

1 SEWARD PENINSULA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE  
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3  
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5  
6  
7 VOLUME I

8  
9 Aurora Inn  
10 Nome, Alaska  
11 February 21, 2008  
12 1:00 o'clock p.m.  
13

14  
15 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

16  
17 Mike Quinn, Chairman  
18 Peter Buck  
19 Leonard Kobuk  
20 Elizabeth Mokiuk  
21 Myron Savetilik  
22  
23 Regional Council Coordinator - Barbara Armstrong  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43

44 Recorded and transcribed by:  
45  
46 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC  
47 700 W. 2nd Avenue  
48 Anchorage, AK 99501  
49 907-243-0668/907-227-5312  
50 jpk@gci.net/sahile@gci.net

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Nome, Alaska - 2/21/2008)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, folks it's 1:00 o'clock. We're a little late so we're going to get started. I'll officially call this meeting to order at whatever this exact time is and I'll turn it over to Barb for a roll call and establishment of quorum.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Roll call. Peter Martin is excused. Mike Quinn.

CHAIRMAN QUINN: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Leonard Kobuk.

MR. KOBUK: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Peter Buck.

MR. BUCK: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Myron.

MR. SAVETILIK: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Elmer Seetot is excused. Elizabeth Mokiyuk.

MS. MOKIYUK: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Thomas Gray is excused. Anthony is in route, I hope, by tonight. So, Mr. Chair, you have five Council members and you have a quorum.

CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. And I want to welcome everybody here. Leonard's new, Leonard Kobuk, so welcome to our group, he's been here before, it's good to see somebody from down in that country and looking forward to working with you.

And we'll move on to review and adoption of the agenda, which is on what's on Pages 1, 2, and, 3, correct, Barb.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

1 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Let's see, okay, and  
2 before we do that, I want to make a change to move, No.  
3 6, election of officers to 13 down under new business  
4 so we'll get that towards the end of the meeting and  
5 hopefully have one or two more Council members here at  
6 that time.

7  
8 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Otherwise.....

11  
12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: May I please.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Go ahead.

15  
16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. Also the  
17 other thing, besides moving that, is on FIS, our  
18 fisheries in Anchorage, said your Píkmiktalik report  
19 will be at your fall meeting, the full Píkmiktalik  
20 report will be at your fall meeting, will be here, in  
21 writing.

22  
23 And on No. 11, call for proposals to  
24 change Federal subsistence fisheries regulations,  
25 proposals will be accepted through March 27th. March  
26 27th.

27  
28 And as your Chair said, No. 13B,  
29 elections, election of officers.

30  
31 Thank you, that's all I have.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Go ahead Ken.

34  
35 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair. Ken Adkisson,  
36 National Park Service. I just have one item to bring  
37 up, and you can pick where you want to put it on the  
38 agenda, but we need to talk a little bit about 22E  
39 moose regulations in light of recent Board of Game  
40 actions which have resulted in the unalignment of  
41 Federal and State regs to the disadvantage of Federal  
42 subsistence users, which is not the State's fault, but,  
43 you know, we need to talk about doing something with  
44 the reg. And I don't know where it's appropriate  
45 whether under proposals or under Staff report or new  
46 business but I think we just need to get it on the  
47 table and start some discussion as to where we want to  
48 go with it.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN QUINN: I believe we could put

1 that under new business as well. Barb, does that look  
2 good?

3

4 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's okay.

5

6 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, we'll add that  
7 to the new business.

8

9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Under C, 22E moose.  
10 That's 13A, B, C, 22E moose.

11

12 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. So then I think  
13 I need a motion to approve the agenda, correct, Barb?

14

15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes, sir.

16

17 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Anybody care to make  
18 that motion.

19

20 MR. SAVETILIK: I move to accept the  
21 agenda with the addition of under new business,  
22 election of the officers and 22E moose.

23

24 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, thank you.

25

26 MR. BUCK: Second the motion.

27

28 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, any discussion.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 CHAIRMAN QUINN: No. All those in  
33 favor say aye.

34

35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36

37 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Any opposed.

38

39 (No opposing votes)

40

41 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Motion carries.  
42 Review and adoption of minutes. Starting on Page 5 is  
43 the minutes from the last meeting. And I've looked  
44 over them previously.

45

46 (Pause)

47

48 CHAIRMAN QUINN: And I'm willing to  
49 entertain any motions to adopt the minutes.

50

1 MR. BUCK: Mr. Chair. I think we've  
2 had a chance to review the minutes, and I move to  
3 accept the minutes of the last meeting.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Okay, is there  
6 a second.  
7  
8 MS. MOKIYUK: Second.  
9  
10 MR. SAVETILIK: Second.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, Liz, you get the  
13 second. And any discussion.  
14  
15 (No comments)  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN QUINN: And, if not, then all  
18 those in favor of adopting the minutes as written in  
19 our booklet here say aye.  
20  
21 IN UNISON: Aye.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Opposed.  
24  
25 (No opposing votes)  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN QUINN: And motion carries.  
28 No. 6, election of officers has been moved to new  
29 business. So we'll move on to No. 7, village concerns.  
30 And we'll just start with Peter, you can go ahead and  
31 voice your village's concerns.  
32  
33 MR. KOBUK: My name is Peter Buck from  
34 White Mountain. And I think I'm going to talk about  
35 some of the issues during the meeting. But at the  
36 minutes of the last meeting Tom Gray said the moose  
37 were rebounding, I kind of disagree, I don't think  
38 they're rebounding.  
39  
40 And another thing that's been happening  
41 with the moose in the White Mountain area, the moose  
42 has lost a lot of fat and the elders and Native people  
43 really put the stress on the fat of the moose. And  
44 they -- the moose has been losing their fat so I just  
45 wanted to make that note.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Myron.  
48  
49 MR. SAVETILIK: Myron Savetilik,  
50 Shaktoolik. We haven't seen caribou in our area for

1 awhile. We been going out beyond Koyuk, Grant  
2 Mountain, and with the cold spell we've been having  
3 there hasn't been much activities because of the cold  
4 weather. And that's where everything's at right now.

5

6 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, Liz.

7

8 MS. MOKIYUK: Elizabeth Mokiyuk from  
9 Savoonga. I got no concern because I was gone for  
10 awhile, I been here.

11

12 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay.

13

14 MS. MOKIYUK: I don't know.

15

16 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. And Leonard.

17

18 MR. KOBUK: My name's Leonard Kobuk  
19 from St. Michael's. My concerns, I guess, would be I  
20 haven't been on the Board for awhile but I'm still on  
21 the State board. I would like to know what the moose  
22 conditions are in my region because the caribous have  
23 never gone back down towards our way and when I was at  
24 home I heard from some people from around our region  
25 that the reason that the caribou was not heading in our  
26 direction was because they were being harassed and  
27 turned around before they get a chance to go to our  
28 region. And it's been -- I don't know it seems like a  
29 long time since they've been in our area and if they do  
30 not come to our area I very well know it's going to  
31 impact our moose population because that's only thing  
32 left we have to hunt now in our region. But what I  
33 been hearing is some people with helicopters or small  
34 planes been going after them and turning them around,  
35 but I don't know if that's true or not but I would like  
36 to hear why they haven't come to our area for such a  
37 very long time.

38

39 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, thanks, Leonard.  
40 And Mike Quinn here, I'll voice the concerns for the  
41 Nome area. I guess there hasn't been a lot of concerns  
42 voiced to me lately but we have new stuff coming up  
43 with musk ox that I know will interest a lot of people.  
44 And probably once this first new musk ox season at the  
45 State level's over we'll probably hear some concerns.  
46 Moose season seems to be doing well in our area. There  
47 has been some talk about whether or not we should be in  
48 a Tier II for moose in this area at the State level but  
49 so far that hasn't been agreed upon.

50

1                   And other than that, either most people  
2 aren't talking or they're happy.

3  
4                   (Laughter)

5  
6                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, so that does the  
7 village concerns. Now, I neglected my duties here back  
8 on No. 3 we need to do the introductions. So I'll  
9 start and introduce myself, I'm Mike Quinn, resident of  
10 Nome, live and work here for quite some time. I'm  
11 currently the acting Chair.

12  
13                   Leonard, go ahead.

14  
15                   MR. KOBUK: Again, my name is Leonard  
16 Kobuk. I'm from St. Michael. I sat on the Board in  
17 the past for six years and because of health problems I  
18 had to step down and now I'm back again so I look  
19 forward to being back on the board for another three  
20 years. It's good to see new faces and remember the  
21 old. But now I'm here and it's good to see everyone  
22 again and see new people and I look forward to being  
23 back on the board.

24  
25                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, Liz.

26  
27                   MS. MOKIYUK: Elizabeth Mokiyuk from  
28 Savoonga and I've been here for a year now.

29  
30                   MR. SAVETILIK: Myron Savetilik,  
31 Shaktoolik.

32  
33                   MR. BUCK: Peter Buck, White Mountain.

34  
35                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, and we'll let  
36 the folks in the audience introduce themselves as well.

37  
38                   MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson. I'm with  
39 the National Park Service stationed here in Nome.  
40 Western Arctic National Park Lands subsistence program  
41 manager.

42  
43                   MR. TOCKTOO: Fred Tocktoo. I work  
44 with Ken Adkisson, National Park Service here in Nome.

45  
46                   MR. HAYNES: Terry Haynes, Department  
47 of Fish and Game, Division of Wildlife Conservation in  
48 Fairbanks.

49  
50                   MS. PETRIVELLI: Pat Petrivelli, the

1 Bureau of Indian Affairs, subsistence anthropologist.

2

3 MS. WHEELER: Polly Wheeler with the  
4 Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage.

5

6 MR. OVIATT: George Oviatt. Bureau of  
7 Land Management in Anchorage.

8

9 MR. SEPPI: Bruce Seppi. I'm a  
10 wildlife biologist with the Anchorage Field Office,  
11 BLM.

12

13 MR. RISDAHL: Greg Risdahl, Office of  
14 Subsistence Management in Anchorage, wildlife  
15 biologist.

16

17 MR. KESSLER: Steve Kessler with the  
18 Forest Service. I'm on the InterAgency Staff Committee  
19 and I work out of Anchorage.

20

21 MR. EASTLAND: Warren Eastland.  
22 Wildlife biologist with the Bureau of Indian Affairs  
23 based out of Juneau and I'm on the InterAgency Staff  
24 Committee.

25

26 MS. TAHBONE: Sandy Tahbone. I work  
27 for Kawerak subsistence.

28

29 MR. BENTE: I'm Peter Bente with  
30 Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Conservation, and  
31 I work here in Nome for the Western and Arctic Region,  
32 Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A.

33

34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong.  
35 I'm with OSM Anchorage and I am an anthropologist and  
36 I've worked with this Council for quite a while.

37

38 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, thanks, sorry  
39 for my neglect there. Now, move on to No. 8, the  
40 Chair's report. We've got a .805c letter, okay, that's  
41 expressing our concerns from the previous meeting.  
42 Well, that was -- oh, did you hand me a hand out Barb,  
43 805c letter?

44

45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No. I guess we  
46 didn't have one. We did not have any proposals for  
47 Seward Penn, for our region, that's why it's not here.

48

49 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right.

50

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Sorry that it's on  
2 there.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. So we.....  
5  
6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Somebody made a  
7 mistake there.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yeah, and we've got  
10 the Draft 2007 annual report. I'm not going to take  
11 the time to -- oh, this is our report to the Federal  
12 Subsistence Board, I'm not going to take the time to  
13 read it, most of you should have.....  
14  
15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's on Page.....  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Fourteen.  
18  
19 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. That annual  
20 report that you're looking at on 14 is a draft and  
21 anything you want to add on, you will add whatever you  
22 want to add on to that report, it's a draft. What  
23 you're looking at is a draft. And after -- if there  
24 are some more issues that you guys need to put in we'll  
25 add it on and fix it up and send it on in.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, thank you.  
28  
29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: To the Federal  
30 Board.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, thank you.  
33  
34 MR. KOBUK: Mr. Chair.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Go ahead, Leonard.  
37  
38 MR. KOBUK: Leonard. Will we be  
39 talking about this issue later in the meeting about the  
40 moose. I'd like to talk about the moose and the  
41 Pikmiktalik River.  
42  
43 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yeah, Barb said that  
46 the -- what did you say about the Pikmiktalik.  
47  
48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: The full report on  
49 -- the full Pikmiktalik report will be in front of you  
50 at your fall meeting.

1 MR. KOBUK: Okay, thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. And the Unit 22  
4 moose, we've got -- well, there's three proposals  
5 before us today that we're going to have a chance to  
6 comment on as far as the Unalakleet River drainage  
7 moose season. And I know that you guys, Stebbins, St.  
8 Mike's have made a request to the State for an extended  
9 winter season, but that's at the State level.

10

11 MR. KOBUK: Yep, I just heard about  
12 that one. I wish Peter was here but he can't be at the  
13 time but I would like to find out about what the moose  
14 situation is in our area, Unit 22A, St. Michael's and  
15 Stebbins since the moose -- I mean the caribou haven't  
16 come for many years to our area, my concern is now the  
17 moose.

18

19 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Uh-huh. Okay, yeah,  
20 we can add other concerns to this letter as we go  
21 through this meeting.

22

23 MR. KOBUK: Okay, thank you.

24

25 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right. So we're  
26 ready to move on to No. 9, and are.....

27

28 MR. BUCK: Mr. Chairman.

29

30 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Go ahead, Peter.

31

32 MR. BUCK: On the report for the Unit  
33 22 moose, I'd like to make note of that that we're  
34 noticing the moose are losing the fat in our area and  
35 I'd like to know if there's going to be any work done  
36 to study the eating habits of the moose or anthropology  
37 or -- so I'd like to make that note, Mr. Chairman.

38

39 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, thank you,  
40 Peter. All right, then we'll move on to No. 9, review  
41 the wildlife proposals and our Council recommendation,  
42 make our Council recommendation. We're starting that  
43 with a briefing of the .804 analysis, which explains  
44 why and how they do an .804 analysis. Are the other  
45 Council members comfortable with that, does that  
46 explain it well enough, I can have, probably, Helen  
47 talk about it if you want a little more explanation.

48

49 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes. Page 16.

50

1 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yes, it's on Page 16  
2 in the book.

3  
4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. For  
5 those people who may not have a book in the audience, I  
6 have a copy of this and I can pass it around.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay.

9  
10 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Do you want me to  
11 just go through it real quickly?

12  
13 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yeah, why don't you.

14  
15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. We just  
16 decided to have a little discussion before we get into  
17 our proposal analysis because we have a couple of  
18 issues surrounding this concept of Section .804  
19 analysis just so that people have a better  
20 understanding of what that means and we sort of, in the  
21 Federal government, we kind of use this lingo and it's  
22 an .804 just so people understand and especially when  
23 we have new people on the Council.

24  
25 So what happens is that ANILCA has been  
26 designed so that subsistence uses are protected if  
27 there's ever a shortage. So whenever there's a  
28 proposal to change Federal regulations and the amount  
29 that's -- of a resource that's in surplus it's not  
30 enough for everybody who has a positive customary and  
31 traditional use determination, then we have to do an  
32 analysis in accordance with Section .804 of ANILCA to  
33 decide which community or area has a priority. So the  
34 example that we use here is the one that we're going to  
35 actually talk about later today so if you have -- for  
36 moose in Unit 22 everybody, all the communities, all  
37 the people in Unit 22 have a customary and traditional  
38 use determination for moose, so they can go wherever  
39 they want to. And what happens if you have a very,  
40 very limited number that you can get then you want to  
41 make sure that the people who are most dependent upon  
42 it, who are in the closest proximity are the ones who  
43 are going to be able to take that resource. So Section  
44 .804 in ANILCA lays it out exactly the way it's written  
45 here, that we look at the customary and direct  
46 dependence upon the populations as a mainstay of  
47 livelihood so who's the most dependent on the resource.  
48 Then local residency, who's the closest to it. And  
49 then availability of alternative resources, so can the  
50 community get something else or can they go get moose

1 or caribou or whatever it is somewhere else or do they  
2 really need that particular resource.

3

4 So we just wanted to kind of talk about  
5 that, and lay it out, how it works.

6

7 We have not, as a program, done a lot  
8 of .804 analysis throughout the state. We've done some  
9 and most of them have been in this region. This region  
10 has been fairly proactive about asking for .804s, and  
11 the original closing of that Unalakleet River drainage  
12 was done -- I mean they looked at, you know, we need --  
13 first they did an .804 and then they actually ended up  
14 closing it. So we've had this, you know, in various  
15 places around the state, we've had to do an .804  
16 analysis and so we're faced with needing to do one  
17 again today in the Unalakleet River drainage proposal.

18

19 Any questions.

20

21 Is that all pretty clear?

22

23 MR. KOBUK: Mr. Chair.

24

25 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yes, Leonard.

26

27 MR. KOBUK: I also sit on the State  
28 Fish and Game Board. We were supposed to be discussing  
29 this issue about Unalakleet but I told them that I was  
30 coming to this meeting and they were supposed to be  
31 having their meeting, I think, yesterday. And I was  
32 wondering about if anything -- if anybody from the  
33 State was at that meeting in Unalakleet or if they know  
34 anything like the outcome of that because it was going  
35 to be in our discussion. I was supposed to be there.

36

37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. We need  
38 to probably check with Barb before we get into 36, 37,  
39 38 because we were going to get the Unalakleet people  
40 on teleconference.

41

42 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yeah.

43

44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So we might want to  
45 hold off on that discussion until we get Weaver on the  
46 phone.

47

48 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yeah. Yeah, we won't  
49 move to the actual proposals just yet. Leonard, you're  
50 saying there was an AC meeting yesterday?

1 MR. KOBUK: Yeah, it was supposed to  
2 happen, they wanted me to be there because I sit on the  
3 board for St. Michael, I told them that I needed to be  
4 here because I just got selected back on the Federal  
5 subsistence board and the State, what's her name from  
6 Kotzebue.

7  
8 MS. PETRIVELLI: She's right here.

9  
10 MS. BUCKNELL: Yes.

11  
12 MR. KOBUK: Oh, you're here, okay.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Was there an AC  
15 meeting yesterday?

16  
17 MR. KOBUK: I'd like to hear what  
18 happened.

19  
20 MS. BUCKNELL: It was Tuesday night,  
21 and Myron was there, too.

22  
23 For the record my name's Susan  
24 Bucknell. I'm the State Advisory Committee Coordinator  
25 from Kotzebue, Fish and Game. And, yeah, we did meet  
26 Tuesday night and the question was raised, it was  
27 mentioned, it was mentioned that moose was going to be  
28 discussed at the RAC and other than that we didn't  
29 pursue it other than people wanted to know what the  
30 Board of Game did with the Unalakleet moose proposal  
31 last fall and they did pass it. And, yeah, and the  
32 State Wildlife Department biologist could maybe tell  
33 you more about that.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, thanks, Susan.  
36 Okay, Peter, you wanted to say something.

37  
38 MR. BUCK: Yes. I have a concern, you  
39 were saying that when you have a limited access or  
40 limited number of moose in the area or game in the  
41 area, you determined who is the most eligible to use  
42 that resource. The thing that happened in White  
43 Mountain and Golovin, Unit 22B, since Council has an  
44 access road from Nome to Council, we had a limit of 25,  
45 I think, right off the bat, coming out of Council, Nome  
46 access road, they got 12 moose and White Mountain and  
47 Golovin got two and so it was kind of a discouraging  
48 number. And I think that is not -- there needs to be a  
49 way to really set who the priority people are who are  
50 going to get that moose.

1                   That's all I have.

2

3                   MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's a prerogative  
4 of the Council to make a proposal to ask for that kind  
5 of analysis. One of the difficulties, too, that we get  
6 into sometimes is it's a lot easier if the Federal  
7 public land is in a big -- it's a big area, and one of  
8 the problems we have in the White Mountain area is it's  
9 kind of patchwork so, you know, where are the moose,  
10 are they on the Federal lands, are they on the State  
11 lands so it's, you know, so it can get kind of  
12 complicated. But I certainly hear what your concerns  
13 are.

14

15                   MR. BUCK: I'd like to turn that over  
16 to the -- the moose population in the Unalakleet area,  
17 I think they're having that same kind of problem down  
18 there so I'd to look into that.

19

20                   MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Take a break.

21

22                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Let's take a short  
23 break.

24

25                   (Off record)

26

27                   (On record)

28

29                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, we've got Weaver  
30 Ivanoff from the Native Village of Unalakleet on the  
31 phone and, Weaver, you're going to give us your guys  
32 information on how you want us to handle these  
33 proposals before the Federal Subsistence Board in  
34 regards to your moose season this fall. There's been  
35 some discrepancies between the State and Federal season  
36 and we want to know your guys, what you guys want  
37 there, and what we need to do to meet your needs. So,  
38 Weaver, go ahead.

39

40                   MR. IVANOFF: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

41

42                   MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No. No.

43

44                   MR. IVANOFF: And the rest of the  
45 Regional Advisory Committee members. Appreciate you  
46 taking the time to listen to me by teleconference. I  
47 know teleconference is always a difficult thing to do  
48 and I appreciate you making the effort to do so.

49

50                   For the record my name is Weaver

1 Ivanoff and I'm the general manager for the Native  
2 Village of Unalakleet. And submitted the two proposals  
3 for WP08 and also WP08-38 and 36.

4  
5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me, Weaver.  
6 Excuse me, Weaver.

7  
8 MR. IVANOFF: I'm sorry, go ahead.

9  
10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me, Weaver.

11  
12 MR. IVANOFF: Go ahead.

13  
14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Hello. Yeah, first  
15 thing we need to do here before we start anything is to  
16 hear -- for you to hear and listen to the analysis that  
17 Helen and Greg has written up and then you'll get your  
18 chance to comment in a bit, okay.

19  
20 MR. IVANOFF: Oh, that will be fine.

21  
22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

23  
24 MR. IVANOFF: Thank you.

25  
26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: All right.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. I'm missing the  
29 order again. You two go ahead.

30  
31 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman. Members of  
32 the Council. My name is Greg Risdahl. I'm a wildlife  
33 biologist with he Subsistence Management Office. Helen  
34 and I will be going through this analysis together. We  
35 both share in the development of it, and I want to  
36 thank her, in particular, for doing the Section .804  
37 analysis aspect which was totally new to me.

38  
39 This analysis begins on Page 209 of  
40 your book and it is a fairly long and complicated  
41 analysis but I'm going to try to stick to the high  
42 points, if there are things that need clarification,  
43 please, feel free to ask me to slow down, stop, go back  
44 or whatever.

45  
46 Proposal WP08-36 was submitted by the  
47 Native Village of Unalakleet and requests opening a  
48 Federal subsistence moose hunting season in the  
49 Unalakleet River drainage in central Unit 22A from  
50 August 1st through September 30th with a one bull

1 limit. Similarly, Wildlife Proposal 08-37 was  
2 submitted by the Seward Peninsula Regional Advisory  
3 Council and it also requests opening up a Federal  
4 subsistence moose hunting season in the central Unit  
5 22A, Unalakleet River drainage from August 1 through  
6 September 30th with a one bull limit by Federal  
7 registration permit. This proposal contains a  
8 provision whereby the local BLM manager would issue up  
9 to 20 Federal permits annually in coordination with the  
10 Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

11  
12 Proposal WP08-38 was submitted by the  
13 Native Village of Unalakleet and requests a Federal  
14 registration permit be issued to the Native Village of  
15 Unalakleet for five bull moose to be harvested in  
16 central Unit 22A by designated hunters selected by the  
17 Native Village of Unalakleet Council and a harvest  
18 season from August 1 through September 15th.

19  
20 The proponent for WP08-36 states that  
21 an aerial survey conducted by the Alaska Department of  
22 Fish and Game in the spring of 2006 following a three  
23 year moratorium on hunting should an increase in moose  
24 numbers in central Unit 22A.

25  
26 The proponent for Proposal 37 states  
27 that subsistence users will benefit by reopening the  
28 moose season in the Unalakleet River drainage because  
29 it will give local residents an opportunity to harvest  
30 moose closer to home. The proponent also states that  
31 anticipated impact on the moose population will be  
32 negligible because the harvest will be limited by  
33 managers.

34  
35 The proponent for Proposal 38 states  
36 that the moose will be distributed only to the elders  
37 of Unalakleet thereby allowing traditional sharing of  
38 the harvest.

39  
40 The original decision to implement a  
41 three year moratorium on moose hunting came through a  
42 cooperative effort between the residents of Unalakleet  
43 and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and local  
44 advisory councils -- committees. The recent increase  
45 in moose numbers resulted in Board of Game Proposal 19  
46 and was considered at a Board of Game meeting in Bethel  
47 in November 2007. I'll discuss the Board of Game  
48 proposal in a little more detail later, but in short  
49 the Board of Game voted to reopen the area to moose  
50 hunting beginning this year. The reopening of the

1 State moose season in Unit 22A after the three year  
2 moratorium was part of the original plan agreed upon by  
3 the Alaska Department of Game and the Village of  
4 Unalakleet and they opted to open a September 1 through  
5 September 14 season.

6  
7 Federal public lands comprise  
8 approximately 60 percent of Unit 22A, of which 50  
9 percent is administered by the Bureau of Land  
10 Management and nine percent administered by the U.S.  
11 Fish and Wildlife Service.

12  
13 Had Helen had noted earlier, all  
14 residents of Unit 22 have a positive customary and  
15 traditional use determination for moose in Unit 22A.

16  
17 The regulatory history is fairly  
18 lengthy and not that pertinent at this moment to this  
19 analysis so I'm just going to skip ahead to current  
20 events that directly affect these proposals.

21  
22 Starting with the Board of Game meeting  
23 in Bethel in November 2007, as I mentioned, two Board  
24 of Game proposals were submitted to reopen moose  
25 hunting seasons in Central Unit 22A. Proposal 18 was  
26 submitted by Kathy Johnson, president of the Native  
27 Village of Unalakleet and it requested that the  
28 resident season for moose hunting be reopened.  
29 Proposal 19 submitted by the Southern Norton Sound  
30 Advisory Committee requested a September 1 to September  
31 14 moose season using limited registration permits.  
32 The Alaska Department of Fish and Game recommended that  
33 Proposal 19 be adopted noting that it anticipates a  
34 harvest of approximately five bull moose per year in  
35 the near term and would work with user groups to  
36 provide registration permit hunt conditions that ensure  
37 reasonable opportunity for resident hunters while  
38 avoiding over harvest. In adopting Proposal 19, the  
39 Board of Game established the September 1 through  
40 September 14 season for one antlered bull by  
41 registration permit for Unit 22A in the Unalakleet  
42 River drainage and all drainages flowing into Norton  
43 Sound north of the Golsovia River drainage and south of  
44 the Tagoomenik and Shaktoolik River drainages. The  
45 Alaska Department of Fish and Game currently estimates  
46 that approximately five bull moose can be harvested in  
47 2008 in Central Unit 22A, which equates to about a four  
48 percent harvest rate. A 24 hour reporting period would  
49 be required to facilitate careful monitoring of the  
50 harvest. State regulations are to take effect

1 beginning July 1, 2008. and the Board of Game took no  
2 action on Proposal 18.

3

4 Just a little bit about the biology of  
5 the moose herd in this area. The Alaska Department of  
6 Fish and Game population management objective for Unit  
7 22 is 600 to 800 moose with a post hunting season  
8 bull/cow ratio of 30 bulls to 100 cows. Beginning in  
9 approximately 1989, the moose population in this area  
10 began in what appears to be a precipitous decline. As  
11 a result increased aerial surveys began in 2003 with  
12 additional surveys following 2005/2006 and from what I  
13 understand the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has  
14 been trying to get a survey done in the area recently  
15 as well.

16

17 During the most recent survey, however,  
18 in 2006, 164 moose were counted along the mainstem of  
19 the Unalakleet River, the Old Women, Ten Mile Chirokey  
20 River, South, Golsovia, Egavik and North Rivers,  
21 including the coastal drainages. The recruitment rate  
22 estimated for the 2006 survey was approximately 20  
23 calves per 100 adults.

24

25 During the four years that moose  
26 surveys were completed in 22A the population averaged  
27 about 17 calves per 100 adults with a density of about  
28 .1 moose per square mile. This doesn't mean a lot  
29 because the surveys are few for such a large period of  
30 time and over so many years but it just shows that at  
31 least last year it doesn't appear that it's been that  
32 much different than the previous three surveys. It  
33 would be interesting to see what Department of Fish and  
34 Game finds this year when they survey this area.

35

36 As far as harvest history goes, the  
37 Alaska Department of Fish and Game harvest ticket data  
38 base for Central Unit 22A provides a reasonably  
39 accurate summary of harvest by non-resident and non-  
40 local Alaskans but local harvest is thought to be under  
41 reported. The most complete harvest data available for  
42 Unit 22A comes from the large mammal surveys conducted  
43 by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and Kawerak  
44 in several of the communities during various years.  
45 And there's a fair amount of information in your book  
46 talking about these surveys. I'm not going to go into  
47 it right now, it's not that important. But for example  
48 in the central portion of Unit 22A specifically where  
49 the residents of Unalakleet hunt primarily reported  
50 that 13 moose were harvested in 2002 while the village

1 harvest survey found that an additional 15 moose were  
2 taken, but not reported. In 2004 four moose were  
3 reported on harvest tickets, however, three additional  
4 moose were reported from central Unit 22A during the  
5 village harvest survey. The village harvest survey  
6 found that about 81 percent of the harvest takes place  
7 in September and that most moose hunting in the  
8 Unalakleet River drainage is by residents of Unalakleet  
9 and most of the hunting occurs up stream from where the  
10 Chirokey River enters the Unalakleet and is on Federal  
11 public lands. In summary of the findings from the  
12 large mammal surveys, the actual harvest by Federally-  
13 qualified rural residents in Unit 22A appears to be  
14 more than double than what is reported on State harvest  
15 tickets. At least that's the way it's been in the  
16 past. Most of the non-resident harvest has occurred in  
17 the Golsovia River drainage.

18

19 At this point I'm going to hand the  
20 microphone over to Helen and she's going to go over  
21 some of the details of the .804 analysis.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr.  
26 Chair. Helen Armstrong, OSM.

27

28 I already talked a little bit about the  
29 .804 so I won't go into information on that but, you  
30 know, just to reiterate, we are doing this because  
31 there are so few moose that would be available to  
32 harvest at this time and all of the residents of Unit  
33 22 have customary and traditional use determination for  
34 moose in the Unalakleet River drainage.

35

36 So when we looked at the first  
37 criteria, the customary and direct dependence upon the  
38 populations as a mainstay of livelihood, we found that  
39 there weren't that many communities from Unit 22 who  
40 harvest moose in the area, but there were others other  
41 than Unalakleet. 87 percent of the harvest was by  
42 Unalakleet residents, four percent by St. Michael, less  
43 than one percent by Nome residents and none by Stebbins  
44 and Shaktoolik. I should point out that this is from  
45 reported harvest and that it's quite possible, because  
46 we know that there is under reporting that happens,  
47 that there are harvests that have occurred by,  
48 particularly maybe Stebbins and Shaktoolik, but we  
49 don't think that there are probably that many. The  
50 remaining harvest, there were nine percent from 1983 to

1 2004 that were harvested by non-Unit 22A Alaska  
2 residents, or non-residents.

3

4                   Just to give a sense of how many moose  
5 have been harvested by Unalakleet residents in the year  
6 that Greg was talking about when they did a study in  
7 2004 in Unalakleet. 29 moose were taken that year and  
8 so we're looking at a year where they had 29 moose and  
9 now we're talking about five, it's a significant  
10 reduction in the number of moose that Unalakleet people  
11 have taken in the past.

12

13                   The second criteria has to do with  
14 local residency or proximity to the resource and  
15 obviously Unalakleet is the community closest in  
16 proximity to the Unalakleet River drainage. The next  
17 closest communities are Stebbins and St. Michael's and  
18 Shaktoolik to the north.

19

20                   The third criteria has to do with  
21 available of alternative resources. All of the  
22 communities are subsistence based communities that  
23 harvest, as you all know, a wide range of fish and land  
24 mammals and birds. In terms of dependence upon moose,  
25 most of the moose that Unalakleet people take are  
26 harvested from the Unalakleet River drainage, 88  
27 percent are from the Unalakleet River drainage and 12  
28 percent were taken outside of that. Stebbins, St.  
29 Michael and Shaktoolik have alternative areas closer to  
30 their communities to harvest moose, although we heard  
31 some concerns earlier from Leonard about the difficulty  
32 in getting moose now. But they take the majority of  
33 their moose in other parts of Unit 22A instead of the  
34 Unalakleet River drainage.

35

36                   So if we limit the Unalakleet River  
37 drainage to one or more of the communities throughout  
38 this .804 analysis, it would not mean that the  
39 remaining communities would not be able to harvest  
40 moose, they just wouldn't be able to harvest moose in  
41 that Unalakleet River drainage.

42

43                   In summary, we found that the residents  
44 of Unalakleet demonstrate the highest dependency on  
45 moose harvested in the Unalakleet River drainage, and  
46 are in the closest proximity to the area, and they  
47 don't have other options of places to take moose, at  
48 least, not many options, because most of their recorded  
49 harvests are in the Unalakleet River drainage.

50

1                   The other section I'm going to just go  
2 through quickly, is the section on distributing  
3 permits, because there was a part to the proposal from  
4 the Native Village of Unalakleet that asked about  
5 having the distribution of permits be given to the  
6 Unalakleet Council. And what they had asked in WP08-38  
7 was that one Federal registration permit be issued to  
8 the Native Village of Unalakleet for five bull moose  
9 and that then they would designate hunters selected by  
10 the Council to then harvest those moose.

11  
12                   Although I think it's a good idea, I  
13 mean I personally think that I like that kind of  
14 concept and it has been done in concept in other  
15 places, it's not something that we put into  
16 regulations. We don't have a precedence for doing that  
17 in the Federal Subsistence Management Program, to  
18 designate tribal councils or Native village IRA  
19 councils in charge of who will get the permits. What's  
20 ended up happening is the land manager is in charge of  
21 the distribution of the permits and in some cases, and  
22 we have this in Unit 22, we have, for example, for  
23 muskox, Park Service has a couple of communities where  
24 the community -- they've gone in and talked to the  
25 community and the community has said we would like to  
26 designate who goes muskox hunting, and in other cases,  
27 in places where we've had this, sort of limited hunt,  
28 like this, the community might just draw the permits  
29 and anybody in the community can draw the permits, or  
30 it could be on a first come, first serve, but it's  
31 something that we don't put into regulation and it is  
32 up to the land manager to decide how to do that. But  
33 we do have confidence that the BLM, and they have a  
34 number of people here today, if this proposal passes,  
35 they will work with the people in Unalakleet to make  
36 sure that they're working together in a partnership.  
37 And they can speak more to that later, I suppose.

38  
39                   Thank you. That concludes my part and  
40 then Greg has some concluding comments.

41  
42                   MR. RISDAHL: Okay, now, we're going to  
43 go right to the effects of the proposal with a very  
44 short review.

45  
46                   Low numbers and poor recruitment  
47 resulted in closing the moose hunting in the central  
48 portion of Unit 22A in order to allow the population to  
49 rebuild. Since 2003, the herd has increased although  
50 it still remains at a low level compared to the first

1 survey done in 1989. Proposal 36 submitted by the  
2 Native Village of Unalakleet and Proposal 37 submitted  
3 by the Seward Peninsula Council would open the Federal  
4 subsistence hunting season in the central portion of  
5 Unit 22A. The proposed Federal subsistence season  
6 would run from August 1st through September 30th based  
7 on the proposals that we received and have either a one  
8 bull harvest limit or a one bull harvest limit by  
9 Federal registration permit with up to 20 permits  
10 issued. If Proposals 36 and 37 were adopted, the  
11 Federal subsistence moose hunting season would last six  
12 and a half weeks longer than the State registration  
13 permit season recently approved by the Board of Game,  
14 which ends on September 14th. If Proposal 38 were  
15 adopted, the Federal season would still be longer than  
16 the State season by four weeks but would end on  
17 September 15th, one day later than the State season.  
18 The different season dates between the new State season  
19 and the proposed Federal subsistence seasons might  
20 cause some confusion among hunters. From a biological  
21 standpoint, however, a longer season would not affect  
22 the moose population in 22A any more than a shorter  
23 season if the target harvest was five antlered bull  
24 moose under all scenarios. It would, however, allow  
25 Federally-qualified subsistence users more opportunity  
26 to harvest a moose by giving them more time to hunt.

27  
28 As Helen has demonstrated, ANILCA,  
29 Section .804 requires that a priority be given to  
30 Federally-qualified subsistence users when a resource  
31 is in short supply. Because of this, the requests made  
32 in Proposals 36 and 37, if adopted, require the closure  
33 of the Federal public lands to the taking of moose  
34 except by the residents of Unalakleet, and that should  
35 actually be maintaining the closure because those  
36 public lands currently are closed.

37  
38 If Proposal 38 were adopted, it would  
39 allow the Native Village of Unalakleet to have control  
40 over who receives moose hunting permits. Providing  
41 five permits only to the Native Village of Unalakleet  
42 would put into regulation the distribution of permits,  
43 and as Helen stated in the past the Federal Subsistence  
44 Management Program has not regulated how a limited  
45 number of permits are distributed in the community but  
46 has left that up to the discretion of the land manager.

47  
48 Now, I'm going to jump back to a  
49 proposal that we actually considered along with the  
50 preliminary conclusion that we will be passing on to

1 you this afternoon. When we first went through this  
2 analysis we actually considered looking at a moose  
3 season that aligned with the State season and that  
4 would be one that had a September 1 through September  
5 14 season dates with a State registration permit.

6  
7 This alternative would require the use  
8 of a Federal registration permit on the BLM lands,  
9 however, and the wild and scenic river area. Would  
10 have a harvest quota set annually of no more than four  
11 percent of the estimated moose population on the  
12 combined State, private and Federal lands. It would be  
13 monitored closely to ensure that over harvest does not  
14 occur. And implementing parallel State and Federal  
15 seasons would be less confusing to hunters and law  
16 enforcement problems would likely be less of an issue,  
17 especially in an area where land ownership patterns are  
18 mixed. However, as noted in the harvest history most  
19 moose hunting in central Unit 22A takes place above the  
20 Chirokey River, which is all Federal public lands. It  
21 would also be easier for the Bureau of Land Management  
22 to administer the hunt if the hunt only lasted 14 days  
23 because there's currently no office in Unalakleet.

24  
25 This alternative appears to be in  
26 keeping with the agreements and decisions made during  
27 the meetings over a three year period of cooperative  
28 planning between the residents of the Village of  
29 Unalakleet, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the  
30 Southern Norton Sound Fish and Game Advisory Committee,  
31 the Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory  
32 Council, which would help promote good relations and  
33 enhance trust and cooperation in the future between  
34 each of the entities. However, in deference to what  
35 the proponents ask for, this alternative was rejected,  
36 and we suggested that the longer moose season, one  
37 beginning on August 1st would give them more  
38 opportunity to harvest their moose.

39  
40 So the OSM preliminary conclusion is to  
41 support Proposals 36 and 37 with modification to open  
42 an August 1st through September 14 Federal subsistence  
43 moose season in central Unit 22A with a harvest limit  
44 of one bull by Federal registration permit, but close  
45 Federal public lands, or retain the closure on Federal  
46 public lands to the taking of moose except by the  
47 residents of Unalakleet. The Bureau of Land Management  
48 Anchorage Field Office, in cooperation with the Alaska  
49 Department of Fish and Game would administer the  
50 hunting season giving out up to 20 permits annually.

1 The exact number of permits determined by estimating a  
2 target harvest rate of about four percent based on the  
3 most recent population survey on all the lands that  
4 hunting would take place.

5  
6 The OSM preliminary conclusion for  
7 Wildlife Proposal 38 is to oppose that proposal for the  
8 reasons previously mentioned.

9  
10 Just to recap, because ANILCA specifies  
11 that when there's a shortage of a resource, an analysis  
12 must be done to determine which subsistence users are  
13 most dependent on the resource. The Section .804  
14 analysis demonstrated that the residents of Unalakleet  
15 have the highest dependency in harvesting moose in this  
16 particular river drainage and that they are in closest  
17 proximity to the area.

18  
19 Because of the requests made in the  
20 proposals and the results of the .804 analysis, the  
21 Federal public lands in central Unit 22A should remain  
22 close to the harvest of moose except by the residents  
23 of Unalakleet. While it is desirable to simplify and  
24 align Federal and State regulations, Section .804 of  
25 ANILCA requires that a priority be given to Federally-  
26 qualified subsistence users when a resource is in short  
27 supply.

28  
29 Adopting the proposal with  
30 modifications as described would increase moose hunting  
31 opportunities in central Unit 22A Federally-qualified  
32 subsistence users, specifically for those residents of  
33 Unalakleet, allowing them to hunt closer to home, yet  
34 not jeopardize the progress made by the increasing  
35 moose population as a result of the recent three year  
36 moratorium on hunting. Through careful joint  
37 monitoring of the harvest by the Bureau of Land  
38 Management Field Office and the local Alaska Department  
39 of Fish and Game wildlife biologists, using a mandatory  
40 reporting period, the moose population in central Unit  
41 22A should not be negatively impacted.

42  
43 Again, Proposal 38 is opposed, because  
44 providing five permits to the Native Village of  
45 Unalakleet would put into regulation the distribution  
46 of permits and we feel that this should be left to the  
47 discretion of the local land manager. The Bureau of  
48 Land Management could work with the Native Village of  
49 Unalakleet and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
50 to assure that permit distribution is done in a fair

1 and equitable manner in the community.  
2  
3 Thank you.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Greg.  
6  
7 MR. RISDAHL: Yes.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Both 36 and 37 say  
10 with a one bull limit, has that been the game plan on  
11 these proposals all along?  
12  
13 MR. RISDAHL: A one bull limit per  
14 hunter.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Oh.  
17  
18 MR. RISDAHL: I think you're confused  
19 about a limit versus a total.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Oh, okay.  
22  
23 MR. RISDAHL: Total harvest quota.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Oh, okay, okay, yep, I  
26 sure am. All right.  
27  
28 Okay, thanks, Greg and Helen.  
29  
30 So, Barb, I can go to Weaver now and  
31 let him.....  
32  
33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, you go to the  
34 Fish and Game.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN QUINN: No, I got to keep  
37 going?  
38  
39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, you keep going  
40 down the line.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right. Well,  
43 Weaver, we got to make you wait, stay tuned.  
44  
45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He's got to listen  
46 to everybody's comments before.....  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, ADF&G next.  
49  
50 MR. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 My name is Terry Haynes with the Department of Fish and  
2 Game.

3

4 Our written comments on this proposal  
5 are on Pages 38 and 39 of your meeting book. I won't  
6 read all of the comments, I'll just highlight a few of  
7 our key points because we know there's going to be more  
8 discussion of alternatives.

9

10 The Department supports a plan of  
11 action that's consistent with the action taken by the  
12 Board of Game at its November meeting to establish a  
13 September 1 to 14 season limiting harvest to five bulls  
14 and providing a hunting opportunity in a way that is  
15 not complicated and that is easily managed and  
16 administered.

17

18 We don't support any of the proposals  
19 as written, nor do we support the Staff recommendation,  
20 and it's preliminary conclusion; none of those are  
21 consistent with the action taken by the Board of Game.

22

23 Proposals 36 and 37 request seasons  
24 and/or harvest limits that aren't sustainable and that  
25 would be detrimental to subsistence users in the long  
26 run because they would eliminate or significantly delay  
27 recovery of the moose population in the central part of  
28 22A.

29

30 The Staff analysis does describe an  
31 alternative that we believe is a reasonable course of  
32 action but it wasn't selected as their preferred action  
33 in the preliminary conclusion.

34

35 Since these comments were written there  
36 certainly have been more discussions between Federal  
37 and State Staff and discussions with people in  
38 Unalakleet to try to ascertain what type of hunt is  
39 going to work best for everyone involved. There are  
40 models out there, the Unit 22 muskox hunts provide some  
41 ideas for how State and Federal hunts can be managed  
42 and administered cooperatively.

43

44 The bottom line for the Department,  
45 though, is to try to have State and Federal season  
46 dates that are the same, ensure that there's a limit of  
47 five bulls harvest, have a very short reporting time  
48 for harvest so that the hunts can be closed by  
49 emergency order and to minimize the complications for  
50 people in Unalakleet. Even though the State doesn't

1 have an ability to limit issuing permits only to  
2 residents of Unalakleet, we feel there's a very low  
3 likelihood of people coming from other areas to obtain  
4 a State registration permit. The cost of traveling to  
5 Unalakleet, the limited number of moose in the area  
6 certainly would not make the hunt in that area very  
7 attractive for people who would have to fly in to  
8 obtain a permit and then arrange for transportation out  
9 to go hunting.

10

11 So we look forward to hearing comments  
12 from Unalakleet residents and from other agencies and  
13 want to try to ensure that we have an efficiently  
14 administered hunt.

15

16 Peter Bente, the management coordinator  
17 for this region, Wildlife Conservation, and Tony Gorn,  
18 the area biologist, are both here, and I would defer to  
19 them if they have additional comments they'd like to  
20 make at this time. They will have to leave within a  
21 half hour for a Board of Game teleconference so they  
22 may not be here for the entire discussion of this  
23 proposal.

24

25 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

26

27 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right, thanks  
28 Terry. Peter I want you to come up there and say some  
29 stuff. You probably -- I hope you got something to  
30 say.

31

32 (Laughter)

33

34 MR. KOBUK: Mr. Chair, Leonard Kobuk.

35

36 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yes, Leonard.

37

38 MR. KOBUK: I have some comments I need  
39 to make, it concerns Page 35 where it says Stebbins and  
40 St. Michael's have a history of hunting moose in  
41 Unalakleet River drainage, and maybe Weaver can answer  
42 that. I don't think St. Michael's or Stebbins go hunt  
43 in Unalakleet area but I would like to hear what Weaver  
44 have to say about that.

45

46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, in a minute.

47

48 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, we'll get to  
49 that when Weaver speaks then. Peter, the one thing I  
50 want everybody to know is the season dates, the quota,

1 when and where you're going to issue the permits.

2

3

4 MR. BENTE: My name is Peter Bente.  
5 I'm management coordinator for Region 5, Alaska  
6 Department of Fish and Game, that includes Unit 22. So  
7 the question the Chair asked is, you know, more details  
8 about the specific moose hunt in Unit 22A, central  
9 portion.

9

10 At the Board of Game meeting in  
11 November in Bethel, the proposal was on for table for a  
12 limited hunt, as we described it, it's for residents  
13 only, the season date approved is September 1 through  
14 September 14, it's by registration in person, we expect  
15 to issue the permits in Unalakleet, there would be an  
16 unlimited number of permits available so there could be  
17 more hunters in the field than the available quota.  
18 Based on the population numbers that we have now, we've  
19 set a harvest quota of five bull moose, so if we  
20 acknowledge that there could be more hunters in the  
21 field, we want quick reporting and the reporting  
22 requirement is within 24 hours. These were all parts  
23 of the recommended proposal from the Advisory Committee  
24 which was kind of the summary of a long process of  
25 meetings which you're probably familiar with that  
26 identified the low number of moose, the need for a  
27 moratorium or a closure on moose hunting and the  
28 availability of hunting, again, once the moose  
29 population started to increase. We're in that  
30 situation where the population has increased a little  
31 bit so there can be a small harvest.

32

33 And I think that's the summary of the  
34 hunt unless you need more info.

35

36 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. What I really  
37 wanted specified is when the permits will begin to be  
38 available.

39

40 MR. BENTE: And I'll have to defer to  
41 the area manager, which is area biologist Tony Gorn for  
42 that detail.

43

44 MR. GORN: August 1st.

45

46 MR. BENTE: Okay, from the back of the  
47 room, permits would be available one month prior to the  
48 beginning of the season, available August 1st.

49

50 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Anything else.

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right, thank you.  
4 Next we'll take -- does anybody have any questions for  
5 Terry or Peter or even Tony.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. We'll do other  
10 agency comments, and BLM gets to give us their part.

11

12 MR. OVIATT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
13 For the record my name is George Oviatt from the Bureau  
14 of Land Management. I believe I passed out a copy of  
15 our comments to all of the Board members. So I'll  
16 begin, and I'm probably going to read most of this just  
17 to get it into the record.

18

19 The Bureau of Land Management is the  
20 Federal managing agency in charge of administering the  
21 Federal subsistence program in the central portion of  
22 Unit 22A as described in Proposal WP08-36 and 37, which  
23 includes the Unalakleet River. This map up here shows  
24 the land ownership, it shows the river, and the  
25 jurisdiction of the BLM lands, which is BLM managed  
26 lands, which is most of the Unalakleet River.

27

28 Based on three years of cooperative efforts and  
29 planning between the Village of Unalakleet, the  
30 Southern Norton Sound Fish and Game Advisory Committee,  
31 Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,  
32 and State and Federal land managers, there is now  
33 nearly unanimous agreement to reopen the season. This  
34 cooperative effort is perhaps one of the finest  
35 demonstrations of Section .802(3) of ANILCA which tells  
36 us that we as Federal land managing agencies, in  
37 managing subsistence activities on the public lands and  
38 in protecting the continued viability of all wild  
39 renewable resources in Alaska, shall cooperate with  
40 adjacent landowners and land managers, including Native  
41 Corporations, appropriate State and Federal agencies  
42 and other nations

43

44 If Proposals WP08-36 and WP08-37 were  
45 adopted, the Federal subsistence moose hunting season  
46 would last six and a half weeks longer than the  
47 September 1 through 14 State registration permit season  
48 recently approved by the Board of Game. In past years  
49 the community of Unalakleet has expressed concern with  
50 early openings. Subsistence users who were still out

1 fishing needed a chance to hunt for moose later in fall  
2 after fishing was completed.

3

4                   The new State season and the proposed  
5 Federal subsistence seasons presents a number of  
6 concerns to the BLM as land managers of the central  
7 portion of Unit 22A. Section .802 of ANILCA tells us  
8 that the utilization of the public lands in Alaska is  
9 to cause the least adverse impact possible on rural  
10 residents. BLM is concerned that the results of these  
11 proposals because of non-alignment, the potential for  
12 increased law enforcement vulnerability, and mixed land  
13 ownership may be combine to create undue burdens on  
14 subsistence users.

15

16                   Alignment.

17

18                   Since the advent of dual management  
19 system a primary goal has been to limit as much as  
20 possible hunter confusion over regulations. An  
21 important means of attaining this is by having  
22 State/Federal alignment of harvest limits and season  
23 dates. Extensive efforts have been made to ensure  
24 alignment of hunting and fishing regulations. The  
25 village harvest survey found that 81% of the harvest  
26 took place in September, which is thought to be  
27 typical.

28

29                   Enforcement.

30

31                   Differences in Federal and State  
32 regulations resulting from adoption of these proposals  
33 could be confusing among hunters and could create  
34 enforcement issues in areas with mixed land ownership.  
35 Having a mixed network of lands where hunters may be  
36 unaware of the differing land status makes them  
37 vulnerable to enforcement actions by both State and  
38 Federal agencies. If WP08-36 and/or 37 is adopted, the  
39 Federal enforcement would have to be a high priority in  
40 order to ensure that the Federal permit hunt is  
41 administered and enforced. BLM does not have an office  
42 in Unalakleet, this would be quite costly. With  
43 different opening dates and mixed land ownership there  
44 is a high risk that over harvest could happen.

45

46                   Land Ownership.

47

48                   Adoption of this proposal would produce  
49 mixed blocks of Federal /non-Federal lands with  
50 different season dates around the village. Federally-

1 qualified subsistence users will not be authorized to  
2 harvest on State and private lands that are closer to  
3 Unalakleet if any of these proposals is adopted.  
4 Participants in the State hunt who are Federally-  
5 qualified subsistence users will be authorized to hunt  
6 on either State or Federal lands, while hunters who  
7 have a Federal registration permit could only hunt on  
8 Federal lands that are located at least 10 to 15 miles  
9 away from Unalakleet.

10

11 Conservation issues.

12

13 Moose numbers still remain low in  
14 central Unit 22A, so limiting the harvest to only three  
15 to four percent essential for sustained yield  
16 management and to support continued population  
17 recovery. The moose population appears to have  
18 stabilized and the percent of calves observed has  
19 recently increased. However, the number of moose  
20 observed in 2006 surveys remains well below the 1989  
21 population.

22

23 ADF&G approved a harvest of  
24 approximately five bull moose per year in the near term  
25 and that it would only issue, they're saying an  
26 unlimited, I said 20 and that is wrong, it's an  
27 unlimited number of permits that I was told, it'd  
28 probably amount to about 20 to 30, at the village of  
29 Unalakleet to provide registration permit hunters  
30 conditions that ensure reasonable opportunity for  
31 resident hunters while avoiding over harvest.

32

33 Proposal WP08-37 requests a long  
34 Federal season and a potential harvest of 20 antlered  
35 bulls, resulting in a harvest rate that is  
36 unsustainable. If 20 permits were issued and all were  
37 successful, this would represent a 12 percent harvest  
38 rate that far exceeds the harvest rate currently  
39 applied anywhere in Unit 22.

40

41 BLM recommends that language be put  
42 into the proposal that require a harvest quota, set  
43 annually, of no more than three to four percent of the  
44 estimated population on the State, private and Federal  
45 public lands combined; and be monitored closely to  
46 ensure that over harvest does not occur. A 24 hour  
47 reporting period will be required to facilitate careful  
48 monitoring of the harvest.

49

50 Conclusion.

1                   The BLM would not support Proposal  
2 WP08-36 and WP08-37 as written but offer the following  
3 two options to these two proposals.

4  
5                   OSM analysis discusses an alternative  
6 that was not selected, they reported that alternative,  
7 which is to establish a September 1 through 14 Federal  
8 season and administer a limited Federal registration  
9 permit hunt in conjunction with the State hunt. This  
10 would increase moose hunting opportunities in central  
11 Unit 22A for Federally-qualified subsistence users,  
12 specifically for residents of Unalakleet, allowing them  
13 to hunt closer to home; yet not jeopardize the progress  
14 made by the increasing moose population as a result of  
15 the recent four year moratorium on hunting. The  
16 alternative would still maintain the closure of Federal  
17 public lands to all except the residents of Unalakleet.  
18 Through careful, joint monitoring of the harvest by the  
19 BLM Field Office land manager and local ADF&G wildlife  
20 biologists using the mandatory reporting period, the  
21 moose population in central Unit 22A should not be  
22 negatively impacted. Finally, following through with  
23 agreements and decisions made during cooperative  
24 planning efforts between the residents of Village of  
25 Unalakleet, ADF&G, the Southern Norton Sound Fish and  
26 Game Advisory Committee, and Seward Peninsula  
27 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council would promote  
28 good relations and enhance trust and cooperation in the  
29 future.

30  
31                   It is BLM's understanding that the  
32 initial proposal WP08-36 and WP08-37 submitted by the  
33 Native Village of Unalakleet and Seward Peninsula  
34 Council were later asked to be changed. In  
35 correspondence with OSM it was requested that the  
36 Native Village of Unalakleet would like to change the  
37 time the moose hunt to coincide with the State hunt,  
38 September 1 through 14, for both proposals. The hunt  
39 would be easier to monitor and the complications of  
40 where to hunt could be eliminated with the change.

41  
42                   As a result of the .804 study, BLM  
43 could support a modified WP08-36 and WP08-37 proposal  
44 that incorporates OSM's suggested alternative and in  
45 BLM's understanding it would be supported by the  
46 Village of Unalakleet.

47  
48                   Option 1.

49  
50                   This modified proposal would establish

1 a September 1 through 14 Federal season, administer a  
2 limited Federal registration permit hunt in conjunction  
3 with the State hunt with a 24 hour reporting  
4 requirement, and establish a harvest quota. In order  
5 to assure that Federal subsistence hunters an hunt on  
6 State lands as well it recommended that the State in  
7 conjunction with BLM issue the permits. This way a  
8 Federally-qualified subsistence users will be  
9 authorized to hunt on either State or Federal lands. A  
10 non-resident of Unalakleet would only be authorized to  
11 hunt on State lands. Because the State will only issue  
12 20, I guess unlimited permits, but they'll only issue  
13 them in Unalakleet and if they are authorized to issue  
14 permits for Federally-qualified subsistence users it is  
15 highly unlikely that anyone that is not from Unalakleet  
16 would be issued a permit. As a note BLM believes that  
17 a dual permit system is burdensome to subsistence users  
18 which doesn't meet ANILCA objectives.

19

20 BLM would work with the Native Village  
21 of Unalakleet, the State and community members to  
22 assure that permit distribution is done in a fair and  
23 equitable manner in the community.

24

25 BLM realizes this option could still  
26 result in an unnecessarily complicated hunt and would  
27 prefer to have a State administered hunt only.

28

29 An important consideration I see on the  
30 Section .804 analysis is that the Federal Closure  
31 Policy requires an analysis that identifies the ability  
32 and effectiveness of other management option that could  
33 avoid or minimize the degree of restrictions to  
34 subsistence and non-subsistence users. This strongly  
35 suggests that we need to look at other alternatives  
36 with the State prior to closing Federal lands. I don't  
37 see where this has been fully analyzed.

38

39 Option 2.

40

41 If I can make a suggestion, maybe a  
42 cleaner break here would be a modification to the  
43 proposals 36/37 to align with the State season dates,  
44 allow a State registration permit, with a 24 hour  
45 reporting requirement, and establish a harvest quota.  
46 BLM believes that the State's willingness to conduct a  
47 registration permit in Unalakleet gives a rural  
48 priority and meets the objectives of .804. That  
49 instituting a duplicate permit system causes adverse  
50 impacts to rural residents which is contrary to the

1 objectives of .802(1). In addition, by following the  
2 agreements of the cooperators we meet the objectives of  
3 .802(3). My interpretation is that this meets Closure  
4 Policy guidelines, still provides a rural subsistence  
5 priority, is less burdensome to users, and maintains  
6 compliance with ANILCA.

7  
8 The only risk with this option is that  
9 it may be possible for an Alaska resident that is not a  
10 resident of Unalakleet would get a permit. However,  
11 facts tell us that Unit 22 residents generally harvest  
12 moose close to their communities. Harvest data from  
13 '83 to '04 indicate that Unalakleet residents take the  
14 majority of the moose in the unalakleet River drainage.  
15 And these were reported in the analysis, I won't go  
16 through all of it. But in other words, I think it's  
17 highly unlikely that the 20 or 30 permits to be issued,  
18 that they wouldn't be issued to anyone other than  
19 residents of Unalakleet.

20  
21 Proposal WP08-38 is opposed by BLM for  
22 the same reasons that were stated by OSM.

23  
24 These are two options that BLM could  
25 support.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, well, thanks,  
28 George. You guys probably put a lot of work into that  
29 and I really appreciate it. I do want to ask you one  
30 question, I wasn't even aware that you had that much  
31 Federal land down there. Just off the top of your  
32 head, do you know about where that dark brown line and  
33 light brown line is, like is that Chirokey?

34  
35 MR. RISDAHL: Yes.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN QUINN: That's about where  
38 Chirokey is, okay. Well, hopefully at the end of  
39 today we're going to come out of this with a proposal  
40 that will go to the Federal Subsistence Board and we  
41 will end up with both a State season and a Federal  
42 season down there, which one way or another if a non-  
43 local person does get a State permit down there, he's  
44 going to be stuck hunting in that dark brown area or  
45 maybe some of that light blue area. Anyway, what I  
46 want to know is will you guys put some time and money  
47 and person into enforcement during this hunt, because  
48 you're the Federal land holder there?

49  
50 MR. OVIATT: We will to the best of our

1 abilities, and that's why if we had a shorter season we  
2 would for sure be able to have someone on site the  
3 whole time, but the longer season will be difficult  
4 for us.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Difficult. So you  
7 think you can designate the guy and the time and the  
8 money for that two week season beginning in September?

9  
10 MR. OVIATT: Yes, we would.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, great.

13  
14 MR. KOBUK: Mr. Chairman.

15  
16 MR. OVIATT: I may have volunteered  
17 myself to do that but.....

18  
19 CHAIRMAN QUINN: I want somebody with  
20 an airplane.

21  
22 (Laughter)

23  
24 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Go ahead, Leonard.

25  
26 MR. KOBUK: Yeah, I would like to ask  
27 BLM, I keep hearing the three to four percent, when  
28 they mention three to four percent, how many moose is  
29 that you're talking about?

30  
31 MR. OVIATT: That would be close to  
32 five, around five moose. And I really think that we  
33 need to go into this very conservatively and let that  
34 moose population continue to grow.

35  
36 MR. KOBUK: Okay, thank you, that's all  
37 I wanted to know. I was wondering how many moose you  
38 were talking about. Thank you.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Do I have any  
41 other agencies that want to comment at least at the  
42 government level?

43  
44 (No comments)

45  
46 CHAIRMAN QUINN: If not, Kawerak, do  
47 you have any comments on this, Sandy?

48  
49 MS. TAHBONE: No.

50

1 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. InterAgency  
2 Staff.  
3  
4 MR. KESSLER: No comments.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Fish and Game Advisory  
7 Committee. There's nobody in the audience, but,  
8 Leonard, you said you're on the AC, do you remember the  
9 meetings from this?  
10  
11 MR. KOBUK: No. We were supposed to  
12 discuss this on the meeting that they just had recently  
13 but I couldn't make it there, I opted to come to this  
14 meeting instead. That's why I -- I'll just wait to  
15 hear what Unalakleet has to say and go by what they  
16 decide.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right. Susan, did  
19 the AC say anything specific to us.  
20  
21 MS. BUCKNELL: For the record, Susan  
22 Bucknell. I'd just like to point out that Myron is  
23 also on that Advisory Committee. And that I just came  
24 back to this job in August so the development of  
25 Proposal 19 to the Board of Game last fall, I wasn't  
26 around for that but Myron might remember some of that,  
27 if that was the question, about how that proposal  
28 developed.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Myron, were you  
31 at the meeting Tuesday?  
32  
33 MR. SAVETILIK: I think one of the  
34 things that we were waiting for was for that moratorium  
35 to end and then we'll just go for the proposal that we  
36 see right now and going with the other agencies, just  
37 to go from there.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN QUINN: You didn't end up with  
40 some sort of specific recommendation to this RAC as to  
41 how you wanted the Federal lands open?  
42  
43 MR. SAVETILIK: No, unh-unh.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Written  
46 comments. Barb.  
47  
48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. There  
49 are no written public comments on these proposals.  
50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Public  
4 testimony. I can finally let Weaver talk. Weaver, are  
5 you still there?

6

7 MR. IVANOFF: Yes, I am. Yes, I am.

8

9 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right, you got the  
10 floor Weaver.

11

12 MR. IVANOFF: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I  
13 have with me Duane Johnson who's part of the staff of  
14 the Native Village of Unalakleet and also the president  
15 of the Native Village of Unalakleet, Kathy Johnson.

16

17 First of all I'd like to thank the  
18 Regional Advisory Committee for inviting us to talk in  
19 public testimony regarding the moose in the Unalakleet  
20 River and appreciate the comments that were made by the  
21 Alaska Department of Fish and Game as well as the  
22 Bureau of Land Management and the analysis that was  
23 done by both Helen and Greg.

24

25 First of all the Unalakleet people are  
26 very concerned about the conservation of the moose. In  
27 fact, the people of Unalakleet were the ones who  
28 initiated the moose moratorium, recognizing that, as it  
29 was pointed out by ADF&G Staff that our moose were on  
30 the decline, and so that moratorium was started as a  
31 result of -- we started getting an inclination that the  
32 moose were declining after a period of a couple years  
33 hunt where the moose were just not there and the  
34 hunters were not getting the moose as they normally  
35 did, and so the moose -- while not the majority of  
36 them, not the unanimous decision to go to the  
37 moratorium, a great percentage of the Unalakleet  
38 residents were in favor of the moratorium.

39

40 We submitted these proposals  
41 recognizing that there was an increase in the moose  
42 population. And our concern about opening the season  
43 was, of course, over harvesting. We do not want to  
44 undo in one month what we took four years to try and  
45 achieve, recognizing that the moose is not still at the  
46 healthy population level, we know that only a certain  
47 amount of animals can be harvested, and that's why we  
48 initiated Proposal 38.

49

50 Proposal 38 was put in the books mainly

1 that other proposals failed. If everything else failed  
2 we wanted to be able to harvest at least five bull  
3 moose for the residents of Unalakleet for the elders of  
4 Unalakleet, only the elders would be receiving the meat  
5 from the five bulls.

6  
7 We'd be happy to work with the Bureau  
8 of Land Management or whoever else would be involved in  
9 trying to issue permits to five moose hunters so they  
10 could go out and you would ensure -- and make sure that  
11 only five bull moose were harvested. We haven't had  
12 caribou migrating through here for a number of years  
13 now. This year, I think only three hunters went out  
14 for caribou north of Koyuk and came back with four and  
15 that's really, really a small number.

16  
17 As part of our customary and  
18 traditional use, moose harvested or any game harvested  
19 for that matter in the village of Unalakleet, as well  
20 as the other villages throughout the region, the  
21 harvest is shared with the people who needed it,  
22 whoever comes to the door and wants a piece of meat  
23 gets it. And I think that 38 followed that tradition  
24 knowing that if everything else failed, we wanted to  
25 have that ability to go out and get five moose so that  
26 our elders could have that nutrition that they're  
27 accustomed to having. And that's the reason of 38.

28  
29 Now, having said that, 36 and 37 have a  
30 great deal of discussion going on. We would be in  
31 favor of 37. When -- and there's biological, political  
32 reasons, all kinds of reasons for that.

33  
34 Although we submitted 36, basically  
35 they're almost parallel to each other, 37, by the fact  
36 -- and we should have did this cooperatively with the  
37 Seward Peninsula group in drafting up a proposal that  
38 would be, you know, together, but as far as we could  
39 tell this 37 is something that we definitely could  
40 support.

41  
42 This isn't a complicated hunt as  
43 pointed out. People know exactly where the Federal  
44 lands are here in Unalakleet, people have lived in  
45 Unalakleet all their lives, they know exactly where  
46 Chirokey is, they know exactly where the mouth of the  
47 river is, they know exactly where the other tributaries  
48 empty out, you know, we're familiar with our country.  
49 We know exactly where the boundary of the Federal lands  
50 begin, where the State lands start also. And it's not

1 complicated. And what's complicated about having a  
2 moose season early? I mean August 1 is August 1 and  
3 goes to September 14th. I could sense that there's  
4 some concern about enforcement and over harvesting and  
5 that's a real concern to us too. We definitely do not  
6 want to over harvest.

7

8 I don't want to get this -- this is not  
9 a turf battle, it's nothing having to do with one  
10 agency versus another agency in that respect, all it is  
11 is trying to put some meat on the table to our people  
12 who depend on that resource for a number of years and  
13 we know that it's dwindling.

14

15 The State of Alaska has an opening  
16 season of September 1 to 14th. My understanding is  
17 that they have a registration hunt for that. Whoever  
18 registers to hunt in Unalakleet will be able to hunt in  
19 the river and that number could be anywhere from one to  
20 100, okay, and that's fine. I think that's okay, in  
21 that regard, in the registration area. The Federal  
22 registration permit says up to 20 permits only be  
23 issued. After discussion here in Unalakleet, we  
24 figure, you know, having the registration period open  
25 to only residents of Unalakleet hunting in Federal  
26 lands not be restricted to only 20. We would have to  
27 pick and choose then the 20 permits that would go out  
28 to those people. But that's not a problem, if we have  
29 to do that, we can do that and we can do that  
30 cooperatively with Bureau of Land Management so that  
31 permits are issued. If 20 permits are issued that --  
32 you know only one person in one household would get a  
33 permit so that it's not duplicated in a household or  
34 the moose harvest would be distributed fairly  
35 throughout the village, and we could do that without  
36 any problem, it's just the setting up the mechanism and  
37 how to do it with the BLM in that regard.

38

39 There's a comment that was made in  
40 regards to early openings that coincide with the  
41 fishers of Unalakleet subsistence fishers and that's  
42 one of the things that we discussed, and we would like  
43 to offer an amendment to 37. The first one, of course,  
44 would be the permits, if that's available for  
45 amendment, that the permits are available without a  
46 number, restricted to the people of Unalakleet on  
47 Federal lands. That way, you know, we have, as stated  
48 by ADF&G, that would ensure five bulls would be  
49 harvested, a short reporting time with the harvest, 24  
50 hours is required. The thing about the State, although

1 they're making a great effort and I really appreciate  
2 it, is that even if they open a registration, even one  
3 non-resident could make a difference -- not non-  
4 resident, but a non -- you know somebody who doesn't  
5 live in Unalakleet, say he lives in Nome or Shaktoolik  
6 and happens to be here when the moose season started  
7 and he registered to hunt and he went out there, you  
8 know, and only five bulls are targeted to be harvested,  
9 if he got one, that's one-fifth of the harvest, so  
10 there's a real difference in this, and it's a huge  
11 difference, one-fifth is a big number and that leaves  
12 only four for the residents of Unalakleet. And there's  
13 not so much danger in that but there's the possibility,  
14 and that's what I've been hearing in some of the  
15 discussion, I've heard knowledge of possibility.

16  
17                   If anything, we would like -- because I  
18 heard a long season or a short season, the moose will  
19 still be taken, we'd still be able to cooperate. The  
20 other amendment we'd like to see, hopefully, into 37,  
21 is that the moose hunt be open on August 15th rather  
22 than August 1st, that would give the subsistence  
23 fishers who go up the main river to harvest fall fish,  
24 the ability to go up and hunt at the same time, and  
25 that's what we did traditionally in the past until the  
26 moose moratorium. A lot of people would go up camping,  
27 fishing and hunt at the same time while they're up  
28 there. So an August 15 would be preferable. August 1  
29 is a little bit early in regards to weather anyway, and  
30 that would coincide with the fishers.

31  
32                   And that's all I have, Mr. Chair,  
33 unless there's questions.

34  
35                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, thanks, Weaver.

36  
37                   MR. KOBUK: Mr. Chairman.

38  
39                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yeah, Leonard Kobuk's  
40 got a question for you.

41  
42                   MR. KOBUK: Yeah, Weaver this is  
43 Leonard Kobuk from St. Michael. Both in the Federal  
44 book and then the BLM states -- well, I'm going on the  
45 Federal one, it says Stebbins and St. Michael also have  
46 a history of hunting moose in the Unalakleet drainage,  
47 and I'm wondering, do you or anyone in Unalakleet ever  
48 hear of anyone from St. Michael's or Stebbins going  
49 hunting in your area, as far as I know no one goes to  
50 that area from St. Michael or Stebbins? And then on

1 the BLM part it says four percent, 13 by St. Michael,  
2 have you ever heard of anyone from St. Michael or  
3 Stebbins going to your area to hunt moose?

4

5 MR. IVANOFF: Thanks, that's a good  
6 question. The only time I can think of was in years  
7 past, before the moose population kind of migrated out  
8 of Unalakleet and headed down toward the Yukon. There  
9 was very little moose in the St. Michael/Stebbins area  
10 and so people have to travel a long way during the  
11 winter season and my only -- the only thing I could  
12 think of at that time is it's possible that they went  
13 over near the South River drainage at the headwaters  
14 and got moose there but that was in the past, you know,  
15 that was quite a while back probably in the '80s, and  
16 that's the only thing I could think about.

17

18 Actually coming here to Unalakleet and  
19 hunting up the main river and stuff by boat, no, that  
20 hasn't occurred.

21

22 MR. KOBUK: Okay, thank you, Weaver,  
23 you answered my question.

24

25 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, Weaver, this is  
26 Mike Quinn, I sort of wanted to ask you a question or  
27 two. You know I tried to pin the BLM guy down on  
28 enforcement, which I did, you know, and he can really  
29 only dedicate about two weeks time to having an agent  
30 there to help enforce this hunt and I think it's kind  
31 of important that they have someone there because it's  
32 going to be the non-locals who are in violation, if  
33 they go up above Chirokey. You suggested amending --  
34 37 is our proposal so we're the ones who are going to  
35 have to amend it, and you suggested an August 15th  
36 opening date and you gave your reason why and I  
37 remember living down there and that jives with what I  
38 remember, that's not an unreasonable request. Would  
39 you support a September 14th or 15th closure to come  
40 closer to the State season and give BLM a chance to at  
41 least spend two weeks of that month time to help  
42 enforce that?

43

44 MR. IVANOFF: Your question was a  
45 September 14th closure or an August 31 closure?

46

47 CHAIRMAN QUINN: A September 14, we'd  
48 say, you know, the season would end on the 14th, so at  
49 least two weeks of it would jive with the State season,  
50 the last two weeks?

1 MR. IVANOFF: Yeah, I have no problem  
2 with that as long as we have that August 15th opening  
3 and then the closing on the 14th, I don't see any  
4 complications with that at all.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. And you think  
7 -- both your Proposal 36 and our Proposal 37 is  
8 actually a two month season, but you guys are satisfied  
9 -- if we do this August 15th to September 14th that's a  
10 month, you think that the locals can get their five  
11 moose int hat month time?

12  
13 MR. IVANOFF: Definitely. It's just  
14 like I said. There's a real huge effort, not a huge  
15 effort but, you know, this village is a fishing  
16 community and a lot of our diet depends on the dry fish  
17 in the fall and so a large majority of our people go up  
18 and harvest the fish during that time and it coincides  
19 just perfectly with that fishing period. It saves on  
20 the gas, it saves on the manpower, and you're  
21 guaranteed of coming back with a full boat whether it's  
22 -- you know it's guaranteed with fish for sure, but  
23 hopefully some moose will be along with it. So an  
24 August 15th definitely is favorable.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Does anybody  
27 else have any questions for Weaver?

28  
29 MR. BUCK: I have a question. This is  
30 Peter Buck from White Mountain. And looking at  
31 Proposal 38 where the Native Village of Unalakleet has  
32 control over who receives the moose hunting permits, I  
33 think that the native villages of this area should have  
34 real high input on who receives the permits, the  
35 different departments should recognize the Native  
36 villages and work with them, but make sure that the  
37 Native villages, not only in the Unalakleet area, but  
38 in White Mountain, Teller, if proposals come around  
39 when we have limited seasons, the Native villages  
40 should have first priority.

41  
42 Thank you.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Well, that  
45 wasn't really a question. Okay, well, I'm sure glad  
46 you chimed in here, Weaver, you brought up some stuff I  
47 hadn't thought about and I think all of us can take  
48 that into consideration. Do you want to stay on and  
49 listen to our deliberations or do you got other work to  
50 do?

1 MR. IVANOFF: I have work to do but I'd  
2 like to stay on for deliberations. You know, I can  
3 keep the phone on and work at the same time.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay.

6  
7 MR. IVANOFF: So that shouldn't be any  
8 problem.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right, great.

11  
12 MR. IVANOFF: First of all, Kathy, do  
13 you have anything to say.

14  
15 MS. JOHNSON: No.

16  
17 MR. IVANOFF: Duane.

18  
19 MR. JOHNSON: No.

20  
21 MR. IVANOFF: No, okay. And I  
22 appreciate being on, if I can.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN QUINN: You bet, we'll keep  
25 you on.

26  
27 MR. IVANOFF: All right, thank you very  
28 much.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Is there any  
31 other public testimony.

32  
33 (No comments)

34  
35 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. It's kind of  
36 now up to us. Terry, I'll put you on the spot a little  
37 bit. I know this ain't completely what you guys wanted  
38 but would August 15th to September 14th be a little  
39 more acceptable to the State, as far as the Federal  
40 season, I know your season is already locked in.

41  
42 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman. If the  
43 Federal Board implements an August 15th opening date,  
44 there's a very high degree of certainty that the State  
45 season will be closed by emergency order before it even  
46 opens.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Well, I imagine  
49 they're aware of that, you know, whether there's five  
50 moose killed in the first or second two weeks of August

1 or first two weeks of September is -- you know, our  
2 objective is to give the local people the best  
3 opportunity we can, well, we're still discussing it,  
4 it's not done yet.

5  
6 And then, George, I want to ask you,  
7 okay, so our proposal says local Bureau of Land  
8 Management manager would issue up to 20 Federal permits  
9 annually in coordination with the Alaska Department of  
10 Fish and Game, and I tried to shorten this up a little  
11 bit so at least we got four weeks instead of eight to  
12 deal with, can you get Tom or someone to be available  
13 to issue Federal permits at some point?

14  
15 MR. OVIATT: I don't believe that would  
16 be a problem at all. We would have somebody in  
17 Unalakleet to issue those permits. It would be nice if  
18 we did it at the same time in conjunction with the  
19 State but, yes, we would have someone there.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. And then like  
22 you said, on the enforcement, you could stick two weeks  
23 in there to maybe watch the second half of the season?

24  
25 MR. OVIATT: We'll do what we can to  
26 make sure we have proper enforcement in order to  
27 protect the over harvest of that herd. Two weeks is  
28 better than.....

29  
30 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yeah, well, you  
31 know.....

32  
33 MR. OVIATT: .....but if.....

34  
35 CHAIRMAN QUINN: .....I know you got a  
36 budget, so do we.

37  
38 (Laughter)

39  
40 MR. OVIATT: .....if you propose  
41 something more, you know, we're going to do our best to  
42 do administrate the enforcement on that river.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Alrighty,  
45 thanks. Well, I guess now it's up to us. You guys  
46 have read this proposal that we submitted. I think,  
47 personally, I like the idea of August 15 to September  
48 14th. We do need to let the government agencies have  
49 the time to administer and enforce these seasons, but I  
50 can't make any motions.

1                   You know, we can leave our proposal the  
2 way it is, we can amend it, you guys tell me what you  
3 think.

4  
5                   MR. KOBUK: This is Leonard Kobuk from  
6 St. Michael. I mean I would like to go with what  
7 Unalakleet suggested, August 15th to September 14th,  
8 and that's just my own opinion and I'll go with  
9 whatever Unalakleet wants.

10  
11                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Myron, I'll put you on  
12 the spot since you're on the AC, too, oh, do you want  
13 to say something Peter.

14  
15                   MR. BUCK: I'll support Leonard's  
16 August 15th to September 14th.

17  
18                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Uh-huh. How does that  
19 sound to you, Myron, because you're kind of from that  
20 area?

21  
22                   MR. SAVETILIK: Yeah, that sounds good.  
23 I was just thinking about what Unalakleet has to say  
24 and then like what is it, 36 and 37?

25  
26                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Well, ours is 37,  
27 that's the only one we can amend, we can't amend 36,  
28 but, you know, hopefully there'll be some sort of  
29 testimony at the Federal Subsistence Board meeting from  
30 the Native Village of Unalakleet and if we amend our  
31 proposal to -- you know, if they support what we  
32 amend, then I would say that the Federal Subsistence  
33 Board would adopt it -- let me ask -- well, let me ask  
34 one more question because technically, for any of this  
35 to happen, we're going to need a special action from  
36 the Federal Subsistence Board; isn't that right?

37  
38                   MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No. No. No. No.

39  
40                   MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No.

41  
42                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: No.

43  
44                   MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We just amend  
45 Proposal 37.....

46  
47                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: No, what I thought was  
48 that the upcoming May Federal Subsistence Board meeting  
49 is a fisheries meeting, no?

50

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's wildlife.  
2  
3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's wildlife.  
4  
5 MR. KESSLER: It's wildlife.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Oh, uh, uh, all right,  
8 okay, go ahead.  
9  
10 MS. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
11 This is Polly Wheeler with the Office of Subsistence  
12 Management. Yeah, the meeting that's coming up, I  
13 think it's the very end of April, beginning of May,  
14 that meeting will be dealing with the wildlife  
15 proposals that are being heard through this Regional  
16 Advisory Council process, you know, we've got the 10  
17 meetings going on and we've got 54 wildlife proposals,  
18 those proposals will be in front of the Federal Board  
19 at that spring meeting.  
20  
21 I just wanted to clarify, though, on  
22 Page 35 in your book, and I know you've had all these  
23 different pieces of paper and words thrown at you, but  
24 just to clarify, the preliminary conclusion from OSM  
25 was to support Proposals 36 and 37 with modification to  
26 open an August 1 to September 14 Federal subsistence  
27 moose season in central 22A with a harvest limit of one  
28 bull by Federal registration permit, blah, blah, blah.  
29 If you want to amend the season, support the proposals  
30 and then add your amendment, so that your amendment  
31 would be, rather than an August 1 to September 14  
32 season, what I'm hearing is your amendment would be an  
33 August 15 to September 14 season with those other  
34 provisions in there. But you need to be clear what  
35 you're amending and what you're actually supporting.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay.  
38  
39 MS. WHEELER: Is that clear?  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, thanks.  
42  
43 MS. WHEELER: Does that help?  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yeah, that's good you  
46 said that.  
47  
48 MS. WHEELER: Okay.  
49  
50 MR. KOBUK: Mr. Chair, Leonard Kobuk.

1 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yes, Leonard.  
2  
3 MR. KOBUK: Am I misunderstanding, it  
4 says one bull by Federal, that means Unalakleet will  
5 only be allowed to harvest one bull?  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN QUINN: One bull per hunter,  
8 with a total quota of five.  
9  
10 MR. KOBUK: Okay, thank you.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right. Myron, did  
13 you want to say something else?  
14  
15 MR. SAVETILIK: No, unh-unh.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right. So what we  
18 can do is we can support Proposals 36 and 37 with our  
19 own modification, is that -- okay, so you can make a  
20 motion to support 36 and 37 with a modification to  
21 change the season dates to whatever you think.....  
22  
23 MR. SAVETILIK: August 15th through  
24 September 14th?  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yes, that's what I'd  
27 like to hear.  
28  
29 MR. SAVETILIK: Okay, Myron Savetilik.  
30 I move to accept 36 to 37 with modification and I amend  
31 it from August 15 to September 14, right?  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yes.  
34  
35 MR. KOBUK: This is Leonard Kobuk, I  
36 support that motion, second. I second that motion.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, do we need any  
39 more discussion.  
40  
41 (No comments)  
42  
43 MR. KOBUK: Question.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, the question's  
46 been called. All those in favor of the motion with  
47 modification say aye.  
48  
49 IN UNISON: Aye.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN QUINN: And any opposed.  
2  
3 (No opposing votes)  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right, thanks.  
6 Okay, Weaver, did you hear all that?  
7  
8 MR. IVANOFF: Yes, I certainly did and  
9 I thank you very much.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. You're  
12 satisfied with that?  
13  
14 MR. IVANOFF: I'm satisfied with that,  
15 thank you, very much.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, well, nice to  
18 hear from you.  
19  
20 MR. IVANOFF: Great. Well, thanks  
21 again from hearing from me and I.....  
22  
23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Wait.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Well, Helen's going to  
26 say something here, hang on.  
27  
28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Just one more thing,  
29 if you actually look at 36 and 37 and you guys just  
30 adopted that with the modification, it doesn't say  
31 anything about limiting it to Unalakleet residents, so  
32 you would want to limit it to.....  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN QUINN: I thought that was  
35 already in there.  
36  
37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, it's not in  
38 the original proposal which is what you.....  
39  
40 MS. WHEELER: Supporting OSM's  
41 modification, along with those changes.  
42  
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: But you have to  
44 either word it you're supporting OSM's modifications  
45 but I think the wording I heard, if I'm not mistaken  
46 was just 36 and -- you supported 36 and 37 with a  
47 modification so you just need to add that you're  
48 supporting the -- you can say additional modification  
49 to limit it to Unalakleet residents.  
50

1 MS. PETRIVELLI: On Page 35.  
2  
3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Because the  
4 difference between supporting the proposals and  
5 supporting what the OSM.....  
6  
7 MR. KOBUK: Mr. Chair.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right.  
10  
11 MR. KOBUK: Mr. Chairman, this is  
12 Leonard Kobuk.  
13  
14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: .....recommendation  
15 is.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right, go ahead  
18 Leonard.  
19  
20 MR. KOBUK: I'll support with that  
21 included, in the modification, with just Unalakleet  
22 residents only.  
23  
24 MR. SAVETILIK: I second.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, seconded.  
27  
28 MR. KOBUK: Question.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, all those in  
31 favor of our new motion with modification say aye.  
32  
33 IN UNISON: Aye.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN QUINN: And those opposed.  
36  
37 (No opposing votes)  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right. Okay, I  
40 guess we're done now, Weaver.  
41  
42 MR. IVANOFF: Okay, thank you guys very  
43 much.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, we'll see you.  
46  
47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Take a break.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Well, I kind of wanted  
50 to go about 20 more minutes before I took a break, I

1 mean what else do we got here -- okay, can we -- you  
2 guys really dying for a break?

3

4 (Council nods affirmatively)

5

6 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right, we got to  
7 take a break.

8

9 (Off record)

10

11 (On record)

12

13 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, you guys sit  
14 down and we'll get going here again.y.

15

16 (Pause)

17

18 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, we're back in  
19 session and I need to clarify our intent as to our  
20 motion for 36 and 37. I want to make sure that it's  
21 understood our intent is that that Federal season is  
22 open only to residents of Unalakleet; that BLM has  
23 emergency order closing authority on the season so that  
24 if the five moose are killed before September 1st, that  
25 BLM can close the season; and what was the other thing  
26 -- is that it, oh, and that the Federal quota is five  
27 moose, okay. So, all right, they're going to kill five  
28 moose down there, it'll be Unalakleet residents only on  
29 Federal land and BLM has EO authority to close the  
30 season when the quota of five is reached.

31

32 MR. KESSLER: May I.

33

34 CHAIRMAN QUINN: That's our intent.

35

36 MR. KESSLER: Well, I'll try and help  
37 out.

38

39 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, I guess I need  
40 help.

41

42 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
43 Steve Kessler with the InterAgency Staff Committee.

44

45 I think that what you were trying to  
46 get at is that the BLM should have the authority to  
47 open and close the season and with discussions with  
48 Department of Fish and Game set the quota every year  
49 because one year the quota might be five, the next year  
50 the quota might be two, and the next year the quota

1 might be 10; it all is dependent on sort of what the  
2 surveys show and what the allowable percentage of  
3 animals that can be harvested should be.

4  
5 So, therefore, if your intent is to  
6 provide as much flexibility as you can based on what  
7 the populations of the moose are telling you, my  
8 suggestion would be to take, again, a look on Page 35  
9 of your book, see what the Federal Staff suggested in  
10 their recommendation, which says one bull by Federal  
11 registration permit administered by the BLM Anchorage  
12 Field Office with authority to open and close the  
13 season in cooperation with ADF&G. You could also add  
14 to that, if you so chose, with authority to.....

15  
16 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay.

17  
18 MR. KESSLER: .....open and close and  
19 set quotas.....

20  
21 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay.

22  
23 MR. KESSLER: .....in cooperation.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Steve I'm going to  
26 interrupt you because that's what we did.

27  
28 REPORTER: Mike. Mike.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN QUINN: That's what we did.  
31 First we made a proposal and then you told us that --  
32 we accepted OSM's proposal with modification and added  
33 our own modification so we have accepted OSM's proposal  
34 with modification, BLM -- Federal lands are closed  
35 except to the residents of Unalakleet, Anchorage Field  
36 Office incorporation with ADF&G will administer and I  
37 think that covers it.

38  
39 MR. KESSLER: And the authority to open  
40 and close.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yeah, and the  
43 authority to open and close, so we did actually do that  
44 with our motion.

45  
46 MR. KESSLER: If that was your intent,  
47 that's great.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. All right.  
50 Then we need to move on to Proposal 38, which is from

1 the Native Village of Unalakleet. We've kind of dealt  
2 with the issue already so I'll entertain a motion for  
3 Proposal 38, we can just oppose it since we've already  
4 given them hopefully what they want.

5  
6 MR. SAVETILIK: Mr. Chair. Myron  
7 Savetilik. I oppose Proposal No. 38.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Is that a motion.

10  
11 MR. SAVETILIK: I move.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, there's a  
14 motion.

15  
16 MR. BUCK: I second it.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, a motion and  
19 second. Discussion.

20  
21 (No comments)

22  
23 CHAIRMAN QUINN: No.

24  
25 MR. KOBUK: Question.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Question has been  
28 called. All those in favor of the motion say aye.

29  
30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Opposed.

33  
34 (No opposing votes)

35  
36 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Motion carries. Okay,  
37 we're going to move on to Proposals 39 through 45. And  
38 actually can I combine them all, 39 through 49?

39  
40 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, I think we  
41 should leave -- we should do -- you could do 39 to 47  
42 together and then the last two, they're a little  
43 different, as to why we're opposing them.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay.

46  
47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Is that okay.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right.

50

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: All right.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN QUINN: You go ahead. I'm  
4 going to run off for a second but you guys just keep  
5 going.  
6  
7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Are you going to  
8 have somebody acting in your place.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Barbara will act in my  
11 behalf if needed until I get back.  
12  
13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.  
14  
15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Madame  
16 Chair. My name is Helen Armstrong, OSM.  
17  
18 Proposals WP08-39 through 45 begin on  
19 Page 40, and 46 and 47 are on Page 49 in your Council  
20 books.  
21  
22 Proposals 39 through 45, well, all of  
23 the proposals were submitted by Kawerak and 39 through  
24 45 requests customary and traditional use  
25 determinations for Unit 22 for beaver, Arctic fox, red  
26 fox, hare, lynx, marten and wolverine in Unit 22 and  
27 Proposals 46 and 47 request customary and traditional  
28 use determinations for residents of Unit 22 for spruce,  
29 grouse and ptarmigan, rock\* and willow in Unit 22.  
30  
31 Currently the existing C&T for beaver,  
32 Arctic fox, red fox, hare, lynx, marten and wolverine  
33 is for all Federally-qualified rural residents  
34 statewide. And what that means is, is everyone is  
35 eligible to harvest these resources and it narrows the  
36 C&T determination to only rural residents in Unit 22.  
37 For spruce, grouse and ptarmigan, those determinations  
38 that we have originally come from the State and they  
39 are for Units 11, 13, 15, 16, 20D, 22, 23 and  
40 Chickaloon, and they were very broad in scope. The  
41 State never narrowed them. This would narrow it then  
42 to only residents of Unit 22.  
43  
44 All of these proposals were deferred by  
45 the Federal Subsistence Board last year as well as the  
46 year before but last year they were deferred because  
47 they were on the consensus agenda but Kawerak requested  
48 that they be taken off and then the Councils -- Board,  
49 sorry, recommended deferring it so that it could go --  
50 this could go back to the Council because the Staff

1 Committee recommendation between the Council -- let me  
2 start -- let me go backwards a little bit.

3

4                   When these proposals were presented to  
5 the Council originally it had been to support them with  
6 modification, had been the OSM recommendation, to  
7 include essentially all of the regions surrounding Unit  
8 22. But because we really didn't have very specific  
9 harvest data and also because there was concern about  
10 starting to do specific C&Ts for these resources,  
11 there's nowhere else in the state that we've done that,  
12 then the Staff Committee had recommended opposing them  
13 because there would be no harm. No one -- everyone in  
14 Unit 22 and in the surrounding units would still be  
15 able to harvest the resources. Staff Committee had  
16 recommended opposing the proposals so Kawerak asked  
17 that this be brought before the Councils again so that  
18 you are aware of that. So the Board did that.

19

20                   So we have it again.

21

22                   I'm not going to go through all of the  
23 information in the analysis, it's here, it's in the  
24 record, but we clearly have written analysis that  
25 provides information on the uses of the resources by  
26 Unit 22 communities. We know that the people in those  
27 communities have harvested the resources. We don't  
28 always have, you know, detailed harvest information  
29 because those records aren't kept. But we also have  
30 some information regarding subsistence users from  
31 outside of Unit 22 coming into Unit 22 to harvest the  
32 resources, and, again, we don't have -- those harvest  
33 records just aren't kept on these resources so there's  
34 not a lot of information but there is some.

35

36                   We know that people from Kaltag hunt  
37 for bears in Unit 22 along the Unalakleet trail  
38 following the trail to the coast. We know that some  
39 people outside of Unit 22 have marten traplines along  
40 the Unalakleet trail, they might harvest these  
41 resources if they're out trapping. The Council members  
42 from this Council also had told us previously that  
43 residents from Unit 21D take furbearers and beaver was  
44 specifically mentioned in Unit 22A. And mention was  
45 also made of friends from Unit 23 who come over into  
46 Unit 22 to hunt beaver. There are some people in Unit  
47 23 who like to go to Granite Mountain Hot Springs in  
48 Unit 22 and it's possible they might take some of these  
49 resources while they were on one of those trips. The  
50 subsistence use maps created for Unit 18 communities

1 also show that Unit 18 subsistence use areas for fur  
2 bearers includes Unit 22A.

3  
4                   So we have information. It's not that  
5 there isn't information and I think it's a matter of  
6 people's assessment, you know, how much information is  
7 enough. But there wasn't a lot of really detail  
8 information. So in addition to that there wasn't a  
9 need to do it because no one is being cut out by  
10 allowing the existing C&Ts to continue.

11  
12                   So adopting or opposing these proposals  
13 would have no effect on the subsistence users in Unit  
14 22. If we oppose them, subsistence users can still  
15 harvest the resources. If we support it, they can  
16 harvest the resources. So there's no effect on people  
17 in Unit 22.

18  
19                   It would have some effect on people in  
20 surrounding communities if we support it as written.  
21 It would eliminate those people from being able to  
22 harvest the resources in Unit 22. And we do have some  
23 information that people do come in from those  
24 communities.

25  
26                   So our recommendation is to oppose all  
27 of these proposals because the need for unit specific  
28 customary and traditional use determinations has not  
29 been demonstrated for these resources, and the Board  
30 has not made unit specific determinations for these  
31 resources in other parts of the state. There has been  
32 a precedent to not do that.

33  
34                   There is insufficient harvest data  
35 information regarding all of these resources to narrow  
36 the existing customary and traditional use  
37 determinations.

38  
39                   While there is sufficient information  
40 to generally fulfill the eight factors and to recommend  
41 that all residents of Unit 22 should continue to have a  
42 positive customary and traditional use determination  
43 for these resources, they are also harvested by  
44 subsistence users from surrounding regions when they  
45 are hunting and trapping in Unit 22. So narrowing to  
46 only Unit 22 residents would affect those living  
47 outside of the unit who also may harvest those  
48 resources in Unit 22.

49  
50                   If we reject the proposal it will have

1 no effect on subsistence users in Unit 22 or in the  
2 other units for ptarmigan and grouse, those units,  
3 because they would continue to be able to harvest under  
4 the existing broad customary and traditional use  
5 determination.

6  
7                   Madame Chair, that concludes my  
8 analysis.

9  
10                   MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, thank you,  
11 Helen. Next will be Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
12 comments, please.

13  
14                   MR. HAYNES: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
15 The Department's written comments are on Pages 48 and  
16 55 for these two sets of proposals and the comments are  
17 basically the same.

18  
19                   As Helen pointed out adoption of these  
20 proposals would not affect Federally-qualified  
21 subsistence users in Unit 22 but would disqualify  
22 residents from adjoining units from harvesting  
23 furbearers and game birds in Unit 22 under the Federal  
24 regulations.

25  
26                   The Federal Board should establish a  
27 priority use based on substantial evidence of customary  
28 and traditional use of each species for each geographic  
29 area by more than just the residents of Unit 22 since,  
30 as Helen pointed out, there is evidence that some other  
31 rural residents from outside of Unit 22 are harvesting  
32 some of these species in Unit 22. If these other  
33 residents are not allowed to harvest resources in Unit  
34 22, they would be inappropriately eliminated from that  
35 eligibility.

36  
37                   We agree that the Staff analysis has  
38 insufficient information to specify which rural  
39 residents outside of Unit 22 have a history of use of  
40 the resources affected in Unit 22.

41  
42                   So as we've consistently said over the,  
43 I guess this is the third year now, retain the existing  
44 finding or make a more specific finding based on having  
45 evidence for users outside of Unit 22 who may be  
46 harvesting these resources in 22, but do not support  
47 these proposals at this time.

48  
49                   Thank you.

50

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr.  
2 Haynes. Then we'll have the other agency comments.

3  
4 BLM.

5  
6 (No comments)

7  
8 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: BIA.

9  
10 (No comments)

11  
12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Kawerak comments.  
13 Rose Fosdick.

14  
15 MS. FOSDICK: For the record I am Rose  
16 Fosdick. I am the VP for Natural Resource Division at  
17 Kawerak. And my staff, the subsistence program  
18 submitted these proposals two years ago. I wanted to  
19 make a couple points and the points are that we as  
20 residents of this region have traditionally used all  
21 the resources in our area. Everything available to us,  
22 whether big or small. Whether an issue or not an  
23 issue. Whether moose or squirrel, you know, we've used  
24 the resources here to survive.

25  
26 And I wanted to also point out that we  
27 are using the processes that U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
28 Service put in place. And they were put in place for  
29 us to take and use so we have taken hold of those  
30 processes and that's what we're doing. We're using  
31 Fish and Wildlife Service processes in order to  
32 establish customary and traditional use.

33  
34 We believe the proposals bring to light  
35 some serious questions and issues and the main question  
36 or issue is, what does establishment of C&T mean to you  
37 and to me? Or in other words, to we as people of the  
38 region as opposed to people who are regulators of the  
39 resource who manage the resource based on the findings  
40 of biologists or recommendations based on research.  
41 There's a difference between our terminology when we  
42 say customary and traditional use, it means something  
43 different from what is established in the books of the  
44 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regulations. They have  
45 criteria. They have one, two, three, four, five, six,  
46 seven, eight criteria that they have to check off and  
47 mark in order to prove and establish a positive C&T.

48  
49 So I wanted to make sure that we as a  
50 -- we representing Kawerak, say to you, who are

1 advisors to the Federal Subsistence Board, we use  
2 different -- we use the same terminology, customary and  
3 traditional use, but to us it means something different.  
4 To us it means that we recognize that we collect  
5 driftwood on the beach and it's a traditional use. We  
6 recognize that we go out to the country in the spring  
7 and harvest squirrels and it's a valuable resource to  
8 us and we want to continue to have that, and we want to  
9 be recognized as having customary and traditional use  
10 of that. Just because it is not a major issue within  
11 the State or the Federal government's purview of small  
12 population versus large population versus allocation  
13 versus rights, we still want to have the use  
14 recognized.

15  
16                   The proposals have been deferred a  
17 number of times and rather than, again, deferring it, I  
18 recommend that Fish and Wildlife Service host a forum  
19 in which the topic of customary and traditional use be  
20 -- uses and the processes that are used to come to that  
21 determination be a major part of the discussion and to  
22 invite not only the people who are regulators of the  
23 resource but also the people who are actual -- the  
24 people who are using the resource, so let's talk the  
25 terminology and come up with a -- you know, agree or  
26 disagree, that the criteria are -- the measurements are  
27 right or they need to be once again referred -- looked  
28 at again and determine whether there need to be some  
29 changes in some of those criteria. It's time to take a  
30 look at some of those things again.

31  
32                   We, at Kawerak, do have information on  
33 resources that we use. We, through Austin Ahmasuk's  
34 involvement in a project with North Pacific Research  
35 Board, we obtained a grant and the grant was to collect  
36 information on actual harvest of big and small  
37 resources, we just didn't concentrate on salmon or  
38 moose or caribou, we concentrated on all the resources  
39 that we could think of. So we are starting to document  
40 harvest of resources in our region in a real detailed,  
41 if you haven't seen the report we have a copy in our  
42 office, and I'd be happy to bring one down to you. And  
43 we'll continue to collect that kind of information  
44 because we want to establish our -- and put it on  
45 record, you know, we have people who are scientific  
46 researchers coming to the region and working with  
47 individuals in communities and then asking them for  
48 information which results in research findings, well,  
49 we're doing the same thing, too, but we're working with  
50 our own people in our own office with the people in

1 your communities.

2

3                   The other thing I think we might be  
4 able to do if these proposals continue to sort of  
5 stagnate and, you know, just sit there, although they  
6 raise a lot of questions and they bring to light a lot  
7 of the process and definitions, the other thing we  
8 might be able to do is to modify the proposals.

9

10                   We don't agree with the assessment that  
11 allowing or establishing a positive C&T would preclude  
12 our neighbors from accessing the resources, I don't  
13 necessarily agree that that would, but if that is the  
14 case then we'd be willing to modify the proposals  
15 somehow that it's established that when resources  
16 continue to be healthy that, of course, we wouldn't  
17 preclude our neighbors, we would allow neighbors to  
18 have access to customary and traditionally used  
19 resources, which they do anyway.

20

21                   So that's the points I had to bring up  
22 and Sandra Tahbone, who is the acting subsistence  
23 resource director, she will have comments later and she  
24 can bring up a few other points. But that's all I had.

25

26                   MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.

27

28                   MS. FOSDICK: Uh-huh.

29

30                   MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And, Ms. Fosdick,  
31 and I think what this proposal is doing for, at the  
32 moment, with the way I understand it, is that if  
33 anybody traveling like from these areas right there is  
34 YK, Western Interior, Seward Peninsula, Northwest  
35 Arctic and they're traveling and with this proposal,  
36 should get a beaver, fox or hare or whatever, and then  
37 they need to eat then they would be doing it illegally,  
38 is what I understand the proposal would be doing right  
39 now. And that's how I read it and understood it to be.

40

41                   And so a few years back in the  
42 Northwest Arctic region, we were dealing with the same  
43 thing with the black bear, but when we found out that  
44 the Huslia area also came into 23, going over to the  
45 hot springs, were also sometimes harvest the black bear  
46 in our region, so we had to work and deal with those  
47 people to include them in with being able to harvest  
48 black bear.

49

50                   But with that, now, your Chair is back,

1 thank you.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, I assume that  
6 was Kawerak's comments.

7

8 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

9

10 CHAIRMAN QUINN: InterAgency Staff  
11 comments.

12

13 MR. EASTLAND: No.

14

15 CHAIRMAN QUINN: AC comments. I'm on  
16 an AC, Roy -- Roy's the Chair of our local AC, Roy, you  
17 got any comments.

18

19 MR. ASHENFELTER: No.

20

21 (Laughter)

22

23 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Come on, Roy, you work  
24 for Kawerak, too.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. There's no AC  
29 comments.

30

31 Written comments, public comments,  
32 Barbara.

33

34 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. There  
35 are no written public comments on these proposals.

36

37 Thanks.

38

39 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Austin, did you  
40 already said something.

41

42 MR. AHMASUK: No.

43

44 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Please, feel free.

45

46 MR. AHMASUK: For the record, Austin  
47 Ahmasuk, I no longer work for Kawerak, I work for Nome  
48 Eskimo as their tribal resource specialist. And I did  
49 spend a lot of time on Proposals 39 through 49. And I  
50 just jotted down some concerns that I had with the

1 analysis. And, again, like I say, I'm the newly hired  
2 tribal resource specialists for Nome Eskimo and so I  
3 can't speak on behalf of Kawerak's proposals now, but  
4 in terms of the comments that I heard from the U.S.  
5 Fish and Wildlife Service Staff analysis, they're the  
6 same ones that were mentioned a couple years ago.

7  
8 And in terms of their analysis of these  
9 proposals, whether they're adopted or not adopted, not  
10 causing harm, those are -- that is an analysis of the  
11 proposal that does not, in my opinion, exclude your  
12 Council or exclude a positive C&T determination.

13  
14 The idea that no harm will occur if  
15 these proposals are not adopted or adopted was not  
16 something -- is not something that anyone can consider  
17 when they develop a C&T proposal. When you develop a  
18 C&T proposal, as I did, when I was working at Kawerak,  
19 I took into consideration the eight factors. If one of  
20 the factors would have been consideration of harm then  
21 I could have addressed the consideration of harm, but  
22 Fish and Wildlife Service doesn't ask proposers to  
23 consider what kind of harm is occurring or what could  
24 occur.

25  
26 Now, I think that the idea that harm  
27 will occur is flawed. I spoke with the regional  
28 solicitor, the attorney for the Federal Subsistence  
29 Board and he, frankly, says something different than  
30 what Ms. Armstrong indicated, that it's a common  
31 misconception that C&T determinations also must result  
32 in regulations that prohibit other users. That's  
33 simply not something that Kawerak, at that time,  
34 considered. And I know from firsthand knowledge, being  
35 at the Federal Subsistence Board, that there's a  
36 difference of opinion in regards to that issue.

37  
38 Now, in regards to the other issue of  
39 outside harvesters. Again, that's not one of the eight  
40 criteria that proposers are asked to consider.

41  
42 As Ms. Fosdick indicated, Kawerak is  
43 willing to entertain modifications to the proposals to  
44 allow outside harvesters. And from the very beginning,  
45 Kawerak took into consideration that there must be, and  
46 there is, obviously, use by other users from Unit 23,  
47 from Unit 20, and from Unit 18 in regards to these  
48 resources. We know that that occurs. But we have no  
49 idea as to what the extent of it is.

50

1                   We, in our region, we are at a  
2 tremendous disadvantage in trying to forecast what  
3 other regions harvest. We simply can't say, people in  
4 Northwest Arctic, in Unit 23, we, one, advocate for  
5 your C&T uses of our fox or of our beaver, we can't do  
6 that, that's not a consideration in one of the eight  
7 criteria, it simply is not. And so in my opinion, the  
8 analysis in regards to affect on outside users is  
9 highly flawed.

10  
11                   Now, in terms of the other point that  
12 was raised in U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service analysis,  
13 there's no need to do it. Well, that also is not one  
14 of the criteria that proposers for C&T determinations  
15 have to consider. We do not consider whether or not we  
16 have to -- we do not consider, I do not consider  
17 whether or not this has to be done or not, I just look  
18 at the criteria, I am familiar with the C&T uses of our  
19 area and so in terms of looking at the criteria and  
20 proposing information that meets that criteria, that's  
21 what was done, not whether or not there's a precedent  
22 for it. Because those -- frankly that is not something  
23 that the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Federal  
24 Subsistence Board even asks proposers to consider.  
25 They never asked us to consider whether or not there's  
26 a precedent for it, and they never asked us to consider  
27 whether there's no need for it. It's something that  
28 doesn't make sense.

29  
30                   Now, in terms of the elimination of  
31 harvesters. There's a salient -- there's a point that  
32 makes sense, I guess, and that's eliminating other  
33 harvesters, but it's not something at this point that  
34 Kawerak, at the time that those proposals were written,  
35 is proposing. If there's shortages C&T criteria,  
36 Federal regulations allow for allocation amongst users,  
37 and only at that point where resources go way down do  
38 you even make that consideration. I, sitting here now,  
39 and probably Kawerak, are not suggesting that any of  
40 those resources are in jeopardy.

41  
42                   And so based upon the analysis, based  
43 upon what I've heard for a couple years now, there is a  
44 tremendous problem, as Ms. Fosdick indicated. I think  
45 there's a very serious problem, and that problem is  
46 that unless the resource is a big name resource, like  
47 moose, that has a lot of competitive aspects to it,  
48 that C&T determinations, C&T proposals, as you're  
49 considering now, I think that Fish and Wildlife Service  
50 does not want to take them up, they simply don't care.

1 I think that's a serious problem. The problem being  
2 that unless it's a resource that has many faceted  
3 aspects to it, they don't want to deal with it.

4

5 So like I say Kawerak can speak a lot  
6 better to their proposal, I did a lot of work on it,  
7 but, you know, just from my own public perception of  
8 what I've heard for the past couple years I think there  
9 are some serious problems.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, wait, Austin.  
14 Well, I didn't get to hear Rose's comments but I've  
15 heard yours in the past but I want to -- I need my  
16 memory refreshed. Assuming that these proposals go  
17 through and the Federal Subsistence Board goes ahead  
18 and adopts these C&Ts, what do you hope comes from  
19 that? Do you see a time where we may be going through  
20 this just as we are with moose or muskox, that we'll  
21 have to sit here and debate as to whether or not we  
22 want to close Federal lands to ptarmigan hunting, I  
23 mean is that kind of where you guys were going with  
24 this?

25

26 MR. AHMASUK: No absolutely not. I  
27 think it would take a tremendous amount of resource  
28 conflicts for things to get so bad on these resources  
29 for that to occur. And in terms of, I guess, what I  
30 foresee, I just -- when these were written, it  
31 appeared, and I think that ANILCA is very clear that it  
32 gives members of the public the opportunity to propose  
33 C&T use determinations.

34

35 And in terms of what was, I guess,  
36 sought, it was purely from the aspect that there are  
37 very clearly C&T uses that have occurred for a long  
38 time, that occur now, that can simply be married into  
39 the C&T process of utilizing the eight criteria,  
40 utilizing their forms and putting forth something on  
41 the books.

42

43 Does it, you know, change the entire  
44 nature of, you know, small game management for these  
45 resources, probably not, probably never will. There's  
46 simply an opportunity to adopt them. And there's  
47 opportunities for other areas to, you know, chime in on  
48 this issue, they were given the opportunity, they never  
49 did. They continually deferred the issue to this unit.  
50 And in my opinion, somewhere down the road, these C&T

1 determinations might make a difference when it comes to  
2 various resources development issues.

3  
4 We are continually told by agencies  
5 that govern land use, that govern resource development,  
6 that we have to provide good, high quality information,  
7 and good high quality information is the kind of  
8 information that was submitted in these proposals. And  
9 if these C&T determinations are on the books, at some  
10 point down the road, if there is ever a problem, we can  
11 point to these uses, we can point to these C&T  
12 determinations and maybe benefit management. How, I  
13 really don't know, you know, if it's some sort of a  
14 transportation issue, a resource development issue,  
15 some sort of environment issue, climate issue, who  
16 knows, I really don't know, so.....

17  
18 CHAIRMAN QUINN: So you see these C&Ts  
19 as sort of documenting our use for other than just  
20 hunting regulations, possibly, such as mining or  
21 whatever other resource development might be happening  
22 out here?

23  
24 MR. AHMASUK: Yeah, and, you know, like  
25 I say I can't think how, you know, those conflicts  
26 could be ironed out but, yeah, I think so. And, you  
27 know, like my read of ANILCA is that the public is  
28 asked to propose these ideas. You know whether or not  
29 it's an important one, whether or not is it a burning  
30 issue, it's probably not a burning issue but we are at  
31 least given that opportunity to propose these C&T  
32 determinations. And so it was with that major  
33 forethought in mind that we did that.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN QUINN: In your study of this  
36 or when you were preparing all this, has any other RAC  
37 or area of the state done this same sort of C&T for  
38 these same species?

39  
40 MR. AHMASUK: No.

41  
42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No.

43  
44 MR. AHMASUK: And I guess going back to  
45 the Fish and Wildlife Service analysis, you know, that  
46 no one has ever done this, you know, that, too, is not  
47 something that we're asked to consider.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Somebody's got to be  
50 the first.

1 MR. AHMASUK: I don't know if someone  
2 has to be the first but, you know, why give the public  
3 the opportunity to provide, you know, make these C&T  
4 proposals if their reasoning is there's no harm, you  
5 have to consider outside users, there's no need to do  
6 it, there's no effect, you know, and there's no  
7 precedence to do it, you know, those are not things  
8 that proposers are asked to consider when they make  
9 these proposals.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Your use of the  
12 phrase somewhere down the road, I'm going to kind of  
13 give back to you and say, somewhere down the road when  
14 these issues become more evident.....

15  
16 MR. AHMASUK: Uh-huh.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN QUINN: .....would these  
19 proposals be more appropriate at that time?

20  
21 MR. AHMASUK: Well.....

22  
23 CHAIRMAN QUINN: You know can we wait  
24 and do -- is there time to wait until these really  
25 become something in the forefront?

26  
27 MR. AHMASUK: I'll say yeah, but we  
28 know now that it takes them several years to even come  
29 to where they are, and so if there is a pressing issue  
30 based upon what I've seen this far, it will be a very  
31 long time before things can be done to benefit  
32 management. I mean I wish I could be more optimistic  
33 but, I mean that's just what it looks like.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Peter.

36  
37 MR. BUCK: I have a comment.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yes, go ahead.

40  
41 MR. BUCK: That these proposals, I  
42 think it's important that the customary and traditional  
43 use be established mainly right now we're going through  
44 the climate change and everything is changing, the  
45 insects are changing, the moose is changing,  
46 everything's going to change, and then if these  
47 customary and traditional use things are set, then we  
48 can go back to them and say, okay, we have these here.  
49 And we have the customary and traditional use of all  
50 these animals and I'd like that established, too,

1 insure that we have the proposals there and say these  
2 are our customary and traditional use because it's  
3 going to change, change, change, and so that's my  
4 recommendation.

5

6 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Polly.

7

8 MS. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
9 Polly Wheeler with the Office of Subsistence  
10 Management. And actually the customary and traditional  
11 policy is actually for an agenda item later on, or an  
12 item that's on the agenda for later on down in the  
13 meeting but I think this might be a good opportunity  
14 because I think there's a little bit of confusion here  
15 about customary and traditional. And Rose brought up a  
16 really good point about kind of there being maybe  
17 differences in how the words are used and what the  
18 words mean to different people. And asking for a  
19 meeting and talking about this and certainly the whole  
20 customary and traditional determinations has been a  
21 flashpoint in the Federal Subsistence Program.

22

23 But just to remind folks, when the  
24 Federal Subsistence Program started, we basically took  
25 on a lot of the customary and traditional use  
26 determinations that the State had and then they've  
27 subsequently changed over time and under our program, i  
28 Mean the whole point of ANILCA is to continue  
29 subsistence opportunities, is to provide for  
30 subsistence opportunities. How are subsistence users  
31 identified, well, it's rural Alaskans, first and  
32 foremost, as you all know, but then it's also people  
33 that have a customary and traditional use determination  
34 for that resource. It's basically a way of identifying  
35 the pool of users. It's not making a judgment call on  
36 what that use is, it's just saying there's a long-term  
37 customary and traditional patten of use of this  
38 resource in this area. And that's how the pool of  
39 users are decided.

40

41 We just earlier today did the .804,  
42 that sort of, you've got a pool of users, which is Unit  
43 22 for moose in 22, but because the resource is in  
44 short supply you have to further refine that pool of  
45 users so you got it down to the Native Village of  
46 Unalakleet.

47

48 This proposal, and I certainly  
49 understand everybody's frustration with it and it's  
50 important to remember, I think that right now all rural

1 Alaskans, you know, because there's no specific  
2 determinations all rural Alaskans can hunt, can use  
3 these resources. If there were a specific  
4 determination for Unit 22, Unit 22 and Unit 18,  
5 whatever, then it would, in fact, limit the use of that  
6 resource to that particular pool of users.

7

8                   So that's how the Federal system works.

9

10                   Now, should we be doing C&Ts, you know,  
11 should we just go straight to .804, should it be all  
12 rural Alaskans and then go straight to .804, that's  
13 sort of a separate discussion but it does kind of tie  
14 in because it's all about identifying customary and  
15 traditional use and I share your concern about you want  
16 to have this use recognized, and I think because it is  
17 all rural Alaskans it's recognized that there is this  
18 customary and traditional pattern, it's just not  
19 specific to, necessarily, the residents of Unit 22, if  
20 that makes sense.

21

22                   And I know that some of this is kind of  
23 a bureaucratic clarification but, and maybe it's  
24 helping or maybe it's not but it's a tough issue  
25 because the words, customary and traditional, mean, I  
26 think, different things to say, bureaucrats versus  
27 people that are living out on the land and there's a  
28 very specific bureaucratic need for how customary and  
29 traditional determinations and the context of  
30 implementing ANILCA, but that customary and traditional  
31 -- those words, customary and traditional mean -- can  
32 mean different things to other people that are living  
33 out on the land, if that helps, Mike.

34

35                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Well, I heard Helen  
36 say it before and now you just said it, about if we do  
37 a -- if a C&T finding is made it limits the users to  
38 those who have C&T, but I know other areas of the state  
39 we just went through a big thing with Unit 18 moose  
40 last year and previously that was all Federal lands are  
41 closed to the taking of moose except those with C&t and  
42 we, whatever, I don't remember the proposals but that  
43 was changed so that the Federal lands were open to  
44 everyone.

45

46                   MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No.

47

48                   MS. WHEELER: Well, actually the C&T  
49 finding for Unit 18 moose is people living in Unit 18  
50 and in parts, like the Yukon portion of Unit 18 that

1 was opened up.

2

3 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yeah.

4

5 MS. WHEELER: But it still is limited  
6 to the people that have the customary and traditional  
7 use finding under Federal management. State management  
8 is different, but on Federal public lands.....

9

10 CHAIRMAN QUINN: No, we went through a  
11 specific proposal before the Federal Subsistence Board  
12 that opened that part of Unit 18, it lifted the  
13 closure, I can't remember the proposal, but there was a  
14 big argument and the guy from Unit 18.....

15

16 MS. PETRIVELLI: Okay. Unit 18 was  
17 closed, all Federal public lands in Unit 18 were closed  
18 to.....

19

20 MS. WHEELER: Everybody.

21

22 MS. PETRIVELLI: No. It was closed to  
23 -- it was open only to people with a C&T in Unit 18.  
24 And then they opened it, they just opened that one  
25 portion to -- they had the moose moratorium in the  
26 lower Yukon.

27

28 MS. WHEELER: Right.

29

30 MS. PETRIVELLI: And then they  
31 determined there was enough moose to open the area.

32

33 MS. WHEELER: But it's still Unit 18  
34 residents.

35

36 MS. PETRIVELLI: No.

37

38 CHAIRMAN QUINN: No.

39

40 MS. PETRIVELLI: No, it says it's open  
41 now to all users. Now, when the C&T is the Federal  
42 season -- there's a Federal season of October 10th to  
43 September 30th [sic], that is open only to Federal C&T  
44 users. Now, there's a State season of September 1 to  
45 September 20, right, now anyone can go on that season,  
46 that's the part that's open to -- what a C&T  
47 determination does is create Federal regulations for  
48 Federal users. So there's a September 1 to September  
49 20 season for anybody and that could be the non-  
50 resident, too, you could have a guided hunter or

1 whatever, but for the Federal regulations, when there's  
2 a customary and traditional determination, the purpose  
3 of the Federal regulations are is to provide continued  
4 opportunity for subsistence uses, which allows people  
5 to have longer seasons, bigger limits, you know,  
6 seasons when they traditionally do it. Then there's a  
7 separate State regulations that are like the 10 day  
8 period or, you know, that's just for everybody,  
9 everybody and their brother.

10

11 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Right.

12

13 MS. PETRIVELLI: So that's the  
14 difference with the C&T determination. And then that's  
15 why when Austin talked to the solicitor and he said  
16 they don't necessarily cut out anybody, like with the  
17 Unit 2 moose, on Federal public lands -- or Unit 2 --  
18 Unit 22 moose, there's all kinds of Tier II permit  
19 seasons, and then there's places where the seasons are  
20 closed to other people so only residents of Unit 22A  
21 can hunt there or Unit 22B, but on State land there's a  
22 State season that goes September 1 to September 20 and  
23 anyone can go and hunt that if they have a State  
24 hunting license and if they get whatever.

25

26 So they're not technically cut out, you  
27 know, they're still allowed to hunt. But for the  
28 special seasons that are in this book, that are just  
29 identified in this book, those people get the special  
30 regulations, the rural residents.

31

32 And then in the State book, those are  
33 for the rest of the people, like for people like me,  
34 like in Anchorage or Fairbanks, they follow those  
35 regulations so it doesn't necessarily mean we're cut  
36 out but it just means we don't get to follow the  
37 special regulations.

38

39 So a C&T determination, like if there's  
40 a beaver limit, you know, where you can have 20 beaver  
41 instead of 10, you know, I'm not sure if that's  
42 possible, it would have to be a hunting regulation, but  
43 if you could kill 20 beaver with a rifle, instead of  
44 10, and it was in this book, that's where the C&T  
45 determination would provide a priority.

46

47 Sorry for interrupting.

48

49 MS. WHEELER: No, that's okay.

50

1 MR. SAVETILIK: Mr. Chair. Are we on  
2 the same agenda right now, or is this a point of order  
3 or are we on a different subject?

4  
5 CHAIRMAN QUINN: We're still on  
6 Proposals 39 through 47, I believe, yes.

7  
8 Well, all right, so 39 through 47, I  
9 guess we're up to our deliberation, recommendation and  
10 justification. Does anybody care to make a  
11 recommendation on these proposals.

12  
13 MR. KOBUK: This is Leonard Kobuk, I  
14 have a question, why are we debating C&T -- I need  
15 someone to -- I just got on the board and I want to  
16 know what this C&T for beaver, Arctic fox, red fox,  
17 hare, lynx, marten and wolverine, are we trying to  
18 exclude other villages from hunting and trapping in our  
19 lands because if that's the case, I find it kind of  
20 hard to put a proposal for a C&T and excluding other  
21 Natives from hunting in our countries, in our lands,  
22 because.....

23  
24 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Well, that's kind of  
25 what we've been debating, Leonard, is whether or not  
26 these proposals will actually do that, and there's some  
27 disagreement on it.

28  
29 I'll give you the history, so far, we  
30 have not supported these proposals, I know last year we  
31 didn't.

32  
33 We could support them now, we could not  
34 support them or we could take no action as well.

35  
36 MR. BUCK: The way I hear it if we  
37 support it, we'll have the same thing; if we don't  
38 support it we'll have the same thing. I believe that  
39 I'd like to support these regulations.

40  
41 MR. KOBUK: Then my question would be,  
42 is Kawerak wanting us to support the C&T or I just need  
43 a clarification on this because I'm pretty mixed up. I  
44 kind of find it hard to exclude other people from --  
45 Natives to come and hunt in our lands because we go  
46 into their lands to hunt what they have and what we  
47 need and I really find it kind of hard and I'm kind of  
48 really mixed up on what's going on with this.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Austin, I'll let you

1 go first.

2

3 MR. AHMASUK: I heard a side comment  
4 back here, you know, this is tremendously bureaucratic,  
5 and it's now -- it's very complicated. When Kawerak  
6 wrote these proposals, we did not ever intend to  
7 exclude people from Unit 18, Unit 20 or Unit 23 from  
8 our own resources that are listed there.

9

10 And so to clarify your question and to  
11 clarify what -- I mean I don't work for Kawerak anymore  
12 but they asked me to clarify your question, no, we do  
13 not wish to exclude people from Unit 18, 20 or 23 from  
14 our own resources.

15

16 I would suggest that there is a fix to  
17 simply say residents from Unit 23, 20 and 18, you do  
18 share our resources, you do harvest our beaver, our  
19 lynx, our fox, all these resources. And to go ahead  
20 and say that, maybe see what they say, they'll probably  
21 say, yeah, we do, as we know, I know just like you do  
22 that these people on our borders do use our resources.

23

24 And so I hope that clarifies it, so  
25 thank you.

26

27 MR. KOBUK: Okay, that clarifies my  
28 comment.

29

30 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, Helen.

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Austin said pretty  
33 much what I was going to say. What I heard Rose  
34 saying, too, earlier, is that she would be in favor of  
35 a modification, and so the Council could support with  
36 modification to include those surrounding units and  
37 then you would be covered. If you adopted it as  
38 written you would be excluding the surrounding areas.  
39 So you'd want to support with modification.

40

41 MR. BUCK: I'd like to say that the old  
42 customary and traditional uses, there was no  
43 boundaries, everybody went wherever they could go. So  
44 it's all bureaucratic about, you know, this unit can't  
45 go there. I'd like to support these proposals with the  
46 modification that the surrounding units can take these  
47 resources also.

48

49 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, so was that a  
50 motion, Peter.

1 MR. BUCK: Yes.

2

3 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right, there's a  
4 motion on the floor.

5

6 MR. SAVETILIK: I second.

7

8 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Seconded by Myron.  
9 Discussion.

10

11 Well, we haven't supported them in the  
12 past because -- well, personally, I think, that it --  
13 like you said it is bureaucratic, but it increases the  
14 bureaucracy, and it increases the time that Helen and  
15 Barb and Greg got to spend on stuff that, at least, at  
16 this time isn't needed, you know, this Unit 22A moose,  
17 this was something that was really important and we  
18 needed to spend the time on it and we're going to get  
19 some muskox stuff here, that's going to be really  
20 important. That's a developing hunt with huge  
21 opportunities for the rural residents in this area and  
22 other people. Ken's had us add this 22E moose, you  
23 know, that's -- these are important things.

24

25 And this Council and the people that  
26 support us only have the time and money to handle a  
27 certain amount of stuff and that time and money is  
28 being cut regularly. So, you know, when I pointed out  
29 to Austin, he used the phrase, down the road, you know,  
30 can we do this down the road, you know, can we do this  
31 down the road when the time comes, that's what I think  
32 about this. That this is still something for down the  
33 road. And the work that Austin's done can still be  
34 available and maybe even added to down the road.

35

36 And I don't think it will take years to  
37 do it. I mean we can do what we're doing right now,  
38 and we can ask the Subsistence Board to make a C&T  
39 determination for these species for Unit 22 and they'll  
40 do it at their meeting, if they do it, and it will be  
41 said and done. It's really -- I think it would be a  
42 matter of months. So that's my personal opinion.

43

44 That we need to focus on the things  
45 that really make a difference in the lives of the  
46 people who live in Unit 22 right now and right now this  
47 isn't going to make a difference, okay. So that's my  
48 discussion. Anybody else want to add to it or call the  
49 question.

50

1 MR. KOBUK: I'll call the question.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay.  
4  
5 MR. KOBUK: I'll call the question on  
6 what Peter Buck said and I'm in agreement with that.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Question's been  
9 called. The motion's to support Proposals 39 through  
10 47 with the modification to add -- actually if you look  
11 at the map -- well, if you look at the map, everybody  
12 that borders 22 is 23, a little bit of -- no, no, I'm  
13 wrong, 23, 21, and 18.  
14  
15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: 20.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yeah, 18 is YK. So we  
18 would add 23, 21 and 18 would also have C&T for those  
19 species. Does that sound right, Peter?  
20  
21 MR. BUCK: Yes.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. So all those in  
24 favor of the motion say aye.  
25  
26 IN UNISON: Aye.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN QUINN: And opposed. I'll  
29 oppose it. Nay. Elizabeth, I didn't hear you.  
30  
31 MS. MOKIYUK: Aye.  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, so motion passes  
34 four to one. And then we're going to move on to 48 and  
35 49. Helen.  
36  
37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr.  
38 Chair. Helen Armstrong again. These two are a little  
39 bit different which is why I suggested they be  
40 separated out, although you may come up with the same  
41 conclusion. These were also submitted by Kawerak and  
42 they requested C&T for ground squirrel and porcupine.  
43 They also requested as a parallel proposal, they also  
44 requested year-round season and unlimited harvest  
45 limits but those were actually taken care of the first  
46 year that they were proposed.  
47  
48 They were deferred in May 2006 and also  
49 2007 like the other proposals. And like the other  
50 ones, the Federal Board has never made C&T

1 determinations for them.

2

3                   In 1995, this is where they're  
4 different, the Federal Subsistence Board determined  
5 that certain wildlife such as squirrels and porcupine  
6 would be considered unclassified wildlife and they do  
7 not require customary and traditional use  
8 determinations, they also have no seasons and no  
9 harvest limits. As a result they don't need C&T  
10 determinations, and if you'll look in the book they're  
11 also not in our book at all. When you look in all of  
12 the regions you won't see porcupine and squirrel.

13

14                   Since they're unclassified, all rural  
15 residents are eligible to harvest them anywhere in the  
16 state.

17

18                   Opposing these proposals has no effect  
19 on the subsistence users or the non-subsistence users  
20 in Unit 22 because they already have a year-round  
21 season, unlimited harvest and they're not sought after  
22 by other users and their shortages are not really  
23 considered likely.

24

25                   The preliminary OSM conclusion is to  
26 oppose the proposal. And the justification is, is that  
27 they are included in the Federal Subsistence  
28 regulations as unclassified wildlife and that the Board  
29 does not make C&T determinations for unclassified  
30 wildlife.

31

32                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33

34                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, then in order  
35 for this proposal to go forward, does it need an  
36 adjoining proposal to make these classified species?

37

38                   MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, that would be  
39 a separate proposal, but the proposal was not to make  
40 it classified. And I would think it would need some  
41 justification why it needed to be classified. Because  
42 I think in order to be classified you want to have  
43 seasons and harvest limits and I would be surprised if  
44 the Board would do that for squirrels and porcupine.

45

46                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. All right,  
47 thank you Helen.

48

49                   REPORTER: Mike.

50

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Voted no with you.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Oh, okay, well, then I  
4 got to clarify the last vote, that Elizabeth's voted  
5 nay, but the motion carried 3-2.  
6  
7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, she said aye --  
8 didn't you say aye?  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Well, she just  
11 clarified.....  
12  
13 MS. MOKIYUK: But I thought about it  
14 and changed it. I meant no.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Yeah, I had to clarify  
17 what her vote was. So motion carried 3 to 2. ADF&G  
18 comments on 48 and 49.  
19  
20 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman. Our written  
21 comments are on Page 59 of your Council meeting book.  
22  
23 Adoption of this proposal is  
24 unnecessary to accommodate Federally-qualified  
25 subsistence users because an unlimited opportunity to  
26 harvest ground squirrels and porcupine is provided in  
27 State regulations.  
28  
29 The Federal Subsistence Board does not  
30 regulate the harvest of unclassified wildlife. Because  
31 of that Federal customary and traditional use  
32 determinations and Federal seasons are not needed.  
33  
34 Under State regulations there are no  
35 closed seasons and no harvest limits for ground  
36 squirrel and porcupine.  
37  
38 Thank you.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, thanks Terry.  
41 Now, any other agencies got any comments. Kawerak  
42 comments, Rose.  
43  
44 MS. FOSDICK: I already made my  
45 comments.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Oh, all right.  
48 InterAgency Staff.  
49  
50 MR. EASTLAND: No comments.

1 MR. KESSLER: No.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. This hasn't  
4 been addressed at our AC up here. Leonard or Myron,  
5 did you guys address anything on this?  
6  
7 MR. BUCK: I'll make a motion to oppose  
8 48 and 49.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right, well, let  
11 me, I got to get through the little list here but --  
12 was there any -- Barbara, was there any written  
13 comments.  
14  
15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: What's it there on  
16 the flipside, what number? Is it 33?  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN QUINN: No, 48 and 49, the  
19 ground squirrel and porcupine.  
20  
21 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: What page is that?  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN QUINN: 56. There's none.  
24  
25 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, okay, thank you.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, no written  
28 comments. And public testimony, do you want -- you're  
29 okay.  
30  
31 MR. AHMASUK: (Nods affirmatively)  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, so we have a  
34 motion on the floor from Peter to oppose.  
35  
36 MR. SAVETILIK: I second.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Second. Any  
39 discussion.  
40  
41 (No comments)  
42  
43 MR. KOBUK: Question.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, question. All  
46 those in favor of the motion to oppose 48 and 49 say  
47 aye.  
48  
49 IN UNISON: Aye.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN QUINN: And the motion carries  
2 unanimously.

3  
4 Okay, so we have time to move on to 33  
5 I hope, and Greg, you're up, right.

6  
7 MR. RISDAHL: Yep.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay.

10  
11 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman. Members of  
12 the Council. Before we get started, I wasn't the  
13 original analyst here but as I got to looking through  
14 it I noticed that the maps were missing a couple pieces  
15 of information that would make it more clear to people  
16 just exactly the area we're talking about, so I had a  
17 couple of captions added to the map and I'll just pass  
18 those out to everybody so you can see them.

19  
20 So specifically I'm talking about the  
21 Unit 18 remainder area and the lower Yukon hunt area,  
22 and those are shown on this map more clearly than on  
23 the map that you have in the book there before you.

24  
25 Wildlife Proposal WP08-33 was submitted  
26 by the Association of Village Council Presidents and  
27 requests the closure of Federal public lands to non-  
28 Federally qualified users during the fall and winter  
29 moose seasons in the Yukon River drainage in Unit 18  
30 and Unit 18 remainder. Oh, by the way this analysis  
31 begins on Page 61 in your books in case you're not  
32 there at this point.

33  
34 (Pause)

35  
36 MR. RISDAHL: In May 2007 the Federal  
37 Subsistence Board eliminated the Federal regulatory  
38 closure on moose hunting for non-Federally qualified  
39 users in the lower Yukon River down stream from  
40 Mountain Village as well as in Unit 18 remainder for  
41 both the fall and winter moose seasons in response to  
42 current moose population abundance.

43  
44 The proponent for WP08-33 requests that  
45 the closure be reinstated until three related tasks are  
46 accomplished. Those tasks are to:

- 47  
48 1. Find an accurate assessment of  
49 the moose needed for residents  
50 in Unit 18;



1 And the third is the Paimiut.

2

3 In terms of the lower Yukon censuses  
4 area where probably the most dramatic population  
5 increases have been seen in recent years, for example  
6 in 1992 there were 28 animals observed in this census  
7 area, compared to 2005, when the most recent survey was  
8 done, approximately 1,700 moose were counted. The  
9 greatest increase has taken place since about 2002 when  
10 the population has been growing at an annual rate of 27  
11 percent per year. The 2005 cow/calf ratio was at 92  
12 calves per 100 cows. In the Andreafsky census block,  
13 52 moose were counted in 1995. And in the most recent  
14 census that's really comparable in terms of the area  
15 that was surveyed, this took place in 2002, and they  
16 counted an estimated 418 moose with 22 calves per 100  
17 adults. Now, in 2005 a survey was done by the Alaska  
18 Department of Fish and Game where they estimated 42  
19 calves per 100 adult moose but they didn't have a total  
20 count listed for that. In the Paimiut census block, in  
21 1992 there was an estimated 994 moose. By 2006, the  
22 most recent survey, the spring density estimate was  
23 2,547 moose, so you can see that the moose population  
24 throughout this area has increased very, very  
25 dramatically.

26

27 In terms of harvest history, reporting  
28 compliance in Unit 18 has not been consistent over  
29 time, although increased efforts on the part of the  
30 Refuge Staff appears to be taking place and they're  
31 getting better and better compliance.

32

33 Since 2002 the moose harvest appears to  
34 have been relatively stable at around 200 moose per  
35 year.

36

37 In summary, this proposal would  
38 reestablish the closure of Federal public lands to non-  
39 Federally qualified users during both the fall and the  
40 winter seasons. However, because the lower Yukon moose  
41 population is highly productive, continues to expand  
42 and is capable of supporting increased harvest by both  
43 Federally qualified and non-Federally qualified users  
44 and that there is some concern by local managers that  
45 the population might actually be near the point where  
46 they might be exceeding the carrying capacity of the  
47 land, the closure of the Federal public lands in Unit  
48 18 to non-Federally qualified users is not warranted.  
49 Therefore, the OSM preliminary conclusion is to oppose  
50 Wildlife Proposal 08-33.

1 Thank you.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Any questions for  
4 Greg.  
5  
6 MR. KOBUK: Mr. Chairman, I have a  
7 question.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Go ahead, Leonard.  
10  
11 MR. KOBUK: What is the -- I guess my  
12 question would be what Nunam Iqua, Alakanuk, Emmonak,  
13 Kotlik think about this proposal? The reason I ask  
14 this question is I grew up there in that region, I have  
15 friends and relatives in those villages, that includes  
16 Mountain Village and St. Mary's, what is their -- I  
17 guess I just want to know what they think of this  
18 proposal from that area.  
19  
20 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Kobuk, through the  
21 Chair. The Council that you're speaking about won't be  
22 meeting for another couple of weeks, they should be  
23 meeting in the middle of March so we don't really know  
24 for sure what they're going to have to say about it at  
25 this time.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Leonard, the proposal  
28 comes from AVCP, which is, you know, the same thing as  
29 Kawerak up here. So to some respect you could say, or  
30 extent you could say the proposal comes from the people  
31 of the area.  
32  
33 MR. KOBUK: The reason I ask that  
34 question is because it'd be kind of hard for me to make  
35 a decision for those people in the villages because of  
36 the respect I have for them and I would rather first  
37 hear what the concerns may be in opening up these --  
38 the hunting in that area. So that's the only reason  
39 why I wanted to know.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, thanks Leonard.  
42 Thanks, Greg.  
43  
44 MR. RISDAHL: Thank you.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN QUINN: ADF&G.  
47  
48 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman. The  
49 Department's written comments are on Page 71 of your  
50 Council meeting books. The Department does not support

1 this proposal.

2

3                   The proposed closure would eliminate  
4 the opportunity for non-Federally qualified subsistence  
5 users to hunt moose on Federal public lands in Unit 18  
6 that are currently open to hunting. This closure would  
7 apply to friends and relatives of the Federally  
8 qualified subsistence users who are eligible to  
9 participate in this hunt under State regulations and  
10 would concentrate hunting by non-local residents on to  
11 limited State and private lands.

12

13                   There currently are no conservation  
14 issues that justify reinstating the closure. Moose are  
15 abundant in areas of Unit 18 currently open to hunting  
16 thanks to the success of the five year moratorium.  
17 Information presented to the Federal Subsistence Board  
18 in 2007 indicated that the moose population in areas  
19 targeted in this proposal -- that the moose population  
20 in this area is highly productive and is continuing to  
21 grow. Preliminary harvest estimates for 2007 indicate  
22 that only eight moose were taken in Unit 18 by non-  
23 local residents and non-residents of Alaska combined.

24

25                   So, again, we do not support adoption  
26 of this proposal. We don't think doing so would be  
27 consistent with the provisions of the Closure Policy  
28 adopted by the Federal Board last year.

29

30                   Thank you.

31

32                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Only eight were taken  
33 by non-locals and non-residents?

34

35                   MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman. That's the  
36 preliminary harvest estimate.

37

38                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Estimate.

39

40                   MR. HAYNES: The final figures are not  
41 in yet that's why I said preliminary.

42

43                   CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Leonard, I want  
44 to bring you up to speed here. Prior to last year Unit  
45 18 C&T was only residents of Unit 18 and upper Kalskag,  
46 and we submitted a proposal which the Board of Game --  
47 I'm sorry, the Subsistence Board adopted to include  
48 residents of St. Michael and Stebbins to have C&T for  
49 Unit 18. So we did that and then at last year's  
50 meeting we supported, what was it, 07-31, I think, to

1 open the area to non-locals because the moose  
2 population is so good. I've hunted down there myself  
3 in the past and there are a number of -- what I felt  
4 was a number of people who lived in Unit 22, which we  
5 represent, but have pretty strong family ties to people  
6 in that area. There's a number of people in Unalakleet  
7 who have relatives down there and there's people who  
8 live in some of the other villages who are originally  
9 from there and prior to last spring those people could  
10 not go down and hunt with their relatives, despite the  
11 fact that they had such a good moose population. And  
12 there's other areas in Unit 22 that the moose  
13 population is not near as good but we haven't closed  
14 all those Federal lands, I don't think.

15

16 So, you know, last year we supported  
17 the proposal to open that area.

18

19 MR. KOBUK: Well, Mr. Chairman, this is  
20 Leonard. I'm really in a situation where I don't want  
21 to make any recommendations because of the friends and  
22 relatives in have in that area who might be against  
23 this proposal, that is my concern. So I guess for me I  
24 would have to talk first with those people that I know  
25 in those villages that I'm related to and have friends  
26 with, in Nunam Iqua, Alakanuk, Emmonak, and Kotlik, and  
27 I'll have to go along with them because I do not want  
28 to make rules for their area just as I don't want them  
29 to make rules for the area that I live in in St.  
30 Michael's and Stebbins and Unit 22 -- all of Unit 22.

31

32 I just find it would be kind of bad if  
33 I had to go against my friends and relatives in that  
34 region. That's just my concern only.

35

36 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. All right, any  
37 other agencies. Kawerak.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 CHAIRMAN QUINN: InterAgency Staff.

42

43 MR. EASTLAND: No comments.

44

45 CHAIRMAN QUINN: There aren't any AC  
46 comments. Any written public comments Barb.

47

48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. There  
49 isn't no comments on this proposal.

50

1 Thank you.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay. Any public  
4 testimony.  
5  
6 (No comments)  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right. So like I  
9 said last year we supported the proposal to open this  
10 area because it was such a good moose population and  
11 because there were people who lived around here who  
12 couldn't hunt there.  
13  
14 Does anybody want to make a motion  
15 about this particular -- this particular proposal  
16 closes it again. It opened last year and now AVCP has  
17 submitted this proposal to close to everyone except the  
18 Federal users with C&T. So if anybody wants to make a  
19 motion we can entertain that. We could even make a  
20 motion that we take no action.  
21  
22 MR. KOBUK: Mr. Chairman. Just for  
23 myself I will not take any action. This is Leonard.  
24  
25 MR. BUCK: Mr. Chair. I also will not  
26 take any action.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All right. Well,  
29 we'll just -- can we just say we took no action or do  
30 we need.....  
31  
32 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You have to vote on  
33 it.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Well, I need a  
36 specific motion then.  
37  
38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: A motion and vote.  
39  
40 MR. BUCK: I make a motion that we take  
41 no action on this proposal.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, motion's on the  
44 floor.  
45  
46 MR. KOBUK: I'll second that proposal.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN QUINN: The motion's seconded.  
49 Any discussion.  
50

1 (No comments)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN QUINN: I'd prefer to oppose  
4 it but you guys are - that's just my personal opinion.  
5  
6 Call for the question.  
7  
8 MR. SAVETILIK: Question.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, question's been  
11 called. All in favor of a motion to take no action say  
12 aye.  
13  
14 IN UNISON: Aye.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN QUINN: And opposed. I'll say  
17 nay. Motion carries four to one.  
18  
19 Can we whip through 01 and 05 or should  
20 we wait until tomorrow?  
21  
22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Tomorrow.  
23  
24 MR. BUCK: Tomorrow.  
25  
26 MR. SAVETILIK: Can we start at 8:30  
27 tomorrow morning.  
28  
29 (Laughter)  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, I hear little  
32 voices saying tomorrow. So I can entertain motions to  
33 adjourn.  
34  
35 MR. SAVETILIK: Second.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN QUINN: No.  
38  
39 (Laughter)  
40  
41 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, recess. Recess.  
42  
43 MR. KOBUK: I'll make the motion  
44 to.....  
45  
46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Recess. Recess.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Oh, you can tell I'm  
49 not very experienced. Okay, I'll entertain motions to  
50 recess until tomorrow at 8:30 a.m.

1 (Laughter)  
2  
3 MR. SAVETILIK: I move.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay.  
6  
7 MR. KOBUK: Second.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN QUINN: No discussion.  
10  
11 (No comments)  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN QUINN: All those in favor  
14 aye.  
15  
16 IN UNISON: Aye.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN QUINN: Okay, we'll see you in  
19 the morning.  
20  
21 (Hearing recessed)  
22  
23 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 85 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the SEWARD-PENINSULA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME I, taken electronically by Salena Hile on the 21st day of February 2008, beginning at the hour of 1:00 o'clock p.m. at Nome, Alaska;

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 1st day of March 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph P. Kolasinski  
Notary Public in and for Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 3/12/08