

1 SEWARD PENINSULA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6
7 VOLUME II

8
9 Aurora Inn
10 Nome, Alaska
11 March 21, 2012
12 9:12 a.m.

13
14 Members Present:

15
16 Louis Green, Chairman
17 Peter Buck
18 Fred Eningowuk
19 Thomas Gray
20 Charles Saccheus
21 Elmer Seetot

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25 Regional Council Coordinator - Alex Nick

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41 Recorded and transcribed by:

42
43 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
44 135 Christensen Drive, Suite 2
45 Anchorage, AK 99501
46 907-243-0668/907-227-5312
47 sahile@gci.net

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Nome, Alaska - 3/21/2013)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN GREEN: We'll get cracking here. Calling the meeting to order here at 9:12. Do we need roll call today? Is it necessary for roll call today?

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yep.

CHAIRMAN GREEN: There we go. So, Mr. Buck.

MR. BUCK: Okay.

CHAIRMAN GREEN: 9:12 as the start.

MR. BUCK: I have Louis Green, Jr.

REPORTER: Pete.

MR. GREEN: Here.

MR. BUCK: Lou Green, Jr.

MR. GREEN: Here.

MR. BUCK: Tom Gray.

MR. GRAY: Here.

MR. BUCK: Reggie Barr. He's at Bering Straits School District meeting in Anchorage.

CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay.

MR. BUCK: Fred Eningowuk.

MR. ENINGOWUK: Here.

MR. BUCK: Elmer Seetot, Jr.

MR. SEETOT: Here.

MR. BUCK: Charles Saccheus.

MR. SACCHEUS: Here.

1 MR. BUCK: And myself. That's one,
2 two, three, four, five, six, seven. Seven members.

3
4 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Mr. Buck.

5
6 We're going to go into old business,
7 which is on the top of the second page of your agenda.
8 We need approve of the fiscal year 2012 annual report.

9
10 We've had some discussion up here for
11 wording. We'll work with Helen before the end of the
12 day, and make some additions. And I would ask Council
13 if there's any others besides Tommy that wanted to
14 insert anything in there, or put their two cents in
15 there, that we get together here after and do just
16 that. And then like I said we'll work with Helen to
17 finalize it so I can sign it and we can get it in. And
18 it's due, Helen?

19
20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Do you know when
21 it's due, Alex?

22
23 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chair. I don't have
24 a due date, but it should be done as soon as possible.
25 As soon as it's revised, it needs to be signed by you
26 yourself and should go forward.

27
28 Mr. Chair.

29
30 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. Thank you,
31 Alex. Yeah, we'll do the revisions today and I'll
32 certainly sign it and get it on the way.

33
34 So under approval, are we doing a
35 motion. Yeah. Would anybody like to make a motion to
36 approve the fiscal year 2012 annual report with
37 revisions.

38
39 MR. SEETOT: Mr. Chair, I so move to
40 adopt or approve FY 2012 annual report to Federal
41 Subsistence Board as amended.

42
43 MR. BUCK: Seconded.

44
45 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Second by Peter. All
46 those in favor say aye.

47
48 IN UNISON: Aye.

49
50 CHAIRMAN GREEN: I lost my words.

1 (No opposing votes)

2

3 CHAIRMAN GREEN: I think that's a
4 unanimous vote. We can consider that past.

5

6 And we had a letter B in there and it
7 had fish projects. I didn't pen any notation alongside
8 of there. We're kind of thinking that, Tommy, there
9 was something that you wanted to add in that letter;
10 was that.....

11

12 MR. GRAY: I don't think it was -- do
13 you know? Going through this thing.....

14

15 REPORTER: Mic. Mic. Tom.

16

17 MR. GRAY: Sorry. The B fish projects,
18 I'm not sure what that was about.

19

20 There's a couple of things that I want
21 to make sure are in the letter. And one of them is
22 wolves. Wolves are not in the letter. It's an issue
23 that we've talked about year after year for years.

24

25 And the other one that I was concerned
26 about was the funding for programs we talked about
27 last year for Federal lands at the headwaters of our
28 river system in White Mountain. We have been told, I
29 have been told at this meeting for year after year that
30 you don't have Federal lands, you're not going to get
31 funding. And there are Federal lands, and there is a
32 way to get funding. So anyway I want to make sure
33 that's in this. And it is, but the word Federal lands
34 need to be put in there so they realize that there is
35 Federal lands in this drainage that we're talking
36 about. So just those two things. And, you know,
37 that's in the annual report that we're going to work on
38 after a while.

39

40 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. Helen.

41

42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We heard the
43 discussion yesterday about wolves, so what we'll do is
44 we'll craft a paragraph in there, and then we'll send
45 it to -- because we'll probably not do that today. I
46 mean, we could if we have time, but we'll craft it and
47 then send it to Louis and have him approve it. And I
48 think it would be to get, you know, in there your
49 concerns and then we can put in writing some of the
50 response that we got yesterday from Tony Gorn about

1 what he was saying. We'll put that in there. So
2 that's how the process will work.

3

4 And the draft of the letter is due the
5 12th of April, so we have a little bit of time.

6

7 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chair.

8

9 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Alex.

10

11 MR. A. NICK: Alex Nick for the record.

12

13

14 I think just to remind the Council, the
15 proper procedure for adopting of amending your annual
16 report is to make a motion, discuss, add or delete
17 whatever you don't want in the annual report, and then
18 vote on it. But it's voted on already it sounds like.

19

20 CHAIRMAN GREEN: We voted.

21

22 MR. A. NICK: So, yeah, we'll go with
23 Helen's recommendation.

24

25 CHAIRMAN GREEN: We voted it on because
26 we're going to make some small changes in there
27 throughout the day. And we discussed that with Helen.

28

29 You know, I didn't mean to miss Drew
30 here, but I've got your name with the annual report.

31

32 MR. CRAWFORD: Yeah. Drew Crawford,
33 Fish and Game Federal subsistence liaison team.

34

35 You had made a comment back in January
36 to the Federal Subsistence Board regarding Issue No. 3,
37 the conducting of an inventory of salmon spawning
38 habitats in the headwaters of streams and rivers on the
39 Seward Peninsula. And you had indicated that the
40 Council is concerned that some important salmon
41 habitats are not identified and have been overlooked in
42 the past by fisheries resource managers. And I just
43 wanted to make you aware of a website the Department of
44 Fish and Game has. This which tells you a little bit
45 about it, how to find it. But when I heard your
46 comment, I was aware of a thing called the Anadromous
47 Waters Catalogue. I've been with the Department since
48 the mid 70s, and the way it works is anybody within the
49 Department is canvassed once a year, and if they are
50 working in a new area or aware of any new salmon

1 spawning streams, that they can submit new information
2 to this catalogue.

3

4 In the old days, this used to be in a
5 huge book that took up about the size of this table,
6 but now they've put it on a website. And it's called
7 the Fisheries Resource Monitor. It actually has online
8 maps which you can actually click on either as
9 topographic maps or aerial photographs, and it has
10 information from the Anadromous Waters Catalog, the
11 fish passage information program, and the Alaska
12 freshwater fish inventory.

13

14 The primary goal of this website is to
15 streamline access to information for the Department of
16 Fish and Game, other resource agencies, and the public.
17 So you could go to this website, click on it, you can
18 either enter the name of a stream -- on the back it
19 tells you different ways you can enter it, or you can
20 actually just identify a block on the map, and that
21 will enlarge it, and it will give you little data
22 points on the map which tells you exactly what is known
23 about that stream to day.

24

25 Now, we would welcome input from the
26 RAC members or any of the community members that have
27 other information that may not be on that. We could
28 add that to this database, and that would be great.

29

30 Anyway, this website, you can access it
31 either with a PC or a Mac. It requires a web browser
32 that can run a recent version of Adobe Flash. It will
33 also run on an Android phone or tablet.

34

35 But I showed this section of your
36 annual report to several of our staff members that work
37 this stuff. One of them's name is Jay Johnson; he's
38 the project coordinator for the Anadromous Waters
39 Catalogue. And the other fellow's name is Jonathan
40 Kursch, and he's in charge of the Freshwater Fisheries
41 Inventory part of things. And they were both delighted
42 to hear that you were interested in this. And they
43 would be glad to work with you as far as putting
44 together some sort of a study that would help to
45 identify additional areas.

46

47 Currently they're funded by Federal
48 grants, and the pot of money that they're using right
49 now requires them to study areas that are adjacent to
50 offshore -- areas that may be impacted by offshore oil

1 and gas exploration. So right now they're working in
2 Cook Inlet and Bristol Bay. But they do rotate around
3 the state and they indicated that they -- with the
4 current scenario, unless there was new funding found,
5 that they would be back in the Seward Peninsula area to
6 do more work in the next five to six years. So they
7 come back and doublecheck themselves.

8

9 They also said that, for example, if
10 one of your organizations up here on the Seward
11 Peninsula, Kawerak for example, wanted to put together
12 a study like this, and perhaps even fund it on Federal
13 land with OSM money, that these guys would be glad to
14 help you put together a study plan for it. They've got
15 several operational plans which basically would tell
16 you how to put together, you know, a study like his,
17 and also data reports that you could see, you know, how
18 this stuff all gets written up and analyzed. And again
19 they'd be glad to share that with you.

20

21 If you'd like to see -- perhaps at
22 future meetings, if you're interested in this, we could
23 perhaps bring one of these guys up and have him give
24 you a PowerPoint presentation, and actually walk you
25 through the website to see how it works.

26

27 There's quite a bit of information out
28 there. In your report here you identified the Niukluk
29 and Fish Rivers as being two important ones. These
30 fellows and I, we looked on the data base, and these
31 are pretty well documented streams from the headwaters
32 all the way down, but if there's new information, we'd
33 be sure glad to add it to this database.

34

35 Two editorial comments that the fellows
36 had was that they would recommend not limiting your
37 study of inventorying salmon habitats to just the
38 headwaters. They would strike that out and say streams
39 and rivers; that way you could do the mainstem, you
40 could do the main tributaries and the headwaters. It
41 would include all of it; you wouldn't limit yourself.

42

43 The other thing they recommended is
44 this shouldn't be classified as a feasibility study,
45 because all the information in this database is
46 established, so you're basically -- it is feasible that
47 it would be an actual study.

48

49 Any questions at this time.

50

1 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Drew, one question.
2 did you say that was Federal waters only?

3
4 MR. CRAWFORD: This data base is always
5 is all waters of Alaska.

6
7 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. Tom.

8
9 MR. GRAY: Part of the reason that this
10 section is in here is because I raised the issues, and
11 I've pushed and shoved and tried to get projects on my
12 river, and that's the Niukluk and the Fish River. And
13 for years I have been told that we can't take Federal
14 monies to your river, because you don't have Federal
15 lands. Well, we realized at -- I think it was last
16 year, we realized that there's Federal lands up in the
17 Bendeleben Mountain, and the king salmon and silver
18 salmon are spawning in these lands. And so that's why
19 that's here.

20
21 For years, for example, I offered Fish
22 and Game -- I'm the chairman of the Council Native
23 Corporation. We own the land on the Bear Creek, and I
24 offered to Fish and Game years ago that let's do a
25 study on Bear Creek on the silver salmon. And then
26 we'll find out how many fish are going in there. We'll
27 do some kind of enhancement or something, and we have a
28 stream that has 3 or 400 fish on it that we will know
29 if that project works. Fish and Game has blown me off
30 for years.

31
32 So I'm glad to hear that you're willing
33 to include the river system and projects in the river
34 system. You know, we have struggled trying to get
35 something going. NSEDC has done some studies. Fish
36 and Wildlife has done some. I contracted with Fish and
37 Wildlife to take them around one time. But, again,
38 we're struggling, trying to get projects going on the
39 Seward Peninsula.

40
41 And, you know, your recommendations,
42 I'd like to sit down with you before the meeting's over
43 with and go through this letter and listen to you
44 recommendations, because if we can include the whole
45 river system and get Federal monies, by golly, let's do
46 it.

47
48 So, anyway, just some background for
49 you.
50

1 MR. CRAWFORD: Thank you.

2

3 MR. BUCK: Mr. Chair.

4

5 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Peter.

6

7 MR. BUCK: I have a comment on Issue
8 No. 3. I've been on this Council for quite a few
9 years. And in the beginning we started with the
10 extraterritorial jurisdiction. That means on lands,
11 wherever those fish or anything goes, they go
12 downstream, they go out in the ocean, the
13 extraterritorial jurisdiction would cover it, because
14 you'd have authority to make regulations before the
15 salmon reach the Federal lands. And I think that this
16 should be followed through. I think Southeast Alaska
17 is doing it now this year. We went to this
18 extraterritorial jurisdiction, and they sent me down to
19 King Cove with this organization and we studied the
20 fish that were caught in King Cove and False Pass, and
21 we stayed down there a week, but we couldn't come to
22 any conclusion, because we don't know what happened to
23 the fish between False Pass, King Cove and Seward
24 Peninsula. So we didn't come into it.

25

26 But this extraterritorial jurisdiction
27 is the same thing Tom's talking about. The fish start
28 up at the headwaters in Federal lands, and then they go
29 on down. They go on down to the ocean. But our
30 jurisdiction should extend the whole cycle of the
31 salmon.

32 So the funding should go to there, too.

33

34 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Peter.

35

36 Are there any more questions for Drew
37 here.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41

42 MR. CRAWFORD: Okay. Thank you. Mr.
43 Chairman.

44

45 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thanks for that info.

46

47

48 Sorry, Helen. Go ahead.

49

50 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, that's okay.

1 Mr. Chair, I thought maybe since we're on the subject
2 of fish projects, maybe I'll jump ahead and talk about
3 the request for fisheries monitoring proposals, because
4 I wanted to -- Karen Hyer, are you on the line? Karen?

5
6 MS. HYER: Yeah, Helen, I'm right here.

7
8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I'm just
9 going to go ahead and talk about the Fisheries Resource
10 Monitoring Program, and jump in if you need to add
11 anything.

12
13 The reason why I wanted to bring this
14 up is that we can say we want to fund something, but
15 the way your program works is that we put out a call
16 for proposals. Somebody has to do a proposal. We're
17 not actually doing the research ourselves. And so I
18 put in -- it's in your folder. Each one of you has one
19 of these kind of lavender colored pages.

20
21 We are in the process right now for
22 doing our call for proposals. And the date for the
23 closure on that, the deadline for the submission is
24 April 4th at 5:00 p.m. And we've posted this on our
25 website. We've set the word out to people who are
26 currently investigators or other people. You know, we
27 kind of try to spread a wide net, letting people know
28 that we're accepting proposals for fisheries projects.
29 And we had asked you in the fall to identify specific
30 fisheries issues in the area. And that information
31 then was put together to do this, the call for
32 proposals.

33
34 We do have a priority of funding
35 projects, as you know, and we've just discussed, things
36 that are going to affect Federal subsistence fisheries,
37 but I think with all the discussion you've had, you
38 know, you're emphasizing that this is something that is
39 definitely necessary. But we need to have somebody
40 submit the proposal. So whether it's Kawerak, or
41 ADF&G, or the university, or an outside entity, or a
42 private consultant, someone has to submit a proposal to
43 us. And hopefully somebody's doing that, and, you
44 know, that we'll get something. But that due date is
45 April 4th.

46
47 Right now we have \$3.7 million
48 allocated. We don't know what's going to happen to
49 that money. With all the cutbacks we're experiencing,
50 that may end up being less. In the past these awards

1 have ranged from \$3 million to \$375,000 -- I mean, 3
2 million. \$3,000, excuse me, to \$375,000 per year. And
3 the awards have been for projects that have ranged from
4 one year to four years.

5
6 So we're in that process again. We do
7 this every two years, and if we get a proposal in, we
8 will consider it, but we can't fund something that we
9 don't get a proposal in for. And if it doesn't happen
10 this time, maybe in two years somebody will pull
11 something together.

12
13 MR. GRAY: This process is every two
14 years?

15
16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's correct.

17
18 MR. GRAY: So 2014 it won't -- funding
19 will be allocated in 2014; then it won't be until 2016?

20
21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The process for
22 getting new projects is every two years. So we go out
23 for a call for proposals every two years, but we can
24 fund a project for a year or two, up to four years. So
25 what would happen, the process is that somebody submits
26 a proposals right now. We review it. In the summer
27 the Technical Review Committee, the TRC, will review
28 it. They're people who don't have anything to do with
29 the project, they review it, and they're agency people,
30 Federal and State. And then in the fall those projects
31 will come to you, and you'll give us your
32 recommendation on whether we should fund them or not,
33 and you'll give us some priority for what you think
34 should be -- what the highest priorities are for
35 funding. And then that will go to the Board; the Board
36 will confirm, and usually it is pretty much just a
37 confirmation of what the Councils have recommended.
38 And then the funding would actually begin, and the
39 project would begin in the spring of 2014.

40
41 MR. GRAY: This issue on the Fish River
42 in the headwaters and surveying the habitat and stuff,
43 has that gone outside of this room? Outside of this,
44 what we're doing here? You guys haven't solicited
45 anybody on that issue or sent messages to people that,
46 hey, this is a concern by the RAC, so on and so forth?
47 I guess what I'm fishing for is if it hasn't gone
48 outside of this system, then nobody's ready to put
49 together a project, and I'm going to go beat up on the
50 guy in the back of the room here and see if we can get

1 something in in time.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Through the Chair.
4 Mr. Gray. Let me ask Karen Hyer if she knows anything
5 about that. She's the fish biologist that supports
6 this region. And she's also the one that supplied all
7 the strawberries and grapes yesterday.

8

9 (Laughter)

10

11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Since she couldn't
12 attend the meeting, she sent them with me, and I
13 heartily thank her for doing that. It was very nice of
14 her.

15

16 Karen, did you hear the question?

17

18 MS. HYER: You know, Helen, I'm right
19 here. I heard parts of it, but if you could repeat it
20 for me so I'm sure that I've got the whole thing.

21

22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Sure. Okay. So
23 what Mr. Gray is asking is have you or has anybody in
24 the fish division actually gone out and tried to let
25 the word get out there that they're interested in
26 having this research done that we've been talking about
27 with salmon in the headwaters of like Fish River, if
28 the streams that feed into the Seward Peninsula.

29

30 MS. HYER: Okay. I want to make a
31 couple points. No, specifically not that we're
32 interested in the headwaters of Fish River. You have
33 to keep in mind that the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
34 Program funds research project that help with Federal
35 subsistence management. And we have limited Federal
36 subsistence management in that area. There is a lot of
37 Federal land, it's BLM land, but it's not conveyed
38 land, and we don't have management responsibilities on
39 it. So I'm not specifically familiar with the Fish
40 River, but that's one issue.

41

42 The other issue is any project that
43 comes to us, whether it's specific in the call or not,
44 we will evaluate it. So if it's a good project, even
45 if it's not specifically in the fisheries information
46 needs, we will evaluate it. We have funded many
47 projects that have to do with Federal subsistence
48 management that weren't specifically in the call, so if
49 there is a project they're interested in that relates
50 to Federal subsistence management, I would encourage

1 them to submit it, because it will be evaluated.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Does that answer
4 your question?

5

6 MS. HYER: I think there's a third
7 point, Helen, that I'm not sure if you covered or not,
8 but all proposals go through the Technical Review
9 Committee, and so they have to have different
10 components. One of them is they have to be technically
11 sound. You know, another one is they have to have that
12 Federal -- they have to relate to Federal subsistence
13 management. They have to have a capacity building
14 component. And all of that is on our website.

15

16 MR. GRAY: Okay. It was Karen, was it?
17 Karen, thank you for the strawberries and grapes. That
18 was a big hit here.

19

20 Again, I guess I'm interested in what
21 can your program do. We have little fingerling king
22 salmon that are born in Federal lands. They come down
23 through State waters. They go out to the ocean, they
24 grow up, they come back through State waters, they go
25 back into Federal lands and spawn again.

26

27 Is it realistic that we can study these
28 fish even in State waters with your funding?

29

30 MS. HYER: If there's a Federal nexus,
31 if there's any Federal subsistence management. Like on
32 the Unalakleet, that's kind of the classic example in
33 your area. There's a subsistence fishery that's State
34 run, and then the fish swim through State waters, and
35 then they spawn in Federal waters. And when there is a
36 management action, the State closes part of the
37 Unalakleet River, the Feds close the other part, so
38 there is a Federal subsistence management decision made
39 on that river. And so we fund that Unalakleet River
40 project, because we need to know how many Chinook
41 salmon are coming up the river so we can make a Federal
42 subsistence management decision, and we make it based
43 on how many fish, you know, are going through the weir.
44 And that is the kind of project we fund.

45

46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: They're all
47 thinking.

48

49 CHAIRMAN GREEN: We're all thinking,
50 Karen. So in -- well, I hear what you said. It was a

1 cross between State and Federal management.

2

3 Anything on the high seas intercepts.
4 I was looking back at our meeting minutes. And it was
5 information -- or the subject was salmon bycatch in the
6 trawl fisheries. And so have you got anything on that.

7

8 MS. HYER: Yeah. We discussed that at
9 the last meeting, and I brought that back, because this
10 goes through the Technical -- like I said, it goes
11 through the Technical Review Committee. We have no
12 jurisdiction on the high seas. The Federal Board has
13 written several letters expressing their concern, but
14 we have no direct jurisdiction. We make no management
15 in managing that fishery, so that would not be a
16 candidate for research funds for this pot of money.
17 There are other pots of money that are applicable for
18 that kind of research, but not this pot of money.

19

20 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you. Fred.

21

22 MR. ENINGOWUK: Yes. This is Fred.
23 And we've got this -- who can apply for this pot of
24 money, this funding? Could it be the tribes, could it
25 be anybody?

26

27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Through the Chair.

28

29 MS. HYER: Yes, anybody and everybody
30 is welcome to apply. There are criteria, and those
31 criteria are listed on our website that the proposal
32 will be evaluated by. So they're evaluated by the
33 criteria. And all the -- we take the whole pot of --
34 or the group of proposals that are submitted, and we
35 evaluate them on technical and scientific merits and
36 capacity building, several things that are listed on
37 our website. And then if they pass that criteria, then
38 we evaluate them against each other, and we try to pick
39 the best projects. And oftentimes those are projects
40 that aren't specific to the priority information needs,
41 but that the researcher has made a very valid argument
42 as to why the project should be funded.

43

44 But we fund projects from State,
45 Federal, private non-profit, university, consulting
46 firms. All different kinds of people submit proposals.

47

48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Karen, let me add
49 for Fred, it's pretty common that we'll have a
50 partnership between tribes and maybe say ADF&G or the

1 university, that they'll do projects together. And
2 because we do have a component as well of capacity
3 building, that's really trying to help tribes develop
4 the capacity to do their own research, and in some
5 cases they can and they do. In other cases they need
6 some technical expertise, so it is something we
7 actually rate -- the people who submit the proposals,
8 we rate them on whether or not they're developing
9 capacity in the region, so we encourage tribes to
10 submit proposals, yes.

11
12 MR. ENINGOWUK: Yeah. This is Fred
13 again. So then like, for example, White Mountain, the
14 tribe can apply for the funding, and they can contract
15 to an organization to do the studies?

16
17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

18
19 MS. HYER: Yeah. And I'd say, too,
20 that some of our more successful projects are blended
21 projects where the university is working with local
22 Native non-profit groups or else, say, the State's
23 working with university. But our most successful
24 projects actually are blended projects. Nobody has all
25 the expertise.

26
27 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Yeah, I'm thinking
28 about Fred's area up there. And Shishmaref is in the
29 Bering Preserve. Right, the Preserve. And there's
30 streams up there, salmon bering streams up there, and
31 so even you folks could be looking at something like
32 that on your resource. And this is to me -- well, I'll
33 save this for later. I've got a bad choice of words
34 here at this point.

35
36 Is there anybody else that has any
37 questions of Karen.

38
39 (No comments)

40
41
42 CHAIRMAN GREEN: I think there will be
43 some gears turning, Karen, because of what you brought
44 to the table here. Thank you.

45
46 MS. HYER: Yeah, if you have any other
47 questions after the meeting, my email's on the website
48 and you can send me an email (indiscernible - mic not
49 on).

50

1 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. Thank you. And
2 thanks for the strawberries.

3

4 MS. HYER: You're welcome.

5

6 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Helen, what else have
7 we got there in that. Are we kind of moving on from
8 fish?

9

10 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We're moving on.
11 We're don with that addition, the fish projects. And
12 that also takes care of 12.A.3., so we can move on to
13 new business now.

14

15 CHAIRMAN GREEN: You said A.3.

16

17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm sorry, what?

18

19 CHAIRMAN GREEN: What was that one?

20 A.3. Yeah.

21

22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: 12.A.3. was the
23 request for Fisheries Monitoring.

24

25 CHAIRMAN GREEN: I got that.

26

27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We took care of that
28 one.

29

30 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. On to new
31 business, under Item 11.

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr.
34 Chair. The first item under new business is briefings
35 on rural determination process. And that's on Page 48
36 in your books. And this is not an action item. This
37 is just for your information. It will be an action
38 item in the fall. We're just letting you know that
39 this is coming up.

40

41 So there was a news release that came
42 out. As you know, the Alaska National Interest Lands
43 Conservation Act, ANILCA, mandates that rural Alaskans
44 be given a priority for subsistence uses of fish and
45 wildlife on Federal public lands, and only residents of
46 communities or areas that are found to be rural are
47 eligible for the subsistence priority under ANILCA. In
48 this region, that's everyone who lives here is
49 eligible.

50

1 We had a review request a couple of
2 years ago from the Secretaries of the Interior and
3 Agriculture that asked the Federal Subsistence Board to
4 review the rural determination process. And that's the
5 process of how we make rural determinations, not what
6 the determinations were, and to recommend if there
7 should be any changes. So the Board has begun that
8 process of reviewing it.

9
10 They wanted to go to a bottom up
11 process, to go to the Councils, find out what the
12 Councils think. So we're in a public comment period
13 that will end in November, November 1st, after your
14 fall meetings. And so at your fall meeting we'll have
15 this on the agenda again. We just are letting you know
16 it's out there and let -- and have people start
17 thinking about what it is they might want to suggest
18 for changes.

19
20 They want information that specifically
21 addresses population thresholds. Right now anything
22 below 2500 people is considered rural. Anything
23 between 2500 and 7,000, it depends on the
24 characteristics of the communities. And anything above
25 7,000 is non-rural, although there have been exceptions
26 made to that. For example, Kodiak is currently listed
27 as rural, and it's above 7,000.

28
29 On Page 48 in the briefing it goes
30 through each one of the questions we want you to
31 consider.

32
33 So in thinking about -- I think it's
34 really important to think about that question of
35 population thresholds, because while Nome is probably,
36 what, 3500 people more or less right now? Some day
37 they're going to be -- it will be bigger. We can
38 guarantee that. And, you know, the one thing people
39 often don't think about, I mean, if you had a Pebble
40 Mine, for example, come into the region, you could have
41 a lot of people living in Nome. You don't know what's
42 out there, you know, what could be in the future. So
43 that's one question, is the number of people we should
44 be considering as rural, the population threshold.

45
46 And then there are the characteristics
47 that determine if a community should be rural. So
48 right now we look at use of fish and wildlife, the
49 diversity of the community, community infrastructure,
50 transportation, educational institutions. So are there

1 other characteristics that you might want to be
2 determining whether somebody should -- a community
3 should be rural or not.

4

5 And then the other thing we do is we
6 aggregate communities. And this isn't an issue in this
7 region, but particularly on the Kenai Peninsula it's an
8 issue. So when you look at the community of Kenai and
9 Soldotna, there are surrounding communities of Sterling
10 and Clam Gulch, and, you know, how do you decide which
11 communities should be grouped with them. Should Moose
12 Pass be grouped with Seward. Should Saxman be grouped
13 with Ketchikan.

14

15 And that's one of the really big issues
16 is the community of Saxman which used to be kind of an
17 isolated community, and has gotten swallowed up by
18 Ketchikan. It's pretty much surrounding it now.

19

20 So those are the types of questions we
21 have. And so how do you aggregate. The criteria we
22 have right now, it's do 30 percent or more of the
23 working people commute from one community to the
24 another. That data is even difficult to find now the
25 way the census is being done. So that might not be
26 possible to do.

27

28 Do they have a common high school
29 attendance area? Is that an issue? Do you think that
30 should be one of the criteria for grouping.

31

32 And are they in proximity and are they
33 road accessible.

34

35 So if those criteria aren't
36 appropriate, then what other criteria should there be.
37 And one of the difficulties we've had is it needs to be
38 something that we can measure. You know, it's
39 something that's -- like at one point early in the
40 program they had shopping. Well, we couldn't measure
41 very well how much shopping went on. And today with
42 all the internet shopping, that might not even be
43 appropriate any more. So, you know, think about those
44 kinds of issues.

45

46 And then the other one is how often
47 should we do this determination. Right now we're doing
48 it every 10 years. Should it be -- we do it on an
49 every 10 years, because that's when the census is done.
50 It's every 10 years, but is that too often. Maybe we

1 do it every 20 years unless there's some major change.
2 So we want your comments on that.

3

4 And then information sources. Right
5 now we're using U.S. Census Bureau, updates from Alaska
6 Department of Labor. Are there other types of
7 information sources that we should be using.

8

9 So that's pretty much it. We don't
10 have to have a lot of discussion right now on any of
11 these, if at all. I mean, you can if you'd like to.
12 No decision needs to be made. NO recommendations need
13 to be made. This will come before you in the fall with
14 probably a more detailed briefing in the fall. So just
15 alerting you that this is out there. For some regions
16 this is a very, very big issue, and we wanted to give
17 people plenty of time to gather their thoughts and
18 analyze and think about what it is they want to come
19 forward to the Board. It may not be quite as big an
20 issue here as it is for places like Saxman and the
21 Kenai Peninsula.

22

23 Thank you, Mr. Chair. Any questions.

24

25 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Helen, didn't they
26 revise all this here a couple years ago?

27

28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: They did.

29

30 CHAIRMAN GREEN: What was the young
31 man's name that carried on? A tall guy.

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Larry Buklis?

34

35 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Yeah, there you go.

36

37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

38

39 CHAIRMAN GREEN: I did attend that.

40

41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Larry lives
42 in the Lower 48 now. He defected, you know.

43

44 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Snow birds.

45

46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Exactly. I don't
47 know what's wrong with him. Anyway, yeah, he did lead
48 that along with a number of anthropologists. Pat
49 Petrivelli worked on it. I worked on it.

50

1 Some of the reason this has become an
2 issue again is because Saxman was becoming -- they had
3 a five-year time period, but Saxman was going to become
4 non-rural, and so that's a lot of the impetus for this
5 has been a push to have this whole process reevaluated.
6 So we're doing it again.

7
8 MR. BUCK: Mr. Chair.

9
10 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Peter.

11
12 MR. BUCK: Yeah. I think that even
13 though this issue is not too high of a -- that's not --
14 on high for us, we do -- I think we should look at
15 other Regional Advisory Committees, and if they do have
16 concerns, to have them let us know so that we can
17 support them, write letters of support, because
18 sometimes we have issues that we need from the other
19 RACs. But I think we should look around and see if we
20 can support other Regional Advisory Committees on their
21 issues, because that's really important to them.

22
23 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Peter.
24 Tommy.

25
26 MR. GRAY: One concern that I have I
27 guess is you've got a threshold of 2500 and 7000, and,
28 you know, one thing that makes us rural is the
29 uniqueness of where we live. And we could have 100,000
30 people here, and we're still unique in a rural sense.
31 And that's being missed in this process. And we may
32 never have 100,000 people, but we may have 10,000
33 people. And, again, because of transportation corridors
34 and so on and so forth, we are still in a unique rural
35 setting. And, you know, I think that needs to be part
36 of the process of looking at whether you're rural or
37 not.

38
39 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Helen.

40
41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Through the Chair.
42 I think that's a good comment. And that's exactly what
43 we want to know. So what -- come back in the fall and
44 let us know characteristics make this place rural and
45 unique, so that, you know, what do you want that to be
46 in that evaluation. And, you know, if you think there
47 should be no number threshold, then you can say that.
48 Or if you think it should be, you know, 30,000 or
49 whatever it should be. I think that's what we're
50 looking for, what kind of characteristics does a

1 community have that makes it rural.

2

3 And I appreciated also the comments
4 from Mr. Buck. I think that's also very wise to be
5 looking at the other regions' needs are as well. And I
6 think population growth is something that people need
7 to think about, because we have -- in rural Alaska we
8 have a lot of people under the age who are -- you know,
9 there are a lot of young people, and all those young
10 people, as somebody at Northwest Arctic Council said, I
11 have 12 sets of twins, and when they're all
12 reproducing, we're going to have a lot of people.

13

14 (Laughter)

15

16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So I think
17 population grown could be significant in the future.

18

19 MR. GRAY: Can I san one thing? One
20 thing that I feel is we have a rural preference so to
21 speak now, and what this process is talking about is
22 diluting what that rural preference is, and
23 micromanaging it, and making it something different.
24 So hopefully people are paying attention. And, you
25 know, some things are good getting in regulations.
26 Other things take away from what rights you have. And
27 we had a big fight about that yesterday. Anyway, pay
28 attention, because this is going to affect all of our
29 lives. And people in the future, our families in the
30 future.

31

32 CHAIRMAN GREEN: I would make a comment
33 on this news release. There's a rural characteristics
34 definition, I think it's like generalize there.
35 Transportation was listed in there, and considering
36 that we don't have any connection to the outer world
37 here with our road system, that's probably a big factor
38 that keeps us designated as rural. And the population
39 in Nome could increase to up to 7,000. I think that's
40 based on something out of Bethel. Their population.

41

42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The 7,000 came from
43 when ANILCA was being written, they listed communities
44 like, and they listed a number of communities that were
45 considered non-rural, and that was Anchorage, Juneau,
46 Fairbanks, and Ketchikan. Well, Ketchikan was the
47 smallest of those communities, and at that time
48 Ketchikan proper, the City of Ketchikan had 7,000
49 people.

50

1 However, what got ignored was that
2 greater Ketchikan was about 11,000 people. And when we
3 were working on the rural the last time, at one point I
4 said to that guy who left and went to the Lower 48, I
5 said, you know, we're talking about grouping these
6 people in the greater Ketchikan area with Ketchikan and
7 where should that boundary be. That's the way it was
8 when ANILCA was passed. There were people living in
9 the greater Ketchikan area. We should be looking at a
10 larger population, because at that time it was about
11 11,000. Now it's around -- I think it's around 13,000
12 in the greater Ketchikan area.

13
14 So that's where that number came from.
15 It wasn't from -- it was kind of an assumption.

16
17 And one thing that we'd like to do in
18 this process this time is to look at what determines
19 rural in other parts of the country, because in other
20 parts of the country what's considered rural in a lot
21 of places, if it were applied here, those places would
22 not be -- I mean, we're talking about different things,
23 and why should you have a different standard of rural
24 here in Alaska than you have in say Wyoming. So we
25 need to see what other places are doing. You know,
26 what determines something to be rural.

27
28 You ask somebody who comes from Boston,
29 you know, they're -- I say this because my sister took
30 the ferry up one time, and she said, my gosh, Ketchikan
31 sure looked rural to me, you know. And so your idea of
32 what rural is is very dependent on where you live I
33 think.

34
35 I'll shut up. Thanks.

36
37 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Well, you don't have
38 to. The more talks out of you, less talks out of me
39 and Tommy.

40
41 (Laughter)

42
43 MR. GRAY: Or me. But I just want to
44 throw out that we need to be careful of comparing the
45 Lower 48s and Alaska. Alaska is a very unique place,
46 and we have unique situations and conditions. And in
47 most cases it's like salt and pepper.

48
49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Oh, I agree with
50 that one full heartedly.

1 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. We spoke to
2 this rural determination. Move on to the next item
3 there, B. There's another letter, news release.

4
5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. The next one
6 is when we -- I believe we may have covered everything
7 yesterday, but just wanted to make sure you know that
8 we do have the call for proposals to change the Federal
9 subsistence hunting and trapping regulations. Those
10 changes have to be -- or proposals have to be submitted
11 by the close of business on March 29th.

12
13 And from my understanding of
14 yesterday's conversation on all the muskox proposals,
15 Park Service will be submitting those, not the Council.
16 So if there's anything else you want to submit that you
17 have concerns about, you should do that today, and make
18 an action item. Otherwise anyone can submit a
19 proposal, so if you walk out of this meeting and you
20 say, wow, we didn't X, Y and Z, you can submit it, your
21 village can submit, your tribe, a couple of people.
22 Any group, any individual can submit a proposal. It
23 just has to come in by March 29th. And then those will
24 be evaluated and brought back to you in the fall for
25 recommendation to the Federal Subsistence Board.

26
27 That's all.

28
29 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. Do you hear
30 that, Tommy.

31
32 MR. GRAY: I did.

33
34 (Laughter)

35
36 CHAIRMAN GREEN: All right. So is
37 there anybody -- the Council have any comments.

38
39 (No comments)

40
41
42 CHAIRMAN GREEN: None. that would
43 bring us to Item C.

44
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr.
46 Chair. I get to be up here for a while.

47
48 This is on Page 66 in your book. It's
49 the review and comment on tribal consultation
50 implementation guidelines. And is supposed to have

1 been presented to you by our new Native liaison, Jack
2 Lorrigan, but Jack is on leave right now, so I'm doing
3 it. And I'll do the best I can.

4
5 You probably remember that this has
6 come before you, the development of the tribal
7 consultation policy. The has been tasked with
8 developing the policy. In January 2011 the Secretary
9 of Interior directed that the Board consult with
10 Federally-recognized tribes in Alaska on actions that
11 have a significant direct impact on tribal interests.
12 And so the Board began the development of a tribal
13 consultation policy.

14
15 They formed a work group. There are
16 seven Federal and seven tribal representatives, with
17 one Federal and one tribal chair. The original co-
18 chair for the tribes was Della Trumble. She has
19 resigned for personal reasons. She had a lot of work
20 on her plate. And now it's Rosemary Ahtuanguaruk,
21 who's on the North Slope Council. She's from the
22 Village of Barrow and originated from Nuiqsut. And
23 then the co-chair on the Federal side is Crystal
24 Leonetti, who is our Native -- I think she's called a
25 Native affairs specialist for the U.S. Fish and
26 Wildlife Service. And then you'll see on that page the
27 list of all of the people who are on the work group.

28
29 They then added some more people in
30 June of 2012. Those people are listed. From the
31 tribes -- or from the corporations, and then we added
32 Jack Lorrigan who's with OSM when he was hired in
33 August of 2012.

34
35 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Helen, what page are
36 you on? Helen.

37
38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So for the next 18
39 months, the Board.....

40
41 CHAIRMAN GREEN: What page are you.

42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Sorry. It's on Page
44 66. Oh, you know what, I'm sorry, the part that I'm --
45 that's where it started. It's on Page 54. Yeah. It
46 starts on 54. So it has the list of all the people who
47 are members on Page 54. And then the new people on
48 Page 55 for the corporation members.

49
50 So in the next 18 months they had 16

1 meetings with 200 tribes, 15 ANCSA corporations. They
2 met in person for a few days, some by teleconference.
3 They sent out letters to the tribes and ANCSA
4 corporations.

5
6 And then the Board adopted the tribal
7 consultation policy on May 9th of 2012. And the policy
8 itself is on Page 66. I think I misled you on that.
9 Sorry.

10
11 So now what we're doing is working on
12 the implementation guidelines, and this is where we
13 want to know if you have any input into this, if
14 there's something you want us to do differently than
15 what we're proposing. So the chronology is listed
16 there of where we are.

17
18 Since the Council met last, the Federal
19 Board had adopted the policy, and now we're working on
20 the guidelines. The Board adopted the policy in 2013.

21
22 So the policy's on Page 58, and then we
23 get to 66, which is the implementation guidelines.
24 They put in highlighted in blue the process, and this
25 is the process you are all familiar with of how the
26 Councils address proposals and how we go through the
27 whole process. So the idea is as we -- like right now
28 we've got a call out for proposals, and so we're
29 sending out, just like we came to the Councils, and
30 we're asking do you have proposals to change seasons,
31 harvest limits, methods, and then we're asking tribes,
32 do they have any proposals that they would like to have
33 us address.

34
35 Then we have the fall Council meeting,
36 and that's step 1.B. that's on Page 67. And we'll be
37 asking then at that point, do the tribes have anything
38 they want to contribute in the development of those
39 proposals.

40
41 And then we have the review of the
42 proposals, and in that process we'll be coordinating --
43 we being OSM, will be coordinating with the tribes if
44 there's a proposal that has an impact on them. So we
45 have a proposal that, say, is dealing with specifically
46 the moose harvest of Unalakleet. Then we would be
47 contacting the tribes and finding out what kind of
48 input they want to provide to us, and if they're
49 interested in consulting and having a government-to-
50 government consultation at that point. And then to

1 discuss what the course of action should be.

2

3 And in many ways we've don this, but we
4 haven't necessarily had it written down on paper that
5 this is what we're doing. Our Staff I think has always
6 been very good about working with the local people when
7 there's an issue that affects local people. But this
8 gives the tribes the opportunity to have an official
9 government-to-government consultation on the issue.

10

11 So then when we have an analysis of the
12 proposal, then there will be another teleconference
13 that will be scheduled to provide consultation to
14 tribes on all of the proposals.

15

16 And then we get to the fall Council
17 meetings and we're developing recommendations to the
18 Federal Board, and at that point there will also be --
19 public notice will have been sent to the tribes
20 announcing the Council meetings, and then we'll have
21 teleconference at all the Council meetings, which we're
22 already doing. And opportunity for the tribes. So at
23 every Council meeting there will be -- on your agenda
24 there will be, do the tribes want to comment on
25 anything.

26

27 Then when we have the Federal
28 Subsistence Board to make recommendations -- or adopt
29 or reject proposals, this is where during the meeting
30 we'll have a report on the tribal consultations and
31 there will be an opportunity for the consultation with
32 the Federal Subsistence Board.

33

34 The other thing that's in there in the
35 guidelines is training, that we need to train OSM
36 Staff, InterAgency Staff, Federal Board on working with
37 tribes, cross cultural training. All that type of
38 thing. We do some of that, and at Fish and Wildlife
39 Service with Crystal Leonetti, she's developed a
40 training program that has actually quite successful.
41 And, you know, it used to be a little bit spotty. We'd
42 have it and then we wouldn't have it for a number of
43 years. And so now that's part of what we do, and
44 hopefully we'll continue. I think it's a really good
45 thing that we're doing.

46

47 And then there's a list on Page 69 of
48 topics for the training. And then we've laid
49 accountability, reporting. So our Native liaison's
50 job, one of his jobs, is to actually report back to the

1 Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture
2 about what have we done on consultation, and make sure
3 that we're doing what we should be doing with
4 consultation.

5
6 So that's kind of it in a nutshell. I
7 know it was kind of long.

8
9 MR. GRAY: I have one question. You
10 talk about training and going forward, and what you
11 developed here. Are you also looking at somehow
12 informing the tribes, and you've built a little empire
13 here that the tribes are probably foreign with. Are
14 you going to go back to the tribes and say, okay, here,
15 we've got this. That's been blessed by whatever, and
16 this is the process, and boom, boom, boom, so the
17 tribes are aware of this process now.

18
19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yes. That's what
20 these teleconferences with the tribes have occurred,
21 and letter have gone out, and we're asking them for
22 comment on how we're doing this. So they got to
23 comment on the policy, and provide input. And now
24 we're asking for input on the guidelines and how we're
25 implementing the policy. So, yes, we have been working
26 with the tribes.

27
28 MR. BUCK: I have one comment.

29
30 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Peter.

31
32 MR. BUCK: I went to the first meeting
33 when Tim Towarak became the Chairman for the Federal
34 Subsistence Board. And I went in the summer, because
35 the chair was busy with summer activities, so I went to
36 the meeting where they had the tribal consultation
37 issue. And they kind of slapped it right on Tim
38 Towarak was just knew, and they kind of slapped it on
39 him, and then he started working on it. And the tribes
40 did have an effective voice on saying what they wanted
41 to do on tribal consultation. And Tim Towarak was
42 really acceptable to this region and to us, and we all
43 know him. And I think that the process has started out
44 very, very good. And I don't know what happened since
45 then, but I think the process is going on pretty good.

46
47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you for that
48 comment.

49
50 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Just a question,

1 Helen. Seeing this, and there's a question I want
2 wanted to ask and they're pretty much the same as
3 somebody in the public here. What was the reason for
4 ANCSA corporations to be added? That I didn't get.
5 There's the lady over here that can ask that question.
6

7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Pat's going to. I
8 can blunder along with it, but she could probably do it
9 more eloquently.
10

11 CHAIRMAN GREEN: It was interesting. I
12 spotted it myself here, and the question was, well, it
13 was brought up, but there was -- the representation was
14 Bering Straits Native Corporation and Kawerak, and
15 neither one of them are tribes, so I was just kind of
16 curious about that.
17

18 MS. PETRIVELLI: We're operating under
19 -- this is Pat Petrivelli with the Bureau of Indian
20 Affairs.
21

22 And then there's an Executive Order
23 that says Federal agencies will consult with tribes
24 whenever any action they take directly affects or has
25 the potential to impact their tribal members or tribal
26 lands. That was passed I think in 1998.
27

28 In 2003 or 2004 Senator Ted Stevens in
29 legislation said that the Federal government will
30 consult with the Alaska Native corporations on the same
31 basis as they do tribes if the action affects their
32 lands. So that's in legislation. And so Congress told
33 us that we have to consult with the corporations on the
34 same basis at the tribes.
35

36 Now, the way the Federal Board and the
37 Department of Interior, because we were operating under
38 the -- the Department of Interior has their big tribal
39 consultation policy. So they made a tribal
40 consultation policy that's government-to-government
41 with the tribes. They also have passed a government-
42 to-corporation policy. So it's not a government-to-
43 government relationship, but it's a government-to-
44 corporation relationship, but they will -- and in the
45 policy they said they will consult with them if there's
46 actions that affect their lands or their members. And
47 as that -- I think it was just finalized a few months
48 ago, and the Federal Board has to work on developing it
49 for our program. But until that time, the Federal
50 Board has had teleconferences first with tribes, and

1 then with the corporations. They do it separate just
2 because they realize that the relationship is
3 different, and one is a government-to-government and
4 the other is a government-to-corporation.

5
6 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thanks, Pat. So to
7 advertise what's going on here, you are sending out
8 releases, news releases to Native corporations, ANCSA
9 corporations, all village, region, and tribes.

10
11 MS. PETRIVELLI: Yes. In the process of
12 developing these policies and now these guidelines, and
13 then I guess even as they get the -- draft the
14 corporation policy, it's all -- because we need to
15 involve the tribes, get their input on our relationship
16 with the corporations. But the letter go out to all
17 the tribes and all the corporations.

18
19 CHAIRMAN GREEN: And at what level do
20 they get sent to.

21
22 MS. PETRIVELLI: The mailing address.

23
24 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. And that
25 actually has been a little bit of a challenge, because
26 things change, people change, you know. But we have
27 someone in our office who works really hard to try to
28 make sure that everything is going out to where it's
29 supposed to be going to. And then we follow up by
30 email sometimes. And if we're talking about an issue
31 that's affecting the people of Unalakleet, it's not
32 just going to be a letter to the tribe. It will be
33 phone calls. We need to talk to people, and, you know,
34 it won't just be a letter.

35
36 But in this case of getting input, this
37 type of thing, we're sending out a lot of letters.
38 Jack Lorrigan has a lot of work to do. It's 229
39 tribes, so it's a big job.

40
41 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. Thank you. I
42 was asking that, I'm also on the Sitnasuak Village
43 board, so I was wondering at what level that hit the
44 newsstands there and how it gets to me as a director.
45 So I was just concerned.

46
47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So you're saying you
48 haven't seen this probably.

49
50 CHAIRMAN GREEN: I've mentioned it from

1 me to them, because of my part here.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I will ask who it's
4 going to specifically for Sitnasuak and fine out, and
5 I'll get back to you on that.

6

7 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thanks. So have we
8 anything else to cover on tribal consultation. Is
9 there any questions or comments from Council.

10

11 (No comments)

12

13

14 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. So I think we'd
15 move on to the Item D under 11. Helen, you have the
16 floor.

17

18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm doing this one
19 as well. That's on Page 75, and this is a letter.
20 Actually it starts -- I'm not suer why it said 75,
21 because it starts on Page 72 in your book. And there's
22 a briefing from the Southeast Council.

23

24 This is not an action item. This will
25 come before you in the fall. This is something we want
26 you to think about and get back to us on, so I'm going
27 to kind of briefly go through this.

28

29 In 2009 the Secretary of Interior in
30 their review of the Federal subsistence program, they
31 asked the Federal Subsistence Board to review the
32 customary and traditional use determinations, and the
33 process that they're made. They went to all 10
34 Councils, and 9 of the 10 said they didn't have any
35 issue with how customary and traditional use
36 determinations are made. But the Southeast Council had
37 an issue with it and wants this to come back before the
38 Councils. And they're asking that this be addressed.

39

40 The Southeast Council recognizes that
41 there are probably a number of ways we could solve this
42 problem, but their preferred solution would be to
43 eliminate customary and traditional use determination
44 regulations and allocate the resources as written in
45 ANILCA in Section .804. ANILCA does not say you have
46 to do customary and traditional use determinations.

47

48 The current regulations that we follow
49 for customary and traditional use determinations
50 include eight factors that analyze whether or not the

1 resource has a customary and traditional use
2 determination in a community, and those were based on
3 the State regulations that were in existence before the
4 Federal regulations. So the Federal program adopted
5 the framework. There were some differences. And part
6 of that, I was around at that time, was because --
7 actually I think all of that was because we really
8 thought the program was only going to last for about a
9 year or two, and the State was going to change their
10 constitution and they'd go back to State management.
11 That didn't happen, as you know. So nothing ever got
12 changed in how the customary and traditional use
13 determinations were done.

14
15 A positive customary and
16 traditional use determination in State regulations
17 recognizes subsistence use and provides residents with
18 a legal protection to engage in priority subsistence
19 uses. But, unlike the State process in which some
20 lands are excluded from subsistence use, most federal
21 public lands are available for subsistence use by rural
22 residents. There are a few exceptions to that.

23
24 So the Federal program uses customary
25 and traditional use determination process to restrict
26 which rural residents can participate in subsistence.
27 We don't consider abundance as part of the factor, so
28 it doesn't matter is something is at such low
29 population that it couldn't be harvested anyway. We
30 still will do a customary and traditional use
31 determination on that resource.

32
33 The process is meant to be a closing an
34 area to some rural residents, but there aren't any
35 provisions for periodic review of this action similar
36 to the review policy on other closures.

37
38 In 2007, there had been a draft policy
39 on customary and traditional use determinations that
40 was created, and it was brought before the Councils
41 during their meetings. And the Board decided not to
42 take action on that in March of 2008.

43
44 Then in 2009 the Secretary of Interior
45 had asked that there be this review. The Secretary
46 said the first relevant task was to review, with
47 Council input, Federal subsistence procedural and
48 structural regulations adopted from the State in order
49 to ensure Federal authorities are fully reflected and
50 comply with Title VIII.

1 The second task was to review customary
2 and traditional use determination process to provide
3 clear, fair and effective determinations in accordance
4 with Title VIII goals and provisions.

5
6 In 2010 the Secretary then asked Tim
7 Towarak to review it.

8
9 So the Southeast Council in their 2011
10 annual report had suggested that there be a change to
11 the customary and traditional use determinations, and
12 that's listed on Page 73, where they wanted there to be
13 the strikeout of the words specific fish stocks and
14 wildlife populations. And so it would read, The Board
15 shall determine which fish and wildlife have been
16 customarily and traditionally used for subsistence.
17 These determinations shall identify the specific
18 community's or area's use of all species of fish and
19 wildlife that have been traditionally used, in their
20 past and present geographic areas.

21
22 In the reply, the Board encouraged the
23 Southeast Council to develop recommendations in a
24 proposal format for additional review. And the OSM
25 Staff volunteered to provide some assistance, which
26 they did.

27
28 And in March of 2012 in Juneau when
29 they provided an update on the Secretarial review, it
30 stated that nine Councils felt the C&T process,
31 customary and traditional use determination process was
32 adequate, and only the Southeast Council had comments
33 for changes.

34
35 So the Southeast Council formed a work
36 group to review all the materials and provide an update
37 on the issue during their March 2012 meeting, and
38 develop a recommendation for the Southeast Council.

39
40 So after they had this work group, they
41 spent a lot of time working and looking into the
42 history and what happened in 2007 and all the materials
43 which they've provided here, and are quite lengthy.

44
45 The Southeast Council findings were
46 that customary and traditional use determinations
47 weren't found in ANILCA, and although there are clearly
48 some instances where it is appropriate to provide a
49 preference to local residents, the Southeast Council
50 has a history of recommending customary and traditional

1 use determinations for a large geographic area, and
2 that when necessary, the Federal Subsistence Board can
3 restrict who can harvest a resource by applying ANILCA
4 Section .804 criteria, which are customary and direct
5 dependence upon the populations as a mainstay of
6 livelihood, local residency, and the availability of
7 alternative resources.

8
9 And a side note, this region has
10 probably used Section .804 more than any other region
11 has. And they were also the first region to apply
12 Section .804, and that's why you have, for example, the
13 moose hunt you were talking about yesterday only for
14 Unalakleet residence. That was through an .804
15 analysis that was done.

16
17 So the ANILCA Section .804 process is a
18 management tool that allows seasons on Federal public
19 lands and waters to remain open to all rural residents
20 until there is a need to reduce the pool of eligible
21 users.

22
23 Replacing the Federal customary and
24 traditional use determination eight factors with ANILCA
25 Section .804 three criteria may be a preferred method
26 of restricting who can harvest a resource.

27
28 So the Southeast Council, they sent
29 this letter that's on Page 75 to all of the Council
30 Chairs. The Southeast Council Chair talked about this
31 at the Federal Board meeting in January, and the letter
32 asks the Councils to review during their fall 2013
33 meetings whether the process for making customary and
34 traditional use determinations is serving the needs of
35 residents of their region, and report their findings to
36 the Southeast Council. If the Councils desire it, then
37 the Southeast Council will make a proposal for amending
38 or eliminating current regulations.

39
40 They don't want to do this without the
41 support of the other Councils. So, I mean, they could
42 have just gone ahead and made a proposal and let
43 everybody address that, but they wanted to get input
44 from all the Councils first.

45
46 So questions. We can have a discussion
47 now, but this will be an action item in the fall for
48 you to make a recommendation to the Southeast Council
49 whether or not you think there should be a proposal to
50 change how we do customary and traditional use

1 determinations, or eliminating them.

2

3 That's all I have to say, and I'm ready
4 for questions.

5

6 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Well, I don't have any
7 questions myself. Anybody else on the Council have.

8

9 (No comments)

10

11

12 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. Move it until
13 this fall I suppose.

14

15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thanks, Helen.

18

19 So I guess that brings us to Item 12.
20 And we've been at this for about an hour and a half so
21 I need to take a break. 15, please. 15 minutes.

22

23 (Off record)

24

25 (On record)

26

27 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Call the meeting back
28 to order here at 11:05. Hello, Thomas.

29

30 MR. SPARKS: Hello, Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Notice I said Thomas.
33 That's a differentiation. Tom and Thomas.

34

35 Okay. So we've covered under new
36 business all four items. We're on to agency reports.
37 Under A, and Helen, you have the floor again.

38

39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr.
40 Chair. I'm going to address all of the OSM agency
41 reports all in one fell swoop here. They're brief.

42

43 Budget. We jus wanted to let you know
44 that our budget's being hammered. We're currently
45 operating under a continuing resolution, but since this
46 was even written that we were under reduced budget and
47 travel restrictions, it's been reduced even more with
48 the sequestration being put into place.

49

50 We want you to know that our top

1 priority is to support the Councils and to hold Council
2 meetings. It is probably the only travel right now
3 that's occurring for all of Fish and Wildlife Service,
4 unless the travel's -- they have a guideline that's
5 come out, you know, for health and safety reasons. but
6 these Council meetings are continuing. We have to hold
7 them in order to uphold ANILCA, so they will continue.
8 But we are limiting Staff travel. We only have two OSM
9 Staff here this time. And we had planned on more, but
10 they've cut those as well.

11
12 Staffing is the next one on the agenda.
13 Pete Probasco, I think many of you have met Pete, was
14 our ARD for a number of years. He took a new position
15 as ARD, that's the assistant regional director, for
16 migratory birds and the State programs.

17
18 We have a new deputy assistant regional
19 director, Kathy O'Reilly-Doyle who started last summer,
20 and so she's acting right now for Pete Probasco's
21 position. And Kathy has a lot of experience in Alaska.
22 She used to live in Kotzebue for a few years. So she's
23 pretty knowledgeable about subsistence. So she's
24 acting right now.

25
26 And then David Jenkins, I'm not sure if
27 you may have met him at one point along the way, he has
28 taken on acting as the deputy assistant regional
29 director.

30
31 I'm retiring. We don't know when
32 they're going to give us permission to hire an
33 anthropology chief.

34
35 We don't even know when they'll give us
36 permission to hire a new assistant regional director.
37 That's gone to Washington for a waiver for that hire.

38
39 And then Michelle Chivers, I'm not sure
40 any of you have met her. She at one point was a
41 Council coordinator. She retired, and her position
42 also will also have to have a waiver to fill behind
43 her.

44
45 We have I think about 10 vacancies
46 right now at OSM, positions that haven't been filled
47 along the way. So we're becoming a little bit more
48 bare bones as we continue in this process of limiting
49 Federal budgets.

50

1 We already talked about the Fisheries
2 Resource Monitoring Plan.

3
4 Council appointments. We just wanted
5 you to know, I think you're all aware, that we had a
6 significant delay this year for finalizing Council
7 appointments. And we still have the delay with Tim
8 Smith's appointment. That still hasn't been approved
9 in the Secretary's office. So it was out of our
10 control. We did everything we could. We solicited
11 help from the Special Assistant to the Secretary, Pat
12 Pourchot, who's in Anchorage, and he did a lot of
13 calling and it was a very difficult process this year.
14 None of us were very happy about it.

15
16 The regulatory cycle. The Board heard
17 various recommendations from the Regional Advisory
18 Councils regarding the Board meeting dates, and the
19 fisheries regulatory cycle, and the fall meeting
20 window. And the Board's going to be addressing those
21 recommendations this spring I think either in April or
22 May. There is an April 24th and 25th I believe. Is
23 that right, Pat? Yeah, April 24th and 25th the Board's
24 meeting in a work session, and I believe they will be
25 addressing that as to when they'll be meeting. They
26 might change their cycle somewhat.

27
28 And then the memorandum of
29 understanding. The Board heard the feedback from the
30 Councils. Everyone provided a lot of feedback. And
31 the MOU's been revised. The Board is now waiting to
32 hear back from the State Advisory Committees, and
33 they'll probably address this as well in their April
34 meeting.

35
36 And that concludes the OSM briefings.
37 And we already address the briefings on consultation
38 with tribes and ANCSA corporations earlier. So next is
39 National Park Service.

40
41 Thank you, Mr. Chair. Any questions.

42
43 CHAIRMAN GREEN: I think Mr. Seetot has
44 a question.

45
46 MR. SEETOT: Elmer Seetot, Brevig
47 Mission.

48
49 Budget update. Everything is in limbo
50 right now with Federal monies.

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

2

3 MR. SEETOT: Under a continuing
4 resolution, nothing will be paid like that is owed to
5 Staff members or Council members? You know, we had a
6 meeting in October, and then unfortunately we had to
7 stay another night due to weather, and then we really
8 haven't heard from the Federal government on, you know,
9 that -- I'm not sure what you call it, extra money for
10 meeting purposes.

11

12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Oh, I think Mr. Nick
13 can address that, but that shouldn't be -- your being
14 reimbursed from an October meeting should not be
15 affected by the continuing resolution, but, Alex, do
16 you want to address that.

17

18 MR. A. NICK: Yes. Through the Chair.
19 Mr. Seetot. There could be a couple of factors. One
20 that the receipts that you sent to our office in
21 Anchorage may have been overlooked, because your
22 vouchers should have been completed and submitted to
23 Denver for payment. I could check on that. I could
24 check on that when I go back.

25

26 One thing that I should remind all of
27 the RAC members who are traveling is to let me know if
28 there's going to be any travel changes. If there were
29 travel changes that we didn't know about, and we get
30 travel receipts in our office in Anchorage, that could
31 bring up some questions and delay the process of travel
32 vouchers.

33

34 And it's important for you to send your
35 receipts to our office as soon as you return. Your cab
36 fares, your other expenses, reimbursable expenses to
37 our office or to me. I forward all of the receipts I
38 receive from you to our office. And the person to
39 contact in our office in Anchorage is Glenn Westdahl.
40 He takes care of travel vouchers and other travel
41 paperwork. I could contact him as soon as we're done
42 with this meeting. Thank you.

43

44 MR. BUCK: I would talk to -- I also
45 didn't receive the rest of the per diem that we had in
46 the last meeting, because I stayed over like Elmer did.

47

48 But I think for the new members, I
49 think we need an orientation or something for the
50 policies of being on the Council and policies of travel

1 and all that stuff to be covered for the new members.

2

3 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Peter.

4 Helen, go ahead.

5

6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Please let us know
7 if you didn't -- if there's anybody else, I'm making a
8 list. We'll go back and find out what happened. So is
9 there anybody else who didn't get their money from last
10 time.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14

15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So it's Peter and

16 Elmer.

17

18 And we are planning on next time we
19 meet we will have some time set aside from training.
20 All of the Councils need new training. So that's being
21 built into the agenda.

22

23 If you all want to write down Glenn's
24 phone number, it's 786-3952. And you can actually call
25 our toll-free number. It's 1-800-478-1456 and ask for
26 Glenn. We only have one Glenn. But I will make sure,
27 we'll go back to the office and make sure that we find
28 out what happened so you didn't get your money from the
29 fall meeting.

30

31 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Tom.

32

33 MR. GRAY: A suggestion I guess would
34 be to go back to your list of people that were at the
35 meeting last fall and contact those that aren't here
36 and make sure they have been paid in full, if that
37 makes sense.

38

39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

40

41 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Alex.

42

43 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chair. Alex Nick,
44 Council coordinator.

45

46 Like I've reminded the Council several
47 times in the past, there are some travel procedures
48 that we have to follow. Like, for example, we've asked
49 for your receipts. We ask you to submit your travel
50 receipts as soon as you return. There could be several

1 factors, or maybe a factor or two why you haven't
2 received your reimbursement. Because here's the way I
3 understand, Helen could correct me if I'm wrong, when
4 we give you travel advance of funds, that's 75 percent
5 of the per diem you're supposed to receive. When you
6 don't submit your receipts as soon as you return, when
7 we don't know what time you get back home -- what time
8 you left and get back home, Glenn has some problems
9 completing your travel voucher for payment. We need
10 all of that information from you as soon as you receive
11 it. Some of you have provided that to me, and it has
12 been forwarded to Glenn. There's been some times, you
13 know, when someone forgot that they received some of
14 these information -- some of this information that's
15 needed to complete your travel. So please let us know
16 what time left home and what time you got home, and
17 what day.

18

19 Mr. Chair.

20

21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm done unless you
22 have other questions.

23

24 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chair. Excuse me.
25 One other thing that I want to mention is that you just
26 received a new Council Operations Manual. Before this
27 fall, Helen mentioned that maybe in the fall meeting we
28 will provide Council training, we need to set a half a
29 day aside to provide this training to all of you, so
30 get familiar with the new operations manual, because
31 there's some changes in it from the past. The last one
32 that you received was in 2007 I believe. And it has
33 not been revised since then. There's some new
34 revisions to that manual.

35

36 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. Thank you,
37 Alex.

38

39 Ken. We're at agency reports. You're
40 on.

41

42 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair. Council
43 members. Ken Adkisson, National Park Service. Just a
44 couple of quick updates on some things.

45

46 It looks like we're finally going to
47 get a bear survey done for the Preserve this year.
48 There's still some talk and discussion going on about
49 whether or not we can afford to and how we can maybe
50 enlarge the area to get a little broader picture that

1 would largely I think benefit some State managers more
2 than us, but it does have some applicability. But I
3 guess just stay tuned for the final details, but we
4 will get at least a bear survey for a good hunk of the
5 Bering Land Bridge, if not all of it, and part of 22E.

6
7 The last one we had done was 2006. And
8 that one, due to some logistic issues in carrying it
9 out, the result was the confidence intervals between
10 the low end and the upper end of the range of the
11 estimate were just too great and the confidence -- our
12 confidence in that was just too low to really make it
13 very meaningful.

14
15 But ultimately that data can be fed
16 into other -- as we get surveys down the road, it can
17 become part of a larger picture in terms of trends. So
18 we're trying to move forward on the bears. Stay tuned.

19
20 And then the other thing is that we're
21 reaching the final end of the review and response to
22 questions on the Bering Land Bridge big game guiding
23 environmental assessment that can lead to us developing
24 a program and issuing concessions contracts for big
25 game guiding in the Preserve. And that's currently
26 been hung up for a short while in how to address local
27 and other concerns with restricting some of the guiding
28 activities, the commercial services in the area of the
29 Serpentine Hot Springs as well as some more work on
30 responding to other questions that we received in
31 response to making public comments in relation to the
32 EA itself. But we're just about done with that, and
33 hopefully to have that wrapped up soon. And once
34 that's done, the document will go to the regional
35 director for her signature.

36
37 And the outcome will basically I think
38 be a finding of no significant impact or a FONSI, which
39 then will allow us to proceed with actually developing
40 prospectuses and putting those out for contract and
41 stuff. With the budget constrictions and staffing
42 issues and things though, finally getting to that end
43 step may take a little longer than we thought, but
44 we're making progress.

45
46 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you. Elmer, you
47 have a question or comment.

48
49 MR. SEETOT: Yesterday I think Mr. Gorn
50 mentioned that process for 2013 muskox Tier II

1 applications was over and persons were selected based
2 on their criteria. Do the communities like Teller,
3 Brevig have opportunity to request from your agency,
4 you know, to harvest a muskox within our area. Or do
5 you have the -- I kind of hear something about
6 discretionary animals that can be harvested by the
7 communities, or is that just something that I
8 misunderstood.

9

10 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Seetot, through the
11 Chair. No, that's correct. You heard correctly. And
12 we'd be willing to sit down with the community and talk
13 to them about the results of the Tier II thing, and see
14 if they have any problems with it.

15

16 And I think the guiding principle that
17 we were talking about yesterday is that there's an
18 allowable harvest across the whole Peninsula for 39
19 bulls, that the 22D Southwestern hunt area, there's
20 only one bull allowed. For the 22D Remainder combined
21 with the 22D Kuzitrin area, there's 11 animals. And
22 the way that's been broken out based on distribution of
23 animals within those, and I don't think it will change
24 from last year, that was seven animals for the 22D
25 Remainder and four animals for the Kuzitrin/Pilgrim
26 drainages area.

27

28 And, yeah, the State's had its Tier II
29 application period open. It's a standardized process
30 now. You heard Tony mention yesterday that you can
31 apply online for it, and that they did go to the
32 villages and try to work with people locally on the
33 Tier II system. That period's closed. The State's
34 done its process and the results are out. You know,
35 you can get them online from the State, or I can share
36 them with you. I believe you actually got a copy of
37 the Tier II results in that packet that I gave you
38 yesterday. Probably for that it may be a one or two-
39 page summary, front and back, but you'll see everybody
40 who applied; you can see who got the permits, and you
41 can see a little quantitative summary of how it broke
42 it broke out by the communities as far as the results
43 of that Tier II.

44

45 The other guiding thing that we're
46 going to be doing with the 30 percent that we talked
47 about on the Federal permits is paying attention to
48 potential over-harvest. So it's kind of open-ended at
49 this stage, but we've got until the hunt really opens
50 in August to work that out with the communities if

1 there's interest.

2

3 Yeah. So, yeah, we'd be willing to
4 talk to the community.

5

6 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you. Tom.

7

8 MR. GRAY: I guess everybody knows my
9 feeling on how this muskox thing came together and
10 where the Park's going to go with it. And I just want
11 to go on record that, you know, the Park has an
12 obligation to opportunity for folks in the area, and,
13 you know, we're not in the business to clean up issues
14 that the State has created.

15

16 So with that, I'm going to drop that,
17 but I'm interested in this bear survey, and how many
18 year project this is, and it sounds like you're going
19 to start this thing this year, the time of year, what
20 time of year are you doing this project, and what's
21 your end goal? Is it going to bring down the numbers?
22 Is there a certain number of bears that you want in the
23 area? You know, the reindeer industry years ago helped
24 get a bear survey study for the Seward Peninsula, and
25 we still have a bear problem 20 years later. So, you
26 know, I'm kind of interest in what the end result, the
27 goal's going to be. And hopefully it isn't 20 years
28 later we're still in the same problem.

29

30 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Gray through the
31 Chair. The timing of the survey, it will be done
32 basically late spring, early fall, you know, once the
33 bears are out and moving around and before things leaf
34 up and they get into brush where you can't really see
35 them.

36

37 The goal is simply to develop primarily
38 a population estimate for the Preserve. And initially
39 nothing more beyond that. How that estimate gets used
40 in terms of management's a whole another ball game.

41

42 And we're also working on developing a
43 brown bear protocol, but we don't have a management
44 scheme in place that would take the population data
45 and, say, set harvest objectives or anything like that.
46 Normally setting population goals, setting harvest
47 objectives and things gets to be really complicated and
48 has largely in the past been viewed as a State
49 management issue.

50

1 Our primary concern at this point is
2 trying to get an estimate of the number of bear -- a
3 reliable, statistically reliable and robust estimate of
4 the number of bears in the Preserve, and possibly,
5 depending upon how the actual project's conducted and
6 winds up, depending upon money and all of that, maybe
7 in an area outside the Preserve as well.

8
9 MR. BUCK: I have one comment, and
10 that's I think that comes right back to the
11 extraterritorial jurisdiction that we were talking
12 about earlier, that whatever happens in the Preserve,
13 we can use extraterritorial jurisdiction to get
14 information on what's happening in State lands and
15 everything else.

16
17 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Buck, through the
18 Chair. I mean, that's part of the idea I think, you
19 know, in the attractiveness of trying to do a larger
20 area. It might be also be to gather some bear data
21 along some of the road system areas where for the last
22 several years we've had much more liberalized bear
23 harvest regulations, just for comparative purposes.

24
25 You know, when it finally comes down to
26 management, and you've heard all this before, I mean,
27 the Park Service has internal management policies and
28 practices that set it apart from other conservation
29 agencies. You've heard us use terms like managing for
30 natural and healthy, and healthy populations. So, you
31 know, how all this data gets used and the goals, as you
32 well know, can be very difficult.

33
34 And just one example of that is, I
35 mean, basically the Park Service tries to manage for
36 natural conditions, and populations in their natural
37 abundance and mix and composition and things. And we
38 basically, you know, normally, and by that I mean
39 almost always don't, for example, manage for one
40 species over another. And so you've heard us oppose
41 predator control inside Park units for a long time, and
42 I don't think that's going to change. But setting
43 harvest limits and other things, you know, appropriate
44 to the population and providing for subsistence
45 opportunities, you know, yes. And part of that can
46 change in relate to the biological information.

47
48 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Tom, go ahead.

49
50 MR. GRAY: Part of my question a little

1 while ago was is this a multi-year project or is it
2 just a one year project? How long is this project.
3 And the reason I ask this is it seems to be, to me,
4 that the last time they did a bear study, it was like a
5 three or four-year project. Anyway, is this a one-year
6 project or is it forecast to go longer?

7
8 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Gray through the
9 Chair. Actually what the Park Service's approach to
10 this -- you've heard Tony I think and Peter Benty and
11 other people, you know, and sometimes Park Service
12 biologists, tell you about the different ways to
13 determine how many bears are out there, and the range
14 estimates from things like collaring animals to capture
15 and marking and recounting and all of that. And the
16 basic thing is that most of the techniques that have
17 been used have been very expensive, and no one can
18 afford to really do them often.

19
20 And one of the things that the Park
21 Service again has been working on is sort of some
22 occupancy work and some different sampling techniques.
23 And we think we're finally there. And if we're there,
24 I can tell you I think ADF&G at least in Region 5 here
25 in the Nome area is going to be very interested in
26 seeing if they can adapt that method and apply it,
27 because they want to get out and respond to people's
28 request for information on bear numbers, reliable
29 information, quantitative information.

30
31 And our approach to this is that we're
32 developing this as a monitoring protocol for brown
33 bears within our Park Service inventory and monitoring
34 program. And the way the protocol is being set up, for
35 the Park Service this would include roughly four areas,
36 one of which is in Gates of the Arctic National Park
37 and Preserve, two of this are in the Noatak National
38 Preserve, and then Bering Land Bridge. And what we
39 would do is come back on a cycle and resurvey those
40 areas for ad infinitum out into the future. So what
41 that would mean is we would basically do an area, the
42 following year move to the next area, and then about
43 the fifth year take a year off and look at data and all
44 of that analysis and stuff, and take a break from it,
45 and then go back and start the sampling.

46
47 So, yeah, we're looking at long-time
48 collection of data on brown bears. And we think we've
49 hit a method that we hope will give us the statistical
50 robusticity that we need as well as the ability to

1 replicate and repeat the survey. So maybe it will be a
2 new era. I sure hope so.

3

4 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Elmer, you've got a
5 question or comment.

6

7 MR. SEETOT: In regards to bear and
8 wolf predation, I think I have said I have heard over a
9 number of years, you know that they are a problem. You
10 do have it on paper, your policy on predation control.
11 I guess we can put it at the regional level like people
12 from our region say we do have that problem. I guess
13 we did let it get a problem, because we really haven't
14 harvested these animals, especially the brown bear.
15 The last time I had brown bear meat was when I was
16 growing up, and that was a pretty active subsistence
17 lifestyle, before the days of microwave and TV dinners
18 and stuff like that. Now the younger people really
19 haven't had the opportunity to harvest or go after big
20 game other than moose and ungulates. But in our
21 tradition at least in our area, I think that tradition
22 of brown bear hunting kind of died 30 years ago, 20
23 years ago. Only active place that I hear about bear
24 hunting is in the Nome area, and they're pretty active
25 about that. I'm glad that they're going after the
26 predators, you know, in this area, but other places, in
27 the outlying areas like Shishmaref or like Wales or
28 Brevig, around the coastal communities, and marine
29 mammals do wash up on shore, and sometimes, you know,
30 when there's a shortage of food for the predators, you
31 know, they'll forage and go after the available source
32 there. But I guess it's time for the hunters or the
33 people of this region to say, oh, okay, I guess enough
34 lip service. I think we just need to do some action.
35 And that's where it lies right now, at least in my
36 community.

37

38 I see it in other communities where it
39 was kind of revered in the past, you know, the bear as
40 a big game animal. Now it's being classified as a
41 nuisance in our area, because, you know, they break
42 into cabins in areas outside of the community.

43

44 And the last things was that I kind of
45 mentioned about the wolf predation problem within our
46 area. They're kind of hard to go after. It's just I
47 think we've got the interest back to the community
48 where we had a wolf problem the past five years, now
49 the current wolf pack has been eliminated, at least for
50 different packs, you know, comprised anywhere from two

1 animals to eight animals. So that's helping a little
2 bit, but then another group of wolves have come in.
3 And I seen the destructive things that they can do to
4 the wildlife.

5
6 And I guess that's where our problem
7 is, that we just need to do more hunting and less lip
8 service out in the communities, because I seen the
9 increase in bears and wolves are moving around a bit
10 where they kind of position our animals could be here
11 one day and then gone the next.

12
13 Thank you.

14
15 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Seetot, through the
16 Chair. Just quickly. Yeah, it's a complex issue, and,
17 you know, I think from the Park Service's point of
18 view, we would like to encourage and see elders, you
19 know, work with the younger people in the community on
20 traditional patters of use and utilization, if that,
21 you know, works to some extent.

22
23 You know, we've always supported
24 liberal regulations for subsistence harvest. For
25 people that, you know, aren't into maybe eating bears
26 as much, I mean, I would just point out that currently
27 there are three regulations, two of which are State and
28 one of which is Federal, in which you can hunt and
29 harvest a bear, including within Bering Land Bridge
30 National Preserve.

31
32 There's a State subsistence hunt that's
33 a registration permit hunt. You have to get the
34 permit. And then you can, you know, take the bear.
35 And you have to salvage the meat, but a lot of people
36 traditionally didn't like to -- you know, had special
37 attitudes and beliefs about bears and how they should
38 be treated after they were taken, and you can leave the
39 skull and hide in the field if you want, and you don't
40 have to seal the bear. You just have to report the
41 harvest. That's one bear a year.

42
43 There's a State regulation -- or a
44 Federal regulation, subsistence bear hunt that
45 basically parallels that, and you use the State permit.

46
47 Now, for those people that don't want
48 to salvage the meat or as much of the meat of the bear,
49 and they want to make more utilization of the hide and
50 the claws and all of that, there is a very easy option

1 for that under the State. There is a State general
2 hunt, and that applies in Bering Land Bridge National
3 Preserve as well as, you know, on State-managed lands.
4 That requires that you have a hunting license. It no
5 longer requires a tag fee. That's been done away with
6 for a number of years. And what you do is you have a
7 hunting license, you go take the bear, and you notify
8 the State, and you are required to salvage the hide and
9 the skull. You don't have to salvage the meat, but if
10 you want to, you can. But you do have to have the bear
11 sealed. And that's where the State picks up the
12 harvest data on the bear is when they get it sealed.
13 And that also now is one bear a year.

14

15 So, you know, the bear hunting
16 opportunities are fairly liberal out there if people
17 want to take advantage of them to take a legal bear.

18

19 CHAIRMAN GREEN: It's still interesting
20 to hear that, you know, the cultural's changed. I
21 think in 1900 here in Nome, Alaska, if somebody took a
22 bear, there were plenty of people down in the
23 restaurants eating bear steaks, because that's where it
24 ended up.

25

26 So anyway, if there are no further
27 questions for Ken. Ken, do you have another comment.

28

29 MR. ADKISSON: Just one comment. On
30 the wolves, you know, we've had internal discussions
31 and fights within the Park Service literally over this.
32 And traditionally we at least have always supported
33 liberal wolf harvest for subsistence purposes. And,
34 you know, it's not our fault if the market falls out of
35 the fur prices and things, but, you know, we've
36 resisted putting really tight limits, for example, on
37 the number of wolves that can be harvested by
38 subsistence users. All we're asking is that they get
39 used for subsistence purposes.

40

41 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Is that it for Ken,
42 Council.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46

47 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Ken.

48

49 I guess you're up, Thomas. BLM.

50

1 MR. SPARKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
2 Good to see everybody again.

3
4 I just want to update you on some of
5 the activities of the field office, the Anchorage Field
6 Office. We have a new field manager, his name is Alan
7 Bittner. He got on board a couple of months ago. And
8 Merben is a new employee to the Anchorage Field Office,
9 and I'm glad he was here yesterday, mainly because I
10 didn't have to sit as long. I've got plenty to do. So
11 Merben's position with the Anchorage Field Office has
12 been vacant for two years. Geoff Byersdorf who was our
13 subsistence coordinator left to become a field manager
14 I believe down in Montana. So it's been kind of
15 difficult on Staff, because we've had to pick up that
16 slack.

17
18 I guess some things that may be
19 interesting to the Board is this year out of the little
20 known field station I run, I gave out more permits for
21 muskox than before. My recollection years past it was
22 one or two. I actually gave out six this year, four in
23 22B and two in D. Two reported harvested on the B
24 tickets that were handed out.

25
26 I guess there was a lot of discussion
27 about muskox yesterday, so I won't beat that dead horse
28 up, but I'm hoping to work with Merben on some of those
29 issues just because I'm aware of some of the things
30 that have been going on in the last few years on that.

31
32 We've got a number of big projects
33 going on. We have a company that's actually a
34 subsidiary of GCI that's bringing broadband internet to
35 the Bush, and many of you may have seen some splashes
36 on that in some of the news media. But they are
37 expanding the proposal to go to Kotzebue, and it will
38 require five towers on BLM-managed lands, some of which
39 are within the Central Yukon Field Office, which is on
40 the northern part of the Seward Peninsula and all the
41 way up to the Baldwin Peninsula outside of Kotzebue.

42
43 We're working on the environmental
44 assessment on that now. It's done through a contractor
45 called URS out of Anchorage, and that will probably
46 hit the streets in early April.

47
48 And what GCI is doing is they're bring
49 a larger pipe into the villages, and depending on the
50 end users at the villages on their telephone lines --

1 generally they're limited to the copper in your lines,
2 but some of you who have GCI are going to see an
3 immediate benefit in terms of your connection speed.
4 The project, currently, the Terra Northwest, Phase II
5 what we call it, is planning on coming to Nome in 2014,
6 and they're hooking up the villages along the line.

7
8 There's some aspects of the project
9 that you'll probably see or hear from, certainly more
10 helicopter activity during the construction season.
11 And also the sites have generators there, because the
12 towers have to have 24/7 capabilities, and they're run
13 by diesel generation. And they are refueled by
14 helicopters. So it's a fairly large project.

15
16 The other one the Anchorage Field
17 Office is involved in is the Donlin pipeline. The
18 project is very large. It's an EIS level project. An
19 environmental impact statement will be done. The Corps
20 of Engineers is the lead on that, and the Anchorage
21 Field Office is a cooperating agency. That pipeline is
22 over 300 miles long, and it's proposed to go from the
23 Beluga coal fields there at the Beluga Plant over to
24 Crooked Creek where the Donlin Mine is being proposed.
25 So that's going to take up a lot of effort from our
26 field office.

27
28 I guess the other thing that has been
29 interesting to the Board over the years is the big game
30 guides, and there's been no change on that other than
31 one guide we had some issues with, and his permit got
32 revoked. And he was working the southern Bendylavin
33 Mountains. But there's been no new guides that have
34 applied. We've certainly been forthright with this
35 Board as far as if we get a new application.

36
37 The State office was working on an
38 environmental assessment for the big game guide. I
39 guess the way I like to explain it is the numbers. The
40 State of Alaska is working on what I would consider
41 going back to a number for each guide use area. And I
42 haven't had an update on that for quite a few months,
43 but I know we were working on that as an agency. And
44 it's a little above my level, but I have been asked to
45 comment on it every now and then. So if I get any more
46 information on that, and Merben certainly will be clued
47 on that, we can pass that along.

48
49 So that's about all I have. Good to
50 see you folks again, and happy spring. And welcome any

1 questions you may have. Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Thomas.

4

5 Are here any questions of -- okay.

6 Elmer, go ahead.

7

8 MR. SEETOT: There's a transect, I
9 think a food plot, a fenced in area near Cape Douglas.
10 Is that part of BLM or is that a different agency?

11

12 MR. SPARKS: Well, that's something I
13 failed to mention and I probably should have. Last
14 year through a cooperative project through the
15 Anchorage field office and the University of Alaska, we
16 set out a number of plots for studying lichen. And I
17 believe there are 11 in total. And Laurie Thorpe out
18 of our Anchorage office was instrumental in getting
19 those plots out. So they're probably pretty big fences
20 out there, and you may have seen some. There's one
21 north of the Agiapuk that you may run into there,
22 Elmer, so, you know, I expressed some concern about
23 having some reflectors and stuff, but they're big
24 enough you ought to be able to see them. But
25 definitely if you've got any concerns on those, please
26 let us know.

27

28 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Tom.

29

30 MR. GRAY: The fish study issue that we
31 talked about earlier today, I sure would like to see
32 some Federal dollars pumped into the Seward Peninsula,
33 and programs -- you know, I don't care if they're a
34 graduate student or what, just so we're doing something
35 positive for the fish industry. And BLM is a major
36 landowner out here, so it would be nice to see
37 something from that arena.

38

39 Again, I think you're right, we beat
40 this muskox thing to death. But I would like to
41 suggest to BLM that your permit system is opportunity
42 for people, and again we're not here to clean up issues
43 that the State has caused. And hopefully you work with
44 the people and make sure that opportunity is met.

45

46 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Tom.

47

48 MR. SPARKS: Thanks for those comments,
49 sir. Tom, through the Chair.

50

1 CHAIRMAN GREEN: A question to you,
2 Thomas, is that north and south shores of the Imruk
3 Basin, is that, the selection of Bering Straits Native
4 Corporation, is that something that has finalized?

5
6 MR. SPARKS: Yes. I didn't mention
7 that, but there's been some fairly significant land
8 transfers. That's one that was part of a settlement
9 with Bering Straits Native Corporation. That was part
10 of a settlement with Bering Straits Native Corporation.

11
12 And the lands around Salmon Lake were
13 also conveyed. Salmon Lake's kind of like two kidneys.
14 You know, it's pinched in the middle and basically the
15 Native corporation, the regional Native corporation got
16 the north half and the State got the south half. The
17 north half has an airport on it that was actually a
18 lease with the State Department of Transportation
19 through the Anchorage Field Office, and that lease got
20 patented to the State. So the regional Native
21 corporation owns the north side of the lake except for
22 the airport. And BLM kept a small amount of acreage,
23 about nine acres for the campground there at Salmon
24 Lake. So we're the permanent managers of that small
25 campground.

26
27 And then, yes, the regional Native
28 corporation received title to lands both north and
29 south. Windy Cove. There's some lands that were
30 transferred there. And the mouth of the Agiapuk.

31
32 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you. Elmer, go
33 ahead.

34
35 MR. SEETOT: In regards to that, yeah,
36 our people at Teller, Wales, Shishmaref have used Imruk
37 Basin resources before the lands claims, before
38 anything came to pass. I remember growing up that
39 people used to take their whole families, you know,
40 single outboards, look at the same scene for hours and
41 hours, when are we going to get there, you know. That
42 was that type. How you've got ANCSA, you know, you
43 have people claiming lands that were traditionally used
44 by people that are now long gone, and then those that
45 are, you know, getting into it. Hopefully there will
46 be no restrictions by the corporations. I know there
47 are some restrictions by some Federal agencies on
48 removing artifact or something on their lands, but all
49 we're asking is that -- we are just being inundated
50 with we have to get permits from this, permit from

1 that, you know, for different types of the season for
2 berry picking. Most of the time we went up the river
3 for berry picking and for salmon fishing, because the
4 fish were leaving at that time. But now it's something
5 that we have to kind of teach our children to get
6 permits or to abide with regulations, you know, for the
7 land owners. Some of them do comply. I think the
8 majority in my area, we kind of rebel at, you know, why
9 get a permit, I've been here a lot longer before the
10 corporations, long before anything was passed down, you
11 know. Just pretty much everything is shared what's in
12 that region. So hopefully, you know, that doesn't
13 become a problem for some of our people, because I'm
14 very hesitant to go up the Pilgrim River -- or I'm very
15 hesitant to go up to Imruk Basin and go up through the
16 Kuzitrin or through Pilgrim River, because, you know,
17 they've got some land use policies that contrary to my
18 belief, you know, that I shouldn't have to be signing
19 my name for. And that's something that, you know, the
20 corporations and agencies kind of use on their side to
21 keep people out like myself who have been there before,
22 long before they're, too, you know, extract the
23 resources during my lifetime.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 MR. GRAY: I got a question.

28

29 CHAIRMAN GREEN:

30

31 MR. GRAY: We've had a lot of hype of
32 we're going to get a road to Nome. And it's kind of
33 went away. Is BLM working on anything in this realm to
34 get this road here?

35

36 MR. SPARKS: Thank you, Mr. Gray.
37 Through the Chair. I'd like to comment on Elmer's but
38 I'll answer your question.

39

40 We work through public land laws that
41 are promulgated, and so we work on someone applying.
42 And so the State Department of Transportation has not
43 applied for a right-of-way, which that's the mechanism
44 that would trigger our involvement. So, you know,
45 entities are free to create little maps and put
46 spaghetti lines on them and do all kinds of things.

47

48 Generally when BLM is involved in a
49 right-of-way, some things leading up to an application
50 are considered casual use. For example, if a company

1 or the State or a Federal entity for that matter wants
2 to get a right-of-way and they need to conduct certain
3 surveys of the environment that will cause very little
4 damage, that is considered causal use. They don't need
5 a permit from us.

6
7 But certainly the actual granting of a
8 right-of-way is something that we have not had an
9 application on.

10
11 So I hope that settles your mind there
12 a little bit.

13
14 Concerning Elmer's comment, you know,
15 those land laws are passed by Congress, and we have a
16 duty and obligation to implement those as best we can.

17
18 And the land transfers program, I've
19 been involved in it for many, many years, first with
20 the regional Native corporation here, and assisting the
21 villages with their finalization of their land
22 selections, and then with my job with BLM. And once
23 those lands leave Federal ownership, the Federal
24 government is by and large out of it. The only
25 obligations that the Federal government remains through
26 BLM is some of the 14c obligations with the village
27 corporations. The village corporations were required
28 transfer title to people using and occupying lands
29 prior to the Native Claims Settlement Act. And then
30 the other obligation we have is on the public easements
31 that are reserved through Native corporation land. So
32 those are the two obligations that we have as a Federal
33 entity.

34
35 So, you know, as far as what Bering
36 Straits may do, I'm definitely not in a position to say
37 what they will. I would just recommend that you try to
38 work with the corporations and they're your neighbors
39 and your friends, and you all know them, so I would
40 encourage that.

41
42 And if there's anything else I can help
43 you guys with, you know, I'm pretty easy to get ahold
44 of, so I'd be happy to answer any more questions.

45
46 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thanks, Tom. And I
47 apologize for not letting you answer to him first. I
48 called on Mr. Gray.

49
50 Merben. I think you are asking to

1 comment.

2

3 MR. CEBRIAN: Mr. Chair. For the
4 record Merben Cebrian, BLM Anchorage Field Office.

5

6 I thank you first for allowing me to
7 join you in this Council. I come from -- before I came
8 to the Anchorage Field Office, I was the wildlife
9 biologist in the Central Yukon Field Office. I say
10 that, because I'm leading a little bit of a segue here
11 to address Mr. Tom Gray's question about roads to
12 resources.

13

14 The BLM has had some limited
15 involvement with the concept from the State to provide
16 roads to resources, specifically a road to Ambler.
17 When the BLM was involved in permitting the gas
18 pipeline from Prudhoe Bay to down here -- or down
19 towards the Anchorage area, the BLM was involved,
20 because the BLM had to write a subsistence analysis for
21 that action. Part of that subsistence analysis had to
22 consider the roads to resources. How far those roads
23 go is still up in the air, but as soon as we, the BLM,
24 understand to what extent they want these roads to go
25 through, and I don't know if the State has the funding
26 to actually conduct the actual building of that road.
27 Right now they're still studying it. So as far as that
28 is concerned, the BLM will always I think be involved,
29 because sometimes the roads have -- they are required
30 to get permits, right-of-way permits like Tom was
31 saying through BLM lands.

32

33 The other thing I wanted to let the
34 Council know is I needed to increase conversations with
35 you. I'm new to this Council. I don't know yet what
36 the Council needs. And as the subsistence biologist
37 for BLM and we are one of the major land owners here, I
38 would like to get into conversations with you. So if
39 you have any concerns, please call Tom, or I can give
40 you my personal contact later on.

41

42 And in as far as the guide program for
43 the BLM, that is indeed still under consideration. We
44 don't know how soon we can finalize that.

45

46 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

47

48 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Merben.
49 Any questions of Merben from the Council. Any
50 comments.

1 (No comments)

2

3

4 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Anybody -- we're all
5 done with Thomas?

6

7 (No comments)

8

9

10 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. Thank you,
11 folks.

12

13 MR. SPARKS: Thank you, guys.

14

15 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Which brings us to
16 Item D that we did cover in entirety yesterday and some
17 today. With the Department of Fish and Game.

18

19 We're down to Item E with Native
20 Organizations. And looking around the room, I don't
21 see anybody here that's with Nome Eskimo Community.
22 Oh, that was a member of the Nome Eskimo.

23

24 Number 2 is Kawerak, Inc., and Rose
25 Fosdick did come here and speak yesterday; was not able
26 to be back here today because of another engagement,
27 another meeting today.

28

29 And Number 3, Sitnasuak Native
30 Corporation. I don't think anybody's here to represent
31 Sitnasuak.

32

33 So we get into the discussion under F
34 with YRDFA and their bycatch resolution. We had some
35 conversation this morning with Helen on that, so I
36 guess we can get into that here for a short spell.

37

38 I did put elections into G, and we'll
39 take that up when that comes up.

40

41 So, Helen, you have the floor again.

42

43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr.
44 Chair. Don Rivard who normally would be addressing
45 this is at a Kuskokwim Working Group meeting right now.

46

47 You have in your book, what page, I
48 think it's at the very, very end of the book, Page 128,
49 yeah, 128, is the salmon bycatch update. And Don told
50 me that nothing's really changed since the last time

1 this was brought before you. Just to let you know that
2 they are taking comments right now. In that briefing
3 it says that they're accepting letters until March
4 26th.

5
6 And the Federal Board has already
7 recommended the cap of 30,000, and that's already been
8 done. And then Louis found the recommendation that was
9 done -- I'm not sure when this was. But anyway the
10 resolution that was sent in previously by this Council
11 that recommended 30,000 thousand. So I don't know if
12 anything more needs to be done or not. Oh, this was
13 adopted February 15th-16th, 2011.

14
15 There is at the end YRDFA has -- or
16 there's kind of a template for a resolution on Page
17 130, and if the Council wanted to, they could submit
18 something that was applicable to their region that was
19 similar to this.

20
21 So that's all I had to say. I think I
22 lost everybody.

23
24 (Laughter)

25
26 MR. GRAY: They're all right.

27
28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Louis. I think they
29 took a break.

30
31 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Priorities.

32
33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Priorities. Coffee.
34 Whatever. All right.

35
36 MR. GRAY: Did you have a question for
37 me?

38
39 (Laughter)

40
41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Did you want to do
42 -- I'm done. That's all. I finished my -- did you
43 guys want to do a resolution.

44
45 MR. GRAY: Well, I thought we
46 (indiscernible - away from mic).

47
48 REPORTER: Tom. Tom.

49
50 MR. GRAY: I thought we went over and

1 agreed on a modification to it, and I.....

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We did. But that
4 was a side conversation.

5

6 MR. GRAY: I would like to see us adopt
7 it.

8

9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

10

11 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Yeah, that was our
12 side conversation so now we need to bring it here to
13 the table to the rest of the Council.

14

15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Exactly.

16

17 CHAIRMAN GREEN: So, Tom, you wanted to
18 enter something.

19

20 MR. GRAY: So, you know, let's go to
21 the resolution, and I think.....

22

23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's Page 130.

24

25 MR. GRAY: Page 130. And I think we
26 ended up agreeing to just add Norton Sound to this
27 thing; is that what the end result was?

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That was the side
30 conversation we had, yes.

31

32 (Indiscernible - mics not on)

33

34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: While you were out,
35 Louis, I did mention that we had that, that it was done
36 in 2011, but I didn't read it to them.

37

38 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Then I'll go ahead and
39 read it.

40

41 It is a resolution that we passed
42 during the February 2011 meeting. It was a unanimous
43 vote.

44

45 Recommended action, establish a limit
46 of 30,000 chum salmon taken as bycatch in the Bering
47 Sea and Aleutian Islands pollack fisheries.

48

49 The background was Western Alaska
50 salmon-dependent communities have experienced severe

1 restrictions on chum salmon harvesting opportunity. It
2 is known that a significant number of chum salmon bound
3 for Western Alaska streams are taken as bycatch in the
4 Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands pollack fisheries.

5
6 The chum salmon taken as bycatch are
7 from mixed stocks and there is no methodology available
8 for identifying with sufficient accuracy where the fish
9 taken as bycatch would have gone to spawn if they had
10 not been caught.

11
12 Chum salmon returns to some Western
13 Alaska streams have been reduced to a few hundred fish.

14
15 Problem statement. The high numbers of
16 chum salmon taken as bycatch represent an unacceptable
17 threat to the health and survival of Western Alaska
18 stocks by reducing the numbers returning below the
19 number needed for escapement. The harvest of chum
20 salmon as bycatch in pollack fisheries has imposed an
21 unacceptable burden on Western Alaska salmon-dependent
22 communities by reducing the numbers available for
23 harvesting.

24
25 Solution. Establish a limit of 30,000
26 chum salmon taken as bycatch in the Bering Sea and
27 Aleutian Islands pollack fisheries.

28
29 Justification. A bycatch limit of
30 30,000 chum salmon establishes a reasonable balance
31 between the economic interests of the pollack trawl
32 industry and the needs of subsistence users for chum
33 salmon.

34
35 And again it was adopted unanimously on
36 February 15th/ 16th meeting in 2011.

37
38 Are there any other additions. What
39 were we discussing earlier, Tom.

40
41 MR. GRAY: And maybe I'm wrong, but it
42 sounds like we're looking at a new resolution to adopt,
43 and what we had talked about earlier was inserting
44 Norton Sound into this thing. And I actually see a
45 couple of places where Norton Sound should be inserted.

46
47
48 You know, something that has been
49 talked about at this thing, not at the table here, but
50 something that's been talked about in the public is

1 this bycatch, why isn't it being penalized, and so much
2 a pound being part of the penalty so if you got 30,000
3 fish that you catch and throw away, you multiply that
4 by 6 and you have X amount of pounds. And that
5 trawling industry has to pay X amount of dollars for
6 salmon enhancement let's say. And I think this is
7 something that we can look at in the future. I don't
8 know that we want to try and address it today.

9

10 But again we're looking at a new
11 resolution, and, you know, I would make a motion that
12 adopt the new resolution and insert Norton Sound where
13 appropriate in this document, and move it on. So I
14 make that motion to adopt that.

15

16 And the one I'm talking about is Page
17 130 and this was written to address the Yukon River,
18 but if we insert the Norton Sound in appropriate places
19 then it represents us.

20

21 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Well, Tom has made a
22 motion, and I think the motion is with the revision or
23 -- excuse me, I lost a word here.

24

25 MR. GRAY: Well, I make a motion to
26 adopt this resolution with inserting Norton Sound in
27 the appropriate places.

28

29 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Amending.

30

31 MR. BUCK: I'll second the motion.

32

33 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Peter seconds the
34 motion. So all those in favor say aye.

35

36 IN UNISON: Aye

37

38 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Opposed. Against same
39 sign.

40

41 (No opposing votes)

42

43 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Motion passes.

44

45 I guess one of the suggestions I'd make
46 on that, there's plenty of whereases in there, but I
47 thought that if we found something specific, that we
48 could include a whereas in there that supports Norton
49 Sound, and have it in one place.

50

1 MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Go ahead, Alex.

4

5 MR. A. NICK: Helen, I need this.

6 Helen was working with you during break today I think,

7 and I think the second whereas -- rather, the one that

8 Tom wanted to add to the resolution is the third

9 whereas.

10

11 MR. GRAY: The second.

12

13 MR. A. NICK: I'll read that. It will

14 be third whereas, which I'm not sure if I could read

15 this, but I'll read it into record.

16

17 Whereas the subsistence harvests have

18 been restricted in the Norton Sound. Is that what you

19 want wanted, Tom, as a third whereas?

20

21 MR. GRAY: I guess looking at this

22 thing, whereas subsistence harvests of Chinook salmon

23 have been severely restricted in recent years, and no

24 directed commercial harvest of Chinook salmon have

25 taken place on the Yukon River. You know, somewhere in

26 that sentence we need to exploit or bring in the Norton

27 Sound, and where, you know, I don't know.

28

29 There's a second place in this, I saw

30 it somewhere else. They talk about the Yukon River

31 somewhere else in here. Where did I see that?

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The sixth whereas

34 down there talk about 40 percent from the Yukon River.

35

36 MR. GRAY: Right. And let's see. 40

37 percent are from the Yukon River. You know, I don't

38 know if we want to put some generic saying reflecting

39 Norton Sound in that, but that was my intent of the

40 motion, was those two places somehow we insert Norton

41 Sound just to put our personal touch to it.

42

43 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Just to add to that,

44 there was a WASSIP study and I think that that's what

45 the folks are maybe basing their percentages on here.

46 I don't know. And I don't have the correct -- I don't

47 have a number for Norton Sound in the equation.

48

49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We can find it. I

50 can go back to the office and talk to some people and

1 get it.

2

3 CHAIRMAN GREEN: I guess that was my
4 thought, was to put our own whereas in there so we
5 could put all the stuff that we need in one whereas.
6 Instead of jumping around and modifying everybody
7 else's, I think that if we put our own in there, we
8 could make it complete.

9

10 MR. GRAY: And that's fine, just so we
11 get it done. That's the whole thing.

12

13 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Yeah. Well, the
14 reason I read the resolution that we did in 2011 was to
15 get that back in the record again so that it would show
16 that we're still in support of it.

17

18 So we need to work on the wording for
19 the whereas, and I think plugging one in there is
20 probably more beneficial than trying to fill in blanks.

21

22 MR. GRAY: Other than the whereas on
23 the first one where the people in the Seward Peninsula
24 Regional Advisory Council region, I think that speaks
25 for itself.

26

27 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Well, you know, I
28 guess, coming back to the Board, I hate to -- what I
29 would like to see is we made a motion, and we passed a
30 motion addressing this thing, and let's leave it to the
31 powers to be to clean it up. We know the intent of
32 what we want. Let us clean it up, or let them clean it
33 up and they can sign it and move it on.

34

35 MR. GRAY: Is that good for you, Helen?
36 That works?

37

38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Sounds good. I'll
39 take it back and we'll do that. No problem.

40

41 MR. GRAY: Okay. I think there's
42 plenty of information in the original resolution that
43 would help.

44

45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I've got it.

46

47 MR. GRAY: Thanks.

48

49 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Are there any other
50 comments or questions from Council here on the

1 resolution.

2

3

(No comments)

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CHAIRMAN GREEN: Is there anything you thought that you didn't hear that you'd like to see in there. Fred.

MR. ENINGOWUK: Yeah. On the resolution, I'm not sure if it's a procedure to do a roll call vote on a resolution.

CHAIRMAN GREEN: Helen.

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think that's up to the to Council, if you want to do a roll call vote, that's fine. But I don't think it's required, is it, in our regulations?

CHAIRMAN GREEN: Alex, go ahead.

MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chair. I think another way to handle that is to go ahead and approve the resolution, and then after you insert that whereas, I could poll the Council before it's signed to see if that's what everyone agrees with. Is that okay with you. Council members.

MR. GRAY: I'll say I was a mayor for 20 years, and he's right. When you address a resolution in a city arena, it's always done by a poll. Or a roll call. But in this setting, I'm not sure.

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't believe you have to, but why don't you just do roll call, and then we'll know it's right.

CHAIRMAN GREEN: I was just going to suggest that. It's covered. So I'll ask for a roll call vote on the adoption of this resolution.

MR. ENINGOWUK: Yeah. And is there going to be a resolution number on this? Is this going to be like 13-01 or is this going to be under the heading of the Seward Peninsula RAC.

CHAIRMAN GREEN: That's another good question. Alex.

1 MR. A. NICK: My understanding is -- I
2 don't have a very good understanding of this
3 resolution, but I think what YRDFA is asking for is
4 your support by passing this resolution. It's your
5 option.

6
7 CHAIRMAN GREEN: And that's kind of
8 where I was at with it. I thought it was a support,
9 but we wanted to enter our own language in there.
10 Thank you.

11
12 So are we doing the roll call. Okay.
13 So, Mr. Secretary.

14
15 MR. BUCK: Okay. Louis H. Green.

16
17 MR. GREEN: Yes.

18
19 MR. BUCK: Tom Gray.

20
21 MR. GRAY: Yes.

22
23 MR. BUCK: Fred Eningowuk.

24
25 MR. ENINGOWUK: Yes.

26
27 MR. BUCK: Elmer Seetot, Jr.

28
29 MR. SEETOT: Yes.

30
31 MR. BUCK: Charles Saccheus.

32
33 MR. SACCHEUS: Yes.

34
35 MR. BUCK: And myself, yes. And we
36 have six yes. Mr. Chairman.

37
38 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. Which is
39 unanimous.

40
41 So we're moving onto elections. And
42 I'd asked some of the Council members if we'd consider
43 tabling it until the fall meeting and see if we pick up
44 any more members. So I'll go around the table. I'll
45 start with Tommy.

46
47 MR. GRAY: Like I told you, I don't
48 want to be the boss, so I'm comfortable reinstating
49 everybody or waiting. It doesn't matter. Whatever the
50 group wants.

1 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Tommy.
2 Elmer.
3
4 MR. SEETOT: Whatever the charter calls
5 for, or discretion of the Council right now.
6
7 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Elmer.
8 Charles.
9
10 MR. SACCHEUS: I'm glad to be back on
11 the Board. And I'll be around. Thanks.
12
13 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Peter Buck.
14
15 MR. BUCK: Yeah. I'd like to welcome
16 Charles Saccheus back in.
17
18 I hope we get our new members for our
19 next meeting. But I think this meeting has progressed
20 good.
21
22 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you. Fred.
23
24 MR. ENINGOWUK: No comment. Whatever
25 the Council wishes I believe.
26
27 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. Thank you.
28 Then I suggest that we do table it and move it to the
29 fall meeting. So it's a slam dunk. Maybe we'll have
30 some new members by then.
31
32 I guess that brings us to Item 13 for
33 future meeting schedules. Page 131 is a -- I'm sorry.
34
35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Actually I gave you,
36 put in front of you, it's loose somewhere in the front
37 of you a calendar that's updated since the Council book
38 got printed, because we had some meetings that were
39 held last week and the week before. So it should be a
40 loose one somewhere on your table.
41
42 CHAIRMAN GREEN: It was in the -- mine
43 was in this.
44
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It was in your
46 folder. Okay.
47
48 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Folder.
49
50 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So you'll need to,

1 for the fall meeting you've already picked the date of
2 October 8th and 9th for 2013. So you'll need to
3 confirm if that's what you still want. And then you'll
4 need, the other side is the winter meeting, you'll need
5 to pick a date.

6
7 MR. PETER: I make a motion
8 (indiscernible - mic not on) October 8th and 9th.

9
10 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Is there a second to
11 the motion for the dates in October of 8th and 9th.

12
13 MR. SACCHEUS: I second the motion.

14
15 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Seconded by Charles
16 Saccheus.

17
18 All those in favor of the motion say
19 aye.

20
21 IN UNISON: Aye.

22
23 CHAIRMAN GREEN: All those opposed same
24 sign.

25
26 (No opposing votes)

27
28 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Motion passes.
29 October 8th and 9th.

30
31 So we flip it over, and we're looking
32 into the 2014 spring.

33
34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.

35
36 CHAIRMAN GREEN: I'm sorry. Go ahead.

37
38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The one guideline I
39 need to have you respect is that we can't hold more
40 than two meetings a week, because of staffing and court
41 reporters. So unfortunately you're at the end of the
42 cycle now, so most people have already chosen their
43 meeting dates, so it's a little bit limiting to that
44 week of March 3rd and March 10th, the last three weeks
45 of March. And you can't do it before the Iditarod --
46 during Iditarod.

47
48 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Why not?

49
50 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We can't get hotel

1 rooms.

2

3

CHAIRMAN GREEN: I'm just kidding.

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MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We tried that one year. Somebody asked, so I called the Aurora, and they told me that you have to submit an email at a certain time, and the rooms are taken up within the first five minutes after midnight. And they won't reserve, they won't allow this room to be used. So Iditarod won't work.

CHAIRMAN GREEN: Yes. I know that one. So anyway we need to look at the -- you said no more than one meeting per week? Or two?

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Two per week.

CHAIRMAN GREEN: Two per week. So the week of the -- well, there's the week of the 3rd, the week of the 10th, and the week, of the 17th are the possibilities.

MR. A. NICK: Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN GREEN: Who's that? Alex.

MR. A. NICK: Alex Nick, Council coordinator. One problem that we would run into is travel for week of the 3rd, because YK chose 5 and 6 during the week.

MR. GRAY: So no more than two or only one?

MR. A. NICK: No more than two, but for me, you know, if I am coordinating the meeting, unless someone volunteers to coordinate that during that week. It would be a problem for me to get here on time maybe for a meeting.

CHAIRMAN GREEN: I didn't realize -- I wasn't thinking about Bethel. So we're looking -- the week of the 17th is open. That's the same week we're meeting now.

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Is the Iditarod over by then?

CHAIRMAN GREEN: Yeah.

1 MR. GRAY: Generally it is. You know,
2 here we are and that's over.
3
4 CHAIRMAN GREEN: It will be over on the
5 15th.
6
7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: On the 15th.
8
9 CHAIRMAN GREEN: And the basketball
10 tournament, the racers are coming in. I think the
11 tournament's probably between the 9th and the 15th. So
12 we're back into the same, for the week of the 17th
13 falls in.
14
15 MR. GRAY: She brings up a good
16 question. Doesn't Iditarod start the first Saturday of
17 the month?
18
19 MR. BUCK: Yep.
20
21 MR. GRAY: So the first Saturday would
22 be the 1st. So, yes, it will be over. You know, we
23 have two choices I guess, talk Bethel into going 6th
24 and 7th, and we go 3rd and 4th, or we just go sometime
25 in the week of the 17th. And this week worked good for
26 me.
27
28 MR. BUCK: I second the motion if
29 that's a motion.
30
31 (Laughter)
32
33 MR. GRAY: I second the motion whatever
34 it was.
35
36 CHAIRMAN GREEN: He said, I second the
37 motion, if that was a motion, Tom.
38
39 (Laughter)
40
41 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Did you make a motion?
42
43 MR. GRAY: Okay. I make a motion that
44 we go during the week of the 17th sometime.
45
46 MR. BUCK: Seconded.
47
48 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. We seconded it.
49
50

1 So the dates. The 17th and 18th are
2 Monday and Tuesday. Alex, have you got any conflicts
3 in there.

4
5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, we try to
6 avoid having people travel on Sundays, so if you can
7 make it the 18th and 19th or the 19th and 20th, that
8 would be great.

9
10 MR. GRAY: Didn't you hear? That was
11 part of my motion.

12
13 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Okay. The only
14 conflict that I have at this point in time is March
15 20th is my five-year-old son's birthday. That was
16 yesterday. So that kind of hampered me with part of
17 the celebration. But I would hope not to go there next
18 year, so any time before that is fine with me.

19
20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: 18th and 19th

21
22 MR. SEETOT: 18th and 19th.

23
24 CHAIRMAN GREEN: 18th and 19th it is.

25
26 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Call the question.

27
28 CHAIRMAN GREEN: All in favor say aye.

29
30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31
32 CHAIRMAN GREEN: All those opposed same
33 sign.

34
35 (No opposing votes)

36
37 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Motion passes. 18th
38 and 19th of March 2014.

39
40 Okay. Then it's asking for -- yeah, we
41 already confirmed the fall meeting. Made the new dates
42 for next spring.

43
44 So I guess we're down to 14, which is
45 closing comments from Council members. I guess we'll
46 go from my left to my right, and we'll start with Tom
47 Gray.

48
49 MR. GRAY: Well, you know, it's always
50 a struggle to have tough issues to deal with, and I

1 just thank everybody for staying with us and staying
2 with it, and life goes on I guess.

3

4 Again, we're here representing
5 subsistence, and I just hope everybody keeps that in
6 mind as we walk our walk. And a lot of us, that's
7 where we came from.

8

9 Anyway, thank you for participating,
10 and we'll see you this fall.

11

12 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Councilman
13 Gray.

14

15 Councilman Seetot.

16

17 MR. SEETOT: I was going to mention
18 something about the salmon bycatch, especially chum
19 salmon, especially, you know, it's being talked to
20 death, or really talked over in this area, Nome to
21 Norton Sound. I can give you a couple opinions. but
22 I'm not really too sure if Nome and Norton Sound take
23 it lightly. But what this is pretty much information
24 that is derived from ancestors, that is derived from
25 comment, that is derived from news, information that
26 you see. Don't fight over the resource, it won't be
27 there for you. I think it's been pretty much fought
28 over between the commercial and sportsfishermen in this
29 area. They pretty much say it's their lifeline, it's
30 their lifeline, but I think you've got too many people
31 out there saying one thing and doing another thing.

32

33 Look at Bering Sea, that Bering Sea
34 gold. You've got people out there disturbing, you
35 know, the terrain underneath the water. People talk
36 about chum salmon. They talk about Area M. They talk
37 about False Pass. What effect did gold mining have on
38 these streams, turbidity. Minerals. Stuff that we
39 weren't aware of during World War I, World War II. You
40 still see that shark repellent thing going off Front
41 Street in Nome. Every spring they say, yeah, shark
42 repellent is here. We really don't know what's
43 underneath the land.

44

45 What the military has done in the past
46 is pretty much kind of kept a close secret, unless
47 those who go under Freedom of Information Act, that
48 they find out this information. We have had a lot of
49 number of people, you know, die from cancer. What's in
50 Davidson, Mary Seagler area, so that was a military

1 site.

2

3 Many of these things, people blame on
4 Area M. People blame on False Pass. Why don't we look
5 under our own feet and try to understand what is really
6 happening in our area. It really affects us, and we
7 need to find some answers in that regard.

8

9 Like I say, this area or the Nome area
10 is widely diverse. They come and they go up to Imruk
11 Basin to hunt and fish or to recreate up there. So
12 that area is heavily used, but still we share whatever
13 is, you know, during the seasons.

14

15 And I was going to comment on that
16 bycatch and then also on that 750 limit that ADF&G had,
17 and I had thought, you know, there would be time
18 appropriate, a time slot for that, but I think I'll
19 talk to appropriate agencies or appropriate individuals
20 on that, you know, to let them know.

21

22 Thank you. Anyway, it was a fine
23 meeting.

24

25 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Councilman
26 Seetot.

27

28 Councilman Saccheus. Welcome aboard.

29

30 MR. SACCHEUS: Thank you. Mr. Chair.
31 I'm glad to be back on the Board again. And it's
32 always good to talk about our way of life, subsistence
33 harvest of our fish and game. And hopefully we'll keep
34 it up. And I thank the National Park Service and some
35 of you people from, I don't know, Kawerak and the guy
36 from Fairbanks, BLM. And I hope you guys have a nice
37 spring and enjoy the nice weather. And thank you once
38 again for this meeting.

39

40 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Councilman
41 Saccheus.

42

43 Councilman Buck.

44

45 MR. BUCK: I remember Papa Bunguk (ph),
46 and he lived in White Mountain and he lived in Golovin.
47 And when he was growing up, he travelled between
48 Kivalina, coming down to Kotzebue, going to White
49 Mountain, go to Golovin and travelled back and forth
50 between Golovin and Kivalina. And subsistence that he

1 used is still there, but now we have this -- we put in
2 our opinions to see what we should use for our
3 subsistence resources. So I'm always interested to
4 talk to people in the region, and I can have a say with
5 them on their subsistence living. So I continue to
6 look for subsistence issues in this region, and I'm
7 just glad to be on the Board.

8

9 Thank you.

10

11 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Councilman
12 Buck.

13

14 Councilman Eningowuk.

15

16 MR. ENINGOWUK: Thank you. I echo what
17 Elmer has commented on the fisheries. And, you know, I
18 do feel for those people. Sometimes, you know, the
19 people down on Yukon and the Norton Sound villages, you
20 know, when they can't get their subsistence fish. You
21 know, they kind of have to beg for what they have or,
22 you know, make regulations on themselves.

23

24 You know, I feel very fortunate, you
25 know. I'm in different waters. I'm in Chukchi Sea,
26 I'm not in Bering Sea. I feel very fortunate to be
27 where I am. We're not struggling that way of life,
28 and, you know, I'm fortunate to be where we are in our
29 way of life.

30

31 But traditional knowledge is, you know,
32 our old folks used to say, that there's going to be a
33 time when it's going to be real easy, easy picking, and
34 that is kind of what's happening right now. But later
35 on it's going to become real hard, you know. Peoples
36 are going to be struggling with their subsistence way
37 of life. Everything's going to get real hard to get,
38 and, you know, that's kind of what I see is kind of
39 happening, you know. A lot of, you know, communities
40 are struggling.

41

42 I'm thankful to be on this Council and
43 still learning, too. Thank you.

44

45 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Thank you, Councilman
46 Eningowuk.

47

48 I guess my closing comments now are,
49 you know, what he, Mr. Eningowuk says holds true. You
50 take a look at the Nome area here. And, you know, we

1 don't have a real good salmon run. We're in a two-week
2 moose hunt, registration only. Caribou came in the
3 late '90s, and when they came in, they decide to leave
4 at a certain point in time, and they took our reindeer
5 friends with them. And then now you look at my fifth
6 finger, that's the muskox. We're in a Tier II
7 situation, and you've seen how emotional I can get
8 dealing with just a few. So we're sitting here, you
9 know, bickering over scraps. And, you know, what Fred
10 is true, it's already happening here.

11
12 So I encourage that anybody on this
13 Council be proactive in these fish and game issues on
14 other levels. It doesn't necessarily need to be here
15 only, you know, because what's going on here in the
16 Nome are, for instance, the Nome subdistrict is
17 starting to affect people up to the west of us and
18 people to the east of us. And, of course, north of us
19 is the Salmon Lake sockeye run, and the Pilgrim and
20 Kuzitrin Rivers, so there's another issue there.
21 People are spreading out looking for that salmon
22 resource that can afford to go there. It's putting
23 pressure on outlying villages.

24
25 So with that, be proactive and get the
26 word out we need some more Council members. Get those
27 applications with you, take them home. If there's even
28 one person that you think is a good person to have on
29 this Council, you know, let them know.

30
31 With that, I appreciate the Staff's
32 work, and I'm glad our guests -- we had some private
33 guests here. I'm glad they attended.

34
35 The Game Department did an outstanding
36 job yesterday. And I think Tony Gorn represented their
37 department well. And I think that it's going to be
38 important for us, this council, to send a letter to
39 Cora Campbell requesting that Fisheries attend this
40 meeting this fall.

41
42 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Send your letter
43 to him, and he'll send it to me, and we'll see if we
44 can make it happen.

45
46 CHAIRMAN GREEN: All right. Thank you.

47
48 And with that, I think I'd ask for an
49 adjournment.

50

1 MR. SEETOT: So move.
2
3 MR. GRAY: Second.
4
5 CHAIRMAN GREEN: Adjourned.
6
7 MR. BUCK: What time you got?
8
9 CHAIRMAN GREEN: It is 12:39, and
10 somebody's calling me again.
11
12 (Laughter)
13
14 (Off record)
15
16 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

I, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public in and for the state of Alaska and reporter of Computer Matrix, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing transcript contains a full, true and correct Transcript of Pages 118 through 192 of the SEWARD PENINSULA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME 1 taken electronically by our firm on the 21st day of March 2013 at Nome, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed under my direction and reduced to print 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 29th day of March 2012.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires:9/16/2014