

YUKON-KUSKOKWIM SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC MEETING  
Bethel Native Cultural Center  
February 27, 1996  
9:00 a.m.  
Bethel, Alaska

VOLUME I

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Harry Wilde, Chairman  
Paul Manumik, Sr., Secretary  
Antone Anvil  
Fritz George  
Zechariah C. Chaliak, Sr.

John Andrew, Coordinator

P R O C E E D I N G S

CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik) Yeah, we're going to start the meeting to order.  
(In Yup'ik) We want to thank you for participating in our meeting here.

INTERPRETER TINKER: Harry Wilde opened the meeting and welcomed everybody that came to the meeting.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: At this time I'm going to ask Antone Anvil to invocation.

MR. ANVIL: (Gives invocation in Yup'ik)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Quyana, Antone. Roll call by our secretary.

MR. MANUMIK: I don't have a list here.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik) list. (In Yup'ik)

INTERPRETER TINKER: Roll call of the board.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: We need the list.

INTERPRETER TINKER: They're looking for who's got the list?

MR. MANUMIK: Do you have a list of who's supposed to be on the ? Well, those of us that are here, I'll call out their names. Antone Anvil?

MR. ANVIL: Here.

MR. MANUMIK: Harry Wilde?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Here.

MR. MANUMIK: Chuck Chaliak?

MR. CHALIAK: Here.

MR. MANUMIK: Fritz George?

MR. GEORGE: Here.

MR. MANUMIK: Paul Manumik is here. And we have Moses Nicolai absent, Steven White absent, David O. David is missing I mean absent. Oh, Gene Peltola was supposed to be here. I'm not sure when he's going to arrive. He's absent. There are five of us here. That makes a quorum?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh. Yeah. We're a quorum.

INTERPRETER TINKER: Quorum established.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: We welcome you this morning to our meeting here. It's supposed to be a meeting at Nunapitchuk, but we move it here. And me, myself, I wasn't able to attend it. I was up in Minto and Fairbanks, and now I am on my way home. I never get there yet, but my wife don't mind, so I don't mind. Yeah.

And this morning I would like to introduce our people, our council attending here. Antone Anvil, and next to him is our coordinator Trapper John we call it, John, and me myself, and Paul Manumik next to me, and Fritz over there next to him, and Chuck. And I think it would be good if you would introduce yourselves, start from here and go around this way.

MR. COFFING: Okay. My name is Mike Coffing, I'm in Bethel with Fish & Wildlife Subsistence.

MR. FISHER: Dave Fisher, Fish & Wildlife Service, Subsistence, from the Anchorage office.

MR. WILLIAMS: Roy Williams from Akiak.

MR. DENTON: I'm Jeff Denton from the Bureau of Land Management, Anchorage District out of Anchorage.

MR. STROM: Denny Strom, Deputy Refuge Manager, Yukon Delta Refuge.

MR. LARSON: I'm Oscar Larson, Kwethluk.

INTERPRETER TINKER: Yako Tinker from Kasigluk.

COURT REPORTER: Meredith Downing, R & R Court Reporters, Anchorage.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Again, welcome to our meeting.

At this time I'm going to let our coordinator review our agenda.

MR. ANDREW: (In Yup'ik) We're still using the same agenda which you were supposed to have last week. I'll read it in Yup'ik for the benefit of our council members. (In Yup'ik)

INTERPRETER TINKER: Following the agenda.

MR. ANDREW: Call to order by Harry Wilde, invocation, roll call, quorum established. Review and adoption of agenda. Add new items if necessary. Review and adoption of minutes October 3rd and 4th meeting, 1995. Number seven, open floor to public comments on Federal Subsistence Management Program. Old

business. Reports Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge. Just follow the agenda. State of Alaska is not here at the moment, but will try to show up later on. Tom Boyd is absent. Dave Fisher will be taking Tom Boyd's place. Number six, Association of Village Council Presidents. Greg Roczicka from AVCP will be here. Under (B), discussion of 1996 annual report, issues and concerns to be included. (C) Council membership. Expiring Council terms. Council representation update, and Council nominations update. Status of navigable waters, fisheries management, and NARAC petition, Dave Fisher. And (E) any other old business. New business. Proposals to change subpart C, customary and traditional use determinations, and subpart D, seasons, harvest limits, methods and means regulations. For each proposal, the procedure will be For each proposal, procedures will be, (a) biological and socio-cultural analysis, proposal team leader; number two, summary of written public comments by John Andrew. Mike Coffing will (3) open floor to public comments on proposals; and number (4), Council deliberation and recommendation, motion to amend if desired, motion to accept proposal or amended proposals and justification. (B) Review of existing customary and traditional use determinations and review of backlog C&T proposals, Mike Coffing will Number (C) any other new business. Under new business, alternates for Regional Advisory Council members. Under (C), any other new business, alternates for representatives. Number (2) court recorder's minutes, the tape, official minutes. Number (10) Council, staff or agency comments will be heard. (11) Establish time and place of next meeting and where. And number (12) adjournment.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Quyana. Harry Wilde thank John for reading our agenda. Harry Wilde is saying that if there's any additional to put on the agenda, or adopt the agenda as is or from anybody, Council, staff or agency, if they want to put new business.

MR. GEORGE: Fritz moved to accept the agenda as revised.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

MR. CHALIAK: Second.

INTERPRETER TINKER: Seconded by Chuck Chaliak.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik) Are there any other any questions pertaining to the agenda? No comments. Everybody in favor of accepting agenda?

IN UNISON: Aye.

INTERPRETER TINKER: All in favor.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

(No opposing responses)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: And that is accepted. Yeah. I think next on our agenda is review and adopt the minutes of meeting of October 3 and 4, 1995.

MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, we don't have our minutes of October 3 and 4 right at hand right now. If you we could take it up later or table it for the next meeting.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. (In Yup'ik) Are not available at this time. And table it for next meeting. The minutes of October 3 and 4, 1995.

MR. CHALIAK: (In Yup'ik)

INTERPRETER TINKER: Chuck Chaliak made a motion to .....

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. The next meeting to read October 3rd and 4th minutes.

MR. ANVIL: Second.

INTERPRETER TINKER: Seconded by Antone Anvil.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second by Antone Anvil. Discussion?

MR. ANVIL: Question.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question's been called for. All who favor it, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed, same sign?

(No opposing responses)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried.

MR. CHALIAK: Mr. Chairman? (In Yup'ik)

INTERPRETER TINKER: Chuck Chaliak asked the Chairman if he could be excused to go to another meeting at this time.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

INTERPRETER TINKER: And according to Harry Wilde, they have to go have to have .....

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Continue meeting?

INTERPRETER TINKER: They have to have .....

(Discussion in Yup'ik)

INTERPRETER TINKER: The board, two, three, four.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

INTERPRETER TINKER: Harry Wilde stated that four are needed to continue the meeting. Chuck Chaliak will be excused, but if Antone should leave the meeting, we'll not be able to continue, because four is needed to establish a quorum. And Antone is going to stay here.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Because we aren't able to continue if we don't have no four board members here. But we're still four here. But this afternoon we're going to be almost quorum, because these people that have meeting over there, they should be through this morning. So we will continue our meeting .....

MR. ANDREW: Report.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Huh?

MR. ANDREW: Report on .....

CHAIRMAN WILDE: We go down to we're going to leave this public floor open to public until tomorrow. We'll go down to old business, reports. Yukon-Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

MR. ANDREW: Dennis Strom.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, okay.

INTERPRETER TINKER: Mike Rearden will be going .....

MR. STROM: My name is Denny Strom. I work for the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

COURT REPORTER: Denny, could you go over there?

INTERPRETER TINKER: I don't think I need to translate. Can you here him?

COURT REPORTER: Yeah, I have a microphone over there.

INTERPRETER TINKER: Okay.

MR. STROM: My name is Denny Strom. I work for the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, and I'd just like to give you a little update, a few of a little of the surveys that we've done this winter on the Yukon Delta, primarily concerning big game, large mammals.

Right now we're in the process of doing a gasaway (ph) survey on moose in the foothills of the Kilbuck Mountains. We have people from State Fish & Game, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, both here and I think Togiak is up I don't know if Togiak is here or not. Jeff Denton from the BLM is here to help us, and I think we've got four Cubs waiting for the weather so we can do that census to try to get an idea of the density of moose up in the Kilbuck foothills, basically from White Fish I think to .....

MR. DENTON: Kwethluk.

MR. STROM: To the Kwethluk, yeah. Down toward probably Eek Lake, I think that's about the furthest down it goes.

We've been doing the tracking on the Quailnguut caribou, continuing that this winter, watching the movement. When the Mulchatnas came in again this fall, we've been tracking to see where those animals are going. Right now we haven't tracked for a couple of weeks. Most of the animals have been down between Eek and Quinhagak, back up in the Great Ridge. Up until a week ago, they were really scattered because of lack of snow. We didn't see much bunching or grouping. Actually we had animals up towards the White Fish Lake, all the way down to the Great Ridge, scattered through the whole area there.

Another activity we've been doing this winter on big game, is we've been continuing the brown bear telemetry flights, monitoring the den sites where these animals have gone into denning for this winter, finding out if there's any movement during the winter out of some of those. With the warm weather we have,

we thought we'd have some, but I don't think we've had any animals moving out of dens because of flooding or anything like that.

That's about it, what we've been doing for big game right now. Any questions?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Questions to Dennis? Yeah?

MR. MANUMIK: Are the Mulchatnas mingling with the Kilbuck Caribou again or not?

MR. STROM: Yes. Yes, basically like what they did last year. They've kind of intermingled. Some of the old collars we've had and some of the ones we put on last year, they seem to be hanging right together again.

MR. MANUMIK: Those collars that you had on, collared caribou, any of them moved out of our area or .....

MR. STROM: They moved into the, you know, Aniak Lake area, through there for a while during the summer. Some of the animals that we had, the old Kilbuck caribou cow .....

MR. MANUMIK: And they came back?

MR STROM: And they came back, yeah, this fall again. So that herd continues to grow, and we don't know what it's going to do. We hope it keeps coming back over the mountains, providing people some opportunity for harvest.

MR. ANVIL: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

MR. ANVIL: This caribou season, is it going to end March 15th?

MR. STROM: The State has a Randy Kacyon for the State Game & Fish did a special opener, an emergency opener that closes I think it's the 15th of March.

MR. DENTON: 30th.

MR. STROM: 30th of March?

MR. COFFING: 30th of March.

MR. STROM: 30th of March.

MR. ANVIL: Oh, end of March then.

MR. STROM: Yeah. And that's a two-caribou limit.

MR. ANVIL: Because I've been asked from several people that they want to know when it's going to end. It was on the news, too, I guess. They never, you know, pay attention I guess.

MR. STROM: Yeah. Everybody's been waiting for snow. This is our first shot at snow the last two weeks.

MR. ANVIL: Yeah.

MR. STROM: Everybody's been chomping at the bit for snow, .....

MR. ANVIL: Yeah. Thank you.

MR. STROM: ..... and we finally got some snow, so I think you'll see some people start going out. But the animals are quite a ways back up against the hills. They're not out on the flats quite as much as what they were earlier in the season. They were there, but nobody could get to them.

MR. ANVIL: Yeah. And the bag limit is just still .....

MR. STROM: Two. Still two. Two animals. If you haven't shot any caribou in any other district or any other unit, you can shoot two caribou here.

MR. COFFING: Under the State regs.

MR. STROM: Under State regs.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: How many estimate population?

MR. STROM: I think we had an estimate early somewhere around 20,000.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: How many?

MR. STROM: Somewhere around 20,000 early. I have no idea what there is here right now, because they've been scattered out. They're very difficult to count. Small bands everywhere. We haven't had any big groups.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions? Yes?

MR. LARSON: Mr. Chairman, I've got a question. I've been hearing since after freeze up when the Kuskokwim River ice became solid earlier this past when the caribou started migrating from east, northeast, they started migrating down river, and I heard that some caribou started migrating by crossing the Kuskokwim River, up to Natuliak, to the north, to the northern side, to the north side of the Kuskokwim. And I was wondering if you have surveyed anything?

MR. STROM: We haven't found any up there. We've heard those reports, too. I had a guy just the other day tell us that back behind Upper Kalskag, or Lower Kalskag, back out around the lakes there they saw an area through there that turned out to be they say the tracks are too small for moose, and it was, you know, 15, 20 animals. So there's possibly some small bunches on the north side of the river. The other reports I've heard is up in 19, up by Chuathbuluk, animals crossing across up through there on both sides of the Kuskokwim, so We haven't seen anything down low down here, but up in the upper part, but below Aniak, there's been some reports. We haven't been able to I mean, the folks tell us they see tracks, so they've got to be there, but we just haven't happened to see them in our flights.

MR. LARSON: The other question I've got, you said you do some survey on the moose population from White Fish Lake to the Kwethluk River. Could you elaborate on the moose population?

MR. STROM: We're they were supposed to have done the stratification yesterday and start the survey today. It's in the process right now. As soon as we get some information, Randy will get the information out to you. We don't have it right now. It's supposed to be happening this week. Up until the 15th or .....

MR. DENTON: Up until the 9th.

MR. STROM: Up until the 9th of March, that's our window to do that, so hopefully after the 9th, we will or as soon as we get the survey done and punch the numbers out, we can give you an idea.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anyone else have question? Yeah? What's your name?

MR. WILLIAMS: I've been trying to make it here .....

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Will you give us your name, please?

MR. WILLIAMS: Roy Williams from Akiak. I don't know what happened between now and before this, so I would appreciate if somebody could give me a quick recap?

MR. STROM: Well, the Fish & Wildlife Service has been doing three things with big game this year. Basically we're doing a gasaway survey, what's called a gasaway survey, a census on moose up in the foothills of the Kilbucks all the way from the Kwethluk River to Whitefish Lake, and then we've done some work with Quailnguut caribou, done some tracking this winter with them. And then we've done some telemetry flights to making sure the bears are staying in their dens and not coming out. Trying to document if they're doing any have done any movement around, but warm weather like this, sometimes that happens when it flood dens, and they haven't but as far as I know, they haven't moved yet. So that's about as far as I've been talking.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anyone else got question? Any Council member? Speak. (In Yup'ik) Speak.

MR. GEORGE: Last year the great Western Herd north of the Yukon, they somehow got close to Unit 18. What are their how far are they now?

MR. STROM: We had some reports of animals in the Upper Golsovia drainage that ends up right on the edge of the refuge. We went up and flew and tried to find those. There was reports of upwards of 5,000 animals, but as far as I know, nothing come onto the refuge. We had some reports of some guys from Kotlik that got a few animals, but I don't know if those were Stebbins reindeer or if they were Western Arctic, but they did come down across the Unalakleet River this year.

Did we have any do you know if we had any radio collared animals on the refuge?

MR. DENTON: Not on the refuge, but like you said, the head of the Golsovia had large numbers of caribou through that .....

MR. STROM: Yeah.

MR. DENTON: ..... through that country there. But I don't think they got onto the refuge.

MR. STROM: Yeah.

MR. DENTON: Then they started moving back. They're moving back north again now.

MR. STROM: So they almost made it to us. Almost.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik) Any more questions? Quyana. Thank you.

MR. STROM: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next on the report is Togiak National Wildlife Refuge?

MR. ANDREW: Togiak representatives never make it in. Andy Aderman and Jon Dyasuk was supposed to be here, but they never got in. Weather problem.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Next is BLM. Bureau of Land Management.

MR. ANDREW: Jeff Denton.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

MR. DENTON: My name is Jeff Denton. I'm with the Anchorage District, Bureau of Land Management.

We don't have an extensive report, because we're involved in most of the same actions in one way or another with Fish & Wildlife Service work that's being done, the moose survey, the bear work, what have you.

As a note to the Western Arctic, up to 30,000 animals cross the Unalakleet River to the south and spread out along the south Unalakleet River, the South River there, and on into the Golsovia.

There have been some reports, and I believe some of the villages in the Yukon Delta have received letters from the Subsistence Council on the Seward Peninsula noting some wanton waste from hunters from Yukon River villages. And I think you folks may be already familiar with those. I suspect the Council should have got also some letters. But the Seward Peninsula Council wrote letters to several villages with concern about wanton waste from hunters on Lower Yukon villages of caribou in the Golsovia. And I know Marshall was one of those, and there were a couple of others also that received letters from them. The people at St. Michaels, Stebbins and Unalakleet were quite upset with the situation up there. So this I guess is to let you know that there are some concerns up there relative to Western Arctic Caribou and Lower Yukon hunters. And I'm sure that they will probably be getting ahold of you either in writing or by other means. They have already contacted several of those villages that were involved.

The only other thing I have is kind of old business. We gathered up the research report on jet motor boats and boat motors, horse power sizes and damage to salmon reds (ph), potential damage to salmon reds relative to the Kwethluk River concerns here. I've given I've gotten a copy of that to Denny and you're getting and Denny's getting other copies of that that I think he can distribute to you folks on the potential impacts of all motor boats to salmon reds and the nature it takes. Jet boats as well as conventional motor boats do considerable damage and it's very similar type of damage, so .....

If there's any questions, I'll entertain those now.

MR. MANUMIK: Yeah, Mr Chairman?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

MR. MANUMIK: I have one. Which village, or which councils were were they native councils that were unhappy with the hunters from other areas coming up?

MR. DENTON: The St. Michael's, Stebbins, and Unalakleet people were the ones that brought the situation to the attention of the Seward Peninsula Subsistence Council. I believe the Subsistence Council was the one that wrote the letters to the various villages on the Lower Yukon.

MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, if I might, maybe it would help clarify. There was a letter written to Lower Yukon villages. It was written though for Mountain Village. A letter from James Luke, Kuigpagmiut. I have a copy here. And as Jeff said, most of the villages were routed on this, but it was a letter from Kuigpagmiut, James Luke authored the letter. Sent it also the chairman of the Regional Council of the Seward Peninsula as well as to Harry and most of the villages. And it was essentially a letter from Kuigpagmiut to the Lower Yukon villages to indicate to them that there was some concerns raised by people hunting up in Unit 22, and the potential report of at least from James reported wanton waste of caribou up there. So if you haven't seen that, we'll get copies made for you so each of you have it before you leave.

MR. MANUMIK: Yeah. One more, Mr. Chairman. Jeff, are these people that are bagging these animals up in Unit 18, is it? 19?

MR. DENTON: This would 22(A) is primarily .....

MR. MANUMIK: 22(A).

MR. DENTON: ..... where the reports are coming from.

MR. MANUMIK: Do they have harvest tickets with them or were they reporting harvest tickets?

MR. DENTON: No, not that the Fish & Game has received as of yet, but the season's not over, so they you usually wait until the end of the season for, you know, to have those things returned.

MR. MANUMIK: But in the past have they been reporting harvest tickets from that area? Let's just .....

MR. DENTON: Not to my knowledge this year.

MR. MANUMIK: ..... say from Chevak, Hooper, Scammon, Sheldon, Alakanuk, Kotlik, Mountain, St. Mary's, Pitkas Point, those areas there.

MR. DENTON: Uh-huh.

MR. MANUMIK: If these people from Unalakleet, St. Michael's and Stebbins are complaining that they are discontent with hunters from the other areas, other villages, I mean, .....

MR. DENTON: Uh-huh.

MR. MANUMIK: ..... those people those are the people that they would be complaining against, in those villages.

MR. DENTON: Right.

MR. MANUMIK: And I'm quite concerned that if they have harvest tickets, they're hunting them legally, I don't think they're doing it illegally.

MR. DENTON: Well, the season is open.

MR. MANUMIK: Uh-huh.

MR. DENTON: There's not question. What they're saying is wanton waste, there's a lot of animals being left in the field. And .....

MR. MANUMIK: Wasted?

MR. DENTON: Yes. That's the complaint.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Maybe I'll respond to that. I am the one that I got call from Stebbins and also from Unalakleet. The person who saw those people that, what you call wasting, they saw them at least about seven killing off seven and those boys didn't have no sled, and one have sled. But there was no snow up there. When I talked to this one of the boys, he says that we didn't waste it. We just kill them, and later on we go up and get them. There's something is wrong somewhere. They said that they didn't waste them. Later on they go get them after they because you can't run around there with the sled, because there's no snow. And when I get call from James Luke concerning the problems, I tell James, well, you guys are moose management people, you guys that try to take care of them and make sure that everyone in the 13 villages, 14 villages, be notified. Write them letter and we will try to take care of them, you know. After we have to make sure those people are really wasting it or not or they just go up there and kill them off and later on go get them. That's what according to these boys, they said that that's what they did. But the people, they saw them at the from St. Michael, they said that they were wasting it. But they didn't they tell me they didn't waste them, because there were seven of them, they get those later on. I don't know. Anyway I tell James. He's on Kuigpagmiut Resource Department, direct him to write the letters to make sure that all the villages from Russian Mission down, make them aware of this. Let them elders especially.

What happened is I got response from some of the villages, traditional council, they had meeting with their young people, and even in the high school, and they talk to them concerning the waste, possible waste of anything, that caribou and moose and all others. I think it was very well aware by the villages right now in the Yukon River. So that was a problem that we face up there, and hopefully that folks at Yukon and Kuskokwim, our villages, you know, notify and especially traditional council, they're really concerned. Our elders are really concerned about the waste.

Anything? Yeah, Fritz?

MR. GEORGE: Yeah. It sort of surprised me to hear it from you, because as soon as it seems like the agency hears that Yup'iks are wasting, it's big news.

For years now I've been pleading to something like the Game, State Game Board to do something about the waste that's going on the Hoho and up in the headwaters of the Hoho. I don't know if you ever reach halfway, but whenever I go up there, it's littered with skeletons of moose and caribou, heads off. And I call that wasting. A gentleman from Kaliganek in Bristol Bay area sort of mentioned it to some agency officials. The response was, that's okay. They bought them already. What they're talking about is our food, and it hurts to see it. And

I'd like to know what you people are going to do about the constant waste, the head-hunting rafters are showing this much disrespect to the animals we live with, the animals that keep us alive.

MR. DENTON: I guess I'm not the best one to respond to that. State Fish & Game would probably be the best. But I do know that they made a lot of wanton waste arrests this year in that region, so there is effort going on there. But I can't those are State-administered lands in that area, and we don't as BLM, we don't have any lands there, so we have no jurisdiction or no presence there essentially in the area that you're mentioning in particular.

The reason I brought this up is because the Council, the Subsistence Council on the Seward Peninsula brought it up. And it sounds like you folks have taken appropriate action, and that are aware of it, and aware of the concern there, and I think that's where it should rest.

MR. STROM: Yeah, Denny Strom, Fish & Wildlife Service. I think it behooves all of us, Fritz, when we see those things, or we hear about those things, that we try to find out what we can do. I think the folks up on the Yukon should be commended for the action that they took, whether, you know, maybe it's like what Harry said, it was misinterpreted by somebody else, and can be explained. But it should be on all our minds not to waste. I mean, I know it is on most of or on the folks' minds out here as to waste, and we've got to get that through to everybody.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah?

MR. WILLIAMS: Did I hear you say that hunting during fall?

MR. GEORGE: Yeah, hunting during fall.

MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah. That's been mentioned quite a bit even in my home town about sports hunters getting the trophy, what they want, and leaving the rest. So to my understanding, to the State's eyes, Fish & Wildlife, it is okay to purchase a ticket for a sports hunter and then leave the rest as long as they obtain their trophy?

MR. DENTON: No, that's against the law.

MR. STROM: It's against the law.

MR. DENTON: Pure and simple. The wanton waste laws in Alaska are essentially a State law. The same law applies to everyone across the board.

MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mike?

MR. COFFING: Thank you. I just want to clarify one thing. It appears probably that the letter that Jeff was referring to was the letter from Kuigpagmiut to the Lower Yukon villages, and I'm not aware of any letter from the Seward Peninsula Council to anybody about this. And we'll look into it, and if there was, we'll get one to you, but it's probably the letter from Kuigpagmiut. I think the Council .....

CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's what I saw. Uh-huh.

MR. COFFING: ..... the Council up there had a copy, too, so .....

MR. DENTON: Uh-huh. Yeah, and I didn't get a copy at that meeting. I ran out of copies. They only had a couple of copies and they gave it to other folks, so I didn't have a copy of it. So that's very likely.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: He's going to make a copy for everyone. Anyone else? If there's any more, we're going to have a break here. He's going to make a copy of that. We're going to have ten minutes break.

(Off record)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: We do have a couple that are going to be delayed to coming in. They're on the report. One is the State. We're going to at this time jump over to number five, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Office of Subsistence Management.

MR. FISHER: My name is Dave Fisher. I'm going to be filling in for Tom Boyd. Tom got very busy yesterday and couldn't make it.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

MR. FISHER: But he was here last week, so .....

I don't really have too much. The Federal Subsistence Board, it looks like they're going to meet starting April 29th. That's the latest that I have.

And the other item of interest, .....

CHAIRMAN WILDE: What date?

MR. FISHER: April 29th. You'll be getting a notice of that as soon as the schedule is set up.

The other item I have is that there's three Councils, three Regional Councils in the State have added two more seats to their Council memberships, and your Council is one of those that has two more seats added to it.

MR. MANUMIK: Was that State councils or .....

MR. COFFING: No, this one right here.

MR. FISHER: The Federal Subsistence Regional Councils.

MR. MANUMIK: Three of them in the State? Throughout the State?

MR. FISHER: I don't know what the other two are. Do you know who they are, Mike?

MR. COFFING: I'm not sure. I couldn't tell you for sure. I'm not going to say.

MR. FISHER: That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Thank you.

MR. MANUMIK: One question, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

MR. MANUMIK: Is this Region 5 one of them or .....

MR. FISHER: Yes.

MR. MANUMIK: Okay.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: We got two.

MR. MANUMIK: Hmm?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Region 5 got two additional?

MR. FISHER: Two additional Council seats.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh. On the board. Okay. Next is AVCP.

MR. COFFING: Good timing.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome to our meeting.

INTERPRETER TINKER: Greg Roczicka from AVCP is going to give report, and he's passing out some kind of agenda dealing with caribou co-management.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg?

MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: We welcome you to our meeting. First I hear you on the radio station, but I didn't understand. You belong to one of the State will you tell us what's your position now on the State?

MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. As of last Friday I was officially appointed by the Governor to the State Board of Game, which is kind of a first for the region. Well, I believe John Hanson was a member of the Board of Game back in the early 80s, but since that time, this area really hasn't had any representation on the Game Board. I expect it to be quite a challenge.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Congratulations. We congratulate you.

MR. ROCZICKA: And I'll take your condolences at the same time.

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Your floor now.

MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. Quyana, Mr. Chairman. I just thought I'd put out in front of you some of the meetings we've been having regarding our cooperative and co-management efforts over the past couple months.

To start with, the first one that we had this season was for Quailnguut Caribou Co-Management Planning Group, which took place on November 15th here in Bethel. And there was kind of some level of concern at the time as to how the group was going to be operating here, since we've had the influx of Mulchatna Caribou over

the last couple of years into the area. So that was an item of some significant discussion on how or whether we continue the group, and to manage the Quailnguut Herd as a discreet group. Through the meeting, the group did express a desire to continue as a management group, and keep the management plan in place, because we have no assurance in future years if the Mulchatna Herd will continue to come over. So we still will be meeting. They did amend the plan to address that situation, that the seasons may be changed when significant numbers of Mulchatna caribou do come into the area. And the plan was amended to reflect that. And the group does expect to meet it wanted to meet by next April again to go over the past season harvest and what the current situation is with the Mulchatna caribou and to talk over the next year. So that's things are moving along well with that.

We scheduled several meetings for Lower Yukon moose with this Council and also the Western Interior had expressed an interest to be involved in, to get the lower and up-river or lower and middle river GMU 18 and 21(E) residents together to talk about conflicts. We ended up postponing those due to weather and conflicts with various meetings. We had one scheduled for the 26th of October which didn't happen. We scheduled again for the end of November and we were weathered out on one occasion. And then the next time there was a funeral in the village, and another major meeting. So anyway that meeting ended up taking place this last week, and we'll address that later when you get to your proposals regarding an action that that group did take.

I guess perhaps one of the main things that they that was a real positive step when the group did meet in Marshall here back on the 15th, 16th of February when they were finally able to get together, we were unable to get representation from the Regional Councils, but Henry Deacon of the Western Interior did arrive.

Again, I'll address the proposals later, but just to give you a little information on some of the other actions that the group did take, they did endorse the concerns and position that Kuigpagmiut expressed in their letter, you know, advocating for more concerted efforts on relaying traditional respect to the resources to the younger generation, and condemning wanton waste practices that are being observed. And they had an additional concern on that that the potential for wanton waste has been increased quite a bit with the advent of the modern technology.

They reasserted that they want to see more consideration and effort given for not harvesting cow moose so that they can see the population continue to grow. There was a lot of discussion offered from representatives in the lower area of Mountain Village and below down by the mouth, how they've seen the increase in the number of moose there, and that was also reflected through the harvest reporting where they had I believe it was ten moose the first year and 14 the second year. They were all young animals, which indicated from the biological standpoint that those are resident animals, and so the herd is growing down there. Or the population is growing. And everybody was real happy to see that.

And perhaps the most significant action, through the course of the last couple of years, as most of you are probably aware, we've been working on putting together goals and objectives for a cooperative management plan. No one at this meeting had any further amendments or suggestions to add at this time, and so the group moved to adopt the plan formally, and send it on to the tribal councils for their concurrence. And once we get resolutions back from them, we can consider that the plan to be fully adopted and carry it forward. And that again is with the stipulation, similar to the Quailnguut caribou and other

cooperative management plans, that it will be reviewed at least on a yearly basis for any further possible amendments that people may want to put on it.

And the last, certainly not least, of course, is the Kuskokwim moose meeting, which we were finally able to get off the ground. This was we weren't looking for any major resolution or perhaps the only goal at this meeting was just to get people together in the same room and see if they can start getting an understanding of where each other is coming from, and to lay out some of the biological data from their respective areas, GMU 18 and 19(A).

What was most surprising to me, I guess not so surprising to many people that live up there, but there's essentially no population data for 19(A), and for how many years it's been a matter of contention in the harvest and so on, but all they can all the Department has right now is trend data and some bull/cow ratios and cow/calf ratios within the area. They don't they have never done a census for anywhere in 19(A), and that pretty much blew me away. So I'll be working with AVCP through AVCP and also the villages to try to come up with some funding source to get that data put into place through whatever legislative appropriation, and, you know, whatever other organizations can throw in as in-kind so that we can get something moving on that. Because it to me, it's practically inexcusable that the 20 years it's been sitting there or 15 years it's been a major item for the people bringing proposals to the Board, and they still don't have basic population data, so we'll be pushing on that real hard.

We kind of we left the meeting, it was kind of done on an informal basis. We did get a facilitator. Some of you may know Taylor Brelsford. Well, probably all of you do pretty well. He came in as an objective facilitator just to keep the meeting toned down if people started getting a little bit too excited. It is an emotional issue for many. That didn't really occur though. It was the meeting had a real positive feel to it all the way through. Nobody was pounding the table and screaming and hollering and blaming each other for problems. They were really there to try to start working things out. And I think there really was a greater understanding of perspectives on both sides.

And as I said, no resolution, no formal action on what to do with any of the items of contention in the on the agenda. You see we've got the increased hunting and competition levels that people have, and concerns for sustained yield and what's subsistence versus non-subsistence use. The whole land use and management status, TKC land use permit, and the Holitna 40 horsepower. And we broke into small groups, and people were just talking back and forth across the table, and it you know, as I say, no resolution or any formal action came out of it, but it was real positive in the discussions that went on, and people are very interested in seeing that continue. And I will be working through AVCP to have those meetings carry on.

We did have Chuck Chaliak was there from this Council, and Herman Morgan for the Western Interior, and we also had several members of the Fish & Game Advisory Committee from Lower Kuskokwim, and I believe except for Lime Village, Central Kuskokwim had all their representatives there. And we had representatives of tribal councils from all the villages with the exception of Tuluksak, Oscarville, and I believe that's it for those villages that have c&t use for the area.

So anyway we look forward to keeping things on a positive note, and hopefully within a year or two we can come up with some kind of resolution of a cooperative plan that everybody can live with, even though it doesn't make everybody happy, the same way they all work in the long run.

So if anybody's got any questions, I'll .....

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions? Yeah?

MR. WILLIAMS: The cooperative plan that you mentioned, is going to be working mainly with AVCP?

MR. ROCZICKA: Which cooperative plan?

MR. WILLIAMS: The cooperative management plan that you mentioned?

MR. ROCZICKA: For Kuskokwim moose, Lower Yukon moose or caribou?

MR. WILLIAMS: Just mainly with the Kuskokwim?

MR. ROCZICKA: Well, I'll do the coordinating of the meetings and so forth through AVCP, but it will be with the direct involvement of the tribal councils. We want to have tribal councils, both the Lower Kuskokwim and Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committees, and also the State and Federal subsistence programs, and management programs as well.

MR. WILLIAMS: The exception that you mentioned, Tuluksak and Oscarville, I wasn't too clear about that.

MR. ROCZICKA: Oh, I was saying that there was representatives from every village with the exception of those.

MR. WILLIAMS: Oh, okay.

MR. ROCZICKA: That we had someone from each village that has c&t determination at present for 19(A).

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions?

MR. ROCZICKA: And then they were you know, I sent letters out to everyone. I believe from Akiak, I know that you couldn't attend, but your advisory committee member was there.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions for Greg? Quyana.

MR. ROCZICKA: Quyana, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next on our agenda, we jump over State of Alaska, Randy Kacyon, welcome to our meeting. Your turn.

MR. KACYON: I'm next?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

MR. KACYON: I was supposed to be doing a moose census, but we got weathered out, so we just quickly wrote up a summary here. I'm just going to talk about moose in GMU 18 today. I'm not going to talk about any other species, unless you have any questions.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: You aren't going to talk about my trip? My slough?

MR. KACYON: No, I'm not going to talk about 12-mile. The first page is what I'm going to talk about, and the other stuff is just handout for your information.

I just want to go over first the biological status for the moose for the whole Unit 18. I'm not going to talk anything about Unit 19 or 21 unless people have any questions about those. But basically if you turn to the page with the map on it, it looks like this, and these are these five areas that are delineated are our moose census areas for Unit 18, and like Greg was talking about, they've done any moose census work up in Unit 19; however, we've been striving to do moose work down here in Unit 18, and these five areas are delineated as most of the vegetation that occurs along the Yukon and the Kuskokwim. And these are the five areas we're going to we focus on when we're counting moose.

And based upon these five areas, number five we haven't done yet. That's what we're trying to do this week. That's between Tuluksak and the Kwethluk, the forested areas in the Kilbuck Mountains. But we've done all the other four areas.

And based upon what we found in the other four areas, an alarm going off? Okay. It's not mine. Okay.

Anyway, based on what we found in the other areas, we estimate that there's about 1600 moose in GMU 18 out of about 6782 square miles, so moose densities are fairly low in the Unit. There are some good stories though. Near Russian Mission and Paimiut area there's about .6 moose per square mile, which is our highest density area. Around Bethel we have about one moose per 30 square miles, so it's one of our lowest density areas.

Ninety percent of the moose in Unit 18 are found between, at least on the Yukon side, are found between Paimiut and Pilot Station, which is area one on your map. So that's where most of the moose are found in Unit 18. There's about 1,000 moose in that area one.

MR. MANUMIK: That's the Pilot Station area?

MR. KACYON: Pilot Station to Paimiut. And we have a management plan now that was drafted, and it's being approved, and Greg talked about that. And I also included a copy of the management plan in the back of your handout.

But the goal for the Lower Yukon from Paimiut all the way to the coast is 3,000 moose, according to the management plan right now, and we estimate that there's 1200 moose between Paimiut and the coast. And one of the parts of the plan is our goal of 3,000 moose, and the other portion is that the regulations according to the plan will not change until we reach our goal of 3,000 moose. And we're trying to encourage more moose down in the lower parts of the river, so people don't have to travel 200 miles to hunt moose every year. That's the main reason for having this management plan.

The good news is is last year they took ten bulls out of that area that was recently opened downstream of Mountain village. It was closed for five years. Or actually it was closed for six calendar years, and five regulatory years. And this year they and I just got all the harvest reports back from fall, and they took 18 bull moose, most of those were yearling bulls. But that shows a definite increase in moose numbers, at least for harvest. And that's really good. And I think that shows that people at least downstream of Mountain Village are trying to conserve their moose down there.

The bad news is the area just downstream from Pilot, area number four, between Pilot and Mountain. We surveyed that area last year, and we only found an estimate of 52 moose, so we have this sort of dead zone between Pilot Station and Mountain Village. And since most of the moose are coming from that area into the Lower Yukon, I'm not sure how long the harvest down below Mountain Village is going to last. The rate of harvest that's currently taking place. So anyway, that's something that we need to work on on the Lower Yukon.

But the nice thing about from what came out of the meeting was people are at least recognizing the fact that cow harvest is not good for the moose population, and so we're trying to curtail cow harvest. There's it happens every year, no matter where we are, and people just need to start policing themselves, and there's nothing the Department can do any more, or Fish & Wildlife Service. The people need to make up their minds on not shooting cows and trying to encourage folks not to take cow moose. At least until we get more moose.

On your map you'll see area two, which is the census area we did in 1993. And we flew that whole river corridor between Kalskag and Kwethluk. And we estimated that there was about 216 moose in that area, plus or minus 28% I guess. The moose densities there are really low, and I don't see this changing. Moose harvest on the Kuskokwim has been averaging about 26 or 27% of the total unit harvest. So most of the harvest occurs on the Yukon, because that's where there's the most moose. So the Kuskokwim River I think has not increased at all over the last ten, 12 years. It's probably stabilized or it's declining. And so we have a serious problem I believe on the Kuskokwim River as far as moose populations go. And I'm not sure what the solution is.

And the only reason I brought this up at this Council meeting, is because I feel that this Council and the advisory committees need to get together and try to come up with a moose management plan similar to what we have on the Lower Yukon, or we're either going to have to restrict harvest, or we're going to have to do something dramatic to get more moose down here.

There's less you know, I think the moose population on the Kuskokwim, I can't say it for sure, I just it seems like every year reported harvest is decreasing, success rates are decreasing, and it that tells me that there's less moose. Maybe there aren't less moose, but you would think if there were more moose down here, that harvest would increase, and success rates would increase, but they're not.

And I'm basing that on table four in your handout. You'll notice for the last 15 years, 69% on the average, most of the moose, 69%, have come from the Yukon drainage, and only 27% on the average have come from the Kuskokwim. The last three years, the number of moose harvested on the Kuskokwim has declined to 10% as of this year, and 90% were taken on the Yukon. So it looks like the Yukon population is stabilized, they're doing fine. We're not over-harvesting the moose population. But it looks like the Kuskokwim is declining over time steadily.

I also have a graph in there that shows you what the moose densities are in our unit. These are the four census areas that we did. And you'll notice the tall one is the area between as I said Paimiut to Pilot Station, and Kalskag to Kwethluk, and this is the area downstream of Mountain Village, and then the area between Pilot and Mountain.

MR. MANUMIK: Mr. Chairman? Randy, .....

MR. KACYON: Uh-huh.

MR. MANUMIK: ..... on your moose population density in the Kuskokwim side, you're saying that the moose population has not increased, or decreased, or .....

MR. KACYON: Well, I can't say if it's increased or decreased. It's just from what I've observed from the harvest reports that we get, that success rates have decreased, the numbers of moose reported have decreased. Maybe people just aren't reporting their moose. I don't know, but since we've only done one census, we have nothing to compare it to. If .....

MR. MANUMIK: And how far back does your data go to to say how many moose were in the Kuskokwim as far back as your data can go back?

MR. KACYON: We have never done a census until '93. All we what we did, we have harvest reporting back until, you know, the early 70s.

MR. GEORGE: How much percent of the hunters does report to your office about the success hunt? Successful hunters?

MR. KACYON: Most of the successful hunters tend to report their harvest. It's the unsuccessful hunters I don't know about, so it's really hard to get an idea of success rate. But on the Yukon I have pretty high reporting rates, because of the check station. And also, it seems like people over there tend to report their harvest more than they do over here. And it may be because the regulations have been enforced more strongly over there. I don't know.

On the Kuskokwim, it's I think moose densities are so low that most of the people here don't even hunt on the lower river. They hunt upriver around Aniak and Holitna and Stoney River, upriver further. But the hunters that do hunt down here, the harvest success rates, the numbers of moose taken are getting lower and lower every year. And I don't know if that's because of a moose decline. It just it's indicative of a problem, but it may not there may not be a problem. I mean, I can't say for sure that moose are declining until we do this area over again and have something to compare it to. And we're planning on doing this area again in 1998.

Next year we're going to do Paimiut to Pilot again, 'cause every five years we try to do these areas. And the reason we only do them every five years is they cost a lot of money, ten to \$15,000.00 to do an accurate moose census that's statistically valid. And that's why Jack Whitman was telling us at the meeting in Aniak that he oftentimes doesn't have the funding to do a moose census.

MR. GEORGE: Uh-huh. What I'd like to recommend is that I hardly report my success hunting, because like last fall me and my two brothers plus a couple of cousins were in my boat, and got a couple of moose, and a brown and a black, and I don't know if my brothers, one of them, reported his, but I haven't. What happened is probably I'd report it if the whole meat comes to me, and we split a couple of them into five families. And what I do is I report it to my tribal councils natural resource department, but can you sort of make some arrangements like do something like Tanana Chiefs doing is fund the tribal governments natural resource department to gather some successful hunters? Maybe if you do, this rate would change.

MR. KACYON: Yeah. I mean, we're planning on trying to come up with some harvest assessment programs in the future, and we're going to try and let the local communities try and do that. I'm not sure if it's going to increase the number of animals taken on the Kuskokwim. I think, you know, for example, where did you take your moose at?

MR. GEORGE: In the Hoho area, Stoney.

MR. KACYON: Yeah. See, I'm talking about just the area downstream of Kalskag, and, see, I'm not talking about Unit 19. I'm talking about Unit 18. Unit 18 moose, we're in a serious situation, and the Yukon people have recognized it, and things are starting to turn around over there. And I don't think the Kuskokwim people have recognized that there is a problem over here. I think people continue the main problem over here isn't harvest reporting, it's shooting a cow moose. If people could quit shooting cow moose, we would have more moose down here. And I think everyone in the Lower Kuskokwim recognizes the fact that every time a cow moose shows up near Bethel, it gets shot. And, I mean, I'm not making this up. This is what people tell me.

MR. GEORGE: Maybe the wolves are eating them. Hire Ron Peltola to kill all the moose or not, to kill all the wolves.

MR. KACYON: Well, one thing we've got good going for us, Chris or Fritz, is we have predator densities in GMU 18, because we haven't had a lot of large ungulates in the area, like caribou and moose, until recent times when we've gotten the Mulchatna herd in here. But we do have low numbers of predators compared to areas upriver. We have wolves, we have bears, but in general the populations are lower than they are upriver.

We do have a lot of habitat down here that's not being used. A good example is, you know, all that willow between Kwethluk and Kalskag, and some of that best moose habitat is right around Akiachak. And when you fly over those areas, you may be lucky to see one or two moose, but you fly over the same area upstream of Kalskag and you may see 100 or 200 moose.

So I think there's a lot of potential down here, and what I'm trying to explain to the group is we need to start thinking about moose conservation down here so we can have more moose in the future. And I'm just trying I'm not saying we're in trouble right now, but I think we're getting to the point that I think we need to start thinking about doing what the Lower Yukon folks have done, and coming up with some kind of cooperative management plan that says we're not going to we're not going to shoot cow moose any more. We're going to report our harvest. And we're going to try and get more moose down here, because I think people down here on the Kuskokwim are just as frustrated as the ones on the Yukon, you know. It takes you two or 300 hundred miles or several drums of gas to go get a moose upriver, and there's no reason why you shouldn't be able to take moose down here in the future, if we let the moose grow down here. I'm really trying to get people to forego hunting down here, even though the season's open, to go hunting upriver, because the less moose we take down here, the more we're going to have for our kids and grandkids, and, you know, that's basically you're looking at less than one moose per ten or 30 square miles on the Kuskokwim. That's pretty low.

Upriver around Holy Cross and Aniak, they've got one to five moose per square mile. They've got lots of moose. We just don't have that kind of moose down here. But we have the potential, like I mentioned earlier on in the report, we've got close to 6,000 square miles of good willow habitat along the river,

and it's not being utilized by moose, because every time moose come into the country, they get shot, and there's nothing that Fish & Game or the Fish & Wildlife Service can do about it until people make up their minds they're not going to do that any more.

I don't want to sound gloom and doom, but I just want to you know, I want to make a strong statement that moose populations on the Kuskokwim aren't doing real well. And I think it's indicative of the harvest report. And I know there's a lot of people that don't report their harvest, but why is it that 90% of the moose harvest reported is coming from the Yukon? And the Yukon people don't report any more than the Kuskokwim people. I think there's just more moose over there.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Paul?

MR. MANUMIK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, Randy, on the Kuskokwim River, just exactly where you say there's five moose per square mile up Lower Kalskag? Is that where you're drawing a line, and below there it's one moose per 30 square miles?

MR. KACYON: Well, basically, for example, in 1989, I flew from Paimiut to Holy Cross and I saw 1,032 moose in about three hours of flying. And that was 27 miles of river. And when we flew for 40 hours downstream of Paimiut to Pilot, we estimated there was almost 1,000 moose in an area, you know, much bigger. And so I'm basing that on from when I did some collaring between Kalskag and Chuathbaluk, and it seemed like everywhere we went there was moose. I don't know exactly what the moose densities are, but I know that once you get above Tuluksak, you start seeing lots more moose, and I'm sure that people on the Kuskokwim know that, that it's kind of a waste of time hunt below Tuluksak, because your chances of seeing a moose are real slim. And .....

MR. MANUMIK: Below Tuluksak?

MR. KACYON: Below Kalskag or Tuluksak, yeah.

MR. WILLIAMS: The other factor you might consider is the requirement of (indiscernible, coughing) the purchasing of a land use permit to be able to go into areas. The amount of people don't hunt or even attempt to go above Kalskag from especially those people that come from the coast and hunt the area. They prefer hunting in the areas where like in the Kuskokwim below Kalskag due to they can't afford getting \$400.00 land use permit for hunting. So they prefer hunting in this lower area, even just right above my home town area. There'd be some people hunting places where I wouldn't go hunting, just so they wouldn't have to pay 400 for land use permit, and that's another factor that's causing, I think that's what I would .....

MR. KACYON: Yeah, I agree. I agree that that's a factor. There's still, you know, I estimate 800 boats or so that go upriver hunting moose though, but and I agree that some people can't afford to go, and that's why we have a fall season and we have a winter season for those folks that can't afford to go upriver.

The problem is, is that it seems to me that the more moose we take down here over time, we're going to have less moose, because the moose population, we're starting out at a real low number, and so the more you take off the top, the less time the moose have to bounce back.

On the Yukon, however, we have this moose area between Paimiut and Pilot where there aren't a whole lot of people, but there's lots of moose, so the Lower Yukon folks have it pretty good, because they have this pile of moose that they can hunt between Pilot and Paimiut. And even on the Lower Yukon, even though they have more moose, they tend to go hunting in Unit 21(E), because success rates are better, and their chances of getting that means their chances of getting a moose are better. But also there's just more moose, period, you know.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Your name and where .....

MS. LEE: Yeah, my name is Debbie Lee. You mentioned about a moose management in Unit 18. How does the Lower Kuskokwim Advisory Committee? Have they had any discussions to the moose management plan?

MR. KACYON: It's been brought up several times. We haven't developed a moose management plan yet for the Kuskokwim River. The Lower Yukon one, like I said before, we have approximately 1200 moose based on our census, and our goal is 3,000 moose, so that's part of the plan. We have a goal that we're going to shoot for. But Kuskokwim, we don't have a goal yet. The Department has a goal. My goal for the Kuskokwim, at least the main river, is to have 1,000 moose. Right now we have 200. The problem is my goal does may not agree with the goals on the Lower Yukon or Lower Kuskokwim villages, so we need to bring the Lower Kuskokwim villages together and say, how many moose do you want in this area? If you want more moose, this is what how we get to that goal. And we haven't got to that point yet, and that's kind of why I'm bringing up this today, because I feel that this Council as well as the advisory committees and the tribal governments need to sit down and say, look, you know, we recognize that there's a problem here, and we need to come up with a solution. And that's why I'm bringing it up, is because I feel that this group has should have a major part in that solution.

And a good example like I said is the Lower Yukon Moose Management Plan. It's not the total answer, but people in Emmonak and Alakanuk and Kotlik, you know, took 18 bull moose. That's not a lot of moose, but it's a hell of a lot more than they took in 1988, which was almost zero.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, Randy, I think Lower Kuskokwim is a serious problem concerning the moose, the way your reports. It really concerns me. I think of the villages of Yukon, too, it's really a concern. If there's moose wiped out down here from up in the from the Kalskag down, there's going to be a lot of pressure in some areas, like the Yukon River. Something I think really have to be done.

What we did in the Lower Yukon, village council, they put a five-year moratorium in the Lower Yukon, you know. It would be happen down here. And what happen now, there used to be hardly any moose in that Lower Yukon. Now we've got people reporting the moose here and there now, even outside of their house, and we were concerned about when we tried to increase the moose in Lower Yukon, even though people want to kill them off, we hold them back, even they say that it's a notion that they come to their fish camp and tearing up and this and that, but we told them that, well, I think it's better than your grandchildren and children have to live with it, because up in the Holy Cross, the people telling me that that's the way it used to be, you got enough potential down there for feeding and all that stuff of moose. That's the way our area used to be.

And I think for that reason, people here in the Lower Yukon, traditional council, village council, whoever they are, and maybe we could then try to help the increase of this moose down there. I think it would be work.

(In Yup'ik) What is I don't know. I hope that there would be more people to find out maybe the best thing State and Federal would do, maybe especially State, a letter to villages, you know, what is the concern about the moose in Lower Yukon Lower Kuskokwim. I think that would be good.

Yeah, go ahead.

MR. STROM: Yeah. Denny Strom, Fish & Wildlife Service. You kicked around some ideas here. The Lower Yukon went with the moratorium, you know, that they made the decision they wanted more moose down there. We may not have to do that as drastically here on the Lower Kuskokwim. It may be just as simple as one of the one of the big issues that the Lower Yukon people took on, was basically protecting cows, because that's the future of that herd. And maybe it could be just as simple as that, here on the Kuskokwim, if we could get folks to say that we don't want to shoot you know, cows are good to eat, but right now until we get the population up to where we want it, we can't shoot cows. You know. And then it may be as simple as that. But everybody has to understand why we're doing that. You know, everybody has to agree with why we're doing that. It's because we want more moose. And it might be as simple as that.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg?

MR. ROCZICKA: One of the main things that I got out of that Lower Yukon Moose Management Committee when they met, there were no managers there. Randy couldn't make it, he got held up. The refuge guys didn't make it. There was the two staff people from the two subsistence councils. Mike was there for Y-K Delta, and Vince Matthews, and then there was two guys from Enforcement, Scotty Gibbons and Paugle over there. But they didn't get half the grief that I've seen them how many times in the past. And what came out, nobody controlled the discussion. This was some people talking amongst themselves, and they basically told Gibbons and Paugle, it don't matter if you guys ain't even around no more. If anything's going to change, it's going to be changed because people make it change.

They talked about mainly balancing their technology with tradition, you know. Tradition is you go catch one whenever you can, whenever your family is hungry, but also recognizing that anyone of us here, no matter how young we are, probably for this room anyway, when we were growing up, hardly anybody had a snow machine. And nowadays you've got dividend snow machines. There's two or three or four or five per family, and, you know, the part about the children not being taught to respect animals and chasing them down, and shooting them for target practice basically, or shooting from far away and not making sure they knock it down.

It seems like that they talked about the balance of technology with tradition. And they owned it, and they saw what that they made the difference, and it didn't make a damn bit of difference whether there's enforcement out there or not. And that came from the people, the representatives from there wasn't anything that was brought out from managers. And they see the difference of it.

MR. WILLIAMS: Let's see, I just wanted to make an input to see the population versus the in order words, hunters, the number of hunter population that

we're talking about in comparison to the game. Bethel being the hub could be another factor. I'm thinking about the people come from different areas when they do come to Bethel. That's another factor, and I believe that's .....

What I would want to suggest is I like this protecting cows concept, because it's definitely and another one is we can talk about it here, but if it's not mentioned in media periodically, continuously educating the community's mind, it's not going to happen.

MR. GEORGE: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

MR. GEORGE: Randy, like Roy, I support saving the cows, you know, for the future generations, but anyway sometimes these winter openings make me wonder, because by that time usually bulls lose their horns. And maybe some people make a mistake, thought that it's a bull. And then they would go over and it turns out to be a cow, a pregnant cow. If we're going to save the moose for the future, maybe what we need to do is forget about winter seasons for awhile. Like Bethel is my village is very close to here, to Bethel, and during the fall and the winter openings, people from Bethel flocks up there, you know, and kill everything up there on sight. That would be my recommendation to see if we can make some efforts to raise the population of the moose, eliminating .....

MR. KACYON: I think one place we can start right now though, Fritz, until we get to that stage is we need to encourage the hunters in the village to tell their young people that. Because it's not Fish & Game's responsibility, it's not Fish & Wildlife's, it's not this Council's responsibility, but it's the people in each community where there's low moose numbers, is to encourage their hunters not to take cow moose. And I know that's a hard thing for some people, because, you know, some people can't afford to go places, and they're going to take a cow moose. But if it's just a few people taking a cow moose, it's no big deal, but it seems like everybody that encounters a moose down here takes it whether it's a cow or a bull. Well, we need to try to curtail that somewhat.

I think if this trend continues on the Kuskokwim, we go back there and do a census and find that the number's the same or less, then we may have to talk about writing proposals to the State and Federal Board to eliminate where we think the problems are. One of the problems may be the winter season. If that's an option that we think is going to help get more moose down here, then we should propose to change that, and only have the fall season. And I think that's probably a good proposal, because as you know, during the falltime when you're hunting by boat, you can only hunt right next to the river. You can only pack a moose so far, so you're only hunting a portion of the moose population that comes out to the riverbank.

In the wintertime, however, down here especially, you can go anywhere if the snow conditions are really good, and right now, you know, you can go practically anywhere. And some years we have really good snow conditions, and that's when we get our higher moose harvest in the winter. This winter, excuse me, I think moose harvest is fairly low, because we didn't have any good snow up until recently.

But the fall harvest hasn't changed. The fall harvest is about the same as it was the last year and the year before.

So if we want to get more moose down here, we need to you're right, we need to pick and choose what seasons are most beneficial to people, and what seasons we feel like we can give up to have more moose down here. But I think before we do that, we need to start education our young hunters to not take cow moose until we get more moose down here. I think that's really helped on the Lower Yukon. We still have a lot of problems on the Lower Yukon with people taking cow moose. I'm not saying it went away, but I think evidence below Mountain Village shows that what moose, what cow moose they are saving are producing bulls, because almost every one of those bulls that are taken downstream of Mountain Village are little paddle bulls, less than 30 inches. And that tells me that cow production was good, and all those bulls they shot were year and a half year olds. They're just yearling bulls. And so there's moose they're producing moose down there, even though there's not very many moose. And that could happen here if people would quit shooting cows. There's no reason .....

You know, like on this chart here. We've got 647 square miles of good moose habitat between Kalskag and Kwethluk, and we've got another almost 900 square miles between Tuluksak and the Kisaralik of good willow habitat for moose, but the moose densities are really low. I mean, we're talking less than a moose per ten or 30 square miles. Thirty square miles isn't a whole lot of land, either, but like Bethel City limits is, what, five miles radius or something like that?

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Six miles square.

MR. KACYON: So it's 36 square kilometer.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Randy, if that is possible, put the the villages get together and start a moose management plan in the Lower Kuskokwim? Greg?

MR. ROCZICKA: Maybe I could speak to that one. That's part of what I guess we'd hope to do through this meeting process between the Lower and Middle Kuskokwim River. I suspect what's going to have to come out of it, since we're talking two different populations, is we'll the way it probably should work out is the Central Kuskokwim area, 19(A) residents, to put together their management plan, and Lower Kuskokwim in GMU 18 putting together their management plan, and I think that will go a long ways towards the Central Kuskokwim residents see that they're trying to do something down here to increase our populations.

I was going to mention earlier that I'd hesitate to put in any kind of proposals without going through the process of having it come from a regional group. Otherwise, we're going to end up in the same situation of people feeling like they're having something rammed down their throats, or somebody's trying to do something for their own best interest, and, you know, back to what people found on the Lower Yukon. Unless the local people have ownership in it, and, you know, nothing's really going to work, and yet it's up to the people, the Fish & Game Enforcement or Fish & Wildlife Enforcement, they said it doesn't matter beans whether they're there or not. But it has to come from a regional group, and come from the people, or they're not going to accept it. They're going to feel like it's something being forced on them.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions?

MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah. I'll keep on stating and restating, the best source of getting to the people's head is to state it bluntly what's happening, and then you don't have to say a lot of words, but as long as it makes a point that the decline is due to lack of in other words, taking out cows, and then over-

harvesting, especially harvesting of cows, and making a point that there's a serious decline in the population that may drastically affect future hunting or current hunting. And the newspaper, radio. People listen to radio and watch the news in this area quite a bit, and if it's done periodically it will eventually even sink into hard heads just such as I, you know. Even though I don't want to hear it, you know, eventually it will get to the point where I may even get to feel that it's real, you know. I don't know. That's mainly what I want to get my point across.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Randy, I think it was a help, too, in the Lower Yukon when you start taking the people out, you know, for flying and checking the moose with the airplane. I think that was those young people, that when you take them out, I think that it gives other people pressure, we really need to have an increased moose out here, because of the numbers.

And I appreciate what you're saying. You're right. We have to somehow to help the Lower Yukon slow down killing females, you know, to increase the moose. However, I had other problem for Lower Kuskokwim. In the falltime they have to go so far up, or otherwise they've got to have money to go further up, or whatever. I think that's a problem, too, one of the problems here.

In the Yukon River, we have a little bit different. We may have a problem, we don't have it over there, because we have to go up to sometimes 300 miles up to hunt moose, but I think here in Kuskokwim it's different, because of the land problem up there. You have to pay so much to go into the land. However, you need help here, you now, because of moose are too low according to the report. And like me, myself, I always be supporting people need the food, people should have food, children should have something to eat. That's the reason that over in the Yukon River, when I was a mayor over there, even though people are fighting me sometime, hitting me not hitting me, but hitting me with their mouth, and because Mountain Village is right here. It's a mountain here, maybe about a quarter of a mile from the village, and other side is closed. That's the problem that we have, you know. Right there the other side. And the people go up there and in that slough they seen so many moose and all that stuff, and they're complaining about why we didn't kill them and all that. But we had to put the pressure on, you know, holding them down as much as we can. It was hard for us all right, but later on it's a piece of .....

MR. KACYON: I think the point you brought up, Mr. Chairman, about not too long ago there was no moose in Holy Cross, and I heard the same thing when we were up in Aniak from people in Sleetmute and Chuathbaluk and Aniak saying that, you know, it wasn't until about the 1930s or 40s when they started seeing moose around there. And I think down here it's even more recent than that. And I think people just need to realize that these moose are struggling to maintain themselves down here. And we can have moose down here, but the numbers are so low that any harvest, you know, it has an effect on the population, even if it's only a little bit. And I think the moose population here is so new that it's going to take another generation of moose or, you know, maybe a couple generation until we get more moose down here, but I think the key thing is I wanted to bring out at this meeting is to encourage folks to go back to their communities and start getting the word out about not shooting cows. And that was brought up here several times.

And what the Lower Yukon Moose Management Committee did is they had some young folks develop a poster I guess, and it's on the back of your handout. There's a picture of a cow with two calves. And maybe this Council should support something like that and add their name to it, and we can put out in the media

like the gentleman suggested, in the newspaper or on the radio, and just to start getting the word out for the next five years. I mean, it's not going to happen overnight, and we're going to have lots of moose down here, but I think we need to start sometime soon.

And that's pretty much all I had for today.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Randy, is it possible that I don't know, I suppose State or Federal don't have any money, like what it has been done on the geese, you. Put it on a calendar. Just about every house got things on a calendar. I think that has helped, you know, increase some of those birds. What will happen, that put those calendars and stuff, you know, young moose, put it on a calendar and pass it around.

MR. MANUMIK: Just the areas, you know.

MR. KACYON: Yeah, I think that was probably a good idea. I don't know about a full-blown calendar, because apparently that costs a lot of money. But I'm going to I was supposed to be talking to the RITs on the 1st of March, and one of the things I was going to mention to them, especially some of the areas like in Russian Mission where there's RITs in Marshall, or maybe upriver in Tuluksak and Kalskag, people need to start teaching about moose instead of about goose. And, because I think the moose situation upriver is more serious than the goose situation. I think the goose situation on the coast, you know, is an important mechanism to teach people about conserving geese, but I think as you get further upriver, I think it's almost more important to teach about moose than a goose. And, you know, that's mainly what I want to bring up with I talk to them, is about getting the word out about shooting cow moose, and so that we can start educating folks about it.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions?

MR. MANUMIK: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

MR. MANUMIK: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, thank you. And, Randy, I don't think it's just up to just one certain area to do something, but it should be a united front up front from the whole region itself, asking that area to do something to conserve something. In this case it's moose population. We in the Lower Yukon when we asked for that moratorium, the Governor and the State Board of Game readily accepted that proposal and gave a five-year moratorium, but then they went further and did not open it until seven years after, seven years later. And it's been eight years now, and right now even in my village we see moose, in Sheldon's Point. Alukanuk, they're walking around in the village. It can work in the Kuskokwim River. What worked over there can work over here.

MR. KACYON: I agree.

MR. MANUMIK: There is no doubt in my mind, but it's up to each individual hunter to conserve, to get that conservative thinking into their mind, to conserve that animal. It's not for today, it's for the future. That needs to be understood.

And the goose management worked well, and it's recognized world-wide now. Throughout the whole world it's recognized. It worked here in Alaska. We did

it together. We didn't do one specific village or tribe did not do it alone. We did it as a united group. United effort.

The moose population here on the Kuskokwim can be done. with that up front thinking that we need to conserve this animal for the future. There are other resources. There's fish, there's bear, like you say, and black bear and beaver, and to get everybody .....

MR. KACYON: And caribou, yeah.

MR. MANUMIK: ..... you know, throughout the year. But then this moose has got to come back. The habitat area here is great in the Kuskokwim River. There's lots of vegetation and young willows to feed on.

Not only that, but look what happened to the caribou. We left them alone for a couple of years, and they came back. Now they can hunt caribou again. The same thing can happen to the moose.

And I think that if AVCP and Greg's department there, Natural Resource, can get along like Harry's asking, get along with these folks here, Chuck Chaliak, Fritz and Antone and Moses Nicolai, get those people speaking out on the moose in the villages. Not only in the villages, but get if you can get them together here in Bethel or some remote area like in one of those villages, maybe in Tuluksak, where the cut-off line would be, and start working your way down from there and hold meetings in each village. That might promote the conservative measure in their brains faster. Not only in the adults, but especially the younger group. They shoot anything that moves.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other question? Yeah?

MR. LARSON: Yeah, if I could. My name is Oscar Larson, and I've been looking at this census areas. Given the size of the areas, it would seem that it would reflect the moose population size. For example, area five I think it could be enlarged to include those moose populations that might be migrating out of that area. Have you noticed any moose migrating out of these census areas?

MR. KACYON: Yeah, we have moose outside the census areas. These are just these areas are predominantly where most of the vegetation is. There's some of the Kwethluk isn't included in here, because we felt that moose densities were too low to do an adequate census. There's moose yes, there's moose on the Kwethluk, there's moose on the Eek, there's even maybe one or two on the Kanektok, but we're just looking at where most of the moose are, because we feel that these moose are what are providing moose in the Lower Kisaralik, and the Kwethluk, and the Tuluksak in area five. And some of our highest densities of moose are in this area five for the Kuskokwim. The same way in area four on the Yukon. There where you see moose, it's a big area.

But you can't when you try to do these census, you can't have the whole area, you have to have a reasonable area to do your count in so you come up with an accurate count. And to include all the tundra and everything doesn't help your estimate at all. You just end up counting a lot of zeros. And we know that there's moose in other parts of the area, but the majority of the moose are in these five areas. There are moose on all these other in all the other areas that are in here, but they're at lower numbers. And we have to come up with a different technique to count those moose, because they're too low to do an estimate. And it's not cost effective to go count an area that's two or 3,000 square miles where there's only 20 or 30 moose. And it's not it doesn't

matter a whole lot for management purposes that there's 20 or 30 moose, because the harvestable surplus is only one or two moose out of that population. So we're just focusing on areas that are hunted the most and where most of the moose are.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Debbie?

MS. LEE: Yeah, I was just going to say that you mentioned about a moose management plan for (indiscernible, coughing) in 19(A). I'm originally from Aniak and I've worked with villages up there in the mid Kuskokwim, you know, moose management there, even though people's feelings on moose, fish or any subsistence uses. And after moving down here and then working with ONC and getting more information, I'm aware now on how what's going on, especially with the moose population and the decline of moose population, and how much people really rely on subsistence resource. I was not aware of it when I was up there. So if you are going to make moose management plan, I would suggest that you still need to provide knowledge to them up there on what's going on here, what you're saying today, that it be provided up there, because they're unaware, and I think that first meeting in Aniak was very successful. That's a start. what you need to do if you want to have a better moose or people wanted to get more moose for next year or whenever, that they need to start working with the people up there, and letting them know what point they're coming up, they'll have a better relationship with them, because a lot of them just I wouldn't look at it as Holy Cross or Fish & Game with that. That's just a negative attitude. If you could have a good attitude with them to accept it, because it's a big change for them, too.

MR. KACYON: Yeah, I think you're right. And in fact I did present a report similar to this in Aniak, and basically what I told folks upriver was that if people down here are going to conserve moose, the only way they're going to be able to do it is to take less moose down here and more moose upriver. They didn't like to hear that, of course, but they don't like me very much down here, because I encourage people to go upriver and hunt. But I think if we're going to have more moose down here, people upriver are going to have to give a little, because they're the ones that have the moose in their backyards. We don't have moose in our backyards down here. And so there's a little give and take. People down here may have to forego moose hunting for a couple years. People upriver may have to allow more moose hunters to come up there and take more moose. There's going to be give and take on both sides. And I agree with you, but we haven't got to that point yet, unfortunately, on the Kuskokwim.

I think on the Yukon, we have a pretty good working relationship with Holy Cross. It seems like people up there don't mind the fact that downriver are taking moose. They really don't like the fact that people area littering and cutting down green trees and stuff like that. That's what they're most upset about.

MR. MANUMIK: Uh-huh. That's been the most .....

MR. KACYON: Over here I think it's a little different.

MR. MANUMIK: ..... disappointment to them, you know. Littering is what they don't like.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg, go ahead.

MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. I guess that was the purpose that I'd had the meeting when I did up in Aniak. I ran into a lot of resistance at first from just about everybody when I said I wanted to get the whole drainage together, people from 18 and 19. People from 19 said it's your problem down there, why you guys don't deal with it there. People down here said, yeah, it's our problem, or it's all them guys fault up there. And but when it comes right down to it, what we do down here is going to effect people up there. And I think there was a lot of realization of that that came out from that meeting in Aniak.

And I certainly do intend to follow up with another meeting. I would probably try to have the next one down on the lower section of the river. Last time we had Aniak, because it was on the border. Well, Kalskag is (indiscernible, coughing) 18 and 19, but Aniak was able to handle 40, 50 people coming in their town, which is what we had at that meeting, both days. And I'd see moving it back and forth, and helping to, you know, get it more at a localized level, to hold it at the villages, not necessarily in Bethel, although eventually we will have it in Bethel, but as I say, I'd envision the next one try to have one yet this spring perhaps in Akiachuk, Kwethluk, something like that. And following that, we're going to bounce back up to Sleetmute or Stoney, or Red Devil, somewhere, and work our way back and forth like that.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think at this time we're going to have our lunch break, and come back 1:00 o'clock.

I would like to ask Randy if it's possible, go over some of these things this afternoon. We're expecting to have more board members here and more people coming in this afternoon, if you could go over the highlights of what you're doing, we would appreciate it.

MR. KACYON: Okay.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. We'll have lunch break till 1:00 o'clock.

(Off record - 11:38 a.m.)

(On record - 1:00 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Come back from recess, lunch break. We're down in (B), discussion of 1996 annual report issue and concern to be included. Our coordinator will elaborate that for us. John?

MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, we don't have the 1996 annual report out in hand, but there's no change from what we had from the '95 report. We'd like to bring this one out in full when we have a full council hopefully by the fall meeting. I think Michael can have a little more input on this one.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mike?

MR. COFFING: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe as a reminder, John, I think one of the things that we were hoping to do with this agenda item is to get some input from the Council members of what their issues or concerns that they would like to be included in the new annual report that we do next time, John, so this is probably going to be the last Council meeting you're going to have until next fall, and probably and maybe help me here, John, I think is it summertime that generally is when you work on the annual report, right?

MR. ANDREW: Uh-huh.

MR. COFFING: So this meeting would be a good one for Council members to identify issues or concerns that they would like to be included in the next annual report that goes from the Council into the Secretary of Interior. However you would like to do that, whether you'd like to just discuss them, or maybe go one by one and mention things that individually are of concern to the Council and then we'll highlight those and try to incorporate those into the annual report for the next time here, that's done this summer, early fall.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: So you're asking what should be included in the annual report?

MR. COFFING: That's right.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Does the board have anything? I think me, myself, it concerns me, I don't know who appoint the Council's (In Yup'ik).

MR. COFFING: Alternate?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Alternates. That if the Secretary appointed those, we should let the Secretary know that we need some alternates in this Council, because any other members of like in the panels, they've got alternates. I think in order to continue to involve in the where we serve our villages, we need some alternates who could be able to attend every meeting. We will talk about it in other new business.

However, that while you're asking what we should include in our report, I thought we're going to I suppose this report will be sent to Interior, and we could request some things that we need.

So next meeting we will discuss more annual report. In meantime, I think it would be good if our coordinator sent the board members what should be included in the 1996, whatever the next annual report. I think that would be fine. Send them in a notice to Council members.

MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, perhaps the coordinator could provide to each of the Council members some description of the kind of things that could go in that annual report. It's quite broad and quite varied. And then when the Council members have a chance, perhaps, you know, early spring here or maybe before people get busy fishing, think about after you've received the material from John, think about issues or concerns for your area, for the Y-K Delta, that you would like to bring to the attention of the Secretary of Interior concerning subsistence, and then write that down or call John, and we'll do the best to record that and include those in the draft annual report here for the next cycle.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you. (In Yup'ik)

MR. MANUMIK: I do have one, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

MR. MANUMIK: I would recommend that the annual report be taken up before commercial fishing season starts. And when it's done after the season starts, there just a few of us who are available to come. Last year there was only two of us here .....

MR. COFFING: Uh-huh.

MR. MANUMIK: ..... who did the report.

MR. COFFING: That's right. Paul, you came in, and was did Antone?

MR. MANUMIK: Antone, yeah.

MR. COFFING: And Taylor was here and John, and .....

MR. MANUMIK: Uh-huh.

MR. COFFING: ..... you folks got together and tried to outline some issues and concerns that you had that we were then able to incorporate in the annual report. But that would be good, either, you know, perhaps doing that, something like that again, or individually Council members getting material in to John, but maybe we'll leave that with the coordinator and the Chairman to decide how you want to handle that, and staff will do the best that we can to get those in.

MR. MANUMIK: Uh-huh.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other concerning annual report? If there's not, we'll go to the next on our agenda, (C), Council membership. John?

MR. ANDREW: (In Yup'ik)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. I just wanted we've been jumping. U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Office of Subsistence Management. I thought we'd done that.

MR. ANDREW: No, Dave .....

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Dave Fisher?

MR. FISHER: We already did that.

MR. COFFING: Where are we at?

MR. ANDREW: We did that?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, we did that already.

MR. FISHER: There wasn't as you recall, there wasn't very much there. We talked about the up-coming Board meeting in the late part of April, and then the two the three councils that have added two new members to their group.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

MR. MANUMIK: Mr. Chairman? When will those two council members be added onto this advisory council?

MR. COFFING: I think the Federal Subsistence Board basically gave its okay for I wasn't at the meeting, so I'm kind of doing this off the cuff here, gave the okay for two additional members to be added to this Council. And my understanding is that currently the nomination process or application process for regional council membership is open now. There will be three council members whose terms will expire, and John may talk about that further down here under item number (C), but the application time closes I think on the 29th of February. And so from that application process there will be three appointments

made on the Council for expiring seats, expiring members, and then my understanding, too, Paul, is that two more will come out of that application process, so next fall potentially there could be five new members on the Council for a total then of 11 council members. Currently you have nine.

MR. MANUMIK: Uh-huh.

MR. COFFING: And it's generally been that we've had the new appointed council members at the fall meeting, usually in October, and I think sometimes that that appointment process the appointment is made by the Secretary of Interior. Sometimes that's done in August or late you know, up through the end of September, depending on when he gets around to getting things signed off, but I think the answer to your question is they'll probably be appointed August/September next fall, and they'll begin to serve probably at the October meeting of this Council.

MR. MANUMIK: Quyana.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. If there isn't any more, we'll go to next, council membership.

MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, thank you. (In Yup'ik) expiring council chairs. (In Yup'ik) The expiring council chairs for this year are Harry Wilde's seat, that's on Lower Yukon, and Paul Manumik's from Sheldon's Point, three is Moses Nicolai's out of Kwethluk. Those three are expiring in September of this fall. So those seats are open for application and nominations. And the application period for those seats, deadline is the 29th, this coming Thursday on that. (In Yup'ik) Day after tomorrow.

And sometime back, this Council request for three additional seats. It's to cover middle Yukon, up in our region, upper end, and Scammon, Hooper Bay, Chevak area, and Nelson Island, Mekoryuk district I mean subregions. And our board Federal Subsistence Board only approve two. (In Yup'ik)

INTERPRETER TINKER: Concerning that they've asked for council members for middle Yukon, Chevak/Hooper Bay Region, and Nelson Island, but they asked for three seats, but they've approved only two. There will be a total of 11 members.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

MR. ANDREW: (In Yup'ik) Council representation. Sometime back we had a request from this Council to add three additional seats for the geographic areas which were not represented up in Pilot Station, Marshall, Russian Mission area. Another one was in Hooper Bay, Chevak, Scammon Bay. A third one was to cover Nelson Island and Mekoryuk region. For those three. But Federal Subsistence Board only approved for two seats, making it a possible total of 11 members to be selected by September or a little bit later of this year.

And getting into Council nominations update. Currently what I know of what we've got over there, because I don't see all the applications or nominations that goes through this region, because they're sent all of them are always sent right to Anchorage Regional Office. From what I know, there's three applications that came out of Kwethluk, two out of Toksook Bay, one out of Neutuk (ph), and one out of Hooper Bay, one from Mountain Village, and one possibly out of Marshall. Because from the instructions I got, it is not

this is not exactly at this point it's not public information. We can give you numbers and figures, but no names. Doy.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Quyana.

MR. MANUMIK: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

MR. MANUMIK: I have one. Mr. Andrew, now where we've got two new additional members to be selected. Where would this Council recommend from when it's time to recommend to the Secretary of Interior to select those names from which area?

MR. ANDREW: (In Yup'ik)

MR. MANUMIK: (In Yup'ik) Nelson Island, Hooper, Chevak, Scammon and Middle Yukon.

MR. ANDREW: Uh-huh.

MR. MANUMIK: (In Yup'ik)

INTERPRETER TINKER: He's asking what in what region, either Middle Yukon or Chevak, Hooper Bay they're going to select those two people.

MR. ANDREW: Mike can cover that.

MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, yeah. Thanks, Paul. Maybe I could answer that. The seats for the Regional Council, and you're going to have 11 seats total now, aren't appointed, aren't assigned to any specific group of villages. Like there isn't one from Nelson Island, Lower Yukon, Middle Yukon, Lower Kuskokwim, Kuskokwim Bay. There are not seats assigned to a group of villages. They assigned to a general area.

MR. MANUMIK: A general area. The whole region.

MR. COFFING: So the idea is to get knowledgeable people that live in the region, to get their name, and get their application in that want to serve. And then through the selection process hopefully you'll end up with a selection of council members that are spread throughout your region with knowledge of issues across the region.

MR. MANUMIK: Uh-huh.

MR. COFFING: But each but the council seats aren't assigned a specific part of Unit 18 like that. There's not that specific assignment, and they're generally any place in Unit 18.

MR. MANUMIK: But right now we can recommend a name to the Interior if we choose to?

MR. COFFING: You mean a name .....

MR. MANUMIK: Yeah.

MR. COFFING: ..... to be on the Council, you mean?

MR. MANUMIK: If we choose to?

MR. COFFING: You mean an individual's name or are you talking about a geographic area be assigned?

MR. MANUMIK: No, just a name of a person.

MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, probably the best thing to do here, Paul, is if you well, first of all, if you're a council member whose term is expiring, and you want to continue to serve on the Council, please apply. Fill out the application and please apply. You won't necessarily be just reappointed, you have to apply at the end of your term. So that's the first thing. Any of you that are on and want to continue serving, and your term's expiring, please apply. If you know other people, if you know other individuals that you know would be good, that you would like to apply, encourage them to apply, and work through John or get ahold of me and we'll get some applications. We'll get some here later this afternoon or perhaps tomorrow, but before you leave, if you want to take some applications back with you, we'll provide that, and please make them available to people you think would be good serving on the Council.

I don't know that I don't know a situation where a regional council specifically says we want a particular person to serve on our council. I don't think that's the way the process that that's the way the process works. Just get knowledgeable people to apply.

There's kind of a review panel that reviews those, and then the Secretary of Interior in D.C. actually makes the appointments to the Council.

MR. MANUMIK: In that case, let's that's related to the question of whether the tribal councils in the villages have received the application, and has there been any names submitted other than the members that are here? Mike or John?

MR. COFFING: Well, I don't know. John, perhaps you can tell us if you know, and if you don't know, we'll find out. Were the applications made available to the different villages on the Delta here?

MR. ANDREW: Some of them were mailed out, and we have some in the box. I think we have some applications over in that box over here right now.

MR. COFFING: Okay.

MR. ANDREW: But the thing is most of them were mailed out of Anchorage office.

MR. COFFING: Okay.

MR. ANDREW: And they mailed some of them out to our office over here. From there I sent them out to the villages.

MR. COFFING: I do know, Paul, that I think there were and the newspaper doesn't work for everybody, but I think in the Tundra Drums and other papers there may have been some announcement in the paper with an 800 number for people to call. And I've noticed here in Bethel anyway on television there's been an advertisement for about the last ten days or two weeks, requesting interested people to apply, and an 800 number for them to call to get more information or an application if they want. So I think there is an effort to get notices out to the villages and try to solicit some input from people throughout the Delta here.

And, in fact, John, you travelled to some communities, right, as part of this application process, so at least some staff have been out travelling to spread the word.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Debbie?

MS. LEE: Yeah, I was just curious. You said that interested applicants should reside within the GMU unit, for example 18. For the Kalskag area, your boundary goes as far as Kalskag. If you had interested applicants from Upper Kalskag, is that going to be qualified or are they going to be qualified?

MR. COFFING: Upper Kalskag, Debbie, Mr. Chairman, is in Unit 19, so that's covered by the Western Interior Council.

MS. LEE: So that maybe be Lower Kalskag?

MR. COFFING: Well, I think that one's maybe a bit more contentious, because, as you know, the area or the unit boundary goes right through the community. But in general I think Lower Kalskag and Upper Kalskag are both represented by the Western Interior Council. However, that Council or that community can attend meetings here and comment on proposals or anything else.

As far as I guess what you're asking me is if someone in Lower Kalskag applied to this Council, .....

MS. LEE: Yeah.

MR. COFFING: ..... are they going to qualify, and I don't know the answer to that. I think that's one we'll have we're going to have to sort if out, because it's right on the line. I think you could argue probably strongly either way on it, but .....

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions concerning nominations and representation? Mike, let me ask you one thing. In the screening process, who do the recommendation for the council members?

MR. COFFING: I'm going to let John answer that. I haven't been part of it, and John has, so I'll let him .....

MR. ANDREW: The screening process?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, when you do the before .....

MR. ANDREW: Usually there's a screening process of about three, four agencies. I would be one of them, Jeff could be another one, and the local refuge manager is one of them. Or those three plus another agency if they're involved. Then from there on, we get together to do a screening process, then we have to come to an agreement to which could make the best candidate for their whole region, depending on how many applications we've got from certain area. And our recommendations goes before the Interagency Staff over in Anchorage. Then the Anchorage staff, Interagency Staff, make their recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior. The final selection is up to the Secretary of Interior.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: the reason I'm saying this, if the screening process, if it's working right, we wouldn't be only thee or four board members here. We would

have had more than four board members. I think the screening process, it have to be worked on better than what it's doing right now, because .....

(Off record)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: ..... recommend these board members, they should look at and do this and responsibilities, especially how they perform on meetings like this. I think that's really important, because even though a person is there is people with expertise out there concerning subsistence and all that stuff, I sure would like to see it. When we talk about this among ourselves, in the board members, you know, screening process, it should be screened a little bit more.

MR. ANVIL: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

MR. ANVIL: When the person is appointed to work with the Council, you know, I think that the Council should be informed that to carry out what he put in the application is for, that if he's really interested to attend all the meetings that occur of subsistence purposes, and he should be active, and he should be available all the time to attend these meetings.

For my position right now, I'm supposed to be over at the Waterfowl Conservation, WCC, Committee, that I'm a member, but knowing that if I wasn't here, the meeting wouldn't started up this morning, you know. So in order for to help this meeting to get under way, even though I have to be at the meeting at Fish & Wildlife conference room there, that I have to stay so we can get going with our program here.

So if that person is a candidate then that he should be informed that what his responsibilities are for when they become a member. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other concerning representation and the nomination?

If not, we go to the next on our agenda, (D) update on the status of navigable waters, fishery management, and NARC position. Dave Fisher?

MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Tom asked me to sort of update you on the Katy John decision, because that ties in with the navigable waters and fisheries, and I guess what I'd like to do is just kind of run through a little time line here, and it's kind of a complicated chain of events, but I'll try and keep it so we can all understand it.

As you'll recall, the original Katy John case challenged the Federal decision to not allow a subsistence fishery on the Copper River. Apparently there was a site there on the Copper River, and it was in the within the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. That happened in 1990.

In 1993 the Native American Rights Fund, or the NARF, and others sent a petition to the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to broaden the Federal definition to include all navigable waters and all federally reserved waters for regulation of subsistence fisheries.

In 1994 U.S. District Court Judge Holland, he made a ruling that the Federal Government has jurisdiction over subsistence fishing in all navigable waters of Alaska under the Navigational Servitude Doctrine.

In April of 1994, the Northwest Arctic Regional Advisory Council, or NARC, they sent a petition to the Secretary of Interior and Secretary of Agriculture, and they wanted the Secretaries to extend their jurisdiction to non-federal lands if subsistence uses are being interfered with or impacted. And they also asked for an extension of the jurisdiction to selected lands, but not yet conveyed lands. In other words, if subsistence uses were being impacted on non-federal lands, they wanted the Secretaries to exert their authority.

In April of 1995, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals made a ruling that the Federal jurisdiction is limited to federally reserved waters, in other words, those waters that are within conservation units, refuges, parks. The Ninth Circuit Court ruling, this has been appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, and we're waiting for a decision of whether the Supreme Court will accept this case, and this should be made in the spring of 1996.

However, in the meantime, the Solicitor's Office has been drafting regulations that would identify waters in which the Federal Government retains an interest, in other words, those waters that are within those conservation units, and refuges, and parks, and so on. They're coming up with a list of those waters that the Government wants to manage. This proposed regulation that the Solicitor's working on would also address the two petitions that were submitted by the NARF and the NARC group. The draft regulations should be published here sometime in April.

That's basically it. I tried to sum it up there, and it is kind of a complicated issue, so I'll try and answer any questions that anybody may have.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thanks.

MR. WILLIAMS: Is your name is Mr. Boyd?

MR. FISHER: No, I'm filling in for Mr. Boyd. My name is Dave Fisher. I'm from the Anchorage office.

MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Fisher. I'd appreciate it if I could get copy of what you were reading there?

MR. FISHER: Sure.

MR. WILLIAMS: Mainly due that's a big issue in my area, .....

MR. FISHER: Yeah.

MR. WILLIAMS: ..... I mean, my home town.

MR. FISHER: I think I either have a copy or we have a copy there that .....

CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a copy over there on the table.

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I looked, there's none.

MR. FISHER: You did? I think I have an extra copy for you.

MR. WILLIAMS: Because whenever we talk about subsistence, it's statewide, it's not just the refuge areas, it's everywhere the edible creatures roaming around, you know, is the situation.

MR. FISHER: When we have a break here, I'll get you a copy.

MR. WILLIAMS: Than you.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg?

MR. ROCZICKA: I'd also appreciate a copy of it before you leave. But you mentioned that the draft regulations will be published in April?

MR. FISHER: Possibly by early April.

MR. ROCZICKA: I just want clarification on that. Does that mean they're going to be published in the Federal Register for the 60-day comment period, .....

MR. FISHER: Uh-huh.

MR. ROCZICKA: ..... and after that comment period go through the .....

MR. FISHER: I think so.

MR. ROCZICKA: ..... 90-day review or whatever it is and potentially become .....

MR. FISHER: Uh-huh.

MR. ROCZICKA: ..... regulations by this fall?

MR. FISHER: Could.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more concerning subsistence management, navigable waters?

MR. MANUMIK: Just one question, Mr. Chairman. I don't know if I'm sorry that Mr. Nicolai isn't here. We talked about Kwethluk River not Kwethluk River. Was it Kwethluk River? Yeah, we were talking about Kwethluk River last meeting.

MR. COFFING: Uh-huh.

MR. MANUMIK: Is there anything, any word or news on that River to this day? Dave?

MR. GEORGE: Something like the Kwethluk Joint Group proposal to make the river classed as a subsistence river? Something like that.

MR. COFFING: I guess I'll .....

MR. MANUMIK: They wanted that river to be non-navigable, and I wanted to know if any court has decided to declare that that river is indeed a non-navigable water, as stated .....

MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman?

MR. MANUMIK: ..... by the Joint Group of Kwethluk, and whatever the other villages are.

MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, I'll try .....

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

MR. COFFING: ..... to answer it the best I can, and Dave can help out here.

You're right, at the last meeting Kwethluk was concerned about the river. They wanted it in fact I think this Council acted on a resolution from Kwethluk dealing with that river. There was some discussion about the navigability status on the Kwethluk River, and I recall Mr. Guy stating that it was his understanding that it was non-navigable. There were some other people at the meeting who thought that perhaps portions of it had been declared navigable. So there was I guess we were looking for information to be able to better understand what that is, because Kwethluk was interested in this Council supporting their resolution, because of Kwethluk's concern for subsistence along that river, and this is a subsistence council.

The information that Dave provided, and is also in each of your booklets, I wanted to remind you, and if you don't get a chance to look at it here, please take it home and look it over. Basically now what we know is that it isn't so much an issue as far as protecting subsistence on the Kwethluk River, it isn't so much now an issue of whether it's navigable or non-navigable. What we know now is that waters that flow waters that are on the Kwethluk River that are within the boundaries of the refuge, as I understand it, are now within the jurisdiction of Federal management regardless of whether it's navigable or non-navigable. Those waters within the refuge boundary are under the jurisdiction of Federal management.

Now, what Dave was saying is that the Solicitor's Office back in Washington, D.C., is drafting some regulations, some proposed regulations, they're not final, they're proposed, that deal with some other issues about in-holdings in Federal lands. That is, if you have a native allotment along a river within a refuge, are those waters that flow past that allotment navigable or within Federal jurisdiction. That's one thing.

So the other thing is that this NARC petition is the Northwest Arctic Regional Council petition, and that petition really asked that Federal jurisdiction should extend onto State lands and private land to protect subsistence for people up there. Not just Federal land, but should go off of Federal lands and protect subsistence. An example in this region would be Federal jurisdiction on corporation lands to protect to provide a priority for subsistence under Federal regulations on corporation lands. Currently that's under the State jurisdiction.

So the proposed regs that Dave outlined, and rightly mentioned that they should be coming out we think probably in early April, are proposed, and they will better define which waters, what lands might be included under Federal jurisdiction. So the issue has to do with where is Federal jurisdiction, and right now it isn't so much a matter of is it navigable or non-navigable. Right now they both are. But these proposed regulations that we'll see later will help better define which waters perhaps might be under Federal jurisdiction, so I guess that maybe that helps .....

I don't know if that answers your question. The more specific question you asked about navigable/non-navigable, as I understand it there are portions of the Kwethluk River that are navigable, have been determined that way, and some that have been determined non-navigable. And those determinations were made not with this program in mind of subsistence management, or even fisheries management, they were made in accordance with making land allocation decisions, whether the land was going to a corporation or the State or what. It's complex.

MR. MANUMIK: Yeah. Mr. Guy said it was ANCSA that they made that decision, and they wanted this board to support that resolution that the Joint Group has passed.

Now, the other question that I have is now that if the Federal Government regulations had broadened their jurisdiction over any land that they any land that the Regional Councils would submit to the Solicitor's Office as their subsistence area, that would not hamper any such subsistence activity in the Federal subsistence area federally recognized regulated area, right? It wouldn't hamper any activity in .....

MR. FISHER: Well, it shouldn't. If it does anything, it should enhance it, because you're dealing with those federally reserved waters within conservation units, and also you could potentially be dealing with lands, State lands, or private land, if there's any impact to the subsistence resource on those lands, and the way I understand it, the Federal Government could step in and exert its authority there. So if anything, it would these proposed regulations should enhance subsistence use activities, not only on waters, but also on land, too. It's fairly complicated and .....

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead. Go ahead.

MR. WILLIAMS: I'm bad on names. What you was talking about, that's another one that I would appreciate getting a picture of what that Northwest Arctic Regional Council is suggesting.

To my thinking, I believe what the majority of the natives believe historically speaking, that's what it was before. Subsistence use was the use pre-statehood, and then that concept the way I see it is what I believe what the Northwest Arctic Regional Council may be going after. I don't know how this Subsistence Board here feels, but that's how I would feel if I was a real subsistence world. But wherever whenever we go subsistence hunting, we stomp on State and the Federal and private lands when we do, you know.

MR. FISHER: Can I ask a question for clarification? Did you want a copy of that petition?

MR. WILLIAMS: I would appreciate it.

MR. FISHER: The specific petition itself?

MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

MR. FISHER: Okay. I knew that .....

MR. WILLIAMS: Because I would want to I would want to show that to the tribal council that has sent me here to listen in on what's going on with this subsistence meeting here.

MR. FISHER: Okay. If you'll give me your address when we break here, I'll see that something's sent to you.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more on navigable water?

MR. GEORGE: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

MR. GEORGE: When the Federal Government vested to the State all the navigable waters or whatever is born is it, the Statehood Compact, did the Federal Government give it the right to manage everything in the water or whatever forever? Because if you can give it, you can take it back, and so the State don't have to worry about the State Supreme Court making a decision or something in the Katy John case. Like it's sort of it still surprised my elders that my aboriginal rights were extinguished by Section IV of ANCSA, and it certainly isn't right for any policy to not go through referendum with the people that are going to be affected, like my people, or every native in Alaska. And I sort of somehow I read it in the Universal Declaration of Indigenous Rights that everything that's going to that everything that's going to be affect my tribal people of Alaska or the world has got to go through a referendum. We've got to vote for it in order for it to become reality. And so far it seems like everything's got to go through the State, and it's got or the government, and whatever that happens, some of us call it it happened fraudulently, you know. And it's sort of unbelievable sometimes, too, to hear people talk about what's really a fraud, you know.

MR. FISHER: Well, we want to take a look at these draft regulations when they come out and possibly discuss them at our next Council meeting, so everyone understands them, and actually what they're trying to regulate and so on. But we'll be prepared to do that at that when they come out.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more? Anyone? If it's not, we're down in agenda (A) any other old business, so no any other old business. We're come up to new business.

We're having a little bit problem here, four of us. I kind of hesitate to work on proposals while we're not quorum, because we have to take some of this proposal action. Not only that, we have to give people the opportunity for comment on this proposals who'd like to give public comment on the proposals. So, I don't know.

At this time I think let's try to figure out maybe we'll take ten minutes break at this time, and we'll try to figure things out. Okay. Ten minutes break.

(Meeting recessed - 1:55 p.m.)

(TO BE CONTINUED)

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

I, Meredith L. Downing, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska and Reporter for R & R Court Reporters, Inc., do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 59 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council meeting taken electronically by me on the 27th day of February, 1996, beginning at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m. at the Bethel Native Cultural Center, Bethel, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by me to the best of my knowledge and ability;

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 3rd day of March, 1996.

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Notary Public in and for Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 7/3/98

S E A L