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YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA FEDERAL  
SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

VOLUME II

Kalskag, Alaska  
March 21, 2008  
9:00 o'clock a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Lester Wilde
- John Andrew
- James Charles
- Mary Gregory
- Edgar Hoelscher
- Raymond Oney
- Greg Roczicka

Regional Council Coordinator, Alex Nick

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Kalskag, Alaska - 3/21/2008)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Good morning ladies and gentlemen, it is now exactly 9:00 o'clock, let's call the meeting back to order. Today is Good Friday and I think we all need to get home so we'll move along as fast as we can, so get your program started now, and we'll open up. Go ahead.

MR. THALHAUSER: Hello, Mr. Chair. My name is Mike Thalhauser. I'm the fisheries partner biologist with the Kuskokwim Native Association. Just kind of a, I guess, a background on me, I started working with the Kuskokwim Native Association last summer working up at the Salmon River weir on the Aniak and then got hired on as the partner's biologist in November. So I'm still kind of getting used to a lot of these projects, we've got a lot going on and so I'm learning a lot every time I give this, so excuse me if there's something that I'm not able to answer, but I should be able to go through most of it. And I'm not sure exactly what the past partner's biologists have presented to you and I think right now we're trying to give a little more of the results rather than just a general idea of what we're doing because I think that's what we've sort of been presenting in the past. So the handouts that I've given you are four of our main projects that we're working on, and just sort of an idea of where they are and what sort of data that we've gotten to this point.

So with that, I'll start. Like I said I'm with the Kuskokwim Native Association. Here's a picture of our janitor, that was here yesterday.

(Laughter)

MR. THALHAUSER: And just a general, if there's any new people here, an overview of KNA and the services we provide. We provide education and Training service, realty services Social Services, energy assistance, housing improvement program, an elder's assistance program and a fisheries program that has been started up with the Partner's Program, and that's sort of just a general overview of KNA.

1                   Our fisheries department's mission  
2 statement is to actively participate in managing and  
3 conserving Kuskokwim area fisheries and resources to  
4 insure long-term sustainability of the subsistence way  
5 of life for our members.

6  
7                   And we represent, I believe 12 villages  
8 right now along the middle of the Kuskokwim River.

9  
10                  The first project that I'm going to go  
11 over with you is our chinook radiotelemetry and run  
12 reconstruction program -- project. There's sort of two  
13 parts to this, one is to look at the spawning  
14 distribution of the king salmon and to look at the  
15 population size and later I'll get into more on what  
16 we're doing as far as run reconstruction and looking at  
17 what the population size has been over the past years.

18  
19                  As far as the project goes, we tag fish  
20 at the fishwheels just up stream of Kalskag and we've  
21 been doing that from May 31st to August 14th and as of  
22 this year we're going to be doing the same sort of  
23 project but with coho and so we'll be starting that a  
24 little later, so it'll be July 18th through September  
25 8th, or at least it's scheduled to do that so far.  
26 There's a couple pictures of the fishwheels and some  
27 seining going on. And that's where we capture the  
28 salmon coming up the river and put radiotags in them.  
29 And there's a picture of -- the one on the left, I  
30 don't know if you can really see it but it's got wires  
31 coming out of its mouth there, it's got a radiotag in  
32 it and the other one's just got a T-tag in there. And  
33 this is another picture for sockeye, which we also  
34 tagged with another project at the fishwheels.

35  
36                  After we tag them we use a few  
37 different ways of finding out where they're going and  
38 how fast they're going up the river. We use our  
39 radiotracking with airplanes and we also have fixed  
40 receiver stations along the river that we use for this  
41 project and some others that I'll talk about.

42  
43                  Then these are our radiotelemetry  
44 surveys, and basically the aerial flights and this is  
45 July 2007, and if you can see all the little yellow  
46 dots there where we got returns from fish, either  
47 migrating up to their spawning grounds or actually in  
48 their spawning grounds, and this was the same flights  
49 but in August of 2007. So each one of those red dots  
50 is basically a fish. And these are the main sort of

1 spawning areas, the Aniak and the Holitna, and by  
2 McGrath there's a few.

3

4                   As far as monitoring projects, prior to  
5 2006, with this project we started out with four weirs  
6 to find out -- to capture these tags they were putting  
7 in the fish, and finding out how many of them are going  
8 to which drainages, and those were the George,  
9 Tatlawiksuk, the Taktona and the Kogrukluq weir, and  
10 KNA's been a cooperater on the George and the  
11 Tatlawiksuk. And then in 2006 and 2007 we added a weir  
12 on the Salmon River up the Aniak to get rid of any bias  
13 as far as a substantial number of fish going up the  
14 Aniak to spawn so from 2002 to 2005 we just had these  
15 four weirs and really didn't know anything about the  
16 Aniak, and then added the Salmon weir, and we were we  
17 able to encompass a larger area for the population  
18 estimates. And each one of those little posts there  
19 are tracking stations that are fixed receivers.

20

21                   And when we did put the Aniak in we  
22 realized that we needed to tag a few more fish that  
23 were actually specifically going up the Aniak, so we  
24 started tagging at the Aniak River sonar site, which is  
25 probably about eight or nine miles up the Aniak to get  
26 a better idea of how many fish were going up there and  
27 other than the sonar operations that had been going on  
28 in the past, we did some beach seining and tagged some  
29 fish there.

30

31                   There's a few pictures of our  
32 technicians working up there.

33

34                   And this is the Salmon River weir that  
35 we had up on the Aniak.

36

37                   And this is a receiver that we have at  
38 each weir that basically detects the fish with the  
39 radiotags coming up the stream and going past the fish  
40 weir so that we can use our actual counts that as we  
41 physically watch the fish passing through and find out  
42 exactly how many of them were tagged and when they went  
43 through.

44

45                   As far as results for this project, it  
46 was from 2002 and 2007 and you can see with the -- in  
47 2006 and '07 there's -- we have more data since we had  
48 the Salmon River there, we can actually give a  
49 population estimate of all the fish above Kalskag where  
50 before that it was just up stream of Aniak. So in

1 2006/07, I'll just go over the last couple -- the  
2 estimates above Kalskag were 233,000 and 121,000 kings.

3  
4                   And most of this -- I think a lot of  
5 this data is in the packets that I gave you also, and  
6 this is just a bar graph also kind of showing the same  
7 thing but with a few specific drainages in there, the  
8 main ones where we have spawning populations of kings.

9  
10                   And the second part of this project was  
11 -- and it was really a main part of the project, that  
12 prior to this we had basically an index of how many  
13 fish have been in the Kuskokwim River, and that came  
14 from either the test fisheries or aerial surveys that  
15 we've done and weir counts that we've had and the main  
16 part of this project, or one of the main, is to take  
17 this data, now that we have, from 2002 to 2007, and  
18 also I forgot to mention, our subsistence surveys that  
19 we do post-season to find out how many fish the local  
20 people have caught around here. We've had that data  
21 back to about, I think, 1976, so with this, with these  
22 hard numbers that we have from 2002 to 2007 we can work  
23 together and put a model together to take these numbers  
24 and apply them to prior years so that we know how many  
25 fish came back in the past, you know, 25 or 30 years or  
26 so and with that we can look at management decisions  
27 that have been made over that time and how -- whether  
28 they've worked or whether they haven't worked and use  
29 it, hopefully, for a tool for future management.

30  
31                   The next project I'll talk about is the  
32 red sockeye salmon radiotracking and this is pretty  
33 similar to the chinook as far as tagging in the same  
34 spot here, just up stream of Kalskag and then using  
35 either flights or fixed receivers to find out where the  
36 fish are and when. And the objectives of this study  
37 were to look at the spawning distribution of sockeye,  
38 to look at run timing, the importance of river type  
39 versus lake type spawning aggregates of sockeye,  
40 habitat use and seasonal migration of the juveniles and  
41 to compare sockeyes, smolt size and growth among  
42 different tributaries and habitats.

43  
44                   And what sparked this study was the  
45 general sort of lack of knowledge on the ecology of the  
46 sockeye in the Kuskokwim and a sort of push of a  
47 possible increase in commercial harvest of the  
48 Kuskokwim, which has been pretty modest to this point.  
49 There's been a few years where it's been pretty  
50 significant and the subsistence fishery is pretty

1 steady, I think it's about 40,000 sockeye a year that  
2 are harvested, subsistence, on the Kuskokwim. But just  
3 a general push for more commercial catch sort of  
4 sparked us to find out exactly what's going on with the  
5 salmon before we start letting a commercial move on and  
6 catch a few more fish.

7

8                   So like I said we use the fishwheels  
9 here in Kalskag to do the same sort of tagging and then  
10 in that top left picture they're taking a genetic fin  
11 clip to look at the genetics and try to figure out,  
12 eventually, markers to see stock specific, to be able  
13 to find out where fish came from.

14

15                   And like I said we track these with the  
16 same fixed receivers up along the river and if anyone  
17 cruised up and down the Kuskokwim you'll see these  
18 stations periodically up on the banks along the river  
19 and I think there's one just outside of Kalskag  
20 actually.

21

22                   As far as the little red things here,  
23 those are all the little -- the little fence looking  
24 things, those are weir sites that we have and each one  
25 of these is a fixed receiver that we have on the bank  
26 that watches salmon going past, and those are sort of  
27 strategically placed to find out -- to sort of  
28 specifically the sockeye for this project.

29

30                   And we also used aerial surveys, it's  
31 too bad that picture didn't come up, it's just a big  
32 ball of sockeye down there on the bottom right.

33

34                   And as far as where these fish are  
35 going, this is the 2006 radiotelemetry surveys that we  
36 did and you can see quite a few went up the Hoholitna  
37 and the Holitna which would be a river type fish, and  
38 the Stony River got significantly less than that which  
39 was kind of a surprise but in 2007 -- oh, here, so  
40 these are sort of the main spawning populations, the  
41 Aniak, the Holitna and the Stony River. And in 2007 it  
42 was very similar to that with the same three drainages  
43 getting the same amount of spawning fish.

44

45                   And these are the numbers as far as  
46 where these fish have been going, so basically 23  
47 percent or around 23 percent of the Kuskokwim sockeye  
48 have been lake type fish and around 74 have been river  
49 type. So we definitely have a larger component of  
50 river type sockeye than we do the lake type.

1                   And abundance estimates, while this  
2 wasn't an objective we really we weren't starting this  
3 project to look at how many fish were going up the  
4 entire river, but with a really good number of tags  
5 going back to one of the weirs, specifically the  
6 Kogrukluk or the Ignati (ph) weir, we ended up getting  
7 a population estimate for the two years and these are  
8 just the numbers for the Kogrukluk but as far as the  
9 entire river -- oh, sorry -- oh, I've got the next  
10 slide, sorry, it's just kind of a picture.....

11  
12                   MS. GREGORY: Excuse me.

13  
14                   MR. THALHAUSER: Oh, yeah.

15  
16                   MS. GREGORY: What does that stand for,  
17 that 95 percent, what are those.....

18  
19                   MR. THALHAUSER: Oh, the 95 percent,  
20 that's the confidence interval as far as how sure we  
21 are, it's basically kind of seeing how much of a guess  
22 it is, we're 95 percent sure that that's about what it  
23 is.

24  
25                   MS. GREGORY: Okay.

26  
27                   MR. THALHAUSER: So the estimate is  
28 actually 124 there, but it could be around 19,000 above  
29 or below that.

30  
31                   MS. GREGORY: Okay.

32  
33                   MR. THALHAUSER: Sorry, I kind of  
34 skipped through that one.

35  
36                   And this is a picture of one of the  
37 sockeyes up at one of the lakes on the Stony River.  
38 And this is one part of the sockeye that's still sort  
39 of out there. We don't have any monitoring stations as  
40 far as fish weirs or anything at any of the lakes and  
41 that's something that we're going to pursue in the  
42 future.

43  
44                   The next project that I'm going to talk  
45 about is our whitefish radiotelemetry program, or  
46 project and that's with us and U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
47 and Ken Harper's been heading up this project, and this  
48 is a picture of a whitefish, someone putting a tag in  
49 there.

50

1                   And whitefish have been, you know, a  
2 traditionally a big subsistence fishery on the  
3 Kuskokwim and has been used extensively throughout the  
4 years and just a general, in talking with the public  
5 and getting some feedback that the fish that they've  
6 been catching are smaller generally and they've been  
7 catching less fish over the past 10 to 20 years that  
8 got us interested in this and so we decided to start  
9 looking at the fish and see what's going on and that  
10 was sort of the idea behind the project.

11  
12                   So capture methods, the first year,  
13 this is the weir we had at Whitefish Lake. We started  
14 out -- and there's some beach seining going on to  
15 capture the whitefish and we looked at humpbacks and  
16 broad whitefish for this study.

17  
18                   And this is different kind of tags,  
19 these are pit tags that we put in these that don't have  
20 a wire sticking out like the radiotags because they're  
21 smaller fish and they're going to live past their  
22 spawning so it's a different sort of tag that's  
23 inserted in these. I think I have a picture of it  
24 coming up. And there's a picture of the tags that we  
25 actually put in the fish, they're pretty small.

26  
27                   And we use the same tracking stations  
28 as far as fixed receivers and airplane flights to find  
29 out where these fish have gone so there's a picture of  
30 my boss getting ready to go up and look for some fish  
31 and Calvin working on one of the receiver stations.

32  
33                   So in 2004 and 2005 we just tagged fish  
34 in Whitefish Lake near Kalskag and at the fishwheels  
35 here in Kalskag as just sort of a way of getting the  
36 project ready and getting us used to putting the tags  
37 in and just sort of starting out the project in little  
38 sort of steps. And then we used these same receivers  
39 and then we had the airplane and flew all through the  
40 drainage and just found out where the fish were. And  
41 then after 2005, we wanted to look more extensively on  
42 different populations or possible other populations of  
43 whitefish and so we tagged fish in the Kiliak River  
44 near Bethel, the fishwheels again, Discovery Creek here  
45 near Kalskag and a few in Whitefish Lake also and used  
46 the same receivers again and same plane, zipping around  
47 and coming back.

48  
49                   And as far as one of the main  
50 objectives being locating spawning grounds for these

1 fish, we did find -- the main spawning grounds we found  
2 for the humpback whitefish were the Big River by  
3 Medfra, the Swift, the Stony River and in Whitefish  
4 Lake. And with the broads, we didn't get as many tags  
5 out with the broads, and that's something that we're  
6 going to try to work on a little more in this coming  
7 year, but the main spawning grounds we've established  
8 for broad whitefish were just above McGrath in the main  
9 river.

10

11                   And as far as results, like I said, we  
12 located some potential spawning areas for humpback and  
13 broad whitefish and just looking at this, if you can  
14 see where the fish were tagged and where they ended up  
15 spawning, what it basically tells us is these fish are  
16 being fished for by people up along the whole entire  
17 Kuskokwim, some of them travel 500, 600 kilometers  
18 throughout the year, so these fish are being, you know,  
19 are getting some fishing pressure up and down the river  
20 and everyone's fishing for the same fish and so it's  
21 something to think about as far as the future and as  
22 far as how we manage the whitefish if that does happen.

23

24                   And we found out they don't have a set  
25 migration time, they leave sometime for the spawning  
26 grounds any time during the summer or fall and the  
27 later fish do tend to travel up stream a little faster  
28 than the earlier ones. And also -- I'm not sure if  
29 this is on there, another interesting thing we found  
30 out with this one is that some of these fish do live up  
31 to 20 to 30 years, which is probably one of the reasons  
32 why they're so hearty in such a harsh environment. And  
33 another thing was that some of these fish aren't  
34 spawning every year, some of the fish that we tagged  
35 pretty much stayed around there so it's possible that  
36 these fish only spawned, you know, just several times  
37 throughout their life but don't spawn every year.

38

39                   And as far as the future direction,  
40 we're going to continue focusing on the movements of  
41 the humpbacks and broads. The tags that we put in  
42 these, unlike the salmon tags, will last throughout the  
43 life of the fish and so as long as these receivers are  
44 up here we can find out where they're going each year.  
45 And to get maybe a better idea of the exact spawning  
46 grounds, especially with the broads, where we didn't  
47 get quite as many tags out and to continue the tagging  
48 efforts in our lower tributaries.

49

50                   And the potential for this study, it's

1 basically long-term monitoring of whitefish movement to  
2 see if they're still going to the same spawning  
3 grounds, if things change, where they end up going.  
4 Like I said the pit tags last the life of the fish, and  
5 to determine if the fish are returning to the same  
6 feeding and spawning areas each year, if they use  
7 different ones under different conditions, because they  
8 do seem to focus in on certain temperatures and water  
9 speeds and substrata.

10

11                   The next project I'm going to go over  
12 is the George and Tatlawiksuk River weirs, which are  
13 the first cooperative projects that we've had with  
14 ADF&G, and they're a major part of the previous  
15 projects that I talked about, the chinook and the  
16 sockeye projects as far as enumerating fish escaping to  
17 the spawning grounds. And the objectives of these  
18 weirs are, like I said, to determine the daily and  
19 annual escapement of chinook, coho and chum, to  
20 determine their ASL. The fish that pass through there,  
21 we sample a certain amount of them to find out what  
22 sort of the health of the fish are, how long they are,  
23 how old they are and how many males and females are  
24 going up there. And also these projects monitor  
25 environmental factors affecting escapement as far as  
26 water levels and water temperatures and stream gages  
27 and we give daily reports of escapement to Federal and  
28 State managers and the working group that's out of  
29 Bethel in the summer so they get kind of a real-time  
30 feedback of how many fish are going up there when  
31 they're looking at in-season management decisions.

32

33                   And also we use these weirs as a  
34 platform for other projects like the radiotelemetry  
35 projects that I talked about and KNA's internship  
36 program.

37

38                   And our internship program is basically  
39 we have high school students and college students that  
40 go to the George and Tatlawiksuk River weirs, and  
41 they're mentored by either KNA technicians or  
42 biologists or the ADF&G biologists that are up there  
43 and they go through a curriculum that sort of teaches  
44 them just the general idea on fisheries practices and  
45 just the fishery field in general and sort of get their  
46 foot in the door, so to speak, as far as a possible  
47 career in fisheries.

48

49                   And weir operations, I just have a  
50 couple of pictures of the George and the Tat there,

1 there are some people out there working on the weir.

2

3                   And these are some of the results, just  
4 as far as since they've been in operation. The George  
5 has been in operation for an extra two or three years  
6 than the Tatlawiksuk so we actually have enough data to  
7 have an escapement goal for the George River and we  
8 have a proposed one for the Tatlawiksuk but still not a  
9 firm escapement goal. So these are just kind of the  
10 escapement numbers. Last year we had a little over  
11 5,000 kings up at the George and a little over two at  
12 the Tatlawiksuk.

13

14                   Other projects we have going on right  
15 now, this summer we're starting an Aniak River rainbow  
16 trout radiotelemetry survey where we'll go up and catch  
17 and tag some fish on the Aniak and the Kipchuk River  
18 and up by Aniak Lake and find out where those fish are  
19 moving in the winter and where they're being fished for  
20 because there is starting to be a little bit more of a  
21 sportfish pressure on the rainbow trout up there and  
22 they are caught subsistence wise in the winter down  
23 stream as far as the stock and it's just kind of a good  
24 idea to find out where these fish are going and get a  
25 -- I think a possible future avenue for this is to do a  
26 population estimate to find out how many rainbow trout  
27 there are in the Aniak.

28

29                   We also do a post-season subsistence  
30 survey where we go out -- right now we've just done it  
31 in Aniak, we're thinking of expanding to a few other  
32 villages and interviewing households in the villages to  
33 find out how many fish they caught and that goes along  
34 with the run reconstruction as far as we've been doing  
35 these surveys for so long that even if we don't get  
36 exact numbers of how many fish have gone up for each  
37 one of these years, we've got a general idea of whether  
38 people are catching more fish during certain years or  
39 less fish during certain years which is a good  
40 indicator of how many fish are in the river.

41

42                   We do outreach programs. We have  
43 community meetings, we try to make it to as many of our  
44 villages as we can during the winter. We had one in  
45 Kalskag here earlier this winter and just try to get  
46 out and give these sort of presentations and tell them  
47 what we're doing on the river and how the fish are  
48 doing and what sort of projects are going on and we,  
49 also, during these trips, make visits to the classrooms  
50 and spend a few days teaching science and other lessons

1 to the kids in our villages. We actually got some  
2 money this year for a part-time biologist to spend two  
3 weeks, as opposed to just a couple days in each  
4 village, or somewhere around there, so that they can  
5 actually get in the classroom, and this person,  
6 hopefully will be working at the weirs a little bit  
7 this summer so they get sort of a rapport with the kids  
8 and they can continue teaching them during the year.  
9 Because a lot of the schools around here don't have the  
10 best science program so it's nice to get someone in  
11 there that can sort of teach them about science that's  
12 going on around the river and in their local area. And  
13 we also do a raft trip with the Kuspuk School District,  
14 which has high school kids from around the village --  
15 or around the river, and we float down the Aniak and  
16 teach science and other lessons along the way.

17  
18                   And this project just got funded, Kay  
19 Larson is going to be heading this up, it's looking at  
20 the influence of environmental factors on the king  
21 abundance and looking at those after the run  
22 reconstruction. We go through and find out how many  
23 fish did come back over the past 25 years or so, we can  
24 look at El Nino and El Nina effects and any temperature  
25 effects that have been going on and maybe try to find a  
26 correlation between all these things going on  
27 environmentally in the salmon run so we can see how  
28 much of a role that's been playing in the abundance  
29 numbers.

30  
31                   Proposed projects that we have,  
32 hopefully, coming up, Kuskokwim River gauging, there's  
33 not a whole lot of river gauging along the Kuskokwim so  
34 we're trying to expand that a little bit.

35  
36                   Anadromous stream substantiation, which  
37 is a project that one of our college interns has been  
38 helping out with and that's basically flying out and  
39 trying to find out where anadromous fish go up to and  
40 just sort of get a catalog of the streams.

41  
42                   Sockeye salmon physical characteristics  
43 and habitat and there's a handout on that in that  
44 packet that I handed out also.

45  
46                   And also chum and chinook salmon stock  
47 separation using otolith, which is a hard structure in  
48 the fish's ear, to be able to look at that and be able  
49 to determine -- to be able to look at these and other  
50 fish and find out which drainage they came from, which

1 would be, you know, something that you could possibly  
2 use in determining how many, you know, fish came from  
3 the Kuskokwim that, you know, were, for instance, like  
4 bycatch, like if you sampled a whole bunch and looked  
5 at this and said, well, these came from here, these  
6 came from here, that sort of thing.

7

8 And that's it.

9

10 Anybody have any questions.

11

12 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: James. Mr. Charles.

15

16 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

17 Where are you tagging whitefish, are you tagging both  
18 humpbacks and broads at Galik (ph)?

19

20 MR. THALHAUSER: If they catch either  
21 of them they're tagging either if they catch them. I  
22 think they've caught more humpbacks there than broads,  
23 but I'm not certain. But at any of the places that  
24 we're tagging fish, if we catch humpbacks or broads,  
25 we're tagging either one because we really want to get  
26 as many tags out as possible. And at this point  
27 there's more of a lack of broad whitefish tags out than  
28 there are humpbacks so I think this summer we'll be  
29 focusing more on trying to get tags out on broads.

30

31 MR. CHARLES: Yeah, I fish whitefish at  
32 Galik and there are more broads in the summertime than  
33 fall time. We catch more broads in September and later  
34 on we catch nothing but humpbacks and pikes, so where  
35 does the broads go?

36

37 MR. THALHAUSER: Well, I mean I  
38 couldn't tell you for certain at this point but one of  
39 the -- just as far as the spawning grounds go, the  
40 broads are the ones going -- they're the ones that  
41 spawn, as far as we know right now, their spawning  
42 population is up by McGrath so there's -- you know,  
43 they're swimming the whole way up to McGrath so they  
44 could be, you know, possibly taking off a little  
45 earlier than the humpbacks for their spawning grounds.  
46 And it could also be just that there might be a few  
47 more humpbacks in that area and they might be -- and  
48 since they don't all spawn every year they could be  
49 sort of hanging out in there too.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

2

3 MR. CHARLES: Another concern I have is  
4 the sockeye. I always ask the ADF&G about those too  
5 because we did not have very many sockeyes come up the  
6 Kuskokwim River. When I was a kid, whenever somebody  
7 catch a sockeye and hang it on the fish rack it shows  
8 because the fish racks are full of chums, and the  
9 sockeye, you can tell the sockeye. But now last  
10 several years, maybe it's been awhile, but we are  
11 seeing more sockeyes than before. Sometimes down at  
12 the mouth of Kuskokwim we catch half and half, sockeyes  
13 and chums, some seasons, and why are they coming up  
14 more on Kuskokwim in more numbers, is it the weather or  
15 water or what causes them to do that?

16

17 MR. THALHAUSER: Yeah, again, I can't  
18 tell you exactly for sure on that. And one of the  
19 things -- and if you look at the second page on the  
20 sockeye handout that I gave you, the estimates for  
21 2006/2007 you can see a huge difference, the population  
22 estimate, and it's not a very hard estimate since it's  
23 based on captures from just one specific weir, the  
24 Ignati weir on the Kogrukluuk, but 2006 we estimated  
25 about 460,000 came back into the Kuskokwim and then it  
26 was down to 135 the next year and basically with that,  
27 I should mention also, that we think the average is  
28 probably about 150,000 that come back and maybe what  
29 you were talking about, how some years you just catch a  
30 whole lot, that it's possible that there's something  
31 going on, that, you know, whether it's favorable  
32 conditions, where they're rearing or whatever, you  
33 know, every once in awhile there's just a really good  
34 year and that's the handout that I gave out that's got  
35 a picture of some sockeye on there. It goes into a  
36 project that's upcoming that we're going to look more  
37 into exactly the ecology and what's going on as far as  
38 genetics and as far as the lake and the river fish and  
39 maybe look into some more of that kind of stuff. And,  
40 yeah, we've heard that. And generally the subsistence  
41 fishery has been pretty steady, I think it's around  
42 40,000 sockeye a year looking back through the years  
43 and it's been pretty steady but there are, yeah, years  
44 that some -- that it really shoots up there.

45

46 MR. CHARLES: When commercial fisheries  
47 were going strong on the Kuskokwim, the Department of  
48 Fish and Game used to open the fisheries only for kings  
49 and chums and even they have lot of -- quite a few  
50 reds, they don't care about sockeye them days, but now

1 we are seeing a lot more than before so I think -- and  
2 you folks are even making reports and counts and all  
3 that so I think we should start seeing sockeyes for --  
4 or looking -- I know the Federal is not for commercial,  
5 but the ADF&G is, but that's -- that should be an  
6 alternate to commercial fish for us.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 MR. THALHAUSER: I guess just a general  
11 comment in response to that, yeah, I think -- and that  
12 is, like I said, what sort of sparked this was sort of  
13 a general desire to do a little more commercial fishing  
14 and with the numbers going up and down and being so  
15 variable we wanted to get a really good idea of how  
16 many fish were coming back and whether it was, you  
17 know, really steady or whether it was up and down, to  
18 sort of get a better idea of how many -- because if the  
19 average is about 150,000 or so, which we're kind of  
20 guessing at this point, and even looking at, you know,  
21 harvesting river wide half of that population every  
22 year, with 40,000 being caught, you know, subsistence  
23 wise, that would only leave about 35,000 or so -- or,  
24 yeah, for commercial so it's definitely -- and I know  
25 ADF&G is, you know, obviously more into that than the  
26 Federal.

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions for  
29 Mike.

30

31 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman.

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray.

34

35 MR. ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Mr.  
36 Chairman. I was just kind of curious about your  
37 fishwheels and if people are still using them on the  
38 Kuskokwim.

39

40 MR. THALHAUSER: You mean general, just  
41 subsistence fishers?

42

43 MR. ONEY: Yes.

44

45 MR. THALHAUSER: Yeah, and this will be  
46 the -- like I said, this will be the first summer I  
47 haven't spent, you know, way up in the middle of  
48 nowhere so I don't have a great idea of what goes on  
49 here but, yeah, there are some people that still use  
50 fishwheels around here, yeah.

1 MR. ONEY: I have a follow up question.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray.

4

5 MR. ONEY: I'm glad to hear that you're  
6 taking temperatures, you know, as a result of the El  
7 Nino, the global warming that's going on because we  
8 don't know what's going on in the spawning areas, and  
9 this is one of the issues that I brought up during one  
10 of the YRDFA meetings too, at least, you know, trying  
11 to get them to at least document the spawning areas for  
12 temperatures because we never know what's happening in  
13 those areas.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 MR. THALHAUSER: Yeah, and as far as  
18 like I said that the environmental, hopefully we'll  
19 have some more information in the coming years on that  
20 and see what's going on as far as, you know, major  
21 climate things going on and fish that are coming back.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not, thank you,  
28 Mike.

29

30 MR. THALHAUSER: Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We've got a long ways  
33 to go yet, if we can try and keep our questions to the  
34 point, if we're trying to get out of here by noon,  
35 let's see if we can cut down a little bit on time that  
36 we're taking for the presentations. I'm not going to  
37 try and rush you guys but, you know, take your time but  
38 take your time with caution.

39

40 (Laughter)

41

42 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.

45

46 MR. NICK: Can I make the announcement  
47 now for travel.

48

49 (Comments Regarding Flights)

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Alex. We  
2 are -- the next item of business is.....  
3  
4 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
7  
8 MR. ROCZICKA: At this time I'd like to  
9 move to bring Proposal WP01 back from the table.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We've got a request to  
12 bring Proposal WP01 back on the table. Do I hear a  
13 motion for a suspension of the rules so we could take  
14 care of this.  
15  
16 MR. ROCZICKA: Moving from tabled is  
17 not a suspension of the rules.  
18  
19 MR. ANDREW: Yeah, it was tabled.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. All right, in  
22 that case, will you begin then.  
23  
24 MR. ROCZICKA: We do have to approve a  
25 motion to bring it back from the table, it's not  
26 necessarily a suspension of the rules.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, my mistake, I'm  
29 sorry. All in favor of bringing back WP08-01 to the  
30 table signify by saying aye.  
31  
32 IN UNISON: Aye.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed.  
35  
36 (No opposing votes)  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, motion's  
39 carried. Greg.  
40  
41 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I have  
42 here, and I'll pass it down the line, I made 20 copies.  
43 In the effort and the spirit for which this proposal  
44 was put forward, I've attempted to here -- it was  
45 referenced yesterday when this motion was tabled, to  
46 come up with a set of recommendations regarding the  
47 proposal to try to put the words and concerns of the  
48 people we represent into some kind of bureaucratese  
49 that perhaps professional bureaucratic organizations  
50 can understand and I'd like to read that into the record.

1                   But prior to doing that I would like to  
2 say that -- maybe preface that just for a few moments,  
3 that this is in no way intended to be derogatory  
4 towards the Staff or anything of that nature.  
5 Essentially the Federal Subsistence Board is continuing  
6 to avoid and dance around this issue of addressing  
7 predator management. It's flat out unfair to their  
8 Staff. It's unfair to the managers. And it's  
9 certainly unfair to the subsistence users that they're  
10 supposed to be there to represent. Essentially they're  
11 avoiding almost what one could consider a trust  
12 responsibility when you look at that first sentence in  
13 Title VIII of ANILCA which starts out -- and I'm  
14 paraphrasing here, I don't know the -- won't be the  
15 exact words, but it essentially says to address the  
16 obligations to subsistence that were left unfulfilled  
17 by passage by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act,  
18 and it goes on to talk about Title VIII. And it brings  
19 up almost a similar scenario to what the BIA has had to  
20 deal with in the Cobell suit in failed trust  
21 responsibility and mismanagement of resources if they  
22 don't deal with this more directly, you know, we're not  
23 talking dollars here, we're talking about wildlife  
24 resources that are important to subsistence.

25  
26                   So anyway, with that, here's what I  
27 tried to come up with to get that message across  
28 regarding this proposal to the Board, and hopefully can  
29 prompt them to some positively addressing or  
30 proactively addressing or starting to effectively  
31 address this matter.

32  
33                   So for the recommendations on WP08-01  
34 to the Federal Subsistence Board from the YKRAC.

35  
36                   1.       That they reject or defer this  
37 proposal as interpreted and  
38 amended by the Staff analysis  
39 that immediately and fully  
40 applies the proposal statewide  
41 and omitted the qualifying  
42 condition in the original  
43 proposal, which predicated  
44 potential application of  
45 changes upon review and  
46 acceptance by the Regional  
47 Subsistence Councils for their  
48 respective areas and has been  
49 preceded already by the  
50 Federal Subsistence Board

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actions regarding the sale of bear parts.

2. Take assertive and affirmative action towards reducing barricades for predator management and providing for subsistence harvest needs by calling on each member agency of the Federal Subsistence Board to expedite creation and submission of management plans within one year that outline how they will manage their respective wildlife populations to provide for current and future integrity of subsistence harvest needs to the greatest extent possible within their conservation units. And they most especially focus in those areas where many Regional Councils have already and repeatedly strongly expressed the need for predator management as a major concern, or where Tier II hunts have restricted former opportunity by all Federally-qualified subsistence users or where habitat is not considered a limiting factor for more healthy moose populations that are conducive to providing for subsistence needs and predation is.

The inhibitions towards actively addressing this issue have placed the Federal Subsistence Board and, again, by direct association regional managers of conservation units, essentially a stagnated position where:

- A) The application of sound scientific management principles have been and continue to be precluded or

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preempted.

B) Substantial information has been and continues to be avoided, minimized, suppressed or dismissed.

C) It's highly detrimental to achieving or maintaining long-term integrity of providing for subsistence harvest uses and needs and all of which are contrary to ANILCA and should be reversed.

3. The Federal Subsistence Board should direct a letter to the Secretary of Interior at the soonest possible time informing him of this situation that hamstrings both Federal Subsistence Board and many Federal management agencies from fulfilling their responsibilities under ANILCA and prevents their cooperating with State management programs that are implemented to achieve this mutually beneficial purposes, again, for providing for subsistence needs, and request his immediate assistance to proclaim that at least on Fish and Wildlife Service or BLM managed lands, a national environmental impact statement exercise is neither necessary or appropriate for predator management activities to provide for subsistence needs.

And that was specifically noted in the Congressional record of December 1, 1980, SS15131.

And that the same level of actual management oversight and integrity can be fully realized through an environmental assessment that's conducted by

1 regional Refuge Staff and  
2 management.  
3  
4 And that's it.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What is the wish of  
7 the Council on WP08-01, this is in addition to that one  
8 proposal, right?  
9  
10 MR. ROCZICKA: This is the  
11 recommendations from the Council regarding that  
12 proposal, that's what it would be, yeah.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions to Greg,  
15 additions, deletions. It's your recommendation so.....  
16  
17 MR. ROCZICKA: And I guess procedural  
18 wise and maybe if we have more of a parliamentary  
19 than I am, but the motion was made to adopt the  
20 proposal and it was on the table to approve and this  
21 would be the Council's recommendation for the Board and  
22 action on that proposal.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Is everybody in  
25 agreement with this -- I'm looking for a word and I  
26 can't find it, the recommendation.  
27  
28 (No comments)  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, then I'll just  
31 go down the line. James, do you have any objections to  
32 this.  
33  
34 MR. CHARLES: No objections. No, Mr.  
35 Chairman, no.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What's that.  
38  
39 MR. CHARLES: No objections.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ray.  
42  
43 MR. ONEY: I have no objections either.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Hoelscher.  
46  
47 MR. HOELSCHER: I agree with the  
48 recommendations.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Andrew.

1 (No comments)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Andrew, any  
4 questions or any additions or anything you need to say.  
5  
6 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. I think we  
7 should vote on it, it could go forward or reject it.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, we will, but I'm  
10 just trying to see if we have any comments, that's why  
11 I'm going down the list.  
12  
13 An'anaq.  
14  
15 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.  
18  
19 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You have a motion on  
22 the floor and was seconded, if you have no objections  
23 to this, then the Chair will entertain a -- we already  
24 got a motion, all I need is a call for question on this  
25 proposal, WP08-01 with recommendations. The motion's  
26 been made by.....  
27  
28 MS. GREGORY: Call for question.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's been called  
31 for, could we have a roll call vote, please.  
32  
33 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. James  
34 Charles.  
35  
36 MR. CHARLES: Yes.  
37  
38 MR. ONEY: John Andrew.  
39  
40 MR. ANDREW: No.  
41  
42 MR. ONEY: Raymond Oney, yes. Edgar  
43 Hoelscher.  
44  
45 MR. HOELSCHER: Yes.  
46  
47 MR. ONEY: Mary Gregory.  
48  
49 MS. GREGORY: Yes.  
50

1 MR. ONEY: Lester Wilde.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
4  
5 MR. ONEY: Greg Roczicka.  
6  
7 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.  
8  
9 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. Six yes, one  
10 no.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.  
13 Thank you, gentlemen.  
14  
15 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
16 And in case you want to know what you have in front of  
17 you is handwritten and scribbles and scratches and I  
18 can type that up.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, we understand  
21 that.  
22  
23 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you. And  
26 we are down to call for proposals to change Federal  
27 Subsistence Fishery Regulations for 2009/2011  
28 regulatory years. And that is Mr. Alex Nick.  
29  
30 Go ahead, before we get into that, is  
31 this on this or.....  
32  
33 MR. BUKLIS: Yes, it is.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.  
36  
37 MR. BUKLIS: Mr. Chairman. Larry  
38 Buklis, Office of Subsistence Management. Just for the  
39 record, usually a Council action on a proposal can be  
40 summarized in a couple of words, support, oppose,  
41 support with modification, defer, table; those are the  
42 action terms. And we have your written record and Mr.  
43 Roczicka read it into the record. But in your vote,  
44 what's the action term on the proposal, because his  
45 statement starts with reject or defer the proposal and  
46 you voted 6/1 in favor of his package statement, but  
47 what's your action on the proposal.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.  
50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Probably the best fit  
2 for that would be support with modification.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's what I was  
5 going to state also.

6  
7 MR. BUKLIS: Thank you, so noted.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.

10  
11 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. First  
12 of all I would like to apologize for yesterday, I had  
13 to leave because I got very sick and couldn't stay any  
14 further.

15  
16 Call for proposals, it's time to submit  
17 proposals for 2009 to 2011 and the -- fisheries  
18 proposals, I'm sorry, call for fisheries proposal. The  
19 fisheries proposal is from -- it's going to be for the  
20 regulatory year April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2011, and  
21 with Larry's help, we're now getting into a two year  
22 cycle for both wildlife and fisheries proposals. I  
23 believe the proposal period -- I don't have my  
24 fisheries proposal book with me, I think it's on the  
25 table.

26  
27 MR. BUKLIS: March 27th.

28  
29 MR. NICK: March 27th is the deadline  
30 for submitting subsistence fisheries proposals.

31  
32 And just on another note on this,  
33 yesterday you heard testimonies from local people  
34 regarding the wildlife proposals, so this Council could  
35 -- if it wishes to submit proposals on behalf of the  
36 area they represent. And there were a couple of people  
37 who gave testimony yesterday on issues, so if those  
38 need to be in consideration by the Council as well.

39  
40 Doi.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Quyana. Any questions  
43 for Alex.

44  
45 (No comments)

46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next item on the  
48 agenda is Regional Council business, .805 letter.  
49 Alex.  
50

1 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. .805 letter is  
2 on Page 118 and you could review it. I've assumed that  
3 you've reviewed the document, so if you have questions  
4 Larry and I will be able to answer your questions and  
5 if we don't have any answers then I will find someone  
6 to answer those questions for you from our office.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions from  
9 Alex concerning the .805 letter.

10  
11 (No comments)

12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Item B,  
14 correspondence.

15  
16 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Correspondence,  
17 we've received several correspondence -- I don't have a  
18 list of those right now but I do have them on file. If  
19 you need to know any particular correspondence that you  
20 received -- we received -- copies of correspondence,  
21 you may call me at my office and I will make it  
22 available to you.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Just for the record  
25 could you make sure of your phone number because we  
26 have a tendency to forget it, your phone number please.

27  
28 MR. NICK: Okay. My office phone  
29 number in Bethel is 543-1037, or toll free at 1-800-  
30 621-5804, extension 257. And if I can't be contacted  
31 then you could call OSM at 1-800-478-1456.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

34  
35 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Greg.

38  
39 MR. ROCZICKA: Before we move on out of  
40 correspondence, I'd like to make a recommendation for  
41 correspondence from this Council.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Recommend.

44  
45 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I would  
46 like to suggest that a letter be drafted from the YKRAC  
47 to the Federal Subsistence Board requesting that they  
48 forward a letter to the Secretary of Interior regarding  
49 concerns that have been raised by the Protect America's  
50 Wildlife Act that was introduced last fall by

1 Congressman Miller of California and was directly aimed  
2 at protecting Alaska's wolves rather than protecting  
3 America's Wildlife and overriding predator management  
4 programs that are in place and are being conducted  
5 within the state, and reflecting the similar concerns  
6 that we had in our recommendations under WP-01 and  
7 specifically those three criteria that passage of this  
8 act would be a direct affront, if not totally  
9 contradictory to provisions and understandings of  
10 Title VIII of ANILCA and ANILCA as a whole, and that  
11 his act would preclude the application of sound  
12 scientific management principles, preempt them from  
13 being enacted, would ignore substantial information  
14 that has been and continues to be avoided, and would be  
15 highly harmed by such an action that's contained in the  
16 PAWS Act and that this act is not only highly  
17 detrimental but in essence is hostile to achieving and  
18 maintaining long-term integrity for providing for  
19 subsistence uses and harvest needs in Alaska.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the  
22 recommendation, any objections.

23

24 (No objections)

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any discussion.

27

28 (No comments)

29

30 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.

33

34 MR. NICK: As you were reminded during  
35 the Council orientation, keep in mind that the  
36 correspondence -- the Council correspondence need to be  
37 reviewed by OSM. And that we do have a correspondence  
38 policy that's in your book -- rather manual, that we  
39 need to follow when we write a letter -- you don't --  
40 you may write to Fish and Wildlife Service, but I don't  
41 know -- maybe Larry could explain more on this.

42

43 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman,  
44 clarification.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Mr. Greg --  
47 Greg.

48

49 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. What I  
50 have suggested is entirely in keeping with the

1 correspondence policy. I said that this letter would  
2 be to the Federal Subsistence Board requesting that  
3 they forward these concerns, specifically to the  
4 Secretary and it would undergo all necessary review at  
5 that level. It's not in conflict whatsoever. All  
6 correspondence is to the Federal Subsistence Board  
7 only, that is what was there, and by direct  
8 association, of course, OSM goes through their review,  
9 and actually where the Staff review is concerned is  
10 when the letter might be going out to the public or  
11 other entities, the only exceptions being is if we say  
12 thank you to someone for doing something or are  
13 responding to State Board of Game or Board of Fisheries  
14 proposals.

15  
16 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. So noted. And I  
17 would recommend that Mr. Roczicka draft a letter and  
18 we'll work on it.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the  
21 recommendation.

22  
23 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary, go ahead.

26  
27 MS. GREGORY: I have no objections.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any objections.

30  
31 (No objections)

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not, Greg, okay.

34  
35 MR. ROCZICKA: (Nods affirmatively)

36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next agenda item, OSM,  
38 13A -- I'm sorry, we're still in 12, Item 12C, finalize  
39 2007 draft annual report. Alex.

40  
41 (Pause)

42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If you haven't read  
44 this letter take about -- let's take a five minute  
45 break.

46  
47 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And make sure that we  
50 understand this and then we'll come back for discussion

1 on it.

2

3 (Off record)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Call the meeting back  
8 to order. I take it that everybody had an opportunity  
9 to read this. This is your letter, that's the reason  
10 why I had you take five minutes to make sure that you  
11 read this letter, your .805 letter. Is there any  
12 deletions or additions or corrections in this.

13

14 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.

17

18 MR. NICK: This draft annual report is  
19 drafted based on the transcripts from Marshall --  
20 September meeting in Marshall.

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

23

24 MR. NICK: And we did the best we can.  
25 I had help from people in our team and as well with  
26 people from Refuge writing up this. There are a couple  
27 of issues that are on here, Issue No. 2 is the one that  
28 Greg Roczicka drafted based on the discussions from  
29 Marshall meeting, as well as edits that we did with the  
30 help of Doug Staller, Greg and myself. And this is  
31 what we come up with for the annual report.

32

33 There is one more topic -- and I must  
34 have removed that draft letter to Federal Subsistence  
35 Board in support of Partners for Fisheries Program.  
36 That was also brought up in Marshall, according to the  
37 transcripts, as an annual report topic, but one of our  
38 Staff who was there at that time, at that meeting, Don  
39 Rivard, suggested that the Council write directly to  
40 Federal Subsistence Board in support of the Fisheries  
41 Program. So that's what that letter is all about.  
42 It's already drafted but it got misplaced out of my  
43 papers because I have -- I was shuffling a lot of  
44 papers when I was traveling up this way, repacking and  
45 making copies, trying to make copies, I had a lot of  
46 problems, and the Refuge Staff could probably attest to  
47 that we all had problem with printers and some of the  
48 tools that we needed to prepare properly for this  
49 meeting, but I also thank Refuge Staff for helping me  
50 trying to get most of the materials printed over there.

1 We share one printer at Refuge so.....  
2  
3 MS. GREGORY: Point of order. Are we  
4 talking about this one or something else?  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, we're talking  
7 about that.  
8  
9 MR. NICK: Yeah, that's what I'm  
10 talking about.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We're talking about  
13 that .805 letter.  
14  
15 MR. NICK: It's part of it. It's part  
16 of it, yes.  
17  
18 MS. GREGORY: Okay.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.  
21  
22 MR. NICK: Doi.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Doi.  
25  
26 MR. NICK: Yeah.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What is the feeling of  
29 the Council concerning this letter.  
30  
31 Greg.  
32  
33 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Short and sweet.  
36  
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. I just wanted to  
38 clarify that, you know, that Item No. 2, of course, is  
39 contained a lot in the body of the proposal that went  
40 forward and we were told at times when we wanted to  
41 bring it up and put a letter, that if there was no  
42 proposal in that the annual report would be an  
43 appropriate place to do that but that doesn't diminish  
44 now that we did have a proposal dealing directly with  
45 the issue and the Federal Subsistence Board should not  
46 use the reference in the annual report for not acting  
47 on the proposal and the recommendations that we just  
48 put forward regarding WP-01.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Council,

1 what is your feelings. Approve, disapprove, throw out  
2 in the garbage or what.

3

4 (No comments)

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: This took a lot of  
7 time and it's a -- I -- it meets the standard, what we  
8 requested in the .805 letter. I need a motion for  
9 approval or disapproval of this letter for the record.

10

11 Mary.

12

13 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I move that  
14 we approve the letter.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to  
17 approve the .805 letter by Mary, do I hear a second.

18

19 MR. ANDREW: Second.

20

21 MR. CHARLES: Second.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Discussion.

24

25 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.

28

29 MR. NICK: One minor correction, motion  
30 to approve your annual repo -- 2007 annual report.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: This is for the .805  
33 letter.

34

35 MR. NICK: No, it's your annual report.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Annual report. Okay,  
38 I stand corrected, it is draft annual report. The  
39 motion's been made for that.

40

41 MS. GREGORY: Yes.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, do I have a  
44 second to the motion.

45

46 MR. ANDREW: Second.

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, second by  
49 Andrew. Any discussion.

50

1 (No comments)  
2  
3 MR. ROCZICKA: Question.  
4  
5 MR. ANDREW: Question.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.  
8 All in favor say aye.  
9  
10 IN UNISON: Aye.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed same sign.  
13  
14 (No opposing votes)  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried. At  
17 this time I think we'll suspend the rules to hear Mr.  
18 Robert Sundown on the Kuskokwim area fisheries.  
19  
20 MR. ROCZICKA: No objection.  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any objections.  
23  
24 MS. GREGORY: No objections.  
25  
26 (No objections)  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Hearing no objections,  
29 Robert, you're up.  
30  
31 (Pause)  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We're crunching time  
34 so our favorite word this morning is short and sweet  
35 and.....  
36  
37 MS. GREGORY: And to the point.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: .....and to the point.  
40  
41 (Laughter)  
42  
43 MR. SUNDOWN: All right, I'll make it  
44 to the point then, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr.  
45 Chairman. Thank you, Members of the Board. My name is  
46 Robert Sundown, I'm a subsistence resource specialist  
47 with the Yukon-Delta National Wildlife Refuge.  
48  
49 And just for the agenda topic the 2008  
50 outlook, I'll make it short and sweet, we are meeting

1 with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for our  
2 spring InterAgency fisheries meeting in the first  
3 couple weeks of April. I forgot the date but it's  
4 happening.....

5  
6 MR. ROCZICKA: April 9 and 10.

7  
8 MR. SUNDOWN: What's that?

9  
10 MR. ROCZICKA: 9 and 10.

11  
12 MR. SUNDOWN: April 9 and 10, and then  
13 we'll discuss a formal outlook. And there's really not  
14 a formal outlook to begin with but it's kind of a  
15 compilation of last year's data and what it means for  
16 this year's chinook salmon outlook primarily.

17  
18 And just to let you guys know how they  
19 come up with that data is they look at the age class  
20 for the four year old component and see what that  
21 strength was last year and kind of determine what  
22 percentage of that will be coming back and it's, of  
23 course, a big guess. So just to let you know from our  
24 point, from the Yukon-Delta standpoint, we are going to  
25 start much like we did last season with the fisheries,  
26 with no projected closures and no projected windows.

27  
28 So that's all I've got as far as the  
29 fisheries outlook for 2008, and we'll have a more  
30 formal and more complete one at the end of the  
31 InterAgency fisheries meeting April 9 and 10.

32  
33 Thank you.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any  
36 questions for Robert.

37  
38 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Charles.

41  
42 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
43 I just want to thank Mr. Sundown for participating in  
44 our Kuskokwim Salmon Management Working Group meetings.  
45 We always need help in our meetings in summertime  
46 during the -- when fisheries are going on, like  
47 subsistence fishing or the commercial or other, because  
48 we need more information all the time to keep the  
49 fisheries going on in our river here. AVCP's been big  
50 help, too, and so we always need a lot of information,

1 so, thank you for participating in the program.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 MR. SUNDOWN: You're welcome, Mr.

6 Chair. Thank you, Mr. Charles.

7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Robert.

9 OSM reports and updates, briefing, No. 1, status report

10 on rural/non-rural request for reconsideration. Mr.

11 Buklis.

12

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

14 Larry Buklis, OSM. That item is meant to be

15 informational, it's in your book and we didn't have a

16 planned briefing to present. It's on Page 124 in your

17 book on the rural/non-rural review. It's not an action

18 item at this time and we don't have a briefing unless

19 you have questions.

20

21 I am prepared on the next item to give

22 a two or three minute presentation on C&T though.

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Any questions

25 for Larry.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not, Item 2.

30

31 MR. BUKLIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

32 Item 2 is the status of customary and traditional use

33 determination policy, again, just about a two minute

34 presentation.

35

36 Last fall a draft policy on C&T use

37 determination was presented to each of the Regional

38 Advisory Councils for your review and comment. The

39 draft policy was developed in response to a directive

40 from the Deputy Secretary of the Interior for us to

41 develop a draft policy. That draft policy laid out the

42 existing Board process for addressing C&T

43 determinations which has been used since the start of

44 the program. Part of this process is to consider eight

45 factors in a general holistic way rather than in a

46 rigid checklist manner.

47

48 The policy does not represent a change

49 from the way C&T determinations have been made in the

50 past. It simply clarifies the approach the Board is

1 taking and response to the assignment from the  
2 Secretary.

3  
4 We had a three month comment period  
5 last fall to allow for public input. We received 13  
6 comments on the draft policy. Those comments ranged  
7 from supporting the status quo, to making minor  
8 modifications, to request to begin rulemaking to set up  
9 clear administrative procedures with sort of a  
10 checklist approach, and suggestions that the Board  
11 pursue rulemaking to eliminate making C&T  
12 determinations in the future.

13  
14 The briefing on C&T policy in your  
15 Council book concludes by noting that the Board will  
16 attempt to prepare a draft policy for Secretarial  
17 review this spring. However, since that briefing was  
18 prepared and printed, the Board has decided to defer  
19 further work on the policy at this time, pending the  
20 outcome of related litigation.

21  
22 Mr. Chairman, a lawsuit was brought  
23 against the Federal Board by the State of Alaska  
24 involving a C&T determination, that was involving  
25 Chistochina moose, and the District Court ruling in  
26 favor of the Federal Board has been appealed by the  
27 State. So given that situation the Board is going to  
28 hold off further work on the policy until the  
29 litigation is resolved.

30  
31 Mr. Chairman, that's all I had on the  
32 prepared comments. I have copies of the draft policy  
33 we had circulated last fall and copies of the comments  
34 we got back, if any Council members are interested.  
35 That's all I had.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any  
38 questions for Larry.

39  
40 MS. GREGORY: Can I get a copy of both  
41 of them?

42  
43 MR. BUKLIS: Certainly. I can pass  
44 those out now.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Would you please,  
47 thank you.

48  
49 Any other questions while Larry's doing  
50 this.

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not, I'm trying to  
4 go a little bit faster so we can have time for  
5 breakfast.

6

7 (Laughter)

8

9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Larry.

10

11 MR. BUKLIS: You're welcome.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Item B, agencies and  
14 organizations. First Yukon-Delta National Wildlife  
15 Refuge update. And I see you changed your name again.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 MR. TWITCHELL: Hollis Twitchell,  
20 Yukon-Delta Fish and Wildlife Refuge. I know you're  
21 pushing to be brief and I will do that. I just wanted  
22 to refer you to the handout that I handed out yesterday  
23 to you which has updates on Yukon-Delta Fish and  
24 Wildlife Refuge.

25

26 I'm not going to go through all the  
27 projects, just wanted you to realize starting on Page  
28 10, there's a list of all the projects that are going  
29 on on the Delta primarily focusing on fisheries. So at  
30 your leisure you can review those particular projects,  
31 so I won't go through them individually. So that  
32 material is there in that handout for you.

33

34 As Alex mentioned our main printer  
35 crapped out right at an untimely time so I only have a  
36 few copies of reports about the salmon monitoring at  
37 the Tuluksak Weir and the Kwethluk Weir. There's not  
38 enough copies for everybody, but I will leave what I  
39 have here on the table for you, it's just a little more  
40 in-depth explanation that's in the handout that I  
41 handed out yesterday, so I'll put those over on the  
42 table for you.

43

44 To keep it brief, there's only one  
45 issue I wanted to bring forward and that is at the  
46 Board of Game in their November meeting in Bethel, had  
47 passed a regulation to ban lead shot for small game on  
48 the Delta in Unit 18. So that will be coming forth in  
49 their regulation booklet this summer, which bans the  
50 use of lead shot in Unit 18 for small game, ptarmigan,

1 hare, et cetera. The Refuge offered to do an exchange  
2 for lead shot program to minimize impact on local users  
3 if they had lead shot and we will start that this  
4 summer in April and May going around to villages across  
5 the Delta and will exchange lead shot that they would  
6 have for steel shot. So something that's new and  
7 coming up, we will be doing that, again, in the next  
8 couple of months.

9

10 That's all I had, if you had any  
11 questions I'll try to answer them.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Edgar.

14

15 MR. HOELSCHER: Thank you, Mr.  
16 Chairman. In regards to lead shot, is that like the  
17 pellets or is that a caliber range you're talking, like  
18 small arms, calibers, also.

19

20 MR. TWITCHELL: That's correct. What  
21 we've been purchasing is No. 6 and No. 7 steel shot.  
22 We also have some No. 4 as well, primarily 12 gauge but  
23 also 20 gauge and we're trying to find a source for  
24 410. Right now there's no 410 non-toxic shot out there  
25 and there's no dealer in Anchorage that carries it so  
26 we're contacting the manufactures to try to get in a  
27 supply of that shot in the 410 gauge.

28

29 MR. HOELSCHER: Follow up.

30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

32

33 MR. HOELSCHER: So if you don't have  
34 those in steel, would it be a violation for the  
35 subsistence hunter, like we have kids in training and  
36 using 410s and with steel shot not available in 410s  
37 then, you know, I would assume that there would be no  
38 conflicts with hunting issues.

39

40 MR. TWITCHELL: Our intention is to  
41 acquire the non-toxic 410 shot and we're in contact  
42 with the manufactures to find out how soon that would  
43 be available, so we will acquire it as soon as it  
44 becomes available and then we'll continue with the  
45 exchange program across the Delta.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further questions.  
48 Greg.

49

50 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. Hollis, I

1 suspect you probably would have mentioned if it's so  
2 but I don't require the entire discussion at the Board  
3 meeting or what their final actin was, but in their  
4 deliberation, I know they were talking about it perhaps  
5 not having it apply to all of GMU 18, do you know if  
6 that's the case or not, do they set -- they were trying  
7 to come up with a definition to exclude uplands because  
8 the lead shot is primarily on the protection of  
9 waterfowl, do you know if they went anywhere with that,  
10 I can't recall.

11  
12 MR. TWITCHELL: My understanding is  
13 that it applied across the Delta in Unit 18. I've been  
14 in contact with Philip Perry the last couple of weeks  
15 to try to get the actual language from the Board to  
16 clarify that but as I understood it applied across Unit  
17 18.

18  
19 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you. They were  
20 discussing it and I didn't know if they'd actually  
21 included it.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further  
24 discussion.

25  
26 (No comments)

27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I have one question  
29 for you Hollis, there's a lot of -- well, my favorite,  
30 if I'm going to use my shotgun is BB size or No. 2 size  
31 for geese and I noticed that you stated you only had  
32 No. 6 and No. 7., that's a little light for out on our  
33 hunting.

34  
35 MR. TWITCHELL: For the upland game we  
36 have acquired that, we still have some supply from when  
37 we were doing the steel shot exchange for waterfowl, so  
38 we do have a fairly substantial supply currently of the  
39 BB, BBB, and the heavier loads, so we have both. We  
40 can carry that with us as well so if people prefer to  
41 use those heavier shots, we will have that to exchange  
42 also.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I know that where I  
45 come from I've noticed that the heavier shots for geese  
46 are more, they seem to prefer it because of the -- you  
47 know our area is a little windy, that light shot has a  
48 tendency to float.

49  
50 MR. TWITCHELL: Yes. We have an ample

1 supply of that. That shot is used in our clinics.  
2 This year we'll be doing three steel shot clinics, one  
3 in Kwethluk, one in Tuluksak and one in Nightmute. We  
4 try to rotate through at least three or four villages  
5 every year with these clinics. And those are the three  
6 villages that will be visited in April this year.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any more  
9 questions.

10  
11 MS. GREGORY: I thought you were  
12 talking about the fish.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Steel shot Mary.

15  
16 MS. GREGORY: Steel shots. Okay,  
17 what's happening right now, do we need to change  
18 shells again?

19  
20 MR. TWITCHELL: The Board of Game in  
21 November passed a regulation banning lead shot for  
22 small game. This is primarily looking at hare and  
23 ptarmigan type of hunting so it's -- the shot that's  
24 used in those particular species in hunting for lead is  
25 now banned. And to try to mitigate the impacts on  
26 local users, we're doing a steel shot exchange program  
27 for those.

28  
29 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, I think we've done  
30 that for a couple years.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions for  
33 Mr. Twitchell.

34  
35 (No comments)

36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not, thank you very  
38 much.

39  
40 MR. TWITCHELL: Thank you.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next on the agenda is  
43 Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, and Andy is not here.

44  
45 MR. ANDREW: They're not here.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Let us.....

48  
49 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: .....take a 10 minute  
2 break for -- yeah, go ahead.  
3  
4 MR. NICK: Yeah, it's on page.....  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I'm sorry, before you  
7 get into that I just got an important announcement. It  
8 says, Council members need to pay a ground  
9 transportation of \$10 round-trip, and make sure that  
10 all Council and Staff you're responsible for your own  
11 meals, make sure you pay the ladies.  
12  
13 MS. GREGORY: Do I pay the ladies for  
14 my transportation too.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: According to this it  
17 says need to pay a ground transportation.  
18  
19 MR. ANDREW: To Father Nick.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is that to Father.  
22  
23 MR. NICK: Yeah, Mr. Chair. The meals  
24 are paid to these ladies, Ms. Michaelson, she's sitting  
25 over there and there'll be a couple more later on  
26 maybe. And your ground transportation, your fee for  
27 coming down from the airport and going back it's \$5  
28 apiece, round trip is \$10, so you need to pay that  
29 amount to the driver and he's supposed to provide you a  
30 receipt.  
31  
32 MS. GREGORY: Okay. I need somebody to  
33 lend me \$10 because I only got one check left.  
34  
35 (Laughter)  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions.  
38  
39 MR. ANDREW: But who do we write them  
40 out to, if we write a check.  
41  
42 MR. NICK: For the meals you could ask  
43 that lady over there, Ms. Michaelson, could you raise  
44 your hand -- Tina knows, to Sisterhood, that's what it  
45 is. And for your ground transportation you can write  
46 your check to Native Village of Lower Kalskag, they're  
47 the ones that are providing the truck to pick us up and  
48 drop us off.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, is that it.

1 MR. NICK: (Nods affirmatively)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, take a 10 minute  
4 break and have breakfast and then we'll get right back.  
5  
6 (Off record)  
7  
8 (On record)  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Call the meeting back  
11 to order, and we're down to Item 13C, BLM. Anybody  
12 from BLM here, I guess they went home.  
13  
14 (No comments)  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Last call for  
17 BLM.  
18  
19 (No comments)  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Item D, Alaska  
22 Department of Fish and Game has no update.  
23  
24 (No comments)  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: AVCP.  
27  
28 MR. ANDREW: For the record, Timothy  
29 Andrew with AVCP, Natural Resources.  
30  
31 And, Mr. Chairman, Members of the  
32 Council I'll be real brief in the interest of time to  
33 make sure that you're able to get out of here as  
34 scheduled.  
35  
36 There's a number of things that we're  
37 extremely concerned about within AVCP.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Let's have some  
40 attention here, please, there's somebody that's  
41 addressing us. Thank you. Go ahead, Tim.  
42  
43 MR. ANDREW: One of the areas that  
44 we're real concerned about is the intense Federal  
45 control over the Regional Advisory Councils, the  
46 intense Federal control within the Federal Subsistence  
47 Board, we see continuous censorship of what you all are  
48 able to do. We see continuous censorship of the  
49 actions of the Federal Subsistence Board and it is not  
50 in the best interest of regular citizens, and it is

1 also absolutely not in the best interest of  
2 subsistence.

3  
4                   And what came to light within this last  
5 year was the Sportsman Conservation Council. It's a  
6 group made up within -- or to advise the Department of  
7 Interior and all their activities, on any lands that  
8 they have jurisdiction over and much of the membership  
9 of the Sportsman Conservation Council are primarily  
10 people from the sporting community, from the National  
11 Audubon there's no Alaska Native or American Indian  
12 representation on this Sporting Conservation Council  
13 which is supposed to guide the Secretary of Interior in  
14 the management of public lands across the nation.

15  
16                   And with that type of control, that  
17 type of interest guiding the Secretary, it's just not  
18 conducive for subsistence activities or there's really  
19 basically nobody to advocate for subsistence in that  
20 arena.

21  
22                   The Federal Subsistence Board, we  
23 believe they are directly supervised by the Secretary  
24 of the Interior, they will take orders from the  
25 Secretary of Interior, they cannot do any actions  
26 contrary to what the Secretary desires or anybody above  
27 them, and that's why the Federal Subsistence Board  
28 needs to be changed in our opinion. We've made it  
29 known throughout the Alaska Native community that the  
30 Federal Subsistence process in Alaska needs to be  
31 revised. And if there is no revision there's going to  
32 be one great big situation that's going to occur here  
33 pretty soon. Because subsistence is our primary  
34 livelihood. It's of big interest, especially in our  
35 region, our region consumes 664 pounds per capita of  
36 wild food. That's every one of us, if one of us  
37 doesn't consume it, somebody else will consume it, it's  
38 for every man, woman and child that lives in the area,  
39 and we have the highest consumption per capita of wild  
40 foods in the state and probably across the nation, so  
41 subsistence is extremely, extremely important to us.

42  
43                   The Mulchatna Caribou Herd, we are  
44 continuing to address the issue. Both Greg and I, we  
45 co-sponsored a meeting in Bethel in late February  
46 before the Board of Game meeting, we had an opportunity  
47 to address the Mulchatna Caribou Herd situation in a  
48 rather small scale before we went to Board of Game.  
49 AVCP had submitted a proposal to decrease the -- or  
50 excuse me, eliminate the non-resident hunt for caribou

1 in Unit 18 and initiate a Tier I hunt because the  
2 amounts necessary for subsistence were not being met at  
3 this time. And at the Board of Game meeting in the  
4 latter part of February, early March in Fairbanks, the  
5 Board of Game decided to defer this proposal to a  
6 future date so that the Alaska Department of Fish and  
7 Game wildlife biologists could take a look at it and  
8 reexamine it in their entire migratory route and their  
9 habitat, which includes Unit 9 down in Bristol Bay,  
10 Unit 17 in the Bristol Bay area, and Unit 18 and Unit  
11 19.

12  
13                   We continue to work on your proposal,  
14 Mr. Chairman, the version of amounts necessary for  
15 subsistence for moose. Like I said earlier in my  
16 earlier testimony, we convened a Western Regional  
17 Council meeting, Greg and I, ONC and AVCP, we co-hosted  
18 the meeting that happened in Bethel, we came up a core  
19 group of people there to make recommendations to defer  
20 this proposal -- or to give this proposal over to the  
21 Western Regional Council for them to work with the  
22 Division of Subsistence, Division of Wildlife  
23 Conservation, a representative from the GASH Advisory  
24 Committee and several interested groups, and perhaps  
25 the Federal Management system to come up with the  
26 amounts necessary -- a true amounts necessary for  
27 subsistence for moose in the area.

28  
29                   We are continuously concerned about the  
30 Unit 19 moose situation, although we haven't been able  
31 to primarily focus any of our attention to it, but we  
32 remain cognitive of the situation there and we're  
33 trying to monitor it as closely as possible as our  
34 human resources can permit.

35  
36                   The bycatch of salmon in the Bering Sea  
37 is having a significant impact on our people, whether  
38 it's for the commercial fisherman or the subsistence  
39 fisherman or for the spawning grounds. We have made  
40 attempts to petition the Federal Subsistence Board,  
41 Federal Subsistence Management process to exert their  
42 extraterritorial jurisdiction in managing the ocean  
43 fisheries to protect the bycatch of our salmon both on  
44 the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers, but unfortunately this  
45 system of management that we are under at this time is  
46 not very conducive to exerting that authority because  
47 the Republican Administration believes that the State  
48 rights are the ultimate authority on these types of  
49 matters.

50

1                   We're concerned about the Yukon River  
2 chinook that is forecasted for this coming summer. As  
3 you had earlier from the Yukon River folks, that the  
4 chinook forecast is extremely dismal. We are going to  
5 be working with the Tanana Chiefs Conference to address  
6 the issue, although we haven't been in agreement within  
7 these last several years because of the up river, down  
8 river issue of trying to limit our fisheries but we are  
9 going to try and work together to try and address the  
10 larger scale issue, which is the Bering sea bycatch and  
11 perhaps some environmental issues that may be related  
12 as well.

13

14                   We are also concerned about the effects  
15 of global warming, what it's doing to habitat for much  
16 of the species that we depend on. As you all can  
17 probably see, we're seeing earlier breakups, we're  
18 seeing growth in the habitat that we've never seen  
19 before. We're seeing die-offs in large numbers of  
20 caribou calves, which may be contributing to the  
21 Mulchatna decline, and it all may be related to global  
22 warming. We don't know at this point what, exactly, is  
23 happening.

24

25                   The other area that AVCP has taken the  
26 forefront on is the appointments in the Board of Game  
27 and Board of Fish. Governor Palin, to this date, has  
28 been totally avoiding meetings with the Alaska Native  
29 Organizations and Alaska -- she's not consulting with  
30 the Alaska Native Organizations as well in the  
31 appointments of these important management positions.  
32 Alaska Natives own 10 percent of the state of Alaska,  
33 44 million acres under State management and that should  
34 be a big indicator that we need to be involved in the  
35 process, or at least we need representatives in the  
36 Board of Game and Board of Fisheries. You know, if we  
37 were anywhere else besides Alaska and perhaps it was  
38 not Alaska Native Organizations that owned the land,  
39 they would probably have a pretty good size interest in  
40 the Board of Game and Board of Fish appointees. We  
41 feel that we need to be at the table, number 1, because  
42 we depend on the land to the greatest extent, and also  
43 we are the majority or the biggest private land owners  
44 in Alaska under State management.

45

46                   The other issue that we point out  
47 because in the Board of Game and Board of Fish  
48 appointment process is that the Alaska Native  
49 Organizations or the Alaska Native Corporations own  
50 some of the best habitat for our fish and game

1 resources to reside in, and like I said in my testimony  
2 earlier, the Alaska Native Corporations, Alaska Native  
3 allotments selected the lands primarily for subsistence  
4 purposes. And in doing so these are the lands that we  
5 subsisted on for generations, way beyond this  
6 generation, perhaps 10,000 years or into the  
7 millennium, depended on these lands, taken care of  
8 these lands to make sure that they produce the  
9 animals, the plant life that they produce for us and for  
10 future generations, so we believe that we're good  
11 stewards of the land and that we need to have a  
12 presence in the Board of Game and Board of Fisheries.

13

14 That basically concludes my report, Mr.  
15 Chairman, and I'd be glad to answer any questions if  
16 you have any.

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Tim. Any  
19 questions for Tim.

20

21 MR. HOELSCHER: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Chairman. Tim, as you know AVCP has their conventions  
23 twice a year and is there dialogue in place with our  
24 regional coordinator or Office of Subsistence  
25 Management in regards to issues on subsistence from the  
26 50-plus villages.

27

28 MR. ANDREW: In our convention in  
29 October we invite the Office of Subsistence Management  
30 but during this last October there were some other  
31 issues that had taken a considerable amount of time in  
32 which the convention was addressing that didn't allow  
33 enough time for Pete Probasco to address the  
34 convention. But we do extend an invitation to them  
35 every time we have our convention.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further questions.  
38 Greg.

39

40 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. Tim, I  
41 know it's been longstanding controversy, conflict with  
42 AVCP and addressing the sport and commercial  
43 competition we have for subsistence as well, but can  
44 you offer us anymore on what AVCP might be looking  
45 towards is addressing what is looming now as an even  
46 larger concern that you mentioned -- and I don't know  
47 if you were here when Calvin was talking yesterday in  
48 regards to the management structure of the Federal  
49 Subsistence Program being controlled by the  
50 conservationists and animal welfare groups and so

1 forth; what are you doing along those lines to address  
2 that issue.

3

4 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. The  
5 convention for the last several years has been  
6 addressing some of the predator management issues,  
7 we've wholeheartedly supported the predator management  
8 issues in Unit 19 where we've had low populations of  
9 moose. As far as the sport's side, because of our  
10 moose populations that are increasing within Unit 18,  
11 we're starting to see a whole bunch of sport interests  
12 starting to come in, in fact, we have probably three or  
13 four sport guiding, transporter operations for both  
14 fish and for game as well based out of Bethel, and  
15 we'll likely see more as we see our populations  
16 continue to increase.

17

18 The lowest Yukon area is one of the big  
19 successes, the lower Kuskokwim is bound to be one of  
20 the big successes of moose management and in the  
21 future, maybe after I retire or maybe even before I  
22 retire from my appointment with AVCP, we'll likely see  
23 that sport interest in the lower Kuskokwim River moose  
24 moratorium area.

25

26 What we're seeing is a clash in value  
27 of sport hunters and subsistence hunters because, you  
28 know, like many of our elders are saying, we don't like  
29 to waste -- you know Mary indicated here that she  
30 doesn't like to waste, James and perhaps other elders,  
31 we've heard throughout our convention, they do not like  
32 to waste, and from what we've heard, from what we've  
33 seen in some of the transporting industries in Aniak  
34 and other places, when the meat arrives in locations  
35 it's spoiled meat, and that is where the clash is  
36 starting, the clash will likely occur. We also harvest  
37 all the game meat, all the bones, all the internal  
38 organs, you know, parts off an animal that the  
39 sport hunters don't harvest, or don't take back. You  
40 know that's another clash in values that we'll likely  
41 see.

42

43 And it's extremely, extremely important  
44 in the management of our caribou resources, our moose  
45 resources where those sport hunters primarily focus, is  
46 that we have a moose management working group and  
47 caribou management working group to address some of  
48 these issues to let these people know that, you know,  
49 this is how the local people who reside in the area  
50 value these resources. And I've seen this management

1 type of organizations work in different places, and it  
2 works well to the advantage of everybody, especially  
3 that the resources that we really care for.

4

5                   And my apologies for making that a  
6 long-winded answer to your question or to your issue,  
7 Greg.

8

9                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions for  
10 Tim.

11

12                   (No comments)

13

14                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Tim. I  
15 just want to make one statement that, you know, we  
16 appreciate the work that you do for the subsistence  
17 program, not just for the program within the Federal  
18 system, but within the system of our people, where it  
19 really counts. And, I, for one, appreciate everything  
20 that you've done for the people in our area, in support  
21 of subsistence.

22

23                   Thank you.

24

25                   MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

26

27                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

28

29                   MS. GREGORY: Tim. And I want to thank  
30 you for always being with us when we have meeting and  
31 representing AVCP.

32

33                   (In Yup'ik)

34

35                   And also Ms. Hooper over there. That  
36 shows us that you guys care.

37

38                   MR. ANDREW: Thank you, very much, Mr.  
39 Chair. I was just going to state that, you know, it's  
40 not only me, myself, Jennifer has helped out quite a  
41 bit, to a large extent, mostly on the fisheries side,  
42 I've worked with Greg quite a bit, and Myron is also  
43 another person that is kind of like a quasi-staff  
44 member for our natural resource department since we  
45 don't have any other money and several other board  
46 members from AVCP that are true advocates for our  
47 subsistence way of life. There's' members from the  
48 villages that are very vocal, they help us out  
49 tremendously. So whenever we reach out for help from  
50 the villages, the more input we get from the villages,

1 the more it gives us a -- it gives us a boost and, of  
2 course, you know, gratitude that you expressed earlier,  
3 that's something that we rarely hear and we really  
4 appreciate it.

5  
6                   Quyana.

7  
8                   CHAIRMAN WILDE:  Quyana.  Next on the  
9 agenda, Yukon River Drainage Fisheries.

10  
11                   MR. ANDREW:  That's done.

12  
13                   CHAIRMAN WILDE:  No YRDFA.

14  
15                   MR. ANDREW:  She left.

16  
17                   CHAIRMAN WILDE:  So Yukon InterTribal  
18 Watershed.

19  
20                   (No comments)

21  
22                   CHAIRMAN WILDE:  None.  Tribal  
23 representation.

24  
25                   (No comments)

26  
27                   CHAIRMAN WILDE:  None, I guess.  
28 Municipal government representatives.

29  
30                   (No comments)

31  
32                   CHAIRMAN WILDE:  ANCSA village  
33 corporation representatives.  Tim.

34  
35                   MR. ANDREW:  I'm going to change my  
36 AVCP hat and put Maserculiq, Inc., for the record it's  
37 spelled M-A-S-E-R-C-U-L-I-Q.

38  
39                   REPORTER:  Thank you.

40  
41                   MR. ANDREW:  It's the village  
42 corporation name for the community of Marshall.  In my  
43 testimony I had indicated that we have seen a large  
44 influx of airplanes coming in in the fall season.  And  
45 this is a direct result of the Federal Subsistence  
46 Board allowing for the non-Federally qualified hunters  
47 to come and hunt moose during the fall.  I haven't  
48 heard so much of any complaints about the winter season  
49 of any large number of airplanes coming and hunting in  
50 the area, it's primarily during the fall when the

1 sporthunters come in, they're after the large trophy  
2 bulls that reside in the area. And it has created a  
3 sense of imbalance within our community within the  
4 people that -- within the people that hunt in the area.

5  
6                   You know we recognize the need to  
7 decrease the amount of the moose population there but  
8 we feel that people have not been given all the  
9 opportunity to fill their subsistence needs. Not  
10 everybody is successful in the fall when you go  
11 hunting, it's pretty much a hit or miss situation.  
12 Even if you're given an extended period of time from  
13 August 10th to September 30th, not everybody gets their  
14 moose at that time. And during the winter hunt there's  
15 a pretty big reluctance of people to go out hunt for  
16 antlered bulls because the bulls at that time have very  
17 little or no fat at all. And people would probably  
18 much more likely prefer the cows during the winter, or  
19 the lone cows during the winter, than the bulls,  
20 because the lone cows without any calves at that time,  
21 would have the fat reserves, or the fat that people  
22 like and more than likely the moose is much more  
23 tender.

24  
25                   And we feel that, you know, give the  
26 subsistence hunter the biggest and most opportunity as  
27 possible, not necessarily the reasonable opportunity,  
28 but the best possible opportunity to harvest their  
29 subsistence food resources.

30  
31                   And it's like one of the guys stated  
32 here, they would love to go out and hunt moose in the  
33 winter and they reside in this community, they reside  
34 in Kalskag, they reside in Aniak, Chuathbaluk and  
35 others that desire moose, you know, give those people  
36 the maximum opportunity to participate before allowing  
37 for the sporthunters to come in.

38  
39                   The other area that our board was kind  
40 of curious about was the effects of the sporthunters on  
41 our moose populations on our Federal lands. The  
42 question came up, do we need an environmental impact  
43 statement for the allowance of sporthunters on Federal  
44 land. On the migratory bird side, the Federal managers  
45 were trying to get an environmental impact statement of  
46 subsistence hunting on migratory land, you know, let's  
47 turn the boat around and let's see about an  
48 environmental impact statement of sporthunting on  
49 Federal land, or at least in the Yukon Kuskokwim-Delta  
50 National Wildlife Refuge.

1                   We have to jump through hoops to be  
2 able to subsistence hunt. We have to go through the  
3 regulatory process to subsistence hunt and the  
4 sporthunters, it seems like in one attempt they got  
5 their way, they got their ability to sporthunt in an  
6 area that is primarily dedicated for subsistence.

7  
8                   Okay, thank you, Mr. Chair.

9  
10                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any  
11 questions for Tim.

12  
13                  (No comments)

14  
15                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Tim.

16  
17                  MR. ANDREW: Thank you.

18  
19                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Other organizations  
20 that would like to address the Council.

21  
22                  (No comments)

23  
24                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anybody.

25  
26                  (No comments)

27  
28                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: No takers.

29  
30                  (Laughter)

31  
32                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Now it is  
33 time to determine dates and location of future  
34 meetings. Alex Nick. Mr. Nick.

35  
36                  Before he goes into that, you all  
37 remember that we usually set both the fall and winter  
38 dates, temporarily, so I think at this time we'll do  
39 that. Alex.

40  
41                  MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For  
42 fall 2008 meeting, you need to confirm your fall  
43 meeting, it's scheduled to be held on October 2 to 3 in  
44 Bethel.

45  
46                  MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

47  
48                  MR. NICK: October 2 to 3 in Bethel  
49 that need to be confirmed. And for the fall meeting --  
50 rather winter 2009 meeting, these are the scheduled --

1 schedule is open for the winter meeting in early  
2 February there's only -- on February 13 there's one day  
3 opening. February 23. And there's a question mark on  
4 27. March 2 is open. March 6.

5  
6 (Pause)

7  
8 MR. NICK: And while Larry's getting  
9 over to the table, yesterday I mentioned that I worked  
10 on the document that shows Easter for both Western and  
11 Orthodox church. For your information in 2009 Orthodox  
12 Easter will be on the 19th and Palm Sunday will be a  
13 week before that. Western Easter will be on April 12  
14 and Palm Sunday will be a week before that.

15  
16 2010 we'll all have Easter together on  
17 the same day, April 4.

18  
19 2011 we'll all have Easter on the same  
20 day, on April 24.

21  
22 And April 12 Orthodox Church is on  
23 April 15, and other church Easter is on April 8.

24  
25 Just for your information.

26  
27 MS. GREGORY: For 2009, for next year,  
28 what is the next year?

29  
30 MR. NICK: Next year 2009 (In Yup'ik)

31  
32 Those are Easter dates for next year.

33  
34 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex, could you make a  
37 copy for all of us and mail us a copy of that just for  
38 our information, please.

39  
40 MR. NICK: I can do that, yeah.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Mr. Larry  
43 Buklis.

44  
45 MR. BUKLIS Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
46 Larry Buklis, OSM. To help you more with your  
47 scheduling for the winter 2009 meeting, if you look on  
48 Page 135 of your Council book there's the window of  
49 time that we're working with, from February 9th through  
50 April 3rd. And the guidance we have in OSM is we work

1 very hard to not have more than two Council meetings in  
2 a week because of Staffing coverage, court reporter  
3 coverage and other issues, so I can tell you which  
4 weeks already have two Council meetings. That means  
5 the other ones we're flexible on.

6

7                   According to my information the week of  
8 February 9th already has two Councils picking dates  
9 that week, so that week should not be one you consider.

10

11                   And the only other week is the week of  
12 February 16th, we have one confirmed and one Council  
13 with that as an alternative week for them, so we could  
14 have two that week.

15

16                   All the other weeks, from the week of  
17 February 23rd all the way down the chart, we only have  
18 one Council meeting per week or less, or zero, none of  
19 the other weeks have two already, so all the weeks from  
20 February 23rd on are open to you to pick dates.

21

22                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

23

24                   MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I'd  
25 recommend at this point February 24 and 25 if those  
26 dates are available. The week of March 2nd and  
27 continuing on, the first 10 days of March are going to  
28 be the Board of Game meeting that's going to be held  
29 right in that time and if the effort that's put  
30 forward, it might work out on addressing the amounts  
31 necessary for GMU 18 and possible reopening of the --  
32 form the lower Kuskokwim moratorium in 18, along with  
33 all the other issues of management plan, if those all  
34 pan out, they did defer our proposal and we are going  
35 to be on the agenda during that meeting, and so whether  
36 in the 24 and 25, or perhaps the week of 27/18 or the  
37 19/20 would probably be a preferred time.

38

39                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: So traveling time,  
40 you're suggesting would be on the 23rd and 26th.

41

42                   MR. ANDREW: Correct.

43

44                   MS. GREGORY: 25 and then travel --  
45 it'd be Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

46

47                   MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, it'd be 24 and 25,  
48 so that any travel would be covered on 23 and 26.

49

50                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: What are you.....

1 MR. ROCZICKA: And I would so move,  
2 February 24 and 25.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 24 and 25.  
5  
6 MS. GREGORY: Second.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on  
9 the floor for.....  
10  
11 MS. GREGORY: Second. (In Yup'ik)  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: .....February 24 and  
14 25, do I hear a second.  
15  
16 MS. GREGORY: Yes.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by my  
19 An'anaq, Mary.  
20  
21 MS. GREGORY: (Nods affirmatively)  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All in favor of 24 and  
24 25 say aye.  
25  
26 IN UNISON: Aye.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed.  
29  
30 MR. HOELSCHER: Mr. Chairman.  
31 Discussion.  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Discussion. I'm  
34 sorry.  
35  
36 MR. HOELSCHER: Where are we meeting?  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I'm sorry.  
39  
40 MS. GREGORY: We will do that in a  
41 minute.  
42  
43 MR. HOELSCHER: Okay. Okay. Forget it  
44 then.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Where.  
47  
48 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. We have  
49 met in Hooper Bay, the Yukon, up river from the  
50 Kuskokwim, we haven't met down river from the Kuskokwim

1 yet, like in Eek, Alaska or Quinhagak or Platinum or  
2 Goodnews, those areas.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: It might be a good  
5 idea to ask for invitations from those villages.

6  
7 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.

10  
11 MR. NICK: We are encouraging meetings  
12 be held in hub community like Bethel and St. Mary's due  
13 to some problems that we got. And if you decide to  
14 meet in a community, like the communities Mary  
15 mentioned, you need to have a very good justification  
16 that will be reviewed by the -- reviewed by OSM, Pete  
17 Probasco.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: It's getting harder  
20 and harder to do what you want to do anymore.

21  
22 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

25  
26 MS. GREGORY: Because hub communities  
27 get a lot of information already I would go for a  
28 remote village because we are representing them and  
29 there are some issues that are happening in that Togiak  
30 Wildlife Service and also the proposed hunt for -- the  
31 proposals that were here for Goodnews Bay and those  
32 villages for a moose hunt and I'd like to know what's  
33 happening there afterwards.

34  
35 MR. HOELSCHER: Quinhagak.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Quinhagak. Greg.

38  
39 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
40 I'd endorse Quinhagak as well, and if you want to talk  
41 about a hub, Quinhagak now has that large plant down  
42 there that they've started up through CVRF, and so they  
43 have the large airport and I'd say that would be our  
44 preferred and request if they'd be willing to host us  
45 there, that we identify that and if we are going to be  
46 subject to veto from powers above, that -- for -- I  
47 know it's been stated for monetary reasons but I  
48 believe that -- while that's one of the factor's  
49 considered, but I think it's probably pretty much a  
50 wash when it really comes down to it as far as expenses

1 of what it might cost in a village versus when you do  
2 meet in a hub and you have to spend hundreds of dollars  
3 of a day just for the rental of a convention hall and  
4 things of that nature, and the increased cost for  
5 lodging expenses and so forth that are also associated  
6 with the larger communities and all of that involved,  
7 so I think they pretty much balance each other out.

8

9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any objections to  
10 Quinhagak on the 25th and 26th.

11

12 MS. GREGORY: No objections from this  
13 end.

14

15 MR. HOELSCHER: 24 and 25.

16

17 MR. ANDREW: 24 and 25.

18

19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 24 and 25. No  
20 objections.

21

22 (No objections)

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So be it, Quinhagak,  
25 on the 24th and 25th of 2009 and we'll come up -- if  
26 you need some more justification I'm sure we could come  
27 up with it.

28

29 Mr. Buklis.

30

31 MR. BUKLIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
32 I just wanted to emphasize what Alex was saying, that  
33 our assessment is for budget reasons, we are working  
34 hard to get the Councils to meet in hub communities in  
35 their regions and for this Council the hub communities  
36 I'm aware of that we've defined, are Bethel and St.  
37 Mary's on the Kuskokwim and the Yukon. And I  
38 understand what you're saying, and I know there's a  
39 difference of view with Councils and the management,  
40 but that's the approach we're needing to take, so I  
41 cannot assure you that Quinhagak will be endorsed as a  
42 location.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We understand that.

45

46 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

49

50 MS. GREGORY: I know that fares from

1 Quinhagak to Bethel and also fares from St. Mary's to  
2 Bethel are about similar. So we're not going to spend  
3 more money or stuff like that. And I travel a lot in  
4 the villages.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You done Mary.

7  
8 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ed.

11  
12 MR. HOELSCHER: As you know we are the  
13 YK-Delta RAC, and we're representing our people and we  
14 would like to hear different parts of the areas of the  
15 people we're representing.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further discussion  
18 on this.

19  
20 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, I want to say a  
21 couple more things, like right now we're having a very  
22 good input from the local people because we haven't  
23 been here, and this is a very good meeting, we didn't  
24 have to do a lot of guesswork, they tell us what's  
25 going on, and that's what we want to do when we meet,  
26 is to get some information from the people we serve.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. So our meeting  
29 is decided at Quinhagak for the 24th, 25th and 26th.

30  
31 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alex.

34  
35 MR. NICK: I would recommend that you  
36 pick alternate hub community, Bethel or St. Mary's just  
37 in case.

38  
39 MS. GREGORY: Since we're meeting in  
40 Bethel -- Mr. Chairman.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

43  
44 MS. GREGORY: Since we're meeting in  
45 Bethel on October 1 and 2 then St. Mary's would be the  
46 next alternate.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is that okay with  
49 everybody, St. Mary's as alternate.

50

1 MR. HOELSCHER: What about Pilot  
2 Station.  
3  
4 MS. GREGORY: That can be worked out,  
5 too.  
6  
7 MR. HOELSCHER: Yeah.  
8  
9 MS. GREGORY: Nothing is impossible  
10 when you put your mind to it.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, we would prefer a  
13 village.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Do we have a majority  
16 on pilot station then as an alternate.  
17  
18 (Council nods affirmatively)  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We understand what  
21 your concerns are, and you can understand ours, I hope.  
22 Pilot Station is alternate.  
23  
24 MS. GREGORY: Yes, Pilot Station.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.  
27  
28 (Council nods affirmatively)  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Closing comments,  
31 Council.  
32  
33 MS. GREGORY: I have one.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, ma'am. We'll  
36 start from you anyway.  
37  
38 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. I'd like to have  
39 the ladies.....  
40  
41 REPORTER: Mary. Mary.  
42  
43 MS. GREGORY: .....stand up.....  
44  
45 MR. ANDREW: Your mic.  
46  
47 REPORTER: Mary. Mary.  
48  
49 MS. GREGORY: I'm sorry, thank you.  
50

1 Ms. Michaelson, are you here. Adrian  
2 Kerr. Cathy Wise. Alice Kameroff. Ida Williamson.  
3 Polossa Evan. Come on. We want to thank you for  
4 feeding us lots of food and keeping us healthy while  
5 we're here and we want to thank you very much for  
6 giving us your time, your talent and your cooking  
7 experts.

8

9 Quyana.

10

11 (Applause)

12

13 MS. GREGORY: I'd also like to thank  
14 Mr. George Pappas, can you stand up, for bringing the  
15 fruit and the elk. That was beautiful. Thank you for  
16 keeping us healthy.

17

18 (Applause)

19

20 MS. GREGORY: And I want to thank the  
21 village of Kalskag for inviting us to come here. Even  
22 though he's not here, I call him (In Yup'ik), one of my  
23 relatives, Bob Aloysius. He don't like to call me his  
24 relative but he's that lucky.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 MS. GREGORY: And when he comes home  
29 you guys can tell him that we thank him for inviting us  
30 here because we get to know what the up river people  
31 are thinking and having difficulty in getting  
32 subsistence activities done. And I also would like to  
33 thank my host, my sister-in-law, Elania Sergie, (In  
34 Yup'ik) for letting me sleep and being good in your  
35 house.

36

37 (Applause)

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you Mary. Greg.

40

41 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
42 I'd add my appreciation to the people of Kalskag here  
43 as well. Thanks to my host family also. And most  
44 especially, again, for the people who came and attended  
45 this meeting, we don't get that a lot of times, those  
46 of you who may have heard, in other areas, and the  
47 words that you give us make the tough job that we got  
48 to do, it gives us a lot more strength to do that and I  
49 really thank you for that. Thank you to the Council  
50 members also.

1                   Quyana.

2

3                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Andrew.

4

5                   MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. Quyana.  
6 First of all I'd like to thank this Council and Staff  
7 for putting it together and all the other  
8 representatives that came up to the meeting from  
9 Bethel, Togiak, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Aniak.

10

11                   (In Yup'ik)

12

13                   MR. ANDREW: I really appreciate that.  
14 Quyana.

15

16                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. I'd like  
17 to thank the people of Kalskag for inviting us, Number  
18 1. And for you people to attend this, our meeting, to  
19 give you an idea of some of the problems we have as far  
20 as working in a bureaucratic atmosphere we have to go  
21 under certain regulations whether we like it or not, so  
22 to give you an idea, some of the battles we have to go  
23 through, even within our own organization to get some  
24 of the things done as we want it done in the system.  
25 And I was really -- it made me feel real good to be  
26 able to come up here and talk with you on some of the  
27 problems that you have, not just me, but with our  
28 Council, and we appreciate every help that you've given  
29 us and I'm sure that you're going to remember that in  
30 the event that you have any problems with your  
31 subsistence we will do whatever we can to help you  
32 reach a conclusion to that. You are always at the end  
33 of a phone line, or at the end of a wire, you're able  
34 to get our individual phone numbers from Alex, I don't  
35 think any of us in the Council have any objections to  
36 having him giving out our numbers to anybody that would  
37 like to get a hold of us.

38

39                   And I would like to thank the Wise  
40 family that I stayed with. They made me feel right at  
41 home, in fact, the house I'm staying in is just an  
42 exact model of my house in Hooper Bay so I felt totally  
43 at home.

44

45                   (Laughter)

46

47                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Edgar.  
48 Oh, before I go, I forget to mention one thing, I  
49 really like to thank my (In Yup'ik) here for standing  
50 up and being counted as one of the Council members and

1 because of circumstances beyond our control he pays for  
2 his own expense when he comes up here, out of pocket,  
3 so I got to give a hand to my (In Yup'ik) Edgar.

4

5 (Applause)

6

7 MR. HOELSCHER: Thank you, Mr.  
8 Chairman. When you're toward the rear end of the  
9 people that speak ahead of you, they eat your words out  
10 of your mouth, brains.

11

12 I'd like to thank the community of  
13 Kalskag and Staff, you know, for setting up this  
14 meeting and, you know, it was good to see some of my  
15 old classmates and friends I haven't seen for about 30-  
16 plus years.

17

18 Quyana.

19

20 MR. ONEY: Yeah, I think everybody has  
21 already said what I was going to say, too. I thank  
22 everyone in the community of Kalskag for making me feel  
23 welcome here. It's people like you, you know, who work  
24 for the benefit of our people and, you know, we'd like  
25 to encourage everywhere we go that we have input from  
26 the community, so, again, I thank you. I also thank  
27 Alex Nick for the hard work he's done to get us here.  
28 I enjoyed my stay here in Kalskag.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Charles.

33

34 MR. CHARLES: Thank you. Mr. Chairman.

35

36 (In Yup'ik)

37

38 MR. CHARLES: I'm from the last village  
39 on Kuskokwim down river, not really last village, but I  
40 am from Tuntutuliak at the mouth of Kuskokwim River.  
41 I've been coming up here to Kalskag since I was young  
42 in a little old wooden boat with a 35 horse outboard  
43 motor. And at that time, the old folks, they're gone  
44 now, but they welcomed us here, they like to see down  
45 river people come here and they invite us right away to  
46 their homes, feed us, give us food, and we give them  
47 what we have, what we bring for grub, so we trade and  
48 they're really nice people. Every time we stop here  
49 they were nice to us and I see that you folks are  
50 carrying that out, you are still doing the same and

1 helping us, so I want to thank everybody.

2

3 I'm with Kuskokwim Salmon Management  
4 Working Group, we meet every summer with Bob Aloysius  
5 and these other up river people and now days we're  
6 working together, it was not that way before. People  
7 from up here used to say down river people are taking  
8 our fish and it's not that way anymore, it was really  
9 hard for us down river people and we stopped fishing so  
10 you folks up here can catch some fish too. So we're  
11 working together and it makes things -- it makes us  
12 feel better. And we want to let young people do the  
13 same thing, carry it down to young people, younger  
14 generations, so we don't want to finish our game,  
15 because we're living by the regulations now, we didn't  
16 have the regulations before when we were small kids.  
17 We go hunt any time we want to go hunt, now we have to  
18 hunt when the season is open and we have bag limits and  
19 all that, so we are living by the law now.

20

21 So even old days (In Yup'ik) from the  
22 land. We want to keep doing that.

23

24 Quyana.

25

26 MS. SERGIE: (In Yup'ik)

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, come up here and  
29 turn on that mic.

30

31 MS. SERGIE: Yeah, I was born here.  
32 This was my grandpa and uppa's fish camp.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If I may, you know,  
35 all of us understand Yup'ik, so if you want to talk in  
36 Yup'ik, you could address us in Yup'ik.

37

38 MS. SERGIE: Yeah. I was born here.

39

40 MR. ANDREW: Name.

41

42 MS. SERGIE: (In Yup'ik).

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Quyana.

45

46 MR. SERGIE: Yeah, thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anyone else. We got  
49 just a couple more minutes if anybody else would like  
50 to make closing comments.

1 MS. KAMEROF: I don't need the mic. I  
2 just wanted to thank Fish and Wildlife and Fish and  
3 Game, when we lose someone in the village, they always  
4 allow us to go hunt moose for them and help the  
5 families and I wanted to thank you guys for letting us  
6 do that.

7  
8 And I want to pick on my (In Yup'ik)  
9 Alex Nick, he's always pestering us. I heard you got  
10 sick yesterday and I thought my food poisoned you.

11  
12 (Laughter)

13  
14 MS. KAMEROF: Okay, thank you.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Quyana.

17  
18 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Right  
19 here.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

22  
23 MS. GREGORY: I'm glad that you guys  
24 are doing that because we worked really hard to get  
25 that into the regulations.

26  
27 I'm going on for my fourth year now on  
28 this Council and we've been working on that funerary,  
29 for killing moose and stuff, that when you have  
30 somebody pass away.

31  
32 (In Yup'ik)

33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, very much.  
35 The Chair will now entertain a motion for adjournment.

36  
37 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair, I move we  
38 adjourn at.....

39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to  
41 adjourn, do I hear a second.

42  
43 MR. ANDREW: Second.

44  
45 MR. CHARLES: Second.

46  
47 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.

48  
49 MS. GREGORY: .....11:55 [sic].

50

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: All in favor say aye.  
2  
3                   IN UNISON: Aye.  
4  
5                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: The meeting's  
6 adjourned at 11:47 -- 11:48, okay.  
7  
8                   REPORTER: Okay.  
9  
10                  (Off record)  
11  
12                  (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

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

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DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 29th day of March 2008.

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