal policy be put in place. And  
20 so that's what we have done.

21

22 Backing off more generally speaking, the  
23 Regional Advisory Councils, the Federal Subsistence  
24 Regional Advisory Councils are administered under both  
25 Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands  
26 Conservation Act, ANILCA, and the Federal Advisory  
27 Committee Act, we call FACA. And under FACA in  
28 particular, it requires the agencies that help support  
29 the Councils, or administer the Councils to establish  
30 rules and procedures by which they operate. And so this  
31 is an attempt to do that with regard to the issue of  
32 correspondence.

33

34 I would -- I guess by formalizing, has  
35 raised additional questions such as the one that Member  
36 Hoffman, as well as Mr. Roczicka I presume, have raised.

37

38

39 And basically what we're trying to do is  
40 ensure that -- first of all, let me say that Council  
41 correspondence is a matter of public record. We have to  
42 maintain that record and make it available to the public  
43 upon request. And in we make that record or parts of  
44 that record available when the public seeks access to  
45 those records through the Freedom of Information Act, for  
46 example, or through litigation that we've been involved  
47 in over the years. All of this is a matter of record, so  
48 we want to make sure that what we do is appropriate and  
49 proper and follows appropriate procedures and protocols.  
50 So another good reason to have some policy with regard to

1 written material produced by Regional Advisory Councils  
2 which are in place to advise the Federal Subsistence  
3 Board on matters related to subsistence harvest.

4  
5                   So what we tried to do here is lay out  
6 some guidelines to give the Councils an understanding of  
7 what is appropriate and just be clear about what is  
8 expected regarding correspondence.

9  
10                   What it is not is an attempt -- it is not  
11 an attempt to censor I guess is a word that's been used.  
12 It's not an attempt to censor the Councils. Clearly if  
13 the Councils have a need to correspond for a variety of  
14 reasons, then we want to facilitate that and assist the  
15 Councils in ensuring that they can get their job done as  
16 affectively and efficiently as possible.

17  
18                   And my role is trying to oversee that and  
19 keep us between sort of the legal boundaries that we have  
20 to operate in, Mr. Chair.

21  
22                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Is other  
23 question. Do we have other questions, Council, to Tom.

24  
25                   (No questions)

26  
27                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Go ahead,  
28 Tom.

29  
30                   MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair, I'll be here until  
31 I have to leave, probably around six. And if there are  
32 other questions that come up, I'd be happy to respond to  
33 them.

34  
35                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

36  
37                   Tonight we're going to have a session.  
38 We will go to lunch at 5:00 o'clock and come back at  
39 7:00.

40  
41                   (Pause)

42  
43                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Continue our meeting.  
44 Do you want to break now or you want to continue until  
45 5:00 o'clock?

46  
47                   MS. GREGORY: Yeah, let's continue. Mr.  
48 Chairman, let's go, keep going.

49  
50                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: You want to go to the

1 next one?

2

3

MS. GREGORY: Yes.

4

5

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MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I don't have any kind of a presentation or something. It was when we were contacted back in July for items that we would -- just informational items, and I did ask if the Staff could make a report on it, and that is in the back of the book. And the majority of those that I do see are specific to the action taken by the Board of Fisheries regarding Area M, and as we all know, all of those special action requests were denied.

I don't know, Tom, if you'd like to speak more to those.

MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tom.

MR. BOYD: As Mr. Roczicka has stated, these items are reported in your book, and again they're included in writing to allow you to read them, and if you have questions I'd be happy to answer them, but they're completely documented in here for your knowledge, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. Again, Mr. Chairman, it was more of just an informational thing that I'd wanted to see as an update, and I wasn't even anticipating seeing the entire, you know, paper wad of each one.

But I would -- it's something that as long as I'm on this Council, I would like to see just on an annual basis. You can put the title and what the action requested was, and what the resulting action and the justification. That would for my purposes, just to see them all and to have them all in one, so you can look at them, and get an idea as to what the major concerns are. And I wouldn't mind seeing it for the State, you know, just for all the other regions, for Western/Eastern Interior, which basically you do have here, but again

1 just as an informational update on an annual basis.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Tom.  
4  
5 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair. I'm trying to  
6 understand what Mr. Roczicka is requesting, and I'm  
7 assuming it means you would rather -- you would prefer a  
8 summary as opposed to a complete report such as we  
9 provided. Is that correct?  
10  
11 MR. ROCZICKA: Correct, yes.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So it's just  
14 informational thing here?  
15  
16 MR. BOYD: Yes, sir.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.  
19  
20 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.  
23  
24 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)  
25  
26 INTERPRETER: The page on 229, we did  
27 talk about it in one of the proposals.  
28  
29 MS. GREGORY: Didn't we? Yeah, we did.  
30 We did address the intent of the 229 letter.  
31  
32 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chair.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.  
35  
36 MR. L. WILDE: I understand that Mr. Boyd  
37 needs to leave on a plane this afternoon. While we've  
38 got him up on the table, it would be -- could we suspend  
39 the rules to have him address this now, so he can have  
40 time to catch his plane.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We did suspend the rules  
43 to give him.....  
44  
45 MR. L. WILDE: Okay. Well, I'm sorry. I  
46 had that up in mind before I had to leave. And I'm  
47 sorry, I didn't get it.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions to  
50 Tom Boyd from Council.

1 John.

2

3 MR. HANSON: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.  
4 Chairman.

5

6 In May I was in Anchorage testifying in  
7 front of the Federal Subsistence Board and I received a  
8 letter. They sent me the copy of the letter Gail Norton  
9 wrote, and in that letter it said based on the  
10 information we received and reviewed, and recognizing the  
11 limitations of the data, the Federal Subsistence Board  
12 recognized that Federal jurisdiction should not be  
13 extended to intervene in the Area M June fishery. I got  
14 kind of hot when I read that, because here in my  
15 testimony I pled it for help on our subsistence way of  
16 life on the salmon runs. And what limitation of  
17 information did the Federal Subsistence Board have?

18

19 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair, I'll try to answer  
20 the question.

21

22 The answer, being very direct, was that  
23 the Secretary could not find that the change in  
24 regulation by the Board of Fish in Area M, which eased or  
25 relaxed the fishing restrictions on those fishermen, the  
26 Secretary found that that would not constitute -- or she  
27 could not find evidence to support that that would  
28 constitute a failure to provide for subsistence within  
29 Federal jurisdiction, meaning in the Yukon River or in  
30 the Kuskokwim River, or other rivers for that matter  
31 under Federal control. There wasn't enough evidence to  
32 support that finding that there would be a failure to  
33 meet the subsistence priority in those Federal areas, and  
34 therefore she could not intervene, or would not  
35 intervene. This is a legal standard that she would have  
36 to go by to go beyond her jurisdiction, and she just  
37 could not find that that would happen. Mr. Chair.

38

39 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Robert.

42

43 MR. R. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

44

45 Tom, this may be my last forum to be able  
46 to speak with you, and I wanted to -- since this is my  
47 last meeting with the Y-K Delta RAC, I wanted to express  
48 my appreciation. Thanks to your support for seeing that  
49 subsistence needs in rural Alaska were number one, and  
50 subsistence uses of resources in Rural Alaska were -- for

1 users would be -- has been your priority. And I think  
2 that needs to be continued.

3  
4 And in following up with what Council  
5 member Mr. Hanson indicated on Area M, the -- what's the  
6 word? Any, it was if there other decisions the Area M  
7 may have some notable impact, you know, down the road, so  
8 I think and expressed concerns of Y-K RAC, Bristol Bay,  
9 and Norton Sound are sound. And it should have total  
10 support. And if not, it probably may promote necessary  
11 need for intervention by Federal managers.

12  
13 As you know, the tribes in Alaska are  
14 leaning more towards Federal oversight in our villages  
15 and they may do so in Federal services over State  
16 services, and in the State -- our current State posture  
17 is to reduce or eliminate the services that they are  
18 providing to rural Alaska. And I think there's going to  
19 be more emphasis in Federal oversight in the years to  
20 come.

21  
22 But, again, I thank you for the support  
23 you have given to 10 regions, and this region and Bristol  
24 Bay and Norton Sound region especially, because of the  
25 concerns of stock in the last few years in one of main,  
26 basic staples for survival, fish, salmon.

27  
28 Thank you.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tom.

31  
32 MR. BOYD: Well, Mr. Chair, I would just  
33 -- I'm humbled by Mr. Nick's remarks. I've always  
34 thought that we had a job to do and we have humbly (ph)  
35 on about trying to do that job to our utmost. And I have  
36 a very capable Staff, and I work with very capable people  
37 in many of the other agencies, as well as the State of  
38 Alaska. And so it's a big collective effort. So I thank  
39 you.

40  
41 But I'd also return the compliment by  
42 saying I've -- over the years that I've worked here, and  
43 as I've associated with the people in this region, and as  
44 my Staff have also worked in this region in various ways,  
45 I've always heard many good things about you, Mr. Nick,  
46 and your commitment to your people, to the subsistence  
47 way of life and to the resources. And I'm very sorry to  
48 see you stepping away from the Council, and I would  
49 encourage you to think about it in the future returning,  
50 if you would think about that. But I want to commend you

1 as well for the good work that you've done, and I think  
2 you'll be sorely missed on this Council.

3

4 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5

6 MR. R. NICK: Mr. Chairman. Like the new  
7 phrase, I'll be back.

8

9 (Laughter)

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

12

13 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry I  
14 missed the little bit earlier. I was just told that Mr.  
15 Boyd went over the various policies and so forth over,  
16 and I did have a question concerning on. And after all  
17 the nice compliments, I've got to be a troublemaker and  
18 talk about the little stumbling blocks here.

19

20 But you do have the correspondence policy  
21 that I understand was adopted and it's in the book here  
22 that we have, and last June. Last May as you recall this  
23 Council put forward a letter to the Federal Subsistence  
24 Board and the Chairman at that time said that that letter  
25 would be taken up at the June work session. It was a  
26 letter of appreciation to our Governor for his getting  
27 out of the way of management actions that have been a  
28 source of administrative interference at that level for  
29 the past decade, and just basically stating that, and  
30 thanking him for doing that. And given that a policy was  
31 in place and so forth. And we asked that the Board then  
32 consider that they would forward that, and the Chairman  
33 said we will take it up at our work session. And again  
34 before the meeting ended when Harry asked me to sit in in  
35 his place, I asked again, and the Chairman said, yes, we  
36 will take it up at the June meeting. And when I asked  
37 Mr. Bucklis a couple days before the meeting, he said,  
38 no, he hadn't got any word.

39

40 And I'm wondering what's the status of  
41 that letter and the correspondence policy does reference  
42 now that when you receive those types of correspondence  
43 that you would respond in five days, and certainly June  
44 more than, a lot more than five days ago. So I'm  
45 wondering if you can fill me in on what happened with  
46 that and.....

47

48 MR. L. WILDE: Point of order, Mr.  
49 Chairman. Mr. Chairman.

50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: As I understand it,  
2 Lester, while we were gone, Mr. Boyd went over these  
3 policies, and it was open to any final questions to him  
4 before he left.

5  
6 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah, just -- I was just  
7 -- with the time frame that we have and the amount of  
8 subject that we have to cover yet, if that was part of it  
9 now, but I thought we were working on an approved agenda  
10 and it's not on the agenda as stated right now, and the  
11 discussion that we're discussing right now.

12  
13 MR. ROCZICKA: We have different  
14 understandings then. I thought we were still under  
15 suspension of the rules and while I ran you over to the  
16 bank, they did discuss these items.

17  
18 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tom.

21  
22 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair, I'd be happy to  
23 respond, and I'm not sure that I'll give a satisfactory  
24 answer.

25  
26 Mr. Roczicka is correct, that's what  
27 happened. The Board has not taken up the letter. And I  
28 will inquire with the Chair and see how he wants to  
29 handle it. Mr. Chair.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: More now.

32  
33 I think I'll do a little -- say something  
34 about it, Tom.

35  
36 I have been sitting here ever since  
37 Federal subsistence start. And I've been involved in  
38 going to Anchorage a lot of times, and some things are  
39 not easy, and some days that I have a little problem with  
40 other Staff, especially one person that tell me not to  
41 speak up anything that is not approved by the Council.  
42 It's really kind of hurting my feelings, but I didn't say  
43 nothing. What I'm saying is ever since I've been seeing  
44 Tom Boyd, every time when he talk to me, he's smiling and  
45 some things really help, especially when you don't have  
46 no one to depend on.

47 I do my best even though I don't have any  
48 a lot of time education. But it takes me, after the  
49 Council approve these proposals, it takes me extra time  
50 until the Federal Boards have meeting. I work on those

1 so I am able to speak and let the Boards understand.

2

3 I do appreciate Tom, because I know that  
4 one of these days I'm not going to be sitting here, and I  
5 have been done a lot of things that -- not to try to miss  
6 what decision that you make. I try to do my best. So I  
7 thank you Tom and you be able to be here tonight, and  
8 want you to know that we're glad to have you.

9

10 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tom.

13

14 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair, thank you again.  
15 And it was my pleasure to be here as well, and I'll try  
16 to get back soon. And I would also echo your words to  
17 your Council about your efforts to represent them at the  
18 Board meetings. You're very capable in the work that  
19 you, and he's right on. He does a very good job in  
20 representing your views.

21

22 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more to Tom.

25

26 (No questions)

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Shall we  
29 continue or take a break now? Okay. Supper time, right  
30 now that we could break and come back at 7:00 o'clock.  
31 And we could start out from wildlife topics.

32

33 (Off record)

34

35 (On record)

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I'd like to get  
38 permission from Councils, how it would be if I reduce  
39 presentation people to 10 minutes and only thing that you  
40 do is most important things, we would go faster because  
41 most of them right now is really there's nothing to make  
42 decisions and we're going to go into mostly reports.

43

44 What does Council feel.

45

46 MS. HOFFMAN: Sounds good to me.

47

48 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

49

50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, I think the most  
2 important thing we have to talk about is Item 14,  
3 Regional Council business and the items in it, the rest  
4 of them are just reports, reports, reports and topics.

5  
6 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

9  
10 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, thank you. There  
11 will be one action item on the one that I requested be  
12 put on the agenda, the Board of Game proposal that  
13 affects GMU 18 in regard to taking bulls by snowmachine,  
14 but other than that -- I requested it be put on the  
15 agenda when we were going under approval as Item E under  
16 wildlife topics.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

19  
20 MR. L. WILDE: Item C.

21  
22 MR. ROCZICKA: Item E, it was added on to  
23 the end there, we got down to D, and I requested it be  
24 added on as Item E, it's from Emmonak Tribal Council and  
25 Orutsararmiut Native Council put it in. And at the time  
26 the agenda was being put together the proposal book had  
27 not yet come out for the Board of Game so it wasn't  
28 available there.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We will take this  
31 as.....

32  
33 REPORTER: Harry.

34  
35 MR. L. WILDE: At least you know his  
36 name.

37  
38 (Laughter)

39  
40 MR. L. WILDE: That's more than I can say  
41 for some of the people I call them friends.

42  
43 (Laughter)

44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Okay. So we will  
46 continue this on our agenda, fish and wildlife topics. I  
47 think we will start off with Alex Nick, No. A.

48  
49 MR. A. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
50 Under wildlife topic No. A., results of the Federal

1 Subsistence Board actions, it's actually .805(c) letter  
2 on Page 238. And, you know, unless the Council has any  
3 questions on that that letter is in response to the  
4 wildlife proposals that the Council recommended to the  
5 Federal Subsistence Board. Unless you have any questions  
6 on that, we could move on to the next one.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Councils do you have a  
9 question.

10  
11 (No comments)

12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead Nick.

14  
15 MR. A. NICK: Okay. The next one is call  
16 for wildlife proposals. You might be aware that we're  
17 now entering into the wildlife cycle and in the proposal  
18 book, rather the regulatory booklet, on Page 9 there is a  
19 proposal form to submit wildlife -- Federal wildlife  
20 proposals is close of business October 22nd. This is  
21 only for your information.

22  
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: What page?

24  
25 MR. A. NICK: Go ahead.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

28  
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: What page you talking  
30 about?

31  
32 REPORTER: Alex.

33  
34 MR. A. NICK: Sorry, where did I -- I'll  
35 start over. On regulatory booklet on Page 9 there's  
36 proposal form and anyone may submit regulatory change to  
37 proposal -- Federal regulatory change proposal by close  
38 of business October 22nd. That's for your information.

39  
40 I don't know if there are any new  
41 proposals that we received. I don't know if any were  
42 submitted to us, I'm not aware of that.

43  
44 Moving on.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

47  
48 MR. A. NICK: Okay, that's all I have Mr.  
49 Chair.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, if there's no  
2 questions for Alex Nick we will continue our agenda.

3  
4 (No comments)

5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: On our agenda  
7 comprehensive moose population domestic for the lower  
8 Yukon River, Greg Roczicka and Roger Seavoy and William  
9 Leacock.

10  
11 MR. SEAVOY: Thank you, Mr. Chair, I've  
12 got three handouts, I can go ahead and pass those around.  
13 One of those handouts is related to the muskox, it's on  
14 the agenda later. But I know that you guys are  
15 interested in burning things up so I'll include that  
16 right there.

17  
18 If everybody can hear me.

19  
20 (Council nods affirmatively)

21  
22 MR. SEAVOY: And I know that you wanted  
23 to get these down to 10 minutes so I'll get started.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Say your name.

26  
27 MR. SEAVOY: You have in that handout  
28 there that I'm sending out to you, that I'm handing out  
29 to you, you don't have everything on this powerpoint  
30 presentation but you do have all the tables and all the  
31 data, so there shouldn't be anything missing, if you have  
32 any questions, just any time you can get a hold of me and  
33 I'd be happy to talk with you on it.

34  
35 The agenda item was for lower Yukon  
36 moose, I'm going to include a little bit of Kuskokwim  
37 moose in here. But basically all three Yukon River moose  
38 survey areas show positive signs and I think it's  
39 important to remember that the local residents were key  
40 to letting that happen. This slide here is the same as  
41 what you have in your table there, there's a lot of  
42 gobbly-goop with the numbers here, I'm not going to go  
43 over it.

44  
45 But if you want to go back to look at  
46 where the numbers in the graphs that I'm going to show  
47 came from you can always come back to this and get the  
48 exact numbers. But I think the graphs that I'm going to  
49 show shortly better portray what's happening with moose  
50 on the Yukon.

1                   One thing that I wanted to include here,  
2 though, was the lower Kuskokwim census area because you  
3 can't really separate the Kuskokwim from the Yukon I  
4 don't think in Unit 18. There's a lot of things that  
5 happen between both areas that I think are worth  
6 mentioning. We make comparisons frequently between the  
7 Lower Kuskokwim count area and the Lower Yukon count  
8 area. And I guess for the sake of a lot of -- you know,  
9 I don't have the count areas on this powerpoint  
10 presentation, but those count areas are on the map that's  
11 in your handout. So you can see that there are four  
12 count areas that are outlined there. And if anybody --  
13 well, we don't have much of an audience now.....

14

(Laughter)

15

16                   MR. SEAVOY: .....so I think if anybody  
17 out there needs something come see me.

18

19

(Laughter)

20

21

22                   MR. SEAVOY: One thing that's worth  
23 looking at, though, is this count area here on this Lower  
24 Kuskokwim, this number here represents 69 moose, and  
25 we're hoping to get this count area up to about 2,000.

26

27                   In the Piamut count area, this is the  
28 reason we think we can have 2,000 moose on the Kuskokwim,  
29 is that we actually do have 2,000 moose in the Piamut  
30 area and the habitat looks like it supports it just fine  
31 and I think the habitat on the Kuskokwim is very similar  
32 so there's no reason to believe that the Kuskokwim  
33 couldn't do at least as well as the Piamut area.

34

35                   Notice here, too, that this is a winter  
36 time distribution, this is a winter time count. I think  
37 there's some differences between the number of moose that  
38 we have there, during the winter, especially during deep  
39 snow years than what we have during the summer and even  
40 during the hunting season.

41

42                   The Andrafsky count area might look a  
43 little bit confusing for a little while, but in order to  
44 survey all of the count areas on the Yukon in one year we  
45 had to cut down the size of the Andrafsky count area.  
46 The other thing is that northern portion of the  
47 Andrafsky count area is harder to survey because it's  
48 more dangerous, there's higher mountains up there, the  
49 winds get kind of creeper if you're in an airplane up  
50 there and we thought, you know, in order to -- it was one

1 of the trade offs that we had to make in order to get all  
2 the Yukon count areas counted in one year. So it looks  
3 like the number might have gone down between 1999 and  
4 2002, but in actuality, the density increased. So the  
5 second graph on the bottom of the slide here is corrected  
6 for that smaller count area.

7  
8 And if you have any questions on that  
9 later I'd be happy to talk with you, but I think it might  
10 be clear.

11  
12 I also think, though, I say here still  
13 this area is not performing as well as other Yukon River  
14 count areas. The densities are lower than we think that  
15 area could support, you know, the other Yukon areas --  
16 this is still doing all right as far as I'm concerned,  
17 but the other areas are doing extremely well,  
18 particularly the lowest Yukon count area. And in the  
19 lowest Yukon count area, that's the area below Mountain  
20 Village, you can see how quickly this population went  
21 from less than 100 animals to almost 700, the mid point  
22 of this estimate was 674, that estimate was made in 2002,  
23 that was March of 2002. And we've had calves several  
24 times since then, and that population, I believe has  
25 continued to grow and I wouldn't be surprised if this  
26 population tops out at about 1,000 animals by now.

27  
28 MR. ALOYSIUS: On your map you have a  
29 column going up, is that middle Yukon?

30  
31 MR. SEAVOY: The one that's way up most  
32 northerly.....

33  
34 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, lower Yukon?

35  
36 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, that's the lowest part  
37 of the Yukon, it's the highest on your page but it's the  
38 lowest on the River. So that's.....

39  
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: Does it include the south  
41 mouth, the north mouth, what is it?

42  
43 MR. SEAVOY: It includes a little bit of  
44 all of those mouths.

45  
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmatively)

47  
48 MR. SEAVOY: If you look at the most  
49 northern edge of it, it's just north of Kotlik, the most  
50 western edge of it is about as far west as Emmonak, and

1 you know whenever you look at these things you recognize  
2 we're coming up with a density estimate and we realize  
3 that there are probably moose outside of these  
4 boundaries, you know, they have to be. There's moose in  
5 a lot of different places that we can't count. But  
6 there's a limit to the amount of area that we can  
7 actually provide a census for, so we had to put the lines  
8 somewhere and there's going to be moose that are outside  
9 the lines.

10

11 If you wanted to come up with and apply  
12 the density that we come up with to a broader area, we  
13 could probably do that and be within reasonable estimates  
14 if we wanted to expand that.

15

16 Does that help?

17

18 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmatively)

19

20 MR. SEAVOY: So like I say, this count  
21 area is expanding, growing really quickly, you know,  
22 faster than you might think is possible, but there's  
23 other places where that happens. The Togiak drainage is  
24 a good example, where they went from, you know, next to  
25 nothing in the early '90s to this number up here which  
26 represents 777 and that's an absolute count. This makes  
27 no effort in this type of a count to try to figure out  
28 how animals they missed, whereas we do with the other  
29 count method.

30

31 So what's going on there, well, I think  
32 the productivity of moose, you know, asked the question,  
33 how are moose doing on the Yukon and I think you answer  
34 it by saying how many there are and how well they're  
35 doing. We know that we're getting more and more moose,  
36 and how well they're doing can be answered by saying,  
37 well, how is the productivity taking place. Average  
38 parameters so you have something to compare it to,  
39 usually moose don't have their first calf until their  
40 three years old. Usually but with lots of variation  
41 you'll get twins at about 33 percent or, you know, one  
42 out of every three cows that has a calf will have twins.  
43 And survival rates vary but, you know, if a population is  
44 going to grow the survival has to at least be greater  
45 than the number of deaths that occurred during a year.

46

47 The lowest Yukon productivity parameters  
48 are such that the age at first reproduction is sometimes  
49 as young as two. When we've done spring calving counts,  
50 we think we can recognize moose that are real young

1 having calves. That's an indicator that moose are doing  
2 extremely well. 2003, the twinning rates were 85  
3 percent, so 85 percent of those cows that were having  
4 calves actually had twins. And actually some of those  
5 cows that did not have twins may have been two year olds.  
6 So, you know, these are really high twinning rates. And  
7 the other thing is you look at survival and one of the  
8 ways that we can kind of gage survival is looking at the  
9 number of twins that are still together from the previous  
10 year, and we saw a lot of them and, in fact, with this  
11 good weather that we've been having, which for moose  
12 means low snow, they've been fat. So we've got big  
13 calves that are likely to survive better, you know, the  
14 larger size means that these animals are doing pretty  
15 well. And I expect that this moose population,  
16 especially below Mountain Village is going to grow rather  
17 quickly.

18  
19                   And I think this model, you know, you may  
20 have seen it on coffee cups, we've put it on sweatshirts  
21 and that sort of thing, we've used it as a way to discuss  
22 the importance of cow moose, but remember there's an  
23 inside and an outside on this circle, and at some point  
24 and below Mountain Village we might want to start  
25 thinking about that, in a few years, I don't think we're  
26 there yet, but at some point you start getting to the  
27 outside ring, and at that outside ring you start thinking  
28 about increasing opportunity for harvest. So like I  
29 said, I think that's probably a couple years away but  
30 it's not out of the picture.

31  
32                   Within the Lower Yukon Advisory  
33 Committee, when we have a meeting, you know, a face to  
34 face meeting, rather than a teleconference, we'll  
35 probably discuss some of the options as to which way to  
36 go and it will fall into a cycle where a couple years  
37 down the road we might be looking at something like that.

38  
39                   We plan to do another census of this  
40 area, along the entire Yukon this year so we'll have a  
41 better idea as to where this follows up. You know, last  
42 time we did it was 2002, the next time it's scheduled was  
43 actually 2004 but because we missed a year because of bad  
44 weather last year, we did the 2004 estimate was done on  
45 the Kuskokwim so we'll get back on the Yukon in 2005,  
46 that will be February or March, you know, whichever month  
47 gives us the best weather and do the survey then.

48  
49                   Habitat is something that you shouldn't  
50 forget. We don't have to go through this too much, but

1 we've done some habitat surveys on the Yukon, and you  
2 know these gross surveys are telling us that there's  
3 still a lot of unutilized habitat, which is good, it  
4 tells us we can still support the moose that we have, and  
5 probably more.

6  
7                   So I guess that's the end of that.  
8 Before I go into questions I want to introduce the essay  
9 that I have on the Unit 18 mainland muskox. I'll just  
10 leave that without doing anything with it but Ray Oney is  
11 part of the Lower Yukon Advisory Committee and so is Nick  
12 Andrews and they can talk to you a little bit more about  
13 what the Lower Yukon Advisory Committee wanted to do with  
14 muskoxen.

15  
16                   Doi.

17  
18                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Councils, do you have a  
19 question to Roger.....

20  
21                   MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

22  
23                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: .....Seavoy.

24  
25                   MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

26  
27                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: John Hanson.

28  
29                   MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.  
30 Chairman. Yeah, Roger, right now, well, this summer or  
31 last month when the moose season opened, they were  
32 telling me that this is the first time they started  
33 seeing three calves to a cow, is that unusual?

34  
35                   MR. SEAVOY: Yes, it is but it's been  
36 seen before. I know in the surveys that I've conducted  
37 on the Yukon, I've seen triplets at least once where I  
38 know for sure that all three of the -- or I have a real  
39 good idea anyway that I think all three of those calves  
40 belong to that one cow, and this was in late winter. And  
41 by late winter, after suckling and giving milk to all  
42 three of those calves, that cow was probably one of the  
43 skinniest animals that we saw that winter. It looks like  
44 the calves were in good shape, they're probably going to  
45 survive, whether the mother did or not -- and in two  
46 other instances that I've heard of, I saw pictures once,  
47 where there was a cow moose that had four. Perhaps she  
48 had them herself or perhaps she adopted twins from  
49 another cow somewhere along the way but they were really  
50 skinny animals, too, so the more they try to mate, the

1 skinnier they get and that affects their survival  
2 chances.

3  
4 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you. Well, this  
5 last September, or last month there was a lot of moose.  
6 All them sloughs, you know, the low water boats can't get  
7 into them so the moose really survived the hunt. There  
8 was some killed, I don't know how many but I guess by the  
9 harvest tickets then you'll know how many was dead below  
10 Mountain Village.

11  
12 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, and I think that's  
13 interesting to point out. I looked at how many had been  
14 killed below Mountain Village before and in previous  
15 years, let's go back to '97, there were 22 killed, the  
16 following year 28, 22, 25, 34 by the time we get to 2002  
17 we get up to 69, last year we had 63 moose reported  
18 harvested and Robert Moore suggested that this year there  
19 might be 100. These are reported harvests, you know, I  
20 mean there are probably some that don't get reported, but  
21 I actually think reporting rates are pretty good below  
22 Mountain Village in those communities. So I'm  
23 encouraged, despite the low water, I was surprised that  
24 people did as well as they actually did even with that  
25 low water, that was tough to get around.

26  
27 MR. HANSON: Yeah, I'm pretty sure it's  
28 going to be over a hundred that's been killed below  
29 Mountain. Because towards the end of September that's  
30 when them bulls started showing up from the first to  
31 about the three-quarters of the month, very few bulls  
32 came out of the brush, but towards the end, about five  
33 days before it closed, a lot of bulls started showing big  
34 antlers, so I'm pretty sure there's going to be over a  
35 hundred.

36  
37 And I think this moratorium down there  
38 really helped. The Department wanted to open it in five  
39 years and we told them, no, just hold two more years and  
40 I think that's paid out.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

43  
44 MS. HOFFMAN: Roger, and I'm just reading  
45 here about the wolf population. You know, on the Upper  
46 Kuskokwim there seemed to be less moose and a lot of  
47 people attribute that to the wolf population increasing.  
48 With the increasing number of moose I'm just surprising  
49 that it's increasing when wolves seem to be such a part  
50 of the problem and they're saying that a cause of

1 decrease of the population on the Upper Kuskokwim but yet  
2 it's increasing in these other areas, can you address  
3 that?

4

5 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, I can do what I can to  
6 answer that. There's kind of a rule of thumb, that if  
7 you have at least 30 moose for every wolf the wolf  
8 population can't kill off enough moose to prevent the  
9 moose population from growing. So evidently we have  
10 fewer than -- or we have more than 30 moose for every  
11 wolf that's out there. You know, it's a rough guideline  
12 for it, but it's a ballpark that actually works out  
13 pretty well in closed systems, where you just have moose  
14 and wolves.

15

16 I think the other thing that's important  
17 in that discussion though is that we have -- this wolf  
18 population has increased as the moose population grow.  
19 The wolf population has increased in number and the wolf  
20 population has increased in its range, so it's not just  
21 more wolves but they're covering a bigger area. Those  
22 wolves grew and established those populations in the face  
23 of some pretty persistent harvest. And I think that's  
24 something that I think is important. During years with  
25 good snow we've had as many as 114 wolves harvested by  
26 hunters in Unit 18, and like I say, during years of good  
27 snow, when we've had bad snow years where you couldn't  
28 travel very much, like 2002/2003, we only had 12 wolves  
29 that were reported harvested. That was followed up last  
30 year, 2003/2004 with 93 wolves being harvested so we're  
31 killing a lot of wolves during years when there's good  
32 snow. And I can't help but thinking that that makes a  
33 difference keeping that ratio, that 30 to one ratio where  
34 we probably want it.

35

36 There's a couple other places where  
37 there's some good wolf trappers who are putting quite a  
38 bit of effort into and catching quite a few wolves  
39 themselves, too. And there is some -- in a few areas  
40 there's some actually pretty adept wolf hunters who go  
41 out specifically for wolves. I think in a lot of cases,  
42 though, when it's these good snow years and guys are  
43 going out after caribou or moose and they bump into a  
44 wolf track, I think those are situations where they get  
45 wolves opportunistically so I think that's why you get  
46 the correlation between good snow and high wolf harvests.  
47 But I think that makes a difference.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Other questions to  
50 Roger.

1 MR. ANDREWS: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Robert.

4

5 MR. R. NICK: Thank you, Roger. Right  
6 here.

7

8 (Laughter)

9

10 MR. SEAVOY: Oh, okay.

11

12 MR. R. NICK: Looking at your graphs and  
13 earlier, yesterday, I asked if I could hear some glimpse  
14 of what the moratorium on the Kuskokwim and then the  
15 population that I know has grown so expedientially since  
16 the moratorium was entered, and because a lot of people  
17 up there say, because of the fires they're being driven  
18 out, we see them everywhere on the tundra, wherever we  
19 go, you know, on the river, but looking at the lower  
20 Yukon, the lowest Yukon moose survey and then the analogy  
21 of the -- or the purpose of going into a moratorium on  
22 the Kuskokwim was based on the success in Lower Yukon.  
23 And looking at the numbers here, in '94 based on this  
24 survey area, it went from about the 60 to 65 moose to --  
25 well, 670 moose in 2000 which is an increase of about 600  
26 moose, plus or minus, this is six years it went up that  
27 much.

28

29 But the moratorium on the Lower  
30 Kuskokwim, the goal is 2,000 but if you reach -- five  
31 years -- but if we reach 1,000 it could be lifted earlier  
32 than five years.

33

34 I did some calculations based on  
35 twinning, and on the Lower Kuskokwim, at the lowest it's  
36 2002 it's about 70 moose according to the graph, but the  
37 goal is 2,000 moose way up there, and based on the six  
38 year growth rate in twinning, 85 percent twinning rate in  
39 the lowest Yukon against 33 percent twinning rate in the  
40 Lower Kuskokwim it's going to be quite a while before we  
41 reach 1,000 moose. So I think the five years will be  
42 lived up to, you know, in the moratorium to whatever  
43 number that the population increases to at year five  
44 we'll go hunting.

45

46 So is my analogy right about on target?

47

48 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, I guess if you're  
49 asking if your projection is accurate, I think it is if  
50 you're just looking at the moose that we have here right

1 now, and if we only start with 69 or 70, but I think that  
2 the other thing that comes into the picture is that we've  
3 got moose that are still immigrating into our area from  
4 the Yukon side. They had some radio collared moose that  
5 they push collars on in the Togiak drainage and several  
6 of those have moved into our area, you know, if you  
7 extrapolate that you might have as many as 50 moose a  
8 year coming in from the Togiak side.

9  
10 So if you add those other moose into it  
11 and then they have their calves, it's possible that we  
12 could get there earlier, particularly if they start  
13 having calves at younger ages. There's also other moose  
14 up those drainages, like the Fog River has some moose way  
15 up it and Kiseralik River, Kwethluk River has moose up  
16 it, you know, and then there's moose that we're just not  
17 finding that probably will enter into the picture and add  
18 to it. So it might be the five years, I mean that's a  
19 pretty good guess. But I mean whichever number we get to  
20 by five years, we should have a pretty good start on a  
21 moose population that could keep us going.

22  
23 You can see, you know, the moose  
24 moratorium actually ended, I think, it was in '94 in  
25 Mountain Village, but they had to start and it was that  
26 continued adherence to a bulls only hunt that gave them  
27 the opportunity, they had more moose coming in but they  
28 had cows out there now that were dropping calves that let  
29 that population take off. So you can see that most of  
30 that growth actually took place after the moratorium. So  
31 if we get that moratorium on the Kuskokwim, we get a  
32 start down there and then when we do open the season it's  
33 bulls only, that population's going to continue to take  
34 off, too, I think.

35  
36 MR. R. NICK: Mr. Chairman.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

39  
40 MR. R. NICK: Kind of a follow up, Roger.  
41 It's enlightening to hear that the migration could also  
42 help the twinning rate of the birth or increase in the  
43 moose population. And I think that it's true, a month  
44 ago I was in a meeting in Anchorage and I know Henry  
45 Deacon from Grayling, and I've known him for many years  
46 so I sat with him and asked him about moose population,  
47 he says there's none above Holy Cross, none in the Innoko  
48 and that all of the moose are below Holy Cross. So I  
49 think it's enlightening that based on the probables, you  
50 know, that 600 moose increase here, that in five years,

1 you know, the moratorium for the Lower Yukon is five  
2 years, yeah, so the Kuskokwim is the same thing, but  
3 based on the growth estimate then it will be seven and a  
4 half to eight years before we reach 1,000 moose.

5  
6 So I hope that we have more fires so more  
7 moose can come down.

8  
9 MS. HOFFMAN: Um.

10  
11 (Laughter)

12  
13 MR. R. NICK: Thank you.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Nick Andrews.

16  
17 MR. ANDREWS: I was just going to tell  
18 you what I saw a year ago up at Big Ben's Slough up there  
19 below Holy Cross. We ran into calf that was sick, and  
20 then next day we went back and checked it it was dead,  
21 but he had foam around his mouth, we were wondering what  
22 he did or what he ate and we checked it, wolf didn't do  
23 anything to it. I'm still wondering what make him pretty  
24 sick enough to die.

25  
26 Doi. Quyana.

27  
28 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, I don't think I know  
29 the answer to that either, you know, a lung problem like  
30 that, one thing that we have happen, you know, sometimes  
31 animals get in the water and they'll aspirate a bunch of  
32 water and that can get things started, whether it's  
33 bacteria or something, but I really don't -- I'm  
34 guessing, I really don't know.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

37  
38 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
39 Roger, that last slide you showed wasn't hooked on to  
40 there that had the -- I don't need to see it, I guess I'd  
41 like to get copies of it later, maybe it's just missing  
42 from my packet -- or not the last one, maybe it was where  
43 you mentioned the 85 percent twinning rate. And to me  
44 that's absolutely phenomenal, I mean I don't think  
45 there's anyplace I've ever heard of and I've listened to  
46 a lot of them across the country side, a lot of places  
47 are happy to even just have a pregnancy rate at that  
48 level much less getting a twinning rate. Have you ever  
49 heard of anything higher than that, anywhere, other  
50 than.....

1 MR. SEAVOY: I don't know of any that are  
2 really much higher than that except the Togiak drainage.  
3 This is based on flights that I'm making so I'm just  
4 finding as many animals as I can and seeing if those cows  
5 have calves or twins. And the only other place where  
6 they come close to this is in the Togiak drainage. The  
7 thing that's similar in both areas is that these are new  
8 populations that are erupting into unoccupied habitat  
9 that's just basically pristine, so it's like free pizza  
10 night at the dorm, you know, they can eat all they want  
11 and they just get big enough and that's the kind of  
12 twinning rates that we're seeing there, they're  
13 phenomenal, really.

14  
15 One thing that this doesn't include,  
16 though, is because we're -- in most places you don't see  
17 two year olds with calves, and actually at least once  
18 below Mountain Village on the Yukon, I believe I saw a  
19 two year old with twins and I wouldn't have believed that  
20 was possible except on the Togiak drainage the twinning  
21 rate among two year olds is 50 percent. It's not based  
22 on very many animals but it's still there, and that's one  
23 of the reasons that this area is different from others,  
24 is that we're having calves at an earlier age so our  
25 population is able to take off quicker.

26  
27 MR. ROCZICKA: I'd certainly like copies  
28 of that because I am going to be down there talking to  
29 the Board about it in three weeks, and so anything I can  
30 get from you I anticipate I'm going to be getting asked  
31 these questions as well. Have you done anything specific  
32 as far as browse surveys, I know you say observation wise  
33 habitat looks certainly far from being stressed as we  
34 mention in the petition, but have you done anything as  
35 far as actual browse survey?

36  
37 MR. SEAVOY: Yes, we did. There's browse  
38 surveys and sites that we visited twice now, once this  
39 year and once three years ago along the Yukon. We tried  
40 to go back to the exact same spot, sometimes we weren't  
41 able to because of water levels and stuff, but we went  
42 back to basically the same areas and we have gross  
43 descriptions of the plantus and whether the plant in its  
44 life had been unbrowsed, browsed at any point during its  
45 life or have a broomed growth form, and then you look at  
46 the percentage of those in your sample that have broomed  
47 growth forms. The higher percentage that you have the  
48 harder your browse is getting pounded, and you're only  
49 looking at browse species, you know, typical browse  
50 species, so you're throwing out things like, you know,

1 spruce that typically don't -- aren't food.

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: And you weren't seeing  
4 brooming prevalent at all?

5

6 MR. SEAVOY: Say that again.

7

8 MR. ROCZICKA: You weren't extensive  
9 brooming prevalent really at all?

10

11 MR. SEAVOY: Actually there was one site  
12 near High Portage where there was quite a bit of brooming  
13 and moose had walked -- you know, in the winter time  
14 they'll take those sap -- those trees that are about an  
15 inch and a half across, walk over the top of it to browse  
16 off the top and they snap it over and it breaks and there  
17 was a fair bit of that and there was a fair bit of  
18 barking, where they're just scraping along the willows  
19 and, you know, they got teeth marks up the side of the  
20 willows. So there were moose in there at high densities  
21 at least some point during the year.

22

23 But even in areas like that where there  
24 is a lot of moose activity during the winter, you know,  
25 where they're packed in, there's still a lot of available  
26 browse around there and that's something that we didn't  
27 measure was the available browse, but that's important to  
28 realize it, just because a place is broomed like crazy  
29 doesn't mean that there's now browse available.

30

31 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. And just one last  
32 one if I may, through the Chair, how about anything in  
33 the way of bull/cow/calf ratios?

34

35 MR. SEAVOY: Yes, we did some composition  
36 counts last November. Bull/cow ratios were about 36  
37 bulls per 100 cows, which is, you know, if you're not  
38 familiar with looking at that you don't really get  
39 excited until you start dropping below 20 bulls per cow,  
40 so things are looking pretty good there still too.

41

42 MR. ROCZICKA: And that 85 percent  
43 twinning rate, you're looking at 160 calves per 100 cows?

44

45 (Laughter)

46

47 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, it sounds about right.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

50

1 MS. HOFFMAN: Roger, I just wondered with  
2 the moratorium in place and you hope that there's good  
3 response from local communities, how many violations have  
4 you had this fall?

5  
6 MR. SEAVOY: I can address that first by  
7 saying that Fish and Game hasn't had Enforcement Division  
8 for 30-something years so it's only by what I've heard.  
9 And I'm encouraged, actually, I haven't heard of that  
10 many moose that have been taken, you know, going against  
11 this moratorium.

12  
13 You know, it's been hard to get around,  
14 and what I think is going to be the hard time, it's not  
15 hard right now to pass up moose because you're not seeing  
16 a lot, three or four years down the road when there's,  
17 you know, four or 500 moose out here and you're seeing a  
18 lot of moose and the season's still not open and you're  
19 still supposed to pass them up, I think that's going to  
20 be the acid test, that's when it's going to be hard.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: John Hanson.

23  
24 MR. HANSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
25 Roger, when you do your survey do you survey around  
26 Kusulvak Mountain?

27  
28 MR. SEAVOY: Kusulvak Mountain isn't part  
29 of any of our moose census areas. The only time we've  
30 gone over there was just an opportunity to just go check  
31 things out. But I'm hearing and you're probably well  
32 aware of this, that there are moose over there, there's  
33 bears over there and there's more moose up the Black  
34 River. We've got reports of harvest at the Black River  
35 more than you would think, it's amazing to see moose  
36 coming out of places that, you know, we haven't had an  
37 opportunity to really catch up to where these moose are  
38 starting to be by setting up a trend count area or that  
39 sort of thing to really get a good handle on how many are  
40 out there, so, you know, I attribute this moose  
41 population growth in a lot of those kind of areas to just  
42 good compliance by people to just not shooting cows and  
43 that population's just responding.

44  
45 MR. HANSON: Yeah, I think if you take a  
46 survey around Kusulvak you'll see there's a lot of moose  
47 over there.

48  
49 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, in fact, I think  
50 that's a good idea, Bill, we should probably think about

1 trend count areas and maybe something like that in one of  
2 those areas we typically would think of as marginal  
3 otherwise.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

6

7 MR. ROCZICKA: How about Kushunik, do you  
8 go in there?

9

10 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, Kushunik is another  
11 one of those areas that only in the part of it closer to  
12 Pilot Station where we're getting closer to the  
13 Andraefsky count area that, you know, the upper end of  
14 Kushunik Slough is included in the Andraefsky count area,  
15 but the lower end of it doesn't get looked at except  
16 opportunistically. You know, I've flown over it and I've  
17 seen moose but I don't have any way to measure how many  
18 moose are actually increasing down there, except from  
19 harvest reports. And, you know, we get more moose up  
20 there but I don't know if harvest reports in that area  
21 are reliable enough that -- you know, that they get sent  
22 in enough. And I don't know that it's hunter's faults,  
23 you know, I've been looking at trying to get harvest  
24 tickets out to vendors and, you know, part of that's the  
25 Department's fault for not doing a good job and making  
26 sure that people can get their harvest tickets.

27

28 I know Mountain Village -- or not  
29 Mountain Village, Marshall had real trouble with that  
30 this year, with not having the harvest tickets that they  
31 should have.

32

33 So, you know, I guess that's a long  
34 answer to a short question, sorry.

35

36 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, and I was just  
37 following up, John's area triggered me when he mentioned  
38 his. But back to the pregnancy rate and as far as the  
39 calf/cow, what are you getting for a pregnancy rate, do  
40 you think you're getting 100 percent, because, again, to  
41 me, the 85 percent is more like what an overall pregnancy  
42 rate would be for an entire population, do you think  
43 you're getting 85, 90 or even 100 percent, 36 bulls to  
44 100, you should be doing close to that?

45

46 MR. SEAVOY: You know I think there's a  
47 couple things going on with this population that make me  
48 think that our -- you know, typically across the board in  
49 most moose populations, all across the continent,  
50 pregnancy rates are pretty stable at 84 and 85 percent,

1 it just doesn't seem to vary. One of the things, though,  
2 that's different in our area is that we've got these two  
3 year olds dropping calves, so in those areas they're  
4 counting those two year olds as adults and that brings  
5 your pregnancy rates down. The other thing that's  
6 happening in our area is we don't have very many old  
7 animals in that population. I mean it wasn't only like  
8 10 years ago that this population got started, so we  
9 can't have very many old cows.

10

11 Now old cows never stop having calves,  
12 you don't get barren cows unable to have calves, but  
13 older cows occasionally skip a year and we're not seeing  
14 any of that, you know, those cows, no matter how old they  
15 get, you know, humans are the only ones with the luxury  
16 of menopause.

17

18 (Laughter)

19

20 MR. SEAVOY: That's kind of the way I've  
21 said it before.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, but by having these  
26 young animals that are in their prime dropping twins and  
27 being productive, I think our pregnancy rates are  
28 actually higher than that and I think a big part of it is  
29 the young age and the fact that we've got two year olds  
30 dropping calves.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Other questions.

33

34 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray.

37

38 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
39 Roger, about a year or two ago there was relocation of  
40 bears, I don't know what kind of bears they were, either  
41 brown bear or a black bear, I guess, in the McGrath area,  
42 do you might know where they've been relocated?

43

44 MR. SEAVOY: I asked them about that and  
45 they said they didn't send any down here, and that was  
46 what I wanted to hear.

47

48 (Laughter)

49

50 MR. SEAVOY: So, no, bears hadn't headed

1 off in this direction. What I think they typically did  
2 was send them off into -- there's no villages in Unit  
3 21(A), there's hardly any villages in 20(C), you know,  
4 and those are up river north and east of McGrath, and I  
5 think that's where most of them went but I wasn't privy  
6 to where those animals were actually going, except I did  
7 ask them if they were headed down this way and I was  
8 assured that that didn't happen, so that's what I wanted  
9 to hear too.

10

11 MR. ONEY: Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions.

14

15 REPORTER: Harry.

16

17 MR. L. WILDE: Harry.

18

19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I should tie this one  
20 around me.

21

22 (Laughter)

23

24 REPORTER: Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Our agenda D, Unit 18  
27 Lower Yukon Controlled Use area. I'm going to ask John  
28 Hanson and Ray Oney and Joseph Mike and Roger Seavoy and  
29 William Leacock.

30

31 John.

32

33 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.  
34 Chairman. This Controlled Use Area, when we had our  
35 meeting in St. Mary's in March I brought it up but it  
36 never went nowhere. And the Tribal Councils were  
37 supposed to send a proposal to the Department of Fish and  
38 Game, Game Board and also send copies to the Federal  
39 Subsistence Board, I don't know if they did but Joseph  
40 Mike has the map.

41

42 At that time we called it a no fly zone  
43 but I told him it's actually a Controlled Use Area, like  
44 the one at Russian Mission. So if this one was in place  
45 that would help the moose population below Mountain  
46 Village because they just started growing not too long  
47 ago.

48

49 And at the same time I've been hearing  
50 people, that they don't want a winter hunt in that area,

1 it's too premature (ph) if they put a winter hunt, that  
2 would just really kill off the moose if there was a  
3 winter, and too easy of access with snowmachines.

4  
5 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, if you'd like me to  
6 respond to that.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Roger.

9  
10 MR. SEAVOY: The Controlled Use Area,  
11 first of all, if you wanted to make a proposal like that,  
12 I have little doubt that the Department would probably  
13 take no position on that because the Department doesn't  
14 take positions on issues of allocation. It's basically  
15 who gets what, so if you wanted to put in that proposal,  
16 it might not be a bad idea to do it through the Lower  
17 Yukon Advisory Committee, then, you know, you'd probably  
18 have some familiarity with that and, you know, there's  
19 guys here that are on that AC, and that's going to come  
20 up for review next October, or next November 2005 is when  
21 the Board would look at something like that.

22  
23 So you've got some time if you want to  
24 submit a proposal to do something like that.

25  
26 I lost my train of thought.

27  
28 (Pause)

29  
30 MR. SEAVOY: Oh, you mentioned the winter  
31 hunt, sorry it took me so long to get the brain cell to  
32 click again. But there is a winter hunt that's scheduled  
33 for this coming year for bulls only, and I guess I would  
34 compare that to other areas along the Yukon where there  
35 have been winter hunts, including up river from Mountain  
36 Village all the way to Piamiut and in those areas, the  
37 moose population is still growing even though there is a  
38 winter hunt. So I think that, you know, the number of  
39 moose down there is -- I'm pretty sure like the other  
40 areas, I think it's robust enough that it could handle a  
41 winter hunt as long as hunters are careful to shoot bulls  
42 only, and, you know, frankly we're going to get to the  
43 point where we get to the outside of that moose circle  
44 and we might be considering opportunities for additional  
45 harvest beyond that. You know, you can only feed so  
46 many people with one pizza, and you can only feed so many  
47 moose with the amount of habitat down there.

48  
49 We're not there yet, but I think because  
50 of up river, you know, it's working up there, populations

1 are still growing up there, and I think we're going to be  
2 okay with a winter hunt.

3

4 If it turns out that things go down hill  
5 from it, you know, we'll make a change, but I think it's  
6 worth trying.

7

8 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thanks Roger. I  
9 talked with Robert Moore in May about it and he said when  
10 they hold their Advisory Board meeting, that they were  
11 going to go ahead and push for it, and at the same time I  
12 had a letter from Mountain Village Tribal Council  
13 supporting the proposal for Controlled Use Area, and  
14 that's the same one that Joseph Mike has, it's marked  
15 from Pastolik to Mountain to the tip of Askinuk Mountain  
16 (ph) down to Cape Romanzof and along the coast back to  
17 Pastolik. That's the one that Mountain Village Tribal  
18 Council sent me the letter of support and I forgot to  
19 take it when I came.

20

21 MR. SEAVOY: And I haven't seen that  
22 proposal, but like I said I don't think the Department is  
23 going to take any position either way on it because it's  
24 an issue of allocation.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Joseph Mike.

27

28 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chairman. Roger, when  
29 this thing was brought up in St. Mary's I went back to  
30 Kotlik and told them about this Controlled Use Area that  
31 we are proposing. Later on I got a letter from Harry  
32 Wilde and map along with it. It's the same size that he  
33 marked from the river 12 miles east of us at the coast  
34 all the way up to the Mountain Village and to Askinuk and  
35 Cape Romanzof and from Cape Romanzof all the way down the  
36 coast back to that river 12 miles east of us.

37

38 The reason this thing was brought up is  
39 because in the future we don't want to see charter planes  
40 land on the river and hunt or spot a moose from the air  
41 and land and hunt, that's one reason that this thing was  
42 proposed. And when I told some of the members in Kotlik  
43 they supported it and told me I hope it goes through.

44

45 Part of the moose moratorium that's going  
46 on, that moose moratorium, it will help, the airplanes  
47 wouldn't land on the river and hunt moose. If they have  
48 to hunt moose in our area they'll land in Kotlik and from  
49 Kotlik go by boat, they land in the mouth, after they  
50 land in the mouth go by boat and hunt. That's one reason

1 this Controlled Use Area was brought up.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman.

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray Oney.

8

9 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10 During the Lower Yukon Advisory Committee meeting, I  
11 don't think this issue was brought up on the Controlled  
12 Use Area to my knowledge. I don't think there was any  
13 discussion on it.

14

15 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, and that was my  
16 recollection, too, but I think there's going to be  
17 another Advisory Committee meeting that's not just a  
18 teleconference. I think it's going to be one that's  
19 going to be in person, probably next -- I would guess  
20 next spring, and that'd probably be a good time to put  
21 that proposal together so it could be submitted by the  
22 Advisory Committee.

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, Roger, 52 years  
25 ago, first time I go hunting Piapiut area, that's the  
26 time that many moose is just about when it's open like  
27 Lower Yukon, that's just about that many moose was up  
28 there when it's open. Four years after I seen planes all  
29 over, they brought some people from Bethel area and we  
30 hunt up there and they chase the moose into the side of  
31 the river, spotted by airplane, and they had some people  
32 up there killing those moose, the ones they spot. I  
33 didn't like that because no one, no subsistence hunters  
34 couldn't even go out hunting.

35

36 And right now something has to be done,  
37 I'm asking our Council here to support this no fly zone.

38

39 Right now the hunting is open all the way  
40 from Piapiut Slough all the way down to the mouth of the  
41 Yukon, something has to be done. We work hard and try to  
42 grow these moose, if everybody come in and do like that  
43 it's no use to try to expand the moose. People could  
44 come in, yeah, welcome come in, but they have to land in  
45 a village and they could go out hunting. But plane come  
46 in and fly anyplace, it's not really fair to those people  
47 who could not really be able to go out hunting.

48

49 I really -- I think it really hurts that  
50 you go long ways and could not go wherever you want to

1 go. Right now it's open all the way from Piapiut, that  
2 Piapiut is a long ways up there, all the way down to  
3 mouth of Yukon, something has to be done.

4

5 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

8

9 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, actually it would be  
10 timely for this Council to submit a proposal first to the  
11 Federal Board since the deadline is next week, next  
12 Friday, and we could do it as a statement of intent and  
13 have it drafted up before the deadline and by the same  
14 token as far as putting something put forward to the  
15 State side to do, this fall meeting that the Board is  
16 having deals with Southeast issues and come next fall  
17 again is when they get back to Region 5, which is our  
18 region, Western, Northern and Western areas, so you guys  
19 put your proposal together for the State through the rest  
20 of this winter and submit it and we could hopefully get  
21 action on the Federal side this spring and then the State  
22 Board could address it this next fall.

23

24 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

27

28 MS. HOFFMAN: When my dad was alive he  
29 used to fly up that way, you know, for years and years  
30 and years, and I'm not a hunter myself but my brothers  
31 all hunt and I'm not sure what area they hunt in up  
32 there, but that all sounds familiar and they have my  
33 dad's Supercub that my brother's use and we hunt in that  
34 area and we split the moose amongst seven families, this  
35 year we caught two, and I don't know how that would  
36 affect my family. I hope that in five years with the  
37 moose moratorium here that we wouldn't have to go that  
38 far, too, but that was the area that my dad hunted.

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Roger.

41

42 MR. SEAVOY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. One  
43 of the approaches that they've used in other parts of the  
44 state to try to separate aircraft hunters from boat borne  
45 hunters, so that, you know, the guys that are hunting  
46 subsistence are typically in a boat and the guys that are  
47 coming in, you know, from other areas of the state are  
48 hunting by airplane, one of the approaches that they've  
49 done is they've designated corridors along river systems  
50 that are important for villages for hunting as Controlled

1 Use Areas, and whether that is something that this group  
2 would want to consider or not, I don't know. I mean it's  
3 probably not something that you'd want to do because I --  
4 you know, 10 minutes was up a long time ago -- but it is  
5 an approach that they use in other parts of the state.

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Robert, and then John.

8

9 MR. R. NICK: Thank you. Roger, you  
10 know, when we attempted to -- we proposed to have a  
11 moratorium on this Lower Kuskokwim, the effort there is  
12 if the new population increases that we won't have to go  
13 so far to go moose hunting. And I think the analogy is  
14 true for the Lower Yukon. The Lower Yukon went through a  
15 moratorium, now the moose population is increased by 600  
16 moose in six years, and then I'm sure that the hunting is  
17 done closer for some people that are fortunate to see a  
18 moose or got up early in the morning or stay up all night  
19 by a meadow. But it seems only logical that if we're  
20 going to say that the population increases that they're  
21 going to hunt close by, that a Controlled Use Area should  
22 be established, a new hunting area like in the Lower  
23 Yukon like is being proposed by -- in this proposal. And  
24 I believe this is the second time that this has been  
25 discussed by the Council members.

26

27 It seems logical that that area where  
28 moose population and density has increased that there  
29 should be a control on who -- like airplanes, like in the  
30 Johnson River, Piapiut area, it's a no fly zone.

31

32 MR. SEAVOY: I think another thing to  
33 remember within Unit 18 is that so much of the land here  
34 is Federal, and there is a positive C&T determination on  
35 Federal regulations that you have to be a Unit 18  
36 resident to hunt moose on Federal lands in Unit 18, and I  
37 think that's going to provide quite a bit of protection  
38 from what I think you fear, you know, is hordes of  
39 hunters flying in from Anchorage and just dropping in on  
40 top of people.

41

42 And I think guilty pilots like myself are  
43 probably the ones that live in Unit 18 that, you know,  
44 might think of a moose hunt in Unit 18 at some point in  
45 the future. But I don't think that there's a lot of --  
46 you know, this huge bunch of people out there that's  
47 likely to come in. And it's only because of -- you know,  
48 I'm a State worker, but I think it's because of the  
49 Federal protections.

50

1 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chairman.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: John.  
4  
5 (In Yup'ik)  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You'll be next.  
8  
9 MR. MIKE: Yes.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: John.  
12  
13 MR. HANSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
14 I'd like to add a little bit to what Harry just said  
15 about airplanes hurting moose up in Piamiut across  
16 Russian Mission. I was on the Game Board then when we  
17 made that Russian Mission Controlled Use Area. I talked  
18 with Alex Nick and then Alex Nick got his people and the  
19 Advisory Board for the Fish and Game and they made the  
20 proposal and we had no problem passing it.  
21  
22 When I was hunting moose up there, Lester  
23 and Harry were above me, I was below them and that was  
24 the first year I went moose hunt up river, I seen planes  
25 flying around just circling and then they land and then  
26 they start shooting. And one time I got curious and I  
27 walked -- I went down to where they took off, there was a  
28 dead moose, no head, and that's what made that Controlled  
29 Use. Because Russian Mission, they were complaining  
30 about airplanes, even the hunters that came from down  
31 river up to Piamiut Sough, they were complaining about  
32 it.  
33  
34 Okay, and this Controlled Use that Joseph  
35 Mike has, that whole Controlled Use Area is occupied by  
36 village corporations, land allotments, summer camps where  
37 people have little caches or little houses for summer  
38 camp and the support of Mountain Village Tribal Council,  
39 they mentioned all those from Pastolik all the way over  
40 to past Black Rivers, there's camps, land allotments,  
41 14(c) lands. So when I talk to the Tribal president in  
42 Mountain Village on the phone, he told me that if it  
43 comes through that they're strongly supporting it. And  
44 the guy told me about all those, even he had it on his  
45 letter to me.  
46  
47 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chairman.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Joseph Mike.  
50

1 MR. MIKE: My name is Joseph Mike. On  
2 this Controlled Use Area, it doesn't mean that we're  
3 telling the other people from other villages they cannot  
4 hunt, they're welcome to hunt, as long as they land in  
5 the village air field and from the air field they go on a  
6 boat and hunt, not land on the river and hunt or spot the  
7 moose from the air and hunt.  
8  
9 They're welcome to hunt.  
10  
11 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Robert.  
14  
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: I think we're beating a  
16 dead horse here, a long time ago he said the Department  
17 can't do anything about this concern. But Mr. Roczicka  
18 said we have one week in order for this group to make a  
19 proposal to address the concern, the Lower Yukon Advisory  
20 Council for the controlled area, so no matter how much  
21 time we keep telling him we need it, we need it, he can't  
22 do anything about. He said that earlier. And I think  
23 that's what we need to register in our minds, we're  
24 talking to the wrong guy about this.  
25  
26 MR. L. WILDE: 10 minutes.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 10 minutes, okay.  
29  
30 MR. L. WILDE: It's way past 10 minutes.  
31  
32 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray.  
35  
36 MR. ONEY: Yeah, thank you. I don't know  
37 what it's going to take to get that process started to  
38 get Mr. Joe Mike's proposal written up like Greg  
39 mentioned we've got one week here to submit it. So I'd  
40 like to say, you know, whatever it takes to get that  
41 going, let's do it.  
42  
43 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
44  
45 MR. ONEY: Thank you.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
48  
49 MS. HOFFMAN: Couldn't that come from the  
50 Lower Yukon Advisory Council.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think it should be  
2 because we support Lower Yukon, we support Kuskokwim for  
3 Mountain Village because we are together as a Lower Yukon  
4 Advisory Committee.  
5  
6 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.  
9  
10 MR. L. WILDE: We could also make a  
11 motion to have Staff draft up the proposal for us to be  
12 presented to the people within a week. And with working  
13 with Mr. Mike and Greg, you guys, and Alex, they should  
14 be able to get one drafted in an afternoon, I think.  
15  
16 My motion would be that we instruct Staff  
17 with the concurrence of Mr. Mike and Mr. Greg Roczicka to  
18 draft a proposal to be presented before the deadline to  
19 the people that need to get it.  
20  
21 MR. ALOYSIUS: I second the motion.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the  
24 floor on the floor and a second. Discussion.  
25  
26 (No comments)  
27  
28 MR. HANSON: Question.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called  
31 for, I request for a roll call.  
32  
33 MR. R. NICK: Karl Powers.  
34  
35 REPORTER: Robert.  
36  
37 (No comments)  
38  
39 REPORTER: Robert.  
40  
41 MR. R. NICK: Nick Andrews, Sr.  
42  
43 MR. ANDREWS: Yes.  
44  
45 MR. R. NICK: Ray Oney.  
46  
47 MR. ONEY: Yes.  
48  
49 MR. R. NICK: Myself, yes. Harry Wilde,  
50 Sr.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
2  
3 MR. R. NICK: Robert Hanson.  
4  
5 MR. HANSON: Yes.  
6  
7 REPORTER: Robert. Robert.  
8  
9 MR. R. NICK: Mary Gregory.  
10  
11 (No comments)  
12  
13 MR. R. NICK: Philip Moses.  
14  
15 MR. MOSES: Yeah.  
16  
17 MR. R. NICK: Lester Wilde.  
18  
19 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.  
20  
21 MR. R. NICK: Joe Mike.  
22  
23 MR. MIKE: Yes.  
24  
25 MR. R. NICK: Greg Roczicka.  
26  
27 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay.  
28  
29 MR. R. NICK: Bob Aloysius.  
30  
31 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
32  
33 MR. R. NICK: Beverly Hoffman.  
34  
35 MS. HOFFMAN: I'm going to abstain.  
36  
37 REPORTER: Beverly.  
38  
39 MS. HOFFMAN: I was asked how come,  
40 because I'm not clear as to how it's going to directly  
41 affect my family, this proposal.  
42  
43 MR. R. NICK: Mr. Chairman we have 10  
44 yea's, one abstention, total 11 votes.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carries.  
47  
48 MR. R. NICK: Motion carries.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next on our agenda is

1 reports. Reports.  
2  
3 MR. L. WILDE: E.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: E. Well, I'm talking  
6 about No. 11 on our agenda, annual report.  
7  
8 MR. L. WILDE: No, E. Harry, under  
9 wildlife topics we have one more.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh, one more, okay.  
12  
13 MR. L. WILDE: E.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, I didn't write  
16 that down.  
17  
18 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair, I have even a  
19 couple more than that. I forgot who -- after I requested  
20 that this proposal that's going before the Board of Game  
21 be addressed, someone, oh, Bob Aloysius asked to talk  
22 about the boundary between the GMU's 18 and 19 on the  
23 Kuskokwim and I believe he mentioned about the 19(A)  
24 winter hunt, as well, you had concerns.  
25  
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.  
29  
30 MR. ALOYSIUS: You know the reason I  
31 brought these up earlier is because I'm caught right in  
32 the middle. I'm on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional  
33 Advisory Council which includes Kalskag. But the  
34 moratorium in Unit 18 starts in Lower Kalskag. But if  
35 you look at the map it says a straight line from Piamiut  
36 to Lower Kalskag but it doesn't say where that line  
37 should be, on the eastern boundary of the village, right  
38 in the center of the village or on the western boundary  
39 of the village. And in the old days, the boundary used  
40 to be the mouth of the old river, which is about three-  
41 quarters of a mile below Kalskag and it's a straight line  
42 from Piamiut to that place, including Lower Kalskag. And  
43 this is where the confusion is.  
44  
45 If you look at that new map they have,  
46 the line goes from Piamiut to Lower Kalskag and then it  
47 veers almost a 45 degree and cuts off the lower end of  
48 the old river.  
49  
50 So I would like to have that boundary

1 clarified, not only for me but for the people who live in  
2 Kalskag and Lower Kalskag. And the people who come up  
3 from Unit 18 to hunt in 19(A), it's very confusing when  
4 you try to tell them, you know, where the boundary is.  
5 And to top it all off, during that teleconference they  
6 had about the moratorium somebody from somewhere said,  
7 well, the boundary is from Piamit to Kalskag and I tried  
8 to get on the radio to tell them that it's not in Kalskag  
9 but, you know, so there's too much confusion where that  
10 Kuskokwim boundary is on Unit 18.

11

12 So I think whoever is the person to talk  
13 to I'd really love to talk to them about getting that  
14 boundary set and cast in stone, concrete, and after that  
15 I'll talk about something else.

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Roger.

18

19 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, I'm on the hot seat on  
20 this one. I'm as confused about that as you are to tell  
21 you the God's honest truth. And I guess John was  
22 involved with making that, he might know more of the  
23 history of how that got put in.

24

25 But what I would suggest is you probably  
26 know that area as well as -- or better than anybody, you  
27 know, especially anybody in this room, and I would  
28 welcome a proposal from somebody to use definitive land  
29 marks for it and say, hey, this is a confusing boundary,  
30 this is what it should be, here's the proposal, submit  
31 that to the Board of Game and the Federal Subsistence  
32 Board and if it came from a group like this it would be a  
33 heck of a lot better than if an agency puke like myself  
34 just put it on paper and said this is what it should be.  
35 Because if I did it, you know, I'm not going to come up  
36 with the right one.

37

38 I think, you know, maybe you're probably  
39 the best person in here to draft a proposal like that and  
40 come up with something to clarify it for everybody and I  
41 would be glad if you did.

42

43 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

44

45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Could I work with you on  
46 that.

47

48 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

49

50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

1 MS. HOFFMAN: I'd like to make a motion  
2 that Bob Aloysius draft up a proposal that clarifies  
3 those lines where the boundary is on the moose moratorium  
4 in Unit 18.  
5  
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there any second.  
9  
10 MR. ROCZICKA: I'll second it.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second by Greg.  
13 Discussion.  
14  
15 (No comments)  
16  
17 MR. L. WILDE: Question.  
18  
19 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called  
22 for. All who favor say aye.  
23  
24 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.  
25  
26 IN UNISON: Aye.  
27  
28 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chairman, there's --  
29 somebody's trying to.....  
30  
31 MR. ROCZICKA: I'll say aye and  
32 afterwards, after the vote.  
33  
34 MR. ALOYSIUS: And the other item.....  
35  
36 MR. ROCZICKA: Before we get of that  
37 could I speak to the last motion? When you called for  
38 discussion I didn't holler loud enough.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead, Greg.  
41  
42 MR. ROCZICKA: Just as a note to that,  
43 actually you probably got about a year to do that because  
44 it's actually the Board of Game is the only one -- the  
45 Feds, as far as I know have not -- and I think they've  
46 actually taken a formal action that they are not going to  
47 get involved in adjusting boundaries, they left that to  
48 the State, and the Board only takes up dealing with  
49 boundary issues at state-wide meetings which occur every  
50 other year and I'd have to double-check, and I don't know

1 if Tracie, you guys were looking into that, when that --  
2 or if you got around to doing that -- because of the  
3 number of regulations that they got, sometimes they don't  
4 deal with everything at every meeting, they break it up  
5 to every other meeting. So sometimes it can take you up  
6 to four years, like if you want to make a change to the  
7 falconry rules about training and running falcons or what  
8 can go on the clean list as far as import and export from  
9 the State as safe animals and what can be kept as  
10 domestic and what's wild, all these kinds of -- what they  
11 call a clean list, and they come up every other meeting.

12  
13 So it actually can be four years, and I'm  
14 not sure where it's at, whether it will be at the January  
15 of '06 meeting or whether we might be up to the January  
16 '08 meeting.

17  
18 So anyway you have a year to write it  
19 unless you want to do it as an agenda change request  
20 which probably isn't going to be dealt with any earlier  
21 than it would in a regular cycle and it would be for the  
22 next meeting in 06 and even if it was put in as an agenda  
23 change request and the Board did decide to accept it  
24 that's where they'd put it.

25  
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: I mean to me there's such  
27 an avenue like the Fish and Game always has emergency  
28 orders, right?

29  
30 MR. L. WILDE: It needs to be an agenda  
31 change request.

32  
33 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, the Alaska Department  
34 of Fish and Game only has emergency order authority  
35 that's granted to the Department from the Board of Game  
36 or the Board of Fish so for something like this we  
37 wouldn't have any authority to do anything about  
38 something like that.

39  
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: My other concern is I know  
41 all the both the Feds and the Federal hunting regulations  
42 say that there's not going to be a winter hunt for 19(A).  
43 And many of the people up river are not happy with that  
44 because it takes the two villages, Kalskag and Lower  
45 Kalskag at the most six families got a moose this year  
46 because it's impossible to go hunting this year. The  
47 water's been so low, you can't go in the creeks, you  
48 can't go in the sloughs, and you can't hunt up the main  
49 river and many of the people who come down here go up and  
50 they come home empty. I mean sit on the beach in my

1 hunting area up there and I see boats coming and going,  
2 coming and going a lot of them stop by because they know  
3 me, they say, man, we can't even go anywhere because the  
4 water's so low, we can't. We've spent hundreds of  
5 dollars to come up and get our permit and go home and  
6 then spend another 100 or more to get gas to go up to go  
7 hunting and we can't get a moose because we don't see  
8 any.

9  
10 And so I told them, well, you know, we're  
11 having this meeting now and I said I'd bring it up to see  
12 if there was some way that this group can suggest to the  
13 Department of Game to have an emergency order to open  
14 19(A) to bulls only for a winter hunt. And that's what I  
15 promised that I would bring it up and that's what I'm  
16 doing now. So I don't know what the procedure is from  
17 here because this is only my second meeting with this  
18 group. So any help I can get I'd appreciate very much so  
19 I could go back and tell them that this is what I  
20 presented and I hope that something can get done by it.

21  
22 Thank you.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Roger.

25  
26 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, I think I might be in  
27 a better position to answer that concern than anybody  
28 even though I don't manage Unit 19, that's managed out of  
29 the McGrath office, and that's probably the first  
30 direction you would go in. I think the procedure, and  
31 Greg was on the Board of Game, and I think John was on  
32 the Board of Game at one point, and I think the procedure  
33 is to request an emergency regulation and that request  
34 gets made through Juneau and then they look at it and  
35 they decide whether they're going to follow up on it or  
36 not, at that point they might deny it or at that point  
37 they might choose to hold a teleconference and address  
38 the regulation. I think that's the procedure and you  
39 could probably correct me if I'm wrong. But that would  
40 be the first step, is to make that request and do that  
41 through the McGrath office since Unit 19 is handled out  
42 of that office.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

45  
46 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, that is the process  
47 to go through. I did sit on that planning group there  
48 was some of us sitting there that did want to keep the  
49 winter hunt in within December, at least, when the bulls  
50 still had their antlers and people voted it down. They

1 didn't want to have a winter -- the majority said that  
2 they would rather have no winter hunt at all. So that's  
3 what.....

4  
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: But this is a very  
6 different dire situation.

7  
8 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. So, yeah, you can  
9 put in a request for an emergency regulation, petition  
10 the Board to do something. It would actually go in as a  
11 petition and then the Board has 30 days to respond and if  
12 that petition was to go in now they would be hearing that  
13 at their -- they would probably take it up at their --  
14 not probably, they would take it up at their meeting in  
15 Juneau the first week of November.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there anymore  
18 questions to Roger.

19  
20 (No comments)

21  
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If there's not, what is  
23 next on the -- because I didn't write it down.

24  
25 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

26  
27 MR. L. WILDE: Annual reports is next  
28 after this.

29  
30 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, I'm still  
31 waiting for Item F.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

34  
35 MR. L. WILDE: We have an F?

36  
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, and then I mentioned  
38 that Bob had requested an Item G and H as well and he  
39 started with his stuff so I just let him go. I wasn't  
40 running the.....

41  
42 MR. L. WILDE: I'm having a hard time  
43 understanding you over here.

44  
45 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay, well, anyway I have  
46 a handout here of a petition that was put together. I  
47 actually came from the Board of Game meeting of last  
48 spring when -- not last spring, I'm sorry, last fall when  
49 the moratorium was put into place, and along with that  
50 was a proposal from the Lower Kuskokwim and the Lower

1 Yukon Advisory Committees requesting to allow the taking  
2 of wolves by snowmachines to assist in letting the  
3 populations establish and build and the Board, when it  
4 took action last fall, chose to only allow that within  
5 the moratorium area and the Kuskokwim drainage. Robert  
6 Moore was at that meeting and felt essentially kind of  
7 betrayed that it was part of the package that was put  
8 forward, that he had felt was a package, and also felt  
9 that it was something that was needed to help get their  
10 --to keep the population growing as it has. As Roger has  
11 said many times through his presentation, it was the  
12 people, by leaving the cows alone, well, the message that  
13 was given to me, along with that leaving the cows alone  
14 is that people feel that they made a major contribution  
15 by keeping the wolf numbers down as well.

16  
17                   Anyway, with the Yukon -- was essentially  
18 excluded and he asked me if there was anything we could  
19 do to try to get it dealt with and so I did assist him in  
20 writing up a petition and we put it through our  
21 respective tribal Councils, the Board did accept the  
22 petition at its March meeting and scheduled it to be  
23 heard at this upcoming meeting here in November.

24  
25                   So that's where it's at and I intend to  
26 be down there as well and I guess I'm asking at this  
27 point for this Council to put forth either a letter of  
28 support or I would ask your concurrence to bring that  
29 support verbally to the Board of Game.

30  
31                   And I guess I would so move that the  
32 Board does support Proposal No. 68, which includes the  
33 rest of GMU 18 to allow the taking of wolves by  
34 snowmachines, which is allowed all the way through 19(A),  
35 GMU 19(A) and other areas of the state where there's a  
36 concern.

37  
38                   MR. L. WILDE: I'll second that motion,  
39 Mr. Chairman.

40  
41                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion and a  
42 second. Discussion.

43  
44                   MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

45  
46                   MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.

47  
48                   MR. ROCZICKA: If you would, and I spoke  
49 to Mr. Boyd about this after reading the correspondence  
50 policy, responding to either the Board of Fisheries or

1 the Board of Game does not require the blessing of OSM  
2 administration, they do not have to take it and edit and  
3 make sure that they agree with everything that's exactly  
4 worded how they would prefer to see it, this is an item  
5 where Councils can correspond directly with either the  
6 Board of Fish or the Board of Game, so a letter could be  
7 drafted for your signature or, again if you -- at the  
8 pleasure of the rest of the Council, if you would prefer  
9 just your statement of record that this Council would  
10 support and I could bring that forward, verbally, to  
11 represent the Council at the Board meeting.

12

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex Nick.

13

14  
15 MR. A. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
16 Greg, and the Council I would like to go on record and  
17 let the Council know that all of the correspondence  
18 signed by -- or is going to be signed by the Regional  
19 Advisory Council do have to be reviewed by the OSM  
20 leadership team. And I'll go on record, you know, so  
21 that you don't go out of the correspondence policy that  
22 Tom Boyd mentioned today. I just wanted to let you know.

23

24 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, I don't want  
25 to belabor the point but according to Item 7 on Page 251  
26 of that written policy, it says that Councils may submit  
27 regulatory changes or written comments regarding proposed  
28 regulatory changes affecting subsistence uses within  
29 their regions to the Alaska Board of Fisheries or the  
30 Alaska Board of Game directly.

31

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

32

33  
34 MR. L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, for the  
35 record it's Proposal 68-5 AAC 92.080.

36

MS. HOFFMAN: Question.

37

38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's been called  
40 for. I will ask -- request for roll call.

41

MR. R. NICK: Karl Powers.

42

(No comments)

43

REPORTER: Robert. Robert.

44

MR. R. NICK: Karl Powers.

45

(No comments)

46

1 MR. R. NICK: Absent. Nick Andrews.  
2  
3 MR. ANDREWS: Yes.  
4  
5 MR. R. NICK: Ray Oney.  
6  
7 MR. ONEY: yes.  
8  
9 MR. R. NICK: Myself, yes. Harry Wilde.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
12  
13 MR. R. NICK: John Hanson.  
14  
15 MR. HANSON: Yes.  
16  
17 MR. R. NICK: Mary Gregory, absent.  
18 Philip Moses.  
19  
20 MR. MOSES: Yes.  
21  
22 MR. R. NICK: Lester Wilde.  
23  
24 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.  
25  
26 MR. R. NICK: Joe Mike.  
27  
28 MR. MIKE: Yes.  
29  
30 MR. R. NICK: Greg Roczicka.  
31  
32 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.  
33  
34 MR. R. NICK: Bob Aloysius.  
35  
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
37  
38 MR. R. NICK: Beverly Hoffman.  
39  
40 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes.  
41  
42 MR. R. NICK: 11 yes, two absent.  
43  
44 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
47  
48 MS. HOFFMAN: Greg, were you going to  
49 draft that letter for Chairman Wilde's review and  
50 signature?

1 MR. ROCZICKA: I could do that, yes, I  
2 didn't presume which way this Council might go though so  
3 I don't have one prepared.  
4  
5 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
8  
9 MS. HOFFMAN: In his discussion Greg had  
10 also said that he would carry a letter from this Council  
11 saying that we did make a motion and it was seconded and  
12 passed in support of this resolution, this Council. And  
13 he suggested that maybe putting it in a letter form, that  
14 it be signed by the Chair and that he would carry it  
15 forward. And I wondered if the rest of the Council would  
16 concur with a letter.  
17  
18 (No comments)  
19  
20 MS. HOFFMAN: All in favor.  
21  
22 (No comments)  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What's.....  
25  
26 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, I'd like to make  
27 a motion that Greg Roczicka draft a letter from this  
28 Council stating that we did make this motion, that it was  
29 seconded and passed, this letter be signed by you and be  
30 carried to the Board of Game.  
31  
32 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's your motion.  
35  
36 MR. L. WILDE: He seconded it.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second by Bob Aloysius.  
39 Alex.  
40  
41 MR. A. NICK: I just need clarification  
42 on record because these transcripts will be read by the  
43 Staff.  
44  
45 MS. HOFFMAN: It's on record.  
46  
47 MR. A. NICK: Yeah, but do you want the  
48 letter without being reviewed by LT team to go forward?  
49  
50 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes, that's.....

1                   MR. A. NICK: That's the clarification I  
2 wanted to know.  
3  
4                   MS. HOFFMAN: Yes, that's the  
5 clarification as read by Mr. Roczicka.  
6  
7                   MR. ROCZICKA: Yes, and the last sentence  
8 within that same section says that all the -- that OSM  
9 would like a copy of any correspondence on proposals,  
10 that they be forwarded to them, and you will certainly  
11 have a copy of that letter.  
12  
13                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more discussion.  
14  
15                   (No comments)  
16  
17                   MS. HOFFMAN: Question.  
18  
19                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called  
20 for, all who favor say aye.  
21  
22                   IN UNISON: Aye.  
23  
24                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed, same sign.  
25  
26                   (No opposing votes)  
27  
28                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried.  
29  
30                   MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, I.....  
31  
32                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob Aloysius.  
33  
34                   MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, it dawned on me  
35 since we have a scribe, I want to know what we can do to  
36 direct him to write a letter to the Game Board about the  
37 possibility of opening 19(A) for the winter moose hunt.  
38  
39                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.  
40  
41                   (Laughter)  
42  
43                   MR. ALOYSIUS: Since you're going to hand  
44 deliver another letter.  
45  
46                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.  
47  
48                   MR. ROCZICKA: In other words to draft a  
49 petition, is what you're saying.  
50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmatively)  
2  
3 MR. ROCZICKA: It would have to go before  
4 the Board as a petition and then they vote it up or down.  
5  
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Nick, Alex Nick, are  
7 we able to do that or are we hand-tied?  
8  
9 MR. A. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
10 The only thing that the Council would have to be careful  
11 about is that the Council represent -- rather, makes  
12 recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board. There  
13 are some certain policies that the Council has to follow  
14 to let their correspondence go forward. Some  
15 correspondence might be questioned but, you know, as long  
16 as -- as long as it's approved by our Staff, you know, LT  
17 Staff, not by me, but people from our office, you know,  
18 there won't be any problems -- or won't have any problems  
19 with that.  
20  
21 Does that answer your question, Bob?  
22  
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmatively)  
24  
25 MR. A. NICK: One thing that I want to  
26 use an example of is the letter that the Council approved  
27 in St. Mary's and it did not go forward because it went  
28 to the State of Alaska, and there were some questions on  
29 it and, you know, it just only went so far and it did not  
30 reach where it was going to. That's, you know, I just  
31 wanted to caution the Council that, you know, the policy  
32 is -- was explained to you by Tom Boyd today, what you  
33 could do and actually that question should have been  
34 asked while Tom Boyd was here, by the Council.  
35  
36 MR. ROCZICKA: Well, one question along  
37 those lines, if I may, Mr. Chairman.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.  
40  
41 MR. ROCZICKA: I guess where I don't have  
42 a great deal of confidence about once it vanishes into  
43 the mall of bureaucracy, where it ever goes, because of  
44 that review and, of course, has been a major problem by a  
45 lot of Councils that I've heard certainly since my short  
46 time of dealing with it at this level. It does state  
47 within their current policy that they're going to be  
48 responding within five days, but there, again, the letter  
49 that we sent has been closer to five months and we  
50 haven't heard anything back yet.

1 MR. A. NICK: This is Alex Nick again,  
2 and all I could say is that there are some correspondence  
3 that will not go forward. You know, as long as it's  
4 okay'd by our leadership staff that's fine, but, you  
5 know, correspondence should be cleared through them  
6 because of your correspondence policy.

7  
8 MR. ROCZICKA: With the exception of  
9 responding -- either creating a proposal or responding to  
10 proposals of the State Board of Fish or Board of Game, as  
11 Item 7 of that policy.

12  
13 MR. A. NICK: Any Council member could  
14 write a correspondence to anyone, to Board of Game, but  
15 Chairperson signature has to be, you know, before he  
16 signs a letter, it should go through.....

17  
18 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

19  
20 MR. A. NICK: .....the leadership team.

21  
22 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, my get up and go  
23 is going to go pretty soon, I'd like to call a point of  
24 order here to get on with this program.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We still have some more  
27 items that we have to go through, that we need to.....

28  
29 MS. HOFFMAN: I know.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I mean I'm talking about  
32 there's some items that I just find out I didn't write  
33 them down, is there any more on that.

34  
35 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, I think we  
36 covered them. I think we covered them all.

37  
38 MR. ROCZICKA: That's everything I had  
39 from the beginning when the agenda was reviewed and  
40 approved and additions were made.

41  
42 MS. HOFFMAN: Okay.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: They're all covered, uh?

45  
46 MR. ROCZICKA: (Nods affirmatively)

47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, then we go to next  
49 item, 11, annual reports, you'll find them on Page 243.  
50 Alex Nick.

1 MR. A. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As  
2 you remember in St. Mary's there were some revisions made  
3 to the annual report for 2003. Annual report response  
4 could be found on Page -- well, actually on Page 243, I  
5 believe, and that's for your information.

6  
7 The next topic, Item B, we're ready to  
8 submit annual report for fiscal year 2004, and you may  
9 come up with annual report topics at this time.

10  
11 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

14  
15 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair. Alex, those  
16 can't be drafted from these minutes, those topics that  
17 we've been talking about or are these special topics?

18  
19 MR. A. NICK: In your charter -- we will  
20 be going into the Council charter. Some of the annual  
21 report topics could come out from your discussion from  
22 the issues that you've dealt with during this meeting,  
23 and it will be up to the Council which ones you want to  
24 be included in your annual report.

25  
26 I think an example would be issues that  
27 you talked about more than once, you know, maybe over the  
28 past years, on moose issues, for example, or fish issues,  
29 whatever, you know. Does that answer your question Bev?

30  
31 (No comments)

32  
33 MR. A. NICK: Hopefully to clarify annual  
34 report topics, what -- how we work on it, how I work on  
35 it would be that you come up with topics and then I would  
36 draft annual report, and then you would review that.

37  
38 MS. HOFFMAN: Is it possible for this  
39 Council to submit by next week any topics for  
40 consideration?

41  
42 MR. A. NICK: That is possible, yeah, I  
43 could wait that long, and I could wait for maybe few  
44 weeks. There's one consideration though, soon after this  
45 meeting I'm going to do a lot of follow up work and then  
46 I'm going to prepare for your next meeting, which is  
47 going to be February 24 and 25, so I will be very busy,  
48 but I'll have time to draft your annual report.

49  
50 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
2  
3 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, unless there's  
4 some issue that any of our Council would like to included  
5 in the annual report, I would suggest that we be given  
6 two weeks to submit anything to Alex Nick that we would  
7 like to be included as an issue in the annual report.  
8  
9 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.  
12  
13 MR. L. WILDE: And in the event that we  
14 don't, Alex, would it be possible to give us a call just  
15 to see if any of us have anything to be included in an  
16 annual report?  
17  
18 MR. A. NICK: If that's what Council  
19 wants, I could do that. I could poll each and every one  
20 of you and ask you if you want annual report topics. But  
21 this annual report will be drafted and then made  
22 available for your review.  
23  
24 MR. L. WILDE: Thank you.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next on our agenda is  
27 No. 12., this one here.....  
28  
29 MR. A. NICK: Yeah.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: .....all the way  
32 down.....  
33  
34 MR. A. NICK: Yeah.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: .....this whole thing?  
37  
38 MR. A. NICK: Yeah.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So then we go to agency  
41 reports. Come on, come on, come on.  
42  
43 (Laughter)  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yukon-Delta National  
46 Wildlife Refuge.  
47  
48 (No comments)  
49  
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: Nobody.

1 REPORTER: Harry.  
2  
3 MR. L. WILDE: Nobody here.  
4  
5 REPORTER: Harry.  
6  
7 MR. L. WILDE: Your mic Harry.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Togiak National.....  
10  
11 REPORTER: Harry.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Togiak National Wildlife  
14 Refuge.  
15  
16 (No comments)  
17  
18 MR. L. WILDE: Nobody.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No one here.  
21  
22 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chairman.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.  
25  
26 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chairman, there is a  
27 written briefing on Page 275 from Togiak National  
28 Wildlife Refuge.  
29  
30 MR. L. WILDE: We could read that.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, next one is Item  
33 C.....  
34  
35 MR. A. NICK: Already.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: .....already.....  
38  
39 (Laughter)  
40  
41 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
44  
45 MS. HOFFMAN: Under Item C there was  
46 muskox in the -- oh, what happened, you took it down,  
47 muskox in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta was Roger Seavoy,  
48 what happened to that?  
49  
50 MR. SEAVOY: I gave you.....

1 REPORTER: Roger, up here.  
2  
3 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, Mr. Chair, this is  
4 Roger Seavoy. I gave you a written.....  
5  
6 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes, oh, that's good.  
7  
8 MR. SEAVOY: .....thing and that should  
9 cover it.  
10  
11 MS. HOFFMAN: That's good, okay.  
12  
13 MR. SEAVOY: It won't even take 10  
14 minutes.  
15  
16 (Laughter)  
17  
18 MS. HOFFMAN: Okay, good, thanks.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, there's written  
21 reports.  
22  
23 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chairman.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.  
26  
27 MR. A. NICK: Randy Rogers spoke with  
28 Harry Wilde and he wanted me to ask the Council if you  
29 want to go ahead and appoint a member from your Council  
30 to participate in Unit 21(E) moose planning committee,  
31 and here's the letter and.....  
32  
33 MS. HOFFMAN: In what plan?  
34  
35 MR. A. NICK: .....he.....  
36  
37 MS. HOFFMAN: In what plan, in what unit?  
38  
39 MR. A. NICK: I'm sorry, it's.....  
40  
41 MS. HOFFMAN: Wait, wait.....  
42  
43 MR. A. NICK: It's the Alaska Department  
44 of Fish and Game.....  
45  
46 MS. HOFFMAN: Okay.  
47  
48 MR. A. NICK: .....committee for Unit  
49 21(E), moose management working group, I'm sorry, that's  
50 what it is. I have a letter here from Randy Rogers,

1 wildlife planner, to Harry Wilde. He wanted me to give  
2 all of you a copy here and let you decide or rather  
3 appoint a member from this Council to participate in the  
4 moose management working group. It will take me a couple  
5 minutes -- or rather a minute to distribute this and so  
6 we'll go ahead and go on. There is a form on the back  
7 for you to look.....  
8  
9 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
10  
11 MR. A. NICK: .....you know, to.....  
12  
13 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, do we have to  
14 appoint somebody, is -- we do?  
15  
16 MR. A. NICK: It's for your  
17 consideration.  
18  
19 MS. HOFFMAN: If we.....  
20  
21 MR. A. NICK: It's for your  
22 consideration.  
23  
24 MS. HOFFMAN: Oh, for our consideration.  
25  
26 MR. A. NICK: Yeah. Well, actually.....  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, Beverly, I got a  
29 call from that person and I never seen this letter before  
30 and he just told me that there's a letter that Alex Nick  
31 have it, they like to have someone who have experience --  
32 more like experience.  
33  
34 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I have just  
35 the man for you.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Lester.  
38  
39 MR. L. WILDE: Since it's right behind  
40 Robert -- Bob Aloysius back door, I move that we appoint  
41 Robert Aloysius as our rep to moose management 21(E),  
42 management working group.  
43  
44 MR. ONEY: Second.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is that your motion.  
47  
48 MR. L. WILDE: Yes, it is.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second by Greg.

1 MR. ONEY: Right here, Mr. Chairman.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, Ray second.  
4  
5 MR. ROCZICKA: Question.  
6  
7 MR. L. WILDE: Question.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We got to slow down here  
10 a little, I'm kind of mixed up -- yeah, Ray, you second  
11 it?  
12  
13 MR. ONEY: That's correct, Mr. Chairman.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Discussion.  
16  
17 (No comments)  
18  
19 MR. ANDREWS: Question.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called  
22 for, all who favor say aye.  
23  
24 IN UNISON: Aye.  
25  
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Can I vote too.  
27  
28 (Laughter)  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oppose say no.  
31  
32 (No opposing votes)  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.  
35  
36 MR. A. NICK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, for  
37 your information I checked on the travel for this member,  
38 we will be picking up the travel cost for your  
39 participation in the moose planning management group.  
40  
41 (Laughter)  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So we can continue.  
44  
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.  
48  
49 MR. ALOYSIUS: Just for the record thank  
50 you very much for your confidence in me.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, Alaska Department  
2 of Fish and Game, I think muskox.  
3  
4 MS. HOFFMAN: No, we.....  
5  
6 MR. L. WILDE: We took care of that.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: He already take care of,  
9 okay.  
10  
11 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, I just want  
12 to put an appendix to his muskox report. There's two  
13 muskox spotted across Russian Mission, you know, that's  
14 about three days ago.  
15  
16 MR. SEAVOY: Yeah, I got a phone call  
17 about that the other night. I heard that.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, if there's any  
20 more on the muskox.  
21  
22 (No comments)  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Association of Village  
25 Council Presidents.  
26  
27 (No comments)  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Not here. Village  
30 Tribal Representatives.  
31  
32 (No comments)  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No representatives.  
35 Village corporations.  
36  
37 (No comments)  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No corporations. Alex  
40 Nick.  
41  
42 MR. A. NICK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I have  
43 one handout from YRDFA, I'll just hand it out while you  
44 go to the next item.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.  
47  
48 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chair.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.

1 MR. A. NICK: Jill Klein and Darcy King  
2 from YRDFA was going to attend this meeting, but  
3 unfortunately they cancelled their meeting -- rather  
4 their attendance and they wanted me to give you this  
5 Yukon River Salmon Agreement handout. It talks about  
6 history of salmon agreement.

7  
8 Doi.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Alex.  
11 Village Tribal representative.

12  
13 (No comments)

14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Village corporation  
16 representative.

17  
18 (No comments)

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Now, down to 14 Regional  
21 Council business. Alex Nick.

22  
23 MR. A. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
24 Council charter is on Page 279. This is for your view to  
25 see if you'd like to see some changes suggested to it.  
26 That's all it is, you know, for your review.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's it?

29  
30 MR. A. NICK: Yeah. Doi.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Regional Council  
33 appointments. Alex Nick.

34  
35 MR. A. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
36 Number 1, Yukon and Kuskokwim River Coordinating  
37 Fisheries Committee. Robert Nick was one of the  
38 Kuskokwim River Fisheries Committee members, am I correct  
39 on that.

40  
41 MR. R. NICK: I was replaced by Bob.

42  
43 MR. A. NICK: And last winter your  
44 representative, I believe was replaced by Bob Aloysius  
45 and alternate is Mary Gregory for Kuskokwim River.

46  
47 (In Yup'ik)

48  
49 Bob, you were appointed last winter in  
50 St. Mary's to serve as the CFC member for Kuskokwim

1 River, Lower Kuskokwim River.

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: To sit on the Kuskokwim  
4 River Salmon Management Working Group.

5

6 MR. A. NICK: This topic is, you know,  
7 here for your consideration, whether or not if you want  
8 to appoint or keep your CFC members the same. Or -- go  
9 ahead.

10

11 MR. HANSON: Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: John.

14

15 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.  
16 Chairman. Alex, for the Yukon was me and Lester, for  
17 Kuskokwim, Robert Nick and James Charles.

18

19 MR. A. NICK: John, for Yukon you and  
20 Lester are members of CFC for Lower Yukon and Ray Oney is  
21 an alternate. For Kuskokwim, last winter YK Council  
22 appointed Bob Aloysius and Mary Gregory as an alternate.

23

24 If you want to keep your CFC members,  
25 current CFC members, you don't have to do anything. You  
26 don't have to take any action.

27

28 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

31

32 MR. L. WILDE: About that time, you know,  
33 I'm kind of busy during the summer time with the plant  
34 down in Hooper Bay, when it's running, I think it might  
35 be a good idea to replace me on that Yukon Fisheries  
36 Committee and maybe make Mr. Oney one of the members and  
37 put me down as alternate.

38

39 MR. ROCZICKA: So moved.

40

41 MS. HOFFMAN: I'll second.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Discussion.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called  
50 for, all who favor say aye.

1 IN UNISON: Aye.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed say no.  
4  
5 (No opposing votes)  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried.  
8  
9 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, on the same  
10 token it's very difficult for me to be 100 percent active  
11 as a member of the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management  
12 Working Group because I live so far away and our phone  
13 service is horrendous. And, you know, Mary Gregory lives  
14 here in Bethel, so I would -- for the ease of having  
15 someone there from this group available all the time, I  
16 would appreciate you guys putting her in as the -- for  
17 the member, for the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management  
18 Working Group, because it's hard.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.....  
21  
22 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.  
25  
26 MR. ROCZICKA: I believe that was tried  
27 already and even though she lives here she still did not  
28 attend the meetings.  
29  
30 MR. ALOYSIUS: What?  
31  
32 MR. ROCZICKA: I said Mary was appointed  
33 at a prior time that I was there and she still basically  
34 did not bother to attend the meetings, so even with your  
35 bad phone service you have been there more than she did  
36 when she was one of the primary.....  
37  
38 (Laughter)  
39  
40 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
43  
44 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, I would like to  
45 keep it as it is and whenever Mr. Aloysius can make it,  
46 phones permitting and otherwise, I would like to keep it  
47 as it is.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bobby.  
50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.  
2  
3 (Laughter)  
4  
5 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any.....  
8  
9 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, Ray.  
12  
13 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
14 just wanted to say thank you and I will do my best to  
15 serve in that capacity.  
16  
17 Thank you.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Other appointments.  
20  
21 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chairman, that's all.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Now, we get into  
24 resolutions.  
25  
26 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
29  
30 MS. HOFFMAN: I have one resolution I  
31 would like to put forth to the Council for their support,  
32 it's from the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working  
33 Group. I will pass out copies -- I mean the original  
34 I'll submit, please pass this down, and pass out copies,  
35 please take one.  
36  
37 The title of resolution 04-03 Providing  
38 Continued Support Funding for the Kuskokwim River Salmon  
39 Management Working Group.  
40  
41 I would like to read it:  
42  
43 Whereas the Kuskokwim River Salmon  
44 Management Working Group formed in 1988  
45 is an organization which is charged with  
46 the responsibility of managing Kuskokwim  
47 River salmon resources that in its 16  
48 years of existence has become an integral  
49 component of seasonal management  
50 structure; and

1                   Whereas, the KRSMWG is compromised of the  
2                   full gambit of diverse user groups  
3                   throughout the Kuskokwim drainage that  
4                   provides advice to State and Federal  
5                   managers in making well informed,  
6                   comprehensive decisions regarding all  
7                   aspects of salmon harvest for the region  
8                   considered by many to be practically  
9                   essential; and

10  
11                   Whereas, in the past year the Office of  
12                   Subsistence Management provided support  
13                   funding that covered such things as  
14                   teleconference and paperwork costs to  
15                   ensure all members were kept fully  
16                   informed for weekly or sometimes more  
17                   frequent meetings; and

18  
19                   Whereas, the KRSMWG is frequently cited  
20                   as an exemplary model of how management  
21                   decisions should be made that  
22                   incorporates all user groups to provide  
23                   an ongoing forum for public involvement  
24                   and area managers with the best  
25                   comprehensive information available and  
26                   making what are at times highly  
27                   controversial management decisions;

28  
29                   Now therefore be it resolved, that the  
30                   Office of Subsistence Management continue  
31                   to provide support funding through  
32                   whatever dedicated or discretionary means  
33                   available for the Kuskokwim River Salmon  
34                   Management Working Group to continue  
35                   fulfilling its important role for the  
36                   benefit of all individuals and entities  
37                   affected.

38  
39                   Adopted this 1st day of October 2004 at  
40                   the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management  
41                   Working Group Fish Summit in Bethel  
42                   Alaska at which a duly constituted quorum  
43                   of members was present.

44  
45                   I'd like to submit that to you in hopes  
46 of getting a motion on the floor.

47  
48                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Request for this  
49 resolution 04-03, asking for a request?

50

1 MS. HOFFMAN: I'm asking for support of  
2 the resolution.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, support.  
5  
6 (No comments)  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You want a.....  
9  
10 MR. ONEY: If that's a motion I'll second  
11 the motion.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly you need to  
14 support by motion?  
15  
16 MS. HOFFMAN: (Nods affirmatively)  
17  
18 MR. ONEY: And I second the motion.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.  
21  
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: You need a motion.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion.  
25  
26 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.  
27  
28 MR. ALOYSIUS: Nobody's made a motion.  
29  
30 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, if there's  
31 no motion yet, I guess what I would -- if we have the  
32 option to do so and I believe we do, I would recommend  
33 that this Board adopt this resolution as their own  
34 resolution and have Staff leave the heading as it is on  
35 the title, but in the first whereas, say whereas Yukon  
36 Kuskokwim Regional Subsistence Advisory Council, state  
37 who we are and what we do, leave all the rest of the  
38 Whereas' there, put the signature for our Chairman and  
39 have it on our Council letterhead and forward it to the  
40 Office of Subsistence Management.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, that could be  
43 done.  
44  
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: I so move.  
46  
47 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the  
50 floor by Bob.

1 MR. ONEY: Second.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second by Ray.  
4 Discussion.  
5  
6 (No comments)  
7  
8 MR. L. WILDE: Question.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called  
11 for, all who favor say aye.  
12  
13 IN UNISON: Aye.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And opposed say no.  
16  
17 (No opposing votes)  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried.  
20  
21 MS. HOFFMAN: Thank you.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next on our agenda is  
24 Council topics for January 2005 Board meeting. Alex.  
25  
26 MR. A. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
27 Like you did in St. Mary's last winter on March 3 and 4,  
28 you may consider coming up with topics you want your  
29 Chairperson to bring to the Federal Subsistence Board  
30 meeting in January, topics that you want your Chair to  
31 bring forward to the Federal Subsistence Board meeting in  
32 January 2005.  
33  
34 I think a lot of you might remember what  
35 you talked about last winter. The things that you want  
36 your Chair to bring up during the meeting in January --  
37 the Federal Subsistence Board meeting in January 2005.  
38  
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.  
42  
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: Item D, Council topics for  
44 January 2005 Board meeting, you're talking about the  
45 Federal Subsistence Board meeting?  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.  
48  
49 MR. A. NICK: Yes.  
50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: We're not a Board, we're a  
2 Council.  
3  
4 MR. A. NICK: Yes, you are a.....  
5  
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: I need clarification on  
7 that word, Board, are we talking about the Federal  
8 Subsistence Board, not the.....  
9  
10 MR. A. NICK: What this one is, Bob --  
11 what this one is, is this Regional Council come up with  
12 some topics you want your Chair to bring up during the  
13 Federal Subsistence Board meeting in January 2005.  
14  
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay, that was my question  
16 because I don't see us as a Board, we're a Council, so  
17 that word Board really threw me off, and thank you for  
18 the correction.  
19  
20 MR. A. NICK: Okay, thanks.  
21  
22 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Betty -- I mean Beverly.  
25  
26 (Laughter)  
27  
28 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chairman, is there a  
29 deadline for us to submit topics?  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.  
32  
33 MR. A. NICK: If you could come up with  
34 several topics at this meeting it would be good for me to  
35 draft and you, as a member it's possible -- you know,  
36 it's okay for you to go ahead and submit some topics as a  
37 member too but it would be better by this Council to  
38 agree on what topics you want your Chair to bring up,  
39 some issues and concerns you have.  
40  
41 MS. HOFFMAN: As in the annual report,  
42 can these be submitted to you in the next couple of weeks  
43 for review and you handle both at the same time, to save  
44 time when you.....  
45  
46 MR. A. NICK: Yeah.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly, these are  
49 different.  
50

1 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair, if I may  
2 continue, I know they're different. I know they're  
3 different. I just want the same opportunity to be able  
4 to submit after my sleepy head has time to think about it  
5 to submit it to you for the rest of my Council's --  
6 fellow Council people, their consideration.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, that's okay.

9  
10 MR. ROCZICKA: And a question.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

13  
14 MR. ROCZICKA: And this meeting where you  
15 bring the topics forward, is that -- it's not actually at  
16 the Board meeting, isn't it that the Chair's go in a day  
17 ahead of time or something like that and they have a  
18 special meeting to bring up issues of concern for their  
19 respective Councils from throughout the state?

20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.

22  
23 MR. A. NICK: Your Chair would bring up  
24 those concerns or issues that you want him to bring up  
25 during the Federal Subsistence Board meeting, yeah.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next on our agenda, E,  
28 future meeting plan. This one time and location and the  
29 next meeting, we are invited by Philip meeting place for  
30 next meeting at Toksook Bay. Because he could not able  
31 to -- couldn't ask the Board -- I mean Council and invite  
32 them to their village, he asked me to help him to invite  
33 there because he want to invite them. They got a big  
34 meeting place over there, they got two halls, so I  
35 suppose our coordinator will contact Toksook Bay, if the  
36 Council want to have a meeting there.

37  
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

41  
42 MR. ALOYSIUS: I am very much in favor of  
43 that providing they will have fiddle dancing.

44  
45 (Laughter)

46  
47 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

50

1 MR. L. WILDE: Wasn't this meeting  
2 supposed to be held on the Kuskokwim, this one was held  
3 on the Kuskokwim right, isn't our policy that we have one  
4 on the Kuskokwim and one on the Yukon, and isn't it time  
5 for the Yukon village to have the next meeting or am I  
6 wrong or is that just wishful thinking?

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The policy that we had  
9 is this an alternate place. If we cannot have a meeting  
10 in a certain place where you want to meet, we will always  
11 have a meeting here because this is an alternate place.  
12 I think it's that we could not able to have meeting at  
13 where Bob's village, your village.

14  
15 MR. L. WILDE: So the next place would  
16 be.....

17  
18 REPORTER: Lester.

19  
20 MR. L. WILDE: So I thought we were  
21 alternating between Yukon and Kuskokwim villages, but  
22 maybe I'm thinking about somebody else.

23  
24 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

25  
26 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Nick, could you  
27 clarify.

28  
29 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chairman. Yes, Mr.  
30 Wilde, what the Council talked about in the past and how  
31 they held their meetings within the Delta was sometimes  
32 they hold their meetings in other areas like one time  
33 they held meeting over in Quinhagak and also in  
34 Tuntutuliak in Lower Kuskokwim, and a couple of -- well,  
35 several of them too down in Yukon River, it's true that  
36 you do alternate your locations, one meeting you might  
37 meet in Yukon -- we just held our meeting in Yukon River  
38 last winter in March in St. Mary's. And -- but there's  
39 something that the Council needs to keep in consideration  
40 at this point, I think that, you know, there's some  
41 suggestions right now that easier place to meet is in hub  
42 villages or near hub villages to lessen the travel  
43 problems that, you know, you encounter during your travel  
44 but it's up to your Council.

45  
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

49  
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'd like to point out that

1 Bethel is on the Kuskokwim River so we're not out of  
2 order.

3

4 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, can I offer  
5 a comment, please.

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

8

9 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, before there was  
10 ever a Federal Subsistence Board or Regional Subsistence  
11 Council in this area there was a Western Regional Council  
12 made up of the Chairman of the four Advisory Committees  
13 which we have three left that affect this Council and  
14 their policy was to meet in the four different areas,  
15 there was the Middle Kuskokwim, Lower Kuskokwim, Central  
16 Bering Sea and Lower Yukon. In the 10 years that I spent  
17 indentured at AVCP, their policy for their annual  
18 meetings was Kuskokwim, Yukon, Coastal. And we have a  
19 Lower Yukon and Lower Kuskokwim and the Central Bering  
20 Sea still left, so I don't know, to me it seems  
21 appropriate that we would have, along with switching back  
22 between the rivers, that we also include the coast as  
23 well, so I think Toksook fits just fine, our last meeting  
24 was over there in St. Mary's, we were going to have it at  
25 Kalskag, that didn't work out, so we're here in Bethel  
26 and last I checked Bethel was part of the Kuskokwim  
27 drainage, and Toksook is the coast and to me it makes a  
28 good circle as far as getting around to all the people  
29 that we're here to represent.

30

31 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.

34

35 MS. HOFFMAN: I'd like to make a motion  
36 that we accept Philip Moses invitation to hold our next  
37 meeting there.

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the  
40 floor, is there any second to the motion.

41

42 MR. ONEY: Second.

43

44 MR. ALOYSIUS: What is the motion?

45

46 MS. HOFFMAN: To accept.....

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The motion is.....

49

50 MS. HOFFMAN: .....Mr. Philip Moses'

1 invitation to hold our next meeting in Toksook Bay.  
2  
3 MR. ONEY: I second the motion.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second by Ray.  
6 Discussion.  
7  
8 (No comments)  
9  
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called  
13 for, all who favor say aye.  
14  
15 IN UNISON: Aye.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed say no.  
18  
19 (No opposing votes)  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried. Next  
22 meeting Toksook Bay.  
23  
24 (In Yup'ik)  
25  
26 MR. MOSES: Okay.  
27  
28 MS. HOFFMAN: Fiddle dance.  
29  
30 MR. HANSON: Alternate.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think we need  
33 alternate place, this place is always alternate, that's  
34 what we agree with one time.  
35  
36 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah, if we can't get of  
37 here then we're not going anywhere.  
38  
39 MS. HOFFMAN: All right, fine.  
40  
41 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.  
44  
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, if Bethel is an  
46 alternate, please let's select a site away from traffic.  
47 Because during the morning it's really bad, especially  
48 when it's vibrating through the windows, I mean those big  
49 trucks go back and forth here, it's really -- it's not  
50 good, thank you.

1 MS. HOFFMAN: Next.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, let's go to --  
4 Alex.  
5  
6 MR. A. NICK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, on Page  
7 283 there's a calendar indicating that you agreed to meet  
8 on February 24 and 25, you still want to meet on 24 and  
9 25 at Toksook Bay -- February 24 and 25 in Toksook Bay.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's winter meeting?  
12  
13 MR. A. NICK: Yeah.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, winter meeting you  
16 could see it on your booklet there, 283, Page 283. You  
17 could find the winter meeting calendars at Page 283.  
18  
19 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
22  
23 MS. HOFFMAN: Did we already decide on  
24 that, I thought we did, can we go on to fall 2005.  
25  
26 MR. HANSON: It's the very last page.  
27  
28 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chair, under E-1-B,  
29 fall 2005 calendars, found on 284, I have updated  
30 calendar as of yesterday so the calendar that you have in  
31 your book has changed and I do have the new dates of  
32 other Council members [sic] listed in this calendar, so  
33 let's take a minute and look at these.  
34  
35 (Pause)  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex, I couldn't tell  
38 you of this, it's October 21 and that's the month of -- I  
39 don't know this is a completely different -- September,  
40 October, it's not a winter calendar.  
41  
42 (Laughter)  
43  
44 MR. A. NICK: We've already taken care of  
45 2005 winter, you just voted to hold a meeting on February  
46 24 and 25 in Toksook Bay for 2005 winter. This  
47 calendar's for fall 2005 and the meeting window,  
48 according to this calendar is from August 29 through  
49 21st, 2005, you may select any date you want to meet  
50 using this calendar.

1 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
4  
5 MS. HOFFMAN: Are you saying that we have  
6 to do it between August 28 and September -- and what was  
7 that October 21?  
8  
9 MR. A. NICK: That is correct, Bev.  
10 Meeting window for fall 2005 Advisory Council meetings  
11 begins August 29th and ends on October 21st.  
12  
13 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.  
16  
17 MR. L. WILDE: The.....  
18  
19 MR. A. NICK: I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I was  
20 looking at the dates up there, it actually -- meeting,  
21 yeah, it does close on October 21st.  
22  
23 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman,  
24 looking at this calendar, how about October 13th and  
25 14th.  
26  
27 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.  
28  
29 MR. L. WILDE: October 13th and 14th.  
30  
31 REPORTER: Lester.  
32  
33 MR. L. WILDE: I'm sorry, October 13th  
34 and 14th, and that would be about exactly a year from  
35 now.  
36  
37 MS. HOFFMAN: Was that a motion?  
38  
39 MR. L. WILDE: I'll make it a motion.  
40  
41 MR. ROCZICKA: And I'll second the  
42 motion. Actually, Mr. Chairman, if I may, those dates  
43 work really well, because that immediately follows the  
44 AVCP convention and it's the week before AFN, so as  
45 issues come up it's a good point in time to be able to  
46 bring forward, if we need to or would like to, you know,  
47 issues that arise and have them ready to go for other  
48 actions with other entities.  
49  
50 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly, what'd you say?  
2  
3 MS. HOFFMAN: I don't know if you had  
4 heard the motion on the floor and it's been seconded.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the  
7 floor and seconded, meeting date would be what Lester?  
8  
9 MR. L. WILDE: 13th and 14th of October  
10 2005.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 13 and 14 October 2005.  
13 Any discussion.  
14  
15 (No comments)  
16  
17 MR. ONEY: Question.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called  
20 for, all who favor say aye.  
21  
22 IN UNISON: Aye.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed, say no.  
25  
26 (No opposing votes)  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried.  
29  
30 MR. HANSON: Mr. Chairman.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, John.  
33  
34 MR. HANSON: Did we vote on February  
35 meeting in Toksook Bay.  
36  
37 MR. L. WILDE: That was last year, we  
38 already did that.  
39  
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: We already did that.  
41  
42 MR. HANSON: What?  
43  
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: We did it in spring -- the  
45 spring.  
46  
47 MR. HANSON: Because we just voted for  
48 October.  
49  
50 MR. L. WILDE: We already voted.....

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: We already voted for the  
2 winter meeting in St. Mary's to be in.....  
3  
4 MR. HANSON: Oh, okay.  
5  
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: .....February 24 and 25 in  
7 2005.  
8  
9 MR. HANSON: Okay.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex Nick.  
12  
13 MR. A. NICK: Yeah, the next one is  
14 topics, issues for your meeting.  
15  
16 MR. ALOYSIUS: Which one?  
17  
18 MR. A. NICK: For this winter and also  
19 for fall 2005. If you have additional topics that you'd  
20 like for me to -- or for us to put on the agenda.  
21  
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, we're still  
23 working on time and location. We have the time but we  
24 haven't decided the location for the October 2005  
25 meeting.  
26  
27 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
30  
31 MS. HOFFMAN: Is that something we can  
32 discuss at our March meeting -- at the February meeting,  
33 we know that it's going to be on the Yukon, can we  
34 discuss that at our March meeting?  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think that's  
37 appropriate to do that, not right now, it's too far away.  
38 Alex.  
39  
40 MR. A. NICK: Yeah, for fall 2005 meeting  
41 you could leave it as to be announced and that way, like  
42 Bev suggested you can decide where you want to meet in  
43 fall 2005.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Can we continue.  
46  
47 MR. A. NICK: That's what you wanted?  
48  
49 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes.  
50

1 MR. A. NICK: So, Mr. Chair, my  
2 understanding is that the topics and issues will be  
3 brought up during the winter meeting; is that correct  
4 Bev?  
5  
6 MS. HOFFMAN: (Nods affirmatively)  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, that's right.  
9  
10 MS. HOFFMAN: Is that the topics for the  
11 winter meeting, topics and issues, I think you can -- Mr.  
12 Chair.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.  
15  
16 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
19  
20 MS. HOFFMAN: As it was done before, I  
21 would like Alex to contact us to see if there are topics  
22 that we want to see on the winter 2005 agenda.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That will work. Alex  
25 could get a hold of everyone.  
26  
27 If you don't have any more.....  
28  
29 REPORTER: Harry.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If you don't have any  
32 more issues and topics we are now going -- on our agenda  
33 number 15, closing comments, Council members.  
34  
35 MS. HOFFMAN: Mr. Chair.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Beverly.  
38  
39 MS. HOFFMAN: I would just like to start  
40 by saying this was a very grueling meeting, but I  
41 appreciated being here. I would like to say, though,  
42 that I feel that this Council is deserving as much  
43 comfort as possible, that we are supplied water and tea  
44 and snacks when we have to go this long, and that it not  
45 come out of Alex's pocket. I feel that just coffee is  
46 not adequate to keep us functioning at all.  
47  
48 But thank you so much for being patient  
49 with me.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Other Councils.

2

3 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray.

6

7 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd  
8 like to thank all the Regional Council Advisory's  
9 participation in this meeting and I also feel that it is  
10 pretty long, although the agenda has been long. You  
11 know, I've learned a lot since I became involved in this  
12 Council, especially from our elder Council member, and  
13 you're all my Council members, with the exception of  
14 maybe Beverly and Greg. And also for Robert Nick, and I  
15 thank you very much for all your well thought out  
16 comments, you know, I've learned a lot from you since  
17 I've been on this Council, and I hate to see you go.

18

19 MR. R. NICK: Thank you.

20

21 MR. ONEY: And, you know, I'd like to see  
22 more people from the public participate in this process.  
23 You know, we've seen a lot of agenda items that we went  
24 through that there was no participants. I know Bethel  
25 has a radio station that, you know, they broadcast out to  
26 the public about this meeting that's taking place here in  
27 Bethel.

28

29 And I look forward to another three more  
30 years of working with this Board and I appreciate the  
31 appointment and I'm thankful for that. I also welcome  
32 the new RAC members.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Other Councils. Greg.

37

38 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
39 I appreciate you guys putting up with having a petty  
40 bureaucrat back on the other side of the table with you  
41 instead of hollering from the audience, it is a tough  
42 job, which I have a lot more to say, I get talked out  
43 after awhile.

44

45 I'd just remind everybody to go vote on  
46 two specific topics, ballot initiatives that are in front  
47 of people, and the experiences that I've had in the last  
48 ones is that a lot of times there's confusion and also a  
49 plug for you to pass on to your people, that Ballot  
50 Measure No. 1 expands the initiative process so that Bush

1 in rural Alaska actually gets a broader representation,  
2 it requires people who want to put initiatives or pass  
3 initiatives to go out throughout the state rather than  
4 just getting one signature from any area of the state and  
5 then gather all the rest of their signatures at Wal-Mart  
6 or off the street in Anchorage, so I'd urge you to let  
7 people know that that's a really good one to vote for,  
8 Ballot Measure 1, and that's something we can do to  
9 support rural Alaska and we're here to do that and for  
10 our resources as well.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 MR. ANDREWS: Mr. Chairman.

15

16 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman, Nick Andrew

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Nick.

19

20 MR. ANDREWS: (In Yup'ik)

21

22 INTERPRETER: My term is up and I want to  
23 thank you all for my participation and inclusion with  
24 your body.

25

26 I encourage you to continue your efforts  
27 to work and cooperate together and to think in one mind  
28 and although we may not agree in some cases it might be  
29 best not to -- to think things over first and to speak  
30 wisely rather than jumping up and showing your anger. I  
31 think it is essential to set those feelings aside and  
32 work peacefully together.

33

34 And I thank you for your inclusion when I  
35 am here at these meetings. I really enjoy myself and  
36 although I don't speak things as eloquently as I would  
37 like to I appreciate my membership with you.

38

39 (Applause)

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Phillip.

42

43 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

44

45 INTERPRETER: Like the previous speaker,  
46 I have participated and I am grateful for my  
47 participation. I like the way we rotate between  
48 villages. I am a little embarrassed at times that I  
49 don't speak English or read, but at times that is an  
50 embarrassment for me, but I work to the best of my

1 ability and everything that I speak -- speak of, I omit a  
2 lot of things and as you are speaking I understand a lot  
3 of what is being said.

4  
5 In my village, with my membership, I've  
6 considered that your body has not come to my village or  
7 to my area and with that in mind I wanted to invite you,  
8 through your Chair, I am very grateful -- I was uncertain  
9 of when exactly what the date was but I thought it was  
10 next fall but it's in February, it's coming up. I enjoy  
11 your company and your -- I need to encourage you to not  
12 miss too many meetings or to be absent because we will  
13 work better as a full body.

14  
15 When I go to other meetings, some  
16 committees or boards or meetings start out with a large  
17 body but they dwindle fairly quickly, even before the  
18 meeting is over, that is not good practice. I encourage  
19 you to, in your membership, to be a full body and that  
20 has been the case with this Council, and that is what I  
21 have to say.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, thank you, Philip.  
24 You may look at yourself and ask you don't understand  
25 hardly and all that, you are the powerful person more  
26 than us because you know subsistence all the way even the  
27 White man really come to this area. A lot of time that I  
28 understand and I never say anything, once in a while you  
29 ask me, I don't understand, you may not understand much  
30 in English like me, but you know a lot of subsistence way  
31 of life some things that we don't know. We need elders.  
32 We will be hopefully continue you be with us as long as  
33 you could able to be on Council. So I could talk in  
34 English but I want to make sure that rest of our Council  
35 understands.

36  
37 Is there other Council that want to say  
38 something.

39  
40 John.

41  
42 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.  
43 Chairman. I just want to say a few words. I think at  
44 this meeting we done a lot with our Council here.

45  
46 And when Tom Boyd was here I was looking  
47 at him, every so often I would look at him and he would  
48 start nodding his head so that shows the big guy on the  
49 Federal Board, he has agreed with us, so -- and as far as  
50 I've been on this Council, this Council is working on the

1 subsistence way of life to improve it, that's what we're  
2 doing, rather than not improve it. Every time we meet we  
3 improve the subsistence way of life for our Native people  
4 in the Calista region. And if we meet with Western  
5 Interior, Eastern Interior, we're helping them to improve  
6 their subsistence way of life. We knock heads with them  
7 a little bit but that's just during the meeting, and  
8 we're -- when we get done with the meeting, we're friends  
9 again. To every meeting I've been to, Fish Board, Game  
10 Board, we knock heads on some proposal, after we're done  
11 we're back to friends again. And I agree the way the  
12 Councils meet or the Fish Board meet or the Game Board,  
13 so I think we've gone a long way even with our new  
14 members that joined last winter and then this year again.  
15 And I want to congratulate you for joining the Yukon-  
16 Delta Regional Advisory Council.

17

18                   Quyana.

19

20                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Other Councils.

21

22                   MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

23

24                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.

25

26                   MR. ALOYSIUS: First of all, I thank all  
27 of you for putting up with me, I know I get a little bit  
28 impatient because I'm still growing up. But my special  
29 thanks to our elder who has a way of just calming  
30 everybody down and truly reminding us of why we're here.

31

32                   I want to especially thank Tracie for  
33 sticking with us.

34

35                   MS. KRAUTHOEFER: Thank you.

36

37                   Where's everybody else? Really, you  
38 know. Her, she has no choice, but, you know, thank you.

39

40                   (Laughter)

41

42                   REPORTER: Thank you.

43

44                   MR. ALOYSIUS: But just a couple things,  
45 it really bothers me when the non-knowing people use the  
46 words, culture, heritage, tradition, customs and values,  
47 like they're all the same and they are not. To us the  
48 Yup'ik people our culture is our way of life, our  
49 heritage is what we've inherited from our ancestors and  
50 our traditions are what we do on an annual or cyclic

1 basis, our customs are what we do every day regardless of  
2 what the situation may be, and the values are things that  
3 we learn from our ancestors, through our grandparents and  
4 demonstrated by our living elders. So please be very  
5 careful when you use those words and make sure you use  
6 them in the appropriate way, don't just say tradition and  
7 you think that you're talking about -- the thing that  
8 really bothers me sometimes is traditional knowledge, but  
9 that's so limited. Traditional knowledge, what tradition  
10 are we talking about, like when you talk about Native  
11 indigenous knowledge, then you're talking about us,  
12 Native people, so be very clear on how you use those  
13 words.

14  
15                   Because, you know, I grew up in a very  
16 different way, honoring my elders because I was raised by  
17 my grandmother from the time I was six months old until  
18 she died when I was 14, and growing up with her,  
19 everywhere we went, whether it was in a fish camp, fall  
20 camp, winter camp or spring camp, where do you think she  
21 brought me, old people. So by the time I was three years  
22 old I was like a little old man. And through her I  
23 learned the way of life, the real way of life (In  
24 Yup'ik). It's unfortunate that from the time I was 14  
25 until I was 44 I got really messed up and I thought that  
26 I was going to be something that I wasn't, but anyway I'm  
27 reminded of who I really am when I see elders and I look  
28 at myself in the mirror, I'm going to be an elder some  
29 day when I grow up, mentally, emotionally and  
30 spiritually, and I always look to people far ahead of me,  
31 that they are preparing the road for me. And I want to  
32 make sure I follow the road in a good way.

33  
34                   And I hope that we all think about that  
35 because we are on the road, we're on the road of teaching  
36 our young people how to love, honor and respect all of  
37 creation, especially this land that we take so much for  
38 granted every day and all the animals that live on it and  
39 in the water.

40  
41                   Thank you.

42  
43                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other Councils.

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

46  
47                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester.

48  
49                   MR. L. WILDE: I move that we adjourn  
50 this meeting.

1 MR. R. NICK: Second.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Before we adjourn, I  
4 would like to say something myself. I want to thank you  
5 that stick with me on these two days, that once in a  
6 while I have a little problem, more big problem sometime,  
7 but still you don't leave me sitting alone. I want to  
8 thank you, your supporting me by your talks, by your  
9 saying, while I try to do -- take care of this meeting  
10 right there, try to chair. I do best of my ability  
11 sometimes.

12

13 I want you to know why I always continue  
14 to be here, Regional Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence  
15 Regional Council. I grew up a different way I think from  
16 some of you. I think when I was about 14, my parents  
17 died. And my brother was about four, three years old.  
18 So when both of my parents died, I went to the school one  
19 time and tried to go down to Hooper Bay and tried to get  
20 a few tom cods. There were about three of us. I got --  
21 five of us. I got two tom cods. And hooking and all  
22 day. When I went home, I cook it, because my daddy  
23 couldn't stand up. My sister and brother, they were  
24 really hungry, they were crying. So after they eating  
25 that soup and small tom cods, I cut them in half and they  
26 fall asleep.

27

28 The next day when I go to school, the  
29 teacher ask me, why you didn't go to school yesterday. I  
30 told them that because my family, my sister and brother  
31 don't have nothing to eat. He said, no, you lie, because  
32 you are lazy to go to school. He turned me around and  
33 put me on a table like this, put my pants down and hit me  
34 with a ruler five times. I didn't say nothing. Only  
35 thing that I was saying is to myself. If I grow up, I  
36 will not afraid of nobody that go against the  
37 subsistence.

38

39 Since then, I am on a subsistence, I've  
40 been doing it so other children wouldn't be treated like  
41 us. That's why I'm here. That's why I'm sitting here.  
42 Because every time when I do something and talking about  
43 some food and all that, always ring in my ears crying,  
44 hunger. That's the reason that I always try to be  
45 sitting here, and try to do my best. Thank you.

46

47 Lester, now you could say something.

48

49 MR. L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I move  
50 that the meeting be adjourned.

1 MR. R. NICK: Second.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the  
4 floor and a second by who?  
5  
6 MR. R. NICK: (Raises hand)  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Robert. To adjourn.  
9 All who favor say aye.  
10  
11 IN UNISON: Aye.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oppose say no.  
14  
15 (No opposing votes)  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried. We're  
18 adjourned.  
19  
20 (Applause)  
21  
22 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

