

WESTERN INTERIOR SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
October 9, 1997
8:40 a.m.
Chamai Center
McGrath, Alaska

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Raymond Collins, Chair
Ronald Sam, Member
Jack L. Reakoff, Member
Henry Deacon, Member
William Derendoff, Member
Angela O. Demientieff, Member
Benedict Jones, Member
Carl Morgan, Member

Vince Mathews, Coordinator

P R O C E E D I N G S

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CHAIRMAN COLLINS: We'll call the meeting back to order. It's 8:40. And I'm sorry I wasn't here right at the end. Had you finished the other agency reports or are there any other agencies to.....

MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chair, we finished all the way through, all the agency reports and then the small item on the wildlife notebook.

CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

MR. MATHEWS: If you need to know that it's -- there is nothing really to present on that. They're still working on it and they'll be available at the next meeting. So we're right up to action items.

MS. LEE: I wasn't here for first hand and I'd like to.....

CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. That's fine.

MR. SAM: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to recognize Tanana Lee Nett from Tanana Chiefs. I'm glad he's here in attendance.

CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Did you want to address it too? Did you want to address us too, this morning. Or.....

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No.

CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

MS. LEE: Good morning, Mr. Chairman. Thanks for giving me an opportunity to testify. For the record my name is Debbie Lee and I'm employed with OMC within the Bethel area, which is considered GMU 18. And I'm just here to give our concerns, which is quite similar to KNAs. We are concerned about the bag limit on caribou within Unit 18 which may extend to even 19 on federal lands. Our council is suggesting to the YK Regional to put a limit on caribou. For example, I guess regulation right now is you can catch five all at once with no time limit. I guess they're referring to having two caribous at a certain date, another two extended because they saw a lot of meat being wasted at this time. And it was brought up to the YK, nothing was -- I don't know if anything is going to be done with it and our only choice is to come and inform you about it to see if anything that you could do to help that area.

0154

1 Another thing that we're concerned about is C&T uses.
2 As you may know, we do have problems with it within the lower
3 and upper district of the Kuskokwim between Unit 18 and 19.
4 I'm only speaking on behalf of OMC. I don't know how the other
5 villages feel. I think they probably have a different opinion.
6 We feel that the C&T is still being -- still exists as of now
7 and it will continue on for our children's children, and to
8 determine who's eligible and who will hunt where, it's going to
9 be hard to define. That's the way we feel. and if the feds or
10 the state want to define our deficiency and uses, it'd probably
11 be best for them to determine how many years are they going
12 back to decide who's eligible for C&T uses in villages. So
13 we're quite concerned about that.

14
15 Sports hunting and guides. We do have a problem even
16 with the lower -- within GMU 18. The villages are concerned.
17 Or I should say our tribes are concerned about it. Fisheries,
18 as Angie Morgan mentioned yesterday, that's one of our concerns
19 too. I think our -- we brought to Board of Fish any roe sale
20 or Chinook commercial sales. And I just wanted to testify and
21 say, you know, where we're coming from with OMC. OMC is just a
22 tribal organization for the village of Bethel. We do have at
23 least 2000 enrolled -- tribal enrollment, but with the natural
24 resources program we tend to extend more of our work than
25 within just the Bethel area because of the subsistence uses
26 which may involve the Yukon, the Lower Kuskokwim, Bethel and
27 the upper part of Kuskokwim.

28
29 I guess we do have one suggestion in regard to fishery
30 I don't know is this is probably a good time to talk about it.
31 But just for the department, if the feds do take over navigable
32 waters, one of our goals is to work among the feds to collect
33 more data during in season. '95, '96, '97 we have collected
34 subsistence harvest within the Kuskokwim. And the reports and
35 response that we've got from our tribes was very good and we'd
36 like to continue with that. The purpose of doing that is
37 because we don't have any in season harvest during salmon or
38 any other species in season and we don't -- we can't work in
39 the -- with any kind of data provided. So that's our goal
40 for.....

41
42 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Any questions? Question, Nettie.
43 On the caribou is that the state season and is it -- are they
44 being taken -- this is on state land?

45
46 MS. LEE: It's the federal. The federal was --
47 involves both. I think it involves both. I know the federal
48 had theirs just recently. An emergency order for five
49 caribous.

0155

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. So a proposal could be
2 developed to change that season then and it would come up in
3 the spring then as I understand it. That's the next go around.
4 So is the local group out there going to develop proposals for
5 that area?

6
7 MS. LEE: Yeah. We're looking at submitting a proposal
8 to put some kind of time limit during the season.

9
10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. And on the C&T, they're
11 questioning the C&T determinations that have already been made
12 in terms of moose and other things. Is that what they're
13 thinking of in that.....

14
15 MS. LEE: Yes.

16
17 CHAIRMAN COLLINS:mid river area?

18
19 MS. LEE: Well, yeah. They're -- the council -- like I
20 said, I'm only speaking on behalf of OMC and I don't know how
21 -- it's my understanding the proposal that has been submitted
22 to this.....

23
24 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, it goes to federal board.....

25
26 MS. LEE:board here.

27
28 CHAIRMAN COLLINS:and all the boards with -- the
29 advisory boards would review them.

30
31 MS. LEE: Yeah. It's my under- -- I attended the
32 Hooper Bay meeting. And they were going to review. I guess
33 the proposal was submitted by ABCP, who's regional non-profit,
34 and they are considering or they're saying that they do have
35 C&T uses. It was tabled at the YK because they couldn't
36 collect enough information on ABCP, you know, how can they
37 define whether -- if they are C&T uses.

38
39 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Right.

40
41 MS. LEE: And like I said, our only way, since we are
42 not under ABCP and we do work along with it, the only way is
43 coming -- from where we're coming from we are not opposing or
44 approving the proposal but we do question it and how it's being
45 defined.

46
47 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah. Ron?

48
49 MR. SAM: Yeah. Just going through this Board of Game

50 tentative meeting schedule, I see you have one scheduled for

0156

1 the Bethel Cultural Center to review and/or adopt all of these
2 proposals that you can bring before the board. We do have a
3 meeting there on January 17th and 21st.

4
5 MS. LEE: Yeah. They -- the Board of Game will be
6 scheduled -- I think they're scheduled to meet in October in
7 Fairbanks and I think one of the proposals is in regard to
8 caribou. And we will be attending that to approach that. Plus
9 we're involved with other proposals that have been submitted.

10
11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay. My other question, that
12 five caribou a day, is that every day or -- what sets the limit
13 on caribou?

14
15 MS. LEE: No, it's not five caribous a day. I think
16 it's five caribous limits from the open 'til the end that
17 you're able to catch. But there's some individuals that have
18 gone out hunting. They tend to catch five caribous and they
19 don't have enough storage for it. There's a lot of wasted
20 meat.

21
22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you.

23
24 MR. SAM: Mr. Chairman?

25
26 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah.

27
28 MR. SAM: I see this new Board of Game as pretty easy
29 to work with and pretty understanding. They seem to take a lot
30 of these local issues into -- I mean they use a lot of local
31 testimony on these local issues and they do their best. 'Cause
32 we've been pretty successful. We've got their proposal --
33 you're familiar with their format?

34
35 MS. LEE: Yeah. I'm familiar with it but I -- there's
36 a lot of actions that they have taken that I disagree with.
37 For instance, they had a proposal in regard to Holitna on
38 hunting -- I guess some of the tribes requesting that they have
39 a yearly check station during moose hunting. And they extend
40 their limited 40 horsepower. As of now, you know, they do have
41 a 40 horsepower. But they're extending it by air, water and
42 river by 40 horse and I don't know they can do that. And the
43 other one was to -- any sports hunting that any meat or any
44 horns that's been taken, the meat and bones should also be
45 taken.

46
47 The Board of Game tabled the proposal and it's my --
48 and then I think one of the legislators directed the Board of
49 Game not to take any actions on, or put any kind of

50 restrictions on any kind of control use areas of the state. So

0157

1 that proposal's pretty much -- I don't know where it's sitting
2 now. I don't know if they'll be taking it up again at the
3 future board meetings. I don't know.

4
5 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: You might -- if you have a chance to
6 talk to Mike Flegal while you're here, who is a board member on
7 the game -- I think you met him yesterday afternoon. He came
8 in.

9 MS. LEE: Yes.

10
11 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Remember that? Yeah. He would
12 probably know where that's at or what their schedule is.

13
14 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chairman?

15
16 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes?

17
18 MR. REAKOFF: That regulation is still in place. The
19 meat on bone regulation. The legislature tried to get the
20 Board to rescind that, they refused the legislature on
21 rescinding that meat retention because of the waste -- wanton
22 waste of meat that was spoiling in bags. So this game board
23 has stood up against the legislature. And under their
24 authority as their knowledge of the resource and what the
25 problems are. So what I'm saying is this board, it's a
26 different board than we had a year or two ago. It's a
27 completely different make up attitude.

28
29 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Ron?

30
31 MR. SAM: Yeah. Greg Roczicka out of Bethel, he's on
32 the board and when Quinpeckit River Advisory Committee
33 suggested that the -- we also take out all the meat and bones
34 of the black bear. And with Greg Roczicka's help we got that
35 through quite a few game management units. So he's well aware
36 of what we're trying to do there too. So I think we can get
37 help -- we can get help from Greg too, because -- we had one
38 proposal that went down because that meat and bone issue.
39 Because they tried to -- everybody in the room tried to tack on
40 to the old proposal but -- which the state didn't agree with,
41 you know. But you can get help from Greg. And we're more than
42 willing to help you these proposals.

43
44 MS. LEE: Yeah. Greg is aware of where we're coming
45 from. He's with ABCP.

46
47 MR. SAM: And January is not very far off.

48
49 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Thank you.

0158

1 MR. SAM: Thank you. We'll try to help you with it.

2

3 MS. LEE: Thanks.

4

5 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Moving down then we're under
6 Thursday's agenda, action items, first one is annual reports.

7

8 MR. MATHEWS: Have to get my candy out of my mouth.

9

10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

11

12 MR. MATHEWS: Before we get the annual reports, if it's
13 okay with the Chair, just a reminder to all, all that travel
14 stuff I gave you to sign off and all that, please get that back
15 to me by this afternoon so that way we can get your travel done
16 for next round a lot easier. We're up to annual reports. If
17 you want to turn to tab L and I'm going to go real -- well, I'm
18 not going to go real quick over it. I'm going to try to give
19 you a background of the annual reports because we have new
20 members also. But basically the annual report comes out of
21 Section 805 of ANILCA and it says that the regional council can
22 do an annual report. And there's four components of the annual
23 report. One is identification of current and anticipated
24 subsistence uses of fish and wildlife populations.

25 The second part is evaluation of current and
26 anticipated subsistence needs. The third part is a recommended
27 strategy for management of fish and wildlife populations. And
28 four is recommendations on policy standards, guidelines and et
29 cetera. So that's the background of the annual report. You've
30 submitted several over the years.

31

32 This first letter you see here dated up on the top of
33 September 4th, 1997. I went over this with Benedict but I
34 think I need to review real quickly with all that's going on
35 here. We generally draft an annual report, issues, major
36 topics at this meeting. The fall meeting we work them into
37 written format with the chair or whoever the council wants that
38 worked out with. And we bring it back to you in the spring
39 meeting. You guys review it and adopt it or change it,
40 whatever. Then that goes to the board. The board meets in
41 June on this, I believe, usually for annual reports. They
42 draft up a response to your annual report items. So the
43 September 4th letter is a response to your annual report.
44 Okay?

45

46 I suppose I can just highlight how they responded
47 because we're going to start our next annual report so there
48 may be some things in last year's annual report and the
49 response from the board that you want to put in your annual

50 report for '97. So did I lose anybody on this schedule here?

0159

1 It does get a little confusing. But we're ending one and
2 starting another.

3
4 Okay. The first thing that the board responded to was
5 your request to have inner agency cooperative committee
6 established for Unit 21E. That's the one that Henry talked
7 about yesterday. And if you want to see, for those that are
8 new members, or to refresh your memory, the resolution is back
9 towards the back of L that you adopted that I believe Tanana
10 Chiefs wrote up at a joint meeting of Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk
11 and Holy Cross.

12
13 Basically you wanted an interagency committee to do
14 some long range moose management planning for Unit 21E. The
15 response from the board was that they support local specific
16 cooperative management planning efforts such as the Mentasta
17 and Kilbuck caribou plans. So there in support of your
18 cooperative effort, what they are willing to provide is funding
19 for council representatives to travel to this inner agency
20 committee meetings. So on that they responded in my opinion
21 with a positive response with some assistance.

22
23 Okay. The next thing you asked for -- well, let me
24 stop. Is there any questions on that? There was quite a bit
25 of discussion yesterday about 21E and all that, so maybe I
26 should stop at this point and see if that's.....

27
28 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: I take it from this they're not
29 going to take the lead in setting this up but other than,
30 leaving that to us or somebody else but they're willing to fund
31 our participation. Is that right?

32
33 MR. MATHEWS: Right. And that's where maybe you guys
34 want to take the lead or may want to request others to take the
35 lead. And maybe others will want to talk about that. But that
36 may be something that you want to talk about in your next
37 annual report, I'm not sure.

38
39 Okay. We'll go on to the next item. They're nicely
40 numbered here so it makes it easy to track. The -- basically
41 you wrote a paragraph or two about how you appreciate the
42 board's actions of coordinating closely with the chairs and how
43 the board is reaching out through communication channels to the
44 councils. And they responded basically thanking you for that
45 compliment and also that they value the joint meetings between
46 the chairs and the board. Like I said yesterday, the 10 chairs
47 meet in executive session with the board. It's kind of a roll
48 up your sleeve meeting. There's a lot of discussion at that
49 meeting.

0160

1 The chairs generally meet on their own the night before
2 or right before that some time. We try to schedule a time.
3 They talk as a group and then they meet the next day with the
4 federal board before they go on to public session. So that's
5 what you were -- that's what the board responded to. Any
6 questions on that. So basically it was acknowledging that you
7 brought that up.

8
9 Okay. The third item is the land status mapping. And
10 Jeff talked about that yesterday. And this is the board's
11 response saying that they're encouraging the Bureau of Land
12 Management Fish & Wildlife Service and the Native corporations
13 to work together to provide an accurate map. So that seems to
14 be moving along. And that was a direct response to your
15 request on mapping.

16
17 Okay. That's pretty much it for the topics that the
18 board responded to. I'm just confirming that we covered all
19 that was in your annual report. You had the long range
20 solutions, you used the examples of 21E and the Koyukuk River
21 as examples of meeting that. You recommended a strategy for
22 that. And that was to have a cooperative management strategy.
23 They agreed with 21E. Land status we talked about. And then
24 board/council relations. So they responded to each item. So
25 that covers the '96 report. Now we're into development of
26 issues and topics for the '97 report. And I jotted down some
27 ideas but I don't know if others have some.

28
29 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, I think one thing in the fall
30 would be a follow up to encourage that -- now that the meeting
31 -- that they have authorized funding for at least our
32 participation, that we somehow -- it needs to happen. I mean
33 we need to -- somebody has to take the lead in setting up. So
34 that's still -- I just we'd want to tell them we appreciate the
35 funding there and we're hoping that we can move forward in
36 having a meeting actually take place.

37
38 MR. MATHEWS: Ray, in that area I'm not saying that the
39 council could take the lead but the council could define who
40 might be on that.

41
42 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Right.

43
44 MR. MATHEWS: And then from there maybe that will start
45 a little bit further to getting someone to take the lead. The
46 land make up in 21E is somewhat refuge lands and Bureau of Land
47 Management lands. So.....

48
49 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: And then the state corporation

50 lands.

0161

1 MR. MATHEWS: And state corporation lands. But the
2 thing that we need to look at is if it's going to be a long
3 range management plan, and Henry did go down to Marshall. We
4 need to have representatives from the lower parts of the Yukon
5 and off the top of my head, Russian Mission, Mountain Village,
6 and others, otherwise you're going to be planning in a --
7 somewhat in a vacuum on that. So I think maybe Stanley has
8 something to mention.

9
10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah. Stanley?

11
12 MR. NED: We can probably help. (Indiscernible) people
13 can probably help you.

14
15 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

16
17 MR. NED: Give us a call when you're ready to do it.

18
19 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. I guess another one in the
20 annual report was what Jack had noted yesterday and we were
21 commenting on was the Park Service plan that's out now.
22 They're stand on use of firearms in relation to trapping and so
23 on. That issue shouldn't be just left on the table. That
24 should probably be moved forward. And the customary trade.

25
26 MR. REAKOFF: Yeah. I would like to see those items
27 put on there. Also I'm writing something right now to add to
28 this annual report on the haul road enforcement at the check
29 station. I'm drafting that right now. And I feel that that
30 should go into the annual report. I discussed a couple other
31 issues on the musk ox and I've dropped that issue. And I've
32 discussed with the staff on this administration of the
33 registration hunt on the haul road. I think that they're going
34 to deal with that. That's an administrative policy thing. I
35 think they're going to address that interagency. So I'm going
36 to -- I'm drafting this haul road enforcement language that
37 should be put into the annual report.

38
39 MR. SAM: Which annual report?

40
41 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Our annual report.

42
43 MR. SAM: Ours?

44
45 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah.

46
47 MR. REAKOFF: Yeah.

48
49 MR. SAM: Okay.

0162

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: It's our responsibility in the
2 annual report to raise issues relating to subsistence that we
3 see as, you know, unresolved or.....

4
5 MR. MORGAN: Can I ask a question?

6
7 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

8
9 MR. MORGAN: On these registration (ph), are they
10 mandatory to stop or voluntary?

11
12 MR. REAKOFF: They're mandatory.

13
14 MR. MORGAN: Mandatory?

15
16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: On the lands of Alaska they're
17 mandatory.

18
19 MR. MORGAN: 'Cause I know before the check station in
20 Holitna and the one they had below Kalskag, or lower Kalskag,
21 you know, people thought -- I know we thought they were -- they
22 didn't have enforcement capabilities and we wanted -- and that
23 time when they did put the check station, after a year people
24 -- you know, the first year they stopped. But it was
25 voluntary. You know, you can pass that check station. You can
26 -- you know, you can drive by and it wasn't mandatory. That's
27 the reason I asked the question if it was mandatory or
28 voluntary.

29
30 MR. REAKOFF: Well, Mr. Chairman, that's my complaint.
31 It's a mandatory check station, yet in the report of the Alaska
32 Department of Fish & Game, in giving statistics last year for
33 1996, it was stated in there that they didn't want to write
34 enforcement citations because they didn't want to deter people
35 from stopping there. Well, that's kind of a mixed signal. If
36 it's a mandatory stop, what are they worried about? I know
37 that there's people that are sneaking by them. But if they do
38 catch some -- if somebody calls in there and they got a little
39 bit of meat for a caribou and three caribou horns, they should
40 write them a ticket. That's the main complaint of all
41 subsistence users, is wanton waste by sport. And that -- if
42 there's any federal money going to the check station at the
43 Yukon River, the minimum enforcement should be on the wanton
44 waste laws.

45
46 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Other items for the annual report?
47 What about the Koyukuk area? Can anything be said about that
48 or is there any -- in terms of future direction or -- we going
49 to just deal with the proposals?

0163

1 MR. MATHEWS: On the Koyukuk area I was hoping, and
2 I'll ask Dave Anderson if he knows if David James is going to
3 show up today on that because I think one of your options there
4 is to -- in your annual report, request that there be some
5 kind of planning process established. There again, we're not
6 taking the lead, all that kind of thing, but it's flagging to
7 the board that you have made a stand over time, that there
8 needs to be some long term solution worked out there, and would
9 support any effort both state and federal to do that. And just
10 flag it to the board and see if the board -- but I don't know
11 if David is coming in. The meeting we had, I didn't tell you
12 that earlier. I went to a meeting in Huslia and a meeting in
13 Hughes as part of Tanana Chiefs effort to have a regulation
14 work shop type deal. And we had first one in Koyukuk and we
15 had one in Alatna and then we went to the other communities.

16
17 And Huslia, my perception of what the State was doing
18 was looking at developing a moose management plan for the lower
19 part of the Koyukuk River. I haven't heard anything since so I
20 don't know if David's bringing that information forward. But
21 it was going to be similar to what you were saying in 21E. We
22 get key people together. The process does, I should say, not
23 we. And work out what the population objectives are and
24 different things and then get everyone to kind of adopt that
25 idea. And they were going to present it to this council and
26 present it to local advisory committee so they would go to the
27 Board of Game and the federal board so they launch. But I
28 don't know where that process is right now. And I don't know
29 if Dave knows -- if Mr. James is going to come in with or not.

30
31 MR. SAM: Is this a Three Day Slough area?

32
33 MR. MATHEWS: My understanding, there was no defining
34 of the area. You know, there wasn't saying the management area
35 would be this or that. But yes, it'd be -- my understanding
36 it'd be the Three Day Slough area down to the mouth of the
37 river possibly. It wasn't going to go any further up. But
38 that was not fully fleshed out at the meeting but that was the
39 impression I got. And Stanley was at the meeting -- were you
40 -- no, Dave, you were there. So I think that -- I don't know
41 where that is.

42
43 And to give the history of the other members which we
44 touched on yesterday, we had proposals on the federal side that
45 had to be corrected on the state side, and vice-versa. So
46 there's been a history of actions that don't work but try to
47 get people to sit at the table.

48
49 MR. SAM: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, we had -- recently we

50 had a Koyukuk River advisory committee meeting that at that

0164

1 time most of our staff couldn't make it because of weather and
2 we didn't have any numbers before us. And at this time I feel
3 the same way. If we don't have any numbers for this year to
4 compare with last two years, that the -- pretty hard to take
5 any actions or to -- to even know what to do at this time.
6 Because I would like to see the figures from this year. So --
7 from what I heard it should have went down, which was our goal
8 in the first place.

9
10 MR. JONES: Yeah. The way it's -- the Fish & Game
11 Board set up, you could see -- I don't know -- this map here.
12 This is state area. But the way they got it set up now is that
13 the local residents can hunt in this area. That's
14 (indiscernible) compared for Anchorage. But not hunt -- we can
15 only hunt from Kasitsna (ph) River up to Three Day Dogger
16 River. That's the way we got it set up. And I'd like to see
17 that big portion stay in place the way they got it set up for
18 local residents and maintain this use area. We can't take cow
19 in September first to 21st. We can't take a cow in this area.
20 But the way it's set up you can take cow in (indiscernible)
21 here.

22
23 MR. MATHEWS: See, this point out why I was frustrated
24 as a coordinator that we need to stay here because I'm -- I
25 don't want to end up speaking for them on this stuff because I
26 -- it's my perceptions of it. So I was hoping that they would
27 be here. Ray, you requested in different way that you wanted
28 to monitor this registration hunt model, that's why it was
29 portrayed. And I don't know if you want to put pressure on the
30 state or if you want to wait or what you want to do.

31
32 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chair?

33
34 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes?

35
36 MR. REAKOFF: I think that it's -- the state is being
37 fairly evasive on this thing. With fax machines and fiber
38 optic systems of modern day, these information could have been
39 faxed here. I mean they don't have to come to present it.
40 They could just fax us what we want to know, that is how many
41 hunters and how many moose were killed under the general hunt.

42
43 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: David's probably on the flight --
44 last flight.

45
46 MR. REAKOFF: I don't know. I got.....

47
48 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: He's going to be here.

49

MR. MATHEWS: That's my guess as well. He was supposed

0165

1 to come in last night. Some time this morning there will be a
2 representative of the Wildlife Conservation here. It may be
3 Jack having got off the phone and got the information we need.
4 But there will be someone here and the plane that just landed,
5 maybe he didn't get in last night and he had to take another
6 plane. So why don't you give him another half hour here.

7
8 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, we're not down into proposals
9 any how. That's where it would be critical. I think probably
10 for our annual report we'll want to again mention that there's
11 concern to see that move forward in there. Since we're talking
12 about the annual report right now. In other words, that issue
13 is not settled so we want to see that continued and move
14 towards some kind of a management plan. Are there other items
15 we should flag for the annual report that -- that are
16 subsistence concerns in our area or region?

17
18 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, I have this letter,
19 or this statement of -- should I read that for the council for
20 their approval?

21
22 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes. Go ahead.

23
24 MR. MATHEWS: It has come to the attention of the
25 council that for the 1996 season at the Yukon River hunter
26 check station enforcement did not occur. It was a stated
27 policy for the Yukon check station that enforcement would deter
28 hunters from stopping at the mandatory check station. It is a
29 concern of the Western Interior Regional Council that the check
30 station should serve a dual role of biological information
31 gathering and enforcement of at least the wanton waste laws.
32 Disrespect for the resource by wanton waste is a main complaint
33 by subsistence users against sport hunting. Any future federal
34 funds used at the Yukon River check station should stipulate
35 that the enforcement regulations, especially the wanton waste
36 code.

37
38 It was the concern of the residents of the north and
39 south slope for enforcement on the Dalton Highway which
40 originally led to the inception of the Yukon check station.
41 And that's what we -- that was the main reason that the
42 subsistence research commission of the North Slope Borough and
43 everybody wanted that check station was for enforcement.
44 They're not writing any tickets. And we've seen three caribou
45 horns in the back of tracks and one cooler of meat going down
46 the road. That's garbage. So I'm not an enforcement officer.
47 I can't write these people tickets but when they drive across
48 the haul road bridge they should write them a ticket for that.
49 Not just say oh, yeah, they got three caribou, we'll catch you

50 next time. Well or we'll catch you on the North Slope.

0166

1 They're expecting the enforcement officers to catch
2 them on the North Slope. They got by them and they're just
3 letting them go through the bridge. That's wrong.

4
5 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Any comments on that statement? Do
6 you feel comfortable in having that included in the report?
7 Yes?

8
9 MR. DEACON: Just as food for thought, I know for the
10 Mulchatna area where they have the bone in regulation and has
11 made a significant difference in wanton waste (indiscernible),
12 or at least that's what those folks down there are telling
13 everybody. Management situation, maybe that's a similar type
14 of thing should be acquired up there to also help that wanton
15 waste situation. Apparently it's made a great deal of
16 difference in the Dillingham, King Salmon and Iliamna, or
17 Mulchatna.

18
19 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: That's a requirement to leave it on
20 the bone?

21
22 MR. DEACON: Yes. They have to carry out the bone.
23 They know that.....

24
25 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: They didn't count the (indiscernible
26 - simultaneous speech).....

27
28 MR. DEACON:.....(indiscernible-simultaneous speech)
29 meat and so on.

30
31 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah.

32
33 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, I failed to introduce -- we
34 do have a guest here and she works at the North Slope Regional
35 Advisory Council. We have Barb Armstrong, who's the
36 coordinator for North Slope and north west. So I know she's
37 listening (indiscernible) 'cause you brought up North Slope.
38 So if this goes in the annual report I suppose you would want
39 this copied to the state then because I don't know if that --
40 that check station is a joint state/federal check station or am
41 I losing something?

42
43 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chairman?

44
45 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes?

46
47 MR. REAKOFF: It is my understanding that there's BLM
48 funding, Alaska Department of Fish & Game funding, and North
49 Slope Borough was funding last year. The main reason North

50 Slope Borough was funding was for the enforcement aspect.

0167

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Do you have any comments on that?
2 Barbara, are you familiar with that?

3
4 MS. ARMSTRONG: We would be interested in getting a
5 copy of your annual report at any time. This would be brought
6 up during our meeting in the winter time. I can put it on
7 their agenda and start them thinking about it.

8
9 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Okay. I think what we'll do
10 at this point, Jack, then we'll have you pass that on to -- and
11 we'll put all that stuff together and draft an annual report.
12 But that's in planning.

13
14 MR. REAKOFF: That's something I need to reinforce.
15 You're going to see all this back before you in the spring and
16 at that time if the wording isn't right or the topic isn't
17 right at that time you can withdraw it or do whatever. But it
18 -- our flexibility at that winter meeting is less. Now it's
19 wide open for topics.

20
21 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman?

22
23 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes?

24
25 MR. MATHEWS: Back to that meat law regulation, Jeff
26 brought up, the Koyukuk River advisory committee was -- they
27 started that on the lower Koyukuk leaving the meat on the
28 quarters and Tim Osborne told us what a great success it was on
29 getting the meat out of the field. He cited an example of four
30 guys -- basically there was four guys that would go through and
31 they'd come out with four moose horns and very little meat. He
32 couldn't determine what -- 'cause the meat was all hacked a
33 part and he couldn't tell what was what. The first year that
34 they had the meat on the quarters the four guys went up, they
35 could only bring two moose out. Their boat was loaded. They
36 could only come out with two moose.

37
38 We went -- that's what we want for the Koyukuk River.
39 And we proposed that for the Unit 24 and the Koyukuk River
40 advisory committee. Our proposal got lost but Unit 19 picked
41 it up. And they passed it for down there. But now Ramona
42 Barnes is having a fit about that. She thinks that people
43 should be throwing meat away down there and wasting meat. But
44 I feel that that's a real valid regulation on salvaging meat.
45 Any time you cut meat a part, I don't care what -- you start
46 hacking it all a part in the field, you're letting bacteria in
47 and there has to be more trimming or you're going to lose meat
48 in the long run. There's no reason for that. Especially on
49 boat hunts where there's -- you got water, you got gas floating

50 around, you got to keep the meat dry and it makes a big mess.

0168

1 I'm not sure if we would have any success about it with the
2 state on getting that regulation on the haul road. Because the
3 main reason.....

4

5 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: I guess it would have to be --
6 introduce a proposal.....

7

8 MR. MATHEWS: The main reason that they passed that is
9 because for the length of time and transportation with boat
10 hunters is the main -- the main success that the game board has
11 had on that regulation. I think that it could apply on the
12 rest of the Unit 24 but on the haul road these bow hunters
13 would swear up and down that they can speed to Fairbanks in a
14 few hours and save their meat and stuff. But they should be
15 coming across the bridge with all the meat.

16

17 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Anything else for annual
18 report? On to a new topic.

19

20 MR. REAKOFF: The only thing that I noted in
21 yesterday's conversation in other meetings we had is that this
22 council seems to -- sometimes when you put things forward you
23 have to put a little candy in there along with the medicine.
24 This one is kind of a win-win where you seem to be in support
25 of increased harvest data and monitoring and yet you seem to be
26 highly in support of this community harvest monitoring model.
27 Maybe it'd be good to let the board know that you really
28 support that type of data and support that model of doing that.
29 I don't know. That's what I noted down (indiscernible -
30 background coughing) talk about that.

31

32 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah. I think part of that would be
33 directed to the state too, that we appreciate their efforts in
34 getting that report in here. And encourage the other agencies
35 to get involved in that. Okay? Well, if that's it I guess
36 we'll go back and we'll have -- draft that and then get it
37 circulated to you and it will be before us.

38

39 MR. REAKOFF: I was wondering if we should insert in
40 the annual report the need for a study in the Aniak area on the
41 success rate of the subsistence users on obtaining their moose
42 harvest. Their success rate. I think what pertinent facts
43 that should be found are the success rate of the hunters and
44 the days of effort. 'Cause under the A criteria, economy of
45 time and effort. If the hunters are having to hunt longer and
46 longer and longer to get their moose and expending a lot more
47 money on gas, that should be a factor in determining how much
48 of a hardship people are having on obtaining their meat.

49

Like the numbers that Angie was talking about yesterday

0169

1 was a pretty low success rate compared with a lot of areas.
2 What do you think, Carl?

3
4 MR. MORGAN: Yeah, I think so. I think that's a good
5 idea. You know, another thing is sports hunters, they try to
6 do -- they try to give the meat away. The people that
7 (indiscernible) us don't want no handouts. That's what the
8 state and the welfare system did to us in the '50s and '60s,
9 got us stuck with a hand out. Now they're going to take it
10 away. It's your fault you've had welfare system. In the first
11 place it wasn't us that wanted the welfare system. When I was
12 growing up we didn't have the food stamps, we didn't have none
13 of that. But when it came in, hey, you, come on, sign you up
14 here. Get \$1500 a month worth of these papers and you can buy
15 a lot of groceries, you know. And the people got hooked. And
16 we don't want no hand outs. We don't want no hand outs.

17
18 It's -- it takes away the spirit, it takes away your
19 self esteem. I think that's right. I think we're hit it on
20 the nail. We should have that letter in there. I vote for it.

21
22 MR. DENTON: Just for point of clarification for me
23 'cause that's coming on the edge of BLM and all the river stuff
24 a little bit. But I'm a little bit confused as to who is
25 getting too many caribou. One person said it was folks from
26 Unit 18 that were determined to be the folks, and Aniak and
27 Kalskag. Are these subsistence users that are killing too much
28 that they don't have storage facilities for them?

29
30 MR. MORGAN: Right now you're talking cats and dogs.
31 I'm talking moose, you're talking caribou. We don't hunt -- up
32 in my part of the country we take a caribou when we want it.
33 Maybe one caribou.

34
35 MR. DENTON: Okay.

36
37 MR. MORGAN: And the regulation used to be you take two
38 in the fall part. And before the end of the season, I think
39 end of season was in April, you can take the remaining three.
40 Not all at once, at once time. We split it. You know, we take
41 a cow and a bull and it was split. But we go up there, we go
42 after moose 'cause it's better tasting, it's more of it, and
43 caribou, you know, the Mulchatna herd just started showing up
44 and it just came. It's a blessing in disguise. But people are
45 used to the moose. That's their staple diet and they like it.
46 It's better -- it's a better protein. And they'll get a
47 caribou every once in a while. But what you're talking about
48 is -- the caribou is from a different unit and somebody's
49 flying in and getting five.

0170

1 MR. DENTON: But you said somebody's trying -- is it
2 the sport hunters that are trying to get.....

3
4 MR. MORGAN: They give away.....

5
6 MR. DENTON:the most moose meat?

7
8 MR. MORGAN: Yes. That's -- and I say if they -- if
9 you kill it, that's yours, you take it. You want to eat the
10 horns -- you take the horns, you eat the meat too.

11
12 MR. SAM: Mr. Chairman?

13
14 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, Ron?

15
16 MR. SAM: I think that we'll forever be dealing with
17 the feds and the state, so at this time I think we should
18 address the staff to draft a letter to all of our tribal
19 council and then have them make an effort to really count all
20 the game animals that we use. Because we need some statistics
21 to incorporate into our proposals for the subsistence board and
22 the state board of game. And maybe we can get more help from
23 the tribal offices because after these meetings -- after these
24 two meetings a year we just get put on the wayside. It seems
25 like it gets put away some place. Put on the shelf and
26 forgotten. Maybe we can get the village councils more
27 involved.

28
29 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: I was thinking about that, Sam, and
30 I think probably it would maybe be better if we would write the
31 letter to the councils, coming right from this council.
32 Because we need that information when we meet and maybe that
33 would encourage them. I know the agencies have been trying to
34 encourage them to do that. But maybe it would help if we wrote
35 a letter. Also I was thinking in terms of this mapping over
36 there, that if we wrote a letter to the villages maybe saying
37 that -- encouraging them to participate in that process, in the
38 mapping, mentioning what happened here. That it was stopped.
39 Although the agencies were ready to move forward it got
40 stopped. And the letter from us might encourage that.

41
42 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I'd agree with that.

43
44 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. But that's kind of aside from
45 the annual report. Is there anything else then on the annual
46 report process?

47
48 MR. REAKOFF: We have some new people.

49

CHAIRMAN COLLINS: New people? Yeah, we do.

0171

1 MR. MATHEWS: This -- just to confirm that in the past
2 I drafted it and ran by the (indiscernible). That the same way
3 we want to do it? This round and then it's back before you in
4 the spring? We can try to get you draft copies before the
5 meeting so you'll be prepared for it. So the February-March.
6 I see. We'll just continue with that.

7
8 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Before we move on to the next
9 item then we do have some more people to arrive. I'd like to
10 acknowledge them and ask that they would introduce themselves.
11 Hollis, you want to.....

12
13 MR. TWITCHELL: Hollis Twitchell with the Denali
14 National Park.

15
16 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: And who else? Anybody else new?
17 Jack, did you bring somebody else in?

18
19 MR. REAKOFF: Yeah. It's.....

20
21 MR. JAMES: Hi. I'm David James. I'm with the Alaska
22 Department of Fish & Game, Division of Wildlife Conservation.
23 I'm the manager and coordinator for the interior region, out of
24 Fairbanks.

25
26 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: You're the man we've been looking
27 for. I hope you brought us some information on the hunts over
28 in the Koyukuk region, do you have any data from that from this
29 fall? We'd appreciate it. We'll be looking at proposals a
30 little bit later. Anyone else? Okay. Thank you. Okay. Item
31 B, subsistence issues review, proposal generation. Vince?

32
33 MR. MATHEWS: I think the best way to look at that
34 would be to look at the -- got to find the tab here. Tab M, as
35 in Mary. And I know this is kind of redundant from yesterday
36 but we're trying to show you the promises here so it's clear
37 the way things are playing out. It's required by the Federal
38 Subsistence Board to have a written response to your
39 recommendations if they reject them. The Board has responded
40 and told you one even they'd accept your recommendations on
41 proposals. So if you look at the June 6th letter under Tab M,
42 that is what they did with all your recommendations on those
43 proposals.

44
45 I reviewed them and looked for the ones where the board
46 didn't take the action that you requested and there's only one
47 that I could find there unless I missed one and that was
48 proposal 64. So I can either go through all the ones they --
49 that you guys lined up with or go right to 64. And that one I

50 need help from Barb on. I didn't prep her on this so I'm

0172

1 hitting her kind of cold. But proposal 64 was the black bear
2 proposal for Unit 23. It was the customary and traditional use
3 determination for black bear. You guys recommended that it
4 include the communities of Galena, Allakaket, Koyukuk and
5 Hughes -- and Huslia. Excuse me. But definitely you said that
6 Huslia should be included in that determination. That was
7 deferred by the board for further information. And I'm not
8 sure, because I haven't had a chance to talk to Barb, or
9 whatever, to know if that proposal has gone forward into the
10 packet for this coming year. And maybe George knows, I don't
11 know. But that's the only one that you guys didn't line up.
12 They didn't reject your recommendations, just deferred. But
13 maybe you want to know if 23 C&T has gone forward. And Barb
14 has something to say on that. But just so you understand that
15 that's one that I just wanted you to be flagged on.

16
17 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yes. Mr. Chair, I have comments on 64.
18 And then that's a proposal that the northwest already did on
19 that. C&T for black bear. And northwest already tabled that
20 because they thought that there wasn't enough information in
21 that analysis. And then northwest already did not want you to
22 just put the boundary in between the Huslia and the other
23 people that uses the black bear in that region because a lot of
24 them go into that hot springs area.

25
26 And they have the feeling that if there were still
27 people today that travel to the hot springs area and then run
28 into a black bear along the way they'll get it. And they
29 didn't want to completely leave them out and say well, we just
30 want to keep this in just for the Unit 23 only. But they want
31 to include like probably AK, Huslia, and then we weren't
32 getting enough information like from Hughes to see if Hughes --
33 people from Hughes travel over that way. And that's what we
34 are waiting for now. And this will be discussed at the winter
35 meeting during their meeting in northwest, either in Buckland
36 or Deering. So that kind of information we need from you to
37 get that in with the Northwest Arctic so that those villages
38 that use the black bear or go into the Unit 23 are included.
39 Thank you.

40
41 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Thank you. We appreciate that. Has
42 that come up at your advisory committee meeting up there, do
43 you know?

44
45 MR. SAM: It did, Mr. Chairman. A few years ago it, I
46 think, died for lack of information or.....

47
48 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah.

49

MR. SAM:push. But consistent with what Barbara

0173

1 had to say, you know, because we don't -- we don't utilize
2 those corridors as much as our older people do. And this came
3 up between -- the old (indiscernible) between Allakaket and
4 Tanana. A lot of our uses or gathering of game was pretty much
5 incidental but we -- you know, when worse comes to worse we do
6 utilize those areas. But it's just not year in, year out, but
7 the rest of our areas. And that's -- I think that's the reason
8 that it was stopped (ph) by the more incidental than anything
9 else.

10
11 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: So if -- well, do you want to put
12 that proposal forward again or where do we want to go with that
13 then, I guess. It's one that's tabled, it will come up again
14 in the spring. So how do we get.....

15
16 MR. MATHEWS: It's in there. I just got confirmation
17 from George it's in the proposal book for next year.

18
19 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

20
21 MR. MATHEWS: And in response to Barb's request, or
22 basically the regional council request is for additional data
23 from the communities, I gathered.

24
25 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Is subsistence, your biologist or
26 whatever, they prepared -- I don't know, who's gathering data
27 like that from the community? Somebody needs to contact those
28 communities and get the input. Who's going to do that?

29
30 MS. ARMSTRONG: Well, what I had intended to do, being
31 the coordinator Northwest, since this C&T came up from
32 Northwest Arctic, was to try to visit the villages, like AK
33 (ph), Huslia and Hughes. If I am permitted that, I will be
34 doing that this fall.

35
36 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Good.

37
38 MS. ARMSTRONG: So Helen and I are working on it and I
39 think that George and Vince are working on it too.

40
41 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Good.

42
43 MR. SAM: Mr. Chairman?

44
45 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

46
47 MR. SAM: When Barbara says AK wanting the records, it
48 means Allakaket. Because it's known as AK in our area.

49

CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. So that was -- as Vince was

0174

1 saying, that's the only one of our proposals that didn't go
2 through and it's still going to come up. So.....

3

4 MR. MATHEWS: To my knowledge that's.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN COLLINS:where we're at with last years.

7

8 MR. MATHEWS:(indiscernible - simultaneous
9 speech). Maybe -- well -- yeah. Proposal 75 and 76, I don't
10 know how to talk about that one. I think the end results was
11 what the council wanted. So I don't know if Dave Yokel wants
12 to talk about it or not. There was confusion at the Holy Cross
13 -- there was confusion somewhere and I think we're over that.
14 So that's why he was flagging that.

15

16 Your recommendation was a little bit different but I
17 think the end result was the same on the sheep issue in Unit 24
18 and 26 A and B. That's why I didn't flag it but there's
19 differing opinions out of the North Slope meeting that were
20 presented at Holy Cross. But I think everyone's okay on that.

21

22 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Jack would be more familiar with
23 that area. Do you have any....

24

25 MR. REAKOFF: Well, at the Holy Cross meeting I was
26 trying to find out region in 10 had decided on this proposal.
27 And I was getting mixed conflicting accounts of what transpired
28 there. This was the proposal that what they adopted is
29 basically what I understood the proposal to be originally with
30 some modification. But this is what -- basically what the
31 people at Anaktuvik were shooting for was this. They had to
32 modify this proposal slightly, but they basically wanted an
33 earlier season bag and they wanted a larger contour bag limit.
34 And that's what they were trying to get a larger per hunter bag
35 limit is what they were shooting for.

36

37 CHAIRMAN; Well, with that background, I guess, if
38 there's nothing more on the lesser then we would be looking for
39 -- or we're going into status deferred proposal.

40

41 I guess the next would be any concerns that you have
42 with any of the proposals from last year or concerns that we
43 can use for developing next year's.

44

45 MR. SAM: Vince?

46

47 MR. MATHEWS: Yes.

48

49 MR. SAM: We did during -- at the Western -- I mean the

50 Subsistence Board meeting didn't we pass 55?

0175

1 MR. MATHEWS: 55. Let me find it here, but I believe
2 wasn't that one that was tabled?

3
4 MR. SAM: We tabled it because of lack.....

5
6 MR. MATHEWS: Oh, 55.....

7
8 MR. SAM:sufficient data.

9
10 MR. MATHEWS:yes. 55 is dealing with Stevens
11 Village.

12
13 MR. SAM: Stevens Village. And what happened?

14
15 MR. MATHEWS: They adopted that. And maybe George can
16 help me out on this. You're catching me a little flat-footed
17 here, but they adopted the, for lack of a better terms,
18 notching out a piece of 24 and allowing residents of Wiseman,
19 Unit 24 residents and other residents of the Dalton Highway
20 Corridor in Stevens Village C&T use for that notched out area.
21 I'm trying to figure out what species it is. For black bear.

22
23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Black bear.

24
25 MR. MATHEWS: So they did do that. You remain somewhat
26 neutral on that for lack of data. So that would also be the
27 same thing that happened with Proposal 58 for brown bear for
28 that same area.

29
30 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: What did you have in mind under our
31 concerns? Is that concerns with the ones from last year,
32 Vince, or were you thinking of concerns for developing it next
33 year on D, 1D, background information?

34
35 MR. MATHEWS: On D? Oh, that's -- I just got carried
36 away on the computer, I think.

37
38 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

39
40 MR. MATHEWS: What I mean by that is we switched the
41 whole agendas. If you notice, we're dealing informational
42 action instead of old and new business. Yeah, I'll delete it
43 the next time. So we're now up to the status of deferred
44 proposals and backlog C&T, so I can stop sweating and someone
45 else can handle that one.

46
47 The first section here, number one, is background to
48 show you what's happened, what is possibly happening and then
49 you can launch into the ones that you wanted to talk about

50 yesterday, Henry with seasons and Jack with the station which

0176

1 he's doing somewhere else, so we're close to it. But you need
2 to get an understanding where the backlog proposals and C&T
3 determinations are. And George was going to present that.

4
5 MR. DEMATEO: Mr. Chair, Before George sits down and
6 gets going on his travel there, I'd like to do just a quick
7 briefing on a proposal that this Council made recommendation to
8 the Board on last year. It's Proposal 56 which was submitted
9 by the Tanana Tribal Council. The Tribal Council proposed that
10 the Board create a special control use area within the Tribal
11 Council service area, which travels Western Interior at the
12 same time.

13
14 The reason for the proposal was there was some
15 considered -- the Tribal Council had some concerns that there
16 was destruction of water fowl habitat within the tributaries
17 what lie within the proposed control use area. The control use
18 area would restrict air boat traffic within the tributaries
19 that lie within the boundaries of the control use area as
20 proposed.

21
22 After looking at the analysis that little Federal land
23 existed within the boundaries of the control use area, so this
24 Council and, also the Eastern Council proposed that the Tribal
25 Council submit similar proposal to the Board of Game. And as
26 we speak they're in the process of submitting that proposal to
27 Board of Game. The Board of Game, they will take up that
28 proposal next March '98. And staff will continue to work along
29 with the Tribal Council.

30
31 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Thank you for that
32 information.

33
34 MR. SAM: Is this the one that we really couldn't act
35 on because of State lands involved or was it.....

36
37 MR. DEMATEO: It was a matter of within the boundary of
38 that proposed control use area. There was very little Federal
39 land. So in other words, a positive board action of creating
40 that control use area would not meet the concerns of the Tribal
41 Council.

42
43 MR. SAM: Okay. I wanted that clarified because I
44 think we spent a quite of bit of time on that proposal.

45
46 MR. DEMATEO: Yeah. This Council and the Eastern
47 Council recommended to the Board that the Tribal Council submit
48 a similar proposal to the Board of Game.

49

MR. SAM: Okay. Thank you.

0177

1 MR. DEMATEO: I believe George has a lot to talk about.

2

3 MR. SHERROD: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Council members.
4 We're going to try to explain the backlog C&T process, where
5 we're at and how we're moving ahead. I'd like to mention that
6 already this year we'll be taking it up next time, we've got
7 eight C&T proposals that will be coming before this body and
8 the Board, and the proposal period has not closed yet. When we
9 deal with wildlife proposals, season bag limits and so on, we
10 basically go through and try to apply three standards, one of
11 which is there substantial evidence, is it in line with sound
12 biological management, and Pete deals with that. That's out of
13 my league.

14

15 And the other is, is the proposal detrimental to
16 subsistence users. Last year you were asked to prioritize the
17 C&T proposals and you weren't given much guidance, in large
18 part, because we hadn't thought a lot about it. Since then
19 I've gone through in my area and tried to prioritize the C&T
20 proposals that have come in. And the criteria basically that I
21 use is would adopting this proposal create an opportunity for
22 subsistence users. And it's either yes or no. And under the
23 yes category basically we would be looking at those proposals
24 in which we have a species in which there is no subsistence
25 determination and a village has requested that they be allowed
26 to hunt it. Elk in Kodiak is an example. Musk ox on the
27 Seward Peninsula, brown bear in certain parts of the state

28

29 The other case would be in which a community that has
30 been overlooked through whatever reason is asking to be added
31 to an existing C&T and that would provide them an opportunity.

32

33 There's also the instance in which I would ask the
34 question, would this enhance an opportunity? And the answer
35 would be no. And under that category we would have situations
36 such as the -- I believe under Tab N, Tab N, yes, the first
37 you have there which is Unit 21 caribou, and we requested a
38 change for -- there has been a request for a change in C&T in
39 that area.

40

41 In this case it would change the C&T, but it would
42 functionally not add any opportunity. The state seasons are
43 actually -- there are more state seasons, they're more liberal
44 than our seasons. We would not be allowing anyone any greater
45 access to caribou. So going through this process really would
46 not result in any change or any additional opportunity to rural
47 users. The same is true with black bear in Unit 21, which is
48 the next proposal on your list here, basically with all rural
49 residents Changing this proposal is not going to give rural

50 residents any greater opportunity. Our seasons and bag limits

0178

1 are the same as the State's. It's not going to allow for a
2 reduction in outside hunters. It literally provides no change
3 whatsoever. And that's not to say that it's important to go
4 through these. It's that these are the things I've tried to
5 deal with in putting in these.

6
7 And then, of course, the last is an area where you have
8 a request for a change. And we don't have one in this area,
9 but two the east, your neighbors in Unit 20, Unit 20 caribou,
10 in this case we have no seasons or bag limits. To grant C&T
11 proposals, again, would offer no real opportunity to any
12 subsistence users. So those are the ones that have sort of
13 been pushed far back in trying to decide whether they were
14 worthwhile analyzing given the amount of information that has
15 to go in front of this body and to the Board, and given the
16 fact that a lot of rural residents and probably justifiably so
17 have said that we haven't dug as deep into the data sources or
18 taken the time to go out and talk to villagers in dealing with
19 this. There's a feeling in general that we have maybe moved
20 too quickly on these. And it certainly doesn't make sense to,
21 how do you say, ignore or neglect the critical ones in favor of
22 doing ones that aren't going to make any change, that aren't
23 going to make any difference. And so on the list in front of
24 you you'll see here that we have moved this Unit 21 caribou
25 even though it won't make a difference, it was a politically
26 sensitive matter and one of importance to this Council, I
27 believe, so that's listed under Tab N. That's the first one.
28 Unit 21 caribou to change that C&T. And that one is going
29 forward in the packet that we'll talk about in a few minutes.

30
31 The next one is Unit 21 black bear. Again, this is a
32 situation in which currently it will make no change. In the
33 long run it may actually limit people if the State seasons bag
34 limits prove to become less than what they are now. Those
35 people that are currently eligible would have to hunt under
36 State regulations as opposed to hunting under a subsistence
37 regulation.

38
39 Below that there's a proposal to consult with the
40 Regional Council, it's about -- my feeling is these fall way
41 below most of these other ones. Either they're proposals that
42 came in that we know very little about, no information was
43 provided, such as, again, Unit 21 caribou. This proposal -- we
44 are taking Unit 21 caribou up, so it sort of dropped, but
45 grouse. We have a proposal for grouse here, porcupine and
46 ptarmigan. I mean deliberating this, taking the time to do the
47 research is not going to change. It's not going to put any
48 more meat on the table for people in the Bush. It may, in fact,
49 detract from ability to review critical season and bag limit

50 changes, and our ability as staff to provide better analysis on

0179

1 other C&Ts or other things. The same is true with beaver. And
2 we have black bear in 19, brown bear in 19. Moose, actually
3 moose which is number C041 on the following page, your pages
4 may be different. Moose there, that adds Ruby. That one is
5 going to be taken out. It's basically a housekeeping type of
6 thing. And then below that there's one proposal here for
7 moose. And this is the up river down river thing. And this
8 was deferred by the Interior Council. They were asked -- you
9 asked to defer this.

10
11 I guess my question to you in trying to explain this
12 time around and maybe a logical method of rating this, is there
13 any possibility that this body would concur with dropping most
14 of these brown bear ones, these all species ones, and so on
15 knowing that if there is a real issue out there that people can
16 bring them forward to us and we can deal with the real issues,
17 not just these wide general issues.

18
19 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Jack?

20
21 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chairman, on these all species C&T by
22 the Gates of the Arctic that was submitted by the Gates of the
23 Arctic Subsistence Research Commission at the time when the C&T
24 process was supposed to take 12 years per species. And we felt
25 that that was too long to deal with what we're dealing with
26 inside of the Park and use areas and so forth, that that will
27 undercut some of the time off. Now that there's been a
28 priority system as George is discussing this proposal is moot.

29
30 MR. SHERROD: So you wouldn't have a problem with
31 dropping that then.....

32
33 MR. REAKOFF: No, myself. I can't speak for the entire
34 SRC.

35
36 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Other comments? I think it makes
37 sense to concentrate on the ones where there is concern, if
38 it's real. It's the time of putting meat on the table, moose
39 and caribou and other things.

40
41 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chair?

42
43 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

44
45 MR. MATHEWS: On the two that George brought up, the
46 first two on the chart, I want to make it clear that that was
47 the State Regional Council, not the Federal Regional Council
48 that brought those forward. I actually wrote those and that
49 was written in the atmosphere that the Federal government would

50 be more restrictive than the State. So there was concern when

0180

1 we met as a Regional Council that they make clear that the
2 Federal Government understands the concern. So they were
3 written in a kind of a mode of making clear that subsistence
4 uses were protected. So I don't know if those are still
5 important to you, those two there.

6
7 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Say that again. Which ones now?

8
9 MR. MATHEWS: P97-57 which is a proposal from last
10 year. And then P97-064.

11
12 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: the first and second one. Oh, okay.

13
14 MR. MATHEWS: I sense that there may have been a
15 feeling that these were a high priority for this Council and
16 many people may have saw the word council down there and that
17 was State, not this Council.

18
19 Another way of saying it would be as we said yesterday,
20 if it ain't broke don't fix it.

21
22 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Right. I think the one with Anvik
23 came up because there was concern with the expansion of that --
24 well, I think probably Grayling, too, the Western Arctic herd
25 expanding and coming down that coastal range. The one that
26 recognized that historically there had been use from people in
27 that area.

28
29 MR. DEMATEO: But, fortunately, as I say, there's no
30 benefit. In fact, the State has two additional seasons that
31 we don't even have this people to qualify for. If that were to
32 change, then obviously the priority of addressing this one
33 would become more important. But currently, it's an exercise
34 agreement. It's not going to put any more meat on the table.

35
36 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah. The question before us still
37 is do you have any concerns then with them dropping some of the
38 priorities and concentrating just on the ones where that meet
39 the criteria George had mentioned. I guess hearing none we
40 agree with you.

41
42 MR. DEMATEO: That it would be okay to prioritize then
43 according to that system?

44
45 MR. SAM: Yes. Because I think as we gear ourselves
46 towards the subsistence board meeting and the stuff that they
47 propose we will come back on these re-prioritize as needed if
48 needed.

49

MR. DEMATEO: Would it be proper for a letter to be

0181

1 drafted back to these originators asking them if they would
2 say, we've decided backlog and if you'd like to resubmit,
3 submit them again? That is if we can find some of these
4 people. Some of these people we have no idea who submitted
5 these. They've been in the hopper for so long.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Right.

8
9 MR. SAM: I think we have an obligation to do that.

10
11 MR. MATHEWS: We can definitely do that. On some that
12 we can chase down the State Regional Council exists on paper.
13 It doesn't exist anymore.

14
15 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah, I'm wondering. The ones that
16 submitted them aren't in existence any more, whether we would
17 need to do that.

18
19 MR. MATHEWS: Probably not 'cause it's individuals.

20
21 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: They can come forward with proposals
22 right now if it's an issue for them. All they have to do is
23 resubmit a proposal. And it would give them the (ph)
24 consideration, so.....

25
26 Let a sleeping dog lie or something. I dont' know. I
27 mean if you come up, somebody will say, yeah, you know, we had
28 that C&T, you should do it and create work for you when it
29 isn't an issue.

30
31 MR. SHERROD: Well, it's not work for me. It's work
32 for you and.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, right, that's what I mean.

35
36 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chairman?

37
38 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

39
40 MR. REAKOFF: I would feel comfortable as an SRC member
41 if a letter was sent to the SRC requesting furtherance of this
42 proposal, then the SRC could decide.....

43
44 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: SRC's do exist, right.

45
46 MR. REAKOFF: Yeah. The SRC, that proposal was
47 proposed by the SRC and it would be good if the SRC rescinded
48 their action.

49

I feel that letters to the proposers would be

0182

1 appropriate.

2

3 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Where they still exist.

4

5 MR. REAKOFF: Where they still exist.

6

7 MR. MATHEWS: That you're recommending dropping them
8 unless you hear from them? Or that they submit another
9 proposal?

10

11 MR. SAM: Yeah, that sounds good.

12

13 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. And that would be all of these on
14 the Western Interior list or just those below the thing --
15 whatever it is, the row that says proposals to consult with
16 dropping.

17

18 MR. REAKOFF: Yes.

19

20 MR. MATHEWS: Just those?

21

22 MR. MATHEWS: Just those?

23

24 MR. REAKOFF: Yeah, the lower.....

25

26 MR. MATHEWS: The lower part, okay.

27

28 MR. REAKOFF: Yeah, the lower proposals that are in
29 consideration of being dropped. And maybe we should give them
30 a time frame to respond within 30 days or so forth. Then if
31 they don't it's dropped.

32

33 MR. MATHEWS: Well, we may have a window problem here.
34 Maybe Tom's gotten -- they would have to submit it next year
35 then is what they would have to do. If they didn't respond in
36 30 -- maybe we don't need a window.

37

38 MR. BOYD: No, we don't.

39

40 MR. MATHEWS: Okay.

41

42 MR. BOYD: I think what you're picking up on. In good
43 faith we've maintained this lengthy backlog since the inception
44 of the program. And we've tried to follow through on it, but
45 we've gotten down to a point where we've got some that are --
46 either we don't know who they are or they're problematic. And
47 the program has evolved and the C&T process has evolved and
48 maybe some of them aren't relevant anymore. And what we're
49 trying to do is in good faith winnow this backlog down even

50 further and kind of administratively take care of some of these

0183

1 requests without infringing upon someone. Obviously the first
2 stop is with you folks to help us do this. We want to do this
3 openly and in good faith. And we don't want to just
4 administrate and take a red pen and strike a whole bunch out.
5 So you're probably picking up on that and I just wanted to
6 clarify it. We certainly need your help and input in doing
7 this and we want it.

8
9 MR. SAM: Yeah. I think you hit the nail right on the
10 head and it's time to drop some excess baggage.

11
12 MR. BOYD: Yeah.

13
14 MR. SAM: And that's the reason I requested this letter
15 to the originators, you know.

16
17 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

18
19 MR. VANDERPOOL: With regard to the SRC we're meeting
20 within the next month Gates is meeting the first week in
21 November. Denali is meeting sometimes after the first of the
22 year.....

23
24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: February.

25
26 MR. VANDERPOOL: But at least as far as Gates, rather
27 than make them wait, if they still want to do this, rather than
28 make them wait you could have your answer.....

29
30 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: That would be good.

31
32 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah.

33
34 MR. VANDERPOOL:shortly after the 1st of
35 November.

36
37 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I don't know if that'd work, but
38 then they meet in Pedro Bay next month. So.....

39
40 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: This is in terms of the SRC.

41
42 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Do you have more, George, or.....

43
44 MR. DEMATEO: Not associated with this, but I'm going
45 to be up after your concerns, I guess.

46
47 MR. MATHEWS: I think we need to utilize -- what he's
48 talking about is we need to give you some -- well, when would
49 you want to deal with the requests for reconsideration? Is

50 that what you're.....

0184

1 MR. SHERROD: Well, I guess the existing proposals.....

2
3 MR. MATHEWS: The new proposals.....

4
5 MR. SHERROD: Oh, the new proposals. I'm sorry.

6
7 MR. MATHEWS:that come in. We do have new
8 proposals but they're essentially the ones that are kind of in
9 the chart, but anyway, you do have copies of new proposals in
10 your grey folder.

11
12 MR. SAM: Mr. Chairman, can we take a five minute
13 break?

14
15 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Let's do that.

16
17 MR. SAM: Five or 10. No more.

18
19 (Off record)

20
21 (On record)

22
23 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Working our way down to an action
24 item, I don't know if you want to consider an action item
25 'cause it's not at this point. When I wrote this it could have
26 been. That's what called review of request for
27 reconsiderations. Real quickly if the Board goes through its
28 proposal process, the copy of the RFRs are in your grey
29 notebook. Okay. Sorry, not that one. I'm sorry, the grey
30 file folder. All right. I tried to get more colorful things
31 but the office was kind of bland when I left.

32
33 Anyway, it's in there. It's a letter here signed by
34 Robert Bosworth. Basically so you understand RFRs or Request
35 for Reconsiderations. When a proposal goes through it goes
36 through the whole process, the Board adopts it or rejects it.
37 Usually it's mainly done when they adopt something. There's a
38 mechanism for someone to say, wait a minute, Board, I want you
39 to reconsider your decision. And it's called Request for
40 Reconsideration. This is a list of the requests for
41 reconsiderations that directly relate to actions the Board took
42 at it's April meeting that Ron went to.

43
44 Did you receive these in the mail already? I think you
45 did. You should have gotten a copy. I just -- okay.

46
47 They're -- I don't know how to proceed from here.
48 Well, I actually don't know how to proceed. Basically the --
49 maybe Tom can help.

0185

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, which one of them affect us?
2 Is it caribou, 22? I'm not familiar with that Northern Region,
3 so some of you up there, I'll defer to members up there. Which
4 of these are.....

5
6 MR. DEMATEO: Mr. Chair, the first one, the brown bear
7 one, that was a Stevens Village proposal for that little corner
8 of Unit 22.....

9
10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: 24.

11
12 MR. DEMATEO: 24, excuse me. And the State -- there
13 were a couple of proposals that were passed by the Board
14 granting them rights for a brown and black bear in that area.
15 The State challenged the brown bear and requested us to
16 reconsider that. And that's what that letter is there.

17
18 I'm not sure whether you supported that or took no
19 action on them, I can't remember, but it does affect your unit.
20 I know the Board response to that was to basically tell the
21 State that they felt that there was adequate information
22 granted the importance of brown bear in the Athabaskan culture
23 to grant that portion -- C&T to that portion of the unit.

24
25 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Then we were deferring kind of -- or
26 following the lead of Eastern in that regard,.....

27
28 MR. DEMATEO: Right.

29
30 CHAIRMAN COLLINS:but since it's flopped over
31 into ours, I think complied and we didn't have -- 'cause we
32 hadn't seen the data. We didn't have the testimony before us
33 from the community or anything.

34
35 MR. BOYD: Let me point out so we don't get bogged down
36 here. This is information to you right now. It's a heads up
37 that these are in the middle. And the State -- I've
38 coordinated with the State Department of Fish & Game. They're
39 not expecting us to take most of these up right now. So what
40 we've done is integrated this into the normal proposal process.
41 And you will be seeing more detail to deliberate the ones
42 specific to your area in the winter meeting. Also the State
43 has indicated that they will ensure that there are people here
44 from the State to deal with issues -- some of these issues --
45 or all of the issues pertaining to your region.

46
47 I think right now this is information to you to see
48 what's coming. And if you also have any input right now we'd
49 be willing to take it, but I think primarily it's information

50 at this point.

0186

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Thank you for that explanation. So
2 there's really no action required at this time and these will
3 come back as a specific proposal in the booklet, so.....

4
5 MR. BOYD: I will say this much, that the Board is
6 considering dismissing some of these just because no new
7 information. I'm not free to be specific about that right now
8 because the letter that we drafted to the State has not been
9 finalized, but you may or may not see some of these coming back
10 to you.

11
12 MR. DEMATEO: I was confused, Mr. Chairman. I got that
13 confused with another one. I'm sorry. So forget what I said.

14
15 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Duly noted then. What's
16 next?

17
18 MR. MATHEWS: Well, the next thing will be agency
19 proposal review, and I don't know exactly what I meant by that
20 either. I think this is the time where we take up potential
21 proposals, right? That's how I interpreted it.

22
23 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, you wrote it.....

24
25 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: If somebody presented a proposal
26 that's probably what you do.....

27
28 MR. MATHEWS: Right. That's it. That's it. I want to
29 thank you for defending my lapsing memory here, but sometimes
30 agencies do write proposals. This would be a good time for
31 them to come up and present the proposal to you, not analyze it
32 or whatever. And it needs to be clear to anybody in the room
33 that if they have proposals or thoughts of proposals kind of
34 like Ms. Morgan did this is the time to do it again kind of or
35 whatever. So now we just go into the ones that have been
36 noted. Henry had some and then there appeared to be some
37 that.....

38
39 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: So no one has any proposals to bring
40 to us. The agencies aren't drafting any.....

41
42 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We've got the existing ones to go
43 through.

44
45 MR. MATHEWS: No, I don't think they have any.
46 Although -- see, the mix-up here, those backlog C&Ts that
47 George talked about, some of those went forward as proposals,
48 so you do have a packet of proposals today that George can
49 quickly go over.

0187

1 In the past we usually brought any of the proposals
2 that we knew of before you and -- okay. The reason we're doing
3 this is -- it's in your grey book, grey notebook, file folder I
4 should say, file folder. The reason we're doing is that you
5 have a heads up of what's coming up. So as an example, the
6 first one that comes up here may be of interest to -- would be
7 of interest to Carl Morgan. He now has kind of a little bit of
8 a heads up further than getting it in the proposal book.

9
10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

11
12 MR. MATHEWS: That was one reason to bring these
13 forward to you, and also to help you decide as a Council how
14 you may want to assist an area or something like that, but it's
15 not to make recommendations.

16
17 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: So what are we looking for? They're
18 in the grey?

19
20 MR. DEMATEO: It looks like this. They've got the
21 highlights.

22
23 MR. MATHEWS: Okay.

24
25 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Proposals. Okay. Let's go through
26 them then.

27
28 MR. DEMATEO: Okay. As Vince was saying this is, I
29 think, a little bit different than what's happened in the past.
30 These are proposals we've already gotten in and we'd just like
31 to run them by you. We haven't done an analysis on them. We
32 can sort of try to tell you what it's asking for and if you
33 have thoughts of or you have comments or so on to give to us
34 this would be the time to do it or do it before we start the
35 intensive analysis process this fall. That way when it comes
36 back to you in the spring you're not stuck with something that,
37 we don't like that, we'd like to modify it or something like
38 that. We're not asking you for modifications at this point.
39 We're just simply presenting them to you and asking for any
40 input you might have. And if you take this back and you feel
41 -- you're back home next week and you feel something's wrong
42 call us on the 800 number and we'll get back to you. And we
43 want your input into these.

44
45 As I mentioned before, we've got eight C&T for this
46 area. The proposal is a two page proposal. And functionally
47 what it requests is -- it's requesting adding Akiachak for a
48 positive caribou determination in Unit 18, 19 and 21A.

49

MR. MORGAN: 21A and E.

0188

1 MR. DEMATEO: A and E, correct.

2

3 The second proposal which is on the third page
4 addresses brown bear. And it's basically the same proposal as
5 the caribou one. It's requesting adding Akiachak to Units 17A,
6 B. Where are we at here? 18, 19, 21A. Is that right? On
7 the back you can see where we've added -- we had the little
8 thing starred where we're adding communities. So.....

9

10 The third proposal would basically change the
11 determination for caribou for Units 19A and B from a exception
12 of the residents of Unit 18 to all units in 18.

13

14 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: That's the same one we proposed
15 before because it takes in the whole huge area.

16

17 MR. DEMATEO: Mr. Chair, did you want to ask for
18 comments on each of these as we go through?

19

20 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: What are your wishes? I think it
21 would probably be good if some do have comments just to say
22 that -- or is more information or if it's a real concern they
23 ought to raise it up so you'll be aware of it.

24

25 MR. DEMATEO: Are we okay so far?

26

27 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah. I think so. I was trying to
28 look to see where Akiachak is here. On our map where is
29 Akiachak located?

30

31 MR. MORGAN: It's below Tuluksak, right above Kwethluk.

32

33 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Oh, okay. Okay. Down there. Wow.
34 Boy, I have problems with that. They're talking about 19D
35 which is clear up the head of the river.....

36

37 MR. MORGAN: Yes.

38

39 CHAIRMAN COLLINS:on some of this stuff.

40

41 MR. MORGAN: That's right here. McGrath.

42

43 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: That's a long way. That's enough
44 said right now, I guess. I'll have to consult with local
45 people here, but I think we're going to be opposed to that
46 going that far down from away up there.

47

48 MR. MORGAN: I'm opposed to that proposal. I think
49 it's getting -- just looking at it, you know, this is the first

50 time I've seen this proposal, I can't accept it. I'm grabbing

0189

1 more of what I can get.....

2

3 MR. DEMATEO: Well, as I say, you know, this is not in
4 front of you to take action at this point, but if you do have
5 concerns and you have information that would help us when we
6 take the analysis to the Board this is the time between now and
7 then to call us up.....

8

9 MR. MORGAN: I can just see the transportation from
10 here to Akiachak that meat's going to spoil. It's not going to
11 be any gift to anybody by the time it gets down there.

12

13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Mr. Chair, there's a public
14 comment.

15

16 MS. LEE: Mr. Chairman, did the staff provide any more
17 information on who submitted the proposal or the reason for
18 submitting the proposal?

19

20 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Is there anything that accompanies
21 that gives you why there's justification for their proposal and
22 that kind of thing?

23

24 MR. MATHEWS: Just what's in there. It's -- yeah,
25 just what's in front of you there. This is preliminary.
26 Obviously we haven't done any analysis, but no, their answers
27 to the questions. And for Debbie I probably have a copy, I
28 just don't know where are these same proposals they're looking
29 at.

30

31 MS. LEE: Yeah. The reason I asked that I mentioned, I
32 think I did at Hooper Bay, the Y-K Regional meeting. And they
33 tabled that because of not enough information gathered on what
34 they proposed for the next Council meeting. Again, I don't
35 know where -- I believe it's 80CP (ph), but I don't know what
36 the purpose of that.....

37

38 MR. DEMATEO: Akiachak IRA submitted the one for
39 Akiachak, submitted both of them. And as I say, if you look at
40 the top of the page we have the different categories that are
41 on the proposal form. If we have information we put them in
42 there. That's one of the reasons for bringing these in front
43 of you now is in many cases we don't have a lot of information.
44 The users or the proponents of the proposal have not provided
45 us with much data to allow us to do an indepth analysis of
46 these things.

47

48 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. You can proceed. Go ahead.

49

MR. DEMATEO: Okay. We just went through C, I call it

0190

1 C, the third one, which is Unit 18. The fourth one is Unit 21
2 caribou. And basically it requests changing the eligible
3 residents in Unit 21D from those west of the Koyukuk and Yukon
4 Rivers to all residents in 21D. And that was submitted by you
5 guys.

6
7 B, or the next proposal, is again Unit 21. This is all
8 Unit 21 caribou would be the outcome. And they're asking to
9 add Anvik to the existing and customary and traditional use
10 patterns caribou in 21.

11
12 I might add that when we assumed the Department of Fish
13 & Game's customary and traditional use determinations they were
14 by herds. We are now in the process of when we review caribou
15 determinations doing it by unit and not by herds. So instead
16 of having a determination for the Western Arctic herd and
17 another herd in there we have a determination for caribou. And
18 that's why you see the collapse in that.

19
20 The next proposal is 21B and C for moose. And this
21 would add Ruby. Ben has some inside on this one. This is one
22 of the ones that was on the list, apparently it's just an
23 administrative change. It's one of these situations where it's
24 hard to know which side of the line the community is on or if
25 they're on both sides of the line. So it really don't add any
26 more users, it just sort of clears things up.

27
28 The following proposal is for black bear in Unit 21.
29 And this is one of the cases which as I pointed out, really has
30 no impact, but it would go from all rural residents, in other
31 words, all qualified subsistence users to residents of 21 and
32 23, residents of Tanana and Russian Mission, and then it tacks
33 on and others who have traditionally hunted in Unit 21. So
34 that puts the burden on us trying to determine who those are
35 and the burden on you to decide whether that information is
36 correct or not. But this would change from the non -- or all
37 rural residents to a select body.

38
39 The following proposal -- these are getting into the
40 Eastern Interior, they're in Unit 20, but I guess they do
41 border Unit 24, so I'll run through them really quickly. This
42 is a request for changing caribou determination for basically
43 all of 20 and for Unit 25D. And as I talked about in my
44 example in Unit 20 we have no seasons and bag limits, but we
45 will go ahead and try to address this one even though it's what
46 I consider a low priority.

47
48 Another one for brown bear Unit 13, which is out of
49 your distri- -- you know, it's farther away, but Unit 20 which

50 borders you, 20A and C for brown bear. This would go in the

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1 brown bear for Unit 20A and C from all rural residents or all
2 qualified subsistence users to just residents of Units 20A,
3 20C, and residents between Milepost 216 and 309 of the Parks
4 Highway. And as I say, this would impact you to the extent
5 that currently people in 24 could cross over the boundary now
6 and take brown bear. If this were to go forward that would not
7 be -- that could not happen unless we get some input from you
8 and modify this in our analysis.

9
10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: That would be under a subsistence
11 season.

12
13 MR. DEMATEO: Under a subsistence season.

14
15 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah. Okay.

16
17 MR. DEMATEO: The following proposal is for black bear.
18 It mirrors the proposal for brown bear, just a different
19 species. And, again, it would affect those residents in 24
20 that possibly might cross over into 20A or C. And I'm not even
21 sure whether they -- does A and C border 24 or are they on the
22 other side?

23
24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: They're on the other side.

25
26 MR. DEMATEO: They're on the other side. Okay.

27
28 The following proposal is a proposal for moose in Unit
29 13E and 20C, and that is to add Dan O'Connor who is 1344 permit
30 recipient to the C&T body, the other eligible bodies there.

31
32 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah, that's a long going one. And
33 the SRC has supported this, you know, they're submitting this,
34 but kind of resolve Dan's status for years now. He was
35 originally issued a permit and then the State declared it a
36 nonrural area and that that area that he lived in didn't have
37 C&T for moose, so it was taken away and we're trying to resolve
38 it.

39
40 MR. DEMATEO: He subsequently moved to Healy.

41
42 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah.

43
44 MR. DEMATEO: And Healy is a non-subsistence
45 community....

46
47 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Right.

48
49 MR. DEMATEO:as of right now.

0192

1 And then the last proposal is a statewide proposal.
2 And this is to create a category of moose to be harvested for
3 memorial potlatches. The State allows moose to be harvested
4 for funeral potlatches. This is requesting that the Federal
5 Board allow the harvest for memorial potlatches as well.

6
7 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: I think I'd like the members to
8 note, too, the significance of this one by Dan O'Connor. It's
9 an individual, but that may be very important in the future
10 because we've been dealing with communities and so on. And
11 there's a chance that with changing status in the future
12 communities can be eliminated as having -- because most of them
13 are not customary and traditional users of an area, and so
14 what's going to happen to the individuals in there that did.
15 And this is kind of an example of that of somebody moving out.
16 So if they recognize an individual it may in the future help
17 other individuals that have a customary and traditional use
18 that's going to be denied because the nature of the area has
19 changed and so on. It's something to think about anyhow.
20 Whether we want to look on subsistence as an individual right
21 or just a community right.

22
23 MR. DEMATEO: And as I say, if you have any thoughts or
24 comments you'd like to share with us, call us on the 800 number
25 and you will see these in front of you this spring.

26
27 MR. MATHEWS: Ray, I think Paul Hunter has something.

28
29 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, Paul.

30
31 MR. HUNTER: On that individual C&T point I have one
32 comment. And that is the way the program regulations are
33 written right now the individual C&T determinations are limited
34 to lands managed by the National Park Service. So it wouldn't
35 have.....

36
37 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Implications in other areas.
38 Yeah.

39
40 MR. HUNTER:in other areas of concern. It
41 wouldn't cover all of the Federal Public lands.

42
43 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Ron?

44
45 MR. SAM: Again, Mr. Chairman, I think that's the only
46 way we can deal with these individuals is individually. We've
47 got to know more about what they need and take because we have
48 dealt with this.....

49

CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Right.

0193

1 MR. SAM: (indiscernible) River area. And there's
2 some that we completely eliminated from that and back up.

3
4 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah, that's kind of an unresolved
5 issue. When we -- we fought that when I was on the old State
6 Regional Council because what had happened is the wording
7 actually changed in the rates. At one point it said and
8 individuals on some of that customary and traditional, on some
9 of that usage, and that got dropped when they reprinted one of
10 those booklets. And they wouldn't reinstate it because it was
11 just -- so they're just going by communities which -- I mean
12 we've got people in our area, Trefon Eluska is living outside
13 of Telida up there on the river. He wouldn't qualify because
14 Telida is a resident community but where he was living wasn't.
15 Now, he's moved there, but there are people that are living
16 outside of some of these communities that have subsistence uses
17 and they're not -- they weren't recognized under the old State
18 system. But enough said on that. Okay.

19
20 MR. SAM: Mr. Chairman?

21
22 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, Ron.

23
24 MR. SAM: How much time do we have to submit more
25 proposals?

26
27 MR. MATHEWS: October 24th as individuals or anyone is
28 the deadline to submit proposals to the Federal Board. Now,
29 the State Board is January 9th so it's clear on Board of Game
30 proposals. So we're talking just Federal proposals is October
31 24th. I have proposal forms here if you need to have them or
32 whatever.

33
34 MR. SAM: I take it then that we have the right to call
35 for a reconsideration of any other proposal that has been voted
36 down or deferred?

37
38 MR. MATHEWS: The term reconsideration would not be
39 appropriate. You could resubmit proposal. You could submit a
40 new proposal based on a proposal that was rejected by the
41 Board, but the Board will look at what new information are you
42 giving so you're beyond the window for reconsideration. Just
43 submit another proposal. And they can look at the Board's
44 response to why they did not adopt a proposal and that would
45 tell you what areas you needed to focus on to get them to look
46 at the new proposal with new eyes.

47
48 MR. DEMATEO: As far as comments on these you can call
49 us, you know, up until the spring meeting. The sooner the

50 better because you know we'll be trying to close out the

0194

1 analysis probably by the end of December. So if you have
2 comments on these you guys can call us and give us information.
3 You don't have to have that information to us by October 24th.

4

5 MR. SAM: Thank you.

6

7 MR. MATHEWS: That gets us through the background and
8 existing.....

9

10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: And that's what's come in so far so
11 we're up to generation of new ones.

12

13 MR. MATHEWS: Generation, but you also wanted to talk
14 about the Koyukuk River so I don't know if you want to kind
15 of.....

16

17 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Right.

18

19 MR. MATHEWS:switch to that and then hit the
20 proposals.

21

22 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah, maybe we would. David, we were
23 kind of deferring that. We wanted background information. Do
24 you have any updated information on what happened this year in
25 the Koyukuk River in terms of numbers and so on? And if you
26 know of any proposals -- is the State going to propose any
27 changes in that area so that maybe we could be in sync with
28 what they're doing.

29

30 MR. JAMES: Yeah, thank you, Chairman Collins and
31 members of the Council. I do have some limited information.
32 The reason that Jim Boyington (ph) is not here is he's in the
33 middle right now of wrapping up the monitoring of the hunt that
34 took place on the Koyukuk River. And he's also in the middle
35 of Fish & Game Advisory Committee meetings. So I told Jim I
36 would come here and do my best to give you all an update at
37 least of some of the preliminary information that we have on
38 the Koyukuk hunt. In fact, that's why I came here. I was gone
39 for awhile. I wanted to make sure I got these numbers from
40 Jim. So I spent a little bit of time on the phone talking to
41 him.

42

43 What we have so far this year is a total of 153 moose
44 that were harvested under the general registration hunt in the
45 Koyukuk control use area that's below Huslia. 131 of those
46 were bulls and 22 were cows. There are still 19 permits out,
47 so again, this information is preliminary. The due date for
48 those permits, by the way, is today, October 9th. So it will
49 take awhile to get all those in.

0195

1 The subsistence registration hunt was taken place in
2 the same area. The total so far is 112 bulls and 24 cows for a
3 total of 136 moose.

4
5 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Which area was that now for?

6
7 MR. JAMES: That's the Koyukuk control use area below
8 Huslia.

9
10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

11
12 MR. JAMES: And about -- well, somebody might have to
13 help me out here, I forget the river that's down on the lower
14 part of the Koyukuk.

15
16 MR. JAMES: That'd be above (indiscernible).....

17
18 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: And that's the -- the.....

19
20 MR. JAMES: Thank you.

21
22 CHAIRMAN COLLINS:last one is for the subsistence
23 hunt? What's.....

24
25 MR. JAMES: The last.....

26
27 CHAIRMAN COLLINS:the distinction between the
28 two?

29
30 MR. JAMES:figures were for subsistence permit. I
31 might add that for the general registration hunt there were a
32 total of 275 participants and for the subsistence registration
33 hunt there were 278 participants.

34
35 Now, on the Lower Nowitna River where the regulations
36 are a little bit different to protect the cow moose part of the
37 population there were 31 permits issues under the general
38 registration hunt. That so far has resulted in the harvest of
39 seven bulls. And for the subsistence registration hunt on that
40 Lower Nowitna River, it says here downstream of the Little Mud
41 River there were 74 permits issued and 28 bulls were harvested.
42 So I want to re-emphasize that's the preliminary for the this
43 year.

44
45 Now, as far as the historical perspective on this goes
46 I need to bring you up to date, this may have been discussed at
47 your last meeting, I'm not sure. But right after the hunt
48 occurred last year it was clear to us that the regulations we
49 had in place were probably not going to suffice. There was

50 simply too many complaints from different segments of the

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1 hunting public using that area. So we had been planning all
2 along to have a revision of the regulations in that area. In
3 the interim for this most recent season we made a few what we
4 call discretionary changes to the permit system. In other
5 words, it was like putting a band aid on a bad wound. We
6 wanted to have something to hold us over, so the regulations on
7 this most recent hunt were a little different than they were
8 the previous year. And when we put those regulations in place,
9 that is the most recent regulations, we fully expected to come
10 back and revisit this whole issue.

11
12 Our plan is once we get all of our data in this year
13 and as Jim Wilmintgon (ph) the new area biologist out there
14 gets more experience, talks to more people, he spent the whole
15 month on the river itself monitoring the hunt, he will then
16 take that information and look at the historical stuff and put
17 together an analysis of this process. I should say an analysis
18 of the hunt.

19
20 We have our normal -- our standard ways of interacting
21 with the public and the users to get their input into this
22 whole regulatory system is, of course, our advisory committee
23 system interacting as best we can if our timing is right with
24 the Federal Council. However, there's been a lot of discussion
25 that the nature of this issue has become sufficiently -- what
26 am I trying to say, it's become a high profile issue. In fact,
27 I've had two calls now from a staff person with one of the
28 legislative representatives, I think it's Pete Cott (ph), from
29 wherever, SouthCentral, I guess. That helped to reinforce in
30 my mind just how many different stakeholders there are in the
31 issue of the Koyukuk River. So what we have to be careful with
32 now is when we go through our public process that we allow all
33 the stakeholders to, you know, have some input into this.
34 Those folks who feel that their interest is legitimate in that
35 area, and we have to be careful that we have a process that
36 will allow that interest and that participation to take place.

37
38 Now, how are we going to do that I don't know right
39 now, but you know, there are lots of possibilities out there.
40 One of them that has worked very well for us so far is working
41 with Stanley Ned and Gabe Sam with TCC. They've helped to
42 coordinate with some of the local tribal councils in the
43 village communities. And that's been a help, you know. As we
44 get everybody in this thing communicating with each other and
45 meeting at the appropriate times then that's good because that
46 addresses the issue of how do we involve everybody. So it
47 appears to us at this point that just the regular round of
48 advisory committee meetings and even the Federal Council
49 meeting here may not be enough for this issue. We want -- we

50 don't want to overkill this thing but we want to make sure

0197

1 that everybody has a chance to participate in an appropriate
2 way.

3
4 Now, our goal all along has been we knew that this
5 area, the Interior Region, was coming up for consideration by
6 the State Board of Game this spring in March. That's our
7 deadline right there. And the public participation process
8 coming up with a regulatory scheme that's reasonably fair to
9 everybody is the chore that we have to accomplish now this
10 winter. And if the timing of this meeting were a little bit
11 later, you know, we could have some more complete information
12 for this year, but I can assure you that by the time you meet,
13 you know, early winter or late winter next year we will have
14 gone through at that point, I'm sure, most of our process. And
15 I hope that all of you in, you know, the appropriate
16 communities that are involved will by then know what's
17 happening as we will have been there and we will be
18 communicating on this issue and trying to work out regulations
19 that are better than what we have right now.

20
21 Do you have any question?

22
23 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Ron?

24
25 MR. SAM: Do you have the previous two years data on
26 moose take?

27
28 MR. MATHEWS: David, they have this chart in their book
29 if that helps for the past 15 years.

30
31 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's down here.

32
33 MR. MATHEWS: It's at the end of your annual report. I
34 don't know if that'll help you, but what is it, Tab L. At the
35 end of Tab L. I don't know if that'll help you if you want to
36 borrow this, Dave.

37
38 It was attached to the annual report as part of their
39 position on that. And just to note, this is what was presented
40 at the Koyukuk meeting as of November 22nd, 1996, so it's clear
41 to everybody that was at that meeting. So I don't know if that
42 meets your needs, Ron, or not. So.....

43
44 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: I think that last two columns, the
45 total hunter and the moose gives you one comparison there.
46 It's what, we have a harvest this year of what, 153 and 124.
47 That's 277. So the harvest is down more in line with the '95,
48 '96, huh? And the number of people participating under this is
49 553 where it was 608 last year, so it's gone down a little bit.

0198

1 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chair?

2
3 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah.

4
5 MR. ANDERSEN: These are by unit and the numbers that
6 David was giving us for the Koyukuk control use area up above
7 the Gisasa to Huslia.

8
9 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

10
11 MR. ANDERSEN: So there's -- these numbers don't
12 reflect the Koyukuk control use numbers.

13
14 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: We're not talking about the same
15 area. These are a larger area, yeah.

16
17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Unh-unh.

18
19 MR. ANDERSEN: These are for the whole unit. To
20 answer your question, Mr. Sam, no, I do not have with me the
21 data specific to this area for last year.

22
23 MR. SAM: I guess my question was premature and I would
24 like to see them as soon as we can come up with them, at least
25 copies in every one of our packets for the Council Board
26 members. Jim should have all the names and addresses.

27
28 MR. ANDERSEN: Okay. So you'd like it sooner rather
29 than later?

30
31 MR. SAM: Yes.

32
33 MR. ANDERSEN: Okay.

34
35 MR. SAM: The sooner we start drafting proposals or
36 changes what regulations we do have in existence the better off
37 we should be. And I would also like to hear from you and Jim
38 of any changes that you might be proposing, so the sooner that
39 we can get that and get to work, start working together with
40 you on drafting the final one for the State Board of Game next
41 March would be good.

42
43 MR. ANDERSEN: Did I understand you correctly? Did you
44 want all of the members of the Council to receive this
45 information or just some or how do you want to handle that?

46
47 MR. SAM: No, what I was looking for is the type of
48 river, advise the Council correctly with that area between
49 Kakokan (ph) and Huslia and they're both under that type of

50 National Wildlife Refuge. So that.....

0199

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: And it would be important, I think,
2 that Vince and the Chair get the information so if any members
3 request it they can get it from him, maybe Vince, you can do
4 that. But I think this chart on -- that we were referring to
5 does show our concern because you see, historically the numbers
6 went up to around 300. They kind of leveled off for awhile
7 there. They were around 300 hunters. In fact, even in '93,
8 '94 there was only 281, but then they went clear up to 608.
9 There was an almost doubling of the number of hunters in that
10 unit, and the take going up also considerably. It was running
11 down around 200 or under 200, and then all of a sudden up to
12 353, so there's -- you know, the trend was this way. And it
13 looks like it may have leveled off a little this year. But as
14 you said, we're only looking at a smaller unit, not the whole
15 unit.

16
17 MR. SAM: Yeah. We're very concerned about Unit 24.
18 And this goes all the way up to the Dalton Highway, you know.

19
20 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Is there a thought rather than just
21 working on regulations of developing a management plan to
22 manage that area that would have goals, populations goals and
23 where you're trying to go, what you're trying to achieve with
24 the regulations. Have you thought of using that approach?

25
26 MR. ANDERSEN: Absolutely, yes. I talked in terms of
27 regulations because of the regulatory nature of the meeting
28 here. But it's clear that this is more than just a routine
29 change in a regulation. I mean you could have some goals and a
30 plan on how to get there. And we need maximum amount of public
31 participation.

32
33 I do have a question for the Council, at least for the
34 appropriate members of the Council. I was with Jim Wilmington
35 for at least one of the community meetings that I mentioned
36 earlier. I found that that forum was very useful to me to get
37 some --you know, some meaningful input at that level. And I
38 would like to know -- I'll just make this offer, that if you
39 have suggestions on how to do that or how to get people
40 involved, you know, we're open for suggestions because
41 obviously we don't have our mind made up right now and we want
42 to work in the most effective way that we can.

43
44 MR. MORGAN: Mr. Chair?

45
46 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

47
48 MR. MORGAN: Yeah, I was just looking through this and
49 it kind of coordinates with some of the same issues we had in

50 Unit 19. It says Unit 21 residents, 213 people went out

0200

1 hunting. Out of those 213 people 90 people got a moose. And I
2 go over here to nonresidents, 89 nonresidents went out hunting,
3 66 of those got a moose. And the number isn't -- and the
4 Alaskan residents -- I see the other one, Alaskan residents,
5 that means outside of Unit 21. I see the same correlation with
6 Unit 19 that the success rate of the local people hunting is
7 pretty low, real low. It makes me -- it sends out a flag. And
8 then you've got a nonresidence hunter and the difference is
9 only 20 something moose.

10
11 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: The only place we have to be careful
12 with that though, Carl, is that you know there's sometime
13 underreporting by the local. We don't have as an accurate
14 statistics. Where usually the nonresident is more accurate in
15 that they do turn in their tags and cards, so.....

16
17 Jack?

18
19 MR. WHITMAN: I guess for the record I'm Jack Whitman
20 with the Department of Fish & Game. Maybe I can lend a little
21 bit of information. At least in Unit 19 and Jim Wilmington
22 said the same thing in Unit 21. Oftentimes the non-local
23 hunters are coming in, they're spending 10 days to two weeks.
24 A lot of the local hunters, and I know this is true in parts of
25 Unit 19, they go for a day hunt or they go for two or three
26 days. They don't have the long term investment.

27
28 If you look at what the fisheries people call a catch
29 per unit effort, oftentimes the local people are much more
30 successful. They're better, they know the country better, they
31 know the moose better, but they don't spend the real long term
32 time out there completely devoted to -- they're doing other
33 things. They're catching firewood. They're doing other things
34 while they're at the same time doing moose hunting. A lot of
35 the non-locals come in, they are moose hunting, moose hunting,
36 moose hunting.

37
38 MR. MORGAN: I can agree with you in that what the
39 residents are doing, the local residents are doing is getting
40 ready for winter and getting their subsistence. Plus also they
41 don't got the cash. They don't got the bucks that a
42 nonresident does. Now, he's got to go out and -- I go fishing
43 when the fish are in in big numbers. And for a gallon of gas
44 that's 2.50 a gallon I can't afford to go every day when
45 there's no fish out there and drift all night and get five. I
46 go when the numbers are sufficient for me where it's
47 economically sound for me. I can -- I don't have that excess
48 luxury of the excess cash. That's why you've got -- you do go
49 out in a day, two days, but you go the whole season.

0201

1 MR. WHITMAN: Well, that differences in the ways local
2 versus non-local people are hunting certainly does affect the
3 reported success rates. It's difficult to interpret sometimes,
4 but I think that is a factor that should be considered.

5
6 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: That same pattern doesn't just
7 prevail between -- it's really local and non-local because
8 you've probably experienced in our area like we have boats
9 coming all the way from Bethel up here. Well, they're down on
10 the river down here and they're camped there during most of the
11 season on the river bar. They're up here for a week, 10 days,
12 whereas local people are having to go out and hunt weekends
13 'cause they have jobs and so on and they're competing with
14 somebody that's there all week long, so it isn't an equal
15 opportunity in that sense, if you see what I mean. That's why
16 you get interference. You probably have some in the area, too,
17 that come up and end up staying up there a week or two where
18 local people with jobs can't do it. And they're.....

19
20 MR. MORGAN: The biggest concern, too, I've got is the
21 blind and going up to the hills and stuff, they get access.
22 You know they can afford it. They're going after the big
23 bulls. They're going to get them up in the hills before they
24 come down to the river. With that amount of number coming in
25 and their success rate it's got to affect the amount of number
26 that's coming down to the river. And I know there's a lot of
27 moose probably right now along the rivers because it's rutting
28 season, but we want to get our moose before they start rutting
29 like everybody else. We want to get them in their prime.

30
31 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, if we can get back to the
32 Koyukuk for a minute. We had a question or a request from
33 David how we might implement the meting or the planning that
34 you're talking about. Are there suggestions on that how we
35 might facilitate this? We're willing to participate in that, I
36 think, or we'll send members to represent the group if you do
37 have planning meetings like to develop a management plan, but I
38 don't know what is the best scenario or way to accomplish that.
39 We'd certainly encourage that to happen that all the players
40 sit down.

41
42 MR. ANDERSEN: I apologize. I certainly didn't mean to
43 put anybody on the spot, but you know,.....

44
45 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Oh, no, no, no.....

46
47 MR. ANDERSEN:as your suggestions occur to you
48 let us know.

49

CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah.

0202

1 MR. ANDERSEN: 'Cause, you know, it's not going to
2 happen tomorrow anyway. So we need the input.

3
4 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Right. No, I just wanted to assure
5 you that we very much want to see that happen and we want to do
6 whatever we can to see that happen. Ron?

7
8 MR. SAM: Yeah. As far as that figures for this year
9 compared to the last couple of years I think that because of
10 our concerted efforts and combined efforts, I think that we're
11 working in the right direction or going in the right direction,
12 which was the protection of the river, National Wildlife Refuge
13 moose and the take, you know. I think that we're going in the
14 right direction. So I ask for more data on Unit 24 from you.
15 And I think as Tom Early is here, I'd like to request more
16 information on the moose take from the Kanuti Wildlife Refuge
17 because we do have a advisory committee meeting coming up, I
18 believe, in February and we would like all those numbers there
19 to back up our -- or generate some possible new proposals for
20 the Board of Game meeting.

21
22 MR. MATHEWS: Ray?

23
24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes.

25
26 MR. MATHEWS: I think David needs to know that part of
27 your annual report was concerned to move forward a planning
28 process for Unit 21D, if I captured it right, so it will be in
29 that annual report to the Federal Subsistence Board, which
30 because of its overlap will be forwarded to the State saying
31 that this body here would like to move that forward, so it's in
32 support of your position for planning. And I need that
33 confirmed. You still want that in the annual report after this
34 discussion, correct?

35
36 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah. Yes, David?

37
38 MR. ANDERSEN: This is the next meeting scheduled
39 already?

40
41 MR. MATHEWS: No, we haven't got that far. It'll be in
42 February or March. Our timing is tight meeting all this. And
43 that's something that Council will have to fit in.

44
45 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: We were caught before with trying to
46 do a proposal that fixed it on Federal lands up there and then
47 have -- and then the State attempting to fix it, too, and then
48 we had to withdraw ours because they didn't mesh. And that's
49 why see that the only long term solution is to kind of work out

50 a management plan for the area and State adopting regs and the

0203

1 Federal adopting regs that would meet part of that 'cause
2 there's things that they can do that you can't discriminate
3 between communities but we can on the Federal land, so there
4 may be some regs that we could do to meet local needs. But it
5 still would be better if they were meshed so we don't create
6 conflicts in the field.

7
8 What's happened in some other areas is us moving the
9 season up earlier for subsistence. I don't know if we've done
10 that in that area where we have an earlier season for local on
11 the Federal lands. It gives them a chance to go out and
12 harvest before the main hunt comes in.

13
14 MR. ANDERSEN: One other thing, too, I may not need to
15 say this but I do want to re-emphasize that given the
16 responsibilities and authority that the State has that, again,
17 you know, our moose management plan and regulatory efforts do
18 have to consider a wide audience. You know, that's the nature
19 of the beast and any -- our stakeholders. Like I mentioned
20 earlier it clued (ph) a lot of people, it's become quite a high
21 profile issue.

22
23 If I could change direction here a little bit. I do
24 know although Jim didn't include this in his mail message here
25 to me, but in an earlier conversation about a week or two ago,
26 it said it was pretty obvious that the number of permits is
27 down this year. So that the trajectory, you know, the increase
28 that we received leveled off. And we suspect, and it's just a
29 guess, was because it became fairly well publicized that we
30 were making some changes. That we had some degree of
31 restrictions on the permits. And we think that probably
32 resulted in an uncertain situation that resulted in some people
33 not hunting there. They thought, you know, why mess with it.
34 So the -- the uncertainty and the confusion is certainly one of
35 our goals, you know, we need to address that this winter. We
36 want to have some regulations in place that, as I say, do the
37 best job we can in addressing all the interests and see how it
38 turns out by springtime.

39
40 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Did the permits limit the number in
41 the field at any one time or was that part of it?

42
43 MR. ANDERSEN: That was it, yeah. As it turned out the
44 limit that we put on it was never reached. We always had fewer
45 people out than we had permits for. So it was -- at Ellis
46 Cabin it was 235 maximum. And I think the most permits we ever
47 had out was actually something less than 200, around 200 and
48 most of the time it was well below that.

49

CHAIRMAN COLLINS: But that single action probably is

0204

1 what helped put a cap on this or caused it to level off rather
2 than -- I don't know, you know.

3

4 MR. ANDERSEN: Possibly. It's hard to say.

5

6 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah. Okay. Any others on that?
7 Okay. Thank you for providing that information.

8

9 MR. ANDERSEN: Certainly. I understand that there was
10 an earlier conversation on the Dalton Highway Corridor check
11 station.

12

13 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah.

14

15 MR. ANDERSEN: And I have some preliminary information
16 on that if you want to have it.

17

18 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah.

19

20 MR. ANDERSEN: Okay. The check station there on the
21 Dalton Highway ran from August 8th to September 29th. It was
22 not a 24 hour check station. The resources that we had the
23 money and the manpower limited our effort to generally four
24 days a week which was generally Friday through Monday and 18
25 hour days during those four days. We had two nine hour shifts.
26 We had, of course, two people working it. The folks that ran
27 it, some had law enforcement authority and peace officer badge,
28 that Fish & Game authority typically have. However, some did
29 not.

30

31 During the time that the check station was active two
32 -- it was either two or three citations were actually issued
33 and there were several verbal warnings given. One of the
34 things that happened at the check station was when it first
35 opened there was already a group of hunters who had gone up the
36 road before the check station started. And when they came back
37 through we found a fair number, quite a few, in fact, I think,
38 minor infractions of the regulations like needing sex, you
39 know, proof of sex attached to the meat. And a lot of the --
40 no signs of infraction. But once the check station was in
41 place there -- what they were able to do is contact hunters on
42 the way up there and review the important regulations with them
43 and remind them that that was going to be enforced. And what
44 they found was that those infractions immediately dropped off
45 to a very -- well to a much lower level than initially. So
46 that was to no surprise to anybody, a bit of a lesson and, you
47 know, the kind of things that can happen when you do have a
48 check station in place is you can reinforce these regulations
49 in people's minds.

0205

1 We did have help, by the way, from the Yukon Flats
2 Refuge, two of the staff members were able to help with the
3 weekend shift with that effort and we appreciated it very much.

4
5 Some of the other information that was gather was they
6 counted highway vehicles. They asked people whether or not
7 they belonged to the military and asked how many trips they'd
8 made in the past and general information. I don't have any of
9 this to present to you yet because that report now is in the
10 process of being written and it will be available either at the
11 end of this month or the first week in November. And that
12 report's being done by the person who is running the check
13 station. So we're a few weeks away from having all of that
14 information compiled.

15
16 As far as other enforcement efforts go that were not
17 directly related with the check station it's my understanding
18 that BLM had enforcement ranger up there patrolling, I don't
19 know how often. And then, of course, the State Fish & Wildlife
20 Protection Office based out of Cold Bay also spent time
21 monitoring, you know, on the road itself. And it's my
22 understanding probably spent most of the time up on the
23 northern part of the road rather than the southern part.

24
25 So the check station is a combination of both voluntary
26 and mandatory requirements. It's mandatory that they stop
27 there, but some of the questions and information we sought was
28 on a voluntary basis. And one of the things -- all the pieces
29 of information we gather, too, was whether to ask people to
30 voluntarily submit themselves to a questionnaire or survey that
31 might or might not come out at a later time. So we have a
32 list. It's my understanding it was most of the people who went
33 through agreed that they would cooperate with that kind of an
34 effort. So there's a potential data base there that for our
35 purposes right now we don't think we need if, you know, other
36 entities feel that there's more information that we need to get
37 from the people that are hunting here, we at least have that
38 potential and we could take advantage of it given the, you
39 know, right amount of support and that sort of thing. So,
40 again, that's a preliminary report and the final will be out
41 towards the end of the month. Do you have any questions?

42
43 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chairman?

44
45 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

46
47 MR. REAKOFF: I was the one that brought this issue up.
48 I read last year's report and at that time enforcement was --
49 in that report enforcement was not in play because they felt

50 that would deter rerecorded through the station. And in that

0206

1 report I felt that enforcement should be a primary concern of
2 that check station. That's where -- where the check station
3 idea came about was through meetings with people from the
4 Arctic Slope area and the South Slope area that were concerned
5 with wanton waste violations. That was the primary. That's
6 where the check station idea was purported (ph), and it was an
7 enforcement position. And that's why the North Slope Borough
8 is funding that portion of that check station was for
9 enforcement. When I read that enforcement was -- they didn't
10 want to enforce some regulations because they didn't want to
11 deter the people from checking back through. I didn't feel
12 that that -- especially for wanton waste, I felt that there
13 should be enforcement available to -- it's a whole constriction
14 of the flow of hunters coming down the Dalton Highway. And the
15 wanton waste issue is the primary issue in this. It raises the
16 ire of all the local hunters up north, this wanton waste issue.

17
18 We have in the annual report a submittal that if
19 funding is available from the Federal Government that
20 enforcement of, at least, the minimum would at least the wanton
21 waste issue.

22
23 I have a question as to how many people go through, how
24 many are checking back through. Are all complying with
25 checking back through? And with the windows when the station
26 is closed I really cast a jaundiced eye at how many people are
27 going through that window with illegal -- with violations,
28 without the proper amounts of meat. These are the questions
29 that I raise because I -- there's violations that we see right
30 in Coldfoot. You can have a rookie cop sitting in Coldfoot
31 writing wanton waste violations regularly. This year there was
32 a large aggregate of bull caribou that came near the Tulik area
33 of the Dalton Highway. There was people killing -- there was
34 truckloads, two, three and four caribou horns on each truck
35 going down. There was three caribou sitting right in front of
36 the cafe in Coldfoot with both caribou horns on a rig with one
37 cooler in the back of the truck.

38
39 It's this kind of stuff that doesn't go over very good
40 with the flying sport hunters, the subsistence hunters and the
41 nonhunters. And I feel that the check station would be a very
42 instrumental enforcement on a -- it should actually be staffed
43 on a 24 hour mandatory basis. I'm just reiterating my own
44 feelings of the area, plus the feelings from Anaktuvuk and
45 people that I know on the North Slope that have these concerns.
46 And the primary concern is the wanton waste. That's -- I mean,
47 you know, we have many users and stuff and we have to all get
48 along, but this wanton waste thing is there quite a bit
49 happening and not enough -- I mean Mumford's running every

50 which way. I mean he can't handle the whole country there when

0207

1 you've got all the hunters knacked (ph) all down. All the
2 caribou from the North Slope come through Anaktuvuk Pass. You
3 don't go chasing them all over the North Slope. They kill them
4 at Anaktuvuk Pass. When all the hunters come down the Yukon
5 River Bridge that's the place to deal with it.

6
7 I would like to see that prioritized higher in the
8 State and Federal outlook on that Dalton Highway.

9
10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Other comments or questions for
11 David?

12
13 MR. DEACON: Do you have a check station in the Holy
14 Cross area?

15
16 MR. ANDERSEN: No, we do not.

17
18 MR. DEACON: Also the Innoko Refuge (indiscernible).
19 It's waste and it's a very big concern of the villages, the
20 hunters.

21
22 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: It's pretty expensive to man those,
23 is that why there's a limit use of check points, or is there a
24 possibility of having them initiated in many places, I guess
25 that's the question.

26
27 MR. ANDERSEN: In the Interior Region we planned to
28 have four check stations this year. It stretches our resources
29 right to the breaking point. It's very difficult. And that's
30 why we take advantage of park whenever we can.

31
32 I might add wanton waste is a concern of everybody.
33 there's no doubt about it. And it's consistently one of the
34 biggest complaints I get wherever I go, you know. And I don't
35 think it's, unfortunately, ever going to go away. And the
36 challenge is how do you minimize it, you know, how you keep
37 pressure on it to prevent that from taking place. And it --
38 without the cooperation of other hunters, other responsible
39 hunters there's no way we'll ever -- I don't think ever get a
40 handle on it. So to the degree possible that people see that
41 kind of thing going on, and I realize it's tough 'cause if
42 you're out in the middle of no where what do you do? How do
43 you contact anybody? But whenever there's an opportunity to
44 take down information and then report it so that we can follow
45 up on it that, in fact, does pay off sometimes, I think.

46
47 It's a criticism. It's a friendly criticism and I
48 think I know why it happens, but I think that the Fish &
49 Wildlife Protection frequently is not -- you know, they're busy

50 doing things, too, but what they aren't always able to do is

0208

1 get back to the community involved and let them know the
2 outcome of some of these investigations. And it's just because
3 the investigation takes time usually, and by the time it is
4 resolved they're involved in 40,000 other things invariably.
5 But I know for a fact that some of those reports that some of
6 those reports that come from rural areas, not always and maybe
7 not very many, that sometimes it does pay off. They are able
8 to, you know, apprehend people and follow up on that, but it's
9 a tough choice. It's a tough one.

10
11 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Go ahead, Sam.

12
13 MR. SAM: I have one question for Dave over there. The
14 Nowitna River check station is that manned 24 hours a day? Or
15 is it a volunteer or mandatory?

16
17 MR. ANDERSEN: Boy, you caught me on that one. Maybe
18 somebody else knows.

19
20 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, it is.

21
22 MR. ANDERSEN: It is. Okay. Yeah, thank you for
23 reminding me. Too many check stations up there.

24
25 MR. NED: And so for manning the Yukon River check
26 station is only 18 hours a day, is there a reason for that?

27
28 MR. ANDERSEN: You're talking about Ellis Cabin?

29
30 MR. NED: Right. Ellis Cabin and the Yukon River, why
31 do you man one 24 hours and why do you man one only 18 hours a
32 day?

33
34 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, technically people are getting
35 paid. They're not getting paid 24 hours at Ellis Station, but
36 they're living there. They're staying there all the time so
37 they're always available. But on the Dalton Highway check
38 station, you know, we have a different situation there where
39 people that stay there, they have them stay for quarters. It's
40 very expensive to run that one. We have to keep -- we have to
41 meet union contract obligations and that sort of thing. So the
42 logistics are a little bit different, and as a result, you
43 know, we just have four days a week covered. I think on a long
44 weekend sometimes they cover five days. We did that once, but
45 it's -- so it's not total coverage, you know.

46
47 And Council Member Reakoff raised a very good point. I
48 mean that leaves a big hole in the middle. And if your goal is
49 to absolutely cover all potential violations you can't do it

50 with four days a week. There's no doubt about it. We realize

0209

1 that that's a limitation.

2

3 MR. NED: At the Ellis Cabin check station do the
4 persons that's staying there at that station check the meat
5 in the boat itself or just what exactly do they do?

6

7 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, absolutely. They're supposed to
8 be. I wasn't there. I didn't get there this season myself,
9 but that's part of the routine. That's the way it was set up.

10

11 MR. NED: When we went by there, the people in that area
12 saying that the person that check in at Ellis Station they told
13 me they didn't have the horns and they're not checking the meat
14 in the boat.

15

16 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, if that's true, if that's what was
17 happening it's an oversight because that's not our operating
18 procedure there. You know, we have requirements for salvage of
19 meat on the bone and so forth and that should be checked. And
20 I -- you know, I don't doubt what you say is true. It must
21 have happened 'cause people don't make stories up like that.
22 The question is how often did it happen. I'd be really
23 surprised if that was just the policy that was carried out all
24 year. I'll definitely check on it. I'd like to find out.

25

26 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Dave, there's someone in the back
27 that had comments that may add. Was there -- did you have
28 comments on that issue?

29

30 MR. WILLIAMS: A follow-up comment to Mr. Ned's
31 question. I was a hunter, I went through the Ellis check
32 station, I communicated with the staff at that check station,
33 went into the (indiscernible) to make sure the meat was on the
34 bone and the moose was, in fact, in the boat coming out. So
35 I'm sure the same thing took place at the Nowitna check station
36 as well.

37

38 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Ron?

39

40 MR. SAM: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to recognize Mr.
41 Bob McGuire. He has some students here.....

42

43 MR. MCGUIRE: It's an Alaska studies class from McGrath
44 High School. They're following subsistence issues real closely
45 so we brought them over today so thank you for allowing us
46 here.

47

48 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Right. And there are some more
49 chairs that you can sit in while you're here. I understand you

50 have to least at the end of the class period, but you're

0210

1 welcome to sit in these chairs.

2

3 We in the process now where we're considering
4 developing some proposals and we're getting some background
5 information on what's happened on hunts this year and so on in
6 different areas. So.....

7

8 MR. MATHEWS: Ray?

9

10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

11

12 MR. MATHEWS: Maybe for the students' benefits I'll
13 just go real quickly what's here so they'll know.....

14

15 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

16

17 MR. MATHEWS: The people from here on over are the
18 Regional Council Members which are appointed by the Secretary
19 of Interior with concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture to
20 deal with subsistence issues on Federal lands. Okay.

21

22 We have staff from all over the state here. David
23 James is the management coordinator for Fish & Game out of
24 Fairbanks who's been testifying on -- or talking about an issue
25 there. We have representatives from Bureau of Land Management,
26 Jeff Denton and Dave Yokel over here. We have several refuge
27 managers here from Innoko, Kanuti. Who am I leaving out?
28 Koyukuk and Nowitna. We have the regional coordinator for the
29 North Slope, Barb, in the back. We have Fish & Wildlife
30 Service staff that staff the Federal Subsistence Program here,
31 myself, Tom and Pete. And I can't leave out the Park Service --
32 and George and Rosa. And we have Park Service representatives
33 here, Hollis Twitchell.

34

35 'Cause I know when you walk in this room you see all
36 these faces and they all kind of look like -- I don't know,
37 maybe we all look alike or something, but what I'm trying to
38 get at is there's a lot of people here. And this is going
39 evolve on. And we represent different agencies. And Barb is
40 telling me by sign language there's a whole bunch of paper
41 there that we don't want to take back to Fairbanks that
42 explains more this process. So we are at the proposal stage.
43 When you walk in at this time it may look kind of confusing,
44 but we've been working these issues for the past day and a
45 half, so that's where we're at. So if you're doing an
46 assignment and you need to talk to a Park Service person Hollis
47 is there. If you need to talk to somebody at BLM they're
48 there, et cetera, et cetera. And I did leave out Fish & Game
49 Sport Fish, I didn't intend to do that, and your area

50 biologist, Jack Whitman is here, so sorry for the two or three

0211

1 minutes on that, but you're catching us right when we're trying
2 to almost go into a break, so you're going to have to maximize
3 your time as students. That's it. Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Anything more for David? Thank you,
6 David.

7

8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I want to thank David James. He
9 was our past coordinator for this council and I wanted to thank
10 him for coming with those numbers, those numbers look better
11 and I'm happy to hear that Fish & Game is willing to work with
12 the local groups in that area and work toward a solution to
13 this. It's a far reaching problem, it has big wide corners on
14 it. And, hopefully, there will be a regulation proposal that
15 will come together and really define and address this issue.

16

17 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: The other area that we've had
18 concern for is in Unit 21E in the Holy Cross area, too, that a
19 management plan might be appropriate for that area, too, 'cause
20 some of the same issues involved in increased number of hunting
21 and people traveling from outside the area, plus the local and
22 a mix of State, Federal and corporation land down there, refuge
23 and BLM. There are a number of players involved and it might
24 be that the moose numbers are healthy right now and the local
25 people and this Board would like to see them stay healthy, you
26 know, how do we manage that so that we do not end up depleting
27 a resource. But if we could do a management plan now it might
28 help as conflicts may come up in the future that they have up
29 there with the increased numbers.

30

31 And we turned that in in our annual report and they
32 authorized funds could be spent so members of this Council
33 could participate in such a planning process. But they're not
34 setting up the process. It's going to have to be the players
35 that -- we need some mechanism for getting the players together
36 and having that happen. You might be thinking about that?
37 Yes?

38

39 MR. SAM: It bothered me, I mean, one about the
40 statement you made because the statewide concern, statewide
41 needs our participation in our management of that area. That
42 will always bother me, I think. And what I want to say that on
43 issue is that if all the agencies work together as we did in
44 this area you'd feel the results that we did in this area. The
45 better results has kept down the hunting, which we wanted, you
46 know, that we directed you to. And if people from around the
47 state want to hunt that area -- I mean we can't stop them, but
48 the reason that their moose populations are down is because of
49 over hunting and over killing of their breeding stock if they

50 take 70, 60, 70, 80 moose and get rid for the breeding stock.

0212

1 And I think they can comment further on down the line and maybe
2 readdress that 50 antler restriction somehow. Because when we
3 do come up with a proposal, any other proposals for this area
4 they have to come out before the Board of Game. But it still
5 doesn't make me happy to satisfy the rest of the state and then
6 it's our own area (ph). Stanley?

7
8 MR. NED: I have one more. We've seen increases in
9 nonresident hunters going into (indiscernible - background
10 noises and I've seen now in newspapers saying that the hunting
11 area and everybody in the state are coming into that area. At
12 the same time the investigation rate is going up. And we saw
13 that many times with control. So I think we need to go back
14 and minimize the amount of pressure in that area. And if we
15 don't do anything here or in the package to the advisory
16 committee and we'll run into the problem like Nowitna in this
17 area.

18
19 MR. MATHEWS: I don't know, Ray, how you want to
20 proceed from here.

21
22 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, we're down to developing
23 proposals. Maybe if we just do a list of some things that we
24 would like to it would kind of alert the students to what we're
25 looking at as issues. We can be thinking about them over lunch
26 or something like that. So maybe rather than -- are there
27 proposals that you want to come forward with, any of the
28 members here?

29
30 MR. DEACON: What do you think about (indiscernible)
31 outside hunters, could we address that?

32
33 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: We could talk about that. If you
34 want to talk about wanton waste to see if there's anything we
35 could do on wanton waste. Okay. I guess what Henry's saying
36 is he would like more discussion on that to see if there's
37 anything we would want to do or could do in relation to wanton
38 waste. Yeah, are there other proposals that you think you
39 want to come forward with now?

40
41 As mentioned we do have this window of opportunity
42 until December -- no, that's the State, until October 24. So
43 if some of your constituents wanted to develop a proposal they
44 can get it in by that date, too. So any other items you want
45 to talk about here then, areas of concern that might lead to
46 proposals?

47
48 Well, that's the only one we have. Maybe we could take
49 advantage of the students being here and see if they have any

50 questions they want to ask us about the program now or

0213

1 something before we break for lunch. Is there any concerns or
2 any information we can provide them? No. Bob, do you want to
3 share anything of what you've been doing with them or any --
4 where you plan to go with this or.....

5
6 MR. MCGUIRE: I know this is a good opportunity for us
7 because we always see the names in the papers that are coming,
8 and it's good to see the faces with names. And then the issue
9 that maybe we looked at most recently was the article in the
10 paper about Lime Village being an example of -- they have a
11 quota system there for the number of moose throughout the whole
12 year. And comparing that with other places like McGrath which
13 is really a different kind of community. That's probably the
14 main subsistence issue we've looked at recently.

15
16 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: As was mentioned we're the Western
17 Interior and there's a map over there of the area we cover.
18 We're all the way from Wiseman and Bettles and up in that area
19 down to the Aniak area. Now, maybe the board members would
20 like to introduce themselves so they could see where they're
21 from and put some faces to names. You want to go ahead and do
22 that for them, Jack, explain.

23
24 MR. REAKOFF: My name is Jack Reakoff. I live in the
25 South Slope of the Brooks Range at the upper part of Unit 24.
26 That's in the northern part of this Western Interior Region.
27 And I represent the people of that area, the northern part
28 where I was raised and am familiar with.

29
30 MR. SAM: My name is Ronald Sam and I'm from the
31 village of Alatna and we're situated right across the river
32 from Allakaket where Bob McGuire's wife came from, Allakaket.

33
34 MR. JONES: I'm Stanley Jones from Koyukuk. And I
35 represent a pretty big area of the Koyukuk River. I think
36 you've seen the map. I represent Ruby, Koyukuk, Nulato, Kaltag
37 and Galena, those areas. And I'm also on the State Fish & Game
38 Advisory Board which I represent four or five villages.

39
40 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: As you know, I'm Ray Collins, and
41 I'm representing this area and I'm also on the local McGrath
42 Fish & Game Advisory Committee. I've been involved in that for
43 a number of years trying to bring forward what I learned from
44 that experience to this Federal Board experience. Thank you.

45
46 MR. DEACON: I'm Henry Deacon from Grayling. I
47 represent (indiscernible - voice lowers).....

48
49 MR. MORGAN: Carl Morgan from Aniak. And I about cover

50 most of 19 -- all of 19A and most of 19B from Lower Kalskag up

0214

1 to Stony River.

2

3 MR. DERENDOFF: William Derendoff, Huslia. The area I
4 represent is, I'd say, about 100 miles from the Yukon west.

5

6 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: I'm Angela Demientieff from Holy
7 Cross and I share some of the same village as Henry Deacon from
8 Grayling.

9

10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: And again, is there any questions
11 that you might want to pose? I think with that it might be a
12 good.....

13

14 MR. SAM: Mr. Chairman?

15

16 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, Ron.

17

18 MR. SAM: I'd like to thank the students and Bob
19 McGuire for coming here to try to listen in 'cause at our last
20 meeting down at Holy Cross we had pretty good participation by
21 the teachers and students that were concerned. And I think
22 that we should give them recognition, not only give them
23 recognition but encourage them to be aware of all the problems
24 surrounding your area because you are our future leaders. And
25 with that I thank you for showing up.

26

27 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Vince?

28

29 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah. Before we break you have to
30 individually settle up at the lodge, otherwise the posse will
31 come out after you. that's your meals, not your lodging on
32 that. So, please work with Buck or -- I don't know the name of
33 the cook. And if you have any of those forms that I had you
34 sign for future ones please give them to me by the end of the
35 meeting so we can keep this going.

36

37 (General conversation)

38

39 MR. MATHEWS: So 1:00 o'clock or.....

40

41 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, come back at 1:00. It looks
42 like we can finish the rest of it this afternoon.

43

44 (Off record)

45

46 (On record)

47

48 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: 1:10. 1:05, I guess. And we're
49 under development of proposals and the only topic we noted the

50 list on is Henry wanted to just to talk a little bit about

0215

1 wanton waste to see if there's anything we could do about that.
2 You want to express your concerns, Henry, or what.....

3
4 MR. HENRY: The last couple of days out here I've heard
5 all this waste of meat. And also I'd written a paper last year
6 on how Fairbanks was complaining about all the people that go
7 and then they dump all their meat in the dumpster or whatever
8 they call those. Those are things that I'm concerned, because
9 the Natives in the villages that's not what we're were taught
10 to use those animals. That's our way of life in the Bush that
11 we were taught to not to waste animals. That's a God given
12 resource for our wise use. So I think -- so, therefore, I'd
13 like to see some kind of way to try to resolve this waste
14 issue. Some hunters of moose that was killed last week, a
15 sportsman, and he can make use of that meat that's been put
16 out. That's my question. Because it hurts me to see that
17 waste. And we should realize as people in the Bush, that's our
18 food. That's not to mess around. That's not what God gave us
19 those animals for. So that's why I wanted more on this waste,
20 and just to air my thinking, you know. As an elder in the
21 villages, it doesn't make me feel good, not only me but a lot
22 of hunters in the villages. So I'd like to have something done
23 about that especially from Innoko Refuge. In that area there
24 was 59 hunters in that upper area and 16 or more below. And I
25 wonder how much use they got -- they made use of those meat.
26 Those are the things I'm concerned about and I'd like to see
27 something really enforced by the State and the Federal on this
28 waste business. You never waste those kind of (indiscernible).
29 We should redo our hunting area every three or four years do it
30 different like I suggested three years ago, August 20 to
31 September 10 season for our area. Work that for two or three
32 years and maybe change it back to just all hunting and change
33 it. Those are the things that we expressed, demanded last year
34 by those four villages because that's our -- Innoko River,
35 that's our kind of live stock (indiscernible). If it's
36 overpopulated then they should go someplace else. So this
37 wasting thing that's -- I'm glad Jack brought that up about
38 that problem, and what about the rest of the woods (ph), you
39 know. People that shot aroung, they hacked up those three legs
40 (ph) and they throw the best part of the moose, part, bones is
41 about the best part to cook. I'd like to have something done
42 about this wasting by the State and Federal.

43
44 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Does the Federal follow the State in
45 wanton waste laws or who takes the lead in that now? Is it
46 still the State Reg or.....

47
48 The State is just for the subsistence hunters on
49 Federal land. And I don't know that there's anything in there

50 on -- is there on waste?

0216

1 MR. BOYD: There is. I mean obviously we have a
2 regulation that prohibits wanton waste. And that was adopted
3 from the State regulation when the Federal program started, so
4 they're similar in language. So in that regard, you know,
5 there's commonality there. Ed may have more.....

6
7 MR. MERRITT: Well, I'm only speaking in the context of
8 Innoko, one portion of the Innoko, but -- and we have not made
9 very many wanton waste cases. We have not seen that, but the
10 few cases that we have been able to uncover out there we've
11 turned over to the State for prosecution and they have followed
12 up on it. And that's probably what we would continue to do.
13 But I just wanted to make a point that over the last three
14 moose hunting seasons we've spent a lot of time and a great
15 deal of effort out there focusing on trying to find wanton
16 waste cases because -- well, in response to concerns of the
17 local people.

18
19 We checked virtually every hunter at least once on the
20 Innoko Refuge. We don't find it. If the meat is being wasted
21 it's being wasted after it gets to Anchorage or down to Bethel.
22 You know, once it gets out of our sphere of operation we don't
23 have a system in place for tracking it until it ultimately ends
24 up in somebody's freezer back in Philadelphia or wherever, but
25 we check the local meat cutters. You know, everything that
26 gets hauled off the refuge in air taxis or by our guides we
27 check and make sure that it's properly brought back to McGrath
28 and that it's all there. If it goes over to Whitmire's to be
29 processed we're over there two or three times a week looking
30 over, seeing what's going on there.

31
32 You know, I'm really frustrated by this. Last year we
33 found one case of wanton waste. The year before we didn't find
34 any. We checked virtually every hunter on the refuge. If we
35 run into a party of hunters that have boned out a moose and it
36 doesn't look to us like there's a full moose there we make them
37 accompany us back to the kill site. And in every case that
38 we've done that, and there've been a dozen or so over the last
39 three years, we've gone back to the kill site. We've been able
40 to verify that was the correct kill site and we've determined
41 that the moose was properly taken care of, the meat was all
42 removed.

43
44 I had lots of complaints about wanton waste that we
45 have followed up on and found out that they were, indeed, not
46 wanton waste. We had one this year where up above Hather Creek
47 some hunters from Bethel filed a complaint. And I got a call
48 from Mike Reardon, the manager down at YK Delta that there was
49 moose on the riverbank up there that had been shot and they

50 just took the legs off and left the rest. Well, I personally

0217

1 investigated that. That happened to be a moose that was killed
2 by one of Jay Goday's clients under the supervision of an
3 assistant guide. I went out. I looked at the carcass. I took
4 pictures of the carcass. It was skin clean. There wasn't a
5 pound of burger meat left on it. It was completely properly
6 processed. So I just don't know how to deal with this wanton
7 waste -- this perception of wanton waste. I'm not saying it
8 doesn't occur. I'm just saying I can't find it. And I have
9 every reason to find it. It's no advantage to me politically
10 or otherwise to look the other way and let it happen. If it's
11 going on I want to know about it and I want to make some cases.
12 We just don't find it.

13
14 Now, I can't speak for Koyukuk or these other areas,
15 but that's what we see on the Innoko. I even brought in extra
16 help. I brought in an agent from Arizona to work. I brought
17 in detail people in to cover the whole refuge. Henry will tell
18 you, you see our airplane going up and down the river. We're
19 there. We're checking. I'm not saying it never happens, but
20 it's not this flagrant, frequent violation that people perceive
21 it to be on the Innoko.

22
23 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: What was the experience in checking
24 with the meat cutter here? I know in some previous years he
25 found that he could only salvage about half of what was brought
26 in sometimes because of trim that's on it, is that still the
27 case?

28
29 MR. MERRITT: Sometimes the meat is all brought out, it
30 gets delivered to the meat cutter and -- but because it's taken
31 early and it's been out there a long time it's starting to go
32 bad. And you know, everyone around here knows Whitmire and he
33 does an excellent job. He's just an outstanding, you know,
34 game processor and he does the best he can. He salvages as
35 much as he can, but sometimes it doesn't all make it. And --
36 but that technically isn't wanton waste. And that's what
37 concerns me about moving these seasons up or back into the
38 warmer summer period is I think we're going to see more of that
39 if we -- you know, I don't think people will quit hunting
40 because we change the season. I think we'll still have people
41 coming out to hunt. And I'm afraid that we're going to have
42 more meat hanging here or down in Bethel or out in camps that
43 doesn't get picked up that's going to start to turn before it
44 gets to the processor. So I'm willing to, you know, support a
45 change in the season if that's what the local folks want to
46 propose. The problem is that that's going to have to be, of
47 course, agreed to by the State of Alaska because we're talking
48 about a State sport season. And I would support the Council in
49 a proposal to do that on the Innoko if you want to give it a

50 try, but I do have this concern about the warmer weather.

0218

1 And as far as the wanton waste cases go, like I said,
2 I'm really frustrated. I don't know what more we can do to try
3 to find wanton waste that we aren't already doing and we're not
4 finding it. It's not -- I mean every once in awhile we make a
5 case but it's very, very infrequent.

6
7 And I guess the other concern I have is after three
8 years of really focusing on this and working on this issue I'm
9 starting to get concerned about all the other things that are
10 going on out there that we're not getting -- we're not
11 addressing because we're focusing so much on wanton waste. You
12 know, we have illegal commercial operations going on up there.
13 There's a couple of them right upriver from your cabin, Henry.
14 You know, we need to start working on some of this illegal
15 guiding and outfitting that's going on, you know, people
16 bringing in plane load after plane load of hunters. There's
17 camps up there that take 25 and 30 moose out a year. So, there
18 are lots of law enforcement concerns other than wanton waste.
19 And I don't know how much longer we should spin our wheels on
20 that, but we'll keep looking.

21
22 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Would it reduce it at all if there
23 was that same regulation on leaving meat on the bone. I
24 wonder, because of the problem when you trim it off because
25 that sets in the aging and spoiling process a lot quicker.

26
27 MR. MERRITT: I haven't kept records, but I would guess
28 that probably no more than one out of 30 or 40 moose that are
29 harvested on the Innoko are boned out.

30
31 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

32
33 MR. MERRITT: Almost all of it comes out bone in.

34
35 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Uh-hum.

36
37 MR. MERRITT: Every once in a while we run into a group
38 of hunters that have access to the area, via air taxi, where
39 you drop off hunts where they're going to drift and they're in
40 small rafts and they'll bone out because of the, you know,
41 space and weight constraints with the type of watercraft
42 they're using, but essentially everything that comes out of
43 there comes out of there with bone in.

44
45 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

46
47 MR. MERRITT: I would not be opposed to making that the
48 law of the land either if that's what, you know, if people
49 think that that's worth doing but it's not going to affect very

50 many hunters.

0219

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Jack, you mentioned that earlier. I
2 don't know if you had thoughts on that. I don't know how
3 difficult it would be to get that in statewide. I know myself
4 personally I end up boning out the backbone, taking off the
5 arms and legs and the ribs and so on, but I usually end up
6 taking the meat off the backbone and leaving it with myself
7 'cause I have to pack it.

8
9 MR. REAKOFF: Well, that's the regulation that was
10 adopted for the Koyukuk was the rib was retained -- the meat
11 was retained on the rib and the quarters, but all the other
12 meat could be, like the neck and the backstrap.

13
14 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Neck and back one, yeah. Okay.
15 Yeah, that's my own practice.

16
17 MR. REAKOFF: But as far as statewide regulation. The
18 State Board came under big fire off of Ramona Barnes even on
19 Unit 19. And you know, we'd have to a show a real -- I mean
20 it's gotten to a real political point where you have to really
21 show that there's a need for that, you know, like you have to
22 have documentation to show the need for that.

23
24 In the Koyukuk there was people coming through Hughes
25 with soured bags of meat coming down the Hughes. And there was
26 enough testimony where we could show that need for that.
27 Unless you can show there's a problem then I think right now I
28 -- I would like to see that on moose statewide, but with the
29 Legislature throwing a fit about it, the State Board is
30 reluctant to get into that issue very deep.

31
32 MR. MERRITT: I think it's going to be a real uphill
33 battle to get the State to go along with the season change.
34 Not because there'd be opposition to opening it up earlier, but
35 I think there would be -- it's going to have to go through
36 their public review before they can change it. And I think
37 there's going to be an awful lot of opposition to shortening it
38 up on the back end because we have so many hunters that prefer
39 to hunt late because they are interested in harvesting, you
40 know, big antlers. And the Innoko is pretty well known as a
41 trophy moose area. And I just suspect that, you know, in the
42 absence of any biological reason to do it there'd be much
43 support for that, but of course, I'm speculating. I don't know
44 that for sure.

45
46 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, Ron?

47
48 MR. SAM: Yeah. It is State law to salvage all the meat
49 that you can, plus the fact that 16.30.010 and I know that we

50 have -- because of the existence of Alaska Statute 16.30 that

0220

1 we see more meat being taken out while it's not perfect. We do
2 have a -- have that statute in existence to keep the wanton
3 waste down as much as possible. And again, like anything else
4 that we deal with it's a matter of interpretation and where
5 you're at and how the people do it. We have do have the Alaska
6 Statute 16.30.010 in place. And that -- I think that's about
7 as far as we can go because what Ed mentioned, too, a camp out
8 there that are taken out 25 or 30 moose out of one area, I
9 think that we should start concentrating on more of those
10 because up in the Kako (ph) River area we wanted the corridor
11 along the river as far as the control use area goes, but at one
12 time we did propose it, but they proposed -- counter-proposed
13 it by defining a corridor all the way down
14 Koyukuk, but if we don't want a mile and a half or six miles or
15 whatever it was, what we wanted to do at that time was to keep
16 Kanuti and Kako (ph) National Wildlife Refuge under it and
17 completely covered under the control use area.

18
19 And I think that is why we ought to take another look
20 at those camps that we talked about. We did come before the
21 board as far as transportation of meat and for dropping off a
22 hunter for those unguided camps. And what we're told is those
23 air charters can operate any place they want because they can
24 land any place that's an open space.

25
26 MR. MERRITT: We used to issue special use permits on
27 refuges. We used to have a clearly defined authorization to
28 issue special use permits for air taxi operations on refuges.
29 It was based on a legal opinion that if they were bringing in
30 moose hunters there was nexus to refuge lands, in other words,
31 a legal connection because the moose hunting activity was
32 taking place on refuge lands. That's getting greyer and greyer
33 as time goes on. We're still issuing special use permits to
34 air taxi operators. I have pretty good reason to believe, I
35 think, that if one of them challenged us in court we might just
36 lose. I really -- because they're operating within the
37 navigable waterway on the refuge. So I think, you know, the
38 whole navigable waterway issue within these conservation units,
39 within these refuges is something that we're just grappling
40 with on a lot of fronts, not just air taxi operations, in a lot
41 of ways. And we're starting to see more -- they're calling
42 themselves river outfitters. We're starting to see river
43 outfitters come into the Innoko now and they're not operating
44 outside the high water mark. So the claim is that they don't
45 need special use permits. So I'm not sure that right now we
46 have the legal authority to manage some of these activities.

47
48 MR. SAM: But, like you said, it's getting greyer and
49 greyer. It's not black and white anymore.

0221

1 MR. MERRITT: Yeah, it's either getting greyer and
2 greyer or perhaps it's getting clearer that we don't. So.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, I know from being on the local
5 Fish & Game Advisory that over the years the State has
6 approached that issue. It's been an issue for, you know, when
7 I first got on. And they have tightened it up to the current
8 regulation. It's much tighter than it used to be. And the
9 latest effort was that horns had to come out before the meat.
10 And I know cases have been made on that. I think, wasn't there
11 one on the refuge in that over there where they had the horns
12 in camp and didn't have the meat there yet, so you know,
13 enforcement has been looking at that as a way of getting them
14 to get that meat out more sooner.

15
16 I don't know of anybody that's producing good
17 literature for the out of state hunters that tell them what you
18 have to do to really keep meat 'cause I think some of them are
19 just unprepared up here for the size of the moose and so on,
20 and the fact that, you know, if you put it in a rubber boat and
21 cover it over with plastic and closed for a couple of days it's
22 not going to hold up. It needs to be up and have air around it
23 and other kinds of things. 'Cause sometimes it's piled on the
24 ground, too, instead of hanging up and.....

25
26 MR. MERRITT: Yeah. Out on the Innoko it seems that
27 people have a pretty good idea how to take care of things. The
28 problem that we run into is they get dropped off, the weather
29 goes down, they don't get picked up. It's 65, 70 degrees.
30 Even though they've got it hung up on a tree or whatever, you
31 know, it's only going to last so long, so.....

32
33 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Right. Right. Yes, Ron?

34
35 MR. SAM: Under transport here I would like to verify
36 whether this is law or not, it says you must bring out the meat
37 from the kill site to your departure point before transporting
38 the antlers or horns from the kill site.

39
40 MR. MERRITT: Right.

41
42 MR. SAM: Is this a law?

43
44 MR. MERRITT: We enforce that on the Innoko. And I
45 assume the other refuges do, too.

46
47 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah, that was the most recent
48 effort to get at the wanton waste. Well, the most recent was
49 the bone on the meat, I think. I think Benedict is a stand up

50 person and then, Stan.

0222

1 MR. JONES: Yeah. I think what we did on the tribal
2 council was educate the sports hunters about wanton waste, how
3 to prepare the meat out in the field before transporting so it
4 wouldn't get sour on them. I'd like to see that input into the
5 regulation or something to educate the sports hunters so they
6 wouldn't waste any meat out in the fields or on the
7 transportation.

8
9 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: How did you do that? You mean the
10 ones that came to the village you'd talk to them or what would
11 you do?

12
13 MR. JONES: Well, that was a concern about wanton
14 waste, the tribal council suggested that.

15
16 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Oh, they suggested that. I'm sorry.

17
18 MR. JONES: Yeah, suggested that. It was just a
19 suggestion.

20
21 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah. Stan, did you have comment on
22 that?

23
24 MR. NED: It sounds like you guys have no problem with
25 wanton waste in this area, but there's a lot of other areas
26 that we should be concerned about especially in the Koyukuk
27 River where we've got beaucoup hunters coming in with boats
28 from Fairbanks or from Anchorage and bouncing out of the Yukon
29 crossing, going all the way down the Yukon, up the Koyukuk and
30 they have about a week to do that, you know, to haul their meat
31 back up. By the time they get back to the Yukon crossing that
32 meat is probably not edible. So it's between those places we
33 need to try to find out how we can solve that wanton waste
34 problem. 'Cause we do know that in Galena, for instance, they
35 had a jamboree there just recently and I had a call from one of
36 the residents down there saying that there's a hell of a lot of
37 meat down on the beach and there's a hell of a lot of meat down
38 in the dump that is rotting at this time.

39
40 MR. MERRITT: Yeah. I have no knowledge of the extent
41 of the problem on any of these other areas. I'm only referring
42 to the Innoko Refuge. And I'm not saying that we have no
43 wanton waste on the Innoko Refuge, I'm sure there is some. I'm
44 just saying that it's not a common violation.

45
46 MR. MORGAN: Mr. Chair?

47
48 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, Carl.

49

MR. MORGAN: Up in our area we do, you know, allow --

0223

1 we've got the local paper and we've got a magistrate, and this
2 here increasing wanton waste you can see it in the State versus
3 such and such, wanton waste. Wanton waste. And it's all people
4 that's coming in through guiding, boating. And we do see a lot
5 of the transporting the antlers before meat in State versus
6 these individuals that are transporting the antlers before the
7 meat. And with the local paper we've got called the Echo, it
8 takes up a pretty good size area in that. And I know there's
9 some of those guides go over toward the Yukon, you know, from
10 Aniak. I don't know have either one of those been caught or --
11 we did a lot of -- notice that in the local paper it's been an
12 increase. It's been a big increase, I mean, compared to last
13 year This year I think the bone in is one of the reasons. And
14 I think it helps. And before we didn't know how much meat was
15 being wasted. They were deboning. Now we can see it. And
16 now, even in the airport, you know, it's like we've got a
17 Northern Air Cargo and another cargo. See, the horns are taken
18 care of way better than the meat. The horns are taken care of
19 real good, covered up, you know, make sure the points don't get
20 damaged. And then the meat is sitting there.

21
22 And I went there one time with my brother was working
23 and he said, don't touch that. Your hands will stink. And
24 we'll kick it outside because the station manager don't want to
25 bring it in 'cause it'll stink up the whole place. And he's
26 comparing two different guides. One guide nice, real good.
27 The other one was -- it was typical of this guide.

28
29 And I think education should start. The burden should
30 start on the guides themselves. They're getting paid for it.
31 The education of how to handle the meat and how not to waste
32 should be put on the responsibility of the guide, not -- we
33 shouldn't take any more public money or State money to spend to
34 educate these people when they're getting -- they're making a
35 pretty buck out of it.

36
37 MR. MERRITT: Just a word about the guide allocation
38 system on wildlife refuges, and I think the Innoko is a typical
39 example. But the refuge is divided into four sole use areas
40 which means one guide for each area. And those areas are
41 allocated based on a competitive process. And essentially the
42 way it works is that if it's an area that's open for
43 competition then licensed guides fill out what's called a
44 prospectus, which is like a business plan. It's a game plan of
45 how they're going to operate. And then, there's a competitive
46 process and the guide is selected essentially with the best
47 plan that meets all of the objectives and everything. And
48 they're awarded that area.

49

Part of the process includes whether the licensed guide

0224

1 has ever had any fish and wildlife violations associated with
2 his operation in the past. And you know, we find that our
3 guides are very careful about ensuring that their assistant
4 guides and their packers and everybody hold the clients to the
5 line. And we don't see very much of a problem there. In fact,
6 last fall we had one of our guides voluntarily turn in one of
7 his own clients for shooting a moose that was less than 50
8 inches because he didn't want to become involved in a law
9 enforcement situation that would hurt his chances of getting
10 refuge areas in the future. So I think we've got a pretty good
11 system in place, and I think we -- it's not unregulated. We're
12 not overrun with guides, so there's not so many that we can't
13 keep track of what's going on.

14
15 Now, air taxi operations are another story, but I think
16 as far as the guiding industry goes, I think, at least my
17 experience has been on refuges that it's been pretty clean.
18 And, yes, there are folks from the Aniak area that they're
19 concentrating their efforts up in the Iditarod country, but
20 they are operating on the refuge.

21
22 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Any comments?

23
24 MR. MERRITT: But anyway, just for the record, I'm not
25 opposed to bone in recommending that. I'm not opposed to
26 trying to change that season if the local folks think that will
27 help. We can try it and see.

28
29 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: But that'll have to go through the
30 State process because they're hunting under the State sport
31 seasons. They're not hunting under subsistence, so.....

32
33 MR. MERRITT: Right.

34
35 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah, it'd have to be -- go through
36 the advisory system to actually draw comment. David, did you
37 have.....

38
39 MR. ANDERSEN: I was going to offer a couple of
40 observations what the Alaska Department of Fish & Game is doing
41 on the wanton waste thing. And one of them involves Unit 19 --
42 should I sit at the table or am I okay?

43
44 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah. I think they wanted to be
45 able to record it better and there's a mic there for recording.
46 And I'll have you move this back there, too, then the people
47 behind you can hear. I'm sorry I didn't do that earlier.

48
49 MR. ANDERSEN: I just wanted to point out two things

50 that are happening right now. One of them had to do with Unit

0225

1 19 and the Hoholitna area. And the Alaska Board of Game passed
2 a regulation that required nonresident unguided hunters to
3 receive some education, as someone called it here a little
4 while ago, about meat care in the field and this was in the
5 form of a brochure and video. And when those folks hunted in
6 19A and B, I think it was, I'd have to refresh my memory. When
7 they hunted in that area they, first of all, had to sign -- it
8 was just like getting a permit, a hunting permit, they had to
9 sign a permit that said, yes, they had received this
10 information packet. They had reviewed it and they understand
11 it and put their signature on it. And then we have that record
12 of that card. And then when they were dropped off by these
13 transport hunters then, hopefully, they were more educated than
14 when they started.

15
16 Now, that -- the information -- and we sent out several
17 hundred of those packets to air taxi operators, a few guides at
18 -- oh, geez, probably 20 or more points around the state.
19 Anchorage, King Salmon, Dillingham, McGrath, and those places.
20 The Board is expecting a report on that. And we haven't gotten
21 all of that stuff together yet to see how many people we
22 actually delivered it to. We'll want to get some input from
23 Fish & Wildlife Protection. They had a very ambitious program
24 in that area this year, monitoring it. And we'll want to get
25 some feedback from them to see if it made any difference or
26 not.

27
28 But we were kind of surprised. We were at first
29 expecting to give only a very few hundred, maybe 200, maybe
30 three at the most of these things out. And we ended up being
31 asked for several hundred because we had lots of distribution
32 points for this information. And we're kind of interested now
33 to see if this might be a model that would be useful to use
34 elsewhere in the state 'cause, boy, we reached a lot of people
35 with that. It's kind of surprising how many, as a matter of
36 fact, especially through that Anchorage funnel, you know, the
37 fly-in hunters going through there and then going out to the
38 country.

39
40 The second thing I wanted to tell you about is right
41 now we're in the process of producing a meat care video. This
42 will be something that can be distributed free of charge to a
43 lot -- well, everybody that's interested in it. And it will,
44 in turn, become part of this package that we're using in Unit
45 19 also. And we're getting some local input for that. In
46 fact, one of the people working on the filming of that was just
47 recently up on the Kobuk River with Ross Schaefer and Lori
48 Shirt (ph) working on a meat care type thing. So it was
49 interesting. Whoever it was there at the table that mentioned

50 getting some local input for education is right on the money.

0226

1 I think that's an excellent idea. And we haven't exhausted
2 that yet, you know. We're making some movement in that
3 direction. And that may turn out to be a very effective way to
4 help address the issue. Thank you.

5
6 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Very good. You kind of anticipated
7 some of the things that we were talking about here and I was
8 thinking that a brochure would probably be very useful. I'm
9 glad to know that you've actually trying some of them. And the
10 video, I guess if you wanted local input that might be one way
11 to do it is actually go through, have experienced local hunters
12 to show how they handle moose in the field, to video that
13 process. It could be an educational tool in the village, too,
14 so that they could show it to classes and other kinds of
15 things, maybe to some of the others.

16
17 MR. REAKOFF: I wonder in that brochure was that a lot
18 of the problems that hanging this meat around in hot weather,
19 if it's put in the shade that -- if it's hung in the sun that
20 increases the attractiveness for flies and so forth. In this
21 brochure is there -- that's a critical point in hanging meat,
22 if it's hung back in the shade in a cool part back in the
23 timber where you can keep it cool. Is that in this, is that
24 kind of stuff in there?

25
26 MR. ANDERSEN: Yeah. Actually the brochure was not new
27 and it had been developed a few years ago by -- well, Larry
28 vanDale (ph) was the area biologist out at Dillingham. He was
29 one of the people who worked on it. And they were specifically
30 addressing the problem of people floating down, making long
31 float trips and they get an animal early, then they spend two
32 more weeks floating down. Well, you know what's going to
33 happen. So they addressed, they tried to address a lot of
34 things, you know. What do you cover it with, how do you hang
35 it and keep it out of the sun and other things, so it's -- the
36 thing is that probably takes times to measure the effectiveness
37 of it, see if the message is really getting through. So we
38 just have to keep working on it.

39
40 MR. MERRITT: Yeah, I think boning the meat out
41 exacerbates the problem. That's another good reason to include
42 these in that. It's easier to care for. And if you've got a
43 bag of meat in a raft it's tough. You've got keep it clean and
44 dry. Keep it cool.

45
46 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chairman?

47
48 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

49

MR. REAKOFF: That was one of the complaints on the

0227

1 Lower Koyukuk that Harold Huntington was talking about was
2 these moose meat hanging out along the riverbank out in the
3 sun, you know. Here they just kill these moose and leave them
4 hanging out in the sun, well that's kind of a usual deal. And
5 if it's warm at all the flies are going to be on there, pretty
6 soon there's eggs, you've got maggots. It's a big mess. So
7 I'm real happy to hear that there's ed- -- a lot of times, just
8 educational program, you know, for whether it's sport fishing
9 things or hunter education would make a big difference, about
10 the sensitivity of this issue to the local residents and that
11 kind of thing. I'm real happy to hear that the Innoko Refuge
12 has spent a lot of time, you know, that's probably the reason
13 that they're not seeing so much wanton waste is 'cause the
14 word's out over there, you know.

15
16 MR. MERRITT: That is a good point. And that's probably
17 worth repeating. (Indiscernible - away from microphone). You
18 know, (indiscernible) same folks over there.....

19
20 COURT REPORTER: I'm having trouble picking you up on
21 the microphone.....

22
23 MR. MERRITT: The people who hunt on the Innoko for the
24 most part expect to get checked, you know. I mean they know us.
25 We know their kids' names and where they're going to school and
26 everything else. We've just gotten to know most of them over
27 the years. And we know most of the local folks that hunt up
28 there and the YK Delta people that come up. And I think our
29 presence as a preventative law enforcement measure does make a
30 difference. I'm sure if we backed out of there for a couple of
31 years a problem might develop.

32
33 And when we did start really focusing on our law
34 enforcement efforts out there we made more cases. I remember,
35 oh, I don't know, six or seven years ago we'd make, perhaps, a
36 dozen cases. Not just wanton waste, everything, you know, but
37 this year we didn't make a single case. So it does make a
38 difference.

39
40 But I think all the refuges are putting considerable
41 effort into law enforcement during fall hunting seasons. I
42 know the refuges in the Western Interior are. Koyukuk has also
43 detailed extra people in to help. I don't think there's much
44 more in terms of the law enforcement component that we can do
45 to ferret out what's left. Gene, you said you made.....

46
47 MR. WILLIAMS: There's two cases. Yeah, one was clear
48 cut and the other was an ongoing investigation.

49

MR. MERRITT: And Gene can speak for himself, but I

0228

1 think we're talking about two cases resulting from an extremely
2 concentrated law enforcement effort involving.....

3

4 MR. WILLIAMS: It's 575 hunter, I think, in a three
5 day period.....

6

7 MR. MERRITT: But I mean your level of activity.....

8

9 MR. WILLIAMS: We have law enforcement people out there
10 every day. We make a point of checking 100 camps more than
11 once.

12

13 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Was there ever.....

14

15 MR. WILLIAMS: There's no wanton waste per se going on
16 or happening in the area. Granted, warm weather and the fact
17 that hunters come a long way (indiscernible - background
18 coughing) for a long distance. Care of meat is an issue.
19 People are making a conscientious effort in the field to be
20 able to take care their meat from our standpoint and what we
21 saw. We have no problems with wanton waste.

22

23 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Was there ever a check at the other
24 end like the bridge where they haul out to see whether it left
25 the check station and ended up up there?

26

27 MR. WILLIAMS: I doubt it.

28

29 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Uh-huh.

30

31 MR. ELEY: Last year, not this past year but the year
32 before, in response to this Council's comments did an intensive
33 law enforcement effort on the Koyukuk River. The State check
34 people at Ellis Cabin and then both Fish & Wildlife Service and
35 State people checked hunters in Galena. And we didn't find any
36 significant or less meat that disappeared between Ellis Cabin
37 and Galena. There was some meat in the dump, although I just
38 have a hard time believing that a hunter would go all the way
39 from Galena and then hire a truck to carry meat to the dump
40 when they can get rid of meat they can just throw it in the
41 river here. We visited almost every hunting group on the
42 Koyukuk, but certainly every hunting group on the lower Nowitna
43 that had gone through the check station. We did a brochure
44 that we passed out was done in conjunction with Loudon Village
45 as well as Gana-A'Yoo Corporation, which talked about the care
46 of meat, who to contact in Koyukuk or Huslia or Galena if they
47 had extra meat and they didn't want to take it all the way to
48 the Haul Road there are people that use the meat, there are
49 people to contact that will come and pick up the meat.

0229

1 We have several miscommunications where people call.
2 We work hard in the community, said if you see somebody in the
3 airport that has antlers and no meat you call, we'll come right
4 over. We did. We checked about three people like that. They
5 did, in fact, have antlers. They did, in fact, not have meat
6 but we could account for the meat. They had the appropriate
7 certification on the back of the regulation. And we just
8 didn't find lots of wanton waste. We made two cases that we
9 gave to the State last year. One was a non-local person and
10 one was a local. So there's a lot of effort that goes into it
11 and we're looking for. It is considered by both refuge people
12 and park people as well as the State and BLM to be a very
13 serious issue. But any time you can point it out. A lot of
14 times we find out, about three days ago we saw such and such.
15 That's too late. We need to know rapidly because it becomes
16 real problematical.

17
18 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. I think we need to conclude
19 with this. I'll take another comment. Stan there?

20
21 MR. NED: I was just going to add to the comment,
22 except that earlier years before, you know, when our people
23 complained to the Department of Fish & Game that we're having
24 wanton waste problem out there, nobody responded. And two or
25 three days later they come by and it's too late by that time.
26 So I think the response to the concerns that people are having
27 and complaining about should be right now, not later.

28
29 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: We don't have a proposal coming out,
30 I guess, of this, so if that's what we're on, I think if we're
31 ready I'll conclude this discussion 'cause we still have some
32 other business. Thank you for your participation.

33
34 I was handed just before I went out, George gave this
35 to me. There are some cases where the Federal and the State
36 seasons are out of sync. And they prepared this kind of
37 analysis of that. And I'm wondering what do -- do we want to
38 do anything about that? Do we want to get changes. In most
39 cases they've highlighted here the State is more liberal than
40 the Federal subsistence. That's another case in point.
41 Example Unit 19. We don't have a caribou season in 19B for any
42 State land there. The State season is five caribou no more
43 than two may be bulls. That's August 1 to 15, but there is no
44 Federal on the Federal land for subsistence. So, I guess
45 everybody's hunting under the State season.

46
47 19D up here the, State has added a season of August 20
48 to August 30, moose season. Additionally, for a portion of 19D
49 the final season ends on December 31st rather than December

50 15th, which is in the Federal. So do we want to do any clean-

0230

1 up on those kinds of things or what?

2

3 MR. SAM: I think at this time I would like to direct
4 staff to put this in a proposal form and bring before the
5 Subsistence Board because this -- at the last meeting I
6 attended you see a combined effort from both the State and the
7 Feds to have these seasons concur with each other along with
8 the bag limits. So I think that should we direct staff to go
9 ahead and clean up some of our conflicting seasons and bag
10 limits so that this will concur with the general consensus at
11 the Subsistence Board meeting in Anchorage?

12

13 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Vince, is that.....

14

15 MR. MATHEWS: What you said is that the staff should
16 draft up proposals based on the list. Definitely we can do
17 that, the drafting. The authorship becomes a problem. And I
18 have the boss right next to me, so I'll -- I'm not looking the
19 other way right now to see what he looks like right now, but we
20 have not been in the business of writing proposals, authoring
21 them. Writing them is different meaning we help people write
22 them. I'm not misleading you on that. It's the authorship so I
23 haven't read his face yet to see.

24

25 MR. SAM: Use our name.

26

27 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: That's what I was thinking. You
28 were thinking that we would propose this -- it come from us,
29 right, Sam, is that what you're wanting.....

30

31 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Then I misunderstood. So they
32 would be Western Interior proposals then?

33

34 MR. SAM: Yes.

35

36 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. I misunderstood.

37

38 MR. SAM: You concur.....

39

40 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: To bring them in line or line them
41 up.

42

43 MR. SAM: And we have any argument on the bag limits
44 then and the seasons I think that could be -- we could settle
45 it then.

46

47 MR. MATHEWS: You would settle it with an amendment at
48 the meeting, next meeting, correct? Okay.

49

CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Do you want to make a motion to

0231

1 direct them to and then you can.....

2

3 MR. SAM: So moved.

4

5 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Is there a second to that?

6

7 MR. DEACON: Second.

8

9 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Seconded by Henry. Any discussion
10 of that? All those in favor signify by raising your right
11 hand? Okay. Yes votes for members present. Okay.

12

13 MR. MATHEWS: I'm kind of low on the loop here.
14 George, do you know that it's all these on here then?

15

16 MR. SHERROD: I think it's the ones that I highlighted.
17 Here's the copy that I was working from.

18

19 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. All right. Thank you.

20

21 MR. SHERROD: That are in our area. I think there's a
22 couple of them, though, that even though they're not
23 highlighted that weren't in our area, so it would be the ones
24 that are in units in this area.

25

26 MR. SAM: In the area.

27

28 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. George will handle that (ph).

29

30 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: I think George is helping you
31 and.....

32

33 MR. MATHEWS: George, we just have this some kind of
34 phony wall between us, so we'll be working on them together.

35

36 I just wanted to make sure that the synopsis of
37 information was clear to both the writers and the Council.
38 That's all I was doing.

39

40 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. The last thing under
41 proposals we had added three and four. One was check station
42 concerns. Has that been addressed now adequately?

43

44 MR. REAKOFF: That's in the report.

45

46 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: The other one was stickers?

47

48 MR. REAKOFF: That's going to be -- they're going to
49 deal with that issue administratively.

0232

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: And then the other one was
2 transporting them musk ox move and so on. That's already been
3 discussed.

4
5 MR. REAKOFF: We discussed that and that takes quite a
6 long process. There'll be 3,000 musk ox there before that'll
7 happen.

8
9 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

10
11 MR. SAM: Yeah. I think that our SRC meeting at
12 Allakaket, I think we can address that sticker problem -- I
13 mean sticker proposal a little bit more there by having the
14 actual National Park manager at that meeting.

15
16 MR. REAKOFF: Well, that's outside the park. It would
17 be -- that whole issue has to do with the Dalton Highway
18 Corridor management area. Basically it's an administrative
19 adjustment and they can do that administratively. They're
20 talking about having a registration documentation for a rural
21 resident language and they're going to do that sort of inhouse.

22
23 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

24
25 MR. REAKOFF: So I'm not going to worry about that
26 right now.

27
28 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. That concludes the proposal
29 section. And then we're ready to move on to the Regional
30 Council charter renewal.

31
32 MR. MATHEWS: That's my little job. If you want to
33 turn to Tab P. This is a small -- well, it's an important item
34 but it should go along pretty fast. This is your charter.
35 They're renewed every two years. Briefly the material in front
36 of you tells you what can and cannot be changed in the charter.
37 And there's a copy of your charter. So let me point out the
38 things that changed by the Council or requested to be changed,
39 is what I should say.

40
41 You could change the name, if you want to go with some
42 other name for your area. You can do a boundary change. You
43 can do a request a size change, meaning numbers of membership.
44 You can request different appointments on the SRCs, Subsistence
45 Resource Commission. And then criteria for removing a member.
46 So those are the things that are available for your input to
47 change from the existing one.

48
49 The size of membership you pretty much in the past have

50 said you are comfortable with the numbers that are on here,

0233

1 that you would want to take weight on any action until there
2 was an expansion in fisheries to look at the make-up of the
3 Council. So that's the past issue. Now, you may want to
4 revisit that.

5
6 The other two things that are part of the charter that
7 have been brought up around the charters is alternate members.
8 You're one of the first Councils that brought that up. And the
9 second thing is compensation for Regional Council Members. And
10 we talked about that this morning.

11
12 On the alternate membership this would be a time to say
13 where you could request under the charter that you want
14 alternates. And the position of the Council in the past is you
15 wanted two alternates based on a north, south type division of
16 the region. So I need to know is that something you want in
17 the charter now or do you want to wait on that till the next
18 round of charter reviews or wait to see if fisheries comes on
19 or whatever? After you address that question yes or no, if you
20 go with yes, then I have another question to ask on training
21 level for that alternate, so I'll wait to hear the answer on
22 your first one.

23
24 MR. SAM: Where are we at now?

25
26 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: We're under the charter.

27
28 MR. MATHEWS: Under P. And it's kind of like a summary
29 paper on charters. And they're required under law, the Federal
30 Advisory Committee Act. They describe who and what you do.

31
32 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, under C, it's the one on
33 compensation. There isn't a letter there under the charter, I
34 don't think.

35
36 MR. MATHEWS: The compensation is pending as I think
37 Tom laid that out. The compensation was talk at the chairs.
38 I'm trying to think where that's at on this here, but.....

39
40 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: It's under C, correct,.....

41
42 MR. MATHEWS: It's under C. Okay.

43
44 CHAIRMAN COLLINS:on ours, but I don't find
45 anything here on the charter under C.

46
47 MR. MATHEWS: Well, I don't know. Do they have the
48 option of bringing it -- compensation into the charter?

49

CHAIRMAN COLLINS: No, no, no. What I'm saying is

0234

1 you're referring to a document on this charter. There is no
2 document on the charter here under Tab C.

3

4 MR. MATHEWS: Under Tab P there is. P. P as in Paul.

5

6 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: P. Oh, I'm sorry.

7

8 MR. MATHEWS: Or P as in Petersburg.

9

10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. P.

11

12 MR. MATHEWS: I grew up in the midwest. They all kind
13 of blend together.

14

15 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Okay. Comments on the
16 charter, some of the things were brought up before like
17 alternate members and so on. Ron?

18

19 MR. SAM: I don't see any reason for alternates. And I
20 think that we do get appointed to this council is because we
21 asked to be. And if we can't serve fully I think that we could
22 remove ourselves voluntarily. And I think that we should go
23 ahead and go through the criteria for the removal of members,
24 too. Because we have been meeting in quite a few remote sites.
25 We have little or no turnout. It seems at times we have a hard
26 time making a quorum, or we worry about making a quorum. So I
27 think that if we get five members that should constitute a
28 quorum and just don't deal with the alternates, period.

29

30 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Angela?

31

32 MS. A. DEMIENTIEFF: Jack, (indiscernible -
33 interrupted).....

34

35 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Okay.

36

37 MR. REAKOFF: The reason we brought up this alternate
38 idea to start with was because the Western Interior is such a
39 large area and that a lot of people in the south don't know
40 what goes on in the north and the north doesn't really
41 understand the south so well. And with a low turnout there was
42 less cross-feed of information coming around. If that's
43 unacceptable the alternate could be waiting in the wings for a
44 member who is removed. Like right now if we have members that
45 don't come to meetings, two consecutive meetings, that member
46 is up for removal. If there was a north and south alternate
47 that member could immediately be up for -- you know,
48 theoretically could be moved into that spot a lot faster. I
49 don't know. I'll have to talk to the administrators more about

50 that.

0235

1 MR. MATHEWS: That's mixing two things. If one person
2 resigns for whatever reason we have alternates ready to go
3 forward to the secretary. So if someone, you know, lands a job
4 in Washington, D.C. or something and they move, we have
5 alternates ready to go. So that's one -- that's a side issue.
6 This is alternates, if Carl couldn't make it because of a
7 conflict with all his other activities, then the southern
8 alternate would fill in for that meeting. That's why the
9 alternates come.

10
11 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Go ahead.

12
13 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chairman, I still feel that this is
14 such a large area that an alternate north and south is pretty
15 needed, you know, because this is a wide area. And with the
16 five member quorum we'd have a real minimum knowledge base for
17 the Council Members.

18
19 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, let's see what, Angela, you
20 had.....

21
22 MS. A. DEMIENTIEFF: I agree with what Jack is saying.
23 And I would support alternates because I'm the one who came up
24 with the idea to begin because there's a lot of times some of
25 us are on several boards and we might not be able to meet the
26 next meeting, but we'll have someone who we'll have been
27 talking with and they could take our places for that one
28 meeting. More or less everybody attends the meetings, but
29 sometimes there've been times in the past there's an illness or
30 there's been death or there's been other commitments that kept
31 someone away from the meeting. And if we had an alternate we
32 could have a full board. And then sometimes it's weather, you
33 know, they didn't make the meeting because of weather. And
34 maybe the north one or the south one can make the meeting if
35 their weather is good.

36
37 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: A question for Vince. Has any of
38 the other Regional Councils come forward with a similar.....

39
40 MR. MATHEWS: Yes. If you'd turn a few pages back
41 you'll see a chart there. Southeast, SouthCentral has said
42 they didn't need alternates. Kodak Aleutians said they
43 recommended two and described them. Bristol Bay said they
44 didn't need them. YK said -- well, I'm not sure how I'll
45 interpret that, but anyway, you had two and Seward Penn, et
46 cetera, et cetera. And Eastern Interior has asked for an
47 alternate for each member. But again, these are before each of
48 the Councils as we speak this round, and Tom has informed me
49 that this has been before the Board and it's still working

50 through that process to work on it budgetarily. Also I failed

0236

1 to tell you that at this time we're doing the same as we do at
2 the Annual Board. What issues do you want addressed in the
3 charter. Then we go back and analyze and bring them back to
4 you at your next meeting for final approval of your charter.
5 Then that charter goes to Washington and, hopefully, signed
6 by the Secretary. So.....

7
8 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: So from what I'm hearing here from
9 at least two members, they're saying that they like the idea of
10 at least two alternates, the same as we had before, is that
11 right? Would you like to see them look at including language
12 like that in the new charter that we'd approve?

13
14 MR. REAKOFF: I would like to know why Ron doesn't like
15 the alternate idea.

16
17 MR. SAM: Number one, it's just that we're appointed.
18 I can understand Angela's concern as far as an emergency
19 occurs. And I think that you would spend more time educating
20 or trying to educate not only new members alternates than the
21 alternates, and I think that would be not only time consuming
22 it'd be financially -- to some extent financially
23 (indiscernible).

24
25 MR. MATHEWS: That was my second question once you got
26 beyond the first question was level of training and involvement
27 of those alternates. The budget part is not in here, but
28 that's been worked up how much this would cost to have
29 alternates. So I think what we're asking for here is there
30 reaffirmation or reaffirming your position for alternates. And
31 this will be back before you at your February meeting and then
32 we go to finalizing.

33
34 The second answer I was going to have you answer is
35 what level of training do you want for this? One would be
36 they'd just be appointed alternates, and boom, we give them a
37 call and boom they're here. And then they try to figure it
38 out. The other would be that they would have training similar
39 to what I had with Benedict and also possibly attend one
40 meeting as an alternate, not a voting member. But then the
41 budget goes up and then the boss gets nervous and all that kind
42 of stuff.

43
44 MR. BOYD: Let me just maybe add a little here. This
45 was an issue that was raised, I can't remember exactly when,
46 but just within the last couple of years by one or two of the
47 Councils. And when it was put before the Board they wanted to
48 know what all Councils thought because they thought they were
49 hearing different things. So this went around to all Councils.

50 You see sort of a tally that's before you on this page, and

0237

1 this is -- while this is part of the charter process of
2 updating your charters, I think the Board is going to take a
3 look at what everyone said. And I think they want to take a
4 common approach to all Councils or as common as possible.

5
6 And I think what Vince said is true. We just want to
7 put this back in front of you just to see if you still feel the
8 same way you did when you said you wanted two alternates,
9 southern and northern. We're obviously hearing some of that
10 now. And maybe this need not take too long to discuss 'cause
11 you've already discussed it once, but it's back before you in
12 the sense that you're reviewing your charters right now.

13
14 MR. SAM: Mr. Chairman?

15
16 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

17
18 MR. REAKOFF: I would personally feel that the
19 alternates would be -- their knowledge base is what we're
20 after, not really their vote. It's their knowledge base of the
21 north and south. I would forego a voting membership and a
22 minimal training, just send them the grey manual and they can
23 read about what how this Council works. Basically when they
24 would show up we would want to know, you know, what their
25 personal knowledge is of the game populations and customary
26 uses and so forth, not so much for the vote, mostly for the
27 knowledge base. That's where I'm kind of coming from. I don't
28 know.

29
30 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

31
32 MS. ARMSTRONG: I didn't attend our meeting this fall
33 but they had a discussion on this alternate thing. And they're
34 always meeting at Barrow. And they had a Fish & Wildlife
35 committee who they're already training and know the issues of
36 those regions already. And that's who they're discussing right
37 now to see if they can get a couple of alternates right there
38 from Barrow and understand their issues and then they can go
39 right in and fit right in with the committee. So that's what
40 they're thinking of doing there.

41
42 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: So they're proposing having
43 alternates but they would draw on them right from Barrow where
44 they meet?

45
46 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yes. Yeah. And there are other Advisory
47 Committee at your meeting that are already understanding your
48 issues then (indiscernible) willing to be an alternate.

49

CHAIRMAN COLLINS: I'm kind of leaning towards what Ron

0238

1 was saying in that I feel less need for it now than we have
2 before. I think in the first few meetings people were
3 wondering well, what are we here for, what is this all about,
4 this process. But I see the members that have come in and been
5 at some of the meetings now, they kind of have a feel for what
6 it is. They take it pretty seriously. And so we've kind of
7 sorted out and we're getting members that are more consistent
8 if we carefully plan the date. I mean we're only missing one
9 this time. And If you go to add two, it doesn't seem like
10 much, but when you add to these all statewide that's quite a
11 few more people you're involving. And we've already asked them
12 to go for compensation because it was one reason we were
13 saying, well, to get consistent attendance it would be better
14 if there was some compensation so they wouldn't have to make a
15 decision, am I going to go subsistence hunting or cut wood or
16 take this job or am I going to go to another meeting, you know.
17 I would rather see that resolved maybe at this point before we
18 think about making larger committees. I mean that's where my
19 priorities would be to try to move forward on that issue.

20
21 And then there is the issue of what's going to happen
22 on the State level, are they going to act or not? Are we going
23 to be into permanent -- if we go to permanent with fisheries
24 then maybe it'll be needed and maybe we would want to see them
25 along the line of more information on fisheries or something
26 like that. I don't know, but I'm kind of in that area, but
27 again, the suggestion was that we would have -- draft a
28 proposal that would include that. But that's my thoughts.
29 Other members?

30
31 MR. SAM: Mr. Chairman?

32
33 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

34
35 MR. SAM: I think that's the reason I don't see any
36 need for alternates because the more you add the more conflict
37 you also add sometimes. And the bigger your working party the
38 longer it takes to take to take (ph) on some issues. And if
39 we're still working on the compensation stuff I think that -- I
40 don't see any action needed at this time. And that's something
41 that was -- it is an issue that we could correspond with every
42 tribal council within our region area and ask for input. I
43 don't want to see it any larger than it is, you know.

44
45 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Vince?

46
47 MR. MATHEWS: Ron, alternates would not make it any
48 larger. There would just be nine members. That's it. It
49 would not be any larger.

0239

1 I understand that it's more people involved that we
2 would have to work with to have the alternates ready, but
3 there'd be no additional members on the Council.

4
5 I think your concern is that they're not going to have
6 continuity. They're not going to be able to jump in there and
7 really perform maybe as well as someone who's gone to a couple
8 of meetings. I think that's what concern you're bringing up.

9
10 MR. SAM: Yes, it is.

11
12 MR. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman?

13
14 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, Carl.

15
16 MR. MORGAN: I believe if we do have an alternate we've
17 got to keep them up to speed in everything you do. I am an
18 alternate in a working group, my wife is the subsistence rep,
19 but I go to those meetings voluntarily and I sit there and I
20 want to -- if I have to sit in her place I want to be up to
21 snuff, so to speak. And I don't want to have to ask questions
22 or second guess. If we do have an alternate I mean that
23 person's got to be -- I don't know, attend all the meetings?
24 You know, attend but no voting right. And but -- you've got to
25 find -- if you're going to find someone to be an alternate like
26 the Southern District or the Northern District find somebody
27 that's going to be committed and they will be. And this
28 compensation, you may not get compensated. It's -- well right
29 now you've got a compensation problem somewhat, but an
30 alternate is good if that person can come to all the meetings,
31 if they will. But if they can't come I -- you know, the reason
32 I can do pretty good here I think is because I've been a chair
33 for the Middle Kuskokwim Subsistence Committee since we started
34 in '90, and I'm up to snuff kind of with in that area, you
35 know. And if this alternate we can't get -- bring them in here
36 I think it may be a crutch. huh?

37
38 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah, go ahead, Jack.

39
40 MR. REAKOFF: Well, of course, the alternates would
41 have the minutes of the preceding two meetings so they would
42 know what was going on and all that. Maybe at this time it's
43 really not that necessary to have an alternate. I mean we have
44 had pretty good attendance. And -- but if there was like the
45 fisheries thing came around, you know, that can be a pretty
46 pressing time, you know.

47
48 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, I'm feeling that our
49 attendance has been better. And I think as a Board we're more

50 educated than we were before because, for instance, I didn't

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1 know much about the Koyukuk area when I came on the Board, but
2 I certainly have gotten an education. We've had all the
3 testimony. And a lot of the information we get isn't even in
4 the papers, it's when staff give their reports and there's this
5 question and answer where we learn a lot. And the alternates
6 wouldn't have that.

7
8 If there's an area that's missing because some -- we
9 have used -- well, we used audio conference one time, didn't
10 we, to tie into the village and have them testify. We've also
11 sent people to regional meetings, so I think there's some other
12 mechanisms we can do to get information if we're really lacking
13 information, something is holding us up from making a decision,
14 maybe there's of having somebody go attend a local meeting or
15 inviting them to come and -- or arranging the meeting in that
16 area so that local people can sit in. So we can address some
17 of those issues without actually having somebody sitting and
18 waiting there. And maybe we need to think a little bit more
19 about replacements, you know, at what point. I guess it's
20 triggered with two absences now. So we've actually had two
21 absences now, what do we do? Do we do something before the net
22 meeting or do we -- we can use that provision in other words,
23 for replacement, and I don't know what we should do.

24
25 MR. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman?

26
27 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah, Carl.

28
29 MR. MORGAN: Is that two unexcused absences?

30
31 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, yeah. That's the question
32 that comes up. Is it excused or unexcused.

33
34 MR. MATHEWS: Well, right now it's if you -- a Council
35 Member misses more than two meetings then the Council can bring
36 it up to the Board and the Board can review it and pass its
37 recommendation to the Secretary. And the Secretary is the one
38 that can say the person is removed from their position.

39
40 MR. SAM: On what grounds can we remove Council Members
41 at this time?

42
43 MR. MATHEWS: Those haven't been really defined. It's
44 just unexcused absences.

45
46 MR. MORGAN: Do we have unexcused absences?

47
48 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: We haven't been noting that in the
49 roll.

0241

1 MR. MORGAN: Do we have any unexcused absences, two in
2 a row?

3
4 MR. MATHEWS: We've had some in the past.

5
6 MR. MORGAN: Do we have any now?

7
8 MR. MATHEWS: I haven't checked my voice mail messages
9 to find out, but I have no knowledge. The person was
10 contacted. Travel stuff was provided and et cetera, it was all
11 arranged, and the tickets were not picked up.

12
13 MR. BOYD: We would have to follow up on it.

14
15 MR. SAM: Mr. Chairman?

16
17 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

18
19 MR. SAM: I have a question for Vince. When you say
20 you have alternates ready to go and the Subsistence Board is
21 aware of this?

22
23 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, the Subsistence Board is aware.
24 When we go through the nomination process they're given the
25 list of what is recommended for filling the empty seats or open
26 seats, and then there's a list of alternates. So they pass
27 that recommendation and that recommendation is approved by the
28 Secretary. So there's alternates ready to go other than they
29 don't know they've been selected as an alternate.

30
31 MR. BOYD: But we're using the same term, but for
32 different reasons, and I think that's an important distinction
33 to make. When we're talking about alternates for the purpose
34 of nomination that's really the purpose.

35
36 What you're talking about here is having someone
37 selected and on standby ready to come to meetings. When we're
38 talking about it, it's for purposes of being selected to be on
39 the Council. So maybe we ought to use a different word for
40 alternate in that process.

41
42 MR. SAM: I think though that we could -- my next
43 question then would be are these alternates geographically or
44 regionally defined?

45
46 MR. MATHEWS: Well, yeah.

47
48 MR. BOYD: In the nomination in our selection process
49 we do try to get geographic diversity within a region in our

50 selection process. We look at who's currently serving, who's

0242

1 applied and then we rank the candidates and try to find the
2 best qualified. That's the first criteria, if you will. But
3 we also try to look at the geographic spread within a region to
4 maintain some diversity within the region across the region.

5
6 That's not to say that this community or this part of
7 the region has a designated seat. It's just part of what we do
8 when we try to make a selection.

9
10 The alternates themselves, in answer to your question
11 directly, we're looking primarily in the nomination process
12 looking at the best qualified candidate, you know, the next one
13 in rank, if you will, to send forward. This gives the
14 Secretary of Interior an opportunity select among more than
15 just what we recommended. In other words, if there's an
16 individual in the recommendation that he doesn't like, then he
17 can go down the list and find one he does, to put it kind of
18 crudely. Generally he takes our recommendations.

19
20 MR. MATHEWS: Ray, Barb, has a thing.....

21
22 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, Barb.

23
24 MS. ARMSTRONG: The North Slope Council has used that
25 charter removing one council member before. And as they said,
26 that they know which one of their members is missing for two
27 meetings, and then they discussed it and they asked me to write
28 the letter to the council member that had missed the two
29 meetings, and then I in turn write to that council member and
30 ask him to resign which is better for all involved, so you
31 don't (indiscernible). And the council member resigned. And
32 we're in that process again currently. And we fill that
33 position in our region with whoever's turn is up (ph).

34
35 MR. MATHEWS: We've done that for -- I think we've done
36 it for Western and Eastern early on. The gentleman's way of --
37 the gentle person's way of asking the council member to resign,
38 if they would refuse to do that then we have to go all the way
39 to Washington. We have not had that problem lately.

40
41 MR. SAM: If we asked for and got a resignation can we
42 as a Council select a person temporarily or do we have to.....

43
44 MR. MATHEWS: No.

45
46 MR. BOYD: No. That person would then have to
47 be --.....

48
49 MR. SAM: No.

0243

1 MR. BOYD: I'm going to confuse you some more, but the
2 person would have to be recruited at large.

3
4 What we do in our nominations process is we try to
5 select more than you need. The extra become the alternates.
6 If you had someone resign or someone to be replaced on the
7 Council then we would have to resubmit a name to the Secretary
8 for appointment.

9
10 Generally we take the first alternate that went through
11 the nomination process earlier and we forward that name to the
12 Secretary.

13
14 MR. YOKEL: It's called the runner-up.

15
16 MR. BOYD: Hum?

17
18 MR. YOKEL: Runner-up.

19
20 MR. BOYD: The runner-ups, yeah. We take the runner-
21 ups from that nomination process and send them forward if
22 there's a vacancy to fill.

23
24 MR. MATHEWS: And if we went with these alternates and
25 we got to the runner-ups, then we would probably look at north,
26 south.

27
28 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Let's see if we can get some
29 consensus and go forward here. We're still on the charter.
30 The issue was on alternates. There was a suggestion made to
31 have it drafted to have that proposal in there to come back to
32 us next time, and then there's some comments, some saying that
33 we don't think it's necessary at this time. Where are we at?
34 What's the consensus?

35
36 MR. SAM: Let's ask for a show of hands.

37
38 MR. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman?

39
40 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, Carl.

41
42 MR. MORGAN: How speedy is this process?

43
44 MR. BOYD: It's as slow as molasses, I'm sorry, in
45 January. It takes several months. I mean we can work it
46 pretty quick but it goes back there and sits for a long time.
47 It has to go through several review -- I mean it seems like
48 every assistant secretary has got to get their little stamp on
49 it and all that, so it's quite a process back there.

0244

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, let's see if there is
2 consensus. We could do a straw vote here. How many want to go
3 forward with the proposal with alternates, two alternates?

4
5 How many say leave it rest for now?

6
7 MR. SAM: You mean forget alternates off that.....

8
9 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah, right now. All right. I
10 guess we've come to consensus that we will not address that at
11 this time.

12
13 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chair?

14
15 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

16
17 MR. REAKOFF: That's a table of this alternate until
18 possible.....

19
20 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah.

21
22 MR. SAM: Yeah.

23
24 MR. REAKOFF:fisheries or whatever?

25
26 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

27
28 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thanks to Boyd.

29
30 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah. We can bring it back. We can
31 bring it back, yeah.

32
33 MR. BOYD: I guarantee you if we go into fisheries
34 we're going to be coming back to you and asking you what do you
35 want to do with these councils.

36
37 MR. MORGAN: Ray?

38
39 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, Carl.

40
41 MR. MORGAN: In the meantime is this letter going to be
42 drafted to the individual that has missed two.....

43
44 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: The individual that's missed
45 two.....

46
47 MR. MORGAN:consecutive meetings?

48
49 MR. MATHEWS: If you feel to do that I've left that in

50 your court to.....

0245

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: I think probably as Chair when we
2 said absent we should have listed in the minutes as unexcused.

3
4 MR. SAM: Yeah.

5
6 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: I haven't received any communication
7 as why the individual wasn't coming. You're saying that you
8 hadn't received any either, no word.....

9
10 MR. MATHEWS: No, I haven't received any.

11
12 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: And did the same thing happen last
13 time? I had no correspondence last time.

14
15 MR. MATHEWS: Correct.

16
17 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: And so it has been twice and there
18 hasn't been any correspondence as to why they weren't coming.
19 So.....

20
21 MR. MORGAN: Yeah. The reason I brought that up
22 because like they say, it moves slow as molasses, maybe them
23 letters have got to go out (ph), it'll be three months maybe
24 before we can fill the seat.

25
26 MR. BOYD: Yeah.

27
28 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. So do we want to direct a
29 letter be written then asking if the individual's interested in
30 resigning?

31
32 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion to draft
33 that letter.

34
35 MR. DEACON: Second.

36
37 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Moved by Jack, seconded by
38 Henry.

39
40 MR. MORGAN: Question.

41
42 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Question. All those in favor?
43 Okay. It's yes votes for members present. Carried. Okay.

44
45 MR. MATHEWS: Other than that on the charter it'll be
46 back before you by the next meeting for your final approval.
47 And if there's something that comes up from other regions that
48 require all council to look at it'll be back before you in
49 February, March.

0246

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: And there wasn't anything in else in
2 the charter that we need to consider?

3
4 MR. MATHEWS: Unless you want to change the name of it,
5 the boundary of it, some of the other regions.....

6
7 (General conversation)

8
9 MR. SAM: Can we pick up Anchorage or not?

10
11 (Laughter)

12
13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We don't want to.

14
15 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Let's see, where is my
16 agenda.

17
18 MR. MATHEWS: We're down to two things that -- or
19 actually three things that I need your direction on how to
20 handle. You wanted a section of question and answers about the
21 Council Members towards the end of the meeting. And you also
22 wanted elections at the end. And we need to talk about this
23 regulatory year potential schedule change. So I think at this
24 time it'd probably be best to do the regulatory schedule
25 change.

26
27 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Right. The others come after. And
28 then it would be followed by elections and the last one would
29 be the open comment before we do future meeting plans.

30
31 So the regulation year schedule, I think again, what
32 tab is it under here?

33
34 MR. MATHEWS: It's under Tab F.

35
36 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: F. F as in fox.

37
38 MR. MATHEWS: For regulatory change. And while Rosa
39 is presenting that I'll pass at the revised calendars that we
40 need to look at.

41
42 MS. MEEHAN: Hi. For the record I'm Rosa Meehan with
43 the office of Subsistence Management. And briefly what we're
44 proposing is a change in the scheduling of the winter meetings,
45 and which would result in a change to the spring board meeting
46 as well.

47
48 And the reason we're proposing the change is we found
49 that we have a bit of a problem trying to get all of the

50 analyses done prior to the Council winter meetings. And so

0247

1 we've looked at the schedule real hard back in the office, and
2 what we found is that if we could juggle the meetings a little
3 bit, and that means putting the winter meetings about a month
4 later, that would give our analysts an extra month to work on
5 the analyses of the proposals. And the purpose of that is that
6 we could present a more complete product to the Councils for
7 your deliberations in the winter meeting.

8
9 And so what we're asking you is if having the winter
10 meeting a month later would be -- you know, would work out for
11 you. Recognizing that if you have the winter meeting a month
12 later it does mean that the spring board meeting will be about
13 a month later also. And so instead of having early April board
14 meetings, it would be in early May board meeting. And that
15 pretty much just affects the chair, the board meeting. But you
16 do need to know that any schedule change always has
17 ramifications. So we just want more time to do a better job.

18
19 MR. MATHEWS: And I gave you new calendars that show
20 you other Councils have selected times when they're going to
21 meet the next round, so I don't know if we want to not overlap
22 with YK, Yukon Kuskokwim, some issues or not. So that's about
23 the only thing that you really need to focus on. Barb can
24 direct me, I don't think we have any issues that we have to
25 watch overlap or more slow, I don't think we do. We try to
26 avoid overlap unless the Councils want to talk to each other so
27 staff have to cover both -- like North Slope and the Western,
28 they can do that. We don't have an overlapping issue, I don't
29 think, Barb.

30
31 Okay. So the main one we'd have to think about is YK
32 when we start selecting.

33
34 MS. MEEHAN: So to kind of clean up the additional
35 information that just got inserted, I came here with one
36 question, and that was whether a later winter council meeting
37 would work for you? And we're just looking for your advice on
38 it. We haven't made a decision on whether we'd do it or not,
39 but we do want input on that.

40
41 And then a second issue that needs to be dealt with is
42 to go ahead and select a meeting time. And what we're asking
43 every Council to do is select a meeting time that would work in
44 the current Council meeting window. And also select one that
45 would work in the alternate Council meeting schedule. And then
46 that way we can hear from all the Councils before we make a
47 decision about what to do with the schedule.

48
49 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chair?

0248

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

2

3 MR. REAKOFF: I've always had a problem with this
4 January and February scheduling. In the Interior of Alaska and
5 especially in the Brooks Range we've got a lot of 50 below zero
6 in that early late January and early February all the way
7 through the end of February. And I'd much rather see this
8 scheduling go further towards the solstice where it gets a
9 little more warm in the daytime and stuff.

10

11 MS. MEEHAN: We've actually had similar comments out of
12 Southeast. They looked at it and that Council, too, at first
13 said, yes, it helps us because of weather, so.....

14

15 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: I concur. I like the later on.

16

17 MR. SAM: At the winter meetings in February and March
18 how deep into March did you have in mind?

19

20 MS. MEEHAN: The alternate schedule runs from February
21 15th to March 21st -- or actually March 20th.

22

23 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: It's mentioned, it says window
24 closures. In other words, window opportunity anywhere between
25 the 16th and the 20th.

26

27 MS. MEEHAN: The middle of February to the third week
28 in March.

29

30 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: But if the Board doesn't move its
31 dates then our window is between January 26th and February 27,
32 so.....

33

34 MS. MEEHAN: It's actually up to the Councils for the
35 input. It's a little easier to boss the Board around in a
36 sense that they have meetings all the time.

37

38 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Is there consensus later
39 rather than earlier or not for the board meeting. Carl,
40 any.....

41

42 Either way?

43

44 MR. MORGAN: Either way.

45

46 MR. DEACON: Yeah.

47

48 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Jack, later?

49

0249

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Benedict, do you have any
2 feelings one way or the other? Earlier or later for the
3 regular board to meet?

4
5 MR. JONES: Yeah, I'd go with later.

6
7 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Later, too.

8
9 MR. JONES: Yeah.

10
11 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: I think I hear consensus on we would
12 urge them to for the later schedule if possible.

13
14 MS. MEEHAN: Okay.

15
16 MR. SAM: Which one?

17
18 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: A later schedule. We're not looking
19 at the actual days. Okay. That being the case then we still
20 have to choose if the Council doesn't move, we've got this
21 window from January 26th to February 27, so when would we meet
22 in there? 26, 27, the latest in February or.....

23
24 MR. SAM: I'd like the first part of March, I think.

25
26 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, no, we need to pick one on
27 both. See, if it doesn't move we've got to have our meeting
28 done by the 27th would be the latest on that first page.

29
30 MR. REAKOFF: If it doesn't move I would prefer the
31 February 9. That's a -- doesn't this overlap with some other --
32 can we use those last two days like that?

33
34 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes.

35
36 MS. MEEHAN: Yep. Absolutely.

37
38 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Or we could use February 12 and 13
39 if you were looking at the mid-month meeting.

40
41 MR. REAKOFF: Well then, the last two days would be
42 good.

43
44 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Of the month?

45
46 MR. REAKOFF: Yeah.

47
48 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

49

MR. REAKOFF: I mean, well, the 26th and 27th.

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1 MR. SAM: Yeah, that's fine.

2

3 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. That would be the latest to
4 meet. Does everybody else see that? I might have a conflict.
5 I don't know when we're going to come up with it, now, or.....

6

7 MR. SHERROD: We were just trying to schedule the
8 Denali SRC meeting prior to the Regional Council's. So we'll
9 adjust our meeting date.

10

11 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Okay. And then if it goes to
12 the second calendar what would we look at there? Now, we have
13 clear up to March 20th we can go with.

14

15 MS. MEEHAN: And I'd just remind you that you might
16 want to look at where the other councils are placed on it. And
17 if I could sort of make one other suggestion for your
18 consideration, there's a fair bit of work to do for this
19 Council. And so from our perspective the later in the meeting
20 window you schedule this particular Council the happier we are.
21 Again, it's a time thing on getting the materials prepared,
22 so.....

23

24 But it's what works for you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, personally I like that
27 earlier, the March 12 to 13, somewhere in there. I don't know.
28 As you get to the end of March the weather gets pretty nice and
29 I kind of like to be home, really, and get out on the snow
30 machines for a weekend or whatever instead of being off
31 somewhere in a meeting. But the middle of the months, 12th
32 through 13th. I don't know. Anybody else have any
33 preferences?

34

35 MR. DEACON: 12 and 13th of March.

36

37 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yeah. Jack?

38

39 MR. REAKOFF: I have a problem traveling on the weekend
40 is where I'm -- the flights.....

41

42 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Oh, okay.

43

44 MR. REAKOFF:don't fly on weekends. And I get in
45 too late in the week on these meetings, then I'm stuck in
46 Fairbanks or somewheres for a weekend, which is not where I
47 want to be.

48

49 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. So 11, 12 is better you mean

50 or.....

0251

1 MR. REAKOFF: Or 10th, 11th or dead center in the week.
2 Like we're doing now it's better for me for travel. And if,
3 you know, I get up to Friday.....

4
5 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, right now we're going
6 Wednesday, Thursday right now. You mean you're saying that
7 works for you?

8
9 MR. REAKOFF: Yeah.

10
11 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, if we did that week it would
12 be 11 and 12.

13
14 MR. REAKOFF: Oh, 11 and 12, right, yeah.

15
16 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Others, any conflicts with those
17 or.....

18
19 That does give travel on either end to get home before
20 the weekend. Yeah. Consensus? March 11 and 12 then is as the
21 second? Is that okay then?

22
23 MR. MATHEWS: Will that also apply for the -- it'll be
24 the 25th and 26th on the earlier calendar 'cause you said the
25 26th and 27th which would have Jack traveling on Saturday.

26
27 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Right. Do you want to do the same
28 on that one, too?

29
30 MR. REAKOFF: Yeah.

31
32 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Move it to 25 and 26?

33
34 MR. REAKOFF: I'd rather have that the 25th and 26th.

35
36 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

37
38 MS. MEEHAN: And then whatever happens with this
39 schedule we'll get back to you on that.

40
41 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay.

42
43 MS. MEEHAN: So thanks for the input.

44
45 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. So you've got two tentative
46 dates to put on your calendars to mesh with everything else
47 that goes on.

48
49 Okay. The next -- we did close. The next item would

50 be then elections that we tabled till now. There's three

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1 positions. There's the chair, vice chair, and secretary. I'm
2 holding the chair right now. The vice chair had resigned and
3 is open and that was Harold. And Angela is holding the
4 secretary position this last year.

5
6 So I'll declare nominations open for chair then.

7
8 MR. JONES: I nominate Jack for chair.

9
10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Jack has been nominated.

11
12 MR. REAKOFF: I decline for -- I think there are elders
13 that are on the Council that would be better suited. I say
14 that I decline because there's elders on the Council that would
15 be better suited for chair.

16
17 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Do we allow people to decline?
18
19 Elders? You'd prefer not to then?

20
21 MR. REAKOFF: I'd prefer not to.

22
23 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: The nominations are still open for
24 chair.

25
26 MR. DEACON: Nominate Ray.

27
28 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Henry wants to nominate me.
29 I'm willing to take the nomination, but I'm also willing to
30 have somebody nominated. I mean I don't -- I wouldn't mind
31 stepping down and somebody stepping in, so.....

32
33 Yes, Ron?

34
35 MR. SAM: I nominate Carl Morgan.

36
37 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Carl has been nominated.

38
39 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: I move nominations be closed.

40
41 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Angela moves to close.

42
43 MR. SAM: Second.

44
45 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Second to that to closing. Okay.
46 We've got two nominees. I guess we need some little slips of
47 paper.

48
49 MR. SAM: Campaign.

0253

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Campaign.

2

3 MR. SAM: Candidates speak. George is impatient.

4

5 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, as I said, you know, I've
6 appreciated the opportunity to be chairman. I'll serve if I'm
7 elected, but I don't feel bad about stepping down either.

8

9 MR. MORGAN: I'd still like to express a thank you on
10 your confidence with me even though this is my first meeting I
11 feel I privileged and honored that someone would think of my in
12 high regard. I'm kind of apprehensive about accepting but I
13 will not decline. And if elected I'll do the best I can.
14 Thank you.

15

16 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, the votes for chair are
17 four for Carl Morgan and three for Ray Collins.

18

19 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: So Carl is elected chair then for
20 next year. Congratulations.

21

22 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. For concluding the meeting do
25 you want to take the chair now.

26

27 MR. MORGAN: I'll give it to Ron. (Laughter) Okay.

28

29 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: The vice chair.

30

31 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: The vice chair, right. Nominations
32 are open for vice chair.

33

34 MR. DEACON: I nominated Jack.

35

36 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: Jack.

37

38 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Jack is nominated for vice
39 chair.

40

41 MR. REAKOFF: I nominate Ron.

42

43 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Ron is nominated.

44

45 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: Henry nominates Jack. Henry
46 nominated Jack.

47

48 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, Jack is nominated and Ron is
49 nominated.

0254

1 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: Move we close.

2

3 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Move to close. Is there a second to
4 that motion to close.

5

6 MR. JONES: Close.

7

8 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Second by Benedict. Slips of
9 paper again.

10

11 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, for the vote for vice chair
12 it's four for Ron and three for Jack.

13

14 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. So Ron is elected. Third
15 alternate, I guess we'll call it, is listed as secretary but we
16 haven't had them actually serve as that, so nominations are
17 open.

18

19 MR. SAM: I nominate Angela Demientieff.

20

21 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Angela.

22

23 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: I accept. Thank you.

24

25 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Angela is nominated.

26

27 MR. REAKOFF: Motion to close.

28

29 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. Motion to close. Is there a
30 second to that motion?

31

32 MR. SAM: Second.

33

34 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. The by voting to close then
35 you'll elect Angela and be done. Okay. All those in favor
36 signify by raising your right hand. Okay. Angela is elected.

37

38 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, the only thing that I see
39 left here that people have been tapping me on the shoulder very
40 hard about is where do you want to meet next. You selected
41 dates, but where would you want to meet next, and then topics
42 and issues. So I can get those refuge managers off my back.

43

44 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. We had one other item we were
45 going to carry this open session. You're saying that we move
46 down to future and choose time and place so that they'll know.
47 Okay. All right. I'll switch that.

48

49 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: Huslia.

0255

1 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Huslia. Huslia.

2

3 MR. REAKOFF: Galena.

4

5 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Galena. We've met in Aniak, Holy
6 Cross, here. It's been awhile since we were over there. It's
7 Galena.

8

9 MR. MATHEWS: We've been to Huslia. We've been to
10 Galena a couple of times.

11

12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Hughes.

13

14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Hughes.

15

16 (General conversation)

17

18 MR. MATHEWS: We've never been to Allakaket.

19

20 MR. SAM: I'd like to see you at Allakaket but then
21 we're so small I don't think we're prepared to take care of
22 staff and probably board members. I would be obligated to feed
23 and house and then I wouldn't be able to concentrate on the
24 meeting. I want to be taken care and concentrate on the
25 meeting. I like Galena. I mean you have lodging available.

26

27 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: But Huslia (indiscernible) in Galena.

28

29 MR. DEACON: I'll go for Huslia.

30

31 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Huslia.

32

33 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: Huslia.

34

35 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Two Huslia.

36

37 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Huslia and then I'll talk to
38 William.....

39

40 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: I enjoyed the meeting there last
41 time. Any.....

42

43 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: Uh-hum. Let's go there. We had a
44 lot of fun there.

45

46 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. All right. Those are the
47 only two I've heard mentioned. And do we have a motion or do
48 you want to make a motion, Angela, so we can vote on it and go.

49

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I go for Galena.

0256

1 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: It's a motion.

2

3 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Well, maybe do we want to go to
4 ballot then between those two?

5

6 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

7

8 MR. DEACON: Yes.

9

10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Do you have some slips of paper to
11 let people write down which they want.

12

13 MR. SAM: Who seconded?

14

15 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Oh, well, no, we're going to vote, I
16 guess, there's two places. For awhile it sounded like
17 everybody was moving towards Hughes, but we've got a couple
18 that want Galena, so let's -- boy, I wish I knew which time of
19 year it was going to be. Travel. February is still colder
20 getting in and out.

21

22 MR. MATHEWS: We had five votes for Galena, two for
23 Huslia.

24

25 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. It's Galena.

26

27 MR. MATHEWS: Galena.

28

29 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Okay. So we've got the place. We
30 already set two time blocks. We now have a period for open
31 comments. Anything any member wants to bring up.

32

33 I think we'll open that up for the members, too,
34 because I know like Hollis came from the park and didn't get a
35 chance to speak to us. I don't know if you want to say
36 anything to us now or anyone else that wants to remark on
37 things before us.

38

39 Yeah. If you want to. It's an open period now here at
40 the end.

41

42 MR. TWITCHELL: Thank you, Chair, Council. Hollis
43 Twitchell, Denali National Park. I apologize for not being
44 here yesterday. I was attending SouthCentral Regional Advisory
45 Council meeting which went yesterday and the day before. They
46 had two issues there that required action on behalf of the
47 SouthCentral Council so I felt I needed to be there for that.

48

49 I'm very happy to be here. And I don't have any issues

50 that require actions on behalf of this Council, so what I have

0257

1 is primarily just informational.

2

3 I have two items to discuss with you. The first one is
4 a study and ethnographic overview and assessment for Denali
5 National Park, which is focused on the Alaska Native cultures
6 associated with the area. The second issue is a draft
7 subsistence management plan that the Denali Subsistence
8 Resource Commission in the park will be working on over the
9 course of this next year. Those are the two items.

10

11 The reason why the ethnographic study will be of
12 interest for this Council is we'll be going out to a number of
13 the Native villages associated with Denali and talking with the
14 Native tribal councils in those communities, letting them know
15 of our interest to do village histories and the willingness to
16 provide funds for them to develop the histories themselves, a
17 person of their choosing, or to hire someone of their choosing
18 to develop those. We thought that was important to do rather
19 than have an outside researcher or an agency person come in and
20 do, so our intentions will be to meet with the villages, tribal
21 councils in Nikolai and Telida and discuss that option with
22 them.

23

24 This study will be going on for probably two years.
25 The village histories are only one component of it. The main
26 aspect will be looking at the five different Athabascan Native
27 cultures associated with Denali. And that would be the Ahtna,
28 Koyukon, the Lower Tanana, Dena'ina and the Upper Kuskokwim.
29 All of those Athabascan groups are associated with the Denali
30 area. And so we'll be looking primarily in the overview and
31 assessment of the existing information that's already out there
32 for those different groups, and pulling that together in a
33 meaningful way regarding how those groups and the importance of
34 the Denali area those resources are. So that will be a main
35 component of the effort.

36

37 The second will be going out to the individual villages
38 and asking them to work on that themselves.

39

40 If there isn't any questions on that then I'll move on
41 to

42

43 the second aspect.

44

45 You've heard and you have reviewed the Park Service
46 review of regulations and laws that has been going on for the
47 last couple of years actually. And we feel now that we're
48 getting a lot of good input and advice from Regional Councils
49 and from commissions, Subsistence Resource Commissions for the

50 park areas and the public at large that it's a good time to

0258

1 take a serious look at how subsistence programs operate on park
2 lands, and where appropriate and necessary make adjustments to
3 those programs.

4
5 The subsistence management plan will be one of the
6 tools and the ways that we accomplish that. And so we're going
7 to be working very closely with our primary advisor, our Denali
8 Subsistence Resource Commission. This plan will cover a number
9 of issues and areas that -- regarding subsistence that
10 generally aren't dealt with in the overall Federal program.
11 And that would be use of timber resources for cabins, house
12 logs, firewood, et cetera, trap lines, brushing of trails,
13 exchange of trap lines, et cetera. Issues regarding access
14 which have a number of very significant issues regarding ATV
15 access for subsistence users, park resources. Eligibility
16 which is always a difficult one and a very complex one within
17 the Park Service, so we're going to be spending a lot of time
18 to try to find ways to make that a little simpler and a little
19 more user friendly.

20
21 There will be other issues in there such as how to deal
22 with resolution of conflicts between different user groups.
23 Subsistence users want subsistence users, et cetera. And
24 anything else that the Commission chooses to put into the plan.
25 So you can expect to be reviewing that as the Commission and
26 the Park get further along and we'll be very actively
27 interested in your suggestions and recommendations as we get to
28 that point. So I would imagine probably in a year after two
29 meetings of the Subsistence Resource Commission then we'll come
30 forward with the work that they've done and bring it before
31 you.

32
33 That's all I had.

34
35 MR. DEACON: Which park are you primarily located at
36 (ph)?

37
38 MR. TWITCHELL: I work for Denali Park and Preserve,
39 which if you look on the big wall map that purple area on the
40 right-hand side is.....

41
42 We are involved with three different Regional Advisory
43 Councils, the Eastern Interior, SouthCentral and the Western.
44 So we go and confer with all of those Councils.

45
46 MR. DEACON: You have one just SRC committee then?

47
48 MR. TWITCHELL: Yes. Our Commission is made up of nine
49 members. And we have people on that Commission from Tanana,

50 from Nenana, from Cantwell, and from McKinley Village, which is

0259

1 on the eastern line and from Telida.

2

3 MR. REAKOFF: What is the name of that second program
4 you were working on there at the Park Service, the timber use
5 and trail brushing? What was the name of that again?

6

7 MR. TWITCHELL: Well, I was suggesting that the
8 subsistence management plan would be made up of a number of
9 different issues or topics or areas. And for Denali we've
10 identified initially that access will be discussed in that
11 plan. Eligibility programs. Trapping. Timber use. Resolution
12 of user conflicts. And then wildlife harvests and monitoring
13 programs. And that's.....

14

15 MR. REAKOFF: Would that be somewhat supplementary to
16 this National Park Service Subsistence Management Program
17 paper, or whatever, issues paper?

18

19 MR. TWITCHELL: Essentially that's correct. Much of
20 the recommendations and suggestions that have come out through
21 that process, I'm sure the SRC is going to want to incorporate
22 and include within this plan. So it certainly will be looked at
23 very closely and where possible incorporate it.

24

25 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Any other questions for Hollis?
26 Thank you, Hollis.

27

28 MR. TWITCHELL: Thank you.

29

30 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Anyone else that wants to address
31 the Council? Any of the Council Members have things you want
32 to bring up? And actually we could kind of just lapse over
33 into B, the topics, issues and subjects for the next meeting,
34 too, so identifying things you wanted to see discussed next
35 time would be part of it or something.

36

37 MR. DEACON: I'd like to say I kind of appreciate the
38 local and the State. You know, last winter when we had a
39 meeting they addressed a lot of those. There's not enough
40 support for law enforcement support. And this year we kind of
41 noticed that they did listen and I got them to know that. They
42 did respond to our questions.

43

44 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Thank you for those comments. Yes,
45 Ron?

46

47 MR. SAM: Yeah, thank you. I appreciate Henry Deacon's
48 statements and say also that the -- what number that we got out
49 of the 21 type of river, Nowitna Wildlife Refuge area that I

50 would like to also commend the staff for doing what we asked

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1 for. I think all we asked for was to see some kind of
2 reduction and the influx of hunters in the take of moose in
3 that area. I think that it was critical. And if the numbers
4 are correct that we are going in the right direction. And I
5 would like to see more efforts in that area. I think with all
6 the different agencies present and different regions present
7 that it shows that we can work together and so the bottom line
8 is some sort of success.

9
10 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Thank you. Other members, do you
11 have any.....

12
13 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chairman?

14
15 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Yes, Jack.

16
17 MR. REAKOFF: I'd like to thank all the people who
18 attended the meeting and people travel a long ways and go
19 through a lot of paperwork to prepare for this meeting. And I
20 appreciate all their work and all their input. As I said
21 before, these meetings -- I enjoy coming to them because I have
22 learned so much from the different agencies and different
23 reports and so forth, the State. And I also want to thank Ray
24 Collins for his pretty hard work as being chairman and I'm -- I
25 know that Carl is going to be a good chair also, so.....

26
27 And also thank you to the people of McGrath for their
28 hospitality here.

29
30 CHAIRMAN COLLINS: Anyone else? Okay. Thank you all
31 for your time and attended, and for the Board Members, for your
32 hard work, and look forward to meeting with you again in
33 February or March. And, Carl, I wish you will. Okay. Thank
34 you.

35
36 (Off record)

37
38 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)
39 * * * * *

C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

) ss.

STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Rebecca Nelms, 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 260 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the WESTERN INTERIOR SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING meeting taken electronically by Meredith Downing on the 7th and 8th days of October, 1997, beginning at the hour of 8:40 o'clock a.m. at the Chamai Center, McGrath, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by Meredith Downing and myself to the best of our knowledge and ability;

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 21st day of October, 1997.

Notary Public in and for Alaska

My Commission Expires: 10/10/98