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SEWARD PENINSULA SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
UNAQLIKMIUT KATIMMASLIK CENTER
October 25, 1994
Unalakleet, Alaska

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sheldon I. Katchatag, Chairman
Z. William Barr, Vice Chairman
Loretta Muktoyuk, Secretary
Roy P. Otton, Member
Theodore Katcheak, Member
George H. Lockwood, Member
Elmer K. Seetot, Jr., Member

Barbara Armstrong, Coordinator

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PROCEEDINGS

1
2
3 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Call this morning's session of the
Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory Council back to
order. Madam Secretary, can we have a roll call?
6
7 MS. MUKTOYUK: Sheldon Katchatag?
8
9 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Here.
10
11 MS. MUKTOYUK: Bill Barr?
12
13 MR. BARR: Here.
14
15 MS. MUKTOYUK: George Lockwood?
16
17 MR. LOCKWOOD: Here.
18
19 MS. MUKTOYUK: Roy Otton?
20
21 MR. OTTON: Here.
22
23 MS. MUKTOYUK: Elmer Seetot, Junior?
24
25 MR. SEETOT: Here.
26
27 MS. MUKTOYUK: George (sic) Katcheak. I mean, Ted
Katcheak?
29
30 MR. KATCHEAK: I'm here.
31
32 MS. MUKTOYUK: And Loretta Muktoyuk, here. There's a
quorum established.
34
35 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Let the record reflect we have
100% participation.
37
38 We left off yesterday on the subsistence musk ox
management plan and the C and T determination request. And at
that time we had information, or we were reassured that we were
in the process of getting some information today. Is that the
case, Mr. Knauer?
43
44 MR. KNAUER: Sue has some material.
45
46 MS. DETWILER: Mr. Chairman, the transcripts that we
had asked to be sent in from Anchorage didn't come on the plane
last night. They might be in this morning on this morning's
flight.
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2 What we did last night was came up with two documents
3 for the Council to review today. One is a letter to the Board,
4 asking the Board to do an interim customary and traditional use
5 determination for musk ox, and asking to expedite the C and T
6 review for musk ox in this area.

7
8 The other document is a proposal to submit to the Board
9 as part of this year's subpart D process, which is the setting
10 of next year's seasons -- annual seasons and bag limits. It's
11 a proposal to ask the Board to establish a subsistence season
12 for musk ox in this unit.

13
14 And Gloria is making copies of those two documents
15 right now for the Council to review.

16
17 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you. Is there any questions
18 or comments from the Council? Hearing none, what is the wish
19 of the Council with regard to the items that have been
20 produced?

21
22 MR. BARR: Mr. Chairman, I think we can wait for the
23 paperwork, until it gets here, and go on with our agenda.

24
25 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I appreciate that, Mr. Barr. I
26 would entertain a motion for the same.

27
28 MR. BARR: So move, Mr. Chairman.

29
30 MR. OTTON: Second.

31
32 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a motion and a second on
33 the floor to deal with these issues at such time that we have
34 the paperwork before us. All those in favor signify by saying
35 aye?

36
37 IN UNISON: Aye.

38
39 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All those opposed, nay?

40
41 (No opposing responses)

42
43 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The motion carries.

44
45 Now move on to new business. Item nine. Under 9.A,
46 Council information exchange. Under Council information
47 exchange, I'm not sure exactly what that particular entry is in
48 regards to, and I'll defer to the coordinator on that. Barb?

49
50

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1 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. That was put in for each Council
2 to voice any concerns that their community has, in their home
3 town. Or in their area or their region. Just when the -- to
4 get some information on any issues that are being expressed in
5 their area.

6

7 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Barb. I think this is
8 a new wrinkle in our Council procedure, and I think it's a
9 welcome one. I'd like to start off with Loretta Muktoyuk as
10 the lone female on our Council, out of deference for her, I'll
11 open the floor for her. Loretta?

12

13 MS. MUKTOYUK: Well, for Nome this summer we had an
14 incident with a polar bear that was sighted near the Nuke area,
15 that's about 13 miles from the city limits, and people were
16 complaining to U.S. Fish and Wildlife and to Fish and Game
17 about the polar bear possibly harming their people that were
18 camping at their camp site, and both U.S. Fish and Wildlife and
19 Fish and Game did not do anything until the polar bear got to
20 the city limits, and they had no choice but to destroy it. And
21 the Native people in Nome were pretty upset of the way it was
22 handled by U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Fish and Game and by the
23 police department. It should have been handled better, because
24 they were complaining about it for a couple days.

25

26 And then the other concern that is always being brought
27 up is the brown bear population in Nome area. It has been
28 increasing for the past couple years, and the bears have been
29 intruding in our camp sites, and they usually would take the
30 fish that are drying on the rack, or meat that is drying on the
31 racks. And I think there's something somebody needs to start
32 doing something about before somebody gets hurt.

33

34 That's all I have.

35

36 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Loretta. Was there any
37 requests on the part of anyone for action by the Seward
38 Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory Council on either of
39 these two matters?

40

41 MS. MUKTOYUK: Roy will give you more information on
42 that, because they had the meeting in Nome

43

44 MR. OTTON: Yeah, we

45

46 MS. MUKTOYUK: this summer.

47

48 MR. OTTON: About a month ago we had a subsistence
49 source committee meeting, and we had John Cody, who is the

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regional director of Alaska Fish and Game, based out of Fairbanks, and we -- the concern of the local Native leaders in Nome at the time stated they were dissatisfied as Loretta just said. And what I believe the U.S. Fish and Wildlife supposedly, and the State Fish and Game were to set up a format to how they would take care of any or all polar bears or brown bears that come within a distance of Nome, and they said there are reported sightings of polar bear up to like seven sightings last winter, so, you know, it's a problem that's not going to go away, but hopefully the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the Fish and Game will address that issue. And

12

13 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Bill, do you know if there's been a policy of any sort put out by the Fish and Wildlife Service on this, on the problem of either polar bears or brown bears wandering within like the urban area of Nome?

17

18 MR. KNAUER: On the issue of polar bears, I don't know, and on the issue of brown bears, that would be a State matter.

20

21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I would recommend or I would ask the council to recommend that the Fish and Wildlife Service develop a policy on dealing with these things before they come to the point where they're, number one, impacting subsistence resources that are being in the process -- processing stage, such as fish hanging to dry or meat aging, and -- because this is a subsistence issue when you have a bear of any color or sort raiding your resources, it makes it a little bit harder to make sure you have enough put away for the winter, and I would think that this is a matter that's appropriate for our Council, especially if there are lands, seeing -- looking at Nome there, there is no Federal land within the area, but the Fish and Wildlife Service does have jurisdiction over polar bears.

34

35 MR. OTTON: Sheldon?

36

37 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yes?

38

39 MR. OTTON: Right now there is a new organization called the Nanook (ph) Commission, and there is like six or seven villages in our region that are party to this commission that comprises of the Arctic Slope and NANA and the Bering Straits Region and also parts of Siberia or, you know -- and there is -- it's just newly formed and I think they might be addressing this issue through their Native commission, but, you know, that's just for their part.

47

48 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Was this the one formed last June?

49

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1 MR. OTTON: Yeah, it's -- yeah, it's just being in the
process of where our member villages, that includes Savoonga,
Gambell, King Island was it?

4

5 MS. MUKTOYUK: Uh-huh.

6

7 MR. OTTON: Shishmaref, Wales, Brevig. All of the
villages, they passed -- their IRA councils by resolution gave
the authority for this commission to be formed. So, you know,
it's a tribal entity. And it's just been -- they just -- like
they had -- the last meeting they had in Nome I believe was the
first part of September where they had representatives from
Arctic Slope, NANA and Bering Straits Region and the Russians.
So it's fairly new.

15

16 Does our representatives from U.S. Fish and Wildlife
know about this Nanook Commission? Can you speak a little bit
about that?

19

20 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Please state your name for the
record?

22

23 MR. KOVACH: My name is Steve Kovach. I was -- when I
was in Barrow two or three weeks ago, I was talking with
Charlie Brower, who's the president of the Commission, about
what their charter and what their plans are and so on, but we
would not talk about this specific kind of an issue, and I just
made myself a note to try and get ahold of Charlie next week
when I get back into my office and find out if they're
addressing this issue, and I'll also make a contact with Scott
Schleebe in the Marine Mammals Office of Fish and Wildlife to
find out what they're working on as far as a policy with regards
to polar bears in or adjacent to the city limits of any
community in the Seward Peninsula, and I'll try and find out
what's going on, if anything. And I'll let Barb know so she
can let the Council know what my findings are. They may be
nobody's working on anything, and then again it may be
something else, so I'll try and get back to you on that.

39

40 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Kovach. Any
questions for Mr. Kovach? Thank you. Mr. Otton?

42

43 MR. OTTON: Yeah, you were wondering how like the polar
bears interact -- could interact with our board. Is there an
answer?

46

47 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: With our particular Council?

48

49 MR. OTTON: Yeah. Yeah.

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2 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: My recommendation is that we send
3 a letter to the Nanook Commission requesting that they develop
4 a policy for dealing with, especially in the summertime, both
5 polar bears that threaten either subsistence resources that are
6 being processed, or subsistence camps. Do you have any
7 thoughts on that, Barb?

8
9 MS. ARMSTRONG: On? Excuse me, I'm sorry.

10
11 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I'm recommending that the Council,
12 and this is up to them as -- of course, that we -- I'm
13 recommending that the Council send a letter to the Nanook
14 Commission requesting that they develop a policy for the Fish
15 and Wildlife Service to deal with polar bears, especially in
16 the summertime, wandering within populated areas.

17
18 MS. ARMSTRONG: I know that the chairs in Kotzebue have
19 been working closely with the polar bears, and I think if you
20 direct a letter to the other chair for the Council, Walter
21 Sampson and Pete Schaeffer, they would be able to write and
22 answer you, because I know they've been close -- working
23 closely with the polar bear question up there.

24
25 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: What is the wish of the Council?

26
27 MR. OTTON: If there is a letter to be drafted, who
28 would do the writing? Do we have to do it ourselves, or can we
29 delegate staff to do?

30
31 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Ask the chief of staff.

32
33 MR. OTTON: Who is

34
35 MS. DETWILER: Mr. Chair, as I mentioned yesterday, the
36 Council -- since the letter is coming from the Council, it's up
37 to the Council to clearly state what they want put in the
38 letter, and Barbara Armstrong, being your coordinator, it's up
39 to her to help you with the administrative aspects of that, so
40 you come up with the substance, the ideas of what you want in a
41 letter, and you draft it as well as you can, and then Barbara
42 can put the final touches on it.

43
44 MS. ARMSTRONG: Then I can mail it out for you. You
45 can just draft it and I'll type it for you and then I'll send
46 back to you for your okay, and then I'll mail it to -- we
47 can do that.

48
49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Okay. So what is the wish of the
50

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Council?

2

3 MR. BARR: Who's going to draft the letter, Mr. Chair?

4

5 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Barb will. Barb can do the rough
~~d~~raft and send it to me, fax it to me, and then I can fax back
~~a~~ny changes directly to her and she can send it out.

8

9 MR. BARR: Okay.

10

11 MS. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.

12

13 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The Chair will entertain a motion
~~f~~or same.

15

16 MS. MUKTOYUK: I'll make a motion that we draft a
~~l~~etter to Pete Schaeffer and Walter Sampson concerning
~~t~~he

19

20 MR. OTTON: And Charlie.

21

22 MS. MUKTOYUK: polar bear population in the
~~B~~ering Strait Region, and to Charlie Johnson.

24

25 MR. BARR: Second the motion.

26

27 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a motion and second.
~~D~~iscussion?

29

30 MR. SEETOT: Question.

31

32 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The question's been called. All
~~B~~hose in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

34

35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36

37 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Those opposed, nay?

38

39 (No opposing responses)

40

41 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The motion carries.

42

43 Mr. Barr, do you have any information from your area
~~t~~hat you would like to share with the Council?

45

46 MR. BARR: Yeah, we've got several things this summer
~~t~~hat have been bothering the berry pickers that's looking for
~~b~~erries, and, of course, there was no berries this summer,
~~b~~ecause of the spring freeze, so we didn't pick no salmon

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berries. You had to walk about ten miles to pick a little bucket full. That wasn't very much fun.

3

4 Bears, of course, were the big topic. There's more and more bears all the time, you know, so I don't know what's going to happen, you know, to -- they haven't hurt nobody yet, but if they do hurt somebody, you know, I think somebody's going to have to do something about them, you know. I think this four-year regulation that the State has, you know, is a problem in our area.

11

12 On top of that, they have a couple of reindeer herders in our village, one is Fred Little, who has reindeer to the east of Shishmaref and his grazing grounds are next to Shishmaref, and then we have Clifford Williwaw (ph) who's range south of Shishmaref and part of west of Shishmaref, so that's a problem there, you know, because when they have fawns, you know, the bears go out and have a field day with the fawns and kill the fawns and all they do is just open that milk -- or the stomach and open that milk and eat that and then go kill another one again. So, you know, they're real fond of milk, those bears.

23

24 Another thing that we have, I heard so many people complaining this summer of musk oxen, you know. They're harassing them to their boats and so they're becoming a nuisance in our area, so something has to be done about that immediately, and I think -- I just got appointed to the State Fish and Game Board from my village, representing my village, so I think we had made a proposal on that, so we -- they've got it now, and so, of course, this will take time as to when -- what's going to happen to the musk ox, you know. So that's in the planning stages now, you know, but it'll probably take a couple of years before they ever do anything about that. But anyway, they're becoming a nuisance, you know, and there's more and more musk oxen. There was some up there the summer before, up the river, and they're up the coast, down the coast, you know, so east and west of Shishmaref, you know, so they're becoming a nuisance like I said, and so we should do something about that immediately.

41

42 That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

43

44 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Barr. Was there any particular action that they were requesting of you? Did you get any requests for any particular kind of action?

47

48 MR. LOCKWOOD: Mr. Chairman?

49

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1 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Lockwood?

2

3 MR. LOCKWOOD: I think it's true that they're getting
4 to be too many bears, not only in certain areas. In the whole
5 State. A lot of times I buy papers, Anchorage papers in the
6 morning, and a lot of times they've chased -- there's bear roam
7 around cities. Even around when kids they -- schools. And
8 something really have to be done with this -- they're getting
9 too nuisance where cities are and villages. All over. And I
10 would suggest that the Wildlife Service do something about this
11 populations of bear getting too many. They need to be reduced
12 some way for our own protection. And they just don't only
13 bother, they get into cabins, break in, all those kind of
14 things happen. Mostly on where people are putting away for
15 their survival use, and they're always there. So

16

17 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, George. Mr. Otton?

18

19 MR. OTTON: Concerning the brown bears, I've got a
20 question. Is it true only brown bears live on State lands?

21

22 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: No, black bears live there, too.

23

24 (Laughter)

25

26 MR. OTTON: If brown bears is under the jurisdiction of
27 only the Fish and Game, then that must be true. Of State Fish
28 and Game, because the -- did you not say U.S. Fish and Wildlife
29 have no policy on brown bear?

30

31 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Knauer.

32

33 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman, the issue of defense of life
34 and property cases is not a subsistence issue. The Board has
35 determined that predation and defense of life and property is a
36 matter that is under the jurisdiction of Alaska Department of
37 Fish and Game. And so items and issues regarding that should
38 be directed to the Board of Game as opposed to the Federal
39 Subsistence Board.

40

41 MR. OTTON: Even if it's on Federal lands?

42

43 MR. KNAUER: Yes.

44

45 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Knauer, is there a legal
46 justification for that? Or that a matter of convenience? In
47 other words, is there a statute somewhere that says that all
48 life and property claims against bears will be dealt with by
49 the Board of Game? Or is this as a matter of policy?

50

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1
2 MR. KNAUER: One moment, please.

3
4 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Sure.

5
6 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman, it is a matter of
7 regulation, and indicates -- our regulations indicate "wildlife
8 taken in defense of life or property is not a subsistence use.
9 Wildlife so taken is subject to State regulations." And the
10 Board in their various meetings have determined that predation
11 falls along those same lines, and therefore should be -- issues
12 relating to that should be referred to the Board of Game and
13 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, requesting policies on
14 such and, if necessary, additional seasons or bag limits
15 appropriate. And the same thing relates to predator control.

16
17 MR. OTTON: Well, you know, I know we had John Cody
18 explaining the process of how they go about doing that, and
19 it's like if you shoot a bear that's bothering your fish camp,
20 you know, a life-threatening situation, then you -- they go
21 through a process of where -- is to take the skull and the hide
22 and it becomes the property of Alaska Fish and Game. And then
23 there will be like a process of where you -- a Wildlife Service
24 officer will take documents and whatever and decide whether he
25 should prosecute that person. And, you know, it's come to a
26 point where if a person goes out and shoots a bear, he more
27 than likely will probably break the law and just cover the bear
28 ditch it or something instead of taking the time to cut off
29 the skull and skin the hide and send it off. And by doing
30 that, he's asking for a possibility of getting fined or jail
31 time, because, you know, if the Wildlife Protection officer
32 finds out that he could have used pepper spray instead of
33 something to keep the bear alive and scare it off, you know, if
34 he's found guilty, then he will serve time or get a fine, and,
35 you know, any person that thinks about the situation would
36 rather not come into contact with the officials, because, you
37 know, I don't go to jail just because I saved my hide, you
38 know. That's like the ruling, predominant thinking on that,
39 you know, so it's not a very good situation. That leads to the
40 protection of our wild -- I mean, the protection of property,
41 because of brown bears, you know. And it seems like it's quite
42 convenient to say that it's not a subsistence issue, because
43 you're saving your subsistence, you know, your fish racks and,
44 you know, saving your life.

45
46 It's -- I find it -- their reasoning against my grain,
47 you know. Just to save your fish rack, and it's not a
48 subsistence issue, you know. There's more than one way to look
49 at a different situation, you know. There's -- the official
50

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way as what the Boards look at, and the way the people that it affects look at it, you know. There's always two sides of the story. And it seems quite convenient actually to go this route where -- to say that it's not a subsistence issue, you know, and just divert it onto the Alaska Fish and Game whether it's on State lands, private lands or even public lands, you know.

7

CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: That's really an eye-opener to me to realize that the Board of Game is used as a predator control also. My understanding of game is that this is a highly prized sport trophy type of operation, and I'm really surprised that the Board of Game is used as predator control tool. I would think that Fish and Game Department, or the Fish and Wildlife Department would have more appropriate policies for dealing with problems like this, rather than referring them to the Board of Game.

17

MR. KNAUER: If you believe that there is a significant increase in brown bear population up here, you may wish to work with the State -- Alaska Department of Fish and Game biologists and have -- and request that the Board of Game either lengthen the seasons or increase the harvest limits.

23

CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: That's another thing. Why

25

26

MS. MUKTOYUK: Mr. Chairman?

28

CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: why is bear considered a game item and not a subsistence item?

31

MR. KNAUER: Sir, in most of the wildlife profession, the term game refers to a species that is hunted, not something that is played with, but a species that is hunted. Here in Alaska, we have tried -- in the Subsistence Office, we've tried to refer to it as wildlife resources, recognizing that some people feel that the term "game" is inappropriate. But in the wildlife profession that is -- the two -- the term refers to a species of wildlife resources that's hunted, and it's not used in a negative or demeaning manner.

41

MS. MUKTOYUK: Mr. Chairman?

43

CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Ms. Muktoyuk?

45

MS. MUKTOYUK: This brown bear issue has not just come recently. We've been hearing complaints for the past couple years about bears intruding on subsistence campsites, taking their -- they're enjoying fish and they're enjoying meat that

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they've been working hard on, and that they have to preserve for the winter. It's part of their food supplement for the winter, to make them go through the winter, because it's part of our diet.

5

6 MR. KNAUER: Yes, I understand that.

7

8 MR. KATCHEAK: Mr. Chairman?

9

10 MS. MUKTOYUK: And I feel like the law is on the wrong side. It should be on the people. It's a people issue.

12

13 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Ms. Muktoyuk.

14 Mr. Katcheak?

15

16 MR. KATCHEAK: Yes, I have a question. Why does the State Fish and Game kind of allude the -- they use Fish and Game and kind of disguise game where you say they -- anything that State Fish and Game biologist or employee cannot answer the State Fish and Game Board is kind of a scape goat for the Fish and Game biologist or whoever is here. I'm wondering why they use game instead of wildlife or fish and bear. You know, there's -- it seems like in order for us -- or for the people that are concerned about the animals up here, they use the words kind of to allude criticism like for game. You said bear is not a game, because the State Fish and Game Board say, well, they're only -- they're kinder (ph) words, and they don't -- we don't hunt them. But there are people that hunt them, and people that eat them, so to me it seem like it would be a game, or an animal that is used for subsistence or -- but that's something that the I think Fish and Game, State Fish and Game respond to such -- those problems such as bear in the villages. Instead of kind of hide behind somebody's guise, they say, well, it's not a Fish and Game biologist's problem, or the Fish and Game manager cannot answer that, so we'll just let the Fish and Game Board decide on it, or we'll blame it on the State Fish and Game Board, because they cannot come with a solution. So I -- it's a very big problem, and it's been a problem since I can remember, ever since I was a kid. I never -- I never see bear as a friend, you know, they -- to me I'll say that my name is Ted and Teddy, and there's one too many Teddy's out there right now.

43

44 MR. LOCKWOOD: Mr. Chairman?

45

46 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Lockwood?

47

48 MR. LOCKWOOD: These brown bears, we don't use them for our own use, for subsistence use. Only the -- the only thing

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that we would use would be, what do you call that, the skin, or mask or something like that. And they don't really worth anything to us. They're nothing but nuisance animals, and here Wildlife would protect them and getting too many. And then they will increase. They will get more and more every year, and then something really have to be done about this. It's not only our neighbors kick about them, and non-Natives, too, in the cities, wherever. Think about that, and do something about them, being a Wildlife protector. They're -- they use them only for sport, what do you call that, taking pictures of them and whatever. That's the way they look at these bear. Save them for that purpose. That's no good purpose. Not useful.

13

14 That's all.

15

16 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, George. And that's one of the things that I had a problem with early on is the fact that there is -- bear is not listed as a subsistence resource, and the regulations provide for, if you look on page 121, for Unit 22, 22(C) is one bear every four regulatory years, and the remainder of Unit 22 is one bear every four regulatory years, with open seasons being only from September 1st to October 31st, and April 15th to May 25.

24

25 I don't know about anybody else here, but I can remember growing up when there weren't that many moose around, that sometimes a bear will get you through a winter where a moose would have got you better, but these brown bear caught at the right time are plenty rich protein. You've just got to make sure you cook them right.

31

32 And it points to the reason why we're having such a bear problem. Before statehood, in this area we had a reindeer herd up here at Egavik, and the reindeer ranged all through this entire drainage. And the policy among the local people here was that we have to protect our reindeer at all times, so the policy was any time you run across a bear, anytime, it -- a season -- there was no such thing as a bear season. If you see a bear, you shoot and it, and it -- the idea of being you either kill it, or you wound it bad enough to where he realizes every time he sees a human being or anything belonging to a human being, he runs the other way. And that worked marvelously well until Alaska Department of Fish and Game into being, and that's when we started seeing this one bear every four regulatory years business, whereas before any time you'd run across the animal, you put it in its place.

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48 And I think people here would attest to the fact that since we have not had a reindeer herd in this area, and since

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everybody said, "Well, we don't have to do that any more," that our bear population has exploded. And as a result, we're seeing the problems that we are now with bears having no fear of human beings, and bears acting as if the fish racks and the cabins of the local people are their private hunting grounds, so it's gotten to the point where you have an elder here from Unalakleet saying that bears are not a subsistence resource, that they're a nuisance.

9

10 So -- and I know for a fact that dog mushers use bear meat as a very good racing food. An uncle of mine used to tell me, he said, "If you really want to do good in a dog race," he said, "feed your dogs bear meat for about a week before." And he says that there's something about that bear meat that really provides energy for the dogs. So they were a subsistence resource.

17

18 I don't know how many people grew up with a bear rug on the floor, but it's one of the warmest things when you've got a cold floor is to be able to sit on something warm like a bear rug like that. And it's not something fancy that you send to David Green to process, you know, it's something that you do in the back yard.

24

25 So it's kind of disturbing that bear has gotten to the point where they're such a nuisance. I don't know what it -- we've just been told that nuisance bears are the purview of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and I don't know.

29

30 It's just like the rest of these regulations. They don't reflect customs and traditions of our area. If you look at black bear, it says "no determination" for customary and traditional use. And yet that's another specie that was customarily and traditionally used for food. So -- and if you look under special provisions, it says that no determination under any specie indicates it's open to all rural Alaskan residents, so anybody can fly in here and take three black bears without regard to the subsistence use patterns of the local people.

40

41 Mr. Degnan?

42

43 MR. DEGNAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm Charles Degnan. I'm also president of Unalakleet Native Corporation. Our shareholders live primarily in Unalakleet, but they live other places also. Our shareholders are primarily dependent on subsistence resources.

48

49 And the thing that really bothered me about regulations

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that were promulgated under Federal law was that they adopted the State's requirements for licensing. And that immediately requires subsistence users to have State licenses, and, you know, that's an expensive burden to -- for many people to pay, to meet all those requirements.

6

7 The thing you need to address is traditional and customary uses, what the local people are used to doing, what they historically did, and each region will be different, each community will have some differences from others, but you should attempt to continue the traditional and customary use of wildlife resources in each of the regions or subregions. And I would suggest that you find another way of assisting people rather than assisting the State in backing up what the State says.

16

17 From my own family background, the -- there's always been the Fish and Game Department that we view as a hostile organization, not as one that is helpful to you. And I've lived here most of my life, and I'm aware of that. So our view of what our government does is a little different than from what other areas view what government does to them. It appears to me that if you are a large urban center, you get very good treatment from the State. If you're a small community, you're left for last, and you need to take care of yourself.

26

27 So, you know, with that in mind, I'd recommend that you do your duty and reflect local people's tradition and customary practices.

30

31 Thank you for the opportunity, Mr. Chairman.

32

33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Degnan.

34 Katchatag?

35

36 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To start out with, I think I'll go backwards this time, before I forget. We didn't have any problem on bears, and on other wildlife until we heard about Fish and Wildlife Service, biologists, and Fish and Game Department.

41

42 I was a reindeer herder a while back. I know this and I have walked the whole terrain on foot. All the way from almost Kotlik I think all the way up to the headwaters of Ugalik, which Roy Otton knows. And at that time, there were three main herds. Head south, St. Mary had a big herd down south, and Unalakleet had another one right here, and next was the Lohman Company, which was owned by White people. And

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1 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: For the record, on the map, Kotlik
2s down here, the headwaters of the Ungalik are up here.
3ooking on the scale of this map, this is 100 miles, so you're
4ooking at close to 500 miles in a straight line, and he's
5walked this entire area reindeer herding. And it's not flat.

6

7 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: And I'm not talking that I was
8erding for one company. At my age that time, walking didn't
9ean anything, because there were no snow machines. We didn't
10ave any outboard motors. There were no four-wheelers, no
11ars. As a matter of fact when I look in the magazines and
12someone laying down looking at Honolulu moon, little did I ever
13dream that one day I would be laying down in Honolulu and look
14at the moon myself.

15

16 Getting back to the reindeer, and the bear, the Lohman
17ompany offered, and they pay off, for anyone who killed a bear
18uring reindeer herding, they get box of shells, regardless
19hat kind of rifle they use. And a box of shells were worth a
20ollar and a half at that time, but I want to tell you one
21hing here. At that time we were herding at \$4.00 a day, and
22ometimes we have to walk 24 hours, when the weather does not
23operate.

24

25 What I'm really saying is, wildlife must stay wild.
26here is no wildlife preservation and protecting them. The
27wildlife knows the dangers more than we do. If they are being
28unted, as soon as they smell a human tracks, they'll run away
29ight now. They're not that way any more. That's why we're
30aving trouble.

31

32 And the other thing in connection to this I want to
33ouch, and I've said this before in other meetings, these last
34ew years both Fish and Wildlife and Fish and Game have
35eclared geese and ducks as hazards, especially in Anchorage,
36r the airlines, which is right. But whose fault is it? The
37eople there. I've seen Wildlife people, I've seen Fish and
38ame people, and some of my own people feeding geese out of
39ght from their hands. It's not protecting wildlife. This is
40wildlife abuse as far as I'm concerned. And it should be
41pelled out, anyone who is caught feeding any wild resources,
42y that I mean moose, bear, geese and everything, they should
43e fined, and that way you can collect money, rather than
44ining and citing people like us when we're trying to fish out
45ere.

46

47 I got caught setting a minute and a half early, and I
48as fined. I didn't set my clock at that time to the right
49me. But I think there are other ways that this can be

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protected. You know, them buyers, and them ship, they have horns. They're real loud. You can hear them for miles. What they should do is have them blow a horn, and everybody would be on time. And then about 15, 20 minutes before, blow a horn again to give them a warning. So that way the people who are trying to fish commercially will be protected, rather than Fish and Wildlife Department and Fish and Game Department flying over with helicopters and see who's not or who set out, in order to get the money for the operations. This to me is not right.

11

12 Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

13

14 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Katchatag.

15

16 That's another -- brings up another good question, before we move on to someone else. I have yet to be informed of the process and the time and place under which the Council can hear and make recommendations on the customary and additional use determinations of the species of our area.

21

22 For the record, if you look on -- in these regulations, on page 121, 122, 123, and 124, they show the hunting -- the hunting and trapping seasons and bag limits for animals within this -- our particular area, and under hunting, they show black bear, no determination. Brown bear, rural residents of Unit 22. Caribou, Western Arctic Herd only, rural residents of Unit 22(D), west of Koyukuk and Yukon Rivers, and rural residents of 22(A) and 22(B), 23, 24, and 26(A). For other caribou which are not part of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, there is no determination. Under moose, it says rural residents of Unit 22. Musk oxen, no subsistence. Coyote, no determination. Fox, Arctic, blue and white phase, no determination. Fox, red, no determination. Hares, snowshoe and tundra, no determination. Lynx, no determination. Wolf, rural residents of 22, no limit. Wolverine, no determination. Grouse, rural residents only. Ptarmigan, rural residents only. Under trapping, it says beaver, no determination. Coyote, no determination. And so on. The only one that has a determination under trapping is wolf, and it says rural residents, no limit.

42

43 And if you look on page 121, under special provisions, it defines what no determination means. If a specie has no determination listed, then that indicates it's open to all rural Alaska residents. And I'm really -- I have always been concerned about that, because I know that these resources can only support a certain number of people, that the populations that we have in our area. And it's disturbing to me that,

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number one, we have no customary and traditional use determination on the majority of these species, and I know for a fact that we have always used these resources in one form or another. And these are merely a reflection of the State regulations. And as Mr. Degnan so aptly put it, the State has always been hostile to our subsistence. And that it is frustrating that we have all these resources that have always been used by the indigenous people, and yet the regulations, the most current regulations that we have continue to show basically -- if someone were to come in from out of this area, pick up this particular document and read this, they would say, "What do these people live on? They don't use these resources." That's what this document reflects, that we have the customary and traditional use of these resources, and that's a bunch of something that we won't talk about here.

16

17 What's the procedure? When is the time, and I know it says that that's one of our duties, to make customary and traditional use determinations. Mr. Knauer, do we have a timetable for making these determinations?

21

22 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman, that's item 9.B on your agenda.

24

25 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Item 9.B on the agenda.

26's

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28 MR. KNAUER: Are you moving onto that? If so, Rachel will be glad to come up and tell you about the process and what's happening.

31

32 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Great. Before we move on to 9.B, under 9.A.1, we amended the agenda yesterday to include a discussion for the information of the Council, a native liaison, and before we do that, we're still in Council information exchange. I'm glad we found where on the agenda that we are to make C and T determinations. But since we're still in Council information, we heard from Loretta, and from Mr. Barr. Mr. Lockwood, do you have any information that you would like to share with the Council?

41

42 MR. LOCKWOOD: No, not -- no.

43

44 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, George. Ted?

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46 MR. KATCHEAK: The same problems practically other villages have, and that is a bear problem. Brown bear going near Stebbins, behind Stebbins where the dumps are. Or the dump is. And they should move down toward Island (ph) where

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the reindeer -- the main herd is, reindeer herd is, and it has become -- it's always -- we're always aware that there are bears in St. Michael Island, where Stebbins and St. Michael's located. And specifically last summer -- or especially last summer, we had more break-ins by bears than any other time I could remember. One cabin, my aunt's cabin, a bear came in through -- on the corner of a building, and practically demolished the inside of the cabin. And then my dad's smoke house, they tore the whole side of the smoke house. It was built out of sheet iron and wood. The whole wall, one whole side of the wall is tore up. And a couple of times we had to go out behind Stebbins, because someone said, well, there's a bear on the road, and there's a bear behind the village. But those things we don't reveal that we did something about them, because we're afraid that, you know, we might be fined or cited for killing bear out of season.

17

18 And I've always tried to encourage my fellow Natives from Stebbins and St. Michael, if they -- if the bear population is so great the way it is, each one of us should get a bear tag and get a bear, and then my feelings about these bears has always been, you know, we don't need these bears. I'd be happy if a sow and a male was -- if we found a sow and a male every 100 miles, and that would be great. But the way it is now, we're -- women are very reluctant to go out berry picking, even for a mile or two.

27

28 So I think it's just -- it's ridiculous for us to live in this regulated type, especially by Fish and Game saying that we're only allowed to get one bear every four years. I think if I get one this year, and next year the bear comes around, I'll have nothing to do, no way to dispose of that bear or scare it away. And usually when they're scared away, they come back the next day, the next evening.

35

36 And the bears, they don't wander during the day, they wander in the night time, and you never know when that bear might be around the other side of the cache or smoke house, and sometimes they charge you, because they're very near-sighted, and anything that moves, I'm sure that they'll attack.

41

42 So I don't have no pity for the bears or no feelings whatsoever. I think -- I used to eat a little bit of bear when I was -- some of the people get bear in Stebbins, but nowadays I don't have no stomach for it, because after I skinned one, and I looked at it, it looked like a human, and I don't want anything to do with it.

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49 So that's -- I have the same -- I guess Stebbins has

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the same problem as any other village that has a predation problem, especially the bear. Other than that, I don't have -- we don't have polar bear or black bears, so I have nothing to 4- I have nothing against polar bears and black bear.

5

6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katcheak, did you get any requests or have you -- were you asked for any proposal -- 7regulation changes?

9

10 MR. KATCHEAK: If there's a proposed change on bear 11take, I would recommend one bear every year. If there's -- if 12the State Fish and Game continues on the way they propose in 13the proposed regulation that one out of every four years, I'm 14just guessing in the next three years if we go ahead with this 15proposal, their regulation, in the next two or three years, the 16bear will double or triple, and we'll still probably have the 17same problem we have today or even more. But I -- there should 18be some type of change. I would support one bear every year 19instead of one bear every four years. But I haven't met with 20no -- the Tribal Council in Stebbins. I've only spoke with 21some people on the street, and asked them what they think of 22those things. There's a lot of -- some of the people that I 23met and talked with, they'd rather see there's -- we don't have 24any bears. But that's some of their opinions that I got from 25some of the people. Comments.

26

27 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Katcheak. 28. Otton?

29

30 MR. OTTON: Yeah. Here goes another bear story.

31

32 In Koyuk we've been having problems with our customary 33and traditional ways of -- or times of hunting. Like last 34summer, there were a bunch of the boys got a moose two weeks 35before open season, and, you know, about the end of July, the 36middle of July. It -- the whole town was about ready to eat 37fresh meat, so a bunch of the boys went out and got a moose and 38brought it back and fed the town. And then some good Samaritan 39sold the Fish and Game. They came in and then they booked four 40of our fellow people, and a couple of them were my brothers. 41They -- 'cause they helped transport, you know, they helped cut 42it, and move it to town, and they all got booked, because they 43shot a moose that fed the town, and because, you know, it's 44always been a customary and traditional practice when you eat 45when you need something, you go and get, if the supply -- 46you know, if the supply is there, and your demand is there, so 47we just go out and shoot moose or, you know, any time of year, 48because, you know, whenever -- wherever it's needed is our 49custom. But then we're dealing with bag limits and a certain

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time when we're supposed to be getting them, you know, and that's against our customary and traditional practice of, you know, feeding our belly whenever we can. Anyway, that's what happened with the moose.

5

6 And last spring my brother shot a brown bear, and then maybe because, I don't know, somebody didn't like him or for whatever reason, another good Samaritan called the Fish and Game, and a Fish and Wildlife Protection officer, she came into Koyuk, and she was going to book him, and take the skull, and she was going to take the skin, but the skin had a bare spot, not a pun, it's actually a bare spot. No fur. And so she says, "I don't want that bear. You can have it." Supposedly she's supposed to take the hide back as, you know, -- and then because he killed it -- he didn't have the license. He killed it at a proper time, but he didn't pay a \$25.00 fee to catch a bear once every regulatory four years. They made a compromise. He got fined only \$200.00.

19

20 So, you know, -- and then, you know, we -- our village people in Koyuk are discontent with our -- you know, it used to be customary and traditional, if you break a law like shoot a moose in a closed season, well, it's customary and traditional not to give a call to Fish and Game, because, you know, it's -- but these rules and regulations, what we're dealing with and what we have been dealing with in the past are fragmenting the people, because it pits one person against the other, and it, you know, it's becoming so that if you want to feed somebody, you better make sure, you know, you don't have nothing going against that other guy, because the guy might turn you in, you know. So it fragments our cohesiveness of the village, because of all these rules and regulations on harvest time, you know.

33

34 Hopefully there might be something coming out, or our village might just go ahead and manage fish and game with co-management. We've talked about this with Matthew Iya when he was still with us, and it's been -- co-management has been around and there -- I guess one of the reasons why I'm a real advocate for co-management is because we looked at cooperative management versus co-management, and Matthew Iya, I've always had the greatest respect with the way he thinks and the way he runs his mind. And it's come to -- we were on the same subsistence committee at the time, and it was unanimous that co-management is the way to go, so, you know, our region is not new to the thought of our village entities starting a co-management system through our tribal governments.

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48 And it probably won't take place, you know, because of, you know, our people are just getting fed up with being fined

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and, you know, it's not in our custom and traditional -- it's not being customary and traditional to have our people go to jail, to be fined, because you broke the law. If you broke the law, then the way it used to be is that you had a court of elders, and we've applied that same principle to what we call our -- we've got a marine mammal commission, and going through that, our elders spoke out very heavily. They said like we've start -- we started out with fines of \$5,000.00 and, you know, confiscating boats and motors, as what, you know, the State has a tendency to do, you know. If they get caught breaking the law, they'll take your gun, they'll take your snow machine, your boat and motor if they see fit, you know. Well, it's not our customary and traditional practice to send our hunters to jail because they broke the law, you know. And that's the way the present system is. What you're doing is, if somebody breaks the law, then you're taking away a subsistence provider for the family, and, you know, that's not a good thing, the way our elders talked about that.

19

20 So, you know, we're in the process of managing our marine mammals, and the way I've been getting the feel from our people is that maybe the next step is the land animals, so it's like what we've -- I've testified to the Federal Subsistence Board, you know, me and Matthew were there, I don't know if Ken (ph) was there. Just like what I said, you know, we can deal with the Feds, and this Native American fish and wildlife policy's got some pretty good words in there where we can use to give a good fight as documents to say, yeah, we can do it. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife, you better do it, because Molly Beattie say so, Clinton say so, you know, so that's something what I think our people will be looking at in the future.

32

33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Otton. Does anyone at the Council have any questions for Mr. Otton? George?

35

36 MR. LOCKWOOD: Yeah, it's been a problem between subsistence users and the wildlife services. I think it would be a real good idea to have our -- some of our own people, subsistence users, trained to go along with this Wildlife Service personnel, be with them, whenever something like that happen like this man here, Roy, talked a while ago. They would have -- and they would know they have a man, a subsistence user, Wildlife Service, with them. This needs to be understood, the way we live. We're subsistence council, Regional Federal. What we say are true. And what we ask for -- it's from our heart, not from our just mouth. I think this have to be done, too. If we have, because of this finding and whatever and not understanding our way of culture and additional customs, get into more trouble. It would be better

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to have Wildlife Service trained as a wildlife service, our young men here. They would come to understand better what to do with a subsistence user killing some animal for his -- killing it for their own use, customary. And -- that's just about all on this point.

6

7 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Lockwood.
Mr. Seetot?

9

10 MR. SEETOT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My concerns I have are -- I have are very much -- my concerns kind of mirror what you have heard from the Council concerning bears and black bears. However, there was another concern this past spring. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sent a letter to all licensed hunters, or to hunters within the State of Alaska, concerning the enforcement of regulations concerning four species of migratory birds, mainly the emperor geese, the brandts, the dusky Canadians, and then I think that -- I see them fulfilling their obligations in enforcing something that is agreed to between the State and the residents. However, sometime they -- that they do over-react in trying to enforce what they have to do.

23

24 One case in point, near the spring camp which is in Bevig, where the Fish and Game personnel had -- not Fish and Game, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel have not really harassed, but, you know, check constantly to see if the Native people are complying with the law. These migratory birds and wildlife do not wait for a certain date to be present -- you know, they just migrate, and the Natives have acquired a certain taste, you know, for a certain species of wildlife or for certain species of game.

33

34 It has been done some over this -- over the years, where we as people have not, you know, really depleted our resources. There have been cases where the Natives have been blamed for depleting their resources. Had they looked at other problems, such as pollution, such as other circumstances. I have not seen any walrus, you know, over the -- over last spring, due to circumstances concerning ice and weather. I think ice or the weather is a big regulator in what we get over the season.

43

44 But what I'm trying to get is that the Fish and Game personnel sometime do over-react. They land at this camp site and they stuck their nose into everything, you know. They check under, you know, personal property and stuff like that. I think that whatever should -- if they don't have a warrant, then that they, you know, just ask questions to the people.

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However, you know, children do not hide any secrets. I guess in some way that could -- that Game personnel got close to what was being caught in the camp was asking the children. Children do not hide no secrets, like I said, and I guess, you know, they'll show them anything and everything possible, you know, of what they ask. And then our people did not get into trouble over those matters.

8

9 But I think that the letter was written very well. It was written well in advance, stating that they would look into it or that they would try to enforce these regulations under law, but that they should also provide a radio message or something to the residents of our region. It is not that our people are hiding (ph) it, but that sometimes they do not understand what is being said in the letter. If Fish and Game writes these letters, you know, that they use complex language, that they use hard words, which very few people understand. If they can just put it into simple language, then I think it could be well received by the people. We know that these restrictions are placed on the population for the continuation of our wildlife resources, and I think our -- the best regulators are the Native people themselves, the people within the region. Non-Native people have acquired a taste for certain Native food, not only because of their taste, but because that they fulfill, or that we do not, you know, get hungry, or that they give us enough nutrition and energy to last us through these days.

28

29 So what I'm saying is that Fish and Game or Fish and Wildlife is doing a service to the people, but that, you know, that simple notification should be done prior to, you know, every spring hunt of so. That way people will be more informed of what restrictions are being placed on people. I know that the fish -- or the wildlife resources, whether they're legal or illegal under State and Federal law are still being caught. And, no, I'm not going to tell, you know, on anyone, because I might or I might not, you know, still, you know, get these resources that are being restricted.

39

40 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Seetot. Any questions for Mr. Seetot? Hearing none, we'll take a 15-minute break. The coffee's done.

43

44 (Off record)

45

46 (On record)

47

48 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Let's get back to order. We're still on 9.A, Council information exchange.

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1
2 I appreciate the concerns of all the Council members
and those that they have brought forward, and I hope we'll see
4 some of their concerns reflected in some change proposals later
5 in the day.

6
7 Moving on now to 9.A.1, it was brought to my attention
8 that there is to be, or has been a position filled, and I'd
9 like some information on it, regarding a position called a
Native liaison, and I'd like a complete description of the
11 position and the procedure on how it was filled. Ms. Detwiler.

12
13 MS. ARMSTRONG: Sheldon?

14
15 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Barb?

16
17 MS. ARMSTRONG: For the record?

18
19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Oh, excuse me, yeah. I'm sorry.
20 For the record, before you get started, Ms. Detwiler, I'd like
21 to introduce Mr. Steve Machida. He's with the Alaska
22 Department of Fish and Game. Mr. Machida.

23
24 MR. MACHIDA: Thank you.

25
26 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Are you with the Nome office now?

27
28 MR. MACHIDA: Yes.

29
30 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you. Ms. Detwiler?

31
32 MS. DETWILER: Mr. Chair, earlier this year President
Clinton issued a directive for the Federal Government to place
more emphasis on the government-to-government relationship
between Native Americans and the Federal Government. In
36 response to that directive, Molly Beattie, the director of the
37 Fish and Wildlife Service issued her directive to the seven
38 regional offices nationwide of the Fish and Wildlife Service to
39 establish -- or to assign someone at a fairly high level within
40 each of those regions to have responsibility for Native
41 Affairs. Within our region in Alaska, Dick Pospahala was
42 assigned that responsibility because of the fact that he
43 oversees the subsistence management program within Fish and
44 Wildlife Service, and because he has a staff that deals with
45 those issues, that deals more closely with Native issues, a
46 broader range of Native issues than any of the other programs
47 within Fish and Wildlife Service.

48
49 It's a new position. I don't know what all the
50

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responsibilities are going to detail. Dick Pospahala has said that as soon as he finds out a little bit more about what the direction is that this -- these responsibilities are to take, then he will be conveying that information to the Councils.

5

6 And that's all I have.

7

8 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Do you have a copy of the directive either from -- or from Molly Beattie regarding the Native liaison position?

11

12 MS. DETWILER: No, I don't have a copy. I can check back with our regional office and see if they have any paperwork.

15

16 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I would appreciate it. Does anyone here have any questions for Ms. Detwiler regarding this position?

19

20 MR. OTTON: Yeah.

21

22 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Otton?

23

24 MR. OTTON: What's the process that goes to picking out these Native liaisons and also what are the term limits?

26

27 MS. DETWILER: I don't know what the thinking process was when they decided who was going to be selected for the position, and as I mentioned earlier, the only -- what I do know is that Dick was selected simply because of his responsibilities for subsistence and his staff. And it -- yeah, that's all I know for sure.

33

34 MR. OTTON: Is it up to the Federal Subsistence Board to do the picking or how is it done?

36

37 MS. DETWILER: It's a directive from Molly Beattie, so it only applies to Fish and Wildlife Service, so those responsibilities are a little bit separate from the Federal Subsistence Board's responsibilities.

41

42 MR. OTTON: I guess you'll be getting something probably by fax to -- of what it all is and means.

44

45 What I was wondering is would the Native people have a say? It would behoove me to think that the Native people would consider a Native person to be the Native liaison, instead of somebody else.

49

50

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1 MS. DETWILER: In our region, the way it worked out is
2 that at the high level that this -- these responsibilities were
3 to be assigned to, there aren't any Native people at that
4 level.

5

6 MR. OTTON: It seems like that's a problem that could
7 be fixed one way or the other, to have high level Natives in
8 the Federal Subsistence Board staff. What's it take to get a
9 Native on board?

10

11 MS. DETWILER: The directive came from Molly Beattie.
12 I would suggest to be most effective that you write directly to
13 Molly Beattie to let her know what your concerns are.

14

15 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I understand -- that you just made
16 mention of the fact that there are seven Native liaisons
17 nationwide, is that correct?

18

19 MS. DETWILER: Yes, one in each region.

20

21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: One in each region of the Fish and
22 Wildlife Service? In the other six, do they or do they not
23 have a Native as a Native liaison?

24

25 MS. DETWILER: I don't know.

26

27 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Can that information also come out
28 with whatever information that you have on the position?

29

30 MS. DETWILER: Yes.

31

32 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you. Any other questions
33 for Ms. Detwiler regarding the Native liaison position?

34

35 Can we make sure that -- yes?

36

37 MS. MORKILL: Mr. Chairman, I have some information.

38

39 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: State your name for the record.

40

41 MS. MORKILL: Anne Morkill with the Bureau of Land
42 Management. Similar to the Fish and Wildlife Service, the
43 Bureau of Land Management is addressing the new President's
44 order to increase tribal government relationships with the
45 Federal Government, and we'll also be hiring Native liaisons
46 throughout the country where BLM has responsibilities. That --
47 there will be a coordinator position in Santa Fe, New Mexico,
48 and I'm not sure what the total number of liaison positions
49 will be, but there will be one in Anchorage for Alaskan issues.

50

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1 And that will cover a number of sectors, not only subsistence,
 2 But land conveyances and other issues concerning Native
 3 Programs within the Bureau of Land Management. That position
 4 Has not yet been filled. And as I understand, it is going to
 5 Be a new position, and they will go through hiring procedures.
 6 And as far as what I've heard through staff communications,
 7 That there is an interest in trying to get a Native in that
 8 position. I'm not sure to what extent they'll advertise only
 9 within Alaska or Outside, but I know that's a concern of the
 10 Director at the Bureau of Land Management.

11

12 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: And what will the relationship of
 13 the Native liaison in BLM be in relation to the area director?

14

15 MS. MORKILL: The Native liaison that will be stationed
 16 in Anchorage will actually answer to the coordinator in New
 17 Mexico.

18

19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Answers to the coordinator in
 20 Mexico?

21

22 MS. MORKILL: In New Mexico.

23

24 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: In New Mexico.

25

26 MS. MORKILL: Yes. He will then be directed by the
 27 Director of BLM in Washington, D.C.

28

29 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Interesting. Any questions for
 30 Ms. Morkill regarding BLM's Native liaison? Do you have any
 31 idea of when that position will be filled?

32

33 MS. MORKILL: I don't know exactly. I would think
 34 within the next year.

35

36 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I would appreciate information on
 37 that also being sent to all the Council members.

38

39 MS. MORKILL: Okay.

40

41 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Ms. Morkill. Any other
 42 information on Native liaisons? Or any questions from any
 43 other Council or any other general public? Mr. Katchatag?

44

45 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: I just have a question on this,
 46 Mr. Chairman. I suppose the funding for the work of this
 47 person has already been budgeted, or is that to be budgeted
 48 later?

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Ms. Detwiler or Ms. Morkill?

2

3 MS. DETWILER: Within the Fish and Wildlife Service,
the duties are assigned to a person whose salary is already
budgeted.

6

7 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Are there any funds budgeted for
expenses related to the execution of that position?

9

10 MS. DETWILER: I don't know.

11

12 MS. MORKILL: In regards to the BLM, I don't know the
 specifics either, but I know that it -- a new position has been
 identified, and I assume that the funding will be provided for
 that when that position is filled.

16

17 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Pardon my hearing, ma'am, but
 could you speak up?

19

20 MS. MORKILL: Yes. I said in regards to BLM, I know
 that the position has been identified, and I assume that
 complete funding comes with that position, so as soon as it's
 filled, that person will have the ability to travel around the
 state and

25

26 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you.

27

28 MS. MORKILL: Uh-huh.

29

30 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Does that answer your question?

31

32 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Thank you. Yes.

33

34 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any other comments or questions
 regarding the Native liaison position?

36

37 Hearing none, we now move on to customary and
 additional in Seward Peninsula, originally scheduled for
 Ms. Helen Armstrong, with Rachel Mason of Fish and Wildlife
 Service. Ms. Mason?

41

42 MS. MASON: I'm Rachel Mason. As your Chairman just
 stated, I'm substituting for your anthropologist, Helen
 Armstrong, and Ms. Armstrong is passing out some handouts at
 this moment.

46

47 What I hope to do is to give you an overview and an
 update on what's going on with the C and T use eligibility
 determinations. And some of the information I have has already

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been mentioned in one way or the other in the course of these meetings, but I hope to give just a kind of general background for it.

4

5 When the Federal Subsistence Board first looked to adopt a general regulatory framework for the C and T eligibility determination, it provisionally adopted the existing C and T determinations from the State of Alaska. The Board realized that the existing determinations were incomplete, and some of them were considered inaccurate by the rural residents. So as a result, the Board decided to systematically go around the State and review and revise the C and T determinations that were already on the books, and also to do new studies of C and T eligibility in those places where no C and T eligibility determination existed, and as a result, they came up with a policies and a procedures statement that was published in the Federal Register in July. And I passed out a piece of that to you just to give you an idea of what the priorities are that have already been identified.

20

21 In the places where no State C and T eligibility had ever been determined, the Board adopted the interpretation that any Alaskan rural resident would be eligible to harvest the species in the unit under Federal regulations. And that is indicated by "no determination" in the subsistence harvest regulations. And as your Chairman, Mr. Katchatag, has pointed out, a lot of the species in the Seward Peninsula have no determination, and that means that the State of Alaska and no one else has ever done the research necessary for that kind of determination.

31

32 Currently, the Federal Board is planning to go around the State and establish C and T eligibility determination for communities or areas, for specific species, mainly large land mammals, and based on the application of eight factors. And I also passed out a list of those eight factors. And as Mr. Knauer pointed out yesterday, those are similar to the ones used by the State, but they're not exactly identical to them.

39

40 I should also point out that the Federal C and T determinations will apply only to resource uses occurring on Federal public lands.

43

44 So in that July 1994 Federal Register Notice, there are identified 26 geographical areas in which harvest practices are related. They divided up the State into these 26 areas. And the Register Notice also indicates that the uses of large mammals by residents in each unit will be reviewed together.

49

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1 I should note that although fish, migratory birds, and
2 marine mammals are not the focus of these studies, they will
3 have to be indirectly included, because one of the eight
4 factors is that residents harvest a wide variety of resources
5 and as you know, there's a seasonal pattern that includes all
6 resources, not just land mammals. So they'll have to be
7 indirectly included.

8

9 Instead of trying to review the whole State at once,
10 they're trying to go in a sequence, looking at related patterns
11 in a group of neighboring communities, and that's why the 26
12 areas. They thought it was most efficient to review all the
13 animals at once as they go into one area. But if this region
14 or any other region had some immediate concern about one
15 species, for example, the musk oxen, you can encourage the
16 Board via a letter to deal with that species earlier, instead
17 of just one -- instead of looking at them all at once.

18

19 The Notice also gives the steps involved in the review
20 of C and T use eligibility determinations, and several of the
21 steps involve the Regional Councils. The first step is
22 scoping, and that includes in consultation with everyone in
23 that area, including the Regional Councils, agencies there,
24 people in the communities.

25

26 The second step is information collection, and that has
27 so far it's usually been from existing sources, but new data
28 may also be collected at this point.

29

30 The third step is analysis in which the harvest
31 patterns are assessed and social, cultural and economic
32 information is assessed in relation to the eight factors.

33

34 The next step is Regional Council Review. And at this
35 point, the Council reviews the initial staff recommendations
36 and offers their comments.

37

38 Next, there's a proposed rule, proposed -- published in
39 the Federal Register. Public review, which includes the formal
40 commendation of the Regional Council, and it ends up with the
41 Board decision in which the Board establishes the final view.

42

43 In the July notice, there was priority given on seven
44 areas in which reviews are already underway or scheduled soon.
45 And you can see on that handout that those already have a date
46 for them. But the completion dates and the priorities among the
47 remaining 19 analysis areas remain to be determined. And on
48 that list, the Seward Peninsula and Norton Sound are the two
49 areas that are under the jurisdiction of this Council, and as

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You can see, no dates have been established yet for them. And so that's an area where the Council could provide input now to the Board as to when you think you'd want your review to take place. They still have not established any priorities among the 19 areas that are remaining to be determined.

6

7 The work of doing the research for the C and T reviews was divided up among the Federal public land managers: Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, National Park Service and BLM. The Federal land managers which dominate in each area are the ones in charge of doing the C and T determinations. And since the BLM is the lead agency here, they are the ones that are in charge of doing the C and T determination for the Seward Peninsula.

15

16 The methods that are used by the agencies in compiling information for the C and T reviews are generally similar, but they haven't been identical. But so far, all of them have been relying heavily on existing data that's been collected, and they have emphasized data collected by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Subsistence Division. So it would be things like according to the ADF&G studies, so much brown bear was harvested in this community this year, so much was harvested the next year and so forth.

25

26 One thing that you could also provide input to the Board about is how the eight factors should be interpreted, because as you realize, those eight factors are open to wide differences in interpretation. For example, factor number one says that there has to be long-term consistent use of resources, but it doesn't say how long is long-term. Is it five years? Thirty years? A hundred years? A generation? Or so forth.

34

35 In August 1993, the Federal Subsistence Board agreed to proceed with review of the individual analysis areas, with the intention of establishing and refining its interpretation of the criteria on a case-by-case basis. So as each C and T review takes place, they are going to be deciding how to interpret those factors in that case.

41

42 There are two studies that are now in the final phases, and one of them is the Kenai Peninsula C and T determination, and the other one is the Upper Tanana one. And I just had copies passed out of the Upper Tanana conclusions. They were done in slightly different ways, because they were done by different agencies. The Fish and Wildlife Service did the Kenai Peninsula one, and National Park Service did the Upper Tanana one.

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1
2 In the Kenai Peninsula conclusions, there were three
3 different options presented to the Board, whereas the Upper
4 Tanana C and T recommendations, there's only one in it.

5
6 Maybe I should pause here and see if you do want to
7 hear more about the Kenai Peninsula one, or would you rather
8 that I just open it up to questions?

9
10 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Let's see if we have any questions
11 at this time. Are there any questions? Mr. Otton?

12
13 MR. OTTON: Have you got a copy of the State's eight
14 factors that go to C and T process?

15
16 MS. MASON: I don't have a copy of the State's one,
17 however, Mr. Knauer, maybe you know what the State's is?

18
19 MR. KNAUER: I don't have the State's.

20
21 MS. MASON: Yeah. Okay.

22
23 MR. OTTON: What about you, Steve?

24
25 MR. MACHIDA: I don't have it with me. I can get it.

26
27 MR. OTTON: Can you get one faster?

28
29 MR. MACHIDA: I'll have to call and see.

30
31 MR. OTTON: Is there a capability for this room to get
32 a fax?

33
34 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: You can get faxes up here at the
35 corporation or at NSEDC. It's right up here in this building
36 right next door.

37
38 MR. MACHIDA: Is there a telephone?

39
40 UNIDENTIFIED: Upstairs.

41
42 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yeah.

43
44 MS. MUKTOYUK: Mr. Chairman?

45
46 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Ms. Muktoyuk?

47
48 MS. MUKTOYUK: Rachel, did you say that BLM will be
49 doing C and T for this region?

50

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1
2 MS. MASON: They will be the lead agency for it, and
perhaps
4
5 MS. MUKTOYUK: And that would be
6
7 MS. MASON: Ms. Morkill can address that.
8
9 MS. MUKTOYUK: Anne?
10
11 MS. MASON: Yes.
12
13 MS. MORKILL: Actually this region has been split into
Seward Peninsula and Norton Sound, and I know BLM has been
assigned Norton Sound, which is probably this eastern part of
this region. I imagine Park Service is probably doing the rest
of the Seward Peninsula.
18
19 BLM right now is trying to determine how we're going to
go through that process. We don't have any anthropologists on
staff, and we have a very small staff compared to the other
Federal agencies in regards to subsistence biologists. So it
may be that we'll contract that work out, we may have
operative agreements with the other agencies.
25
26 But as Rachel mentioned, we don't have a schedule yet
for the Norton Sound. We don't have that. It's one of those
that is yet to be determined in terms of when that is to be
completed, but as she also mentioned, the fact -- if you go
forth to the Board to up that on the priority scale, then we'll
have to address that, so
32
33 MS. MUKTOYUK: And where will the public hearings be
held for this region?
35
36 MS. MORKILL: That's yet to be determined, but we
certainly would take any input from the Council as to what
might be appropriate. Any of the local villages I would assume
would be quite appropriate to give input. I would hope we're
not going to limit ourselves just to a regional center like
Nome, that we would go out to the other communities.
42
43 MS. MUKTOYUK: I would like to suggest that you work
closely with Kawerak and Bering Straits Regional Corporation,
because they do have access to the villages' fax machines.
46
47 MS. MORKILL: Okay. Thank you.
48
49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: One other suggestion, Ms. Morkill,
50

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is the fact that the communities most affected by the BLM, which is the golden rod color, as you can see by that map, Koyuk is almost surrounded by that, Shaktoolik has got 4n-holdings right close to their village, Unalakleet and also Stebbins and St. Michael.

6

7 MR. OTTON: And Brevig maybe a little bit.

8

9 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: And there's a lot
10 comparatively

11

12 MR. OTTON: Shishmaref.

13

14 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: around Brevig Mission and
15 Teller.

16

17 MR. OTTON: And Shishmaref.

18

19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Well, Shishmaref is surrounded by
20 the Park Service.

21

22 MR. OTTON: Yeah.

23

24 MS. MORKILL: Yes, I think how they define Seward
25 Peninsula and Norton Sound for the C and T determinations was
26 (A) and (B), so it would go all the way from St. Michael
27 around to Council really for the Norton Sound region, and it
28 seems to me plausible that we should coordinate very closely
29 with Park Service in our efforts, because it's, you know, very
30 similar regions, so include all the communities.

31

32 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any other comments or questions
33 for Ms. Morkill? Hearing none, -- Elmer?

34

35 MR. SEETOT: You talk about customary and traditional
36 determination. Who -- the Natives know that they have used
37 these species for a long period of time. Has the Federal
38 Government, State Government looked at the possibility of
39 getting local control of, you know, fish and game, you know,
40 within these communities? They know the seasonal limits of
41 what they can do with -- they could -- migratory birds, they
42 could increase (ph) certain periods of the year, you know,
43 pursue these animals or birds, you know, certain periods of
44 time, because of their nesting habits or their molting season
45 their rutting season. Is there any possibility, you know,
46 that the local -- I mean, the Federal and State Government, you
47 know, can give local control -- the communities local control,
48 you know, over these species within the guidelines of State and
49 Federal Regulations?

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1
2 MS. MASON: I think there is a possibility of it. I
3 can't speak to, you know, what the plans are. I can only
4 address the question of doing the studies for the eligibility
5 of it. And that seems like a very appropriate place for there
6 to be local control of how that is conducted.

7
8 MR. SEETOT: One example would be the migratory birds,
9 you know, that they -- under the Migratory Bird Treaty, you
10 know, that they're open from September -- a certain period.
11 They're up here during the annual migration, and they are
12 closed, according to the regulations, that we're allowed to
13 take subsistence use of these migratory birds. Most of the
14 rules and regulations do affect the communities in this area,
15 and then I think it deals mostly with the Lower 48 communities,
16 and we do have an exception here to take some wildlife for
17 subsistence use of these birds, you know, during the closed
18 season.

19
20 MS. MASON: Yeah, in terms of birds, maybe Mimi Hogan
21 would be the appropriate person to address that.

22
23 MR. SEETOT: That was just one of the examples, you
24 know, that

25
26 MS. MASON: Yeah.

27
28 MR. SEETOT: it is -- it's not customary for us,
29 you know, to take birds during their nesting time, you
30 know,

31
32 MS. MASON: Yeah.

33
34 MR. SEETOT: because they taste different and
35 stuff like this, so we know when to take, you know, certain
36 species.

37
38 MS. MASON: Yeah. Mr. Kovach just reminded me to point
39 out that in the scoping process for doing these C and T
40 determinations, there is -- there has been a lot of input from
41 the public in that area, from local people on how they conduct
42 their hunting and fishing, and -- for example, the North Slope
43 scoping process is just about completed, and Helen Armstrong
44 went and visited all the villages in that area, to try and get
45 input from the people living there on what their practices are.

46
47 MR. KATCHEAK: Mr. Chairman?

48
49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katcheak?

50

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1
2 MR. KATCHEAK: I have a question for you, Rachel. when
3 you're making a scoping and so you could write down the
4 language, the customary and traditional use, do you go to each
5 individual person in the village or you -- do they designate a
6 person for you to see and interview? What is the process you
7 go through?

8
9 MS. MASON: I have never done it myself.

10
11 MR. KATCHEAK: Or what is the person that do that was
12 supposed to be doing that?

13
14 MS. MASON: Right. I don't think there are any rules
15 of who they have to talk to, but I imagine that it is to talk
16 a wide range of knowledgeable people in that community, and
17 talk to as many kinds of users as possible. That's

18
19 MR. KATCHEAK: I've been trying to find a -- well, I've
20 been trying to find a different ideas and ways to start putting
21 all language on that customary and traditional use on this musk
22 ox, and the more I listen to people, the more I ask. There
23 seem to be a lot of use for them in and around the villages, so
24 the argument that I've heard when we started with that there is
25 such a thing as customary and traditional use on musk ox,
26 but now after the last two years, I sit and listen to various
27 comments, and find out there's a lot of things going on that
28 nobody was aware of.

29
30 MS. MASON: Right.

31
32 MR. KATCHEAK: And based on those thoughts, I thought,
33 well, if we're going to start something, if we're going to make
34 this a customary and traditional use subject, mainly the musk
35 ox, there are a lot of people in Unalakleet -- or there are
36 some people in Unalakleet that utilize the hair of the musk
37 ox,

38
39 MS. MASON: Uh-huh.

40
41 MR. KATCHEAK:

42 and maybe make scarf, for example,
43 gloves probably, and mitten, and there's a presence of the
44 animal here in Unalakleet, I've heard, but they're wild out
45 there, they're in the wilderness, and so they are present,
46 they're around. And I think if we're going to do customary and
47 traditional use language and it becomes our -- it goes -- it
48 becomes our proposal, those people in Unalakleet should be
49 interviewed and that would make a determination a little
50 stronger for the use of it. So I think as long as we start to

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broaden our minds, it would -- and look for resources in which our people here in Unalakleet, that will make a determination stronger in our quest for making something out of this meeting more fruitful.

5

6 That's all I've got.

7

8 MS. MASON: Okay. Part of the C and T determination process is to review the existing information and since there has not been any studies or been very few studies by ADF&G on the species in this area, that will make it all the more important for there to be input from current users, and from as many people as possible that are knowledgeable about those species in order to get this C and T determination underway.

15

16 MR. KATCHEAK: Just another question, or the last one. Since the State has already proposed, they made their proposal packet, a draft proposal, are they trying to tell us that there's no determination on musk ox and other animals? Are they trying to say that whatever they decide, that's going to become law? So for -- so if we make one proposal -- if we make a proposal, it wouldn't count as one, because there are time limits, time constraints? What is the reason why the State came out with theirs so early in time, when we couldn't -- it seems like they're undermining our purpose, if we're going to make a -- submit a proposal. Are they trying to kill that, the proposal we're going to submit, or just their way of doing things?

29

30 MS. MASON: I can't speak for the State.

31

32 MR. OTTON: He could.

33

34 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Did you have a question for Mr. Machida, Mr. Katcheak? Mr. Machida?

36

37 MR. MACHIDA: Do you want me to sit up there?

38

39 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yeah, please. For the record. And, Mr. Katcheak, could you speak up, please?

41

42 MR. KATCHEAK: Yes. I asked the question, the State has made their -- submitted their draft proposal for review by probably the State -- or the Subsistence Council all over Alaska. What is the purpose that they came out with the proposal so early that we don't have our own proposal we'd like to submit that could complement what was already proposed or is the regulation?

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1 MR. MACHIDA: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, the -- when the
 2 State and the other cooperators, you know, which included the
 3 Federal agencies and the Bering Straits Corporation, you know,
 4 started on this management plan, you know, we were working
 5 under time constraints, you know, imposed by the State Game
 6 Board. This proposal is to the State Game Board for a State
 7 hunt, and they'll only consider musk oxen every three years.
 8 So musk oxen are going to be considered by the State Game Board
 9 this coming January of 1995, and then they're not going to
 10 consider it again until 1998.

11

12 And one of the things that I know is that people,
 13 especially in western Seward Peninsula have been asking for a
 14 musk ox hunt for a long time, and it didn't seem prudent to
 15 make them wait three more years. I mean, that's the reason why
 16 the proposal came in, you know, at this time. And it's a
 17 proposal to the State Game Board, you know, not to the Federal
 18 Subsistence Board, or to the Federal Regional Council, but it's
 19 a proposal to the State Game Board to establish a State hunt in
 20 the western Seward Peninsula.

21

22 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Since you brought that up,
 23 Mr. Machida?

24

25 MR. MACHIDA: Right. Uh-huh.

26

27 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: What is the nature of the State's
 28 proposed hunt? Is it a trophy hunt? Is it a lottery hunt? Is
 29 a permit only drawing hunt?

30

31 MR. MACHIDA: Well, Mr. Chairman, what the Department
 32 proposed was we proposed to the Board four options. You know,
 33 one option was -- would be a subsistence hunt, what's called a
 34 Tier II subsistence hunt, where there would be a number of
 35 subsistence permits given out, and the people that lived in the
 36 western Seward Peninsula communities would have the highest
 37 priority.

38

39 The second option was to have what's called a
 40 registration permit hunt. That's where permits are given to
 41 the first come, first served. And the second proposal would be
 42 that they would be from -- or the second option would be that
 43 they can come anywhere from the State, but non-residents,
 44 people who didn't live in Alaska would not be included.

45

46 The third option was for the same type of registration
 47 hunt, permit hunt, except the applicants can be from anywhere,
 48 you know, including people from outside the State.

49

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1 And then the fourth option was to make it a lottery
2 hunt, you know, where people would send their applications in
3 ahead of time, and the drawing would be by lottery.

4

5 And what we did, you know, with this proposal would --
6 was to outline, you know, all the hunts that would be -- that
7 would be authorized under State law. The only hunt that needs
8 the -- a C and T determination is the first one, you know, is
9 the subsistence hunt, and the State Game Board, because this
10 hunt is proposed among others, you know, would have to make a C
11 and T determination first before they acted on any of these
12 proposals.

13

14 MR. KATCHEAK: Are there any agreements to your -- the
15 State's proposal?

16

17 MR. MACHIDA: Well, it's -- the number we threw out was
18 bulls.

19

20 MR. KATCHEAK: For the first year?

21

22 MR. MACHIDA: Yeah. And then, you know, the plan is to
23 re-evaluate it and we'll up that number as the population
24 increases. And we'll also extend it further west, you know, as
25 the population grows this way.

26

27 MR. KATCHEAK: So it seems to me we're going to be --
28 we're scrambling to make a language on a customary and
29 additional use on that -- if we're going to submit a
30 proposal, it would seem like it's a very short time, but within
31 that time, I think we'll be able to come with something, or
32 some type of a proposal. And then -- and I understand that
33 this proposal is a draft one? What

34

35 MR. MACHIDA: No, it's a proposal that's

36

37 MR. KATCHEAK: A final proposal?

38

39 MR. MACHIDA: that's already been submitted to
40 the State Game Board, and they're going to consider it in
41 January.

42

43 MR. KATCHEAK: So if we submit a proposal of our own,
44 the Federal Subsistence Advisory Council, there's no way that
45 that could

46

47 MR. MACHIDA: Well, see,

48

49 MR. KATCHEAK: become part of it.

50

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1
2 MR. MACHIDA: your proposal would -- your
proposal would be to the Federal Subsistence Board,

4
5 MR. KATCHEAK: Uh-huh.

6
7 MR. MACHIDA: so I mean your -- you know, there's
in place two regulatory bodies that regulate wildlife, and it
makes it complicated, but, you know, that's the system that's
in place right now. Your proposal would be to the Federal
Subsistence Board I assume.

12
13 MR. BARR: Mr. Chairman?

14
15 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Barr?

16
17 MR. BARR: Bob Nelson, you know, who is in charge of
the musk ox thing, he travelled several times to our village of
Shishmaref, and asked what we wanted, and, you know, how we're
going to make this, and so we submitted or made recommendations
to him, you know, as to how we wanted it. But there wasn't too
many people there that showed up for that meeting, you know.
There was always never too many people, so there would be a few
of us around, you know, that would show up and I guess that
thing finally came out, and that's what the -- that's what we
wanted, and that's what we got I guess.

27
28 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Otton?

29
30 MR. OTTON: Yeah, we had a meeting, when was it, last
week?

32
33 MR. MACHIDA: Yeah.

34
35 MR. OTTON: For the Norton Sound meeting deal, and
Steve was there, and we talked or -- I belong to Northern
Norton Sound Advisory Committee as does Bill, and like you
said, there's these four options with the State Fish and Game
drafted, which we can legally do. And it was a consensus out
of our committee, Northern Norton Sound Committee, that we opt
for option one. But that depended on C and T. If it looks
like they're going to -- it sounds like the Board of Game will
be making a C and T in January when the option comes up, and it
just like that it will happen, right?

45
46 MR. MACHIDA: Yeah, that's right.

47
48 MR. OTTON: And, you know, I guess somebody will hear
about talking about the process of getting these C and T's for the

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Feds, and then, you know, they go through a big long line of scoping and consultation, info gathering, all the way down to the Board decision. The State certainly must have a process of how they go about getting info on C and T, is that right?

5

6 MR. MACHIDA: Yeah, they rely heavily on their Subsistence Division staff who are the ones that would do the community interviews and research and all of that for that information.

10

11 MR. OTTON: And is -- it is my understanding that talking with you people over in Nome is that getting a C and T for musk oxen might be kind of looked at kind of iffy?

14

15 MR. MACHIDA: Well, see, the Board does -- you know, they look at a variety of information when they make C and T determinations. They look at -- they look at the research from Subsistence Division staff, but then they also probably more important than that is they rely on public testimony, so if -- 20 I guess I can't, you know, overstate enough the importance of how important it is that people testify to the Board concerning this issue, because most of their input is going to 25 come from people that testify, especially people that live in the area, in the western Seward Peninsula. So I guess my suggestion is that the more there are to testify, the more likely the Board is to approve a C and T determination.

27

28 But it's hard to -- you know, I can't say what the Board is going to do, because,

30

31 MR. OTTON: Yeah.

32

33 MR. MACHIDA: you know, I haven't dealt with this Board, so I don't know the members and

35

36 MR. OTTON: Well, okay, we opted for option one, that is our Northern Norton Sound, and I believe our chair and probably another will go down to that to testify. And I believe it was Fish and Game Department to be neutral on that 40 and, and, you know,

41

42 MR. MACHIDA: That's right. Yeah, we're not going to 43 I mean, the -- this -- what kind of hunt it is is an allocation type issue, so, you know, we're not going to -- I mean, we'll answer questions like on population status or how many animals there are, you know, what the recruitment rate is, and how many new animals are born into the population or whatever, but, you know, we're -- you know, we don't play any 48 role as far as deciding who gets the permits. And that's

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1
2 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Where

3 MR. MACHIDA: that's why we submitted the
4 proposal with those four options, because, you know, if we had
5 specified any one option, then we're basically, you know,
6 making a -- making a recommendation of who gets permits, so
7 that's why we submitted a proposal, you know, that had the four
8 options on it.

9
10 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Where is this hearing going to be?
11

12 MR. MACHIDA: I believe it's -- I believe it's going to
13 be in Anchorage, but I guess -- I'm not sure. I think either
14 Anchorage or Soldotna.

15
16 MR. OTTON: If it's in Anchorage, it will be in the
17 International Inn.

18
19 MS. ARMSTRONG: West Coast.

20
21 MR. OTTON: West Coast.

22
23 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: And you're saying that the Board
24 relies heavily on public testimony. Why don't they hear this
25 particular matter somewhere in the Seward Peninsula?
26

27 MR. MACHIDA: Well, that's a good question, but I don't
28 I'm not the one who sets their schedule, so, you know, I
29 don't really answer why they don't come out here. I mean,
30 we've encouraged them for years to come out here, but they
31 haven't, so -- yeah, I can't answer that.

32
33 MS. MUKTOYUK: Mr. Chairman?

34
35 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Doesn't the fact that the hearing
36 being held in Anchorage, the most populous sport hunting
37 area in the State, more or less bias the entire proceeding to
38 accommodate sport hunters?
39

40 MR. MACHIDA: Well, as I mentioned, you know, whenever
41 if -- whenever they do talk about subsistence C and T
42 terminations, the people that are -- they're probably going
43 to listen -- at least the people that they should listen the
44 most to are the people that live in the area that's being
45 talked about.

46
47 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The air fares that are currently
48 being charged, our specials for AFN, during the rest of this
49 month, and I guarantee you beginning the first of November,
50

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that we're looking at air fares that are going to be somewhere
 in the neighborhood of \$600.00 round trip from Nome, and then
 you're looking at probably about \$150.00 round trip from their
 villages to Nome, so you're looking at -- for someone to go in
 and testify on this, you're looking at somewhere in the
 neighborhood of 600, \$750.00 in air fare alone.

7

8 MR. MACHIDA: Well, as I mentioned, Mr. Chairman, I
 mean, I'm sympathetic with the problem here, but -- and we have
 made recommendations that the Board at least have hearings in
 this part of the State, but they have chosen not to do so. So
 12 and I can't answer why they, you know, why they do.
 Because, I mean, I'm not the one they consult with.

14

15 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I appreciate that. I just wanted
 16 get these considerations on the record, and the fact that on
 the surface that this is a typical State ADF&G operation in
 that they make every effort to accommodate the non-subsistence
 user of the resource and make no consideration whatsoever for
 the subsistence user, so I just wanted this on the public
 record.

22

23 MS. MUKTOYUK: Mr. Chairman?

24

25 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mrs. Muktoyuk?

26

27 MS. MUKTOYUK: I would also like to state on the public
 record that the subsistence users do not have, like
 29. Katchatag said, 600 to \$700.00 to make a round trip ticket
 30 Anchorage to testify for the C and T, and we are the ones
 that will be affected by this. As subsistence users, we're
 always being cheated out of everything. There is no
 consideration for us people who use these resources. And it's
 always the sportsmen and the commercial people the State always
 35 consider first. They have the money for air fare to travel
 anywhere in the world they want. And our resources are
 limited.

38

39 That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

40

41 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Ms. Muktoyuk.

42

43 MS. MORKILL: Mr. Chairman?

44

45 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Ms. Morkill?

46

47 MS. MORKILL: If I may, I wanted to ask Steve Machida
 48 the Board of Game welcomes teleconferencing capabilities
 49 from the people outside of Anchorage to call in and provide

50

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testimony. Do you know if there are any rules for or against that?

3

4 MR. MACHIDA: They have done that in the past, but I don't really know what special provisions they would have for that for this coming meeting. You know, we have a Board representative -- I mean, a Board staff member for this area in Kotzebue, and her name is Aurora Madsen, and I can certainly pass that on to her, that they, you know, would like to -- at least some information about that capability.

11

12 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any other questions for Mr. Machida?

14

15 MR. OTTON: Just a comment. I guess during the testimony, they've got written testimony's always being welcome, but in my eye, you know, written testimony just don't have the impact of a person being right there speaking right to the Board, you know. Your mind tends to get what somebody's saying than what you're reading, you know. It has more of an impact. So there lies our problem.

22

23 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any other questions or comments for Mr. Machida? Mr. Katchatag?

25

26 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm very concerned and I'd like to comment in favor of Loretta Marktoyuk's concern. We as an organization of Kawerak Board meet four times a year, and when something like this come up, I wish they would let us know beforehand so that we can invite them and hear what the proposals are.

32

33 Why I'm concerned about this is that we have now 20 member villages in our organization or the compact of Kawerak. Each and every village is represented there by a member chosen, respected person. And that person is a president of IRA or traditional council, as I am, or the designee of the president.

39

40 The other concern I have is in regard to this customary and traditional use determination. I'd like to offer a ninth factor for this proposal for your consideration. Just by quickly looking at it, I spotted in the first where it says "long-term consistent pattern of use, excluding interruptions beyond the control of the community area." I'd like to just comment on that, because during the migration of certain species of, especially walrus while I was in the Commission, there was a big concern over the low flying aircraft disturbing the walrus while they are migrating up north. This is just a

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comment.

2

3 And I'd like to point out two things at fourth and
 4 fifth, just the wording there before I offer the ninth after
 5 for this proposal. Or determination. On the fourth you read,
 6 the consistent harvest and use of fish or wildlife as
 7 related," I'd like to repeat this, "related to the past
 8 methods."

9

10 And in -- skipping the rest, I'd like to go on to
 11 fifth, and two words in the third line there where it says
 12 "past practices," the past practice of any and all customary
 13 and traditional subsistence harvest includes caring for the
 14 elders who are not able to hunt, and even some children who
 15 unfortunately lose their parents, and therefore are more or
 16 less helpless. Traditionally each are being helped. Some
 17 people volunteer to hunt for them, not only hunt for them, but
 18 even dress, clean and prepare them for preservation for the
 19 elders or for the widows or for people -- young children who
 20 have -- who lost their parents.

21

22 The reason why I'd like to consider this, -- or I'd
 23 like to present this for your consideration is some native
 24 elders are now participants in the Pioneer and elder homes.
 25 And these people crave for their Native food. I would like to
 26 see some sort of permit system in this respect so that the
 27 volunteer hunters would be permitted to hunt for these
 28 organizations where there are occupants of Native people living
 29 there. This is for your consideration. Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: For your information,
 32 Katchatag, we could probably include that language in the
 33 Designated Hunter Task Force report, and our recommendations
 34 regarding same.

35

36 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Thank you very much.

37

38 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Katchatag.

39

40 I hope that our staff person, Rachel Mason, is more
 41 aware of the necessity and imperative for appropriate customary
 42 and traditional determinations, and the need for our C and T
 43 determinations to be put on the calendar. And also for the
 44 fact that the C and T determinations presently on the books as
 45 mentioned earlier are not appropriate and they need to be
 46 updated. So that's one of the things that I see in looking at
 47 our charter, item five among our duties states that we make
 48 recommendations on determinations of customary and traditional
 49 use of subsistence resources. I have yet to see a time table

50

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When we make those recommendations and every time I meet with the Federal Subsistence Board, they limit the proposal changes to subpart D, and they say C and T determinations are on another schedule. Could you clarify that?

5

6 MS. MASON: Mr. Chairman, I think the squeaky wheel gets the grease in this kind of a case, because if this Council wants their area to be considered more quickly than others, or sees a need for urgency, I suggest that you make that wish known to the Board via a letter stating that there are these urgent concerns in your area.

12

13 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you.

14

15 MR. OTTON: Are we going to be a squeaky wheel?

16

17 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Pardon?

18

19 MR. OTTON: Are we going to be squeaky?

20

21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We're going to be squeaky. Yes?

22

23 MR. CALLOWAY: Could I address

24

25 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Could you come and state your name for the record, please?

27

28 MR. CALLOWAY: My name's Don Calloway. I work for the Subsistence Division, National Park Service, in Anchorage.

30

31 The Park Service as was mentioned earlier is going to be responsible for the C and T determinations in Units 22(D) -- (C), (D), and (E). And we're currently, as the Fish and Wildlife's handed out, doing C and T determinations for the Upper Tanana Region, for the Copper Basin Region, and the priority after that will be for the Parks Highway. I bring these points up to mention that we have a small staff, and that realistically the type of resources we have to address a C and T determination in the next year or two will be quite limited, because of the priorities that have already been mentioned in the Federal Register.

42

43 I would like to point out in addition that working with Ken and Fred, we're currently proposing to do research in several communities that utilize the Preserve resources to provide the foundation for our C and T determination, which I anticipate with Ken's help will probably be done in the next three years perhaps.

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1 I just bring these points up. We're on the agenda to
2 talk to you today about the proposed research and how we plan
3 to go about it, but let me digress a moment to explain a little
4 bit about what's involved in the Park Service process for C and
5 S determinations.

6

7 The Upper Tanana recommendations that you have there
8 are only a small part. That's the recommendation. The draft
9 analysis is a much thicker and larger document. What we
10 propose to do is to use not only what ADF&G has done in terms
11 of their customary and traditional determinations, that is, a
12 harvest survey that collects data at one point in time, but we
13 also plan to map historic harvest and use areas for three
14 points in time going back to the 19th century. We plan to
15 spend a lot of time, and we have a special part of our task to
16 collect life histories from elders, specifically related to
17 their use of wildlife resources. So we have

18

19 And we also plan to spend a lot of time in the
20 communities where we propose to do research, and "a lot of
21 time," I mean three to four months, talking with the community
22 members about these issues, and about the eight factors that
23 you see in front of you.

24

25 And all this I bring up, because this process takes
26 quite a bit of time, one, to collect the data, to analyze it,
27 and then to propose in a systematic fashion our conclusions.
28 And as you've seen, as has been passed out, the Board -- or the
29 Regional Advisory Council here has a role in each of these
30 steps, and at some point I'd certainly be happy to sit down and
31 go through very carefully, just having come back from a
32 Regional Advisory Council meeting in Tok where they addressed
33 the Upper Tanana Issues, what that Council's role has been, for
34 example.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 MR. OTTON: Sheldon?

39

40 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yes, Mr. Otton?

41

42 MR. OTTON: You mentioned that National Park Service
43 will be using the ADF&G criteria?

44

45 MR. CALLOWAY: No, we'll be using the eight factors
46 that was passed out by Rachel earlier, and I'd be happy to talk
47 about how those eight factors are used.

48

49 MR. OTTON: Well,

50

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1
2 MR. CALLOWAY: It's my general -- oh, I'm sorry, go
ahead.

4
5 MR. OTTON: I guess that could come later. I was
wondering, would you know the history of these eight factors,
both from the -- I guess you kind of cloned them from Alaska
Department of Fish and Game. Where did they have their
origins?

10
11 MR. CALLOWAY: That's a good question. I'm not sure
where ADF&G Subsistence Division first came up with the eight
factors. I might mention that they tend to rely on two or
three factors, because it's very difficult to collect
systematic data. It requires a lot of time in the communities
to address some of these factors, so that it's our intent to
collect as much information now as we can on those factors that
we know are either under-reported or there's very little
information existing on. Prior to this, they had to deal with
the existing information, as we did on the Upper Tanana, since
we couldn't do any original research. But where it came from,
I don't know, initially. I can find out if you're interested.
I'll ask Jim Fall (ph)

24
25 MR. OTTON: (Nods affirmative)

26
27 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Excuse me, we just got a copy of
the Fish and Game's eight criteria.

29
30 Mr. Borbridge?

31
32 MR. BORBRIDGE: Well, I want to -- I will come back to
a brief comment on the customary and traditional use
determination factors, and their application.

35
36 Before I do that, I'd like to thank the Chair and
members of the Council for making the trip for me personally to
be such a worthwhile experience. Some of you may not realize
that, but I think I've learned as much in some of our informal
visits and conversations. I came with the idea that what I
needed to do was to leave the comfort of my office in Juneau
and to hear directly from the subsistence people themselves,
and to keep sharpening my sensitivity to what is happening.

44
45 I will be leaving this afternoon, and although I
realize that this is a Council that is representative of all
the people in the area, nonetheless I think it is still
appropriate in the older custom to say as a member of a tribe
from Southeast, I've come into your country, I appreciate the
50

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fact that I've been welcomed, and I want to thank both you and also I want to thank my friends in Unalakleet who have made me wonder why I took so long to get up here to begin with, and I can assure you that not that much time is going to pass before I return again. So I do thank you.

6

7 I also want to point in a general way, call this for the good of the order, that the make up of the Federal Subsistence Board is changing quite markedly. You have a number of new people going in. As I view it, the one constant factor in all of this is you on the Council level, and the community level. Your knowledge, your sensitivity, your commitment, your understanding will be the constant factor. There will be new Board members who will be assuming their responsibilities who will need to come up to speed on their knowledge of much of what is subsistence, and they likewise will require the sensitivity that will allow them to listen with their hearts as well as with their minds when there is testimony being presented to the Board during Board meetings by subsistence users.

21

22 I also want to at this time just to briefly emphasize my agreement with what Rachel Mason said about the application of eight criteria and their definition. The intention was that the eight criteria would exemplify, they would characterize what is happening within the subsistence community.

27

28 Now, within -- in one of the eight factors, number seven, and I read, "A pattern of use in which the harvest is shared or distributed within a definable community of persons." In Southeast Alaska, we get all of our fish eggs, our herring eggs from -- at least most of them, from Sitka and from Hydaburg. My tribal community is Yakutat, which is the furthest north community in Southeast Alaska, so many of you didn't know, but I'm a northern southerner. So with the fish eggs coming from those communities, that has been the way it has been going back I don't know how far. We've always shared that way with certain communities that have more of certain subsistence foods, and who seem to have most of them, will share with other communities.

41

42 And so when I look at this and I see the reference to sharing within a definable community, well, it seems to me that there are different ways of looking at definable community. One is the way the Native people have looked at it from -- for untold generations, and the other is the people who worry about dictionaries and try to figure out what is definable and so on.

48

49 So I would encourage you to appreciate that in the mix
50

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of things between ourselves, those of us sitting in the offices and yourselves, you're the experts and you're the ones that continue to teach us, and the ones that continue to sensitize us.

5

6 I hope, too, that there might be some way that you can encourage the sensitization of new members to the Subsistence Board. I know I'm talking about our bosses, but that's all right. We're supposed to be here to advise them on how to be better bosses, and the way I see it, is they will benefit from sensitization by subsistence users.

12

13 So again I want to thank the Council for the richness of the experience that I have enjoyed up here, and for those who don't give up and continue to teach me a little more about subsistence as we have our conversations after coffee and after the meetings and before the meetings. And so thank you again to all of you. And I look forward to my next visit up here again in my continuous learning process.

20

21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Borbridge, and on behalf of

23

24 MR. OTTON: John?

25

26 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank Mr. Borbridge for coming up here to attend our meeting and bring the insights of the staff committee on which we serve to not only our Council, but also to the people here in Unalakleet, and also to the Staff. So on behalf of the Council, I would like to thank you for making the effort of taking part in our meeting.

33

34 Mr. Otton?

35

36 MR. OTTON: I'd just like -- I would just like to say
37 I'm going to speak a little Indian: How.

38

39 (Laughter)

40

41 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Speaking of speaking Indian, I'll
42 let me add to that. One time there was a bunch of people,
43 tourists going by this reservation, and at the gate of the
44 reservation there was this guy standing there, and he'd watch
45 people go by and he'd say, "Chance". Finally one guy looked at
46 him, and he'd come up to him and he said, "How," and the guy
47 looked at him, and he said, "Chance." So the guy asked him, "I
48 said 'How' to you, how come you say 'Chance' to me?" And the
49 guy said, "Me knowum how. Me want the chance."

50

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1
2 So in that regard, let's take an hour and 15 minute
3ecess for lunch.

4
5 (Off record)

6
7 (On record)

8
9 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Come back to order.

10
11 As a matter of expedience, and subject to objection by
12ny of the Council members, I would at this time like to move
13tems 9.F and G to items C and D, and push the rest of the
14#oposals down two letters. Item F will be relabeled C, Item G
15will be relabeled D, and D and E will become E and F.

16
17 So at this time I would like to give some background
18information on the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and why it's on
19our agenda. Before our last meeting in March, I and some of
20the other Council members had received a letter which was
21alluded to earlier by Mr. Seetot regarding four endangered
22species of migratory birds, and we had expressed concern over
23the fact that the Migratory Bird Treaty Act still does not
24recognize customary and traditional use of migratory birds as a
25necessary complement to our rural diets at that time of the
26ear, in the spring, when they migrate to our various areas.
27And in order to properly understand the problem, we felt as a
28ouncil that it was important as a subsistence item that we get
29handle on the populations of birds that arrive in Alaska,
30their mortality along the way, and their recruitment rate once
31here on the nesting grounds in Alaska. And not only that, but
32their mortality rates as they leave their nesting grounds and
33migrate back to their wintering grounds wherever they may be.

34
35 So we asked that we be provided with the information
36egarding migratory birds that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
37ervice might have in their offices. And we were provided with
38number of handouts today or in our packets. And I would ask
39hat the staff person in charge of migratory birds please make
40herself available for comments and questions regarding the
41ame. And I would appreciate her presentation of the material
42fter she has identified herself for the public record.

43
44 MS. HOGAN: Thank you. My name is Mimi Hogan. I'm
45th the Migratory Bird Management Office in Anchorage, and I
46nt to thank you for the opportunity to be here, and I've had
47n opportunity while I'm here to learn a lot about what
48bsistence does, and I'm pleased to know that you're
49nterested in wanting to know what we're doing.

50

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1
2 My specific job has been to work on amending the
3 Migratory Bird Treaty, and I came prepared mainly to give
4 information on that, but I've also prepared a little bit of
5 information on migratory bird populations.

6
7 You asked about mortality rates and those are specific
8 studies that are done on the breeding areas, and they're
9 usually in very small areas. They may be on the geese
10 populations, or specifically Fish and Wildlife Service has had
11 studies going on spectacled and eiders on the Yukon Delta, so
12 we know about what's happening to very small populations of
13 birds.

14
15 Statewide information, I can tell you we do surveys in
16 the spring on the breeding pairs, and in the last several years
17 we have counted 5 million pairs of ducks breeding in the
18 spring, and we estimate that 10 million ducks leave Alaska in
19 the fall to go to all over the United States and to Mexico. We
20 have counted half a million geese breeding in Alaska in the
21 spring time.

22
23 Nationally we also -- Fish and Wildlife Service also
24 does these breeding pairs surveys throughout the whole United
25 States, and our latest estimate on ducks is 71 million ducks.
26 And we use those estimates then to set the fall hunting
27 seasons. There are approximately 7 million geese that are
28 available in the fall flight in the U.S.

29
30 You asked about hunters and duck stamps in the
31 information that Barb Armstrong sent me. There are a total of
32 well, there are over 1 million hunters in the United States,
33 and there are 1,200,000 duck stamps sold. People besides
34 hunters buy duck stamps. There are approximately 6 million
35 ducks harvested in the U.S., and this is sports harvest, and
36 approximately a million geese -- over a million and a half
37 geese are harvested.

38
39 In Alaska, there are records kept for sports harvest.
40 There are 10,000 duck stamps sold in Alaska, and in the last
41 year based on estimate of forms that hunters -- this is sports
42 hunters we're talking about, sports hunters turned in the
43 sports hunter -- the sports harvest last year was about 62,000
44 ducks and about 5,000 geese.

45
46 Our estimates for subsistence harvest of migratory
47 birds is based on studies done by Alaska Fish and Game
48 throughout the State, a report put together by Robert Wolf that
49 was paid for by a contract from the Fish and Wildlife Service,
50

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provided that estimates on subsistence harvest of all migratory birds. Their estimate was that about 360,000 birds are taken for subsistence purposes, and this is throughout the year, during the fall as well as the spring, and that the estimate for the spring harvest is about 161,000 birds taken in the spring and summer.

7

8 And I put a handout in the back on subsistence waterfowl hunting in Alaska. And on the last sheet is a map of the State. This comes from Robert Wolf's report, and they've divided the State into the areas where -- I assume this is where they've done their harvest surveys, and there's an estimate of the number of birds taken by subsistence hunters, and again this is not just the spring. This is throughout the year. In the Seward Peninsula and the Norton Sound shows 46,000 plus birds being taken by subsistence hunter, which makes it the third most important area in the State. Third behind the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta is first and then the Interior, which is described here as Upper Yukon, Koyukuk, and Lower Tanana, is second.

21

22 As you all know, the 1916 convention with Canada has provisions that close all migratory bird hunting between March 20th and September 1, except for Indians may take at any time floaters (ph) for food, but not for sale, Eskimos and Indians may take at any season auks, auklets, gill, gilimuts, murrees, and puffins, and their eggs for food, and their skins for nothing, but the birds and eggs should not be sold.

29

30 As we all know, that that's not sufficient for what happens here in Alaska in the spring and summer, and the Fish and Wildlife Service has attempted to legalize spring subsistence hunting, and the records I have show that there have been attempts to do this ever since statehood, so for 30 years, there have been efforts to change this.

36

37 And the closest that we came was in 1979, after the Russian treaty. There was also a Russian Migratory Bird Treaty that was signed in 1976, and it had provisions for subsistence hunting, but it could not go into effect until the Canadian treaty was amended.

42

43 So in 1979 the U.S. and Canada agreed on language that would change the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, it's referred to as the 1979 Protocol. Both the Secretary of the Interior, the State Department, the head of the Canadian Wildlife Service, signed this, and it was sent to the U.S. Senate for ratification. Any treaties or amendments to treaties must be ratified by the Senate before they're the law of the land.

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That was in 1979.

2

3 In 1980 Administrations changed, and the Secretary of
4 the Interior, James Watt, at the urging of several
5 organizations Outside withdrew the Protocol from the Senate, so
6 that it was never ratified.

7

8 Shortly after that, in the 80's, Canada was going
9 through many changes and they were rewriting their
10 constitution, so they did not want to get involved in another
11 process to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty. By 1990 things in
12 Canada had changed. They had rewritten their constitution, and
13 it had gone through several legal tests, and they were again
14 ready to work on amending the treaty.

15

16 In 1990, both the Fish and Wildlife Service and the
17 Canadian Wildlife Service put out notices of intent to get
18 public input on the amendment process. In 1992 Canada went
19 through a series of public meetings, as well as in the United
20 States. We had in Alaska in 1994 14 public meetings through
21 the State that Migratory Birds conducted. Then the refuges
22 also conducted another series of about 19 communities. And we
23 had five meetings Outside Alaska in the Lower 48. At those
24 meetings we had about -- over 300 people attended and gave
25 comments, and we also had 200 written comments, so we had about
26 300 comments to sort through, which is a very good
27 representation in a process like this.

28

29 At that point we developed an environmental assessment
30 which was completed in 1993. A lot of it was based on the
31 public comments that we heard the year before. When the
32 environment assessment went out for review in December of '93,
33 one of the comments that we -- was strongly voiced by the State
34 of Alaska and other states was they did not think that we had
35 adequately addressed their concerns with the amount of
36 subsistence harvest that might increase. And they were also
37 concerned about the subsistence harvest in Canada, which we had
38 not addressed in the first E.A. So the State of Alaska under
39 Mr. Wolf came up with some estimated, projected estimates of
40 what subsistence harvest might involve if it was legalized, and
41 then Canada helped us present a section in the E.A. that
42 estimated Canadian harvest.

43

44 And that environmental assessment, which I hope you all
45 have copies of, because we sent out almost 2,000 of them around
46 the State, has an appendix in it that contains information on
47 the Canadian migratory bird hunting, it has estimates of
48 subsistence hunting in Alaska, and projections. It also has a
49 summary of the public comments that were made during the public

50

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meetings and for both the E.A.s. So if you don't have copies of that, I have three copies with me, and I have many more at my office and I can send them to you if you don't have them. There's a lot of information particularly in the appendix of those.

6

7 In the E.A. the position of the Fish and Wildlife Service at this time, and I have to stress at this time, because as the team goes into negotiating with Canada, it could very well change, the most important point that Fish and Wildlife Service would like to stress is that there needs to be coordination among user groups, between the subsistence hunters, between the State -- between the states in the flyway, the flyway councils and other Federal interests. All the ordinary methods that are used for sports hunting could be employed for subsistence hunting, and by that I mean bag limits, seasons, species -- or is it restrictions, management units, et cetera, could be used as appropriate. And times for the harvest would vary. There's no intention at this point to open the season continuously between March 10 and September 1. There's still the intent to protect breeding birds so that the areas that will be open to spring hunting would vary. It would be different on the North Slope when the birds start breeding, that might be around Dillingham. And it's very important that the users be involved in this process because they're the ones who, at the public meetings, have told us when those seasons are for their areas and so they'll be relied on heavily for those decisions.

29

30 Spring harvest would be available to -- the wording is Alaska Natives and other qualified residents residing in designated subsistence harvest areas. In the first environmental assessment we used language from ANILCA which was "rural residents." Many people did not like that language and we changed it to reflect that spring subsistence is basically a Native issue, and so the language is Alaska Natives and other qualified residents. The State of Alaska as a commentor and participant to this process felt very strongly about other qualified users, should be part of the wording, too, so that it will not just be Alaska Natives.

41

42 Harvest areas could be regionally limited, and they are 43 in the original language we said that Southcentral and Southeast would not be included for spring hunting seasons. We 45 changed the wording on that so that there are petition 46 opportunities.

47

48 From the records we have on subsistence hunting in the Southeast, most of the birds are taken in the fall. There's

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not a tradition of spring hunting, but we wanted to leave it flexible enough that if a community came and said that they had a tradition for taking spring birds that on a case by case basis we could accommodate those needs. We also know that in some places in the Southeast they are taking gull eggs and other migratory bird eggs. And so they would be eligible for that under the language.

8

9 Birds would be taken for food, personal and family use and could be shared within the communities. Creation of handicrafts would be allowed, they could be bartered or traded but not sold. In our first EA we said no waterfowl eggs would be considered for harvest, and enough people commented on that that it was changed and that it's open now to any harvest of eggs will be considered.

16

17 Where we stand now, now that the environmental assessment has been written and the Record of Decision is out, the Fish & Wildlife Service is putting together a team that will negotiate with Canada. And the State Department, because this is an international treaty, the State Department has the lead. But in the Fish & Wildlife Service, Director Beattie, will be head of our team with the migratory -- the head of the Migratory Birds Office in Washington, D.C. There will be a representative from the state of Alaska. As you're familiar, I think the Migratory Bird Working Group or Rural CAP will be asked to send two Native representatives, and Charlie Brower is head of that committee. And I did not bring a list of the other committee members, so I'm not sure who is the representative from this area. So there will be two Native representatives. There will be also two representatives -- one representative from the International Association of Fish & Wildlife Associations, it's all the heads of all the state agencies, and then there will be also representatives from like a conservation group and a sportsmen's group. It's a rather large team.

37

38 These people have to come to some consensus on many of these points, and they will negotiate with Canada. But, as I said, the teams are being put together now, and I think some of those letters will go out in the next couple of weeks, and we hope that at the first of next year, 1995, that the teams will get -- the team will get together and start a meeting with Canada, and that I can't predict how long it might take to come out with amendment language that is suitable to everybody.

46

47 Once protocol language has been agreed on, it still has to go to the senate and be ratified by the senate before it becomes law. So there are still several groups that have to be

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met.

2

3 Once it's ratified by the senate, in addition the
4 Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which is the implementing
5 legislation, will have to be amended and this -- all these
6 things have to be done before we're actually at the point where
7 we can say subsistence hunting of migratory birds is legal in
8 the spring.

9

10 I believe that's about as much as I can go on about --
11 maybe I can take questions or go back to some points that maybe
12 I skipped over too fast.

13

14 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: For the record, what was your name
15 again, please?

16

17 MS. HOGAN: It's Mimi Hogan.

18

19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mimi?

20

21 MS. HOGAN: Mimi; M-i-m-i.

22

23 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any questions, comments for
24 Ms. Hogan?

25

26 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: I suppose the two people that
27 have come out of the Migratory Working Group would be Charlie
28 Bower and Myron (indiscernible). When we talk about this
29 composition of the working group before in our subsistence
30 committee meeting we felt that Charlie and Myron would be our
31 people to be working on this on behalf of the Native people.

32

33 MS. KATCHATAG: Myron who?

34

35 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Myron (indiscernible). He's
36 president of the AVCP.

37

38 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Ms. Hogan, can we get into some of
39 the statistics of migratory birds?

40

41 MS. HOGAN: Certainly.

42

43 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I was looking -- for the public
44 record on the third page of your Subsistence Waterfowl Hunting
45 Alaska handout it shows the composition of total annual
46 harvest of geese on a pie chart, and it shows that as a
47 percentage Alaska subsistence harvest, I assume that is over an
48 entire year?

49

50

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1 MS. HOGAN: Right.

2

3 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: So it's both spring and fall makes
4 up just 3% of all harvest of geese, and only 2.6% of all
5 harvest of ducks. Now for such a small harvest I wonder why we
6 have such tough regulations banning subsistence harvest in the
7 spring. It's not like we spend a week to 10 days going after
8 these poor birds as they fly through and all we're trying to do
9 is supplement our freezers and make sure we have enough to get
10 by until the next specie comes into its season.

11

12 On page 4 it shows the composition of North American
13 harvest of waterfowl in 1990 in millions of birds. And it
14 shows that the United States in 1990 harvested eight million
15 birds, and yet they have no restrictions like we do on just
16 trying to stay alive. You know, we bare- -- just like anything
17 that migrates back to us, we're charged with making sure that
18 they adequately reproduce while everybody else gets the
19 advantage of killing them. And correct me if I'm wrong, but
20 the majority of harvest by the United States and Canada is
21 sport harvest, is it not?

22

23 MS. HOGAN: It's all sport harvest.

24

25 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: It's all sport harvest, so there
26 is no requirement that they consume these birds, is there?

27

28 MS. HOGAN: There is -- there can be no waste. There
29 are heavy fines for any waste, and, yes, they are supposed to
30 use these birds. Could I comment on that?

31

32 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Sure.

33

34 MS. HOGAN: I'm glad that you pointed that out because
35 it's one of the things I skipped over too fast, and I think
36 it's a really important point that the subsistence harvest in
37 Alaska is only 3%, and it's only 2%, and I put these together
38 for this particular handout. I actually put it together for
39 the meeting outside, and it was very important to show sports
40 hunters they had some very exaggerated idea of what subsistence
41 hunting was and that it was some big threat that was going to
42 change their harvest. And, of course, nobody wants changes
43 that may mean less for them. So this was a very important to
44 help people understand and to start bringing people around to
45 the idea that this was not such a bad thing, and we never had
46 this information before 1979 when we tried to amend the treaty,
47 and the sports hunters were very upset about it. No one knew
48 how many birds we were talking about, and, again, it was a very
49 exaggerated fear on people's parts.

50

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1
 2 Again, you were saying, yes, look at the 8 million
 Birds that are taken, and I might remind you, too, that there's
 4 over a million hunters, and the average in the US for sports
 hunting is five ducks per hunter and 1.3 geese per hunter. So
 6 there -- they have been restricted. If you look at the
 regulations for fall hunting in the US, the number of days they
 8 can hunt since 1970 has changed drastically, the bag limits
 have changed. There have been restrictions on sport hunters
 10 because of not having this many birds. But, again, you know,
 the important point here is that people outside understand that
 12 there is room in the system of course for sport -- subsistence
 hunting. And, you know, I also would like to make a point that
 14 there should be plenty for everybody, and Fish & Wildlife
 Service has tried to stress through this process that
 16 cooperation among all the users would be an important part of
 the process.

18

19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Ms. Hogan, another thing that we
 had asked for, and I was looking through the handouts here, we
 had asked for some estimates as to the number of birds that
 22 arrive each year, and I didn't see it in the handout but you
 mentioned

24

25 MS. HOGAN: No. I had just a sheet that I did for
 myself, and I could have it Xeroxed, the statistics they had on
 27 the number of breeding birds and the number of birds that leave
 in the fall. If the counsel is interested I can have that
 Xeroxed.

30

31 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I'd appreciate that. Yes, we had
 asked for that information at our last meeting also. Any other
 questions or comments from Ms. Hogan? Hearing none, thank you,
 33 Ms. Hogan. It's a real eye-opener to hear about not only the
 bird breeding curves and where things stand as far as amending
 35 the particular act, but it is also very revealing who has the
 37 clout when it comes to protecting their particular turf.

38

39 MR. OTTON: Quack, quack?

40

41 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Quack, quack. So I appreciate
 your information and we would appreciate a Xerox of the
 43 breeding curves and other information on population.

44

45 Any other comments or questions from the public or any
 46 of the staff people regarding migratory birds? Mr. Katchatag.

47

48 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One
 49 of the concerns I have in regard to migratory birds is there is

50

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too much commercialized temptations as far as migratory birds are concerned. By that I mean you can have a whole catalog full of decoys and camouflage outfits and guns and everything else. I think these things should be limited. The only people that we get any money in disturbance of wildlife are these people who are selling so much decoys, so much camouflage things and so much other equipment. And traditionally the only people that we call good hunters are the people who are able to call or even sneak up to these birds from their own way of hunting without using like duck calls and all these other commercialized things.

12

13 If the people who are engaged in Migratory Bird Treaty Act are so concerned I think they should look into these matters and at least limit these things. There never used to be too much here, but I know there's some decoys in almost every specie now and everywhere. So these -- the birds, especially the young ones, I think, might take a long time before they can avoid the temptation of flying right into the decoys. I think that's -- this is not a sport as far as I'm concerned; the sport is to learn without all these temptations. That may not be the case out there, but it's my way of looking at the sport.

24

25 So if the people really are sports people, I think they should learn to know without using any imitating gadgets to trick the birds. I'd like to see this be considered if they really care about migratory birds. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

29

30 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Katchatag. Any other comments and questions? I would recommend that our particular council make the information presented by Ms. Hogan regarding populations of birds that annually come back to Alaska to nest and breed, the number of birds that leave the state and the paltry amount comparatively of birds that are caught subsistence-wise both spring and fall be brought to the attention of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act Amendment Team, addressed to the State Department and to the US Fish & Wildlife Service, Director Beattie, and also to the State Department of Fish & Game so that they all cannot claim ignorance as to not only the small percentage that subsistence takes but also the large amount that the sport hunters take in which they protect very fiercely as is apparent.

44

45 So I would appreciate, Madame Coordinator, drafting such a letter and you and I can consult back and forth to get the proper language, if that's the wish of the body. If that is the wish I would entertain a motion.

49

50

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1 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: I so move.

2

3 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a motion on the floor. Do
4 hear a second?

5

6 MR. KATCHEAK: Second.

7

8 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Seconded. Any discussion?

9

10 MR. SEETOT: Question.

11

12 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question has been called. All
13 those in favor of the motion for signify by saying aye.

14

15 IN UNISON: Aye.

16

17 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All those opposed, nay. Motion
18 carries unanimously.

19

20 We now move on to the report from BLM and Morkill, and
21 it is of special significance here in this town because you can
22 see by the map outside of the regional and village corporation
23 lands that the majority of lands are either state, by
24 definition to the Coastal Zone Management Program, or BLM.
25 Morkill.

26

27 MS. MORKILL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to
28 thank the council for inviting BLM to provide a report. We've
29 already addressed a few of the items that I wanted to bring to
30 your attention, that being that the bureau will be filling a
31 Native liaison position for the State of Alaska, and also that
32 BLM has been assigned the Norton Sound C & T Use Determination
33 Study.

34

35 Back to that particular point. I wanted to clarify
36 that if the council does encourage the Federal Subsistence
37 Board to pursue the C & T determination in this region at a
38 faster pace than has been designated already, I just want to
39 clarify that you'll want to note both the Seward Peninsula and
40 the Norton Sound study areas should be looked at at the same
41 time because they have split this region in the two areas. So
42 if you just mention Seward Peninsula they might not get the
43 point.

44

45 Another point of interest that BLM will be looking at
46 in regard to the winter habitat use by the western Arctic
47 caribou herd in the Nulato Hills. As you can see by the map, a
48 large portion of the herd does winter on BLM lands in the
49 Nulato Hills, and we have started some preliminary proposals to
50

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get on the ground in the summer in areas where caribou have wintered and take a look at what's happened to the range condition. There's been a lot of concern that the large herd size, it's approximately a million animals and having some impact on winter range and may affect the population and also may have some affect on some of the reindeer allotments out of Shaktoolik and Koyuk, and so we're going to be getting some of those studies. It may be long-term monitoring during the next several years.

10

11 That's primarily it for the particular area. This is a point of information. There are two offices that actually administer BLM lands in this area. There's an invisible line between here and Shaktoolik. South of that line is administered out of our Anchorage office, and then all of the BLM lands to the north of that are administered out of the Fairbanks office, which is the district that I'm involved in. I'm not aware of any wildlife related work that's being done by the Anchorage office in the Unalakleet area, but I understand that the fisheries program is quite active in this area on the Unalakleet River. And if it comes to pass that we have subsistence management responsibilities for fisheries and potentially for state selected lands, it has been presented before the courts, that could significantly increase our involvement in this region in both fisheries and wildlife.

26

27 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Before we get too far, Mr. Morkill, I'm not sure, seeings how you just mentioned a boundary -- an invisible boundary line, and I think the area that I'm talking about probably follows within the Anchorage office, but for the record while I was here this last summer doing king salmon subsistence I was pretty disturbed to note that there was a helicopter -- a pretty good-sized helicopter operating on the airport here in Unalakleet and I was watching this thing and it was taking about an hour and a half to two hours for each round trip, and every time he took off here he had a big sling load of building material. And this went on for days.

39

40 So when I went to Anchorage for the Designated Hunter Task Force I asked Tom Boyd about it, and asked for a written report as to what exactly BLM was putting and where. He gave me some verbal reassurances that they were just building a cabin, and I guess it is somewhere out by Old Woman, but I have yet to talk to anybody that knows how big that so-called cabin is. And if I know -- I know if I built the cabin it would probably be no bigger than like 24 by 24, that's what I call a cabin. And that's a big cabin as far as cabins go.

49

50

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1 So I'd like to know what they built, where they built
2t and how much was invested in that particular cabin, because
3 I know that from personal experience that those particular
4helicopters run in the neighborhood of \$5,000 an hour, and they
5were spending days on this particular job. So I'd like to know
6some specifics on, number one, who is in charge of that
7building, what the authorization for it is, where they built
8the so-called cabin and the overall size of the finished
9product and what's the rationale for building said cabin in the
10middle of a wild and scenic river, if that's the case.

11 \$b
12

13 MS. MORKILL: The limited information I have on that,
14 and I'd be happy to get these specifics for you, is that I
15 believe that cabin is being built on the Iditarod Trail. The
16 entire system of the Iditarod National Historic Trail, whether
17 it's on BLM land or not, the lead agency administering the
18 trail system is the BLM. Both Anchorage and Kobuk district,
19 once it gets on the Seward Peninsula, and I believe that's
20 supposed to be a safety shelter cabin for use during the
21 Iditarod, and is also available for public use during other
22 times of the year.

23

24 I can get you information in terms of -- I know in
25 other areas of the state, and I don't want to speak specific to
26 this one, but we do have public use cabins in other portions of
27 the state that are available to anyone for a fee, basically for
28 recreational use, and also is available as an emergency shelter
29 during the winter.

30

31 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: My understanding was that there
32 already was a shelter cabin at the Old Woman River now.

33

34 MS. MORKILL: I think they might -- it may be that
35 either they selected another site or they upgraded it,
36 obviously, quite a bit.

37

38 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Obviously.

39

40 MS. MORKILL: And I
41

42 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Could you get me some information
43 on how and where the money for that particular cabin was
44 appropriated, who authorized the building of that thing and the
45 overall specifics on it?

46

47 MS. MORKILL: I certainly will.

48

49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I'd appreciate that, because I
50

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asked for this from Tom in July, and he gave me a verbal
 reassurance, and then I saw him in August again and he was
 getting farther and farther away from this thing, and I'm
 getting more and more concerned because he was saying something
 about a new director and maybe he was in charge of that. So I
 don't know, and I'm real curious about it.

7

8 MS. MORKILL: Okay.

9

10 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Because to my way of thinking,
 that's not how you keep wild and scenic river wild and scenic,
 by building a cabin of any size on it. And as far as the
 trail, it manages itself. It doesn't need managing, to our way
 of thinking locally. The people that use these trails make
 sure that they park them in such a way that they can travel on
 those trails in just about any weather for their own safety by
 definition. I don't see why, you know, we've gone these
 thousands of years without having an administrator on the
 trail, and all of a sudden in 1994 BLM decides we need an
 administrator on this trail. So I'd appreciate some
 information on that.

22

23 MS. MORKILL: Okay. I know that our office, out of our
 Nome field office is involved in marking the Iditarod trail
 along Norton Sound, but I don't think that's so much for the
 locals who probably know it with their eyes closed, but they
 have had some problems, as you know, with some of the Iditarod
 racers in really bad weather getting off the trail, and so
 doing some extensive work with some tripod markings along the
 beaches there. So it's probably more for the outside people
 coming that don't know where they're going.

32

33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you.

34

35 MS. MORKILL: Sure.

36

37 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Back to the matter at hand.
 Please refresh my memory on the Native liaison. Do we have any
 idea when this person will be hired?

40

41 MS. MORKILL: Just in general, I think it's going to be
 early next year. I don't have any specifics on that.

43

44 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: And who is going to be doing the
 hiring?

46

47 MS. MORKILL: I believe I'm not sure if our state
 director will be involved in that, but I suppose he'll have
 some input, but the fact that that position will actually be

50

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answering to a coordinator in Mexico who is then answering to the director in Washington, D.C., I imagine it will be handled out of the Washington office.

4

CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I'm sure that when we get into the C & T determination process that we would like to express our concern that the present C & T determinations on the regulation Book are -- do not reflect local C & Ts, customs and traditions, and that we would like to see the updated as soon as possible, especially in the case of the muskox and for the fact that the state is in the process of putting before the Board of Game a proposal for hunting which includes subsistence as an option. So we would be willing to work with BLM because they do have jurisdiction over the Eastern Norton Sound. If we can go ahead and speed the process up for this area, we'd be more than willing to work with you folks on that.

17

MS. MORKILL: Okay. In addition to your expressing that to the Federal Subsistence Board, I'll take it back to our Staff Committee member Tom Boyd and let him know, you know, the Council's concerns. Hopefully he can provide some encouragement to the board to speed that process up.

23

CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Okay. Madame Coordinator, could we have a letter drafted to the Federal Subsistence Board regarding not only muskox C & Ts but also C & Ts for all species in the Game Management Unit 22, and I'll consult with you on that till we get the language

29

MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

31

CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: that we are most satisfied with. Any questions or comments for Ms. Morkill?

34

MR. SEETOT: Mr. Chairman.

36

CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Seetot.

38

MR. SEETOT: I notice that, you know, there are some blocks of land within (indiscernible). Can you clarify the purpose of those lands there?

42

MS. MORKILL: Well, basically the BLM has kind of gotten what's left over over the last 14 years of land selections since ANILCA was passed in 1980. Prior to 1980 BLM had have jurisdiction over a much broader portion of the land in Alaska. As a matter of fact prior to statehood since the whole process of state selections and Native selections have occurred those blocks of lands have kind of been left out.

50

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Those were lands that were not selected by the state and not selected by the Natives, so it isn't so much that BLM particularly chose those lands for any particular purpose, it's what was left over from any of the Native and state selections through the statehood act and ANCSA and what was designated under ANILCA.

7

8 MR. SEETOT: Well, what is of particular interest is the federal government, you know, have these lands, you know, in their holdings.

11

12 MS. MORKILL: Right now we don't have any specific interests in terms of whether it be fisheries or wildlife resources or mineral resources. We manage for multiple use on those parcels of land. There are some areas that we have particular interest. For instance the Nulato Hills as caribou winter habitat. We consider some of those lands north of Inlet Basin as important wildlife habitat for moose, muskox and waterfowl breeding habitat. We haven't defined those lands for any specific use. They're considered public domain and are open for a variety of public uses; subsistence, recreational.

22

23 I'm not aware specifically on those parcels whether or not we have any federal mining claims but that's another land use that BLM administers. As I said, those are kind of leftover lands that BLM has been allowed to manage.

27

28 MR. SEETOT: One last question. Are the regulations concerning fish and game consistent, you know, with the state, you know, in the color parts -- like if I hunt moose and then I see some -- knowing at this meeting, you know, that I'm on federal land, all of a sudden I go to state land and have a regulation change, you know, on the taking of wildlife.

34

35 MS. MORKILL: As far as I know I believe the regulations are fairly consistent in this unit between state and federal, and so at least at this point there aren't too many places where there's a conflict. You know, you'd be hunting under state or federal, depending on the land status. That is an important point though, when you do -- when there are inconsistencies it's a problem because none of those lands are marked, we don't have any boundary signs up, and it's up to the hunter to be aware of where they're located on those lands, and that's unfortunate in these remote areas because those lines really are not dictated by any river or mountain top or tree line, it's just basically based on sections and townships.

47

48 MR. SEETOT: So it would be up to us to decide whether we're sports hunters or subsistence hunters?

50

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1
2 MR. MORKILL: I guess depending on where you're
3 standing in terms of not so much sport versus subsistence but
4 whether or not you're on state of federal regulations.

5
6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Do you mean that land is actually
7 not goldenrod color? Just in jest.

8
9 MS. MORKILL: That's right.

10
11 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any other questions or comments
12 for Ms. Morkill?

13
14 MR. SEETOT: Well, I suppose we'll be seeing you soon.

15
16 MS. MORKILL: That's right.

17
18 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katchatag.

19
20 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: There's a place up there that I
21 have some concern for for quite some time. It is known as
22 Frank Ryan's place, and the cabin has been under restriction by
23 BLM, according to what I hear, and there has been a person
24 living there, and the only other things that they have is his
25 few dogs. The big question is, this cabin was built by
26 Frank Ryan and not for the purpose of any government agency or
27 otherwise, and he had a real nice garden here, he grew real
28 root vegetables and now there is no upkeep of that, even the
29 fence is leaning out in the bank (ph). I'd like to know what's
30 the reason behind this because the family is saying that BLM
31 restricted them from using that cabin, and that person has been
32 there for several years without any sign of maintenance or
33 anything in that, which is a shame, as far as I'm concerned.
34 What I'd like to do is get a public hearing here in Unalakleet
35 with the people that are -- what do you call them -- family
36 members of Frank Ryan which should be there. They should have
37 no restriction whatsoever to the place, with them and the BLM,
38 and give us a reason why this has happened. I'd like to see
39 that.

40
41 MS. MORKILL: Thank you. Mr. Katchatag, I'm unaware of
42 this particular situation mostly because it's probably handled
43 out of our Anchorage office, and I've taken some notes and I
44 will forward this to our Anchorage office. One explanation of
45 any is that if this particular cabin is not located on Native
46 allotment, if it's in fact on public land and the family did
47 not obtain a permit or a lease, then that cabin is considered
48 BLM policy in trespass. And so -- but without knowing that,
49 it's hard to say what the situation is, if it's an allotment or
50

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not, if it's in fact on public land, if it's within the wild and scenic corridor then it may have something to do with it. The fact that somebody else is living there, I have no idea, but I will for sure pass this along to Anchorage district.

5

6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yes. My understanding of the situation is that the person living there was put there by BLM as a caretaker.

9

10 MS. MORKILL: I've never heard of that particular program actually, so

12

13 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: It was always our understanding here in Unalakleet that Mr. Ryan -- Mr. Frank Ryan, he was our postmaster here in Unalakleet for many, many years, and a well respected elder here in town, and it was always our understanding that he had applied for a Native allotment for that. That was always our acceptance of his position up there because he built one of the first cabins on that river that was there permanently year round. So it was of a real dismay to everybody when the BLM came in and said either he didn't file his allotment or it got lost in the bureaucracy, but they told his descendants that this is BLM property, but if I remember correctly, it even precedes statehood, that particular house. So by definition, you know, it precedes anybody. So I would appreciate some research into that and if I get a report on it from you, I would definitely forward it to the people here in Unalakleet. I would appreciate a report to the people of Unalakleet, if possible.

30

31 MS. MORKILL: So I will

32

33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: To the Native people of Unalakleet, I guess.

35

36 MS. MORKILL: So, would you like me to have Anchorage respond to yourself then?

38

39 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Both to the council and to the Native

41

42 MS. MORKILL: Okay.

43

44 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Village of Unalakleet.

45

46 MS. MORKILL: Okay.

47

48 MR. BARR: Where is this located at again?

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: It's up here on the Unalakleet
River. I can just about point it out. This is Rocky River
Here, it's just about right about here.

4

5 MS. MORKILL: Okay, it's on this -- just on the
Unalakleet, just above Serosky (ph)?

7

8 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: It's on the mainstay of Unalakleet
River.

10

11 MR. DEGNAN: Mr. Chairman, there's another parcel of
land that's in dispute also. It's the Bahr family --
Nick Bahr.

14

15 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Oh, yeah.

16

17 MR. DEGNAN: And that is in similar status.

18

19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All right.

20

21 MR. DEGNAN: There's a dispute on interpretations of
land usage there. As far as I remember the Bahr family claims
that is theirs.

24

25 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: For the record, he's telling about
the mink farm, that's what we call it down here. It was
originally set up by which Bahr -- Ole?

28

29 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: It was originally built by his
father or a man named Freddy LaBelle who started the mink farm
up there. Way back in the early '30s. I was just a small boy
then, but I remember it. Mr. Chairman.

33

34 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katchatag.

35

36 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Before you go back to
(Indiscernible), I'd like to just make another comment on this
Bank Ryan's place. This to me is historical site, and
according to some laws you have a post there that's supposed to
be approved that you have used the place, and the afterborn
organizations are called afterborn now organizations should not
undermine this historic site. To me this is not right because
that was one of the basic places where Mr. Ryan made and
prepared -- built the house and prepared for his retirement and
after his retirement from the post office after years and years
of work that's where he retired, and that's where he was with
his wife. Now his wife, whom he left, is still living, can't
even live there. To me that's not right. Thank you.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Katchatag.
2
3 MS. MORKILL: How do you spell Mr. Bahr's name?
4
5 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The last name is spelled B-a-h-r.
6
7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, -- oh, Ben?
8
9 MS. MORKILL: No.
10
11 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yes, B-a-h-r.
12
13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Bill Bahr?
14
15 MR. OTTON: They were Laplanders.
16
17 MR. MORKILL: A different Bahr.
18
19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yeah, they're descendants of the
20 Laplanders that came over with reindeer.
21
22 MR. KATCHEAK: His first name was Ole Bahr.
23
24 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: And the current descendants here
25 are Erwin and Lester Bahr, who are -- and they're the sons
26 of Clement Bahr of -- what was his relation to Ole?
27
28 MR. KATCHEAK: Clement Bahr was the son of Ole Bahr.
29
30 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Okay, so they're the grandchildren
31 of Ole Bahr, and they're having a dispute with BLM over that
32 particular piece of land, and that's another one that's been
33 there forever. So it's not fair that BLM can end up with
34 something that belongs to the customs and traditions of the
35 local people. Both of them have been there since I was growing
36 up, and the Ryan place was always a place that's about halfway
37 from here to where my Dad and I spend time on the river. So
38, -- you know, it was always a custom and tradition to stop
39 at the Ryans up and down, 'cause generally it's in the
40 spring or the fall, and in the fall it's always cold traveling,
41 so you're always glad to have some place warm to have some
42 coffee.
43
44 So I would like both of these looked into and see if we
45 can't resolve this for the benefit of those people that are
46 deserving. I would be remiss in my duties if I did not bring
47 this to your attention. So, having said that, let's take about
48 a 10-minute break and refresh ourselves. Again, we have soda
49 as a courtesy of Mr. Degnan.
50

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1
2 (Off record)
3 (On record)

4
5 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I'll call the meeting back to
6 order.

7
8 And for the record regarding the Migratory Bird Treaty
9 Act, I got a handout while we were on the break. Nationally,
10 in 1994, there were 7 million geese, 71 million ducks,
11 1,245,000 duck stamps, 1,145,049 adult hunters, 6,336,015 ducks
12 harvested, 1,500,649 geese harvested. That's nationwide.

13
14 Alaska, in the spring, there were 4,932,300 breeding
15 ducks, there were 10 million plus in the fall flight, over half
16 a million geese of five species and 10 sub-species nesting in
17 Alaska, 62,522 ducks harvested in the sports harvest, 5,650
18 geese, 10,800 duck stamps sold, 9,719 sports hunters, 7,700
19 estimated bird subsistence hunters statewide, 360,000 bird
20 subsistence harvests, and approximately 161,000 of that are
21 taken in the spring and summer.

22
23 Subsistence harvest of ducks is 2.6% of the total North
24 American harvest, and goose harvest is approximately 3% of the
25 total North American harvest.

26
27 Alaska regional information. Major production areas in
28 Alaska include the YK Delta, about 900,000 young or more than
29 40% of the total production statewide; Bristol Bay lowlands,
30 30% or more; Yukon Flats, 10%; followed by the Koyuk Basin.
31 The YK Delta is by far and away the major production area for
32 geese than any other water group of birds.

33
34 Subsistence harvest in Alaska. YK Delta, 91,220 birds;
35 Upper Yukon, Koyukuk, Lower Tanana, 60,873 birds; Seward
36 Peninsula, Norton Sound, 41,225; Alaska Peninsula, 60,535;
37 Arctic Slope, 16,596; and Northwest Arctic, 13,178.

38
39 Any questions regarding the statistics just presented?
40 If not, they are in the record. As part of our council's
41 efforts to accommodate public testimony, at this time I would
42 like to open the floor to Mr. Steve Ivanoff, here in
43 Unalakleet.

44
45 MR. IVANOFF: Right here.

46
47 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: You can sit over here. Please
48 state your name for the record and who you are.

49
50

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1 MR. IVANOFF: I'm Steve Ivanoff, I'm born in
 2 St. Michael, raised here in Unalakleet. I've been a
 3 subsistence user all my life. One of the concerns that I have
 4 as the bag limits that are being discussed, and I myself would
 5 oppose any source of bag limit because -- for a couple of
 6 seasons; one being that we have a lot of elders and disabled
 7 people that we go out and hunt for. They grew up on the food
 8 that we harvest and since they are unable to do that we do it
 9 for them. They're not accustomed to living off of beef and
 10 chicken their whole life. They enjoy the customary foods that
 11 we can harvest and with bag limits there are problems with
 12 numbers of families. Some families have 15 members, some
 13 families have one member. You put a bag limit on that and a
 14 family with a large number of provider for many people won't be
 15 justified. The other reason is the migratory patterns, this
 16 one doesn't have -- it doesn't have the sources for -- to have
 17 birds year round and/or caribou or other big game, but it's
 18 more of a migratory path, and patterns change from year to
 19 year. And last year we -- last year we were fortunate to
 20 harvest some geese, and the cranes had missed us. This year
 21 the geese missed us completely and the cranes hit us, so you
 22 would have caps on each species. And for use we've been
 23 accustomed to harvest what's available. And like I said, we're
 24 fortunate enough to get a few crane this year, and almost half
 25 of that went to people unable to harvest some of those.

26

27 Caribou, like geese, is migratory. We don't -- they're
 28 not here year round, and it kind of goes with the moose.
 29 Sometimes you're not fortunate enough to get moose so you have
 30 to get more caribou, and that's, you know, where I see problems
 31 with setting caps or bag limits on the animal.

32

33 And I think those were the concerns that I had.

34

35 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Ivanoff, we do have forms
 36 available. They're called regulatory change proposals. If you
 37 would like to see some regulations that are in effect changed,
 38 you can get a proposal form and fill it out and we'll be
 39 dealing with those in the last half of the meeting.

40

41 MR. IVANOFF: Okay. Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Are there any questions for
 44 Mr. Ivanoff? Comments? Thank you, Mr. Ivanoff.

45

46 MR. IVANOFF: Thank you. Thanks for your time.

47

48 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: And let me please inform you also,
 49 Steve, that a little later on in our agenda we will be dealing

50

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With our report on the Designated Hunter Task Force which I took part in over the summer, and basically this speaks to the issue which you brought up regarding hunting for elders and disabled, and you might want to see what that has to say. Thank you, Mr. Ivanoff.

6

7 Moving on to item E. we now hit the proposals. Let's take about a 20-minute break to make sure that any of the Council members that wish to make some proposals, change proposals, they have time to do so, and we will consider them in 20 minutes. So let's take about a 20-minute recess.

12

13 (Off record)

14 (On record)

15

16 We'll take about 10 minutes to think about that and then the coordinator has informed me of a method by which we can speed up the process. The deadline for submission of these regulation change proposals is the 11th of November, so we have a good two-week period in which to get these in for consideration by the Federal Subsistence Board. The regulations which we seek to change, Steve, are the ones found here in the Subsistence Management Regulations for Harvest of Fish & Wildlife on Federal Public Lands in Alaska. And they do have it broken down by Game Management Units, which is Game Management Unit 22, starting on page 121. So you can see by the map on the wall, Unalakleet is one of the communities that is heavily impacted by this program, along with Shaktoolik and Koyuk, and also Shishmaref because the colored lands on that map are federal public lands in Alaska. And the white lands are state or private lands. So as you can see, the regulations that are in effect in this booklet apply to the green -- I mean to the colored lands on that map.

34

35 And one of the things that we had spoken to earlier in our deliberations is the fact that there is no customary and traditional use determinations for most of the resources in this area, which does not reflect customs and traditions of our people. So you might want to make some comments to that in your change proposal. And it also speaks to the concern that you brought up regarding bag limits that customarily and additionally we do not hunt on the basis of bag limits, on the basis of how much you can carry back. In other words, if you had a sled that can hold seven caribou, you don't say, well, regulations say I can only get five. You say, well, I have capacity to take seven and you try to make the best use of your equipment. So that, again, speaks to your concern about bag limits.

49

50

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1 There was a proposal in the Northwest Arctic, was it,
2 or the North Slope?

3

4 MS. ARMSTRONG: North Slope and Northwest Arctic.

5

6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: There was a proposal there to
7 change the bag limit on caribou, was it from five to

8

9 MS. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me. Five to 10 on North Slope,
10 and then 5 to 15 on the Northwest Arctic, and at first they
11 talked about not limiting the caribou on the North Slope, but
12 Steve Kovach has the reason why he mentioned to say why the
13 board would not accept a -- the not limited reason. Would you
14 state that here, Steve?

15

16 MR. KOVACH: I'll try to remember what the heck I said
17 three weeks ago here. The

18

19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Kovach, would you state your
20 name and occupation for the record?

21

22 MR. KOVACH: Sure. My name is Steve Kovach; again, I'm
23 the senior biologist in the Subsistence Office for US Fish &
24 Wildlife. At the meeting of the North Slope Council in the
25 beginning of October when we got into the section on proposals
26 and we got talking about caribou and many people were saying
27 that five per day, which is what the bag limit was for 26(A),
28 and it happens to be the same for 22(A) and (B) here, was
29 insufficient, especially for those hunters who were hunting for
30 elderly or widows or people like that. There was quite a bit
31 of discussion as far as what would be an appropriate bag limit.
32 There was some -- the chair queried as to whether it would be
33 appropriate to submit a proposal for a no bag limit. And what
34 we talked about was some of the proposals that have gone before
35 the Federal Board historically in the last three year -- in the
36 first three years of the program, and that there was a number
37 of proposals for no bag limit. But that one of the
38 restrictions the Federal Board works under is that all
39 regulations they pass with regards to seasons and bags must
40 conform to recognized principles of wildlife management.
41 That's one of the legal restrictions the board has to work
42 with.

43

44 And one of the principles of wildlife management is
45 setting of bag limits to insure that the minority of hunters
46 who would take advantage of such a situation cannot recognize
47 that the majority of hunters are reasonable and realistic and
48 only take what they can deal with. But there is a minority of
49 people who could abuse the system and take advantage of it.

50

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1
 2 Historically the board has never adopted a no bag
 3 limit, so based upon that the North Slope Council settled on a
 4 40-caribou per day bag limit. That seemed to be a consensus of
 5 opinion as to what their hunters could reasonably take care of
 6 in one day. I cautioned them that whenever setting a higher
 7 daily bag limit like that to be sure to include information
 8 about what the hunters can typically take care of in a day,
 9 making -- alleviating concerns for wanton waste of meat and so
 10 on. It's very easy to knock down a bunch of animals, but, as
 11 you know, you need to get the animals cleaned out and get the
 12 meat cooled down so it doesn't spoil on you, no matter what the
 13 outside temperatures are, 'cause as you know, the hide can trap
 14 a lot of heat in and whatnot.

15
 16 So that was the main -- I was cautioning them on some
 17 concerns that the board historically has had and how to make
 18 sure to go and alleviate those concerns.

19
 20 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any questions for Mr. Kovach?
 21 Thank you, Mr. Kovach. As I was mentioning earlier,
 22 Barb Armstrong, our coordinator, has informed me that the
 23 deadline for regulation change proposals is the 11th of
 24 October

25
 26 MS. ARMSTRONG: November.

27
 28 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: the 11th of November, I'm
 29 sorry. And so what we'd like to do at this time is to go ahead
 30 and open the Subsistence Management Regulations which are
 31 effective July 1, 1994 to June 30, 1995, open it up to page 121
 32 through 126, 125, and -- oh, I take that back. There is no
 33 map. Did you notice that, Barb? Why is there no map?

34
 35 MR. KOVACH: It's on 116.

36
 37 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: 116, okay. For the record, let
 38 the record show that the map for Unit 22 is on page 116 in the
 39 middle of Unit 21, and that in the future we would appreciate
 40 if the map for Unit 22 is next to the regulations for
 41 Unit 22.

42
 43 As you can see, Unit 22 is broken into the following
 44 areas: Unit 22(A) going from the river just this side of
 45 Kotlik; Unit 22(A) consists of Norton Sound drainages from, but
 46 excluding, the Pastolik River drainage to, and including the
 47 Ungalik River drainage, and Stuart and Besboro Islands.

48
 49 Unit 22(B) consists of Norton Sound drainages from, but
 50

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excluding, the Ungalik River drainage to, and including, the Topkok Creek drainage.

3

4 Unit 22(C) consists of Norton Sound and Bering Sea drainages from, but excluding, the Topkok Creek drainages to, and including, the Tisuk River drainage, and King and Sledge Islands.

8

9 Unit 22(D) consists of that portion of Unit 22 draining into the Bering Sea north of, but not including, the Tisuk River to and including Cape York, and St. Lawrence Island.

12

13 Unit 22(E) consists of Bering Sea, Bering Strait, Chukchi Sea, and Kotzebue Sound drainages from Cape York to, but excluding, the Goodhope River drainage, and including Little Diomed Island and Fairway Rock.

17

18 Any question considering the Game Management Units inside our Unit 22? And on the map -- we have a bigger map of Unit 22.

21

22 Looking on page 121 you can see that there are special provisions for Unit 22. A firearm may be used to take beaver with a trapping license in Unit 22 during the established seasons.

26

27 Snowmachines may be used to take caribou and moose in Unit 22 during established seasons; however, shooting from a snowmachine in motion is prohibited.

30

31 Those residents listed under Customary and Traditional Use Determination are the qualified subsistence users.

33

34 No determination indicates open to all rural Alaska residents.

36

37 No subsistence indicates no priority for subsistence use.

39

40 National Parks, Monuments and Preserves are open only to Park Service qualified subsistence users. Subsistence users must be local rural residents of National Park Service areas. For more information contact the National Park Service office in Anchorage, Alaska, telephone 907/257-2646.

45

46 And on the following -- on the bottom of 121, on pages 122 to the middle of 123 we have the hunting regulations, beginning with black bear. Under Customary and Traditional Use it says "No determination." One part of the regulation that I

50

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would like to see changed, so we'll make a note we need a Change Proposal on Black Bear, and if that's the wish of the Council.

4

5 I would entertain a motion to have the Customary and Traditional Use Determination for Black Bear changed.

7

8 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman.

9

10 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Knauer.

11

12 MR. KNAUER: I think it's important to remember that during this process we're currently working on proposals and changes to Subpart D, which is not, for the most part, Customary and Traditional Use Determinations. There is one point area where the board may entertain a change. I don't know whether they will or not, and that relates to muskox because of the unusual circumstances dealing with it. But all of the other areas relating to C & T changes will not be considered by the board during this process. And so I just wanted to let you know that so you can utilize your time on identifying other areas. That's not to say that things such as that won't be dealt with during the regular C & T process. Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Knauer. For the record, instead of going specie by specie on Customary and Traditional Use Determination I'd ask the council to make a motion that for the record, number one, we are not satisfied with the C & T determinations that are on the books; and, number two, that we see it as an urgent need that we get a C & T process initiated for these species within our Game Management Unit. And I would entertain such a motion for all species listed.

35

36 MR. BARR: To do what, Mr. Chairman?

37

38 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Barr, the motion I am entertaining would be a motion by the council requesting a Customary and traditional use determination for all species listed under the hunting and trapping regulations.

42

43 MR. BARR: I so move.

44

45 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a motion on the floor.

46

47 MR. OTTON: Second.

48

49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Seconded. Discussion?

50

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1
2 MR. SEETOT: Question.
3
4 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question's been called. All those
5 in favor of the motion, signify by saying aye.
6
7 IN UNISON: Aye.
8
9 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All those opposed, nay. (No
10 opposing responses) Motion passes unanimously.
11
12 We now move on to Subpart D Regulations, which, correct
13 me if I'm wrong, deal with the harvest limits and seasons, the
14 bag limits and seasons; is that correct?
15
16 MR. KNAUER: Yes, sir.
17
18 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: So we're dealing with those things
19 the right of the vertical line under the species under the
20 Hunting and the Trapping heading.
21
22 Are there any change proposals on black bear harvest
23 limits or season?
24
25 MR. LOCKWOOD: Mr. Chairman.
26
27 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Lockwood. It would be good to
28 know what this wording here, black bear, no determination,
29 three bears. Does that mean each hunter is allowed three bear?
30
31 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: That's correct.
32
33 MR. LOCKWOOD: That's all I wanted to know.
34
35 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The "no determination" part means
36 that there has not been a customary and traditional use
37 determination made for this specie within the Game Management
38 Unit and as a result it is open to all rural Alaskan residents.
39
40 MR. LOCKWOOD: No subsistence purpose.
41
42 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: No subsistence purpose. Is that
43 not correct, Mr. Knauer?
44
45 MR. KNAUER: There is a subsistence preference for
46 rural Alaskans but not -- not for individuals within the unit.
47
48 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Okay. Mr. Otton.
49
50

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1 MR. OTTON: I know probably Mr. Adkisson can answer
 this question. On Special Provisions in Game Unit 22 it talks
 about National Parks Monuments and Preserves are open only to
 Park Service qualified subsistence users, and subsistence users
 must be local rural residents of National Park Service areas.
 And for more information contact the office in Anchorage.

7

8 How can I interpret what it says here? Does that mean
 like if there is say muskox around Shishmaref in the National
 Parks Service area, then only muskox would be open, but it
 would be depending on if muskox has a customary and traditional
 rating or what? How do I interpret that?

13

14 MR. ADKISSON: My name is Ken Adkisson, with the
 National Park Service in Nome. In response to that question,
 by, it's kind of for us in the National Preserves, it's kind
 of a complicated process, and it's one that hasn't been
 thoroughly worked out yet. Part of that is the preserves are
 a kind of limbo kind of regulatory-wise. National Parks and
 Monuments are generally closed to sport hunting and
 non-subsistence hunting activities completely, and there
 hunting is generally either by resident zone/residents within a
 zone or identified communities whereby a roster or permit
 system.

25

26 At the time that Congress was putting together and the
 Government was putting together the regulations for subsistence
 activities because the preserves were open to both sport and
 subsistence harvest under state law people felt additional
 regulations weren't required for the preserves. What we have
 now is an interpretation of what's local and that's -- that's
 really sort of iffy. If you look in the reg books and the
 existing things, generally that's interpreted to mean if you're
 a resident of 22 -- of GMU 22, that makes you a local resident
 for the purposes of hunting within GMU 22. And there are a
 couple exceptions to that. Wolves as being one of the prime
 noticeable ones, but that's a holdover from earlier state
 determinations.

39

40 MR. OTTON: So the way it sounds like, anybody from --
 starting from Stebbins, St. Michaels, all the way up to
 Shishmaref can all go flock to Shishmaref, whenever they get a
 chance at the five permits at 22(E). Most of the -- looks like
 22(E) is in -- more of half of it is in the National Parks
 Service hands.

46

47 MR. ADKISSON: That's a good question. I will say
 right now that will probably be a valid interpretation unless
 it's limited in the future to some mechanism.

50

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1
 2 MR. OTTON: I kind of think this should be addressed
 3 somewhere down the line, probably sooner or later, you know,
 4 although as it is written, you know, local rural residents,
 5 boy, I don't consider myself being a local rural resident of
 6 22(E), you know. Maybe that's why they they've got all these
 7 boundaries. Why shouldn't we just be 22 without no
 8 subdivisions if, you know, we're going to deal with this local
 9 rural residents as it is written here? It should be just rural
 10 residents of 22, you know. It seems like somebody has got to
 11 do a lot more interpretation of what is written here as, you
 12 know, these special provisions.

13
 14 MR. ADKISSON: Again, earlier on people felt there was
 15 no need to do that. There is current thinking in the National
 16 Park Service that the kind of eligibility requirements that
 17 currently are applied to National Parks and Monuments should,
 18 through additional rulemaking, be applied to National
 19 Preserves. That has some benefits but it also has some
 20 drawbacks. You know, in one way this -- having things more
 21 those works to your advantage until the competition demand
 22 level builds up to the point where you've got to start
 23 restricting people back.

24
 25 I think it's quite appropriate that this group begins
 26 to think about what would constitute an eligible local user
 27 because that's coming down the road, and, you know, it may come
 28 sooner than later if we have to face that issue with say
 29 Huskoxen. And my own feeling is personally I think there are a
 30 number of ways to go with it. I think if you look at a lot of
 31 the information that's available you can develop kind of
 32 additional use areas, and I would like to see it go back
 33 eventually to something like to the tribal governments to
 34 determine within those areas who a bona fide user is and get
 35 the government out of allocation issues like that. But that's
 36 not exactly a widely accepted idea, and I think it's going to
 37 take a long way to get down -- get to there. But we're going
 38 to have to face that question of who is a local eligible user.

39
 40 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Adkisson, while you're there,
 41 please interpret to me how this -- what this means to you,
 42 Ray, and then I'll tell you what it means to me. "Subsistence
 43 users must be local rural residents of National Park Service
 44 areas." Now what's the difference between a National Park and
 45 National Park Service area?

46
 47 MR. ADKISSON: That's something that the Park Service
 48 has insisted in putting in with their regs, and it hasn't been
 49 challenged, and I don't know how well it would stand-up.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Does that mean you'd have to live
within the National Park to be considered a local rural
resident? That was my first question.

5
6 MR. ADKISSON: That means under the Federal Regulations
basically means that you have to live within the boundaries of
the park or in a community near the park that's been identified
within a resident zone, or for our purpose, you know, it's
interpreted so loosely it's to mean that if you live within
GMU 22, which is exactly the situation that Roy and I were
talking about a moment ago.

13
14 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: So the entire GMU is considered a
National Park Service area?

16
17 MR. OTTON: No, for use.

18
19 MR. ADKISSON: No, only for local use currently of the
Park Service area itself.

21
22 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: That brings the next question. We
see the area marked in blue is the National Park Service. What
does that say, A lands -- Administered lands? We know that
National Park areas is marked. Do we have any monuments and
preserves in this area?

27
28 MR. ADKISSON: We have the National Preserve Bering
Land Bridge National Preserve.

30
31 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: That's a preserve?

32
33 MR. ADKISSON: That's right. There are no parks and
monuments on the Seward Peninsula.

35
36 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: No parks and monuments.

37
38 MR. ADKISSON: The nearest park would be up in the
Kotzebue area.

40
41 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Okay.

42
43 MR. ADKISSON: And monument.

44
45 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: So both sport and subsistence
hunting up there are allowed on the preserve?

47
48 MR. ADKISSON: Under state law. And subsistence
how

50

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1
2 MR. KNAUER: And Federal law

3
4 MR. ADKISSON: under Federal law.

5
6 MR. KNAUER: Yeah, and sport hunting is also allowed
under Federal law -- preserves.

8
9 MR. ADKISSON: Only by adoption and, you know,
essentially assimilation of, you know, federal season and bag
limits.

12
13 MR. KNAUER: 36. The Bureau of Regulations provide
for.

15
16 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Who is right?

17
18 MR. ADKISSON: ANILCA basically just says that sport
hunting shall be allowed to continue on the preserves according
to state rules and regulations. And that

21
22 MR. OTTON: If you

23
24 MR. ADKISSON: And if you want to carry that down to
Title 36, it's probably correct, but the seasons and bag limits
are determined by -- you know, by the State Board of Game.

27
28 MR. OTTON: If the National Park Service is under the
jurisdiction of the Department of Interior out of our federal
government do they have to abide by what the state rules or
regulations state concerning sports hunting in National
Preserves? I mean who is bigger, you know, who is more up on
the totem pole?

34
35 MR. ADKISSON: No, we can further eliminate --
Basically we have to work within the framework of what the
state provides, to a certain extent, but if for some reason we
conclude that, for example, there's adverse impact on the
subsistence harvest, we can thereby limit, restrict or cut out
the sport hunting. If we conclude that there are safety or
other management issues involv- -- resource management issues
involved, we can further limit the state rules and regulations
regarding sport hunting.

44
45 MR. OTTON: Well, I certainly think the sport of five
balls that they're requiring to come out of Game Unit 22(E),
there would be an adverse effect out sports hunters that come
from the rest of the unit -- Game Unit 22, and I betcha'
there will be an influx of sports hunters out of Nome that

50

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Wouldn't mind getting a muskox out of Shishmaref. That kind of concerns me, you know.

3

4 MR. ADKISSON: It's a tough call, you know. It wouldn't surprise me if you get a good faith effort on the part of the state to do something that's not satisfactory, it gets picked into the federal system and I think it's going to start working its way through as a result of actions taken here at this council meeting, and it gets in and gets snarled down, and we don't wind up with anything possibly this season on the federal system until we sort it out, because of those very reasons. But, you know, you're not going to know until you get it started through the system.

14

15 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any other questions or comments for Mr. Adkisson?

17

18 MR. IVANOFF: Mr. Chairman.

19

20 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Ivanoff.

21

22 MR. IVANOFF: So the yellow area outside of Unalakleet is open for state licensed guides; is that correct?

24

25 MR. ADKISSON: Anne might be better off to address that, but that would -- to my knowledge the Bureau of Land Management does issue special use permits for commercially guided sport hunting. We're supposed to, too, but we haven't, at least for our preserve.

30

31 MR. IVANOFF: I have a problem with that in this area, the moose aren't (indiscernible), and for them to come in and you know, I hunted for a couple of weeks this year and I was unable to get a moose, and for a guide that has the resources to go out and harvest at will, you know, I don't think that's the best interest of -- so, you know, allowing that to happen.

38

39 MR. ADKISSON: I don't know. Anne Morkill, the Bureau of Land Management representative, she'll be the best one to bring that issue up with so she can carry it back to her people there's a conflict because it's within the scope of the federal agencies to restrict those activities if there's an adverse impact on the subsistence user.

45

46 MR. IVANOFF: Then she would be the one to address?

47

48 MR. ADKISSON: That's a good one to start or through the council to go directly to the Federal Board with a

50

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proposal.

2

3 MR. IVANOFF: I think that would be in the best
4 interests of the Unalakleet subsistence areas and your areas
5 because we've got so much color up in our area to compete
6 against somebody how has a Super Cub, you know. I don't think
7 that's fair for a guy from Germany to come in and get what we
8 should be putting on our table.

9

10 MR. OTTON: Steve. You've got big game guides hunting
11 out of Unalakleet in the unit -- the (indiscernible) drainage?

12

13 MR. IVANOFF: We see them up there, we don't know if
14 they're harvesting, but we do see antlers leave, and we have no
15 idea what unit they're coming from or where they're coming
16 from, but we have seen them on the river. Mr. Katchatag.

17

18 MR. OTTON: Steve, I happen to know, at least partly,
19 that the persons that hunt up there use bow and arrow for brown
20 bear, and he was guided by Vince Christoffersen.

21

22 MR. IVANOFF: See, that's the problem. We've got so
23 much color up there it's our prime moose hunting area and you
24 put any more pressure on there and then -- like I said, I
25 hunted for a couple weeks this year and I was unable to get a
26 moose, and that guy has the resources to bring a guy from
27 Germany or wherever to come in and harvest in our unit isn't
28 right. And, you know, maybe -- I don't know if this is proper
29 but I would inflict on the -- if it's possible for the board to
30 pursue the federal -- whoever is -- whoever needs to be
31 addressed on that.

32

33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: That's a good issue for here
34 because ANILCA, which is enabling legislation specifies that
35 subsistence uses will have a priority or a preference, and if
36 users themselves feel that they are being unduly pressured into
37 going farther and farther back because of trophy sport hunters
38 then I think it's a very valid thing to be brought up before
39 the board.

40

41 MR. BARR: Mr. Chairman, who is the guides here? Are
42 there any guides in Unalakleet or

43

44 MR. IVANOFF: Yeah, there is. There's one that lives
45 here, he's not from here, but Batch Kirskolski (ph), and he has
46 another -- he has another partner that doesn't live here, but
47 he brings his Super Cub up here also and they so some hunting
48 with that. I'm trying to think of his name. Mark -- is it
49 Mark?

50

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1
2 MR. OTTON: Nat Heitman (ph)?
3
4 MR. IVANOFF: No, no, no, no, no. Anyway,

5
6 MR. OTTON: (Indiscernible), I think. Mark Hansen?
7
8 MR. IVANOFF: No. I can't think of his name, but this
(indiscernible), they both use Super Cubs right out of
Unalakleet here. And, you know, they're getting to federal
land. We know they're getting through federal land with
unauthorized easements through the corporation land, but we
don't have the resources through the corporation to enforce
that, and if we can get some kind of assistance from the
federal side saying that, you know, you're not allowed to do
that, that would help our part.

17
18 MR. OTTON: I don't know, Steve is gone, he stepped
out. He gave me a list of big game guides that hunt out of the
Koyuk area. There's one, our good friend Keith Koontz (ph),
he's got a camp, Camp Hagan at the head of Koyuk River, and
also we've got one based out of Koyuk, and, you know, they're
native at least, (indiscernible) like two breeding bulls out of
our Koyuk River drainage. I know Steve, he said there's
another one that flew out of Unalakleet, a guy, I think by the
name of Willard. You guys ever heard of that guy?

27
28 MR. IVANOFF: Pardon?
29
30 MR. OTTON: Willard?
31
32 MR. IVANOFF: Willard? I haven't heard of him.
33
34 MR. OTTON: I don't know exactly where he flies to, but
I know there is three big game guides in this part of our neck
of the woods.

37
38 MR. IVANOFF: You know, as far as I'm concerned, if
they're going to be restricting people, I think they should
eliminate -- if they're going to restrict the system then I
think we should totally eliminate sport hunting 'cause most of
these sports fishermen aren't even from America -- most of
these sports hunters aren't even from America, you know, and
they're the wealthy people that can afford to come up here for
meat. They want to put something on their wall and if you're
going to -- on federal land if you're going to choose to let
somebody in Germany put antlers on his wall and restrict
somebody that could putting food in other people's stomachs,
you know, it isn't right.

50

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1
2 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chairman, there's basically three
avenues to, you know, address that kind of an issue. I won't
tell you, you know, or recommend which is the best possible
success, but still there exists three avenues. One, you can
look through your state system, like that's where you have some
state and federal laws applying, and you can try to get the
problem addressed through some adjustment in state rules and
regulation such as the Noatak use area and things like that
that have been enacted. Or you can work through the individual
agency that has jurisdiction and see if they can get a federal
law or regulation change, or you can work through the Federal
Subsistence Board.

14

15 MR. IVANOFF: I see a lot of our -- that prime land --
federal prime land -- I mean federal land is our prime hunting
grounds -- customary hunting grounds.

18

19 MR. OTTON: You know, a couple years ago Alaska Fish &
Game out of Nome submitted a proposal after they found out
whose in the Koyuk River drainage was declining, like to about
what 700, 750, and they said they need to cut back the hunting
time because of the decline of our moose, so they made a
proposal to change the date of hunting from August -- they
wanted to change it from August 1 to September 1 and continue
on to September 31. Well, in my village it's been our practice
for our people to catch nothin' but the bulls. You know, we've
been practicing that for -- ever since I can remember, and as a
result, you know, I guess that's why we let the mommy's live
and the daddy's die and, you know, there's always somebody else
to make the babies, so, you know, we've always had a rise of
moose. Well, the way we looked at it they were trying to cut
back the hunting time at the expense of the subsistence hunters
by one month and then they continue on their proposals to keep
open to December 31. But we do know the big game guides
operate both at this time of the year. That's when we're done
hunting. We only hunt the bulls from August to the first part
of September when the -- before pre-rut, you know. After the
but the meat is no more good, you know, they stink like I don't
know what. So

41

42 MR. IVANOFF: Yeah, I had a family member that got some
meat from one of the guides here in town that tried eating the
moose meat that they gave him. You know, they had to disperse
45 they keep the horns and then they disperse the meat, but it
wasn't edible, we ended up throwing it in the trash, you know,
47 cause it was -- it wasn't edible at all.

48

49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Adkisson. Any

50

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change proposals for the regulation on black bears, either harvest limits or season?

3

4 MR. IVANOFF: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. What unit are you working in?

6

7 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We're looking at Unit 22, page 21.

9

10 MR. IVANOFF: Is that Unit 22, all of the unit?

11

12 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: This booklet.

13

14 MR. IVANOFF: I was just wondering if that consisted of A, B, C, D and E.

16

17 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The only time that specifies changes, if you look under Harvest Limits under Brown Bear it says Unit 22(C), 1 bear every four years, and then the remainder, 1 bear every four years. But the seasons look like they're a little different. If there is no proposal changes for black bear, either harvest limits or seasons, we'll move on to brown bear.

24

25 Under Harvest Limits it says Unit 22(C) - 1 bear every four regulatory years, with open seasons being September 1 to October 31; May 10 to May 25, and the remainder of Unit 22 - 1 bear every four regulatory years, with a season from September 1 to October 31; and April 15 to May 25.

30

31 Are there any proposal changes, regulatory change proposals for brown bear?

33

34 MR. LOCKWOOD: Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Lockwood.

37

38 MR. LOCKWOOD: I think on this brown bear, the 22(C) 1 bear every four years. I think that's big cut. I think that's too long. I think I want every year is better because there's so many now. There's too many, and then it can be fixed later if they're just about all killed out. That's too far apart here, every four years.

44

45 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Lockwood, are you proposing a change in that regulation on harvest limits?

47

48 MR. LOCKWOOD: I thought -- I would just bring it up anyway. I think that's a little too much, every four years.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Okay. The chair would entertain a
motion to change the harvest limit on brown bear in Game
Management Unit 22, and for the purposes of expedience I will
propose that we change that regulation to be brown bear every
year, with the same seasons. Do I hear a second?

7
8 MR. BARR: Second the motion.

9
10 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I have a second. Discussion?

11
12 MR. BARR: Question.

13
14 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question's been called. All those
15 in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

16
17 IN UNISON: Aye.

18
19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All those opposed, nay. (No
20 opposing responses) Motion passes unanimously.

21
22 We now move on to caribou.

23
24 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman.

25
26 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Knauer.

27
28 MR. KNAUER: You may want to have on record some
29 justifications beyond what has been

30
31 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have been advised by Mr. Knauer
32 of US Fish & Wildlife staff that we need to make sure that we
33 have justification for the change proposals.

34
35 MR. OTTON: Beyond what George just alluded to?

36
37 MR. KNAUER: Yes.

38 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Let's quickly go over some reasons
39 justification. Number one, they are a nuisance in the
40 subsistence camps and cabins along the rivers; number two, they
41 are endangering the lives of our berry pickers during that
42 particular season; number three, there are too many and they
43 have lost their fear of man.

44
45 Any other justification for the regulation change?

46
47 MR. DEGNAN: They break and enter into cabins.

48
49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: They break and enter into cabins,
50

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1 tear down equipment. Mrs. Katchatag.

2

3 MRS. KATCHATAG: When we

4

5 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Could you come up here to the
6 mike, please? And please state your name for the record and
7 your occupation.

8

9 MRS. KATCHATAG: My name is Irene Katchatag, and I'm
10 from Unalakleet, and I'm a retired high school teacher, and I'm
11 a housewife now. I was going to say something before you
12 passed that a while ago but you didn't see my arm, I didn't
13 raise it high enough. But when you try to subsist for good,
14 day fish eating in the month of September you work really hard,
15 you clean the net -- especially for us old people. We have
16 arthritis in our bodies and sometimes we work for nothing.

17

18 One time I watched when it was real moonlight at night
19 and I -- because we have fish hanging right by the house, and I
20 watch and watch till going on two o'clock in the morning, I
21 guess, because I can see everything from the window. And my
22 husband and my son, they were already sleeping and I had to
23 check. And the next morning, six or seven of them were gone,
24 right from my house, and you -- and you thought you would have
25 good breakfast in the wintertime. Not only me, my brother
26 had a cabin about a couple three beds (ph) above us, and he
27 hung the best silver salmon for himself so he can dry them
28 carefully and all that. And then he put up 13 real good silver
29 salmon, and he has nobody to help him, just himself. He's in
30 his 70s, and he hung 13 of them. And had it done. But the dog
31 was scared of the bears when they came, and she didn't bark,
32 the dog he had at the time. The dog hid out -- go in the boat
33 and the fish was hanging close to the house and yet all 13 of
34 them were gone in the morning, and that dog wouldn't come out
35 from the boat, the dog was still scared. That's working for
36 nothing.

37

38 And they don't stop there. They check every now and
39 then to see if there's any more, and it's hard on us older
40 people to work hard like that. We can't work hard any more in
41 our old age, and there should be something done. If I get
42 tired of a bear doing like that, I'm going to shoot them, even
43 if it's in season or not because they're a nuisance. They even
44 break our fish rack one time and eat our leftover -- what we
45 thought we would use if we come back. But that grub box fell
46 when he broke that fish rack we had, and everything was eaten.
47 We don't even have milk for morning, we didn't even have
48 cheese for next day, nothing.

49

50

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1 They're a nuisance, and I won't be afraid to shoot on
 2 off-season if they keep coming back to my camp -- to our camp.
 3 And I'm a good shot. A year ago I shot a caribou, one bullet,
 4 it dropped, and when it dropped I said, "Oh, it dropped."
 5 Well, I aimed at it and I was surprised. Well, I think I can
 6 catch a bear if they get too bad. That's all I have to say.

7
 8 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mrs. Katchatag, and let
 9 the record reflect she's also my mother.

10
 11 MR. IVANOFF: Mr. Chairman.

12
 13 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Ivanoff.

14
 15 MR. IVANOFF: If I may, I'd like to make a comment. We
 16 want to be careful that we don't really -- with this in mind we
 17 don't really want anybody to guide hunts into this area to
 18 eliminate that problem 'cause it would just instigate more
 19 traffic on the river, and that's not in our best interests.

20
 21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Point well taken, Mr. Ivanoff, and
 22 let us remember that these are subsistence regulations and not
 23 for sport hunts.

24
 25 MR. IVANOFF: Yeah, you know, but we don't want that
 26 either.

27
 28 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Harry. Ms. Detwiler.

29
 30 MS. DETWILER: Yeah, I just wanted to bring up
 31 something that we had talked about earlier, and that is to
 32 remind the council that the Federal Subsistence Board is less
 33 likely to grant your request if the reason for the request is
 34 solely predator control. In your rationale you might want to
 35 include something to the effect that customary and traditional
 36 practices are to take bear more than once every four years.

37
 38 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: For the record, let is put down
 39 that customs and traditions of the local residents require that
 40 they do take bear opportunistically for whatever value they
 41 might be and to also put the fear of God in them, and since
 42 there is no visible god at the present time that we try to
 43 substitute the fear of man.

44
 45 Any other justification for the increase in the harvest
 46 limit for brown bear in Game Management Unit 22 from 1 bear
 47 every four years to one bear every regulatory year?
 48 Ms. Katchatag.

49
 50

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1 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Thank you again, Mr. Chairman
 2 and the panel. I have -- I'd like to present to you for your
 3 consideration not at this time because the time frame is not
 4 that long, but I'd like for you to -- for you and the Fish &
 5 Wildlife Service to consider a waiver of regulations and
 6 establish a boundary area to populated the areas -- populated
 7 places because just the last summer or early -- late last
 8 summer my son said he saw two bears in two consecutive nights
 9 crossing right here at the air field. That's getting too
 10 close, and while they were looking for the body of my nephew
 11 another family saw two big bears just close by up here feeding
 12 on some dead fish, and they shot to scare them off, and all
 13 they did was put their heads up and just kept right on eating
 14 the fish. Their shots -- the rifle shots didn't bother them.

15

16 And I also would like to have you consider maybe in a
 17 smaller scale to all established swamp sites that if the bear
 18 is not afraid and is there at the camp site I think they should
 19 be allowed to be killed because they're supposed to be wild
 20 bears anyway, and the only way that we possibly can get 'em
 21 back to their wild status is to reshuffle the whole
 22 regulations, kill all of these tame bears. That way we'll
 23 start out again with wild species. This is a comment I'd like
 24 to make and for you to consider next time, not on this time.
 25 Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

26

27 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katchatag, you bring up a very
 28 good point, and I appreciate that comment. Maybe we can see
 29 some progress in this regard down the road. If you would like
 30 to submit a change proposal, there are forms available for that
 31 purpose.

32

33 For the record let the record show that we have just
 34 received our transcript from our last meeting in Shishmaref.
 35 What is the wish of the council? Do we approve our minutes or
 36 our transcript as our minutes of the last meeting?

37

38 While you're considering that, for the record -- oops,
 39 where is my coordinator? For the record, I think as a matter
 40 of professional courtesy I would move and ask unanimous consent
 41 from the council that we send a letter of commendation to our
 42 former colleague Mr. Leonard Adams of Brevig Mission thanking
 43 him for his time, consideration and participation in our
 44 deliberations as a Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional
 45 Council member and commending him for his service on -- as our
 46 colleague on this council. Hearing no objection, so ordered.
 47 Barbara and I will deliberate together to get this letter
 48 drafted to Mr. Adams.

49

50

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1 What is the wish of the council on the transcript of
2 our March meeting?

3

4 (Pause)

5

6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: What is the wish of the council
7 regarding the transcript of our last meeting? Move and ask
8 unanimous consent that we accept the transcripts of our last
9 meeting as a draft minutes of our last meeting. Is there any
10 objection? Mr. Seetot.

11

12 MR. SEETOT: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Could you give me an
13 idea, since I wasn't at the last meeting, I would have to
14 abstain from accepting or move that this be settled.

15

16 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: You have the right to abstain
17 seeing as you were not at that meeting and that you have just
18 been seated at this meeting. I would accept that as your right
19 to abstain.

20

21 MR. OTTON: Well, I assume that these are the
22 transcripts and we've got our lady over there doing that, it's
23 more or less word for word what went on in the whole meeting.
24 Then somebody make a motion?

25

26 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I moved and asked unanimous
27 consent that we accept these as a draft minutes of our last
28 meeting, and I was in the process of asking if there are any
29 objections.

30

31 MR. OTTON: No objections.

32

33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Hearing none, so ordered. We are
34 still in the process of working on our change proposals. Any
35 further justification for the change of harvest limits of the
36 brown bear from one every four to one every year? Hearing
37 none, we now move on to caribou.

38

39 I'm really at a loss as to why they divided the caribou
40 into the Western Arctic herd and also caribou except the
41 Western Arctic herd. Correct me if I'm wrong but I'm under the
42 impression that all caribou that migrate to this area are all
43 part of the Western Arctic caribou herd.

44

45 MR. KOVACH: Mr. Chair, as you will remember, when the
46 federal government assumed the subsistence program in 1990 they
47 just basically took what the state had on their books and
48 adopted that and they've been slowly being changed through
49 time. The Western Arctic herd, and as you correctly say, is a

50

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predominant caribou herd, and I believe it's the only caribou herd that migrates through this area. However, I do know of some recent telemetry work that's been done by the state, in cooperation with the North Slope where they've called it Shukpuk caribou and central Arctics, and there have been two individuals that I know of, these are females that did show up on the Seward Peninsula. I believe there's been long-term reports of scattered sightings of other possible caribou into areas. That's why that verbiage is in there as the -- what the Federal Subsistence Board has directed staff to do is they start going through their C & T re-evaluations and trying to correct the known errors and things like that as to change -- instead of identifying specific herds, just saying caribou within this area or subarea is how they're going to do it in the future.

16

17 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Okay. Thank you for the clarification, Mr. Kovach. Are there any change proposals for harvest limits or seasons on caribou within Unit 22?

20

21 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Mr. Chairman.

22

23 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katchatag.

24

25 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Thank you again, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to comment on these five caribou per day which is -- which can be reasonable if the caribou are traveling, but I think if the caribou are more or less resting, I think that a five limit is quite high. What I would like to see is up to five and that they are being dressed or taken care of and taken home and not be left out in the open, out in the field, that if a person is ready to get that money he should also be willing to bring them home that same day instead of leaving them.

34

35 The reason why I brought this up is I think all of you know that at times we go out there and there would be some unskinned caribou not even cut here and there. I'm not saying that they were intentionally killed but some may have also been wounded during the process of hunting. That's a concern I have so I brought it up. Thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Katchatag.

43

44 MR. IVANOFF: Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Ivanoff.

47

48 MR. IVANOFF: If I hear the gentleman's name is -- your name is Steve?

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Steve Kovarek (ph) -- Kovach, I'm
3 sorry.
4
5 MR. IVANOFF: It's my understanding some of the caribou
6s left behind 'cause of uncertain -- with the help of the
7 caribou, and I -- you know, we had some people leave a caribou
8 behind because of bad looking liver, and you know they have
9 some white spots on there and I had called the reindeer herder
10 in Nome and they said that you just have to cook the liver real
11 good, and I know there was some people that left another
12 caribou due to sand paper. I don't know if you're familiar
13 with that, but right underneath the skin is like sandpaper over
14 the meat, and if you know if that's edible, and I think that's
15 part of the problem with Mr. Katchatag's comment there is that
16 education on the health of the caribou is a problem. You don't
17 you know, if they're there in numbers you don't really want
18 to bring a sick caribou home to feed their family.
19
20 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Kovach, while you're coming up
21 there, you know, this is one of the things that in -- I
22 personally have deferred to those with more knowledge than I on
23 the subject, and one of the real long-time caribou hunters from
24 this area who has been traveling way up to the headwaters of
25 the Shaktoolik and Ungalik Rivers to do caribou hunting before
26 they migrated down here -- in other words, he's been doing it
27 for the last 25, 30 years. His perception of the health of the
28 animal is that if they have spots on their liver that this is
29 definitely not normal and it's definitely not a healthy animal.
30 And his recommendation was that if in fact you do shoot a
31 caribou and it has that, he said don't mess with it, don't even
32 bother butchering it. He said that you -- if you cut your
33 finger you have it -- you're running a chance of getting it
34 yourself the same. So that's some of the background
35 information for you on this. Maybe you can give Mr. Ivanoff an
36 answer.
37
38 MR. KOVACH: Thank you. Without having seen the liver
39 there are several parasites as well as disease processes that
40 cause spotting of the liver. Also if the animal isn't
41 cleaned immediately, if it's allowed to sit for say an hour
42 before you clean it, a typical post mortem process in the body
43 white spots begin to develop. So if you were lucky enough
44 come across a small bunch of caribou and managed to shoot
45 four or five, it may take you a little while to get to that
46 last one. In a normal post mortem process is development of
47 white spots. As I said, there are some parasites that occupy
48 the liver that create white spots that are some disease
49 processes also. So without having seen it I can't tell you
50

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What happens. I'm not a professional pathologist by training so I wouldn't be able to say this is -- what it is for certain, but I've had enough experience that I can narrow it down pretty well.

5

6 Typically what -- if you have a parasite in the liver, it's pretty much contained within the liver, the intestinal tracks basically is where it is, and it doesn't -- it does not infect the meat itself. The condition -- the sandpaper in the connective tissue between the skin and the muscle I have seen in caribou and moose and elk and deer and a wide variety of locations. Unfortunately the exact cause of that condition escapes me at the moment so I can't relay that, but it is not a serious problem for humans. The recommendation is just to clean that connective tissue, that kind of clearish material, whitish material off the muscle tissue before butchering, and then cook the meat as you normally would is perfectly fine after that.

19

20 MR. IVANOFF: So everything underneath that is good -- the meat underneath that?

22

23 MR. KOVACH: Right. It's a condition within -- you know, as you begin to skin an animal there's tissue that holds the skin to the meat itself, it's a kind of a lightweight area material, and I wish I could remember what the process is that causes that, and I just don't at the moment, unfortunately, it's been too many years since I've had to do that. But it's just a matter -- it's easy enough to peel that material off of the flesh itself, and then you just thoroughly cook the meat just like you normally would.

32

33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Does your office have any kind of informational fliers dealing with say, in this case, caribou diseases and parasites and how to protect those and their effects on humans?

37

38 MR. KOVACH: We do not, but the state has a pathologist. His name is Dr. Randy Zarnke, in Fairbanks, and he's at the Fish & Game office in Fairbanks there. And I'm sure he can be contacted, and I don't know if he has materials or not, but I'm sure he'd be able to provide a lot more detailed information than I can.

44

45 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Do you know the spelling of his last name?

47

48 MR. KOVACH: Z-a-r-n-k-e, I think. If that's not it, it's awfully close.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: There can't be too many more close
3 to that.
4
5 MR. IVANOFF: If we could somehow educate our people
6 that would eliminate some of the waste that
7
8 MR. KOVACH: Absolutely.
9
10 MR. IVANOFF: seems to
11
12 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: That's why I was asking. You
13 know, if we could get some of the information and disseminate
14 it among the caribou hunting communities it would be a great
15 help.
16
17 MR. KOVACH: If you call Randy there in Fairbanks,
18 he'll be more than willing to help people. He's very good
19 about that.
20
21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Barb, can we have some research
22 into Dr. Zarnke?
23
24 MS. ARMSTRONG: What's the name?
25
26 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Dr. Zarnke; Z-a-r-n-k-e. First
27 name Randy. And maybe the Cooperative Extension Service might
28 have some information.
29
30 MR. KOVACH: Yeah, I just -- I know the comment on
31 Mr. Katchatag's comments on the bag limit, when the bag limit
32 says five or three or something like that, it's implicit that
33 it means up to and whatnot so a hunter doesn't necessarily have
34 to get that many animals. He can catch, you know, five or
35 three or two or one or whatever he chooses that he can deal
36 with at that point in time. So I just -- a point of
37 clarification on that.
38
39 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Kovach. Any change
40 in proposals on caribou harvest limits or seasons?
41
42 MR. SEETOT: Mr. Chairman, comment.
43
44 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Seetot.
45
46 MR. SEETOT: I notice that 22(A) and (B) are included
47 (indiscernible) both units. For (C), (D), and (E), I know
48 that residents from these communities have to travel great
49 distances to hunt caribou after, during or around the
50

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Death Valley area. Are we exempting them from these regulations or proceed (ph) with, you know, residents from these areas that used to legally, you know, be in compliance with these regulations?

5

6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: If you're traveling to Death Valley area it looks like you're all in state land, so you'd have to comply with state regulations.

9

10 MR. OTTON: So you would become a subsistence hunter under state law?

12

13 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Otton.

14

15 MR. OTTON: I mean a sports hunter, you'd be sport hunting caribou because if you go to 22(B) it's not allowed, according to these rules and regulations because only the rural residents of

19

20 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: 22(A) and (B)

21

22 MR. OTTON: Yeah, 22(A) and (B) are allowed to subsistence hunt caribou, according to this. So you have to hunt under the state system and be a sports hunter.

25

26 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Adkisson.

27

28 MR. ADKISSON: Okay, under the -- okay, under the past state system there was no open season on caribou in 22(C), (D), and (E), and that's been a longstanding situation. So the only open season on caribou within 22 really was -- were subunits (A) and (B). So technically caribou hunting in (C), (D), and (E) was illegal. Essentially that was carried over by the federal system, it would seem, and when they were doing their CMT that, again, was carried over, I think, from the old state system, and the only people that had a positive determination for the Western Arctic herd were residents in basically 22(A) and (B), and as it says, 23, 24 and 26(A). So that means if you are a resident of 22(C), (D), or (E), you had no positive determination for the Western Arctic herd. And that situation still prevails today.

42

43 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: So, Mr. Otton's assessment is right, that if you are in fact a resident of 22(C), (D), or (E) and you travel to 22(B) then you must comply with the state sport hunt harvest regulations?

47

48 MR. ADKISSON: Right now there basically isn't much of a problem because there's no real divergence between

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essentially the state resident hunting and the federal subsistence seasons and bag limits. So there really isn't a problem so now you can do that. The crunch is going to come if the Western Arctic herd crashes sometimes, and what provision is going to be made for those people living on the bulk of the Seward Peninsula, let's say, if they begin to cut down and restrict different users.

8

9 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yeah, Mr. Barr had alluded to earlier in other discussions that they had asked that the trail through Serpentine Hot Springs be maintained because they do travel through that particular drainage to go and hunt the Western Arctic caribou herd around the Kiwalek area. Is that true, Mr. Barr?

15

16 MR. BARR: Uh-huh (affirmative).

17

18 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: So, you know,

19

20 MR. BARR: From Shishmaref is one of them trails.

21

22 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Right. Right, and then there's also one to Serpentine Hot Springs.

24

25 MR. BARR: Right. (Indiscernible)

26

27 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: You know, it might be putting the cart before the horse, but I think since they brought it up it would be a good idea to anticipate the curve and see if we can't do something to accommodate the subsistence users in 22(C), (D), and (E), especially that customarily and additionally travel farther east to subsist on the Western Arctic caribou herd.

34

35 MR. ADKISSON: I think there's two problems there, Mr. Chairman, and one is is that, you know, as a matter of a C & T determination, and hopefully that -- I think that can be remedied the next time around when they get to dealing with the whole issue of C & T on the Seward Peninsula. I see that as an incorrect determination and hopefully that will be fixed. The next question is whether you could ever hunt caribou in Units 4(C), (D), and (E), and that basically boils down to the issue of are there caribou and would anybody ever open the season on them. And that gets to be a little more complicated issues.

45

46 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Seetot.

47

48 MR. SEETOT: Historically over the years on the Iuluk River drainage there is one area where there is a lot of --

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Where there is a big pile of caribou antlers that were harvested many years ago. I think that the caribou traveled west from Deering area during the early years, but over the years they have receded towards the eastern part. There seems to be a resurgence in caribou sightings toward Tapisburg (ph) and around that area. So -- and east or west of the lava beds. Those numbers are gradually increasing for the sightings of caribou and caribou are moving back, I think to their old winter range. I'm not too sure why the decline of caribou -- why the caribou crashed between now and, you know, during the time when they were harvesting them pretty much year round. I'm not too sure if they were part of the Western Arctic herd or they were, you know, local caribou.

14

15 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I think one of the impacts that should be brought on record is the fact that when the miners were in Nome the one figure that sticks in my mind was that one time there was some 20,000 miners living in Nome, and you can imagine the impact that those 20,000 miners had on the resources in the area, and it's our contention that the Seward Peninsula caribou herd, along with whatever muskox might have been around, were wiped out at that time. So this might fit under their criteria as being one excluding interruptions beyond the control of the community or area. And you'll document it for the record that -- and I would like you to show up on the map, just a location where you know of this pile of antlers.

28

29 MR. SEETOT: I have a general idea. It's around -- 30's toward the Arctic Creek area, and it's located in one of the mountains above Brevig Mission, and this area used to be where the caribou migrated into that. That's where our ancestors, you know, got game from caribou and other animals. 34 I can give you an idea or once I get the names of the -- you know, locations, then I can probably forward it to this area. 36 know it's between the Arctic Creek and Iuluk (ph) River area.

37

38 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Great.

39

40 MR. SEETOT: And I can ever show you pictures of them after I go find them.

42

43 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: That would really make a case for you if and when that particular caribou herd migration, again, starts going through that area, because I know the caribou are pretty opportunistic animals and this area is good evidence of that fact. We've had prime reindeer moss around this area for ever since we lost our local -- or ever since our local reindeer herd was allowed to go wild. So there is a lot of

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forage, it's prime, and it's a lot deeper than I've ever seen anywhere else. And it points up to the fact that caribou are opportunistic animals and that if they discover a range that has not been foraged for some time, they definitely do take advantage of it. So there's a good chance that the caribou herd that is now in the Monument area will probably migrate west, if in fact there's a food trail for them. So I would suggest that you document that as fully as possible things that you know about such as those piles of caribou antlers.

Mr. Barr.

11

12 MR. BARR: Yeah. For the record, I'd like to also speak about mountain sheep. Sawtooth Range is covered with mountain sheep, you know, before the miners came in. When they came they wiped them out. We've been, you know, hunting sheeps up there years ago before White man ever came to our country.

17

18 MR. OTTON: The Sawtooth Mountains?

19

20 MR. BARR: Yeah, Sawtooth Range. They were covered with mountain sheep. I thought I'd just put that out for your information.

23

24 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: And let the record show we also include that in -- excluding interruptions beyond the control of the community or area of Shishmaref, the sheep, if and when they re-establish themselves. I respectfully ask that the miners impact be added to the environmental impact statement.

29

30 Any other recommendations or change proposals for caribou in Unit 22(A) and (B)? We could request, on behalf of those people living in units 22 (D) and (E) -- might as well throw in (C) to seek C & T determination based on their migration into 22(B) for caribou as a custom and tradition. Ms. Barr -- I mean Ms. Armstrong, is it duly noted? Thank you.

36 Do we have any change proposals for caribou? Going once, going twice, sold.

38

39 We now move on to moose, and as you can see it has a customary and traditional use determination which says that only rural residents of Unit 22 can hunt moose, and then it has harvest limits:

43

44 22(A) - 1 antlered bull between August 1 to September 30; and December 1 to January 31.

46

47 Unit 22(B) - 1 moose, however antlerless moose may be taken only from December 1 to December 31; no person may take a cow accompanied by a calf, and the season is August 1 to

50

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January 31.

2

3 Unit 22(C) - 1 antlered bull, September 1 to
4 September 14.

5

6 22(D) - 1 moose; however, antlerless moose may be taken
7 only from December 1 to December 31; no person may take a cow
8 accompanied by a calf; August 1 to January 31.

9

10 22(E) - 1 moose; no person may take a cow accompanied
11 by a calf; August 1 to March 31.

12

13 MR. IVANOFF: Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Ivanoff:

16

17 MR. IVANOFF: Are you -- are the dates flexible on
18 this, 'cause we -- a lot of the fall fishermen that go and get
19 their fish, up till I'd say maybe October 5, see harvestable
20 moose in that small time frame there and I myself saw some
21 moose during the open season at the end, but I chose not to
22 shoot it because it was too big, and I think with our judgment
23 that if they extended it to October 5 that it would fall in the
24 hands of the people up there that are up there seining trout
25 and getting their fall fish. That I think they have good
26 judgment as to (indiscernible) moose that's edible, due to
27 cutt, and I've known three people this fall on the first and
28 second that ran into nice, small bulls, but the season had
29 closed. They would have liked to have harvested them, but I
30 see that they chose -- you know, if it's possible or if it's
31 negotiable, maybe take five days from the first part of August
32 or in December.

33

34 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We're flexible.

35

36 MR. BARR: Or just extend it five days.

37

38 MR. IVANOFF: Or just extend it five days, right.

39

40 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: You might have trouble justifying
41 that because you're extending the season, making it a bigger
42 season, but if you jockey the season, August 10 to October 10,
43 then that would -- you're not increasing the number of hunter
44 days, you're just moving the season.

45

46 MR. IVANOFF: Yeah, you can either take it from the end
47 of December where we've got -- normally have caribou, or you
48 can take it from the first part of August where it's normally -
49 traditionally pretty hot at that time of the year and it's

50

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1 not a real wise time to harvest a moose.

2

3 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: What's your proposal?

4

5 MR. IVANOFF: My proposal would be to go from August 5
6 to October 5.

7

8 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a proposed -- change
9 proposal presented to us by Mr. Steve Ivanoff to change the
10 season for moose in 22(A), from -- as it now stands, August 1
11 to September 30, change that to August 5 to October 5.

12

13 MR. IVANOFF: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Ivanoff.

16

17 MR. IVANOFF: If I may, could I change that to maybe
18 the -- take the five days of December -- the last part of
19 December out and move it to October as the -- you know, I don't
20 want to be the one that -- if someone sees a moose on August 3
21 they'll say, man, you know, we could have gotten that moose.
22 And the moose is prime, I'd say, in August and October, and,
23 December, you know, they're not real desirable in our
24 community.

25

26 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: In that case I would recommend
27 that you take it off the end of January rather than break up
28 that season, because it shows December 1 to January 31, and
29 then I'd recommend that you take either 5 or 10 days off the
30 end of January and tack them on the end of the beginning of
31 October.

32

33 MR. IVANOFF: That would work, too.

34

35 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Because everybody knows that by
36 January them things are pretty skinny.

37

38 MR. IVANOFF: Yeah, and you've got -- you're pretty
39 much have caribou anyway.

40

41 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yeah. So would you go along with
42 changing your proposal to read 1 antlered bull from August 1 to
43 October 10, and from December 1 to January 21?

44

45 MR. IVANOFF: I would.

46

47 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a proposal before us to
48 change the moose season in Unit 22(A), from August 1 to
49 September 30, and from December 1 to January 31, to be changed

50

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from October 1 to October 10, and from December 1 to January 21. Do I hear a second?

3

4 MR. BARR: I'll second that for the purpose of
discussion. Why can't you make it January 31?

6

7 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The rationale being that we don't
want to increase the number of hunting days. In other words,
we're taking 10 days off of the December 1 to January 31
hunting and adding them to the end of the August 1 to
September 30 hunting.

12

13 MR. BARR: Okay.

14

15 MS. ARMSTRONG: October 5 -- is that August 5 to

16

17 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: August 1 to

18

19 MS. ARMSTRONG: August 1.

20

21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: to October 10.

22

23 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

24

25 MR. KOVACH: Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Kovach.

28

29 MR. KOVACH: While we appreciate your concern for not
adding days -- total days to the hunting season, I'd like to
remind you that the state regulations still apply on federal
public lands because federal public lands are not closed to
people other than those with C & T, so even if the board passes
your proposal with the dates that you've got, somebody can
still go out and hunt those last 10 days of January under state
regulations on federal lands, and I just want you to be aware
of that. It might be simpler to reduce confusion to just say
August 1 to October 10, and December 1 through January 31.
It's just a suggestion and just to let you know that although
you're striving to not increase total number of hunting days,
you're still going to have that by default because federal
public lands are still open.

43

44 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Kovach, we will do that with
the proviso that it will be on the public record that you are
the reason why we changed it.

47

48 MR. KOVACH: Sounds fair.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Would you be willing to live with
 2 what?

3

4 MR. KOVACH: Sure, I can live with that.

5

6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Okay.

7

8 MR. KOVACH: Because when we write up the analysis and
 9 present you information in your winter meeting will tell you
 10 the same thing.

11

12 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Okay. So I would entertain a
 13 motion to amend the proposal before us to read October 1 to --
 14 excuse me, August 1 to October 10, and December 1 to
 15 January 31. Does your second still apply, Mr. Barr?

16

17 MR. BARR: Yes.

18

19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a second. Discussion?

20

21 MR. BARR: Question.

22

23 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question has been called. All
 24 those in favor of amending the motion before us signify by
 25 saying aye.

26

27 IN UNISON: Aye.

28

29 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All those opposed, nay. (No
 30 opposing responses) The amendment passes unanimously.

31

32 We now have the main motion before us to change the
 33 season in 22(A). What is the wish of the council? Any
 34 further discussion?

35

36 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Mr. Chairman.

37

38 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katchatag.

39

40 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: We'll just leave out the
 41 December 1 to January 31 on this and add 10 more days to the
 42 first period of hunting from August 1 to October 10, 'cause
 43 you're not changing anything in the second season.

44

45 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Well, that was his recommendation,
 46 that we not change that because the state hunting regulations
 47 still apply on federal lands, they'll still be allowed to hunt
 48 all the way through the end of January. That was his
 49 rationale. Any further discussion on the motion before us to

50

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change proposal regarding moose in 22(A)? If not the chair would entertain a call for the question.

3

4 MR. BARR: Question.

5

6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question's been called. All those in favor of the change proposal before us signify by saying Aye.

9

10 IN UNISON: Aye.

11

12 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All those opposed, nay. (No opposing responses) Motion passes unanimously.

14

15 Any further change proposals for moose regulations in Units 22(B), (C), (D), or (E) and/or seasons?

17

18 MS. MUKTOYUK: Mr. Chairman, I think for -- we had 22(C), 13, 14 days is kind of short for the Nome area, because in Nome we have a -- do have a high rate rate of unemployment and heavy subsistence use for moose, and I would like to see the dates increase.

23

24 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Knauer.

25

26 MR. KNAUER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Just for information, anything effecting 22(C) is probably a moot point because I don't believe there are any federal lands in 22(C).

29

30 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: A very good point.

31

32 MS. ARMSTRONG: So you'd have to go to the state.

33

34 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The only federal lands in 22(C) are probably the FAA stations, in the federal building.

36

37 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: And don't forget the National Garden.

39

40 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Oh, yeah.

41

42 MS. ARMSTRONG: Isn't there a proposal opening right now for the -- with the state, aren't they writing their proposals right now? I think they are change proposal time is right now and open for anyone to write their proposals with the state.

47

48 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Machida.

49

50

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1 MR. MACHIDA: It's open until December 7 to submit
 2 proposals on moose and caribou.

3
 4 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. So, Loretta, you can still write
 5 a proposal and get it to them.

6
 7 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Barb, do you understand her not
 8 considering -- I mean Loretta, do you understand why we're not
 9 considering that, because there is no federal land in 22(C)?

10
 11 MS. MUKTOYUK: Yeah.

12
 13 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: So therefore this council does not
 14 have jurisdiction. Any further change proposals for Unit
 15 22(B), (D) or (E)? Going once

16
 17 MS. MUKTOYUK: I'm kind of concerned about caribou
 18 though. You went through that so I won't say anything about
 19 it.

20
 21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Well, you have to wait until next
 22 year. Any further change proposals for moose in 22(B), (D), or
 23 (E)? Hearing none, I move that -- or I move on to moose,
 24 muskoxen -- from moose to muskox. As you can see, there is --
 25 correct me if I'm wrong, it says muskox, Unit 22(D), and (E),
 26 subsistence. Does that mean there is subsistence in Unit
 27 22(A), (B) and (C)?

28
 29 MR. ADKISSON: I don't think so.

30
 31 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: As you can see, there is no
 32 harvest limit and no season. Do we wish to make Subpart D? We
 33 have before us from the staff a draft letter addressed to
 34 Mr. William L. Hensley, Chair of Federal Subsistence Board, and
 35 it reads as follows:

36
 37 Dear Mr. Hensley:

38
 39 The Alaska Department of Fish & Game has prepared a
 40 management plan with the Alaska Department of Natural
 41 Resources, Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, in care of
 42 Land Management, Soil Conservation Service and four Native
 43 Organizations for muskox on the Seward Peninsula. The plan
 44 which is to be acted upon by the Board of Game at their January
 45 meeting outlines harvesting guidelines. All options available
 46 to the BOG for opening a hunt as outlined in Appendix 3 of the
 47 plan will not provide a priority to local hunters as identified
 48 in Title 8 of ANILCA.

49
 50

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1 On July 15, 1994, the Federal Subsistence Board
 2 published its proposed schedule for customary and traditional
 3 use determination. The schedule for Unit 22 -- it says 23
 4 here. Is that what you want?

5

6 MR. KOVACH: It should be 22.

7

8 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yes, it should be 22.

9

10 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The schedule for Unit 22 is
 11 identified as to be determined. We understand this means
 12 sometime after 1996.

13

14 The residents of the Seward Peninsula have supported
 15 the muskox population by not harvesting them since their
 16 introduction in 1970. The muskox population now numbers in
 17 excess of 900 individuals. Local hunters have been inquiring
 18 for the past several years when a hunt will be authorized. As
 19 local residents have supported the muskox population they
 20 should be afforded the first opportunities to harvest them, but
 21 the management plan going before the BOG, we feel that muskox
 22 has now become a critical local resource issue.

23

24 Following the precedent set by the board on
 25 December 18, 1991 in the matter of the Kilbuck caribou -- see
 26 page 98 Subsistence Management Regulations -- we request that
 27 the board make a interim C & T use determination finding for
 28 muskox for the residents of Unit 22 (B), (C), (D), and 22(E),
 29 and Unit 23 west of Kiwalik River.

30

31 Attached are two proposals for the board's
 32 consideration. The first is for an interim C & T decision for
 33 muskox in Units 22(B), 22(C), 22(D), part of Unit 23, and
 34 22(E). And the second is for a limited permit hunt in Unit
 35 22(D) and part of 23.

36

37 The first is necessary before the second can be acted
 38 upon. We believe that the board should recognize the Seward
 39 Peninsula Cooperative Muskox Management Plan as it has for the
 40 Kilbuck Caribou and Lower Yukon River Moose Management Plans.

41

42 We thank you for considering these proposals and look
 43 forward to working with the board in the future. Sincerely,
 44 Sheldon I. Katchatag, Jr., Seward Peninsula Subsistence
 45 Regional Advisory Council.

46

47 This is a draft letter which was produced by staff, and
 48 attached to it we have a Seward Peninsula Regional Advisory
 49 Council, care of Barb Armstrong, US Fish & Wildlife Service,

50

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Selawik National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 270, Kotzebue,
Alaska, 99572.

3

4 MS. MUKTOYUK: 70 -- 752.

5

6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Please correct your documents to
read 752.

8

9 Muskox Units 22 and 3, no subsistence C & T
determination. Muskox Units 22(B), (C), (D), and (E), interim
determination; residents of Unit 23 west of Kiwalik River and
residents of Units 22(B), (C), and (D) -- (B), (C), (D), and
15); Units 23 west of Kiwalik River; residents of Unit 23 west
of Kiwalik River and residents of Units 22(B), (C), (D), and
15). This interim C & T determination is necessary to coincide
with a Cooperative Muskox Management Plan that is recommending
a harvest of 10 bulls in Unit 22(D). The Board of Game will be
considering this recommendation at its January 1995 meeting.

19

20 The federal interim C & T is necessary before there can
be a coincidental federal season.

22

23 MR. BARR: Mr. Chairman.

24

25 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Barr.

26

27 MR. BARR: Is that 15 bulls or is that 10?

28

29 MR. KNAUER: That should read 10 bulls in Unit 22(D),
and five bulls in Unit 22(E).

31

32 MR. BARR: Oh, I'm sorry.

33

34 MR. KNAUER: That was my mistake. We had some
confusion over some numbers here last night.

36

37 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Okay. So I'll add -- the sentence
should read: This interim C & T determination is necessary to
coincide with the Cooperative Muskox Management Plan that is
recommending a harvest of 10 bulls in Unit 22(D), and 5 bulls
in Unit 22(E). The BOG will be considering this recommendation
at its January 1995 meeting. The federal interim C & T is
necessary before there can be a coincidental federal season.
This will not directly affect the muskox population, however,
the opening of a season with low population growth. This will
allow the opening of the season allowing the subsistence user
to benefit from the husbandry programs supported by the local
residents. See Seward Peninsula Cooperative Muskox Management
Plan, August 1, 1994.

50

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1
2 MR. BARR: Mr. Chairman.
3
4 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yes, Mr. Barr.
5
6 MR. BARR: Why do we have to, you know -- if I remember
7 right, and correct me if I'm wrong, Roy, on page 4 didn't we
8 say 15 under 22(D) and (E)? You can ask him, I guess.
9
10 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yes, Steve.
11
12 MS. ARMSTRONG: Could you come up here, please. You're
13 really hard to hear.
14
15 MR. MACHIDA: Yeah, for the record, I'm Steve Machida,
16 with Fish & Game in Nome. That's correct, the proposal calls
17 for a harvest of 15 bulls from (D) and (E).
18
19 MR. BARR: (D) and (E). Why did you separate the two,
20 (D) and (E)?
21
22 MR. OTTON: I guess because it specifies that in the
23 Muskox Management Plan; is that right? I know I read it a
24 while ago, 10 in

25
26 MR. MACHIDA: Yeah, that's right.
27
28 MR. OTTON: Yeah, 22(D) and 5 in 22(E).\

29 MR. BARR: This is in compliance with the state then,
30 huh?
31
32 MR. OTTON: Well, with the Management Plan.
33
34 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Well, it's to make it consistent
35 that you don't have one regulation that says you can get 15
36 this one and the other that says you can get 10.
37
38 MR. BARR: Well, actually a total of 15 either way.
39
40 MR. MACHIDA: That should clarify it.
41
42 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Machida. The
43 second proposal reads:
44
45 Seward Peninsula Regional Advisory Council, Coordinator
46 Barb Armstrong, Muskox Unit 22, no open season; Unit 23, no
47 open season. Muskox Unit 22(D), October 1 to November 15 - 1
48 bull by federal registration permit. Only up to 10 permits may
49 be issued to qualified rural Alaska residents. Public lands
50

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are closed to the taking of muskox except by qualified rural Alaska residents during the stated season. Unit 23 west of the Kilawik River, October 1 to November 15 - 1 bull, and so on, by federal registration permit, only up to 5 permits may be issued to qualified rural Alaska residents. Public lands are closed to taking muskox except by qualified rural Alaska residents during the stated season.

8

9 MR. KNAUER: Excuse me. I think this should be -- you found your first one. That should be 22(E).

11

12 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Right.

13

14 MR. KNAUER: Right.

15

16 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Oh, okay. I'm sorry. Let me read that. The first part is 22(D) - 1 bull by federal registration permit. Only up to 10 permits may be issued to qualified rural Alaska residents. Unit 22(E), October 1 to November 15 - 1 bull by federal registration permit only. Up to 10 permits may be issued to qualified rural Alaska residents. Public lands are closed to the taking of muskox except by qualified rural Alaska residents during the stated season. The harvest of 15 animals is consistent with the harvest regime proposed by the Seward Peninsula Cooperative Muskox Management Plan and will be allowed -- and will allow the non-wasteful use by local subsistence users. The harvest will slightly slow population growth but will not adversely impact overall population goal. The harvest will benefit the local subsistence user who has been an active participant in the Cooperative Management Plan and in the husbandry of this population. See Seward Peninsula Cooperative Muskox Management Plan August 1, 1994. It will be considered by the Board of Game in its winter 1994 meeting.

34

35 What is the wish of the council?

36

37 MR. BARR: I move to adopt this regulation.

38

39 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: This is a letter and change proposal form. Do you move to adopt everything as read?

41

42 MR. BARR: Yes.

43

44 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a motion to adopt everything as read. Is there

46

47 MR. SEETOT: Second.

48

49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a second. Discussion.

50

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1
2 MR. BARR: Question.
3
4 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question's been called. All those
5 in favor signify by saying aye.
6
7 IN UNISON: Aye
8
9 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All those opposed, nay. (No
10 opposing responses) Motion passes unanimously.
11
12 We now move on to coyote. Coyotes, harvest limits 2
13 coyotes, open season September 1 to April 30. Is there a
14 change proposal on coyote? Going once, -- Mr. Katchatag.
15
16 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: I have never seen a coyote yet
17 (Indiscernible - Yupik language).
18
19 MR. OTTON: I never danced with coyotes.
20
21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I only dance with wolves. No
22 change proposals for coyote.
23
24 MR. BARR: No changes.
25
26 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Were you seriously proposing a
27 closed season on coyotes?
28
29 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: I'd like to change that
30 proposal from open season to closed season from September 1 to
31 April 30.
32
33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a proposal before us to
34 change coyote to no bag limit and no season?
35
36 MR. BARR: No closed season?
37
38 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Closed season, period.
39
40 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: So we can have coyote
41 (Indiscernible).
42
43 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Our descendants. We have a motion
44 before us to close the coyote season in Game Management
45 Unit 22. Do I hear a second?
46
47 MS. MUKTOYUK: Second.
48
49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Second. Discussion?
50

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1
2 MR. SEETOT: Question.
3
4 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question's been called. All those
5 in favor of closing the harvest of coyote signify by saying
6 eye.
7
8 IN UNISON: Aye.
9
10 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All those opposed, nay. (No
11 opposing responses) Motion passes. We have a change proposal
12 to close the season and harvest limits on coyote.
13
14 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman, you might want to address
15 some justification?
16
17 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Justification. Mr. Katchatag has
18 mentioned that he has not seen a coyote in his 77 years here in
19 the Seward Peninsula and Norton Sound region and that any
20 coyotes that wander into this area be allowed to propagate so
21 that our descendants, our children and our great-grandchildren
22 can have coyotes yipping in their back yard. Any other
23 justification?
24
25 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: I might add from those 77 years
26 I have been trapping and hunting for about 27 years.
27
28 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: And you never trapped one coyote?
29
30 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Not one.
31
32 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any further justification for the
33 closing of the coyote season in Game Management Unit 22? Is
34 that sufficient, Mr. Knauer?
35
36 MR. KNAUER: Certainly.
37
38 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you. Moving on to fox,
39 Arctic blue and white phase. Current limit is two foxes,
40 September 1 to April 30.
41
42 MR. OTTON: Now these are like for subsistence hunting?
43
44 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: It's subsistence hunting
45 regulations.
46
47 MR. OTTON: Okay. So I was wondering, if you're
48 trapping fox and
49
50

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1 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We'll get to those later when we
 2 get to trap.

3
 4 MR. OTTON: Oh!

5
 6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Need I say more.

7
 8 MR. OTTON: Oh, okay. So these are just like for
 9 shooting the animal with a gun.

10
 11 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Right.

12
 13 MR. OTTON: Okay.

14
 15 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Or bow and arrow, slingshot or
 16 rock. Any change proposals for fox, Arctic blue and white
 17 phase?

18
 19 MR. BARR: No changes.

20
 21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Hearing none, we move on to fox,
 22 including red, cross, black and silver phases. Current harvest
 23 limit, 10 foxes, current season, November 1 to April 15. Are
 24 there any change proposals on red foxes? Hearing none, we move
 25 on to hare, snowshoe and tundra. The current harvest limit, no
 26 limit, season -- open season is from one second after midnight
 27 July 1 to one second before midnight June 30. Any Subpart D
 28 changes to the hare, snowshoe and tundra in Game Management
 29 Unit 22? Mr. Seetot.

30
 31 MR. SEETOT: Clarification on the tundra hare. Is that
 32 also called snow or jackrabbit?

33
 34 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: That would be my understanding,
 35 is a jackrabbit -- what we call a jackrabbit? Yes. Any
 36 change proposals on hare, snowshoe or -- Mr. Lockwood.

37
 38 MR. LOCKWOOD: Yeah, hare and snowshoe and tundra, I
 39 think it should really be right close to May 30 because they're
 40 having babies around April. Rabbits, they're not worth
 41 hunting.

42
 43 MRS. KATCHATAG: They're strong and smelly when they
 44 mate.

45
 46 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I would entertain a season change
 47 for hare, due to the fact that there's no justifiable reason to
 48 hunt them when they're mating and/or raising babies.

49
 50

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1 MR. BARR: And what are the dates? What do you
2 recommend?

3
4 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I would recommend September 1 to
5 April 15.

6
7 MR. OTTON: So moved.

8
9 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a motion on the floor to
10 change the regulations for hare in Game Management Unit 22 by
11 changing the season from July 1 to June 30 to September 1 to
12 April 15. Do I hear a second?

13
14 MR. SEETOT: Second.

15
16 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Seconded. Discussion? Question's
17 been called. All those in favor of the change proposal signify
18 by saying aye.

19
20 IN UNISON: Aye.

21
22 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Those opposed, nay. (No opposing
23 responses) Motion passes unanimously.

24
25 Moving on to lynx. The current harvest limit is 2
26 lynx. Open season November 1 to April 15. Any change
27 proposals?

28
29 MR. BARR: No change.

30
31 MR. OTTON: From 2 to 4.

32
33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a proposal to change the
34 harvest limit from 2 to 4. Do I hear a second?

35
36 MR. OTTON: I have no justification. It's just that
37 (Indiscernible)

38
39 MR. BARR: When they're around they're just like
40 rabbits.

41
42 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Do I hear a second?

43
44 MR. BARR: Second the motion.

45
46 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a second. Discussion?
47 Mr. Otton.

48
49 MR. OTTON: Well, I guess lynx, you know, when they're
50

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there, they're there. The cycle of lynx and rabbits are quite parallel; they grow, rabbits grow, lynx grow, and when you're out hunting, you know, and you see lynx, boy, it's good to shoot a lynx when you see them. You don't got that much of a chance. I don't think there would be one hunter that would kill a limit of two lynx but if they got a chance to do it, they sure would. Other than that there's not much justification other than -- you know, they're a pretty sneaky animal.

10

11 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any further discussion on the motion before us?

13

14 MS. DETWILER: Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Ms. Detwiler.

17

18 MS. DETWILER: I have a suggestion. One of the reasons that the Federal Board turned down the recommendation from Council was if it's not supported by substantial evidence. So I would encourage you to include as much justification as you can come up with here, and as guidelines for your justifications the board has two mandates that it has to consider when they deliberate on proposals, and one of those is to insure continue healthy wildlife populations. In other words, biology of the species. And the other is to provide continued opportunities for subsistence uses. So it would be most effective for you to include in your justification comments relative to those two issues.

30

31 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Ms. Detwiler.

32

33 MR. OTTON: Well, you know, 'cause like I said, I can't really justify moving from 2 lynx to 4, but actually I don't know how they end up with 2 lynx to start with, but just because I know it might be pretty tough to justify 2 to 4 can I withdraw my

38

39 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: It's your motion.

40

41 MR. OTTON: I withdraw my motion.

42

43 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Does the second withdraw?

44

45 MR. BARR: Yes.

46

47 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The motion is withdrawn. Any further change proposals for lynx? Hearing none, we move on to Wolf. The present harvest limits, no limit, open seasons

50

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August 10 to April 30. Do we have any change proposals on wolf
in Unit 22?

3

4 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: I do.

5

6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katchatag.

7

8 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: I don't think they're prime
9 (ph) in August.

10

11 (Indiscernible - talking in whispering tones)

12

13 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yeah, we did in March. I agree
14 with you, Mr. Katchatag. What is your suggestion as to a more
15 appropriate season?

16

17 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: November 1.

18

19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a proposal before us, a
20 motion to change wolf open season from August 10 to April 30,
21 change to November 1 to April -- is April 30 okay?

22

23 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: April 15.

24

25 MR. OTTON: Yeah, that's what we did change it to.
26 That's what we did the last time, or I thought we did.

27

28 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We didn't bring that proposal
29 before the board.

30

31 MR. OTTON: From the time of the meeting in Shishmaref
32 to the board meeting it got lost.

33

34 MS. ARMSTRONG: Remember (indiscernible)?

35

36 MS. KATCHATAG: I think you made it when they start
37 shedding, like

38

39 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yeah, he's an experienced wolf
40 hunter and he knows. We had talked about this in March at
41 Shishmaref and I thought we had agreed that we had kicked it
42 back to April 15 and we had moved it up from August to -- I
43 think it was November.

44

45 MR. BARR: Yeah, November 1st.

46

47 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: November 1.

48

49 MR. BARR: To April 15.

50

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1
2 MS. ARMSTRONG: I don't think it was the first meeting,
3 I think it was in Shishmaref.
4
5 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: It was in Shishmaref. He's
6 looking at the meeting.
7
8 MR. BARR: Page 117.
9
10 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Page 117. So let's have another
11 change proposal written for -- or we have a motion before us to
12 change the wolf regulation season from -- change it from August
13 to April 30, to November 1 to April 15. Do I hear a second?
14
15 MR. BARR: Second the motion.
16
17 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Second. Discussion?
18
19 MR. KATCHEAK: Question.
20
21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question's been called. All those
22 in favor of the motion to change the wolf season to November 1
23 to April 15 signify by saying aye.
24
25 IN UNISON: Aye.
26
27 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All those opposed, nay. (No
28 opposing responses) Motion carries. Justification being that
29 the pelts are not prime between August 10 and November 1 or
30 between April 15 and April 30. Is that sufficient
31 Madame Detwiler?
32
33 MS. DETWILER: My comments are directed more generally,
34 not to the specific proposal and not wait till it's appropriate
35 wait till later, I'll just mention to you now. What you're
36 doing on some of these proposals is restricting seasons to the
37 point where they would be shorter than the corresponding state
38 season, so I'm not quite sure how the board is going to go with
39 that when they address the proposals that you submitted because
40 they have a mandate to provide for subsistence uses, and it
41 doesn't look right to have federal subsistence seasons that are
42 shorter than corresponding state sport seasons. One thing I
43 might suggest is for you to consider submitting identical
44 proposals to the state during their proposal cycle as well.
45
46 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you.
47
48 MR. OTTON: I guess that it's been a dilemma with all
49 the boards in the whole state because of that same problem, but
50

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You know the state was so worried about something like that, or even the feds, you know. It's my opinion that the state should have made sure that there was a subsistence preference so that there would not have been dual management.

5

6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I think the council will stand by this recommendation because it's based on the fact that the -- as our public testimony and as our experienced people here on the council know that those hides are not prime between August 10 and November 1 and April 15 on. So we'll debate that with the board at the appropriate time and maybe we can force the state to change their regulations, because all they're allowing is for somebody that's out there with a caribou or moose tag, you know, if they see a wolf they can knock the damn thing down and tell their kids, oh, I shot a wolf, too, but I didn't bring the hide home 'cause it's worthless.

17

18 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Mr. Chairman.

19

20 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katchatag.

21

22 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: I'd like to add -- first I'd like to comment on the side of the board. I can understand your consideration but we are dealing with our Federal Advisory Board, advisory council, under this. For justification I might add it says no limit, and that's wasting not only one hide, not two hides but limitless, and it has been brought to our attention from both Alaska Department of Fish & Game and also Wildlife service that conservation of these resources are the base of these regulations. So this is conservation action, as far as I'm concerned. Thank you.

32

33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Katchatag, and I agree with you on that because any harvest of the animal -- I can't see any justification for shooting an animal that you're not going to take harvest, and that's a perfect definition of a sport hunt. Ms. Detwiler.

38

39 MS. DETWILER: Yeah, I didn't want there to be any confusion. I'm not criticizing what you're doing. My point in bringing those points up was to let you know what some of the other considerations might be that you want to take into account.

44

45 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you.

46

47 MR. LOCKWOOD: Sheldon.

48

49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Lockwood.

50

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1
2 MR. LOCKWOOD: I'm disturbed on what we're working now
3s subsistence use, is that right, this is not for our
4commercial use?

5
6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Moving on to wolverine, the
7present harvest limit is 1 wolverine between September 1 and
8March 31. Are there any change proposals?

9
10 MR. BARR: No change.

11
12 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Hearing none, move on to grouse.
13The current harvest limit is 15 per day, 30 in possession,
14between August 10 and April 30. Are there any change proposals
15for that particular specie?

16
17 MR. BARR: No change.

18
19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: No change. Move on to ptarmigan,
20rock willow and white tailed, 20 per day, 40 in possession
21between the seasons of August 10 to April 30. I would like to
22propose that that be changed to 40 per day, 80 in possession,
23with the justification that it is the customary and traditional
24practice of some villages to net these birds so that they can
25get enough at one time to be able to provide for them in their
26uses rather than to have to go there every day to try to get 20
27per day or 40 in possession. It is a custom and tradition,
28like in Elim

29
30 MR. OTTON: And Koyuk.

31
32 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: and Koyuk to go out there
33with a net and it's not uncommon to see people get 60 at a
34time.

35
36 MR. OTTON: Or 200 a day.

37
38 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Or 200 a day. So 40 per day and
3980 in possession is not unreasonable, I would think. I would
40love that we change ptarmigan to include 40 per day or 80 in
41possession for those villagers that customarily and
42traditionally net these animals, these birds. Do I hear a
43second?

44
45 MRS. KATCHATAG: Mr. Chairman, let me say

46
47 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mrs. Katchatag.

48
49 MRS. KATCHATAG: I'll be lucky if I eat one or two

50

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ptarmigan in a year in our area. They're that scarce around here, ptarmigan, and so is the grouse that you mentioned, and the only time we eat spruce hen is in month of September when they start gathering gravel for their gisrut (ph) or whatever, when they start collecting gravel. That's the only time we have spruce chicken. And we never harvest the neck (ph) or anything because we never know which route they take. If a certain route is in the pipe people, they know which route to watch for, so they always watch for that ptarmigan route and just a certain season and not all the time. So that's a very good change of food instead of having to thaw what you have in the freezer, something that you eat fresh before it's frozen. That's the true flavor before any kind of meat is frozen. So that's a treat. But here in our area I'll be lucky if I eat two ptarmigans in a year. Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mrs. Katchatag. And in light of that I would recommend that we -- or I will amend my proposal to change the harvest limit to 40 per day, 80 in possession in Game Management Unit 22(B), because that's the only place I know of where they do net birds. I'm not familiar with the practices of 22(C), 22(D), or 22(E) with regard to ptarmigan. So I amend my original motion that for 22(B) only that we change it to 40 per day, 80 in possession for customary and traditional netting of these birds, and that the season remain the same.

27

28 MR. OTTON: Second.

29

30 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Seconded. Discussion?

31

32 MR. OTTON: Question.

33

34 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question's been called. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

36

37 IN UNISON: Aye.

38

39 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Those opposed, nay. (No opposing responses) Motion passes unanimously.

41

42 We'll take about a five-minute break before we move on to trapping. Also we're going to go ahead and finish our agenda after our break and see if we can get done today so we don't have to come back tonight or tomorrow.

46

47 (Off record)

48 (On record)

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: While we were on break we got to
 2 discussing the muskox proposal, and it came to our attention
 3 that for ease or -- or for proper eligibility to help those
 4 that we're trying to help, we should modify our proposal a
 5 little bit and in that regard move and ask unanimous consent
 6 that we bring up our muskox proposal up for reconsideration.
 7 Is there any objection? Hearing none, so ordered.

8

9 I would entertain, as chair, a motion to change
 10 eligibility for subsistence hunters under this plan to be
 11 eligible to hunt under this plan you must be a resident of the
 12 Game Management Subunit in which a season and a bag limit is
 13 established. In other words if you are a resident of
 14 Shishmaref and they open a season for muskoxen in Shishmaref,
 15 then you would be allowed to take part in that hunt if you
 16 qualify or if you obtain the required registration permit. Do
 17 I hear a second?

18

19 MR. BARR: Second.

20

21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a motion and a second to
 22 modify our eligibility requirements under the muskox interim
 23 Q3 & T so that only those residents of the appropriate subunit
 24 would be eligible to hunt within that particular subunit for
 25 muskoxen. Discussion?

26

27 MR. BARR: Call for the question.

28

29 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question's been called. All those
 30 in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

31

32 IN UNISON: Aye.

33

34 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All those opposed, nay. (No
 35 opposing responses) Motion passes unanimously. We now move on
 36 change proposals in trapping regulations. Rather than -- if
 37 is the wish of the council, rather than going through them
 38 all specie by specie, I would move that we adopt them all
 39 unless you have an exception. Do we have a second?

40

41 MR. BARR: What was the motion?

42

43 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I move that we adopt all the
 44 trapping regulations, harvest limits and seasons unless you
 45 have one that you would like to discuss.

46

47 MR. OTTON: Mr. Chairman, I so move.

48

49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Do we have a second?

50

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1
2 MR. BARR: Second the motion.
3
4 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a motion and a second.
Any discussion?
6
7 MR. BARR: Question.
8
9 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question's been called. All those
10 in favor of adopting the trapping regulations as shown, except
11 for those which might need further discussion, signify by
12 saying aye.
13
14 IN UNISON: Aye.
15
16 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All those opposed, nay. (No
17 opposing responses) Motion passes unanimously. For the record
18 are there any species, harvest limits or seasons that need to
19 be changed?
20
21 MR. LOCKWOOD: None.
22
23 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Hearing none, all the trapping
24 regulations, limits and seasons, are hereby adopted.
25
26 We are now on -- I've got to find my agenda -- are
27 there any other proposal changes or proposals from the council
28 which we have not covered? Mr. Otton, do you have any other
29 proposals for us?
30
31 MR. OTTON: No. I was just wondering if there was any
32 proposals coming out of the public or anything there.
33
34 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: As soon as I get done with
35 canvassing the council, I'll canvas the public. Any change
36 proposals for my right of council? Mr. Barr?
37
38 MR. BARR: No.
39
40 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katcheak?
41
42 MR. KATCHEAK: No.
43
44 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Seetot?
45
46 MR. SEETOT: None.
47
48 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I don't have any at this time so
49 we move on to item D. 3., we are opening the floor for any
50

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1 proposals from the public.

2

3 MR. BARR: I guess we've covered pretty much
4 everything.

5

6 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Barr, and thank you
7 to the public. We are now on item F., 1994 Annual Report.
8 Again, we're in the same boat as we were last year, but we are
9 a little bit farther ahead down or up the river, depending on
10 how you look at it. Last year I submitted a report basically
11 stating that we had not accumulated any information as to the
12 current status of the subsistence resources within our purview,
13 and/or the needs or anticipated needs for subsistence uses, and
14 if it's the wish of the council we can go ahead and write that
15 with a few modifications and resubmit it.

16

17 Just for your information, Mr. Seetot, if you look
18 under our duties of the council under ANILCA, page 2, item 4,
19 we're required to prepare an annual report to the Secretary
20 containing the following:

21

22 MR. SEETOT: Which tab?

23

24 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Tab 2, second page of that --
25 we're right here. Yeah, we're required by ANILCA to prepare an
26 annual report to the Secretary of Interior containing the
27 following:

28

29 A. An identification of current and anticipated
30 subsistence uses of fish and wildlife populations within the
31 region;

32

33 B. An evaluation of current and anticipated
34 subsistence needs for fish and wildlife populations within the
35 region;

36

37 C. A recommended strategy for the management of fish
38 and wildlife population within the region to accommodate such
39 subsistence uses and needs; and

40

41 D. Recommendations concerning policies, standards,
42 guidelines and regulations to implement the strategy.

43

44 What is the wish of the body? Do you -- would you
45 allow me to work with Barbara and draft said report?

46

47 MR. BARR: I so move.

48

49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: We have a motion on the floor to

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allow the chair to work with the regional coordinator to draft and submit the aforementioned annual report to the Secretary of Interior. Discussion or second?

4

5 MR. OTTON: Second.

6

7 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Seconded. Discussion? Are there any particular considerations that any of the council members would like to see included in the annual report?

10

11 MR. BARR: Question's been called.

12

13 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question's been called. All those in favor of the motion before us signify by saying aye.

15

16 IN UNISON: Aye.

17

18 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All those opposed, nay. (No opposing responses) Motion passes unanimously.

20

21 Before I get too far from the agenda, somehow or another I managed to skip item C., which is the Designated Hunter report by me. For your information, this is the report, it's been submitted to all 10 Regional Advisory Councils, and I remember correctly, this is to be submitted to the board.

26

27 MS. ARMSTRONG: I think this is a draft?

28

29 MR. KNAUER: It's the final.

30

31 MS. ARMSTRONG: Oh, it's final.

32

33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: The basis -- the reason why we had this task force was because at the April Federal Subsistence Board meeting they had received some similar proposals regarding the need for designated or proxy hunters from some of the people within the Kodiak region and also Southeast, I believe. So this is the report of two meetings that we held between the -- I think it was the 12th and 13th of July, and the 24th and 25th and 26th of August regarding some options which we drafted up for providing for designated hunters under the Federal Subsistence Regulations.

43

44 One of the -- as you can see, it more or less -- well, all go through it section by section. Okay, the Preamble was put together to more or less give an outline or a description of what the report is all about, and the participants, at my request, included this first section which was a part of my report on the Tribal Management Option, which is listed as

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Appendix 1 on page 34. And they -- the task force as a body -- and if you look on the back on Appendix 4 it shows all the participants of the two meetings. The July 12 meeting has 29 participants; the August 25th meeting had 26 participants. And at our August 25th meeting the council -- I mean the task force unanimously agreed to include this section of my report at the beginning of the Preamble. And this more or less states my position individually as a person, as a neophyte indigenous person, as to what subsistence means to me, and I tried to speak of the -- from the perspective of your every day -- you know, indigenous person in the street, and the working group or task force felt that this was an appropriate item to include here because it pretty much states our position as Native people with regard to the food that we harvest from the land and waters.

16

17 And briefly, I'll read that first part and go over what we have here:

19

20 Preamble

21

22 Subsistence - a human right.

23

24 As the old adage says, we are what we eat. In the case of the Indigenous People of Alaska -- Alaska Natives generically and generally to the people, Congress, and Federal Government of the United States of America -- this is especially true. Why?

29

30 The Indigenous Peoples of Alaska have been customarily and traditionally harvesting, processing, utilizing, consuming and sharing with extended family, friends and fellow community members indigenous, annually-renewed natural resources since time immemorial. Subsistence to the dominant Western Society. Our indigenous, annually-renewed natural resources are the energy sources which sustain and nourish us. Harvesting, processing, consuming, storing and sharing these renewable resources are the skins, sinew, and bodkins with which we daily sew the customs and traditions which become the outerwear of our culture and society. Regardless of what mere words on a piece of paper may say or mean as to which greedy souls may temporarily claim to own the land which God renews in its season, our culture keeps us attuned to the very pulse of life, and ever-grateful to the God of Life for the provision of such bountiful living.

46

47 We, the indigenous peoples of Alaska, along with the indigenous peoples of the Lower 49 states and indigenous peoples of the world over, hold our indigenous inherent rights

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to harvest renewable resources without outside interference, i.e., subsistence rights as but one of our inviolable human rights.

4

5 And the Preamble goes on to discuss why this particular document was produced and who worked on it and what was the aim of the task force, which is basically to -- and I emphasized this time and time again to the task force, that basically all this particular task force was trying to do is to legalize the custom and tradition among indigenous peoples of not only sharing what they -- what resources they harvest themselves but our custom of voluntarily providing for the nourishment needs of our fellow family or village members. And it shows, again, that the easy way would be to say, okay, I recognize your customs and traditions as a tribal indigenous people, and I respect them, or I have to make your customs and traditions fit within the legal framework of the regulation that are provided. And that's what more or less this particular document tries to do.

20

21 It tries to legalize our custom of providing for those that cannot provide for themselves, by allowing people to hunt for other people, as was brought up earlier by Mr. Steve Hanoff. That was a very apt demonstration of our culture because I have not had a chance to talk with Steve since this particular document was worked on and the final product produced, and yet he said the very same things that I had said regarding our customs and traditions. So it did my heart well that I had someone sharing this from the same community that I grew up in. But to have him more or less validate everything that I've said about our customs and traditions before we even discussed this particular document is really amazing that even though we don't have personal interaction with each other, we're still on the same wave length because of the way that we've been brought up and the customs and traditions under which we grew up.

37

38 So I just wanted to point that out and let you know that under this system we came up with four management options which would allow a hunter to hunt on behalf of somebody else.

41

42 The first option is the Local Management Option, and it makes no distinction as to what the local governing body could be. As you look on page 7, the third paragraph down, it says: 43 Local governing bodies could include, boroughs, incorporated cities, and tribes. Which local authority would be most appropriate to administer a program would depend on a variety of factors. Considerations include an authority's ability to enhance and enforce ordinances or regulations; its relative

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expertise and experience in resource management; the existing relationships with regional authorities; and the availability of staff, office facilities, and other essential resources."

4

5 Basically what this says, that regulations could be written that would allow a local government to work within the Federal Subsistence Management Plan to administer hunts whereby hunters would be given permits or authorized under any one of these structures to hunt on behalf of other people that are otherwise unable to hunt for themselves.

11

12 The next option shown in the Tribal Management Option, and this was written by a young fellow who was working as an intern with the Fish & Wildlife Service in Anchorage, and his name was Orville Huntington. And he did his best to try to develop an option under Tribal Management which would allow a tribal member to hunt on behalf of another tribal manager which was unable.

19

20 As you can see, there are various scenarios where they say it might -- might or might not work, and all of these will be presented -- all of these options will be presented as a booklet to the Federal Subsistence Board for their consideration.

25

26 There is a proviso regarding the Local Management and the Tribal Options which states that I believe additional regulations and/or statute changes would have to be implemented before these -- either of these two options could be implemented. So even though they are listed as options here, they are not strictly enabled by existing legislation.

32

33 The third option is a Community Harvest Option, and it is patterned after a couple of practices or permitting systems. If you look on page 20 it talks about a couple of the villages; Lime Village and Kaktovik. Lime Village has -- they have an allowance to hunt moose, I believe it is, whereby the village is given a quota, and the management agency is not interested in who the particular hunter is, they only are interested in having an accurate count of the animals killed. And, again, this is an option that will be presented to the Federal Subsistence Board at their April meeting, I believe.

43

44 If you have any questions as we go along -- the last option is a Designated Hunter Option, and it's similar to the state proxy hunt system in which a person under the state proxy hunt system must -- a person even though they are not able to hunt can go ahead and purchase a hunting license, and under their system the hunter who hunts on behalf of somebody else

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also must have a valid hunting license and the person that is unable to hunt must fill out a proxy form which designates that hunter as the one who is designated to hunt on behalf of the person that is unable to hunt.

5

6 If you have any questions as I go along, please don't hesitate to interrupt me. These -- all of these four options will be presented to the Federal Subsistence Board and with the recommendation or the proviso that they are not presented as exclusive options but with the idea that if applicable the Federal Subsistence Board might seek -- might want to apply part of an option for one part of a community and part of another option for another part, if I remember correctly.

14

15 Was that not your impression, Mr. Knauer?

16

17 MR. KNAUER: That was not my impression that they were splitting a community but they might apply one option for one community and one option for another community.

20

21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you.

22

23 MR. KNAUER: That was my impression, that they were also asking the councils or local communities if they had any areas where they felt either of the designated hunter or community harvest might work to submit a proposal during this cycle.

28

29 And Southeast did that, by the way. They submitted a proposal for deer in Southeast under the Designated Hunter system whereby an individual can hunt for another individual within Southeast. There was no restriction as far as not being able -- a person not being able to hunt for elderly or blind or disabled, but for -- just for another person.

35

36 They put three conditions on it. One was that the individual that was doing the harvesting had to submit the harvest report; secondly, that the individual that was doing the harvesting was to turn over all meat to the beneficiary, recognizing that the beneficiary could distribute or share; and, thirdly, because they were concerned about the ability of an individual to care for a certain number of animals to avoid wanton waste. They said that an individual that was hunting could hunt for any numbers of individuals but they could not have any more than two harvest tickets in their possession at any one time. And that was their proposal for deer in Southeast. They submitted a similar proposal for moose, but first in one unit. You had to be a -- you could hunt for -- in this case it was Unit 5 -- a resident of Unit 5 could hunt for

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another resident of Unit 5, a qualified resident. So that's what Southeast did, and they just did it for just deer and then just moose in 5, because, as you're aware, one of the concerns of the task force was to initially limit this to moose, caribou or deer, those species that in general around the state have higher population levels and are not subject to over-harvest very easily or very low reproductive rates.

8

9 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Knauer. Any questions on any of the four options from any of the council members?

12

13 MR. OTTON: All these people that that were on this task force, there being such a large amount of people for four options. Was there any preference they were leaning toward or going, or was it different region by region?

17

18 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Well, we were trying to develop four options for the Federal Subsistence Board to look at and which might be applicable over the state, depending on the wishes of the local community. We had originally thought we were going to make a recommendation, but, again, we ran out of time and we ended up just presenting or outlining the four options and any scenarios under which they might be applicable of some considerations under each scenario. But as I mentioned earlier, the Tribal Management Option and the Local Management Option would have to have other regulations enacted or other statutes modified to allow for them to be utilized as options of the board.

30

31 So in Southeast they used the Designated Hunter Option, right?

33

34 MR. KNAUER: They felt that the Designated Hunter Option was the most appropriate. They did leave a -- sort of an out in there that said that -- I forget the exact wording, but they said that for deer it was for all of Southeast except for a community that the Federal Subsistence Board had recognized as having a Community Harvest System. So -- and then they were going to notify each community and let them put in a proposal if they wished to have a Community Harvest System. So essentially what they did is they -- they're proposing to give everybody a Designated Hunter System and then if an individual community wishes to apply for or submit a proposal for a Community Harvest System. That community would fall out of the Designated Hunter System and go into the Community Harvest System, which is a little more general and relaxed.

49

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1 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any other questions?

2

3 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Mr. Chairman.

4

5 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katchatag.

6

7 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: I didn't really look through
8 this, but if it's there, I didn't see it, and I have a
9 consideration after looking through the whole Preamble. I'd
10 like to have you consider traditional customs definition. I
11 think it could be covered without amending the preamble there,
12 and this could fit in to several works there, culture and
13 customs. What I'm getting at is under the traditional custom
14 of our ancestors, these are included that some parts of the
15 animals are used for medication of certain species, and for
16 ceremonial assemblies as well, and, finally, as legends in
17 relation for utilizing of and close relationships with the
18 land. These come as teaching legends, you know, by using the
19 animals. So I think these are important to fit in right there
20 as a definition without changing what's written there. Thank
21 you, very much.

22

23 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Katchatag. What is
24 the wish of the council with regard to the Designated Hunter
25 Task Force and the report?

26

27 MR. OTTON: What kind of options have we got, what can
28 we do?

29

30 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Well, you could adopt or recommend
31 what we allow a Designated Hunter Option or Community Harvest
32 Option or Tribal Management Option or a Local Management
33 Option. You could do like Southeast here and you could apply
34 for the caribou. The trouble being with the Tribal Management
35 Option and the Local Management Option is that we have to try
36 impact the appropriate regulation in our statutes to allow
37 that.

38

39 MR. OTTON: I believe (indiscernible - child sounds
40 down out) as to what needs to be done to go after the Tribal
41 Option and Community Option.

42

43 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I don't think so.

44

45 MR. BARR: Can we adopt this or what?

46

47 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: If you see fit.

48

49 MR. OTTON: I don't think there's anything wrong with

50

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doing that, right?

2

3 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman.

4

5 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Knauer.

6

7 MR. KNAUER: It was my understanding in the
8 instructions to me that the report is a

9

10 (Indiscernible - speaking to the child)

11

12 MR. KNAUER: There's some sound competition. It's my
13 understanding that the report is an informational document to
14 the board but also for use by the councils to help them develop
15 proposals or different things that they might use to make the
16 regulations more amenable and more in line with the customs and
17 practices of their local people. And that's the way Southeast
18 and at least a couple of the other councils have chosen to
19 utilize it.

20

21 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any questions for Mr. Knauer?
22 Thank you, Mr. Knauer.

23

24 MR. KATCHEAK: Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katcheak.

27

28 MR. KATCHEAK: Well, it is time we discussed this
29 Designated Hunter Option. I discussed this Designated Hunter
30 Option, I support it because that was what I thought was, at
31 the time, a good idea to set our precedence on how we're going
32 -- how we would accommodate elderly people. So I am in full
33 support of it and I still -- I'm still fully in support of the
34 Hunter option -- Designated Hunter Option. But like you said,
35 we could adopt the whole -- approve the whole report and then
36 after that what would happen?

37

38 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: This is to be guidelines as to
39 whether or not you want to change the Subsistence Management
40 Regulations to more closely allow customs and tradition that
41 are practiced locally to be legalized.

42

43 MR. KATCHEAK: So if we approve this report, that would
44 we don't have to be specific about some of these options we
45 want; this would be -- what option would apply to us, what we
46 decide on?

47

48 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Well, that all depends on how you
49 identify yourself. If you are a resident of a rural

50

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municipality or rural second class city a Tribal Management Option would not suit your needs. And if you are a tribal person then the Community Harvest Option or the Designated Hunter might not fit within your customs and traditions. So I'm not sure exactly what exactly to do with this particular document other than use it as guidelines for any other changes that you might like to see in the regulations.

8

9 MR. KATCHEAK: I don't have any problem with that.

10

11 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: My suggestion, and this is a suggestion that is subject to the wishes of the council, is that I would suggest that we adopt the report as a report from the Designated Hunter Task Force, with the proviso that it be circulated among the communities of our region so that they could decide for themselves whether or not they want any of the options or parts of options to be applied to their community and their subsistence users.

19

20 MR. OTTON: I'll second the motion.

21

22 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Well, we have a motion and a second. Discussion?

24

25 MR. OTTON: He just got done saying the motion.

26

27 MR. BARR: Question.

28

29 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question's been called. All those in favor of the motion to adopt the report of Designated Hunter Task Force and that it be forwarded to all the communities with the region as an option for their application for change proposals, signify by saying aye.

34

35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36

37 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Those opposed, nay. (No opposing responses) Motion passes unanimously.

39

40 MR. OTTON: So staff will send the stuff to us, all the villages, right?

42

43 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yes, ma'am.

44

45 MR. OTTON: And like are they going to go to the city offices, the IRA offices or who?

47

48 MS. ARMSTRONG: Anywhere you want it to go.

49

50

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1 MR. OTTON: Huh?

2

3 MS. ARMSTRONG: Wherever you wish it to go.

4

5 MR. OTTON: I'm going to carry mine with her after
while.

7

8 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: That wording was to the affected
communities within our region, whether or not they send them --
you could designate whether you want it to go to the tribal
government or the city or all of the above.

12

13 MS. ARMSTRONG: All of the above.

14

15 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: All the above. So that's going to
be the -- all of the above.

17

18 MS. ARMSTRONG: With a cover letter?

19

20 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Right. We are now down to number
20., Public Comments.

22

23 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's done.

24

25 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Katchatag.

26

27 MR. STANTON KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
first would like to thank each one of you for your patience, and
the council for allowing us to put our concerns. The basic
comment, however, I would like to make a request before the
agencies here. I'm (indiscernible) Chair is considering or
thinking that because shortage of limited funds that the
operation of not only Seward Peninsula but statewide advisory
councils would be short-changed more or less, so I would like
to suggest that adequate funding be requested to Congress or
whoever is in charge of final budgeting, directly through the
responsibility of the coordinator of each region. This is my
recommendation because as you figure out if they have a meeting
down in Anchorage for the people to go there, your people
without going to hotel and mail expenses were just for
traveling or somewhere around 700 or that for just a trip. So
I believe the -- each Federal Subsistence Council should be
adequately funded, especially these first few years that they
are organizing. I think this is the only way we can -- they
can do what they are supposed to do, and I believe strongly
because it's organized under the act of Congress that the
Congress not deny adequate funding for this in spite of the
cuts. So thank you very much.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Katchatag. Any
 2 further public comments? Hearing none, we'll move on to item
 3 11., Administrative Items. Barb.

4

5 MS. ARMSTRONG: None. They've all been taken care of,
 6 the ones that I need your signatures and stuff. For your next
 7 travel it was the consensus from the council that they would
 8 like to do some charters on their flights to their meetings --
 9 their meeting places. I'm going to ask and try to set up for
 10 your next meeting, wherever it may be, to see if there can be a
 11 charter set up so that way the meeting -- had it gotten done
 12 like this one tonight, we could have made it back into Nome and
 13 head home on our merry little ways. But the setup that we have
 14 right now through our travel agency, we have to spend another
 15 night. So I'll try to set that up for the next.

16

17 For those who want to know, Sheldon's fax number is
 18 890-3738, and his phone number, again, is 890-2268; and
 19 Seetot's is 642-4091 at work, from 8:00 to 5:00

20

21 MR. SEETOT: 9:00 to 5:00.

22

23 MS. ARMSTRONG: 9:00 to 5:00 -- 10:00 to 5:00.
 24 That's all I have.

25

26 MR. KNAUER: Just a reminder that either I can carry
 27 the -- your itinerary and receipts back to our administrative
 28 officer to fill out the (indiscernible), or when you get home
 29 you can send them in, but be sure you include -- I'm aware that
 30 there was a purchase order for your lodging but they may give
 31 you a receipt. Be sure you include that. Make sure you
 32 include the receipt copy of your ticket with it also.

33

34 MS. ARMSTRONG: That's why I guess they can't give it
 35 to you right now, because they need that receipt to send in
 36 with their packet. In case you travel sometime and you need to
 37 show your travel agent.

38

39 MR. KNAUER: Okay.

40

41 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay, thanks.

42

43 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Is that it?

44

45 MS. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh (affirmative).

46

47 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Barb. Moving on to
 48 item 12. This is the fun one, time and place for the next
 49 meeting.

50

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1
2 MS. ARMSTRONG: We have a six-week calendar.
3
4 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Oh, yeah. This is a six-week
5 calendar which shows the open window for our meeting, and for
6 the record let me show that the Barrow meeting has blocked out
7 February 5 to February 18.
8
9 MR. OTTON: That's a long meeting.
10
11 MS. ARMSTRONG: No, they're going to pick the days from
12 those two weeks. They're going to either pick from the first
13 week of February 5 to 11 or the week of February 12 through the
14 18. It should be in those two weeks, but we weren't sure.
15
16 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: In honor of Washington's Birthday
17 move that we hold our meeting February 21 to February 24, in
18 Honolulu. Do I hear a second?
19
20 MS. ARMSTRONG: Everybody (indiscernible).
21
22 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: And since we've just come through
23 the federal budget is full, all spouses of the council members
24 will be taken along.
25
26 MS. ARMSTRONG: You wish.
27
28 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Uh-oh. Okay, the floor is open.
29 We can meet February 3 and 4.
30
31 MS. ARMSTRONG: The Northwest Arctic is meeting on the
32 2nd.
33
34 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Oh, yeah, that's a little bit
35 close. I'm sorry. We will block out February -- January 31 to
36 February 4, two days on either side.
37
38 MR. OTTON: Let's see, what's going on in February.
39
40 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Rondy.
41
42 MS. ARMSTRONG: Isn't that when you have the Elders
43 Conference, too?
44
45 MR. OTTON: In our region?
46
47 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Yeah.
48
49 MR. OTTON: There's no Elders Conference this year
50

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1 because of (indiscernible) messed up.

2

3 MS. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay.

4

5 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: When does the Iditarod start --
6 March 4.

7

8 MR. OTTON: Who blocked that out?

9

10 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any suggestions on meeting days?
11 February 20 is blocked off by itself, that's the Presidents
12 Day, an observed holiday. Any suggestions?

13

14 MR. BARR: February 22 is my girl's birthday.

15

16 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Automatically crossed off.

17

18 MS. ARMSTRONG: 27th and 28th?

19

20 (Yupik language spoken)

21

22 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: E-E means uh-huh (affirmative). I
23 have a motion for February 27 and 28.

24

25 MS. ARMSTRONG: Make it tentative in case their dates
26 conflict and I'll let you know.

27

28 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: They're just going to have to live
29 with it. They've got two weeks.

30

31 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. If they make their's for the
32 first week you could make yours for the following week, so I'll
33 let you know what date they block off. I know it's two days in
34 those two weeks.

35

36 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: In other words, if they pick a
37 meeting in the first week, we can take a meeting in the second
38 week?

39

40 MS. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh (affirmative).

41

42 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Is that any better?

43

44 MS. ARMSTRONG: If you make it on the latter part of
45 the following week, you can set two days right now. Like on 27
46 and 28 and/or 16 and 17, and then that way either way --
47 whichever -- where they set it I'll let you know.

48

49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Any preferences?

50

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1
2 MR. KATCHEAK: 16th and 17th. Any objection to 16 and
3 17?
4
5 MR. BARR: No objection.
6
7 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: So ordered, 16 and 17 of February.
8 Place?
9
10 MR. BARR: Little Diomedede.
11
12 MR. OTTON: Yeah,.
13
14 MR. BARR: No, I'm kidding.
15
16 MR. OTTON: Oh, yeah, that's right, if we go there
17 unless we charter out, we've got to stay there two weeks.
18
19 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Week on, week off. Okay, we met
20 first at Nome; second at Shishmaref; third at Unalakleet;
21 MR. BARR: Fourth at Brevig?
22
23 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I'm open to suggestions. White
24 Mountain has a lodge.
25
26 MR. SEETOT: I think we should meet, you know, where
27 we're representing people within a region that would kind of
28 exaggerate the areas that are represented, you know, so they get
29 an idea of what our board is doing.
30
31 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: White Mountain is not represented,
32 Wales is not represented, Golovin, Shaktoolik,
33
34 MR. BARR: St. Michaels, Wales.
35
36 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Right, but you're talking about
37 some windy places. Well, we're tough.
38
39 MR. OTTON: Only lodge in the region is the village of
40 White Mountain. You like it, Steve?
41
42 MR. KNAUER: He was saying Serpentine Hot Springs.
43
44 MR. KATCHEAK: The only thing that's hot up there at
45 that time of year is the hot springs.
46
47 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Take our word for it, we know.
48 Any suggestions?
49
50

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1 MR. OTTON: White Mountain.
2
3 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: I have a motion on the floor to
4 have our next meeting in White Mountain. Do we have a second?
5
6 MR. KATCHEAK: Second.
7
8 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Discussion.
9
10 MR. BARR: Question.
11
12 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Question. All those in favor of
13 having our next meeting tentatively on the 16th and 17th of
14 February in White Mountain, Alaska, signify by saying aye.
15
16 IN UNISON: Aye.
17
18 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Those opposed, nay? (No opposing
19 responses) Motion passes unanimously. We shall meet at White
20 Mountain tentatively on the 16th and 17th. So ordered.
21
22 MR. KATCHEAK: Of what month?
23
24 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: February. Next order of business,
25 Council/Staff/Agency Comment. Mr. Lockwood.
26
27 MR. LOCKWOOD: None.
28
29 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: None. Madame Secretary.
30
31 MS. MUKTOYUK: None.
32
33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: None. Vice President Barr?
34
35 MR. BARR: None.
36
37 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: None. Mr. Katcheak?
38
39 MR. KATCHEAK: None.
40
41 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: None. Mr. Seetot?
42
43 MR. SEETOT: I just would like to say that this is one
44 of the board meetings that kind of -- or the council meetings
45 that pretty much the issues were put out in the open and I
46 think that -- it went where no issues were kind of left out but
47 will need to be discussed at the next meeting, and I
48 appreciate the time and effort that I spent here. I thank
49 Valakleet for the time spent here. Thank you.
50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Seetot. Mr. Otton?
3

4 MR. OTTON: Well, I suppose it was a pretty productive
meeting, a few sparks flying now and then, but I think when
you're brainstorming, that happens. The only thing, what I was
worried about when I go to meetings, and I do go to a few, and
one thing that I've never said that's always been in the back
of my mind is the old saying, some wise old Indian said that
"The big smoke but no fire." So hopefully we get a fire going
pretty strong.

12
13 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Otton. Personally,
and also on behalf of the council I would ask that our regional
Coordinator write a thank you letter to the Native Village of
Unalakleet for the warm welcome that we received, to the
Unalakleet Native Corporation for their provision of a warm
place to hold a meeting, and to the participants in Unalakleet
for making their concerns and wishes known to the Seward
Peninsula Regional Advisory Council.

21
22 I would also like to thank staff for providing us
information requested and for their patience and kindness in
dealing with us, and we hope that in the future things will go
on a little bit smoother keel and as my cohort to my left so
ably put it, fewer sparks will fly.

27
28 And I hope everybody is, if not satisfied with the
outcome of our meeting, that we are all equally dissatisfied.
So having said that, I would like to open the floor to any of
the staff for any comments at this time. Ms. Detwiler?

32
33 MS. DETWILER: None.

34
35 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Ms. Mason?

36
37 MS. MASON: No comments.

38
39 MS. MASCHMEYER: Well, I would just like to add a thank
you to -- come out here.

41
42 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Please state their names for the
record.

44
45 MS. MASCHMEYER: For the record, I'm Gloria Maschmeyer,
with the Office of Subsistence Management, and I would like to
thank the Unalakleet Native Corporation for the help that their
Administrative staff gave us during these two days of meetings,
the use of their fax machines, their copy machines and their
50

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kindness in helping us at a moment's notice to enable us to complete our tasks to have this meeting run smoothly. And thank you Unalakleet for having us.

4

5 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Gloria. Madame Coordinator, I would also ask that our letter to the Corporation reflect the same. Any other comments from staff? Mr. Adkisson?

9

10 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Knauer.

11

12 MR. KNAUER: I would also like to echo the appreciation to the Native village, the community and the people of Unalakleet for opening your village and your hearts to us. I would also like to thank the council members for their diligence and effort in taking the time to read the materials and to understand our program, because your knowledge makes the process that we're both trying to achieve much easier, and although there are still some bumpy spots in the road, we're each coming to understand and learn a little bit about each other, and it is progressing, and I thank you for that.

22

23 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Thank you, Mr. Knauer. Mr. Adkisson, were you about to have some comment?

25

26 MR. ADKISSON: No. If we're down to that point at 13 or whatever, yeah.

28

29 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Tocktoo.

30

31 MR. TOCKTOO: None.

32

33 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Mr. Kovach.

34

35 MR. KOVACH: No.

36

37 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Madame Recorder.

38

39 MS. DOWNING: I don't have any.

40

41 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: On behalf of the council I would like to thank Madame Recorder for bearing with us and I hope we haven't disrupted her schedule. Good.

44

45 MS. DOWNING: I would comment you were the third Council I've done and the third one that wanted to meet in Hawaii.

48

49 CHAIRMAN KATCHATAG: Well, once again the indigenous

50

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1 people are thinking on the same wave length.

2

3 Moving on to item 14. Adjourn.

4

5 MS. ARMSTRONG: All right.

6

7 (Off record)

8

9

10

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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THAT the foregoing pages numbered 112 through 249 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory Council meeting taken electronically by Meredith L. Downing on the 25th day of October, 1994, beginning at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m. at the Unaglikmiut Katimmaslik Center, Unalakleet, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by Laurel Evenson and Meredith L. Downing to the best of their knowledge and ability;

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

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