

1 NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2
3 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
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5 PUBLIC MEETING
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7 VOLUME II
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9
10 Northwest Arctic Heritage Center
11 Kotzebue, Alaska
12 March 26, 2014
13 9:09 a.m.
14

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16
17 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:
18

19 Enoch Shiedt, Chair
20 Percy Ballot
21 Verne Cleveland
22 Michael Kramer
23 Hannah Loon
24 Walter Sampson
25 Raymond Stoney
26

27
28 Regional Council Coordinator, Carl Johnson (Acting)
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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Kotzebue, Alaska - 3/26/2014)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Call to order at 9:09 a.m. this morning, and morning, all. I hope you all sleep good.

And anything you need to say, Carl.

MR. JOHNSON: No, Mr. Chair. I don't have anything.

CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Back to the agenda. We're on briefing on Fisheries Resource Monitoring. Karen.

Oh, before we get to Karen, maybe we should say anyone from the Council would like to say something. Go ahead, Hannah.

MS. LOON: (In Inupiaq) Good morning. Yesterday I spoke in Inupiaq, and I wanted to translate for the records for Lance. He didn't understand, so I'm sorry. When, you know, our Council member have to understand what we were discussing. It's on the muskox discussion.

I thought they were invasive species, but Attamuk say they were here a long time ago, and they hunted them. But later on I understand that they introduced them here 1970s,

What I was saying, when Seward was here, we had famine and starvation throughout the region and we were starving, so they introduced the reindeer to Alaska, because we were starving all over. That was in the 1850s, around there. Maybe earlier.

And when you discuss the muskox and trying to grow it, I thought in my head, we are not starving today. And in the Inupiaq mind, we don't fight over animal, you know, what to do with muskox, and discussion about muskox, who has jurisdiction over what.

And in my understanding, for a very small amount of animals, 150, it seems to me Park

1 Service is spending a lot of money just to conserve,
2 not like the caribou. We should be more conserve and
3 be conservative, you know, in our planning for the
4 caribou management.

5
6 And I find it very hard to understand
7 like the rest of you about acronyms that were discussed
8 in the pages that were given to us. They are hard to
9 understand. It appears like that you Park Service make
10 the report for them, and for the audience because they
11 understand it, but us, we don't understand it. And I
12 recommended that next time that this is revisited that
13 there is one page, and not too much lengthy
14 discussions.

15
16 And I really appreciate Percy for being
17 on top of this muskox working with the Seward -- with
18 the Park Service.

19
20 And anything that comes before this
21 meeting in reference to muskox preservation and tickets
22 and bag limits for Buckland and Deering, of course, we
23 are willing to support them.

24
25 Thank you very much.

26
27 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Hannah.

28
29 Anyone else from the Council like to
30 recap yesterday.

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Now we'll go
35 back to the agenda, and we were on Fisheries Resource
36 Monitoring Program by Karen Hyer. I hope I said that
37 right. Are they on line?

38
39 MS. HYER: Hello, Mr. Chairman. Can you
40 hear me?

41
42 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Maybe we
43 should see who's all on line.

44
45 MS. HYER: Okay. Karen Hyer with OSM.

46
47 MR. McKEE: Chris McKee with OSM.

48
49 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson with the
50 Park Service in Nome.

1 MR. SHARP: Dan Sharp with Bureau of
2 Land Management in Anchorage.

3
4 MR. CRAWFORD: Drew Crawford, Alaska
5 Department of Fish and Game, Anchorage.

6
7 MS. OKADA: Marcy Okada, National Park
8 Service in Fairbanks.

9
10 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Morning, all.

11
12
13 Okay. We can go back to Karen. Okay,
14 Karen.

15
16 MS. HYER: All right. Mr. Chairman.
17 Can everybody hear me okay?

18
19 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yes.

20
21 MS. HYER: All right. So I'm going to
22 present the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program to
23 you. And this is not an action item. And a briefing
24 on it can be found on Page 42. And I'm basically going
25 to just give you the highlights of the program, which
26 you're familiar with already, and then Jeff Brooks is
27 going to talk to you about the priority information
28 needs for the program.

29
30 But this is bi-yearly. Bi-yearly we
31 recruit for projects that are research projects that
32 address issues, Federal subsistence fisheries resource
33 management. And so the information we glean from these
34 project provide information to Federal subsistence
35 managers in their decisions.

36
37 And we fund projects every other year,
38 and so we just finished a funding cycle. And the
39 project that we funded in your region is the sheefish
40 project that's run by Randy Brown, and it's studying
41 the effects of the slump in the Selawik River. And
42 he's looking at the effects, because not the river has
43 become quite turbid, and he's looking at spawning
44 success, and how that will affect the overall
45 population of those fish. And he is -- it's a long-
46 term project, so he has applied for continuing funds,
47 so he was funded two years ago, and he was funded in
48 this last round.

49
50 And, of course, your region -- or your

1 Council fits into the Northern Region along with the
2 Seward Peninsula Council and the North Slope Council.
3 And so we funded a project, the Unalakleet River on the
4 Seward Peninsula, and that's a Chinook salmon project.
5 And we also funded a Dolly Varden project, looking at
6 marine habitat for Dolly Varden up in the North Slope
7 region.

8

9 So that was what was funded in
10 northern.

11

12 And basically as the program works, the
13 very first thing we do is we put out a call requesting
14 people submit proposals. And to guide that call, we
15 develop the priority information needs. And the
16 priority information needs come from the Councils and
17 from the managers, the fisheries managers in the area,
18 and they basically are a list of what is most important
19 for research in the region. And so after I get done
20 kind of with the overview, Jeff Brooks is going to step
21 up and help -- or basically listen to what you have to
22 say about what you feel is the important research needs
23 in Northwest Alaska.

24

25 So the call goes out, and we get
26 proposals in, and then the proposals are reviewed first
27 by the Technical Review Committee, and the Technical
28 Review Committee is made up of fisheries biologists and
29 anthropologists and other technical aspects in the
30 field of fisheries. And a member from each of the
31 Federal agencies that sits on the Board sits on the
32 Technical Review Committee, plus the State of Alaska.
33 We have a fisheries biologist and some anthropologists
34 that come from the State of Alaska. And they review
35 the proposals for technical -- they provide technical
36 expertise, and they review the proposals just for their
37 technical merit.

38

39 And then once the proposals have gone
40 through that review, we bring them out to the Regional
41 Advisory Councils and the Regional Advisory Councils
42 review the proposals and they let us know of the
43 proposals that were submitted, which ones they feel
44 support the local needs and the local information that
45 needs to be gathered.

46

47 And so then we take those two pieces of
48 information, and we take it back to the office and the
49 ISC then provides a review. And the ISC is the
50 InterAgency Staff Committee, and they're basically the

1 Staff support to the Board. And they take into
2 consideration what the Council said, and what the
3 Technical Review Committee said, and they provide a
4 recommendation.

5
6 And those three recommendations then go
7 to the Federal Subsistence Board, and the Federal
8 Subsistence Board is the one that approves projects for
9 funding. And so in the last round they approved the
10 three projects that I just mentioned for Northern for
11 funding. And so those projects will go forward, and
12 they're funded for the next four years.

13
14 And how this fall we're going to start
15 the whole cycle again. And so what Jeff is going to do
16 basically is just listen to what you have to say about
17 what you feel might possibly be priorities that need to
18 be researched in your region.

19
20 And with that, Mr. Chairman, that ends
21 my presentation, so I can take any questions or Jeff
22 can just step and we can do the priority information
23 needs.

24
25 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

26
27 Any questions from the board members
28 here.

29
30 Yeah, go ahead, Percy.

31
32 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. The
33 studies with the Dolly Varden, you're saying that
34 you're going to still -- it's a multi-year study?

35
36 MS. HYER: Yes. Mr. Chairman and
37 Council members. That's a multi-year study. It's
38 going to take place out of Nuiqsut in the north, and
39 they're going to study the migratory pattern of Dolly
40 Varden in the marine environment. We know very little
41 about what Dolly Varden do in the marine environment.
42 And so that study will start this coming fall, and it
43 will go on for four years.

44
45 MR. BALLOT: And from this one sheet
46 here from Brendan Scanlon, it showed the ones that were
47 tagged in the Holokuk River that they end up in
48 Buckland for spawning in the falltime?

49
50 MS. HYER: Mr. Chairman, Council

1 members. That is a different study, and different
2 study, and Brendan I think is going to talk about his
3 work later in the meeting. But that is not the study I
4 was talking about that was funded. The study that I
5 was talking about actually is on the North Slope, it's
6 not in Northwest Arctic.

7
8 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: I see someone's
9 shaking their head saying no on this report for the
10 Noatak, or one of.....

11
12 MS. DAGGETT: For the record, my name
13 is Carmen Daggett.

14
15 And I spoke with Brendan Scanlon this
16 morning on the phone. He's actually in Noatak doing
17 some fish work right now, and he was originally
18 intending on participating in this meeting when it was
19 going to take place in February, but is currently
20 unavailable, because he is doing research out in the
21 Noatak at the moment. So he will not be coming to this
22 meeting.

23
24 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. I got an email
25 from him, he just -- I got it. Okay.

26
27 MS. DAGGETT: Yeah. And I believe that
28 Brandon Saito is also on the agenda, and he is
29 currently stuck in jury duty. Just so that you're
30 aware of those two members that will likely not be
31 participating.

32
33 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

34
35 Are you done, Percy?

36
37 MR. BALLOT: Yeah.

38
39 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Walter.

40
41 MR. SAMPSON: I was just wondering, Mr.
42 Chairman, to see where we are at with our sheefish
43 studies, the spawning areas up on the (indiscernible -
44 mic not on)

45
46 REPORTER: Your microphone, Walter.

47
48 MR. SAMPSON: (Indiscernible -
49 microphone not on) and at one point.....

50

1 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Your mic.
2
3 MR. SAMPSON:(indiscernible) had
4 some discussions.
5
6 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Your mic.
7
8 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah, I know.
9 (Indiscernible)
10
11 REPORTER: It doesn't get recorded if
12 that mic isn't on.
13
14 MR. SAMPSON: The question's on
15 (indiscernible).
16
17 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead, Tina,
18 maybe you could give a brief on your Selawik.
19
20 MS. MORAN: Well, we're just partners
21 with that project. That's Ray Hander and Randy Brown,
22 they're out of the Fairbanks fisheries office. And
23 they are again hoping, you know, they'll go out there
24 again this year. At the science conference that's
25 going to be held in April, Randy -- Ray Hander will
26 actually be up here to give a full report on that
27 project, on the current results that he has right now.
28 So he can give a full report on that.
29
30 But if there's any questions that I can
31 try to answer, I can sure do that. And I was going to
32 address that a little bit in our agency report.
33
34 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. I just have a
35 question for you. For the update, this is the one that
36 when they put the satellites inside. And one of them
37 we get here in Kotzebue, is that the same project?
38
39 MS. MORAN: It's a different project.
40
41 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Oh, it's a completely
42 different project.
43
44 MS. MORAN: Yeah. And we haven't got a
45 report from those yet. They're still doing the
46 analysis, and as far as I'm aware, we haven't got the
47 final report on that. There's been a number of
48 different projects on sheefish up here.
49
50 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Maybe, Walter,

1 for your information, when they first did the sheefish
2 study years ago, one was caught here in Kotzebue, the
3 one they did in Selawik. And the satellite, and the
4 antenna was sticking out, you know, by the little hole
5 in the back.

6

7 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah. Yeah.

8

9 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: And when we biopsied
10 -- were you there when we biopsied that?

11

12 MS. MORAN: I think so, yeah.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: It was pretty
15 healthy. There's nothing wrong. We looked at it. I
16 was part of the team. That way, if anybody have a
17 question on satellite, it was inside and it was real
18 healthy. There was nothing wrong. We had the muscle
19 tested, the meat tested, and it was good for your
20 information. And I was pretty much happy with it.
21 (Indiscernible) in there was telling us at that time,
22 you know, pretty much good information, and good data
23 was coming out of this things like that.

24

25 And I looked it up not too long ago
26 before, for your information, they did one in that
27 river there at Lower 48, they started to even use
28 smaller satellites now that they implant, but they've
29 got to be near the surface to transmit.

30

31 MS. MORAN: Right.

32

33 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: You know, because the
34 last time we were here, remember that one I get last
35 summer, of all people, I know I don't get it that big.
36 It was about this big, let's put it that way, and
37 antenna sticking out on top of the gill -- I mean the
38 fins right there. Things like that, if they're going
39 to do any kind of monitoring and satellite tagging,
40 they should use something smaller and not to hurt the
41 fish. And just the way I see it, the way you did, they
42 stick wires in there next to the bones on the fin.
43 They could cut out and they could cut the fins, because
44 it's such a big drag.

45

46 MS. MORAN: Right. And I think that's
47 the aim is to, as technology improves, to use equipment
48 that's less invasive, because that doesn't -- that
49 helps the studies as well. You don't want to affect
50 the behavior of the fish. So as things get improved --

1 and right now as far as I know, we don't have any
2 ongoing sheefish projects with transmitters. There may
3 be some still in some of the fish from past projects,
4 but I think we're almost done with the active projects
5 right now.

6

7 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: When I was -- sorry
8 about that. What I was leading to is if they're going
9 to use something like that, before when they're going
10 to fish studies, and they're going to implant or use
11 any kind satellite, before they do the project, all the
12 should show us here what they're going to use. That
13 way we won't have hardship or question about it later
14 if we see it before and if we might approve it, a
15 little bit easier, and we will feel better if we see
16 it. Otherwise you'll just say, hey, we're going to do
17 the fish project, and you guys do your thing without
18 showing us what type of equipment. It doesn't have to
19 be exact what you're going to use. Basically what
20 you're going to use and where you're going to put it.

21

22 I still have heartache on that poor
23 fish I caught. I couldn't believe it. And that's why
24 -- I felt for that fish, you know.

25

26 MS. MORAN: Yeah, I understand that,
27 and that's what they definitely intend to do and have
28 been trying to be better at, you know, going to all the
29 villages before we start these projects. I know Ray
30 and Randy have been pretty good about doing that. In
31 the current projects, they aren't using transmitters,
32 the ones that are currently ongoing.

33

34 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

35

36 Go ahead, Verne.

37

38 MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah. We caught one of
39 those sheefish, put in Kobuk Lake. And it was blue. I
40 mean, it was real thin, but we could see something
41 inside it, and we didn't want to bother with it. So I
42 told the guy that caught it, bring it in and bring it
43 to Fish and Game, see what it is. It was real long,
44 but real thin, and it was blue.

45

46 And are they going to do the same --
47 Karen, are they going to do the same studies with the
48 same fish with satellites like that?

49

50 MS. HYER: Mr. Chairman. Council

1 members. No, the study that's going on now in the
2 Selawik is a continuation of what has been going on for
3 the past two years. And it involves looking at age
4 classes and trying to figure out how the slump and all
5 the silt in the water is affecting the success of
6 spawning. And it doesn't to my knowledge use any radio
7 transmitters.

8
9 We have had a project that we've been
10 finishing up with Fish and Game on the Kobuk, where
11 they were monitoring that population, and those fish
12 had transmitters in them. And I think last summer was
13 the last summer they were actually monitoring those.

14
15 MR. CLEVELAND: I'll bet you guys still
16 can keep track, and that guy, he didn't turn it in.
17 He's from Kenai, maybe he's still got it with him.

18
19 Thank you.

20
21 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, thank you,
22 Karen.

23
24 Go ahead, Walter. You'll be next.

25
26 MR. SAMPSON: Along the lines of the
27 studies that's occurring on Selawik and the Kobuk,
28 studying fish is good, but impacts on fisheries
29 certainly is going to happen at some point in time,
30 especially with beavers that are really starting to dam
31 up some of the spawning areas. And I'm just wondering
32 if there's any plans in regards to doing any beaver
33 work on both the Selawik and the Kobuk.

34
35 MS. MORAN: At the Refuge, we were
36 doing a beaver cache surveys for a few years, and right
37 now I'm hoping to kind of review that project to try to
38 get a better project to monitor the beavers on the
39 Refuge.

40
41 Right now I don't have any biologists
42 on Staff. Both left. Both biologists that we had left
43 in August. We're currently trying to hire a fish
44 biologist right now. And then later in the year, or
45 maybe next year, we'll get approved to hire a wildlife
46 biologist.

47
48 So we're hoping that with the fish
49 biologist position, we can produce some more -- I mean,
50 it's been great working with Randy and Ray, and they've

1 great of hitting some of the sheefish issues that we
2 have. But with a fish biologist on Staff, we're hoping
3 to address some of the other issues that we have, like
4 the beaver issue, because we certainly hear that from
5 Selawik quite a bit.

6

7 MR. SAMPSON: Just to follow up, the
8 issue in regards to beaver problem, that is really
9 going to become a problem down the road for fisheries.
10 Is there any thought in regards to Fish and Wildlife
11 possibly putting a bounty on beavers so you can get a
12 better control in regards to those critters.

13

14 MS. MORAN: Not at this time. I mean,
15 we definitely encourage folks, you know, if they're
16 interested into beaver trapping. We put on a couple
17 clinics a few years ago in the Village of Selawik, but
18 we're not actively promoting -- or we're not asking for
19 the Staff to be doing that right now.

20

21 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman. I think if
22 this body makes recommendation in regards to what ought
23 to be studied, and what needs to be looked at, it's
24 critical that fisheries down the road are going to be
25 impacted by beaver damming. And I think what we ought
26 to do is make a recommendation from this body for the
27 Federal agencies to start looking at doing some work on
28 beaver issue, because State of Alaska will tell you
29 there's a lot of beaver. There's no limit in regards to
30 what -- how many beavers you can catch. And if that's
31 the case, they see that beaver is really becoming a
32 problem. And it will impact fisheries down the road.
33 Why can't we make a recommendation to the Federal
34 agencies that they ought to put a bounty of some sort
35 so people can start trapping these things in the
36 wintertime, and make a little bit of money out of them
37 at the same time.

38

39 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Thank you,
40 Walter.

41

42 Since we're on that beaver issue, they
43 even at Point Hope now. They're at Wulik. And I will
44 say again, and I've said this how many different times,
45 at that one below Nenana, Cantwell. They even said
46 their lakes are being dammed by beavers, that the
47 whitefish are dying, and they haven't had whitefish in
48 a long time. And what I was told by the meeting, that
49 if they do come to Northwest Alaska, we will have fish
50 problems like Walter say. And I've got a feeling what

1 Walter's trying to say, let's work on the issue before
2 the problem comes.

3

4 MR. SAMPSON: Right.

5

6 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: And I will as
7 Chairman will recommend to Carl that go ahead and put
8 this on the agenda. And we need to do something about
9 the beavers, because they are destroying. Because if
10 they take the trout away, that's taking my livelihood.
11 I grow up on trout there in Noatak, and when we break
12 the dam, they're back. They're real engineers. And
13 they go right back in few days. They put everything
14 back in place. And that's the problem we going to
15 have. And it was a hot issue first a few years ago
16 with Fish and Game, because there's so much fish at
17 Menuak (ph) Point. There's two -- I was told by three
18 different people, they say there's seven beavers in
19 there, and they say it's like a two-story, it's so big.
20 And these are -- I think if they're moving in there,
21 they might not be bothered, and they're expanding and
22 nobody's getting them.

23

24 And I think Walter's right, and I will
25 say we need to do something about it, Carl, fast. And
26 it need to be done.

27

28 She had her hand up before you,
29 Raymond. Do you want to come up if this is about the
30 fisheries. Go ahead, come up.

31

32 MS. DAGGETT: So backing up a little
33 bit towards the comment about the transmitter that was
34 connected to the fish that was rather large that you
35 caught, and I had the privilege of listening to a
36 couple of Brendan Scanlon's presentations about these
37 specific transmitters. And I believe one of them took
38 place at the Kotzebue Sound Advisory Committee meeting.

39

40 But in those presentations he mentioned
41 that that particular study was going to be happening
42 for a couple of years. So it's possible that those
43 transmitters might be found in Dolly Varden in this
44 region for another couple of years.

45

46 And if you have particular comments on
47 those transmitters, I can relay them to Brendan, or you
48 can write a letter if you have any comments. And I
49 would be happy to make sure that he gets that
50 information.

1 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Okay. Back to
2 that trout. Yeah, I felt for that trout. Actually it
3 was right in the middle of the fin. And it was hooked
4 on with just a piece of number 8 wire, with insulated
5 wire. And that was it. They just spliced it and
6 tagged it. And I feel sorry for them. I still never
7 get my 20 gallons of gas yet. Reese said I could get
8 20 gallons of gas for turning it in, and I turned it
9 in, because 20 gallons will take me a long ways when I
10 go hunting.

11
12 MS. DAGGETT: Brendan's going to be
13 back in our office in a couple of days. I'll mention
14 that, Attamuk.

15
16 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: That was how many
17 years ago? I got big interest. I charge lots.

18
19 (Laughter)

20
21 MR. CLEVELAND: Add another 10 gallons.
22 No more problem.

23
24 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, follow up,
25 Walter.

26
27 You'll be next, you had your hand up,
28 Verne?

29
30 MR. SAMPSON: When you do studies and
31 are looking at putting transmitters, if you can bring
32 visuals, some pictures in regards to how these things
33 are being put on and where, it would be an idea for us
34 to look at down the road.

35
36 MS. DAGGETT: Thank you for that
37 comment, Walter. And I would like to say, too, that we
38 definitely have have some handouts at the Fish and
39 Game office if people would like to take a look at
40 them, and I can recommend that Brendan distribute
41 those.

42
43 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

44
45 Go ahead, Hannah -- oh, Raymond was
46 first. Go ahead, Raymond.

47
48 MR. STONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
49 That's one very concern that I had from quite some time
50 now about the tagging these fish. Now it's come to a

1 point where we have to say something about the fish,
2 because we're hearing now that these fish are being
3 tagged that's controlled by satellites. Now, if those
4 satellites were transplanted on any of these fishes, of
5 course, you know, the satellite is run in a very
6 expensive situation.. The thing about it now, if he
7 puts the satellite tags in them, are they edible?
8 Would you -- with all kinds of wires in it and you got
9 one yourself, and it was dead, would you eat it?

10

11 MS. MORAN: Well, from what I'm told,
12 they're fine to eat. And we've had folks return fish.
13 Some of them don't want to eat them, and some of them
14 have. And probably Ray and Randy probably would be
15 better to answer those questions, and Brendan. But
16 I've had -- but my own experience of folks bringing
17 them in, I've had them both eat them, and some of them
18 just like don't want to touch them, but they've been
19 told that they're safe to eat.

20

21 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: And I could partially
22 -- I'm not trying to protect the agency or anything,
23 but when we caught this fish, it was a big trout, so my
24 wife check it before she cook it. She check around the
25 hole and everything else, and to see the meat right
26 next to it was pretty in color as the rest of it. It
27 had a little film, I think maybe it was just another
28 skin growing or something. It was not -- it looked
29 like it was freshly put in, and looked like it was
30 starting to have a film to protect it. I think part of
31 the saliva went there to protect it, that way when you
32 cut it, it will protect. Because they have to have
33 that to protect themselves. I'm not trying to say it,
34 but this is what I saw, and my wife. And we cooked it,
35 but we cut a knife, chunk around it. We didn't cut
36 that section. We eat from this, because it was almost
37 in the middle, and it was okay, for your information.

38

39 MR. BALLOT: Yeah. That's one more
40 thing that I would say. It's more on beavers, and it
41 has been a big thing for Northwest Alaska, because I
42 know an individual from Selawik said one time, we're
43 talking about beavers were damming most of their rivers
44 in Selawik area, and he said to the Fish and Wildlife
45 biologist, you guys, you think you are big engineers,
46 but you guys not engineers. Beavers is more engineer
47 than you. They can do anything, block everything.

48

49 It's like in Kiana now, we've got
50 saying, some of the water where the whitefish goes in,

1 it's different color, and right behind it there's like
2 25 dams in there, about like 50, 60 beavers in those
3 lakes. And imagine being that many beavers in that one
4 lake, I suppose that water -- that's why they make the
5 water changes. And evidently I'm not against the
6 beavers, but that's one we lived on for sure. But the
7 river, Ralph told me in upper Selawik that some of
8 those lakes is polluted now from beaver dams, so that's
9 why Mr. Sampson from Selawik said start thinking about
10 controlling the beavers.

11
12 Otherwise it first came out like 10
13 years ago they want us to control it ourself. I said,
14 how can we control. Well, they said just go up with a
15 shovel and pick then dig that all summer long, ever
16 day, keep the beavers out. That's the only way you can
17 do it. So there has to be something done about these
18 beavers, because I'm not against them, but anyway
19 they're ruining those rivers in the Squirrel River and
20 Kobuk area, even in Selawik got them now.

21
22 Something should be done.

23
24 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25
26 MS. MORAN: Duly noted. And like I
27 said, that's why we're hoping to kind of review our
28 survey techniques for that, for monitoring beavers,
29 because right now we were just doing the Fish River
30 area around Selawik. But we want to do -- I want to try
31 to do something for the whole Refuge, because, you
32 know, I don't want to just focus on one spot, because,
33 like you said, if there's expansion in the Upper
34 Selawik in different areas, so just trying to find the
35 best way to get the best information, and then work
36 from there.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. Go ahead,
39 Hannah.

40
41 MS. LOON: (In Inupiaq).

42
43 Mr. Chairman.

44
45 In reference to Beaver, that has been
46 discussed for a long time. When we were doing sheefish
47 studies in upriver, Susan and I, the elders talked
48 about Beavers blocking the sloughs and lesser amount of
49 (in Inupiaq).

50

1 And when I'm fishing in Selawik, we
2 used to have rows and rows and rows of (in Inupiaq) or
3 the fish that have lots of roll. And, you know, one
4 row. But I'm lucky if I have 12 or 15 right now. And
5 right after it freezes, you could start seeing the (in
6 Inupiaq) when you're setting the net. When you set
7 your net and get some, they're there, (in Inupiaq) out.
8

9 And so we don't know -- I mean, it
10 would be nice to have that time and season to where you
11 could get lots of ekuyuks and make dried fish with roe
12 inside them, and it's kind of now rare to have those.
13

14 And beaver affects our quality of water
15 in Selawik River, Kobuk River. And I understand now
16 they are over there in Noatak. So it's going to --
17 we've discussed this over and over over time in our
18 studies and in our living. Now we have to bring our
19 own drinking water from the city to go out when we're
20 camping, just for drinking water. We don't want our
21 children to be drinking water that's contaminated from
22 beaver. So it's a good idea right now to bring it
23 forth to OSM, because it's going to affect us years
24 from now.
25

26 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
27

28 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, Hannah. Maybe
29 for the people there, you (in Inupiaq), you could
30 translate what kind of fish they are fishing when
31 they're full of eggs.
32

33 MS. LOON: They are humpback whitefish.
34

35 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.
36 That way they could put it on record, and they could
37 address your concern.
38

39 Go ahead, Walter.
40

41 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
42

43 I think this is a good discussion.
44 Beaver was really never a problem in the 70s and 80s.
45 Basically beaver was an Interior critter, and until
46 they start migrating into Northwest region. Now that
47 they've migrated up to Kivalina, Point Hope, they're
48 going to be migrating down south as well, too. And
49 damming has really been some of the issue -- or issue
50 problem some of the areas that fisheries -- I know Paul

1 (ph) River certainly has a lot of problems now.

2

3 Contamination that Hannah talked about
4 in regards to the water qualities is really becoming a
5 problem. A few of the folks in the region have gotten
6 sick from whatever you call that, giardia, yeah. And
7 if that's the problem, then I think.....

8

9 You know, we tried to address these
10 very issues early on. And the response has always
11 been, we can't do very much on the beaver issue. And
12 you bring that to the Department of Fish and Game, and
13 what they'll tell you is, we don't have no control.
14 Now that it's becoming a problem with fisheries at some
15 point, there's got to be a better control, and work on
16 handling or getting a handle on beaver. Maybe you
17 ought to take a look at, like I said, a bounty on
18 beaver so some of our people in the communities can
19 start trapping wintertime. And I think once you start
20 trapping beaver, then you will get a better handle in
21 regards to the beaver issue down the road.

22

23 Last fall there was a house that was
24 built on one of the channels, on a main channel. And
25 they were trying to dam across the river. And that's
26 how bad the beavers really getting, to the point where
27 they're starting to dam even the main rivers. And with
28 weather change, certainly it's going to impact
29 fisheries down the road. So I would suggest that one
30 of them or all the Federal agencies take a look and see
31 what they can do to come out with finding a way to
32 control beavers in the region.

33

34 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Walter, you reminded
35 me that last summer when the ice was breaking up here
36 in Kotzebue, there was beavers going out with the ice.
37 They were in front of Crowley, just next to Harris's
38 for four or five hours, going with the ice. How many.
39 What we're saying is that's how bad the issue is trying
40 to be. It's coming out. And like Walter say, they dam
41 up our other pawning areas for trout and whitefish,
42 we're going to have big problems.

43

44 And I think, Carl, we need to address
45 this as one of the top issues that we need to check on
46 and investigate on, because we could ask maybe Maniilaq
47 or the borough to bring it up when they travel to their
48 villages and see what the villages have to say. and we
49 do hear it. Because I do hear it when I go to Noatak.
50 I hear it when I see people from Kivalina. So this is

1 a hot issue.

2

3 Thanks. Go ahead, Verne. You had your
4 hand up, Verne?

5

6 Oh, Michael, I'm sorry.

7

8 MR. KRAMER: Mike Kramer here.

9

10 The last several years right here on
11 this Peninsula from Kotzebue south towards Umiak Point
12 and Ridareck or south of Ridareck (ph), I know there's
13 probably about four or five trappers, and they get
14 about 60 to 100 beaver just on this peninsula alone.
15 Every year. And it's like they don't even make a dent.
16 You know, it's a lot of hard work trying to get down
17 into those holes. I mean, this is just back here. I'm
18 pretty sure that if me and my brother and these eight
19 guys, you know, we had access to Selawik area, I'll bet
20 you we'd clean that place out, but they'd be right back
21 again the next year. I guarantee you they'll be back.
22 I mean, they replenish back here so fast, you know,
23 it's like the next year just like we didn't do
24 anything. I mean, back here we get the toilet seat
25 covers and all, the babies, you know, because we're
26 trying to wipe them out, trying to get rid of them, and
27 it seems like we don't make a dent. I mean, a 330
28 Conibear, we can't -- I mean, them small ones, we call
29 them toilet set covers, because that's about the size
30 they are. You know, they've got the best fur, but, you
31 know, we consider them bycatch, because we're trying to
32 get the big ones, and, you know, you can't help getting
33 the small ones, but a lot of those people like those
34 small ones for the best furs.

35

36 But they do need to do something. I
37 mean, man, we're just trying to make dent back here,
38 but, you know, I mean, in the Noatak River, I've seen
39 Upper Eli, you know, there's beaver lodges up there,
40 Aggie. Starting to be some up towards Trail Creek on
41 the Atkakurik (ph) River. There's some back in there.
42 There's some in the lakes up near Cutler. They're
43 starting to dam off some of those creeks.

44

45 And I know if Enoch was here, they're
46 starting to get pretty concerned on the Noatak side,
47 you know. That's a big trout fishery right there in
48 the Noatak. And if that gets impacted then, you know,
49 the rest of them are going to get impacted. Let's try
50 and fix this before it gets too late.

1 That's all.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Michael.

4

5 Go ahead, Raymond.

6

7 MR. STONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8

9 You know, one thing that we're looking
10 at now, is there's so much beaver just about everywhere
11 now. And apparently what's happening, it seemed like
12 that nobody is very interested in hunting them at all.
13 But, you know, there's so many everywhere. Just like
14 Walter said, I think we should come to a system where
15 we maybe just talked about it, and see what to do, just
16 like for bounty. In the early 40s, the late 30s and
17 40s they had bounties on wolf for \$50. And they had
18 bounties on ravens for 50 cents, because they were the
19 same as the beavers, wolf and ravens. So if we come to
20 the point where we maybe think about putting a geafer
21 -- put a bounty on it. Maybe somebody would be
22 interested in hunting them and then use then for
23 something. Of course, the fur is very valuable for
24 parkas and stuff like that, so it's something that
25 should come up and then say let's put bounty on them.
26 Maybe I'll go beaver hunting.

27

28 Than you, Mr. Chairman.

29

30 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Raymond.

31

32 And for the Recorder, when Michael
33 mentioned Enoch, he was talking about Enoch Mitchell
34 from Noatak.

35

36 To ahead, Hannah.

37

38 MS. LOON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

39

40 Just to let you know, for the skin
41 sewers, we prefer to order from North American Fur
42 Seals in Anchorage, and sometimes from Haviland.
43 They're \$90 for a small-sized pelt, \$130 for a big
44 blanket, which can yield up to two and a half beaver
45 skins. These are already tanned. You just need to wet
46 them and damp them and stretch them and make it more so
47 it could yield more skin for caps. And just for your
48 information, we do buy them from Outside and from
49 Anchorage. It's a lot easier. We don't have to scrape
50 or anything like that.

1 And I was going to say something else,
2 but I just want you to know that skin sewers do that.

3
4 Thank you.

5
6 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Hannah.

7
8 Go ahead, Verne.

9
10 MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah. I grew up
11 hunting beavers upriver, up in Shungnak. We used to
12 hunt a lot of beavers, I mean 30, 40 a night. That was
13 good, you know. But nowadays you can't even get 20.
14 Now I notice they're migrating down this way. And if
15 they're red, my mom used to color them, hair dye. If
16 they're red skin, you know, red, she'd get dye and dye
17 them. Dye them black or whatever color they want. Dye
18 them and then sell them. That's how my mom used to do
19 it. And she scrape her own pelt, makes her own, and
20 made quite a bit of money out of it.

21
22 But no wonder that one slough we used
23 to fish in, and there's no more -- no fish. And I
24 tried going in a couple years ago to where my mom used
25 to put a net, and I did put a net, but there was no
26 fish. And I went a little further in, sure enough
27 there was a beaver dam in the there. And it was an old
28 one. It wasn't just like it hadn't been there for a
29 while, but there was no fish. So I said to my wife, no
30 fish, wife, pull the net out. That was two years ago.
31 I was trying to get fish for my mom.

32
33 But I grew up hunting beavers, and I
34 love eating beaver meat, too.

35
36 Thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, Walter. Go
39 ahead, Walter.

40
41 We'll wrap this up pretty quick.

42
43 MR. SAMPSON: Maybe one last suggestion
44 is that the reason why I'm asking that we need to pay
45 attention on the issue is that before we really become
46 lawbreakers like we have with other resources, we need
47 to fix or start working on fixing the problem. And I
48 think depending on the area, Fish and Wildlife can work
49 on putting together proposals with the communities in
50 that area, Upper Kobuk, can do theirs, Selawik possibly

1 can do theirs, to address the issue. But I'm sure that
2 the Federal system can find some dollars somewhere for
3 bounty program, just to get a handle on control of
4 beavers within this region.

5
6 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

7
8 Go ahead.

9
10 MS. MORAN: Well, no, I just wanted to
11 thanks for the input, and that's something we've been
12 wrangling with for years trying to figure out the best
13 way to handle the beaver issues on the Refuge. So I
14 appreciate all the input, and we'll definitely be
15 talking more about that.

16
17 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

18
19 I think we need to move on, back to our
20 agenda.

21
22 Okay. I think we need for the priority
23 information needs for 2016 by Jeff Brooks.

24
25 MR. BROOKS: Good morning, Council
26 members and Mr. Chair.

27
28 Thank you.

29
30 As Karen Hyer stated, I am really
31 interested in listening to what you have to say about
32 research needs on fisheries in your region. And you've
33 told us quite a bit again about beavers and that need.
34 The Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program at this point
35 is practically limited to studying fish; however,
36 impacts on fish would qualify in my opinion.

37
38 For the most part, the program works on
39 studies of local knowledge about fish and how fish are
40 harvested. We like to monitor the subsistence harvest
41 of fishes.

42
43 And also they do studies called stock
44 and status. And those are more quantitative type,
45 mathematical fisheries studies that address numbers of
46 populations, health and various fisheries issues.

47
48 But what we'd like to hear from you,
49 and I can help you with just doing a discussion on
50 this, is are there, in addition to beavers, are there

1 any issues or concerns with other fish species and/or
2 whitefish and trout, but things like pike or sheefish.
3 Are there areas of local cultural knowledge that the
4 Federal government should know about so that when we're
5 managing subsistence fisheries on Federal public lands
6 like the Selawik Refuge, for example, that we need to
7 know about to help us do that.

8

9 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Jeff, I said this in
10 how many other meetings, those fish in Aggie, those
11 rainbow trout, what we call, because they're already
12 spawned, they're skinny. They had quarter-size sores
13 on them. My boy and I when we go up, we never go up
14 last summer, because it was so low. I wanted to check,
15 but it was so low. There was so much fish that we
16 didn't even take hook, we never take nothing. My boy
17 would just throw them up to me and I would look at
18 them. There's so much fish, with his hands he would
19 just throw them up. Out of the seven he threw me,
20 there was five with all sores. And they did some kind
21 of fish in Aggie.

22

23 My concern is this. If they're sick,
24 and there's something wrong with those sores, when they
25 go to the main river, they could be transporting and
26 get other fish sick. That's my concern. I never see
27 any dead or floating in the river, but there's a lot of
28 current in that river. And that's my issue.

29

30 How many years I've been saying that.
31 I think these guys will remember it, and I've got
32 problem with -- checked there for three years back,
33 except last summer. And I got plans to go check again,
34 because I'm scared they would take it out to the main
35 river, other fish, not only trout, it's going to be --
36 we get sheefish in that Noatak River. we're getting
37 more and more now. They're changing their migration.
38 There's a lot of whitefish, there's pike, burbot.
39 There's a lot of those mud fish we could live without,
40 but they're there. That's my concern about the fish
41 that I know of.

42

43 Thank you.

44

45 Go ahead, Walter.

46

47 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you very much.

48

49 Thank you for asking for some
50 recommendations from this body. I think we've defeated

1 the discussion with regards to beaver issue, that
2 hopefully one of them can start looking at what they
3 can do to address that.

4
5 The issue in regards to using local
6 knowledge certainly is something that scientists need
7 to reinforce to get information.

8
9 Whitefish. I guess at some point in
10 time, those will also be impacted by the discussions
11 that we have.

12
13 In regards to pike, I think pike's
14 plentiful in Selawik, in the Kobuk delta.

15
16 Sheefish is the other that needs more
17 work on.

18
19 If you take a look at what's been given
20 to us on the one-pager, the pattern of distribution of
21 Dolly Varden goes even over to the Siberian side where
22 water certainly is a much different situation over
23 there than what we have here. On the U.S. side we have
24 a little bit more control in regards to the water
25 quality. On the other side, you have zero to nil in
26 regards to quality work.

27
28 The question I have to you is what type
29 of relationship and work do you have with the Siberian
30 scientists in regards to fisheries, if there's any.

31
32 MR. BROOKS: Thank you. And through
33 the Chair. And this is Jeff Brooks for the record. I
34 forgot to mention that.

35
36 Thank you, Walter for your question.
37 And one of the things that I did want to ask you about
38 was, the Board about -- or the Council, is are there
39 any issues, concerns, or interest in other Dolly
40 Varden/trout studies.

41
42 And I also would like to follow up with
43 Enoch on some more details about the sores that you've
44 seen.

45
46 But to answer your question, I'm
47 completely unaware of any research that OSM, the Office
48 of Subsistence Management, or Fish and Wildlife Service
49 is doing on Dolly Varden or other fish species that may
50 be traveling between Alaska and the Siberian area on

1 the other side. As you know, we do work with Russia on
2 other species, migratory birds, polar bears, for
3 example, but I'm not aware of any fisheries studies
4 that we're doing in conjunction with the Siberian side.

5

6

7 Karen Hyer, maybe if there are any,
8 could you inform us, please.

9

10 MS. HYER: Yes. I'm having a hard time
11 hearing. Can you restate that question.

12

13 MR. BROOKS: Sure. Mr. Walter Sampson
14 asked a question of me if I'm aware of any studies
15 being done on fish that travel between Alaska and the
16 Siberian coast in relation to -- basically he reference
17 Dolly Varden, trout, and water quality issues.

18

19 MS. HYER: The only marine work that
20 we're doing right now is what we're starting in the
21 north. I do know that Dolly Varden have been
22 documented traveling all the way to Siberia, and
23 Brendan Scanlon was the one who was presenting that
24 data to me. And I'm not sure if it was one of his
25 tagged fish that went that far, or if it was some other
26 study he was researching, but there has been work done
27 on that, but it has not been funded through out
28 program.

29

30 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Walter, you
31 wanted to follow up.

32

33 MR. SAMPSON: Just to follow up, I
34 guess it sounds like that you need to communicate more
35 better with the State of Alaska on the fisheries study.
36 I know Fairbanks, Fred DeCicco's office and Al Ott's
37 office, before they retired, they did a lot of
38 coordinating efforts with fisheries studies between
39 U.S. and the Siberian side, more so with the Kivalina
40 and Wulik stock, and some with the Noatak, because
41 those stocks go out into the ocean. They migrate over
42 to the Siberian side, some into Norton Sound, some
43 back into Noatak, and some up the Kobuk River. And I
44 know they have been doing some yearly studies while
45 they were in the Fish and Game Department in Fairbanks.
46 So you need to communicate with those folks in regards
47 to the relationship that they have with the Siberian
48 scientists on fish studies.

49

50 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

1 Hannah, there's someone right ahead of
2 you, and she's going to probably recap.

3
4 MS. DAGGETT: Again, I'm only going off
5 of what I know from the presentations that I've seen
6 from Brendan Scanlon. But the tracking that he was
7 doing with those tracking devices that we were talking
8 about earlier, did record fish going up the Anadyr (ph)
9 River over on the Russia side. And they were captured
10 in the Wulik River.

11
12 I'm unaware of any specific
13 coordination with people on the Russian side, but I do
14 know that some of the data that has been collected from
15 the fish captured in this region has tracked
16 information all the way over there.

17
18 MR. SAMPSON: Get in touch with Fred
19 DeCicco's old office, and Al Ott's office in Fairbanks,
20 and they'll tell you.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Okay. And
23 when they had hatchery here before, when they cut the
24 fins to tag our certain trout, when they had the
25 hatchery here up the Noatak River, they were getting
26 them in Russia, Unalakleet, Wulik, Noatak, different
27 places, but never the same place. And the ones they
28 tag on the other side from Russia, they were getting
29 them here at the Noatak and at the Wulik, for your
30 information, when they used to have the hatchery here
31 before. And that's for everybody's information.

32
33 Go ahead, Hannah.

34
35 MS. LOON: Thank you. Mr. Chairman.

36
37 I work at Red Dog two weeks on, two
38 weeks off, and I see Al Ott and Fred DeCicco come to
39 Red Dog to do studies, trout studies on the Wulik
40 River, like Walter say. And they're there all the
41 time. Yearly, sometimes four times a year.

42
43 And also I know when I was high school,
44 Ken Ault used to be in Selawik all the time, in
45 Tuklumaruk (ph), it's the mouth of the Selawik River,
46 doing sheefish studies in the early 1960s. And
47 sheefish studies been done around there by Ken Ault.

48
49 I just wanted to give this information
50 out to the committee and to the audience.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: And for your
4 information, I want to tell everybody was that as a
5 commercial fisherman, last two years, late fall, we
6 hardly get any whitefish -- I mean, trout here as
7 commercial fishermen. And we always try to put it
8 away. And we always ask each other, because we want to
9 eat it. You get trout? No, not getting trout. When I
10 get two, they say, could I have one, and I have to look
11 at them and say, now about me, I want to eat them both,
12 too. But I go ahead and give them so they could have a
13 taste. And we were -- last two years as commercial
14 fishermen, we hardly get any trout.

15

16 I don't know. The migration I think is
17 due to the water so warm. I know water takes -- they
18 make the fish migrate. When it's warm, they never go
19 up the river. That's what I was taught as a youngster
20 by my grandfather. If it's too warm they will go up
21 the river last minute. And that's what old people used
22 to say at Noatak, because they're trout people. And I
23 heard this from Kivalina from Clint and Somon years
24 ago. And these are the things, and for your
25 information, we're getting less and less as commercial
26 fishermen, too.

27

28 Okay. Anyone else on this fish.

29

30 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead,
33 Percy.

34

35 MR. BALLOT: I like the studies they've
36 been doing, but I never hear any kind of studies about
37 other species like herring or smelt or tomcod. I know
38 we see some of our seals sometimes aren't eating as
39 much, but I think that someday that kind of needs to be
40 looked at. And even pike, you know, pike's a predator.
41 They eat a lot of the young ones, so I never hear about
42 those studies.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Percy.

45

46 Anything else on this trout.

47

48 Go ahead, Raymond.

49

50 MR. STONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 One thing that like the fish studying.
2 I'm very concerned about it for quite some time now,
3 concerning from one sewer systems in Kiana. When the
4 water and sewer system freezes, of course, we have to
5 dig it out and fix it, so when they can't fix it that
6 one year, a year ago, the Public Health Service went up
7 to Kiana and inspect it. Well, they said, folks, we
8 have to dump glycol. Well, here comes a big Herc two
9 days later with 5,000 gallons of glycol. And they
10 dumped it right in the pocket, and it goes all the way
11 to the river. 5,000 gallons. Is that legal? Would
12 that glycol hurt our fish? We tell them, you know, you
13 can't do that. You're polluting the water in the river.
14 I said, who gave you that authority to just dump 5,000
15 gallons and it leaked out to the river? They won't say
16 a word to us, the Public Health Service people.

17
18 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: I think only legally
19 we could answer this. We need DEC to answer this
20 legally, if they could dump, and to EPA. For the first
21 time I hear that glycol being dumped in the river, and
22 I automatically red flag. I'm scared for the fish,
23 because there's a lot of places below Kiana that they
24 could drain to those lakes and hurt them.

25
26 Thank you, Raymond.

27
28 That's the first time I hear.

29
30 MR. STONEY: That's the thing I was
31 very afraid of for a long time, because I know from
32 5,000 gallons, you could see it right on top of the
33 ice. It's a pure red.

34
35 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead,
36 Verne.

37
38 MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah. This glycol, I
39 live right below Noorvik -- I mean, Kiana, and I live
40 in Noorvik. When I heard about this sewer and stuff
41 coming down on the river, we had our water person check
42 the water every day. Check the water, and make sure he
43 check the water every day. And every day they pumped
44 it, check the water, and check it out, water samples.

45
46 And I had dogs, and dogs keep coming
47 over to my lot. So I got some glycol, stick it right
48 there. Dogs can't even go 20 feet, was dead. And they
49 kept bothering my dogs, so I found a way I could get
50 rid of them. Glycol. Checked it out. Put meat in

1 there. That dog didn't last long. It didn't ever go
2 30 feet and it was dead. And they couldn't figure it
3 out, because it kept bothering my dogs. It kept coming
4 in.

5
6 But if that happened to us, well,
7 that's going to eliminate everybody. That's poison, to
8 what -- I've been brought -- this was brought up to the
9 borough a couple years ago, right?

10
11 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

12
13 MR. CLEVELAND: It was brought up to
14 the borough.

15
16 MR. SAMPSON: And DEC knows about it.

17
18 MR. CLEVELAND: It was not good. It's
19 not good.

20
21 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. I was just
22 going to recommend to Carl that they check -- they have
23 DEC check on it, but I feel better now. Walter said
24 DEC is checking on it. Okay.

25
26 Any more concerns about these proposals
27 on fisheries. Go ahead.

28
29 MS. DAGGETT: Again my name is Carmen
30 Daggett for the record.

31
32 And I heard Raymond say that same
33 comment at an advisory committee meeting a couple
34 months ago if I recall correctly. And I did try to
35 contact DEC to try to follow up with them on that. I
36 haven't heard anything back from them, but I can try to
37 bug them again and see if I can get some information
38 from them. But I did try to contact them.

39
40 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Maybe you
41 could go through Bob Gurlack out of Juneau. He's the
42 health guy out of Juneau. I know him personally, so I
43 could -- I've got his number. I could probably call
44 him. Maybe I could call him and say, hey, this is a red
45 flag, and something need to be done. I've got his
46 number at home.

47
48 Okay. Anybody else on this proposal
49 for fisheries. Go ahead, Percy.

50

1 MR. BALLOT: I was just going to
2 mention, yeah, glycol is a poison. It's used to kill
3 people. You know, that I watch America's Most Wanted.
4 It's really hard to detect when it gets in the body.
5 But sooner or later they'll find out. But it's now
6 used as a killing machine.

7
8 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.
9 Anything else.

10
11 Yeah, go ahead.

12
13 MR. BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
14 I wanted to follow up with you for clarification. When
15 you and your son caught the fish with the sores, could
16 you tell me again where that was and what kind of fish
17 they were? You mentioned rainbow trout?

18
19 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, we all them (In
20 Inupiaq) in Eskimo. They're rainbow trout. They're
21 skinny. And to me they're already spawned-out fish.
22 That's what I was told. But the sores was all over the
23 body, different part. They never stay -- never see a
24 certain area. Near the head, the gills, all the way to
25 the tail, but they're all in different areas in the
26 fish. And I wanted to go, but by the time -- I was
27 hunting caribou, me and my boys, we get some -- we were
28 saving the trout, but by the time I tried to handle it,
29 they were real soft, so I just throw them away. I
30 figured they were too late for me to do something about
31 it. But that's my concern, and it's always been like
32 that, and if they start spreading out, because that
33 Noatak River is full of fish. I tell you that right
34 now, especially when you stay up there, and after the
35 ice go out from here to Kobuk Lake, when the fish start
36 going out at Noatak River,

37
38 I've got a camp right there, that river
39 will rain with fish. I mean, you could see them coming
40 out, and good how many hours will go by our camp. We
41 watched them how many different times, my family and I.
42 And it's amazing. My wife won't even let us put net
43 in. When we put net out -- let me an example, we put
44 out net out, 80 feet long. I throw the outside weight.
45 We pull it out, it was already sunk, that's how much
46 fish it was getting. And she say, you put the net out,
47 you work on the fish. I'm not going to do that any
48 more. So that's for your information, that river is
49 full of fish. We were getting just in that one set, we
50 caught all the fish, sheefish, trout, pike, burbot, and

1 about three different kind of whitefish in the mud.
2 But we get them all just on that one set. That's
3 amazing. Somehow they're migrating out together, it's
4 amazing. And I tell my wife, we're not going up there.
5 We're see them, we ain't setting no more. It's too
6 much. And we get real big seekers, I mean record.
7 Thanks.

8
9 MR. BROOKS: Thank you. That's very
10 interesting, and it sounds like if you get too many,
11 they're going to make you start cutting and processing,
12 too. So I understand you don't want to catch too many,
13 because it's going to be so much work.

14
15 So just to clarify, the ones that you
16 saw with the sores were in the Noatak?

17
18 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: They were at the
19 Aggie.

20
21 MR. BROOKS: At the Aggie.

22
23 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Just at the Aggie.
24 Because we go up there, I go up, I have a little 14-
25 foot. We go up the Aggie and we were hunting caribou
26 most of the time, but we could see trout. WE'll get
27 trout for dinner. They're only certain size. they
28 don't get real big. That Aggie got only one size, and
29 I don't know why but it's always like that. And it's
30 amazing what you could see, what kind of fish is in
31 that river. There's a lot of fish in that Aggie. And
32 that's what I'm scared of. And that drains out right
33 -- and on the other side is the Squirrel River.

34
35 Thank you.

36
37 Yeah, go ahead.

38
39 MR. BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
40 also wanted to follow up on your comments about not
41 getting as many Dolly Varden trout as a commercial
42 fisherman. So subsistence folks take Dolly Varden, do
43 they go for Dolly Varden at the same time or place
44 during that commercial season? And if so, are they
45 also not getting as many?

46
47 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Subsistence is done
48 for up the Noatak River. And we're commercial fishing.
49 But we put them away. We put them in our freezer for
50 winter eating. And we are happy to get them. And

1 sometimes -- we used to get a lot of trout, big time as
2 commercial fishermen. And I will comment later on the
3 Chairman's comment about the trout, but like last two
4 years we hardly get any for your information, and it's
5 getting to be -- I think they're a little tell tale,
6 because it is so warm. Even Noatak said they were
7 migrating up late. The trout was migrating, they were
8 getting them late.

9

10 Okay. Are we done on this here, and we
11 can move on. Go ahead.

12

13 MR. BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. You
14 guys have mentioned pike and whitefish and Dolly
15 Varden, and sheefish, and a few others. I haven't
16 heard anyone talk about chum salmon. I know they're
17 not that prevalent in the north, but the Selawik River,
18 and do you guys have any issues or concerns. Any
19 issues or concerns about salmon in the region.

20

21 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: No, we have no
22 concerns here as commercial fishermen. Last two years
23 we fish only four to six hours a day. Before we used
24 to fish 48 hours. Now we're fishing only four to six
25 hours. And we are getting record catches. And just
26 think, if we fish for 48 hours, what we get, commercial
27 fisherman was only about 60 commercial fishermen last
28 summer. And us 60 were getting record catches, what we
29 get. And I'm not talking before when the price is
30 right, we used to have about 200 fishermen, and we
31 never get this much, for your information. There's so
32 many out there, they're so healthy, they're so fat.
33 I'll tell you that right now. It's they're so fat. And
34 I say, I hope this keep it up. I think we're going to
35 have better prices for fishing next summer. So they
36 are. And we're getting mostly five-year-olds last few
37 years. A lot of five-year-old, four-year holds,
38 because you could tell the difference. Because I get
39 one -- another guy even beat me, I get one 21 pounds
40 and the other guy get 22 pounds. One salmon, one chum.

41

42 Okay. Go ahead, Verne.

43

44 MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah, the salmon are
45 abundant in Noorvik on the river. But are they
46 spawning that Hunt River? Somebody brought that up,
47 that salmon were spawning at Hunt River. Somebody told
48 me that. I think it was maybe Lori or someone told me
49 that. And I wanted to bring it up, because it's not
50 right to have them spawning in Hunt River. That's

1 between Ambler and Kiana, right? Hunt River? It won't
2 happen. I mean, I was just wanted somebody to check on
3 that, check to make sure they're not spawning or
4 spawning in Hunt River. That's very unusual.

5
6 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead,
7 Raymond.

8
9 MR. STONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10
11 Verne, as far as I can remember, you
12 know, that the spawning was always in Hunt River. All
13 those river, all the way from below Hunt River all the
14 way down to Hollowitcharef (ph) like that, they all
15 spawn in those, all those, like the Salmon River and in
16 the Tutuksuk, and then all the way Churuk (ph) and Hunt
17 River.

18
19 They do spawn.

20
21 MR. CLEVELAND: Thank you.

22
23 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Now you know, Verne,
24 you know where to go to get salmon.

25
26 (Laughter)

27
28 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Anything else
29 on this, what is it, fisheries proposals. Go ahead.

30
31 MR. BROOKS: Just one more question,
32 Mr. Chair. Thank you.

33
34 I've heard some talk about sheefish in
35 Selawik Lake, and I was just wondering if you have any
36 needs for research on sheefish and their movements or
37 what they do or if there's substantial cultural local
38 knowledge about them in Selawik Lake area, if that
39 would be something of interest for a research study.
40 Is there an important issue there or concern.

41
42 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. I'll set
43 someone from that other side of the river to answer
44 it.

45
46 Go ahead, Walter.

47
48 MR. SAMPSON: I don't know if you heard
49 it from Hannah or not, Toklumaruk (ph) is where
50 sheefish studies been done in the past. Toklumaruk is

1 connected right to Selawik Lake, so check with the
2 individual's name that was given and find out, see what
3 type of studies were done in regards to Sheefish.

4

5 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, Hannah's
6 nodding her head. Go ahead, Hannah, answer.

7

8 MS. LOON: Yes. There's been studies
9 on sheefish for a long time by Ken Ault like I said.
10 And there's by State of Alaska and I think we are
11 sheefish studied out, but otherwise we are very
12 concerned about that mudslide upriver, and try to keep
13 real close watch on that one, is our concern, because
14 we rely on the sheefish yearly. And sheefish we get
15 abundantly in springtime, because when you dry it, when
16 it's dried, and you dry it in March or April, right
17 there after you get them from Selawik Lake, by jigging,
18 and you can get quite amount. And that is the only
19 time and season to catch as much for dried fish, and
20 put them away for the summer. And the reason why you
21 got to eat it right away when you dry it, half dry it,
22 because it always -- it's so fat it always get yellow
23 when you put it in the freezer and try to save it. And
24 in July the sheefish, big, fat, sheefish always go
25 under the river. They go down way low, and you have to
26 put your how many fathoms feet way down if you want to
27 have big fat, almost spawning -- not spawning, but
28 their eggs are real small, they're not big like when
29 they're ready to spawn. That's around July.

30

31 So everybody in Selawik, all over,
32 whoever go to Selawik and Kobuk, you know, it's just
33 recreational to get out out of your wintertime, you
34 know, go out and have fresh air and hook, and people
35 hook a lot, and I don't like to hook that much, but I
36 like to receive a sled load or two just to cut lots of
37 fish, and that's all I like to do is just cut fish.

38

39 Thanks.

40

41 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Michael,
42 and maybe we'll take a break right as soon as we're
43 done with this.

44

45 MR. KRAMER: I'll make it short. I
46 don't know who is it that puts out that little
47 newspaper thing, Caribou Trails. I think it's Fish and
48 Wildlife or Fish and Game, one of you guys. I think on
49 a yearly basis or biannually, you know, several times a
50 year, I think that all agencies should get together and

1 put all their studies on something like that and send
2 it out to the people so they know what's going on. You
3 now, my kids find it so interesting reading those
4 Caribou Trails, and they love reading it. They read it
5 over and over and over again until they wear it out and
6 then we have to use it for fire starter. But, you
7 know, that's a very good thing for the communities to
8 be able to see and understand what kind of studies is
9 going on in their area. And I think that needs to
10 continue. I think funding something like that, you
11 know, the fisheries could, you know, set aside some
12 money to get all this stuff together, all this
13 information and put in studies and put it out to the
14 people within the NANA region, because, you know, that
15 Caribou Trails, we get it in our mailbox every couple
16 months I think.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Michael.

21
22 Jeff, are we done on this or you still
23 have something.

24
25 MR. BROOKS: Mr. Chair. Thank you.
26 Yes, we are finished if you're finished talking with me
27 on the record about the research needs. We can be
28 finished, and we can talk later amongst ourselves, or
29 whenever, about this.

30
31 But I just wanted to thank Michael for
32 his comment, and it's good to get that feedback about
33 the outreach that the agencies do. And one of the
34 things that the program at OSM is trying to do is,
35 regardless of the type of study that we do, we are
36 asking PIs more and more so produce in addition to
37 their technical reports, community deliverables or
38 presentations, like brochures and talks in schools.
39 And it sounds like that would be appreciated by the
40 communities.

41
42 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Jeff, thanks.
43 And maybe we would change this year, to call for the
44 proposal for beaver impacts in Northwest Alaska. Next
45 time we would probably change it.

46
47 Okay.

48
49 Thank you.

50

1 We will go on a 15 minute break. I
2 think everybody need a nature break.

3
4 (Off record)

5
6 (On record)

7
8 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Everybody
9 ready. We could restart. Okay. We'll call this
10 meeting back to order on the agenda. We were in
11 fisheries regulation proposal. Board of Game Proposal
12 177, handout.

13
14 MR. JOHNSON: Actually, Mr. Chair.

15
16 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead, Carl.

17
18 MR. JOHNSON: The last thing we were
19 talking about was actually developing the priority
20 information needs. We have not yet covered the call
21 for fisheries regulatory proposals. Those are
22 different.

23
24 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Those are
25 different then. We will go to call for fisheries
26 regulatory proposals by Karen Hyer. She's on the
27 radioland.

28
29 MS. HYER: Yes. Hello, Mr. Chairman.
30 Council members. I am here.

31
32 And I would like to direct you to Page
33 46, to our Federal Subsistence Board news release. And
34 our call for proposals to change Federal subsistence
35 fish and shellfish regulations has gone out. It was
36 released in January. And currently the Federal
37 Subsistence Board is accepting proposals through May
38 28th to change Federal regulations on subsistence
39 harvest of fish and shellfish for the regulatory years
40 of 2015 through 2017.

41
42 So those proposals are due at the end
43 of the week. And so if there are any proposals the
44 Council would like to put forward, you'd probably want
45 to work with Carl immediately to get those submitted.

46
47 And that's all I had, Mr. Chairman.

48
49 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

50

1 Is there anyone from the Board here for
2 fisheries proposals.

3

4 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Walter.

7

8 MR. SAMPSON: Fishery proposals. Are
9 those for subsistence purposes?

10

11 MS. HYER: Yes. Mr. Chairman. Council
12 members. It's to change Federal subsistence
13 regulations. It's to change what is in the regulation
14 book as far as the rules and regulations for harvesting
15 subsistence fish and shellfish.

16

17 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. They're
18 looking at their regulation book right now.

19

20 I'll change it a little bit. I do have
21 under commercial fisherman, I'm a commercial fisherman,
22 and I'm also on the board to see if we could improve
23 our fishing here in Kotzebue. These are the things
24 we're going to sell, fish and stuff, we probably will
25 look into the future for commercial to see what's out
26 there, because we're interested in crab, too, for your
27 information, that you probably will hear from us later
28 in the future about commercial fishing opening. But I
29 know this is on subsistence, but that's for you
30 information only from me.

31

32 Go ahead, Verne.

33

34 MR. CLEVELAND: Is that for the
35 sheefish, too, for commercial fishermen.

36

37 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, I was going to
38 bring that up after on our closing comments on the
39 commercial for sheefish.

40

41 Go ahead, Susan.

42

43 MS. GEORGETTE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
44 This is Susan Georgette.

45

46 And this might be for Karen, but Jackie
47 Snyder in Selawik had contacted our office about a
48 regulatory change he wanted to submit. And he wanted
49 to be able to use three 100-foot nets for fishing
50 there. And I kind of thought that you could use three

1 100-foot nets, but I wanted to check with Karen on
2 that. I don't think you can use them all tied
3 together, but you can have as many 100-foot nets as you
4 want set; is that right?

5

6 MS. HYER: Susan, hang on a second.
7 Okay. Susan, I have the reg book in front of me. So
8 this is -- let me get to the right area. So this is in
9 Selawik, correct?

10

11 MS. GEORGETTE: Correct.

12

13 MS. HYER: Okay. And it's for
14 sheefish?

15

16 MS. GEORGETTE: Well, no, it's for any
17 fish I think. Or, Hannah, would you, I mean.....

18

19 MS. LOON: Whitefish.

20

21 MS. GEORGETTE: Whitefish and pike
22 probably.

23

24 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Jackie, he's
25 my buddy. He fish heavily for whitefish right in front
26 of his house there, like people do right in their are.

27

28 MS. GEORGETTE: Right.

29

30 MS. HYER: And it's talking about you
31 can take sheefish with a gillnet, and the gillnet are
32 not more than 50 fathoms in length. But is it -- so
33 there's sheefish. There's a link and a mesh
34 restriction for sheefish. But is it other besides
35 sheefish?

36

37 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah. I looked in the
38 reg book. I've been trying to help him with it, and I
39 looked in the reg book, and I thought what it said was
40 that you could have a 100-foot net per site is what it
41 said. But it wasn't really clear to me that you
42 couldn't have, you know, six 100-foot nets at different
43 sites, like one in the village, and one at the next
44 channel. So I was trying to clarify that, to work with
45 him to get it submitted by Friday.

46

47 MS. HYER: Okay. All right. Well, you
48 know what, probably, yeah. I see that it's only one
49 gill -- well, I'll tell you what, Susan, will you call
50 me off line and I will work with you.

1 MS. GEORGETTE: Sure.
2
3 MS. HYER: Because if it needs to be
4 changed, we should change it immediately, because the
5 deadline is March 28th. So maybe after the meeting
6 tonight.
7
8 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah. That sounds
9 good. I just wanted to bring it up that I'd just been
10 trying to help him some, and our RIT in Selawik, Nicole
11 Henshaw had been helping him some, but I was a little
12 confused about the regs myself.
13
14 Thank you.
15
16 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
17
18 MS. HYER: Yeah. We may have to
19 clarify them, but let me read them, and then give me a
20 call after the meeting or tomorrow morning first thing.
21
22 MS. GEORGETTE: Okay. Thank you.
23
24 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: I don't know of any
25 proposals, that how many, what the limit, what we could
26 set for whitefish.
27
28 Go ahead, Hannah. You'll be after,
29 Walter.
30
31 MS. LOON: Yeah. I've used this place
32 before, and he's talking about -- but when the (in
33 Inupiaq) are further back there towards (in Inupiaq)
34 and Fish River, there is one place, although there are
35 other little sloughs around that lake, there is one
36 place, Charlie Mitchell's camp, where we like to put
37 three nets in one for the one-time run of (in Inupiaq).
38
39
40 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Humpback.
41
42 MS. LOON: Humpback whitefish in
43 falltime, like around September 24 to the -- it's only
44 a few days, like again it run -- when it run, to make
45 lots of stink fish. And I've used it using old nets
46 with lots of holes, but I was able to put away, very
47 lucky to put away three bags.
48
49 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Hannah.
50

1 Go ahead, Walter.
2
3 MR. SAMPSON: It looks like the issue
4 in regards to the gillnet, 100 feet or less is what it
5 says as I look at.
6
7 MS. HYER: Yes. Mr. Chairman. It says
8 one gillnet, only one gillnet per site. But it doesn't
9 say there's any limit on sites.
10
11 MR. SAMPSON: No, as far as the site's
12 concerned, what's the -- how far apart are these nets
13 going to be put out?
14
15 MS. HYER: Well, it's not clear in the
16 regulation. It just says you have to check each one 24
17 hours.
18
19 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead,
20 Walter.
21
22 MR. SAMPSON: So based on that then,
23 because there's no clarity, then the provision's there
24 already for Jack to do to address his request.
25
26 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Enoch here.
27 Just for my information, the way I understand it is
28 just per person he could use his children to get what
29 he need in that area as long as there's -- because we
30 -- like in Noatak, when we get in a lot of whitefish,
31 even if we're 50 feet apart, we get enough, for our
32 information. And Hannah will verify, too in other
33 places even, probably Raymond and Virgil will verify.
34 When we get a lot of whitefish, they come in, and they
35 don't go to the edge of the river. They come in a
36 swarm and they come in and -- even if we're 50 feet
37 apart, 30 feet apart, we get enough. Sometimes the
38 ones in the middle get more than the ones on the
39 outside.
40
41 Go ahead, Hannah.
42
43 MS. LOON: Yeah. This fish is not for
44 our personal use, only for the one family. It goes to
45 everybody. It's funny to have 3 or 400 feet net in one
46 time. That's too long. You've got to have 100 feet
47 net, four inch, and so many fathoms, because some of
48 the sloughs are not that deep, especially back there in
49 Whitefish River area. And you can use the 100 feet and
50 where most -- it don't cover the whole slough, but you

1 could still get enough. But if you want to get one
2 time, one season, good catch, and get the most of it,
3 is putting your three nets together in one time.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Hannah.

8
9 Go ahead, Walter.

10
11 MR. SAMPSON: It looks like the
12 provision that's in place already is so broad that you
13 can use really a 100-foot net with two-and-a-half-inch
14 to four-inch mesh, four-and-a-half-inch mesh. And it
15 doesn't even say that you can't stagger them. So you
16 could really stagger your gillnets. You could put one
17 further down the river, on one side of the river;
18 further up you could put one on the other side of the
19 river. But based on how it's written, it don't
20 restrict you from doing that.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. That's why I
23 always be scared of putting a regulation in place and
24 trying to rush it. I think we need to talk about this,
25 because I think you need to get information from the
26 Natives how we subsist. We do it together sometimes,
27 and if you start telling us how much to do it, and you
28 never talk to the people. I think before you put
29 anything in regulation and in place and foot and stuff
30 like that, because like Hannah is saying, we never fish
31 no more than what we could handle. It's not for
32 commercial. It's for subsistence use, so be careful
33 how you're going to put in the regulation. If you're
34 going to do it, we need to come in proposal, it need to
35 go through us, not decided by you guys without going
36 through us.

37
38 Go ahead, Walter.

39
40 MR. SAMPSON: I guess just for follow
41 through here, the recommendation that's coming from the
42 Chairman is certainly something that the Feds need to
43 work on a far as a process is concerned. And work with
44 the Staff here and the Community of
45 Selawik to come out with a proposal that the Federal
46 agencies can live with as well as the Community of
47 Selawik can live with, those people that do fishing.

48
49 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. You're right,
50 Walter, because if they put it in place in Selawik,

1 it's going to affect Kiana, Noorvik, Noatak, Upper
2 Kobuk. It's going to affect us all again. They'll try
3 to put one regulation for all over, you know. Were we
4 do it from my experience at Noatak, when we set nets
5 sometimes, like I say, we're close together and we have
6 enough.

7

8 You wanted to follow up, Hannah?

9

10 Oh, Percy. It was Percy. Sorry.

11

12 MR. BALLOT: Yeah. I was just trying
13 to go back to years ago when Bert was on this RAC. I
14 think we did a special action request for putting a net
15 all the way across the mouth or the creeks for Selawik.

16

17 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, Hannah was
18 talking about it, only with talking about the one in
19 the lake, at a lake, not in the creek. We went through
20 that through that through the Federal years ago, and
21 that's why me and Susan worked on that whitefish book,
22 because it was a big issue at the time.

23

24 So go ahead, Raymond.

25

26 MR. STONEY: Yeah, I'd like to, for
27 quite some times, you know, that I'd like to say a
28 little bit about the river and the creek. Like right
29 now in our area, below Noorvik, we only fish spring
30 time and just for about two weeks on those creek,
31 they're about like 20 feet wide. And the law,
32 regulations said our net can't be across the creek. I
33 has to be two-thirds of that creek. That's the length
34 the net's supposed to be. And when that first came
35 out, you know, well, if you want us to set that net
36 two-thirds of that creek, and behind there the beaver
37 already dammed it anyway, why don't you go up there and
38 tell the beavers to open it, and then set their dam
39 two-thirds wide. Go tell them. They won't answer that
40 question. So that's one thing that we are very
41 concerned of, is the falltime fishing, just like Hannah
42 said.

43

44 Some of us could handle probably 100
45 feet, but, me, I can't. It's just too long. Otherwise
46 if we put 100-foot net, 4 inches mesh, by the time
47 you're done, you're done, because you've got 300 fish
48 in that net. So apparently like in the Kobuk, it's 100
49 feet is quite long.

50

1 That's the information from me, Mr.
2 Chairman.

3
4 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Raymond.

5
6 I think you hear what we're saying.
7 Before you put regulation in place and start trying to
8 tell certain people -- whatever's in place on
9 regulations right now, just live with it, and, Jackie,
10 good luck putting your net for now. I would recommend
11 you could use 100 feet for yourself, 100 feet for your
12 wife. So that way you get enough, because when we go
13 out and subsist, we have to look at the main concern is
14 do we have enough gas to go back and forth to get
15 enough. We like to get enough one trip for the winter.
16 And we always put it away and freeze it, and eat it
17 frozen. They're best when they're aged a little bit.
18 We all know that.

19
20 Anything else. Go ahead, Hannah.

21
22 MS. LOON: Yeah. I just wanted to make
23 a clarity. In Charlie Mitchell's camp, it's really
24 nice where caribou always cross around there. And it's
25 a good place to put your net. It's a river, and
26 there's a lake right there, and there's other rivers
27 around that lake in that place where we like to set.
28 And no matter how many nets you put, maybe nets you can
29 still catch lots of fish in that one river, and it's
30 pretty wide. And you just have to use at least three
31 nets to get the most out of it, no matter how many nets
32 are right next to you.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Karen, for
37 your information, when Hannah motioned, that she
38 motioned four times, so it's able to be putting out
39 four nets. No matter how many nets you put out, you
40 still get enough fish. Okay. For your information.

41
42 MS. HYER: Okay.

43
44 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Do you want to answer
45 some of those comments that was put by the rest of the
46 Board here, or what's going on. You have the floor,
47 Karen.

48
49 MS. HYER: Again, I'm having a hard
50 time hearing, so if you could repeat for me the

1 specific comments that I can address, that would be
2 great.

3

4 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: What they were saying
5 here is that they're getting -- no matter how much net
6 is put in the river or lake, that everybody get enough.
7 And that's what we're all saying in different words
8 altogether. And if they're going to start putting
9 someone in regulation in place, I think it's going to
10 hurt us on the long run. I don't know if I said it
11 clearly or not.

12

13 MS. HYER: Okay. Yes. So if your
14 subsistence needs are being met, then there's probably
15 no need for a change in regulation.

16

17 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. And the person
18 just want to make sure he's in compliance. That's
19 really the bottom line. He's in compliance. And like
20 I say.....

21

22 MS. HYER: Right. Right. Yeah. ^A^Nd
23 as susan Georgette said, it doesn't look like there's a
24 number on the number of nets.

25

26 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, because he
27 probably is at, there's enough room for everybody. And
28 they're just talking one little spot, one little lake,
29 one little creek of all the whole Northwest Alaska, out
30 of millions of acres. I'm okay with it, if he could
31 put a net and he could handle the fish. As long as he
32 could handle it and take care of it without wasting.
33 Good for him. Let him have it, let him go at it.

34

35 Okay. Anything else from the Board
36 here that like to comment on this proposals, on this
37 one that came up from Selawik.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Are you done?
42 Let's see, who are you? Karen. Are you done? You've
43 got enough information for what you need to do and get
44 done.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead, Carl.

49

50 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. Thank

1 you. So it definitely appears like Selawik and Karen
2 will work on whatever is needed on this proposal, and
3 if there is a proposal submitted, then this council
4 will have an opportunity to discuss a formal proposal
5 at its fall meeting.

6

7 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

8

9 Get it, Karen?

10

11 MS. HYER: Yes, I've got it. Thank
12 you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. If we're done,
15 we could move on to the next one, Board of Game
16 Proposal 177, handout, by Carmen.

17

18 Go ahead, Carmen, you have the floor.

19

20 MS. DAGGETT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
21 For the record my name is Carmen Daggett. I've also
22 been called Tuakluk (ph) by Pauline Ballot from
23 Selawik.

24

25 And Proposal 177 kind of has a story
26 behind it, and I guess I want to share that story with
27 you. And I've actually asked for that story to be
28 translated into Inupiaq after I'm done, so if Walter
29 would honor me in doing that, that would be fantastic.

30

31 So the beginning of this story of this
32 proposal started when a gentleman was cited for chasing
33 a wolverine for several miles on a snowmachines.

34

35 And the regulation that he was cited on
36 can be found on Page 20 of the regulation book, the
37 State regulation book. And so it says that driving,
38 herding, harassing or molesting game with any motorized
39 vehicle, such as an aircraft, airboat, snowmachine, or
40 motor -- et cetera, is prohibited in this unit. And so
41 when he was approached by the trooper and cited, his
42 wolverine pelt was confiscated, and he was, you know,
43 cited for having this violation.

44

45 I got a phone call from Enoch Mitchell
46 when I was back in Wisconsin over Christmas about this
47 very instance, and he's like we need to have a meeting
48 right now. And I said, I'm not even in the same state
49 right now. I'll see what I can when I get back. So
50 moving forward a little bit, got lots of comments from

1 the Village of Kivalina and Noatak coming into my
2 office.

3

4 And then Arctic/Western Board of Game
5 meeting happened here in Kotzebue. And we had a really
6 good discussion session about that. There was a lot of
7 feedback from people in this area. People from
8 villages called in on a teleconference. People from
9 Kotzebue commented on this particular issue.

10

11 And the Kotzebue Sound AC responded by
12 creating that is in -- at the very front of your packet
13 that I handed you. So Alex Whiting worked with the
14 Kotzebue Sound AC and created that. That document was
15 then given to the Board, and because it was given at
16 the time it was, the Board could not make those changes
17 legally at that Board of Game meeting. It had to be
18 noticed to the public and they then basically generated
19 a proposal which I believe is the next document after
20 the Alex Whiting document in your packets.

21

22 They took that Alex Whiting proposal
23 off the Kotzebue Sound AC and they put it into a Board-
24 generated proposal so that it could be taken care of as
25 soon as possible. That happened at the statewide Board
26 of Game meeting which was March 14th through the 18th.

27

28 There was comments given from every
29 village in this region. Cyrus Harris did an excellent
30 job communicating with the tribes to get that
31 documentation. And all of those comments from the
32 villages in this region are also included in your
33 packet. Every single AC from this region, in Unit 23,
34 has commented on this proposal. Those comments are
35 also in your packet. The Barrow, North Slope AC
36 commented on this, and there were comments from
37 children in Noatak, there were comments from the North
38 Slope AC, and there were comments from people in Bethel
39 on this proposal. And there was extremely strong
40 representation at the statewide Board of Game meeting
41 from people in this region, and I've heard that from
42 many different people coming across my desk saying
43 there was really strong representation from people in
44 this region. It was heard very loud and clear.

45

46 When I listened to the deliberations at
47 the Board of Game meeting, there was countless
48 discussion about comments that people had given from
49 the Arctic/Western Board of Game meeting, comments that
50 people were writing and sending in, and comments that

1 people were actually giving at that meeting. There
2 were three representatives that went from ACs in this
3 region: Ron Moto from Deering, Cyrus Harris from
4 Kotzebue, and Enoch Mitchell from Noatak. So we had
5 three members of ACs attend that meeting.

6
7 And the Board responded by producing
8 this RC 47, which is what you guys have in front of you
9 as part of the documentation that was provided at the
10 beginning of this meeting. This is the amended
11 language that they have offered. They have taken it
12 not just for Unit 23, but have expanded it to Unit 18,
13 22, 23, and 26A, which includes the Bethel area, the
14 Nome area, the Kotzebue greater area, and pretty much
15 all of the North Slope.

16
17 And they deliberated quite some time on
18 the particular portion that talks about positioning an
19 animal instead of positioning a hunter. So they had
20 quite some discussion about that particular topic.
21 They also had some discussion about concern over
22 expanding it to other parts of the State, other than
23 the regions that are mentioned, because of the
24 differences in hunting practices that occur across the
25 State, and because of the densities of populations in
26 the different parts of the State.

27
28 So the specific species that were
29 mentioned, there's definitely some reference to that in
30 the documentation that I've presented to you. And the
31 best explanation that I've heard for those particular
32 species is because those animals are most likely to
33 flee when they hear a snow machine from a distance.

34
35 And so this is my understanding of this
36 proposal. This is the story that I have. And I would
37 like to express an immense amount of gratitude to all
38 of those people who gave their time and their energy to
39 go comment on this proposal. It's obviously something
40 that people care about quite significantly, and there
41 was some variation in the specifics of the different
42 aspects of it, but this is what the Board finally
43 approved, and will be put into regulation on July 1st
44 of this year.

45
46 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

47
48 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. Yeah, I'm
49 glad they passed this. It will take place.
50

1 Now what need to happen is we need to
2 have one come from here for the Federal lands, you
3 know, close to this proposal here with the language
4 that need to pass.

5
6 I'm glad it passed. That way that poor
7 kid that's out there trying to do what he need to do,
8 and he was cited. And I thought, and I talked to an
9 individual, I remember him when he was there, when I
10 heard it from the Fish and Game years ago, they were
11 going to make an exception that it was okay to hunt
12 wolves and wolverine on a snowmachine. And I know that
13 was about, oh, a good 16, 17 years ago, and I figured
14 this guy was with -- I remember him being there, so I
15 asked, and he said he remember this. We thought the
16 Fish and Game was going to take care of it and they
17 were going to approve it, and that was at that. And
18 now this came up. And I hope by the time -- his court
19 date is going to be in July I think, right? Or they're
20 going to drop the charges or what?

21
22 MR. SAMPSON: They fined him, and
23 that's all (indiscernible - mic not on). They just
24 fined him.

25
26 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Walter said
27 they just fined him.

28
29 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah, a small fine.

30
31 MS. DAGGETT: I was going to say I --
32 okay. I haven't been following the court of it very
33 much, so thank you for that information.

34
35 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead, and
36 Walter will not translate it into our layman term.

37
38 Tagu.

39
40 Into Inupiaq.

41
42 MR. SAMPSON: (In Inupiaq)

43
44 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. At this
45 time, I sure wish we were on the radioland, they would
46 hear it out there. And I think pretty sure we would
47 get a lot of comments on this issue right here. And I
48 think what you said and what Walter said is basically
49 the same. It need to go to that flyer for the Western
50 Arctic Caribou Herd as one of the things. That way

1 they could see it like Kramer said, everybody see that
2 flyer for the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, and it's
3 important that it's being seen out there.

4

5 You'd like to comment, Carmen.

6

7 MS. DAGGETT: Taku, Walter, for
8 translating for me. I appreciate that.

9

10 So my response, I've talked with Meghan
11 Nedwick, she's aware of the regulation change, and
12 she's the one who's responsible for producing that
13 Caribou Trails document that distributed, and I will
14 work tightly with her to make sure that that is
15 distributed.

16

17 I think it would also maybe be
18 appropriate if there is someone who is willing to go to
19 the radio station with me, I would be happy to go to
20 the radio station to talk over the radio with someone.
21 But I would like to have it be in both languages.

22

23 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Walter will be good
24 at that. I will recommend that Walter go.

25

26 MR. BALLOT: He'll volunteer you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: I speak it, but
29 Walter's better at it than I am.

30

31 You have something to say, Walter. Go
32 ahead.

33

34 MR. SAMPSON: I guess the issue in
35 regards to the proposal or the regulation, that was --
36 or the new regulation what was passed, or proposal that
37 was passed, 177, certainly makes it legal for people to
38 hunt wolves and wolverines.

39

40 However there's still some issues in
41 regards to section or portions of what -- how you hunt
42 with snowmachine within Unit 23 has not been addressed.
43 The issue in regards to harassing, herding and
44 molesting is still within -- or is not included in Unit
45 23, so that also needs to be addressed. I think
46 through the process of amendments for the future, the
47 -- an amendment can be made to the State Game Board to
48 make sure that is addressed.

49

50 Secondly, this Regional Advisory

1 Council can work with local advisory, subregional
2 advisory councils in all the communities to put
3 together a proposal relative to what was passed in the
4 State Game Board, with also the provisions to include
5 what's not in Unit 23, which would include harassing,
6 herding, and molesting game. Put those provisions in
7 there as well for Unit 23. And that proposal can be
8 made through this Advisory Council to the Federal
9 Board. So what's passed in the Federal Board and what
10 the State of Alaska passed, can be consistent with each
11 other's. Amendments can be made to it to the State.
12 Proposal can be made to the Federal Board to include
13 everything.

14

15 So that's my recommendation.

16

17 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

18

19 Thank you, Walter.

20

21 Carmen.

22

23 MS. DAGGETT: Thank you, Walter, for
24 that comment. And I guess I would like -- I have the
25 codified with me. I would like to sit down with you
26 and look at the specific code the way it's written
27 right now and compare it to what has changed, and maybe
28 we can clarify some of that, because I think they did
29 modify quite significantly what can be done. And a lot
30 of the discussion at the Board meeting, the
31 deliberations that occurred, centered around the
32 positioning of the animal instead of the positioning of
33 the hunter. And I think that kind of gets at that
34 portion of the issue of, you know, herding and kind of
35 harassing.

36

37 And the troopers who were at that
38 meeting who were talking about enforcement, they kept
39 saying, well, this is going to make it impossible for
40 us to enforce, you know, someone harassing animals.
41 And the Board's like, we know, basically.

42

43 So I guess what I caution people about,
44 and I would caution people in general is that while I
45 understand that this -- that these practices are what
46 are happening, there are some inappropriate uses of
47 snowmachines that also occur, that I have seen occur
48 before, and I'm sure other people have, too. And I
49 would encourage you, that if you see those sorts of
50 inappropriate practices, that you let people know,

1 because law enforcement is not going to be able to do
2 something about, so you need to self-regulate as far as
3 that sort of stuff goes. So if you see inappropriate
4 behavior, don't be bashful about telling people about
5 it, because I know that you don't approve people
6 running over caribou, for example. So that's my
7 general comment, that community education amongst
8 yourselves, and I think there will probably be some
9 comments like that in the Caribou Trails as well along
10 those lines, that there are -- this opens some doors.
11 Some of them might be a little scary.

12

13 So that's my comment.

14

15 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

16

17 Go ahead, Walter, you can follow up.

18

19 MR. SAMPSON: My interpretation that I
20 gave is based on your information as well as based on
21 the existing regulation, that is, based on the
22 prohibition of use of snowmachine for hunting a
23 wolverine and wolves. I did not see any sections of
24 the, what do you call, the provisions that the Game
25 Board added into the codified, is what I need to take a
26 look at to see how that's written. If it changes to
27 reflect 177 to hunt wolverine and wolves legally now,
28 and if it says you can hunt with a snowmachine, and
29 this is how you can hunt it, I need to know what the
30 codified specifically say and how it states it. So
31 that's why my talk is a little bit different than what
32 you said, because I've not seen the codified.

33

34 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, Carmen.

35

36 Go ahead, Michael.

37

38 MR. KRAMER: I was at the advisory Fish
39 and Game meeting here. I also hold a seat on that.

40

41 On Page 3 and 4 of Kotzebue Advisory
42 Council's meetings, I do see a lot of comments in there
43 that I had put in there, and I know that we had changed
44 it to furbearer or fur animals. That way there's a
45 wide spectrum of animals that can be pursued, just as
46 long as it's not being harassed or molested, but for
47 positioning for a ethical shot.

48

49 We included bears due to the fact that
50 there's such a ridiculous amount of grizzly bears

1 within this game management unit area. And there are
2 so many conflicts involving bears and wolves now within
3 Game Management Unit 23. You know, when you're hunting
4 a bear as the regulation says, that you are not -- your
5 machine is supposed to be off. You are supposed to
6 step off your machine, and you are not to pursue the
7 bear with your snowmachine. And I had put on there
8 that when you approach a bear to shoot it, they require
9 you to shut your machine off, step off of your machine
10 to make the ethical shot. In my mind, that's suicide.
11 What if your snowmachine doesn't start and that bear
12 starts to charge you, then what? Who's liable? The
13 State? Somebody's liable for making a regulation that
14 puts a person in harm's way, you know.

15
16 And I had stated that in there, and we
17 changed it to furbearer and fur animals due to the fact
18 that we pursue otters, fox, anything to make an ethical
19 shot on an animal while being pursued by a snowmachine.

20
21
22 There's a lot of comments in here, and
23 if you guys really read them, you know, you guys would
24 be able to understand what I'm talking about.

25
26 There is, and there always probably
27 will be some young bucks out there that are chasing
28 caribou beyond their ability, but, you know, they're
29 young and they get their adrenalin going. But I teach
30 my children to, you know, keep it to a minimum. And my
31 children do as I say, because or else I don't allow
32 them to go out and hunt.

33
34 I'm hoping that, you know, we could
35 look at this and come up with our own proposal that
36 mimics 177, and we could support it, but we can amend
37 it to our liking for the fact that we have so many
38 bears, we have so many wolves, and they're beginning to
39 be a hindrance to the communities, camps, people's
40 subsistence way of life, you know. I mean, you have to
41 be able to pursue them with a snowmachine in order to
42 make a good, ethical shot.

43
44 But the people that are out there
45 harassing them, you know, they should be turned in and
46 taken care of them -- getting taken care of. Anytime I
47 see that happening, I, you know, usually pull up to
48 them and tell them to knock it off or we'll turn them
49 in.

50

1 But as you can read on Page 3 and 4,
2 you'll be able to hear our -- you'll be able to see out
3 comments on this issue that we spoke about at the
4 advisory council meeting for Alaska Department of Fish
5 and Game.

6
7 That's all.

8
9 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Michael.
10 My personal feeling is this proposal is for wolves,
11 wolverine, and I think what you're saying about the
12 bears, we need to have a complete different proposal
13 for bears for safety. For now I've got a strong
14 feeling we just leave it be and use this for wolves and
15 wolverines and whatever that, you know, they have on
16 this here, because that's a different issue on bears.
17 I would be scared to turn my snowmachine off. Turn it
18 off, in case like you say, if it never started, and the
19 bear charged me. So I think we need to have a complete
20 different proposal.

21
22 And thank you. And I will advise Carl,
23 I want to come up with a proposal from this Board here,
24 and how, and read it. That's why I wanted a copy of
25 how the Federal, their process of putting a proposal
26 together. That way I know for this Board it will never
27 get turned down, but I was worried about the upper
28 level might turn us down. And I don't want it to be
29 turned down, because we need to be legal and we need to
30 how this one was proposed, and from the Federal side.

31
32 And, Carmen, if we do come up -- I want
33 to ask you, on these comments here from a lot of these
34 youngsters, could we use some of these if we say
35 comments that was given to the State of Alaska, you
36 know, this proposal. Maybe we could use these for
37 ours, or unless the children is willing, or people is
38 willing to come and support us on behalf of this here.
39 Because if it come this much comments on it, it will be
40 plenty strong. And I would like it, because I don't
41 want to say it get say no from the upper level, because
42 we need to be legal how we harvest.

43
44 Go ahead. I'll get to you later,
45 Raymond.

46
47 MS. DAGGETT: Mr. Chair. Thank you.
48 These comments are all a matter of public record at
49 this point. They were all submitted to the statewide
50 Board of Game meeting. They're available on the

1 website. I just simply printed them off and made them
2 available to you.

3

4 I guess one thing that I would caution
5 you on is they were produced with the knowledge of the
6 way that the Proposal 177 was originally presented, and
7 you have that in your packets. So I guess I would
8 caution you that if you change it significantly, that
9 you may want to think about that, because I'm not sure
10 how much people's comments are going to apply if the
11 proposal has changed significantly.

12

13 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

14

15 Go ahead, Raymond.

16

17 MR. STONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18

19 And we thank Carmen, you know, for so
20 much work that you've done for us, you know, come up
21 this far on this proposal.

22

23 So I have a very simple question. I
24 know in several days of future there will also be wolf
25 hunters on aircrafts, wolf and wolverine, if that will
26 be on this proposal coming up from the RAC? Because I
27 didn't see that on this proposal, whether it's
28 legalized to hunt wolves and wolverine with an
29 aircraft.

30

31 MS. DAGGETT: Thank you, Raymond. So
32 that was not part of any of the discussion at any point
33 with the Board or even -- I mean, I think it may have
34 been in a little bit of our discussion in the Kiana AC
35 meeting at one point, but I haven't heard that
36 discussion anywhere else. So I suppose anything is
37 possible, but it's out -- it was not part of the
38 intended -- it was not part of the intent of this
39 proposal at the beginning was to have anything other
40 than, well, snowmachines the way it was written. And I
41 know that several of the other ACs had wanted to
42 include ATVs in this discussion. That's not what the
43 Board approved.

44

45 And if I remember correctly, correct me
46 if I'm wrong, Michael. I don't have the minutes right
47 in front of me, but I'm pretty sure the Kotzebue Sound
48 AC decided not to include ATVs in that discussion,
49 because they felt that the timeframe that you were
50 going to get those particular animals, there should

1 already be enough snow on the ground to allow for the
2 take of those. Is that accurate, Michael?

3

4 MR. KRAMER: (Nods affirmative)

5

6 MS. DAGGETT: And that's what I
7 remember. And I guess, Enoch, you were at that
8 meeting, too. I don't know why I'm specifically asking
9 Michael.

10

11 But that's my answer I guess.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Go ahead, you
16 want to follow up, Michael. Thanks.

17

18 MR. KRAMER: Yeah, I think we left it
19 up to individual ACs whether they wanted to add ATVs to
20 it. If the need does come, then we can, you know, make
21 an amendment to add ATVs to it.

22

23 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. I think it's
24 better to take it one step at a time and not push our
25 luck for now. If we need to make amendments, when the
26 time comes, we will. When there's no more snow.

27

28 You had something you wanted to say,
29 Percy?

30

31 MR. BALLOT: No, not really. Yeah. I
32 guess I would -- just wanted to echo what Michael was
33 saying about other species. We did have discussions
34 with that within our AC and made some comments on that,
35 but that's not what came about, so to know that we
36 supported that theory.

37

38 My other concern was within the law
39 there, I don't know why it doesn't include ATVs, when
40 they allow -- or they hunt with planes for whatever
41 reasons sometimes. I don't know what's the difference,
42 or why another users get priority over certain species.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead,
45 Walter.

46

47 Thank you, Percy.

48

49 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you for the good
50 discussion here. What occurred in Kivalina is really

1 what kicked off a proposal to the Game Board. In fact,
2 if the Game Board wanted to, this proposal could have
3 went through a cycle, two years later from today. But
4 they were fortunate that because there was enough
5 public testimony in regards to taking of wolf and
6 wolverine with snowmachine was critical. That was the
7 reason why they came out with a proposal themselves as
8 a start, to act in Anchorage on a statewide level.

9

10 And I'm glad they did, but however, the
11 issue in regards to sections of the other provisions, I
12 need to check on the codified and see how harassing and
13 herding and all that stuff is addressed.

14

15 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

16

17 Go ahead, Raymond.

18

19 MR. STONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
20 I want to thank you and Carmen and Walter in this very
21 interesting proposal. I know right now there's a lot
22 of people standing by listening to this proposal,
23 whether it pass or not. And most of us still don't
24 know. I think that we should authorize Mr. Sampson to
25 get on KOTZ radio for several days and state what you
26 said to us today on both languages, in Native and in
27 white. They are waiting. So put on the radio, what do
28 you call it, on the afternoon program, that you're
29 protective somewhat on that?

30

31 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

32

33 MR. STONEY: Yeah. It would be very,
34 very helpful to all of us in Northwest Alaska.

35

36 MR. SAMPSON: Daggett's Perspective.

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 MS. DAGGETT: Not my perspective.

41

42 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Carmen.

43

44 Thank you, Raymond.

45

46 MS. DAGGETT: I would also like to add
47 to the public notice part of this that there were three
48 Board meetings this year that affected people in this
49 regions. There were decisions that were made that
50 affect people in this region. And I am currently

1 working on summaries of each of the regions that I work
2 in, including this area. And those summaries will be
3 distributed to each of the AC members, each of the
4 IRAs, and each of the city councils so that this
5 information can be shared with what has changed. And
6 I'm hoping that that will help with the dissemination
7 of changes.

8

9 I would also like to note that each
10 year when changes do occur in the reg books, that they
11 occur and are printed in the front of each of these reg
12 books. And I know that not a lot of people read the
13 reg books, but next year when we go through AC
14 meetings, I would encourage you all to have the
15 community participate at a very high level, because we
16 are going to go through with each AC and we're going to
17 do a review of the current regulations at each of the
18 AC meetings. We're going to talk about the changes
19 that have occurred, and we're going to do some training
20 to help make ACs in this region more effective.
21 There's been some progress on the training to make ACs
22 more effective out of this region anyways, but I think
23 the -- when I first started this position, I did not
24 see a lot of ACs engaging in a lot of issues at the
25 Board level, and I think that needs to change.

26

27 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Okay, Carmen.

28

29 And I personally, when Alex came up
30 with this, he saw me and he said, can you take a look
31 at it? I said, I'm not going to even look at it, I'm
32 going to approve it, because I would like to thank Alex
33 completely for coming up with this so quick while the
34 Board of Game was here. Maybe that's why they passed
35 it. And there was so many comments on it from the
36 villages that they address it now, and like Walter
37 said, in the next two-year cycle we would have been
38 lawbreakers. And I'm glad it passed. And I would say
39 Alex. Sure, there's a few amendments and made changes
40 that need to be done on it, but the main thing, it
41 passed.

42

43 And thank you, Alex.

44

45 Go ahead, Walter.

46

47 MR. SAMPSON: The issue in regards to
48 the educational process, you need to I think take it
49 one step further than just educating ACs. You need to
50 go to the village and hold a public meeting in regards

1 to some of the real pertinent regulations that took
2 place. Caribou, wolverine, wolves, maybe some trapping
3 regulations that's in place that would -- people will
4 have some ideas what to trap for, when, and how. I
5 think you need to go deeper than just AC. You need to
6 hold village meetings to education people in regards to
7 some of the regulations that would -- that are illegal
8 or legal. And people would then have a good
9 perspective in regards to am I really legal in hunting
10 these things? Then they can ask, if they cannot read,
11 then they can ask someone to see if they're really
12 legal.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Walter.
15 Your mic. Taku. Taku, Walter.

16

17 Okay. Carmen.

18

19 MS. DAGGETT: Thank you, Walter for
20 those comments. Every AC meeting is advertised for
21 public to attend. And I usually, when I have AC
22 meetings in villages, which is pretty much all of the
23 time, sometimes they occur in Kotzebue for having a
24 joint meeting, but for the most part they're always in
25 villages, and in the villages that the AC is a part of.
26 And I try to advertise them over VHF. Quite often
27 they're announced over the radio station here in
28 Kotzebue. And each AC member is called, and most of
29 the time the meetings are held in IRAs in the villages.
30 So I'm working tightly with Meghan Nedwick. She is
31 right now currently producing a document, like a poster
32 style of regulations for Unit 23. And it is my hope
33 that those posters will be distributed to the public.

34

35 And I guess my major concern is that
36 the general public does not always attend those
37 meetings. For various reasons I have heard why people
38 don't attend those meetings. But I think that this
39 proposal here, the one that just passed, is a good
40 reason why the public should attend those meetings.
41 And I hope that people see this as a way -- that using
42 those meetings at the local level is a way to get their
43 voice heard.

44

45 And so I would encourage everyone to --
46 you know, when there's an advisory committee meeting
47 around, help me out with the word of mouth. I can't go
48 out to the village beforehand and tell everybody
49 myself, but you guys are there already, you know. Can
50 you help me out and help me tell other people about

1 this meeting so that people will come and talk.

2

3 I always provide delicious food at my
4 meetings. I always have -- I always do what I can to
5 make it a comfortable environment where people can be
6 heard. So I'm hoping that you guys can help me on your
7 end of things to have more of the public participate.

8

9 Thank you for your comments. I
10 appreciate it.

11

12 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Carmen, before we
13 close here, I would like to say what the Board say just
14 on this 177, what the Board of Game said at their
15 Anchorage meeting, because I'm really -- I want to make
16 sure that -- I know it's going to pass in the local
17 level. I'm going to make sure it pass on the higher
18 level for this year to be in place. And I want to make
19 suer it's done and written right and level. And I'm
20 not going to say it's okay. I want to give it to every
21 Board member here to look at it, that way they could
22 recommend for any comment; they could recommend any
23 changes on the wording. And every body will get it.

24

25 And everybody's getting hungry. Not
26 only that, we're frozen, too.

27

28 MS. GEORGETTE: We're working on that.

29

30 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, I want to go
31 home to my home igloo.

32

33 (Laughter)

34

35 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: To make it last -- I
36 think Raymond will make your last, and we close for
37 lunch.

38

39 MR. BALLOT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

40

41 Carmen, thank you very much again about
42 the proposal. However, that's one thing I wanted to
43 say, that we've got that caribou working group meeting
44 I believe it's May 11, and most of these comments will
45 be aired by KOTZ radio. So would you be present to
46 give this information to the public in Game Unit 23? I
47 know they always be listening. It would be nice if,
48 you know, somebody just published that through KOTZ.

49

50 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 Yeah, go ahead, Carmen.

2

3 MS. DAGGETT: So Cyrus Harris is on the
4 Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group. I believe
5 Verne is the Chairman, and I believe you are on the
6 Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group as well if
7 I'm not mistaken.

8

9 I myself, I'm not sure if I'm going to
10 be in town during that timeframe. It depends a little
11 bit on what my job situation looks like for the summer,
12 because I'm not technically employed with Fish and Game
13 after the end of April. So I have seasonal leave from
14 the end of April through the end of August. So it's
15 kind of tricky. But if I'm in the region, then I will
16 be at that meeting on my own accord. But if I am not,
17 then I can't guarantee that I'll be there.

18

19 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. I think
20 we're done on this topic. What time everybody want to
21 come, 1:15, so we'll make sure we finish today. Let's
22 take a lunch break until 1:15.

23

24 (Off record)

25

26 (On record)

27

28 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. I think we
29 have a quorum now. I think we could get started with
30 the afternoon.

31

32 Walter's not coming back; he's cleaning
33 out his office. He's retiring from NANA.

34

35 So we'll call this meeting back to
36 order at 1:24.

37

38 So, Carl, update me where we are right
39 now.

40

41 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
42 The next item will be to review and approve your fiscal
43 year 2013 annual report. There are some supplemental
44 materials that are in the book. They're just kind of
45 an overview of the annual report, guidelines, you know,
46 what to include and what to discuss. But you should
47 have a draft annual report in your folder with your
48 supplemental materials.

49

50 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay, Carl.

1 Okay, you guys, it's on Page 50 on our
2 handout.

3
4 Go ahead, Carl, if you're ready. We're
5 ready.

6
7 MR. JOHNSON: Well, certainly. Thank
8 you, Mr. Chair. The materials, what's in your meeting
9 book is just kind of an overview of, you know, as you
10 know, the idea for the annual reports comes from
11 Section .805 of ANILCA. This is kind of the key
12 provision in ANILCA that deals with the role of the
13 Regional Advisory Councils in the Federal Subsistence
14 Management Program. And Section .805 talks about very
15 specific things that the Council can include in its
16 report.

17
18 But another thing, too, you know, as
19 you know through the year sometimes, there are some
20 concerns that the Council may have that are outside of
21 the jurisdiction of the Federal Subsistence Board, but
22 one of the things that's come up recently as part of
23 this Secretarial review that we discussed yesterday in
24 connection with the customary and traditional use
25 determination discussion, and that is the Secretaries
26 have told the Federal Subsistence Board that if there
27 are issues that are raised to the Board that may be
28 appropriate to bring to the Secretaries' attention,
29 then the Board should tell the Secretaries. So, in
30 fact, last year both Western Interior and the North
31 Slope Regional Advisory Councils brought issues to the
32 Board's attention that were then elevated to the
33 Secretarial level.

34
35 So there's a lot of different things
36 you can communicate, but as it notes in the handout,
37 you know, Section .805 talks about letting the Board
38 know about current and anticipated subsistence uses of
39 fish and wildlife, an evaluation of those subsistence
40 needs on public lands, recommended strategies for
41 management of fish and wildlife populations, and also
42 recommendations, and this is fairly broad, concerning
43 policies, standards, guidelines, and regulations to
44 implement those strategies. So there's a lot of things
45 that this Council can communicate to the Federal
46 Subsistence Board.

47
48 And currently in your draft annual
49 report, Melinda has identified four items. The first
50 item is concerns about the road to Ambler. The second

1 item is about transporters, which I know that's a
2 common issue of discussion and concern for the Council.
3 Third, to reemphasize the need for community and youth
4 involvement and communication. And then finally
5 there's a note on here about late Council appointments.
6 And this issue has also been brought up by other
7 Councils in both their annual reports and in letters
8 directly to the Federal Subsistence Board.

9
10 So that's kind of an overview of what
11 you currently have. And hopefully by now you all have
12 found the draft annual report in your blue supplemental
13 folder. And I'll answer any questions.

14
15 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

16
17 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Thank you,
18 Carl. Any questions from the Board here.

19
20 MR. BALLOT: So, Mr. Chairman, are we
21 including terms as a concern.

22
23 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead, Carl.

24
25 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

26
27 Percy, what we -- actually two items
28 down the agenda from now is nominations, and I hope
29 that I'm going to -- that discussion and the
30 information I'm going to give you during that will
31 address that issue, because there is going to be an
32 opportunity for the Council, and all of the Councils to
33 actually provide feedback on a specific proposal that
34 is going to be going to the Federal Subsistence Board
35 about changing the nominations and appointments
36 process.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Carl.
39 This have nothing to do with fish or anything like
40 from ours, but it's what we talked about earlier is our
41 main concern is beaver issues. That's going to be a
42 big problem in the future. I don't know if they'll
43 fall into this category. You know, we talked about it
44 earlier, but that's going to be our main concern,
45 because we all are getting worried about it. And when
46 I'm out at Shisholik or in that camp, I hear this a lot
47 about the beavers. Let's just make it short and sweet.
48 It will help us to talk about this in the future.

49
50 Anything else from the Board. Go

1 ahead, Hannah.

2

3 MS. LOON: I think we should always
4 have in this Board to have an elder representative who
5 is very knowledgeable about just about everything from
6 seasons and traditional laws and spiritual aspects, and
7 good use of fish and game and respect for nature and
8 everything that allows a community to harvest for their
9 food.

10

11 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Hannah.

12

13 You hear that, Carl? I think just to
14 clarify Hannah's, I think what we need to do, like the
15 Western Arctic Caribou Herd, if we have certain issues
16 and concerns on any fish, any land animals within our
17 lands, you know, where we could regulate, maybe if it's
18 from Upper Kobuk fish, Noatak, different places, maybe
19 we could invite an elder to give a talk on it. We
20 understand it, but what we need to do is educate the
21 outside in Western world about issues and concerns.
22 And she's right, we need to have someone here if time
23 allows, and, you know, just make it short and sweet,
24 and he could come in and just give a short talk on the
25 topic if we have issues and concerns.

26

27 Thank you, Hannah.

28

29 MR. BALLOT: Where's that letter? I'm
30 trying to find one that says Melinda.

31

32 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, you can't find it
33 in your supplemental materials?

34

35 MR. BALLOT: I don't have nothing.

36

37 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: There was. I thought
38 I saw it.

39

40 MR. BALLOT: There's nothing in here,
41 unless I'm getting blind. (Indiscernible - mic not on)

42

43 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: I think he's talking
44 about the bullets you were talking about that Melinda
45 wrote.

46

47 MR. BALLOT: No, I'm asking about the
48 annual report, and he says Melinda drafted it.
49 (Indiscernible - mic not on)

50

1 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, that was there.

2

3 MR. JOHNSON: Right. Okay. That
4 should have been in your supplemental materials, and I
5 can make copies real quick and get to the Council.

6

7 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: I was just using the
8 one on Page 50.

9

10 MR. BALLOT: That one on Page 50 is
11 from last years. (Indiscernible -- mic not on) Kiana.
12 That's not the one he's talking about. I've got two
13 more good ones, but I don't have the one that
14 (indiscernible) by Melinda. I got the letter on the
15 rural determination process and that's it.

16

17 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, that's about
18 the same what I have, Percy. Thanks for bringing it
19 up.

20

21 MR. BALLOT: I thought this just
22 outlined the rural determination process not our annual
23 report.

24

25 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair and Council
26 members. I apologize that's not in there. I am
27 printing out a copy right now, and if you want to just
28 take five, I can get copies made and you can have a
29 chance to look at it before we continue the discussion.

30

31 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.
32 We'll take a quick break.

33

34 Yeah, go ahead.

35

36 MR. BALLOT: I knew I wasn't going
37 blind.

38

39 (Off record)

40

41 (On record)

42

43 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. We'll call
44 this meeting back.

45

46 And, thanks, Carl, for the bullets.
47 And these are the ones -- yeah, late Council
48 appointments, and the concern about road to Ambler,
49 transporters and youth involvement and communication.
50 And I think we just need to really -- because these are

1 still our concerns. The road to Ambler, our
2 transporters and outfitters, which we didn't talk about
3 it much at this meeting, because that could get real
4 lengthy in a hurry.

5
6 But I would like to see more youngsters
7 involved from -- maybe you could put -- maybe the
8 Federal if they have enough money, they put say some
9 kind of -- with the schools in the winter could come to
10 our meeting and listen in, because these are the future
11 people that need to take over. We're all getting old.
12 I'm not talking about your and I, Raymond.

13
14 MR. STONEY: Not me.

15
16 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: We're all getting
17 old, and it's getting you know, we want to do our thing
18 at our age, so we need our youth.

19
20 And the other one is -- I think what we
21 need to do is add into this one is the beavers, real
22 bad.

23
24 Okay. Thank you.

25
26 Anyone else on this topic here.

27
28 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

29
30 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Percy.

31
32 MR. BALLOT: I'd just like to add
33 something about education on the aspect or something of
34 asbestos in regards to breathing and stuff like that,
35 or education of the people in the area. There should
36 be a consideration or stress on this concern about the
37 road issues.

38
39 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Percy.

40
41 Go ahead, Verne.

42
43 MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah. With the
44 asbestos, if you go to Ambler, look down on the ground.
45 You could see crystals on the ground. That's asbestos.
46 And I grew up in Ambler. As a kid I grew up in Ambler,
47 and we think nothing of it, you know, it wasn't
48 nothing, but the kettles, their tea kettles, if you
49 look at their tea kettles, it's pretty foamed up with
50 minerals inside their kettles. It never bother us, I

1 mean, up until they shut it down completely because of
2 asbestos.

3

4 Now, that asbestos is spread from
5 Ambler all the way up to Shungnak. I mean, it's on the
6 side of the hill. It's all the way up. But we never
7 think nothing of it until they shut down Ambler on
8 everything.

9

10 Now they're going to reopen it this
11 summer, right? They looked it up that, to have a
12 project in Ambler and they're going to -- well, their
13 homes are getting old, and they've got to rebuild homes
14 and stuff like that. They've got to -- they reopened
15 it for projects this summer. Other than that.....

16

17 And this one about Ambler Mining
18 District, concerns about it, I would like to meet with
19 the people before I say anything on this, because I've
20 got a lot of relatives and I talked to some of them,
21 and some of them are half and half. They don't know
22 about it, they don't know much about it, and they're
23 concerned about hunters, people coming in from -- if
24 the road is opened. And I think we need to put more --
25 educate the people more of what's going to happen to
26 it. If it's not connected to the villages, then -- you
27 know doggone well it's going to be connected for sure,
28 because they're already talking about hauling fuel to
29 the villages. I would like to visit Ambler or
30 Shungnak, Kobuk, and I probably will next month. I
31 think I'm going to go up there with Murkowski and go to
32 Ambler in the road, and I want to hear from the people.
33 So I can't say much about it, but until then we'll hold
34 off or whatever.

35

36 But I'm for the road, half of me
37 anyway. But like they said, it's going to be a one-
38 lane road and a one-lane road is not going to happen.
39 It never will happen,

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 MR. STONEY: Mr. Chairman.

44

45 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Thank you,
46 Verne.

47

48 Go ahead, Raymond.

49

50 MR. STONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 For that Ambler Road, you know, I know
2 it's a big project throughout the State. One thing,
3 like you said, that one-lane road anyway doesn't work.
4 Just like the road job we did, you and I did, at Red
5 Dog, we had to use R-35, the 30-yard trucks, and it
6 take a lane and a half to drive that truck. So like
7 you said, if somebody got stuck 60 miles or 4 miles off
8 their departure, the whole road will be closed forever.
9 And how do you expect to keep that open wintertime with
10 that one lane.

11
12 Secondly, that whole area, you could
13 see it on a map. I'll give an example. Like the
14 Squirrel River at Kiana. BLM managed that. NANA has
15 land from Kiana, about 12 miles, and the rest is BLM.
16 And all that stuff is free to all the public around the
17 country. And now where the road's going to be that
18 leads to Ambler, it's all controlled by National Park,
19 Gates of the Arctic. The Gates of the Arctic means it's
20 open to the public. There could be lots and lots of
21 hunters. They say, just like for that haul road for
22 oil, they say if you restrict it, that it will be
23 closed forever. 25, 20 years later, they changed their
24 mind and they make it wide open. Got people
25 everywhere. They say if it's restricted, there'd be no
26 hunters. It won't be that way. There's be lots of
27 people.

28
29 And there's also some recommendations
30 from the transporters. They have the authority to
31 build camps along that road if they wanted to, because
32 it will be public road. It's public funded. So it's
33 like you said, there's going to be lots of hunters in
34 that area.

35
36 So whatever you come up with like for
37 Ambler, you know, I'll go along with you. Whatever the
38 people would learn how they're going to build that
39 road, and then what they're going to with it, and where
40 is the destination hauling that ore.

41
42 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Raymond.

43
44 Go ahead, Percy.

45
46 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, I was not trying to
47 stop if that's what they want to have. That's good. I
48 would support Ambler, but what I wanted to know -- or
49 say is that it would be good that they are educated in
50 the health aspects or potential health hazards that

1 could happen in regards to asbestos, because there are
2 a lot of things that go on that kills people. It does
3 leukemia, it have heart stuff, it has cancer-related.
4 these are life-threatening diseases that it cause.

5
6 And when I was attending a
7 teleconference about it three or four months ago, what
8 I understood is that they never really say this much
9 particles of rain, that asbestos dust is like having --
10 swallowing glass or whatever. I guess that was one
11 comparison.

12
13 But all I'm just saying that they need
14 to be educated, because they're the people that are
15 going to be affected it. There's a whole town down in
16 Wyoming or Montana that has this asbestos problem. And
17 a lot of them are going at a fast rate. And so I just
18 wanted to make sure that there is some discussions or
19 education on that kind of stuff as this EIS or whatever
20 goes on.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Percy.

23
24 Go ahead, Verne.

25
26 MR. CLEVELAND: And, Susan will go to
27 those cabins in the Maniilaq and start cleaning them I
28 guess. Right? Thank you. There's some nice cabins in
29 Maniilaq River. You know, it will be closed to that
30 proposed road I'm pretty sure, because I saw one within
31 a mile from the proposed road. And there's some real
32 nice cabins up there, I'll tell you that, and they're
33 abandoned right now. There's nobody living up there.
34 So I'll put my land claim there I think.

35
36 Thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. Anybody
39 else on this topic here, so we could move on.

40
41 Go ahead, Carl.

42
43 MR. JOHNSON: So just to confirm that
44 I'll add an item about impacts of beaver to fish
45 habitat, and the other discussion that we had earlier
46 to your annual report.

47
48 And I think regarding the asbestos dust
49 issue, that would fit neatly within the existing.
50 We'll just add a paragraph to the road to Ambler issue,

1 since that's related to that. But that's just an
2 example of another concern about potential impacts, in
3 this case health impacts, from asbestos dust.

4
5 MR. BALLOT: Maybe ball it health
6 disparities or whatever, but it is a health
7 (indiscernible - mic not on) of issues. People that
8 are going to be living it and breathing it, you know.
9 (Indiscernible - mic not on)

10
11 REPORTER: Your microphone.

12
13 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Your mic.

14
15 REPORTER: Your microphone, Percy.

16
17 MR. BALLOT: Oh, yeah. Well, it is a
18 health disparity, that's what I'm saying, and the
19 people that are going to be living and working there
20 and breathing it should know what they're getting into.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. Are we
23 done, Carl. We could move on.

24
25 I think we would go over tribal
26 consultation implementation guidelines, ANCSA
27 consultation.

28
29 MR. LORRIGAN: Good afternoon, Mr.
30 Chairman. Council members. My presentations on the
31 draft tribal consultation implementation guidelines,
32 and they're on Page 63 of your workbook.

33
34 I'm here to present -- for the record,
35 my name is Jack Lorrigan. I'm the Native liaison for
36 the Office of Subsistence Management, and I'm part of
37 the work group that helped formulate the draft
38 implementation guidelines.

39
40 The work group is requesting Regional
41 Advisory Council feedback on these two documents.
42 There's the ANCSA draft consultation policy, and that
43 starts on Page 72 also. But for the moment I'll be
44 speaking to the guidelines. We're also seeking
45 feedback from Federally-recognized tribes and ANCSA
46 corporations on these two documents.

47
48 These guidelines are intended to
49 provide Federal Staff additional guidance on the
50 Federal Subsistence Board tribal consultation policy.

1 They include when consultation should be regularly
2 offered, meeting protocols, including meeting flow,
3 room set-up suggestions, topics for consultation,
4 preparation and follow up for the meetings,
5 communication and collaboration with tribes throughout
6 the regulatory cycle, training guidance and topics for
7 Federal Staff and the Board, reporting on consultation,
8 and how to make changes to the policy guidance as
9 needed or requested.

10
11 And it's an action for the Council to
12 take up if they so choose.

13
14 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

15
16 Anyone here from the Board. Any
17 questions.

18
19 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

20
21 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Percy.

22
23 MR. BALLOT: By tribal consultation,
24 you mean the tribes itself at a sit gathering or, you
25 know, tribe-going basis.

26
27 MR. LORRIGAN: Yes, the guidelines are
28 to spell out how the Federal Subsistence Board will
29 consult with tribes on issues of subsistence or matters
30 before the Board that they take up that may affect
31 tribes.

32
33 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: So on the other
34 Advisories that come up, what kind of answer did they
35 give you, what kind of consultation. Did you hear from
36 any of the other Councils from Alaska.

37
38 MR. LORRIGAN: Mr. Chairman. Yes. I
39 didn't attend all the meetings, but the ones I
40 attended, there was some feedback. Southeast Council
41 was adamant that the tribes are consulted before the
42 RACs, because they want to make sure they hear what the
43 tribes have to say about given topics before them. So
44 they want to make sure the consultations occur with the
45 tribes before the RACs hear the proposals also.

46
47 Most of the other Councils didn't have
48 a lot of time to review the comments, and we had one,
49 the Southcentral Council, had an actual mention and she
50 endorsed -- she was on the work group and based on her

1 statements to the Council, they went ahead and approved
2 the document as it is.

3

4 What will happen is we will take the
5 comments we're receiving from the RACs and the tribes
6 and the ANCSA corporations on these guidelines. We'll
7 then incorporate them into -- we'll incorporate them
8 into the final draft that will go before the Board.
9 They were anticipated to go before the Board this
10 April, but the agenda was just too full, and we didn't
11 have a lot of time to get this document out in time for
12 thorough review, but we're anticipating having it go
13 before the Board in the summer meeting, which they have
14 yet to designate a time.

15

16 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Okay. I think
17 if you remember earlier, I mentioned that if they're
18 going to have any kind of proposals to do any fish
19 study or any study in our lands where we have authority
20 over, I think you need to consult with us and go
21 through us first. And like I say, even with the
22 satellite or anything they're going to put in the
23 animals, we would like to see what they have and what
24 they're going to do. That way we won't have a hardship
25 later. That way if we see it before, we won't say,
26 hey, how come you never tell us about this and that at
27 the time. And I think I mentioned one of the
28 fisheries, and I think you could put that also, right,
29 with this topic we're talking about.

30

31 MR. LORRIGAN: For clarity, Mr.
32 Chairman, you're talking about yourself as a tribe or
33 as a Regional Advisory Council?

34

35 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: As a RAC, because I
36 mentioned it earlier here, and I always mention it
37 before. Even with the State of Alaska, that before any
38 proposal or anything working done, we need to see it
39 and it need to go through us before, because we need to
40 approve it, and that way we won't have a hardship, and
41 we won't say, hey, you guys did it without consulting
42 us. That's what called partners, are together. We
43 consult with each other before anything is started.
44 And if you consult with us, we won't have any problem.
45 We say, oh, yeah, we talked about it, and if they put
46 it in paper, we could always go back and say, hey, you
47 guys approve it or we approve it, because sometimes we
48 don't remember everything. But if we have anything
49 written down, we won't have any problem, and we could
50 see it.

1 Thank you.

2

3 MR. LORRIGAN: Mr. Chairman. I think
4 that will happen as most proposals will go through the
5 RAC that come from the Federal Subsistence Board. I
6 believe the consultations that we're addressing here
7 will be to make sure that the tribes are involved at
8 the local level and get their input, and then it comes
9 to you, and then you'll definitely have that input on
10 those studies. Mr. Chairman.

11

12 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

13

14 Go ahead, Percy.

15

16 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

17

18 This is a guideline for consulting
19 tribes. And the way I understand that, if a tribe or
20 more than one tribe request consultating meeting in
21 regards to the proposals or issues. So we just set up
22 one at the nearest hub or nearest agency, that's the
23 way I read it. So ours would be where?

24

25 MR. LORRIGAN: What age are you
26 referring to?

27

28 MR. BALLOT: 65, on item 9. If we
29 requested consultating meeting regarding issues or
30 proposals regarding the regulatory stuff, the meeting
31 would be where? The nearest land managing agency would
32 be where?

33

34 MR. LORRIGAN: That is a really good
35 question.

36

37 MR. BALLOT: Or would they come to us?

38

39 MR. LORRIGAN: That is a really good
40 question. The last, we had consultation with the
41 Saxman tribe, and two Board members were slated to go
42 to that meeting with counsel, other Board members to
43 join in by teleconference because of their scheduling.

44

45 The Board will strive to meet with the
46 tribe as much as they can, budget allowing, time
47 allowing. That's something that still needs to be
48 worked out. I believe that with 229 tribes all around
49 the State with issues before them, it could be unwieldy
50 to do such a thing. But I think it's the intent of the

1 office to make that happen as much as possible, or as
2 effectively as possible.

3

4 MR. BALLOT: Okay. Mr. Chairman, to
5 follow up.

6

7 So you mean the Federal Subsistence
8 Board itself that's composed of all those seen or eight
9 people.

10

11 MR. LORRIGAN: Yes. There's eight
12 people.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, anyone else
15 have questions.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: I think they're
20 trying to understand what you're saying. I think I got
21 it after Percy asked. I think I've pretty much got it.

22

23 Thank you. And so what did you want us
24 to do with it? You wanted us to come up with some kind
25 of -- take an action on what?

26

27 MR. LORRIGAN: Mr. Chairman. If you
28 don't have any specific comments, what other Councils
29 have done is they've -- somebody made a motion to
30 approve the document as it is, understanding that it's
31 a living document and will be going through changes.
32 We hopefully will have it before the Board with all the
33 comments and edits that we need to put into it, to have
34 it as a final document by this summer.

35

36 And then after that's done, then we'll
37 move onto the ANCSA policy which the work group will
38 turn its attention to, developing guidelines for
39 consultation with them also.

40

41 But at this time if the Council so
42 chooses, they can move to approve, move to table, or
43 whatever. It's just the working group were seeking
44 some input from the RACs, whatever that may be.

45

46 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

47

48 Go ahead, Percy.

49

50 MR. BALLOT: So this, these guidelines

1 were developed with tribal input?

2

3 MR. LORRIGAN: Through the Chair. Mr.
4 Ballot. The list of personnel that participated are on
5 Page 62. And they involved tribal members, Federal
6 employees and ANCSA corporation members from around the
7 State.

8

9 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Just a minute. Let
10 me take a quick look at it.

11

12 I was trying to see if there was
13 anybody from Northwest Alaska, because this is such a
14 large State. I know they have some from Wainwright and
15 Barrow. And so -- and maybe that's why we never hear
16 about it. They never talked to us or forwarded this on
17 their reports on this one here, you know. That's why
18 maybe it was -- we see the -- and we probably will see
19 this just twice a year when we have a meeting.

20

21 MR. LORRIGAN: There was a call for
22 nominations. This was before I joined the group, but I
23 understand there was a call for nominations that was
24 sent out across the State for folks to join. And these
25 are some of the folks that were -- either stepped up or
26 were nominated to join. But I believe the call went
27 out across the State. Mr. Chairman.

28

29 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. I remember
30 this. Because I put in my -- when I was with Maniilaq,
31 I put in my -- you know, for this working group here,
32 and my supervisor held it and never did send it out, so
33 I never -- my name was not listed in there. So I'm not
34 saying I didn't -- you know, it's okay with me when I'm
35 not sitting in there.

36

37 But we should have someone from
38 Northwest Alaska if it's possible to add another seat,
39 because I want to see someone -- because we're one of
40 the bigger areas that have a lot of concern, and we are
41 gifted here. We've got so much resources and we are
42 right about in the middle of all the resources here.
43 And Barrow don't have resources the way we have here.
44 Nome don't have the resources that we have here. When
45 I know when I send like trout to Nome area, Elim, they
46 always say, gee, these are big trout. I said, these
47 are normal size to us. They get smaller one compared
48 to what we get here. That's why I always say Northwest
49 Alaska is gifted. And we need to protect it.

50

1 And I hate to see someone from outside
2 deciding our regulations or anything be put in place
3 without consulting with us, and we find out about it
4 later. I'll have a hardship about it and I think these
5 guys will, too.

6
7 Yeah, go ahead, Verne.

8
9 MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah. The Unit 23
10 working group meeting is on May 15/16. That's a couple
11 month. I just got an email from -- I can't remember
12 who. I think it was from Jen.

13
14 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thanks.

15
16 But I think you hear what I was saying.
17 Okay.

18
19 Anything else on this topic from the
20 Board.

21
22 MR. BALLOT: Yeah. Mr. Chairman. I
23 just want to mention, I met with several -- I know some
24 of these guys, and Rosemary is a very tribal person and
25 very knowledgeable in traditional use and things like
26 that. Very caring. And a bunch of them I know in
27 there.

28
29 But my concern was if there was an
30 issue that came up in regards to consultation, or
31 issues regarding what this protocol is going to lead
32 to, if we have a disagreement with the corporations, I
33 see they're being listed as consultation people, too.
34 And I've never believed that they're tribes, but
35 somehow they got on the list. So what are we going to
36 listen to? Are we going to be listening to the tribe
37 first of all, or if we have an issue that disagree with
38 the ANCSA corporation.

39
40 MR. LORRIGAN: That's a great question,
41 Mr. Ballot. And that's something we'll have to add
42 into the document, and that's something the working
43 group will have to discuss. I believe the tribes have
44 the sovereign status that corporations do not. And I
45 believe probably the tribes would carry more weight
46 that way. But we are required by law to consult with
47 the corporations. I forget the Senate bill number, but
48 it obliges us to consult with them, too.

49
50 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

1 MR. BALLOT: I just want to follow up.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Percy.

4

5 MR. BALLOT: The other thing is that
6 when you have these consultation meetings, the
7 corporations have money to go down to Washington, D.C.
8 or wherever to go testify on issues; our tribes never
9 have. So there should be a process in here that allows
10 us to be able to get there, wherever you're having
11 these consultations.

12

13 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

14

15 Yeah, go ahead.

16

17 MR. LORRIGAN: In response to Mr.
18 Ballot, through the Chair. Our budget plays a big
19 factor, and we're having to rely on teleconference
20 quite a bit. So if people have a phone line, they have
21 equal access to us that way.

22

23 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you. So
24 we make an action, we vote on it as it. I think I
25 heard you said in the future we could make changes to
26 it.

27

28 MR. LORRIGAN: I anticipate changes to
29 be made, Mr. Chairman. And there will be a lot of
30 people -- as the Native liaison, I'm learning a lot
31 about this document that still needs to be worked on,
32 so I anticipate changes..

33

34 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. What I'm
35 scared of, is if I give you guys authority to make
36 changes and consult with us later, I will be scared,
37 and you guys will say, you guys authorized us to make a
38 change without really consulting with us. That's where
39 I would be scared for the people, for Northwest Alaska.
40 I'm talking for Northwest Alaska as individual. Now,
41 if you consult us before, I would have no problem with
42 that. But if it's done in emergency cases, then the
43 way I understand it, if we give you authority to change
44 it, you could change it and talk to us later. Is that
45 what you're really saying.

46

47 MR. LORRIGAN: Mr. Chairman. We're
48 going to be getting comments and suggestions from all
49 over the State. I believe the RACs will be involved in
50 this document for quite a while as it develops. As

1 time goes on, and we figure out how the tribes work,
2 and our own office operates with our regulatory cycles,
3 we anticipate it to fit better, but it's a work in
4 progress. And I believe the RACs and the tribes will
5 have a lot of say in how it develops.

6

7 Mr. Chair.

8

9 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.
10 I'll get to you in a minute, Hannah.

11

12 So, Carl, is this going to be on our
13 April meeting in Anchorage? No? Okay.

14

15 MR. JOHNSON: No, it's not, Mr. Chair.

16

17 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

18

19 Go ahead, Hannah.

20

21 MS. LOON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
22 think this is, you know, a good -- I mean, it's a
23 guideline for us to start. And there is always room to
24 make changes if necessary over time, year after year.
25 And when we go home, we should really study them, read
26 them. And tribal consultation, when I understand it,
27 is for government to have consultation with the tribal
28 governments.

29

30 And when I hear that, you know, some of
31 the fisher people in some of the regions, it's the
32 woman or the grandma that is the boss of the crew. And
33 she's the boss, and we all have to listen to that boss,
34 and when to start to seine and what to do, and our jobs
35 are already lined up, what position we have to be. And
36 those bosses own boats and they invest on boats and
37 nets, and people and labor. And I see most of that in
38 the Upper Kobuk regions. And it's still alive today.
39 They're the bosses, right, Susan? Yeah.

40

41 And, see, it's those women, too, that
42 you have to tribal consultation to, because they know
43 the -- they know what's to do, what to do. And they
44 keep the people all lined up there, because she's --
45 you know, she want to make sure she get the most
46 successful, maybe six gunnysacks, of 50-pound bags in
47 one or two seining. And it's serious. You have to
48 really look at them and watch and be quiet.

49

50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. What I'm going
2 to do is just completely ask the Board directly, how
3 you want to go with this, and vote on it jut the way
4 it's written under action item. Okay. We could always
5 make changes to it later, you know.

6
7 And like I say, my thought is this. If
8 I give you authority to make changes, I'm going to
9 worry about it a little bit, but I have no problem if
10 you guys are going to consult us, if you're going to
11 make changes. Unless something, there's a disaster
12 happens and you have to do it in a hurry.

13
14 So how do you guys -- the rest of the
15 Board, how do you guys wish to go about it? Because I
16 think he wanted us to vote on this here.

17
18 Go ahead, Raymond.

19
20 MR. STONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21 The way I see it, is I think that it's a good thing to
22 vote it as it is now. And then the changes and
23 amendment we have to make, it should be written, so if
24 the time comes 15, 20 years later, you know, we'll have
25 it. That's my feeling, Mr. Chairman.

26
27 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. Then
28 we'll -- Carl, we need to do this as a proposal, that
29 action item, to vote on it. Is that what you want,
30 somebody? What do you want, you want us to vote on it,
31 to approve it or not?

32
33 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. That
34 would be the preferred way, just so we have a clear
35 record, a statement from the Council. You can either
36 support it as it is, make any changes to it. But from
37 what I'm hearing of the Council, it seems like you
38 would want to support it as it is with the idea that
39 you can make changes to it later if necessary.

40
41 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. I'll make a
42 proposal that we vote on it just the way as is for now.
43 So I'll make a motion to -- just the way you said,
44 Carl, as is written, as is, to vote on it.

45
46 MR. BALLOT: Okay. Mr. Chairman. I'll
47 move to support move the implementation guidelines for
48 the tribal consultation policy.

49
50 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Percy.

1 Any second.
2
3 MR. STONEY: Second.
4
5 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Seconded by Raymond.
6
7
8 MS. LOON: Question called for.
9
10 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: The question's been
11 called.
12
13 MR. BALLOT: No.
14
15 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead.
16
17 MR. BALLOT: Just for the record, I'm
18 going to vote to support, but I still don't believe
19 that corporations be considered as tribes. Just for
20 the record.
21
22 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. You got that?
23 Thank you, Percy.
24
25 Anyone else on the Board here. Go
26 ahead, Carl.
27
28 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.
29
30 I'll just note that's a very valid
31 point, Percy, because that's why we have two separate
32 consultation guidelines. One for tribes where it
33 specifically states that it's a government-to-
34 government consultation, and another one for ANCSA
35 corporations where you will not see the words
36 government-to-government in that consultation
37 guideline.
38
39 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Maybe that's
40 where I'm worried, if it have to do with our
41 corporation, you know, I don't want them involved like
42 Percy say. So if that's going to be completely
43 different, I gladly will approve just the way it is.
44
45 So are you guys ready to vote on this.
46
47 (No comments)
48
49 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: All in favor by
50 saying aye.

1 IN UNISON: Aye.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Any nays.
4
5 (No opposing votes)
6
7 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: No. Okay. You got
8 what you want here. It's approved.
9
10 Okay. Thank you, Board, since we
11 understand it getter.
12
13 MR. LORRIGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
14
15 And there's one more item. It starts
16 on Page 72. It's the draft ANCSA consultation
17 guideline that the work group will take up after we're
18 finished with finalizing the tribal implementation
19 guidelines.
20
21 And what it is, is actually borrowed
22 language from the Department of Interior's tribal
23 consultation policy with, as Carl said, the language is
24 clear that it's government-to-corporation consultation,
25 not government-to-government consultation.
26
27 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. Go ahead.
28 Are we done with that now. We could go to the ANCSA
29 corporations.
30
31 MR. LORRIGAN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. On
32 Page 72 of your book.
33
34 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. It's on page
35 72. Go ahead.
36
37 MR. LORRIGAN: Mr. Chairman. As I said
38 earlier, this policy was adopted from the Department of
39 Interior policy on consultation with ANCSA
40 corporations. It includes a preamble, guiding
41 principles and policy.
42
43 This draft policy has been improved
44 upon by the work group which now has representatives
45 for the village and regional ANCSA corporations,
46 thereby adding meaning to the -- adding to the meaning
47 of this policy for the Board. It was originally
48 drafted in December of 2011.
49
50 I'll say again, we are obliged by an

1 Act of Congress to consult with corporations on matters
2 of subsistence when it may affect their lands or
3 shareholders. But again it's not government-to-
4 government.

5
6 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

7
8 Go ahead, Percy.

9
10 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman. I'll move
11 for support of this ANCSA policy.

12
13 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Percy.

14
15 Any second.

16
17 MS. LOON: Second.

18
19 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Seconded by Hannah.

20 Thank you.

21
22 Any comments from the Board here on
23 this.

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: If not, the question.

28
29 MR. BALLOT: Question.

30
31 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Question's been
32 called for. All in favor signify by saying aye.

33
34 IN UNISON: Aye.

35
36 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Any nays.

37
38 (No opposing votes)

39
40 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: No nays. So it's all
41 passed then. Okay.

42
43 MR. LORRIGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
44 Council.

45
46 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

47
48 So now we're down to agency reports,
49 right, Carl.

50

1 What time is it? Do we need to go on a
2 short break? Yeah. 10 minutes.

3
4 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. And then, Mr.
5 Chair, the next item will be nominations.

6
7 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Oh, nominations.

8
9 (Off record)

10
11 (On record)

12
13 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. You guys
14 ready? Maybe we get started again. What did you say
15 to me, Carl, a while ago? I'm having senior moments
16 again. I thought you said -- oh, nominations.

17
18 MR. JOHNSON: Nominations would be the
19 next item on he agenda. Yes.

20
21 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yes. Okay.
22 Nominations. Yeah.

23
24 Okay. We'll call this meeting back to
25 order, and we will go down to nominations. Carl
26 Johnson.

27
28 MR. JOHNSON: That's me, Mr. Chair.
29 Thank you.

30
31 Just a quick overview. As our current
32 nominations process goes, all the Regional Advisory
33 Council positions are for three-year terms, and that's
34 in your charter. Now, sometimes when people are
35 appointed, they're appointed for one or two years
36 because they're appointed to fill a vacant seat. So
37 it's a three-year term. We do this as an annual
38 process of review.

39
40 Right now typically the nominations
41 period opens, so at the beginning of the fall meeting
42 cycle, and then it closes at the conclusion of the
43 winter meeting cycle. During that time we start with
44 general outreach at the Council meetings, you know,
45 talk during the Councils, and sometimes begin talking
46 local radio or the public about it. Then at the AFN
47 convention we have a table there, and we do outreach.
48 But then later in the meeting cycle is when we start
49 spending money on advertising and regional papers and
50 public radio and public television and things like

1 that. And that's currently how we do things.

2

3 And once the application period is
4 completed, and we have all the applications in, I
5 usually wait about a week or so, just to give mail --
6 to get all the applications in. There are interagency
7 nomination panels that convene to call people who have
8 applied to the Councils or have been nominated to the
9 Councils, to interview them and interview their
10 references. And then these panels meet and based on
11 guidance that they are given that the Federal
12 Subsistence Board has adopted, they make
13 recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board as to
14 the, you know, top ranked candidate, second ranked
15 candidate, and so on, in each category. One for
16 subsistence users, and the other for commercial/sport
17 users.

18

19 And then in the summer, after the
20 InterAgency Staff Committee has also made its
21 recommendations, the Federal Subsistence Board meets
22 and decides who they are going to forward to the
23 Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture for
24 appointment to the Councils. And that is pretty much
25 where the process leaves our control and then it goes
26 to Washington, D.C., and then they have their own
27 review process there.

28

29 Now, this whole process has developed
30 some problems over time. Most recently, and it's noted
31 in your draft annual report, for two years in a row now
32 we have had appointment letters coming out extremely
33 late. Typically, you know, we should be getting the
34 new appointment letters right after the terms expire.
35 Terms expire December the 2nd every year; we should be
36 getting appointment letters for all the Councils dated
37 December the 3rd, right away.

38

39 Last year we didn't receive our first
40 appointment letters until January 5th. This year it
41 was similarly -- it was mid January, and we only
42 received just a few of them. And we still to this date
43 do not have all of our appointment letters for all of
44 the Councils. We're about three shy.

45

46 And the other problem that has
47 developed over the years is confusion for those people
48 who are applying, because there is right now -- you
49 know, there's an active -- in the fall you'll have an
50 active application period going on, so people applying

1 for the Councils at the beginning of that nomination
2 cycle, when we still have not yet received the
3 appointments from the previous nominations cycle. So
4 there's overlap. There's overlap between new
5 applications and still waiting to hear from the
6 previous year's applications.

7
8 And there's also the other problem, you
9 know, that was identified, and that is that we do not
10 have appointed alternates to the Councils. How we do
11 things when we go through our process right now, we
12 identify people who could serve as alternates and could
13 be appointed quickly in the event that a Council member
14 leaves their position unexpectedly, but we don't
15 actually have somebody who receives a letter from the
16 Secretary of Interior saying, you have been appointed
17 as an alternate and telling them what their role is.

18
19 So all of these things over time have
20 led us to come up with a series of recommendations to
21 the Federal Subsistence Board on how we change our
22 nominations process. And I just wanted to let you know
23 that, and let you know that some of the issues that
24 this Council's already discussed are among some of
25 those proposed changes. And that those changes are
26 going to be reviewed by the Federal Subsistence Board
27 either at its April meeting or its summer meeting, and
28 then we'll go out to the Regional Advisory Councils for
29 their input, so you can provide additional comments and
30 suggestions on what we can do to improve the process.

31
32 And it will take a little while to
33 change it, because not only does it involve amending
34 your charters, but it also involves changing the
35 regulations that are set by the Secretaries, not the
36 Federal Subsistence Board regulations, but the ones
37 that are set by the Secretaries of the Interior and
38 Agriculture. But we do hope to move this process
39 forward, and then make some improvements.

40
41 The other thing I wanted to note and
42 bring to your attention now, these materials start on
43 Page 58, and you'll see on Page 60 there is a table
44 that shows the number of applications that we have
45 received by region. It shows the total number since
46 1995, but 1996 is when we started actually breaking it
47 down by region, the number of applications that we have
48 received. And you'll see that it's kind of up and down
49 over the years, but if you'll look over all at the
50 numbers, there's been a steady overall decline over the

1 years.

2

3

4 And part of that is, you know,
5 obviously a result of how we do outreach. You know,
6 obviously we're not reaching everybody we would like
7 to. We don't have good diversity in representation in
8 some regions. You know, there's a lot of villages that
9 don't have anybody from their community that serve on
10 the Councils. Some regions do it better than others.

11

12 But what we would like to put out to
13 the Council is, you know, suggestions from you on how
14 we can improve outreach and how we can use you as, you
15 know, ambassadors in your communities to help us to do
16 outreach and get the word out to more people who will
17 not only themselves apply for the Council, but maybe if
18 you or somebody back at your IRA or your tribal council
19 knows somebody who they think would be a good Council
20 member, they can nominate someone. That's a very
21 under-utilized part of this process. Last year out of
22 73 applications, we only had five nominations. So
23 there's a lot of potential out there to nominate someone
24 and ask them if they would like to serve on the
25 Council, and then completing that application and
26 submitting it rather than people themselves stepping up
27 to volunteer.

28

29 And that's all I have for my initial
30 presentation, and I'd be happy to answer any questions.

31

32

33 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay, Carl. Maybe
34 I'll start. I know the issue is the timing and
35 Congress got to approve, and we're good for every three
36 years, right? I feel like we should be able to be in
37 there five to six years. And if we have a full board,
38 if we have all 10, maybe we could alternate it somehow.
39 Alternate it. That we will always have a quorum if
40 they never renew and refill them somehow. At one time,
41 probably not be able to do it. What I'm trying to say
42 is, if they never renew it, like they did last time,
43 and with the others that are in place, maybe we could
44 try to set it up where we will always have a quorum,
45 and if they're going to renew it, we don't have to
46 word, and if they never get approved, they could sit
47 in. You know what I'm saying? And we don't have to do
48 it. And if the Congress finally -- the Secretaries do
49 finally approve it, they could sit in. I mean, they
50 could get back on.

51

1 Because this is too short, three
2 years. And so much -- I know a lot of people want to
3 get in, but to them it's a lot of problem, and the
4 problem I'm having is when we want to renew our
5 application, we have to fill out the same one, and the
6 questionnaires are pretty much the same. Maybe if you
7 want me to renew, to make it easier for me, if you
8 would send me the renewal form, send me a copy of my
9 old application, and I would approximately write the
10 same thing, but the dates will be different, and say
11 something a little bit -- that way, I could say, hey,
12 copy it last year. Change a word or two. Yeah to
13 maybe.

14
15 You understand what I'm saying? I just
16 wonder, because this delay of this meeting really -- we
17 were set for it, and everybody was set for it, and
18 everybody's not here due to one issue or the another.

19
20 Anyone else would like to say -- go
21 ahead, Percy.

22
23 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

24
25 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Oh, hold it, Percy.
26 Go ahead, Carl.

27
28 MR. JOHNSON: I just wanted to quickly
29 answer part of what you just said, and that is, the
30 Western Interior Council made a similar recommendation
31 to amend the charters to allow the appointments to
32 carry over until the new appointment is made. So we've
33 already actually -- I spoke with that -- spoke to Pat
34 Pourchot, the special assistant for Alaska affairs for
35 the Secretary of the Interior, and we've also spoken
36 with people in D.C. about that, so we are going to move
37 ahead with taking whatever steps are necessary to amend
38 all of the Council charters to allow for that. So if
39 there is a delay next time, then whoever is currently
40 seated will remain appointed until the new appointment
41 letter are issued.

42
43 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. And all that
44 you said, the thought of it, you said, they could carry
45 over and say, hey, you're carrying -- and then they'll
46 say why you want to carry over. We could tell them
47 it's so hard to get people to apply for the region, and
48 so hard to apply. That way we will always have someone
49 here. Thank you.

50

1 Go ahead, Percy.

2

3 MR. BALLOT: Yeah. For your
4 information, I just renewed a couple days ago, and all
5 I did was email and tell her to use my last
6 application.

7

8 So what I was wondering about is, we
9 can as individuals from another village nominate other
10 village that might want to be on this? Because I know
11 there's some guys up the river, Verne and I were
12 talking earlier that we don't have representation from
13 folks up the river. And I don't know if they don't
14 know about the seats that are open, but can we nominate
15 ourself?

16

17 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead, Carl.

18

19 MR. JOHNSON: Yes. The application
20 forms has a line on there for if there's somebody -- to
21 identify the person who is making the nomination, and
22 then the name of the nominee is where you would fill
23 in your normal name on the application. So, yes, an
24 individual can nominate someone else. A nomination
25 could come from the tribe. It could come from, you
26 know, the city council, it could come from anyone.

27

28 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you,
29 Carl.

30

31 Go ahead, Verne. Oh, Michael.

32

33 MR. KRAMER: I think when our seats
34 from the villages, I think that, like if Percy, you
35 know, reapplied, that he's allowed to have a piggyback
36 application for an alternate. That way, if Percy can't
37 make it, then Percy's alternate will be there and he'll
38 already be approved, so we'll always have quorum with
39 two people coming in every time.

40

41 You know, if Percy can't make it, then
42 his alternate comes in. But if Percy can make it, his
43 alternate stay behind. That way there's always -- that
44 way we'll always have quorum.

45

46 But, I mean, you know, leave it up to,
47 you know, the -- I mean, like Raymond and Verne and
48 Percy and Hannah to be able to select and then have a
49 piggyback application for their alternate that they
50 fill out, and then when they send it in, you know, that

1 when Percy gets approved, his alternate gets approved.
2 And I think that would be very, very helpful for us to
3 always have quorum.

4
5 That's all.

6
7 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you,
8 Michael.

9
10 Go ahead, Raymond.

11
12 MR. STONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
13 One thing that -- I have thought about this quite a
14 bit, so I know it's very difficult, you know, just like
15 Carl said. We have a heck of a time trying to find
16 somebody that wants to fill in an application and wants
17 to be a member of the RAC.

18
19 Now, my question is, Carl, if there
20 happened to be three of us in Kiana that applied for
21 the seats, there be three of us. Now, now do you
22 select the one that's -- I mean, how do you select the
23 individual when there's three applicants from one
24 village. Do you get all of them or just make a
25 selection.

26
27 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead, Carl.

28
29 MR. JOHNSON: That's a great question.
30 So as I mentioned, there are these regional nominations
31 panels, and they interview the applicants. They
32 interview the references. And then there are five
33 different criteria that the Federal Subsistence Board
34 established to essentially grade them on, is anywhere
35 from highly qualified to not qualified. And it's such
36 as knowledge of subsistence uses in the area, you know,
37 traditional, cultural uses, leadership, and
38 communication skills, and kind of assessing how
39 involved they are in their community. And then they
40 grade them and they rank them, you know, 1 through
41 however many there are applicants. And then those to
42 the InterAgency Staff Committee.

43
44 Now, the nominations panels themselves,
45 they don't decide that issue of what happens if we have
46 three good quality, you know, candidates from one
47 village. That's were the InterAgency Staff Committee
48 comes in, and they look at the applications for the
49 whole region. And one of things they look at is
50 whether or not there is a good geographical diversity.

1 So are there enough different villages with applicants,
2 or do we have too many in one, and we need to pick
3 somebody from another part of the region in order to
4 make suer that there's a good representation through
5 the region.

6

7 So that's kind of how they decide it.
8 They first look at their overall qualifications, and
9 then they look at, well, whether or not there are other
10 well-qualified people from other parts of the region.
11 And we might pick one of those three from Kiana and
12 then, you know, people from other parts of the region.

13

14 MR. STONEY: Okay. My final question,
15 Mr. Chairman, is now you said that these members could
16 be nominated by the tribes. Now, if somebody was
17 nominated for the seat, what do he have to do that
18 application work, all the paperwork, or just send the
19 name in, if they were nominated by the tribal
20 government. How do you work that one out.

21

22 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Carl.

23

24 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25

26 That's a good point. And what that
27 brings out is the need to actually coordinate and
28 consult with the person you're nominating, because we
29 have in the past had people who were nominated, and I
30 suspect they were nominated without their knowledge,
31 because they get a call out of the blue from somebody
32 on the interagency nominations panel, and they said,
33 you've been nominated to serve on the Council, and they
34 say, oh, I decline, I don't want to serve on the
35 Council.

36

37 So one good thing is to confirm with
38 the person, you know, we'd like to nominate you to this
39 Council, and then work with them to get the information
40 from them necessary to complete the application, to get
41 their name, address, phone number and all that, and a
42 little bit of information about the information in
43 those different questions on the application. And it
44 doesn't have to be very detailed, because that's where
45 the interview comes in, because, you know, some people
46 fill out applications, you know, like their submitting
47 an analysis, you know, research report or something.
48 They're very detailed and thorough. And other people
49 are very basic. And what really matters is we just get
50 the basic information on the application, and the more

1 detailed information can come from the interview
2 process.

3

4 MR. STONEY: Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Go ahead,
7 Verne.

8

9 MR. CLEVELAND: Yes. I'm glad it's
10 coming up, because I was alternate for Attamuk last
11 year for the Federal Subsistence Board, and it came in
12 like two days. And I didn't know anything about what's
13 going on. No agenda, nothing. I went anyway to cover
14 for Attamuk. He was in a different meeting. And no
15 per diem, no nothing. And I'm glad this is being
16 brought up to have alternate set up. If he don't make
17 it, his alternate slide right in with the knowledge of
18 knowing what's going on. With today's technology, it
19 should be just like press the button, and it's right
20 there in the computer, you know. It should be all set
21 up as is. The application should be there, too, just
22 press a couple buttons and you're in instead of doing
23 paper, paper, paper and just, you know, you put it into
24 a computer, it's all set. And that should be good for
25 another villages, like all the IRAs, they have
26 computers. That should be all in computer. If you put
27 it in paper, they're not going to get it, but people --
28 the computer, and say, whoa, you know, and look at it,
29 and there it is; it'll pop up. Because people don't go
30 through papers, looking at papers, you know.

31

32 I brought this up in Noorvik during the
33 IRA council meeting, that there's paperwork for RAC.
34 Someone applied but they didn't get selected, so I'm
35 glad you're bringing it up.

36

37 And that alternate thing should be --
38 we should work on that one.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Verne.

43

44 Go ahead, Hannah.

45

46 MS. LOON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

47

48 Carl, what are some of the obstacles
49 for a person to be accepted by the agency to serve on
50 the RAC committee, like maybe background checks or bank

1 or misdemeanor or what. What criteria? I know you
2 have to have -- be a user, subsistence user, and you
3 have to do the traditional and cultural, and
4 understanding of both Federal and State guidelines.
5 Laws.

6

7 Thank you.

8

9 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead, Carl.

10

11 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

12

13 And a very good question. Thank you,

14 Hannah.

15

16 There are several different areas where
17 applications typically fall short. One, those five
18 criteria that the Federal Subsistence Board set up.
19 They're kind of broad-ranged, from the knowledge of the
20 knowledge of the traditional practices to experience in
21 management groups like the AC or the RAC. And so some
22 people do really well in the knowledge part, but they
23 haven't really been very involved in their community
24 and being involved in these different types of
25 organizations. So that's one area where they will
26 score low compared to other applicants. And therefore
27 as a result end up not being forwarded as a nominee.

28

29 The other part you identified, and that
30 is what happens in Washington, D.C. We as part of our
31 process here in Alaska, we do not look at criminal
32 background or history of applicants. We evaluate them
33 purely on their knowledge and their skills as
34 subsistence users or, in the case of commercial/sport
35 users. Washington, D.C. does a complete background
36 check on individuals, which also sometimes involves
37 calling them to ask questions about things that have
38 shown up in their background check. And a lot of times
39 -- in D.C. they see things differently as to what
40 matters in a background check. So we, for example,
41 would not look at somebody getting a citation for an
42 expired boat registration, and be concerned about that.
43 So we a lot of times have to help educate the
44 individuals in D.C. who are making these decisions, to
45 convince them that, no, these are not issues that are
46 really of concern for somebody to serve on the Regional
47 Advisory Council.

48

49 But quite a few times people are not
50 cleared who the Federal Subsistence Board has

1 recommended to serve on a Council, they are not cleared
2 by D.C. specifically because of what shows up in a
3 background check.

4

5 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Carl.

6

7 Anyone else. Go ahead, Percy.

8

9 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. We're
10 here because we want to be here. I think I've been
11 around as long as you probably, and Raymond. For 15
12 years. I think I missed one meeting, but I used
13 teleconference in those 15 years. But I don't know if
14 I really -- if my commitment to be here and having an
15 alternate, make a big thing. I would respect the
16 Council's wishes, but I think if we're going to be
17 here, because we want to be here. And I would just
18 leave it as it is.

19

20 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, I concur with
21 Percy. We are here, because we want to be here. And
22 it's very important that we are well represented for
23 our resources out there.

24

25 Anyone else.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Carl, so right
30 now we are back close to being full Board, right,
31 except for the commercial fisheries, or something like
32 that.

33

34 MR. JOHNSON: Well, Mr. Chair, you
35 currently do have all 10 seats on this Council
36 appointed.

37

38 What you're referring to is each of the
39 charters identifies a goal of having 70 percent of the
40 Council representing subsistence users and the other 30
41 percent representing commercial/sport users. But as is
42 often the case, certain regions, we don't get very
43 many, if any, commercial/ sport applicants, whereas in
44 others we'll get quite a few, you know. Southeast and
45 Southcentral have quite a few commercial/ sport
46 applicants, but not in Y-K Delta or North Slope or here
47 So it just depends on what we have. And we always
48 strive for that objective, but we can't do it if we
49 don't have the applicants.

50

1 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. Anything
2 else, Carl on this subject here.
3
4 MR. JOHNSON: No. Thank you, Mr.
5 Chair. I just look forward to being able to present to
6 the Council this fall the full recommendations on how
7 to revise our nominations and appointment process.
8
9 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. One last one.
10 Who within this year need to reapply out of this Board
11 here? That way they could know well ahead of time, and
12 they won't say you're too late. So one of us or who?
13
14 MR. JOHNSON: Well, if you go in your
15 roster, you'll see three people identified -- four --
16 no, three who have identified as their terms expiring
17 this year. And that would be Percy, Verne, and Walter.
18 And we've already received -- I don't have the document
19 with me which identifies everybody who has submitted
20 their applications, but I know Percy -- wait. Raymond,
21 you -- wait a second, who do we have here?
22
23 MR. STONEY: No, I just got appointed.
24
25 MR. JOHNSON: You just got appointed,
26 so, right, Percy, I think I received your, as you
27 mentioned, you did the email to confirm. Okay.
28
29
30 MR. BALLOT: For the record, Austin
31 Swan is from Kivalina, not Kiana.
32
33 MR. JOHNSON: Right. I've made a note
34 of that on my copy of the roster.
35
36 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. And, Carl, I'm
37 not going to try to be bossy, but it would be nice to
38 see, for the others, who's the Chair, secretary, Co-
39 Chair and stuff like that, since you have this here.
40 That way the outside could see, you know, what's going
41 on.
42
43 MR. JOHNSON: I'll make a note of that.
44
45 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Yeah.
46
47 Go ahead, Verne.
48
49 MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah. And I also did
50 mine with online like Percy's. So it should be in

1 there.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Did you hear
4 why Austin didn't call in or anything like that? Did
5 you hear anything about Austin? That's the one from
6 Kivalina.

7

8 MR. JOHNSON: I don't know for sure why
9 they weren't able to -- I know that Melinda as in
10 communication with them, and that there was a reason.
11 I just don't know what it is. Mr. Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you. I
14 was just wondering. Okay. Thank you.

15

16 Anything else on this topic here.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. If not, before
21 we move on, I think we need to acknowledge our
22 youngster that's been here yesterday and today, I was
23 going to do it earlier, and I'm having so many, you'll
24 get there eventually, senior moments, Steven Hyatt, our
25 youngster, for being here. Thank you for coming,
26 Steve. And I applaud you for being here. Thank you.

27

28 Okay. And now we're down to agency
29 report. And the first one is AIDEA. Maryellen
30 Tuttell. Oh, we did that yesterday. Oh, yeah, that
31 was here.

32

33 MR. JOHNSON: Yep, you did.

34

35 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Now we're down to OSM
36 then. Jack.

37

38 MR. JOHNSON: And that will be Jeff
39 Brooks, Mr. Chair.

40

41 MR. BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

42

43 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead, Jeff.

44

45 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: All right. For the
46 Office of Subsistence Management, our main issue at the
47 staffing. And I'm just going to give you a very short
48 briefing on staffing, but we have been operating at one
49 third down on our normal Staff numbers. And we're
50 trying our very best to still be an effective Staff

1 that serves the Regional Advisory Councils. But if any
2 balls have been dropped, we apologize for that, and we
3 assure you that we are in the process of filling as
4 many of these vacant jobs as we can so that we can be a
5 much more effective Staff to the Regional Advisory
6 Councils.

7

8 Having said that, we are down a number
9 of positions, including an outreach coordinator, the
10 deputy regional director, who is the second chief in
11 charge under Mr. ene Peltola, Jr. who is the new lead
12 for Office of Subsistence Management. So if you want
13 to talk to the boss of OSM, call Mr. Peltola.

14

15 We are also looking to hire a
16 secretary. We actually did I believe fill the outreach
17 person's position, but she has not started yet.

18

19 We are going to be down a wildlife
20 division chief. Currently there's somebody stepping in
21 to take over, but it's one of the regular Staff members
22 who also has regular Staff member duties.

23

24 The fisheries division chief needs to
25 be filled. Also we're hoping to fill an anthropologist
26 position. And if you need to talk to someone in
27 fisheries, the current lead, who is also in an acting
28 capacity in addition to his other duties, is Mr. George
29 Pappas.

30

31 And just briefly, the director of OSM,
32 Gene Peltola, Jr., has reorganized, not very
33 substantially, but he has made some changes to our
34 organizational chart that are not yet approved by the
35 Fish and Wildlife Service director in Alaska. So I'm
36 not at liberty to talk about those changes, but the
37 boss is in the process of making it a more effective
38 Staff.

39

40 And that's all I have for you on the
41 Office of Subsistence Management, unless you have
42 questions.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: I just -- the only
45 thing I worry about is the anthropologist. We need to
46 have one on hand if we need to have to check on a thing
47 and need a lot of work, and that anthropologist is
48 important, my personal, to Staff it from past
49 experience, so I would like to see that filled, because
50 we need to have one on hand if we have anything that

1 need to be done, anthropology, with a lot more, you
2 know.

3

4 Yeah, go ahead, Carl.

5

6 MR. BROOKS: All right. Thank you, Mr.
7 Chair. Again my name is Jeff Brooks.

8

9 And I am a social scientists who was
10 redirected, I was reassigned to OSM about a year ago.
11 And one of my many assignments is to work with your
12 Council, the Northwest Arctic Regional Advisory
13 Council. I'm also working with North Slope, Seward
14 Peninsula and Southcentral. And I think for fisheries
15 I'm with the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council,
16 too.

17

18 And in addition to myself, of course,
19 Pippa Kenner has been on Staff for many years. She's
20 also an anthropologist. And we have two other
21 anthropologists on Staff right now who have other
22 responsibilities, and cannot provide as much Staff
23 assistance to the Regional Advisory Councils as Pippa
24 and myself. But this is all going to be worked out in
25 the reorganization.

26

27 But the waiver I believe to hire
28 another anthropologist Staff person has been sent to
29 Washington. Understand that we're in a hiring freeze,
30 and in order to fill these positions, they had to get
31 permission all the way from D.C.

32

33 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you,
34 Jeff.

35

36 Go ahead, Carl.

37

38 MR. JOHNSON: Just to add to that, Mr.
39 Chair. That waiver has actually been approved, and
40 we've been given authorization to move forward with the
41 hiring process for that. It's a cultural
42 anthropologist/social scientist position at OSM.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.
45 Anyone else from the Board.

46

47 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, it's good to hear
48 that. I know there's concern from the North Slope.

49

50 But I wanted to say give our best

1 regards to Gene. He started his work way up here hears
2 ago. And he used to give reports to us, too.

3

4 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Percy.

5

6 MR. BROOKS: Mr. Chair.

7

8 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yes, do ahead.

9

10 MR. BROOKS: Mr. Ballot, I will
11 personally tell him that you said that, because he
12 won't have time to read the transcripts.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: I guess that's a
15 privilege of being a supervisor. Okay. Thank you.

16

17 Now we're down to the National Park
18 Service, Arctic National Park, updates. Marcy.

19

20 MS. OKADA: Yes. Mr. Chair. I passed
21 on through Melinda Burke three handouts which I'll be
22 going over this after, and was just wondering if they
23 were distributed.

24

25 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: You break up. Can
26 you restate that, please.

27

28 MS. OKADA: Early on I passed on three
29 documents to Melinda Burke, and was wondering if they
30 were in your supplemental packet.

31

32 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead, Carl.

33

34 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. There
35 are some Park Service supplemental materials in your
36 blue folder.

37

38 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.
39 Anyone else have questions for Marcy from the Board
40 here.

41

42 Yeah, go ahead, Marcy.

43

44 MS. OKADA: I'll quickly go over these
45 documents.

46

47 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead.

48

49 MS. OKADA: Okay. Just for the record,
50 my name is Marcy Okada. I'm the subsistence program

1 manager for Gates of the Arctic National Park and
2 Preserve.

3

4 As most of you already know, the
5 Western Arctic Caribou Herd is continuing to decline
6 and the 2013 census results are due out this spring
7 Adult cow mortality has been higher than expected, and
8 high human harvest of cows could deepen this decline.
9 The very cold spring observed in 2013 did not delay the
10 spring migration substantially. And there's contact
11 information for our caribou biologist listed here.

12

13 The Gates of the Arctic National Park
14 Subsistence Resource Commission held a meeting on
15 November 5th and 6th, 2013 in Fairbanks. SRC members
16 provided input on Federal wildlife regulatory proposals
17 and Board of Game wildlife proposals, as well as the
18 BLM Central Yukon management plan. There was ample
19 discussion on the Ambler Mining District access
20 project, and the SRC members shared their concerns
21 about potential negative impacts to subsistence
22 resources. National Park Service Staff provided
23 natural and cultural resource updates and the latest
24 information on the NPS Native affairs program was also
25 shared.

26

27 Lastly, Gates of the Arctic National
28 ark and Preserve recently hired Maria Berger as our new
29 education specialist . Prior to National Park Service,
30 Maria worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in
31 Barrow as their environmental education specialist.

32

33 Any questions on this particular
34 handout.

35

36 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: No. Well explained.
37 Thank you.

38

39 Any questions from the Board members.

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 MS. OKADA: Okay. And there's a second
44 handout in color, or it should be in color, it's the
45 Arctic Network Newsletter. And the Arctic Network
46 Inventory and Monitoring Program is an offshoot of the
47 National Park Service, and they do research in Bering
48 Land Bridge National Preserve, Cape Krusenstern
49 National Monument, Gates of the Arctic National Park
50 and Preserve, Kobuk Valley National Park, and Noatak

1 National Preserve.

2

3 And I'm hoping you guys have this
4 handout, but I'll just quickly go over it.

5

6 Last summer the Arctic Network
7 concluded its fifth year of breeding population surveys
8 and contaminants sampling for yellow-billed loons on
9 the Seward Peninsula in the Bering Land Bridge National
10 Preserve. And they were assisted by U.S. Fish and
11 Wildlife Service. Results from the aerial surveys and
12 contaminants sampling will be considered with data from
13 other breeding populations, occurring mostly in the
14 National Petroleum Reserve, in the upcoming decision to
15 list the Yellow-billed loon under the Endangered
16 Species Act.

17

18 Additionally the long winter and very
19 cold May are considered contributing factors to low
20 lamb productivity for Dall's sheep across the State,
21 and high winter mortality of adult ewes and yearlings
22 in the Itkillik. We expect, and local observations
23 indicate, similar trends in the Baird and DeLong
24 Mountains and Noatak National Preserve. Weather
25 postponed the Baird Mountain survey in 2013, but the
26 2011 estimate already showed 30 percent fewer sheep
27 there compared with 2009. Prior to 2013, surveys
28 conducted with Arctic Network and Central Arctic
29 Network parks showed Dall's sheep numbered had
30 recovered from the large-scale decline from the 1990s.
31 The Network plans to survey the Itkillik subarea and
32 Noatak National Preserve in 2014.

33

34 And then I think lastly, most of you
35 guys are aware there is a report out showing that
36 harvest of large, mature male muskoxen appears to
37 affect Alaska's muskox populations. A recent
38 publication by Park Service and ADF&G showed that
39 mature bull to adult cow ratios declined 4 to 12
40 percent a year, and short-yearling to adult cow ratios,
41 or recruitment of young into the population decline 8
42 to 9 percent per year in most heavily harvested areas
43 from 2002 to 2012. And as you know, this population
44 on the Seward Peninsula and Cape Thompson area are
45 closely being researched and monitored.

46

47 And I would like to quickly just
48 provide an update on the Amber Mining District access
49 road just to supplement what Maryellen Tuttell had
50 shared yesterday.

1 In 2013 Park Service issued research
2 permits for Tate-sponsored research activities in the
3 Park and Preserve related to resources which may impact
4 or be impacted by a road. the research projects are
5 centered in the southern portion of Gates, and include
6 a snow survey, fisheries surveys, wetlands and wetland
7 vegetation survey, hydrologic and hydraulic surveys of
8 the Kobuk and the Reed Rivers, and cultural resource
9 reconnaissance surveys.

10

11 A National Park Service team of ark and
12 regional staff was formed in May 2013 to address
13 National Park Service responsibilities in responding to
14 a right-of-way application.

15

16 The National Park Service team is also
17 working with the Federal Highway Administration, which
18 is an agent for the Secretary of Transportation.

19

20 Tribal consultation was initiated in
21 June 2013, and will continue with each of our Gates of
22 the Arctic-affiliated tribes throughout this process.

23

24 And that's all I have to share.

25

26 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. You
27 mentioned about these mature bulls. You were in the
28 last meeting. I always stated that like when I go up
29 the Noatak River and just below Kelly and above Kelly,
30 we're seeing a lot of bulls with few females. So they
31 might dispersing and starting their own little group
32 here, because, to mention again, at my camp at Aggie,
33 about four years ago there was only about a few
34 muskoxen. Now there are 16. Last count we had. It
35 was small. It was just only bulls to start with, and
36 then they get a female. Now the last time we had a
37 count, it was 16, and when they do go their own way,
38 when we check with snowmachine when we're not really
39 checking on them, when we're snowmachining, we will see
40 they will just about cut in half and the others walk
41 back and forth. But when they group together, I
42 counted 16. My boy at different time, he say he
43 counted 16. So they might be dispersing and trying to
44 start their own little group. I don't know. It could
45 be happening. But I've seen that up the Noatak River,
46 you know. And I'll tell you that. And they're in
47 Aggie. further up across upriver. So this is for your
48 information.

49

50 Thank you.

1 MS. OKADA: Thank you for sharing that
2 observation.
3
4 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Anyone else from the
5 Board for Marcy.
6 Go ahead, Mike.
7
8 MR. KRAMER: Yeah. I was wondering if
9 you guys had any commercial services activities up in
10 the parks this year, and how many applicants, and then
11 what was taken up in the parks.
12
13 MS. OKADA: We actually only have one
14 current permit for commercial services, and that's for
15 Itkillik, northeastern corner of Gates of the Arctic.
16 I guess there used to be a permit for the Kobuk, what
17 we call the Kobuk boot of Gates of the Arctic, but that
18 permit is no longer active. Other than that, there is
19 no other permit, commercial use operator for Gates of
20 the Arctic.
21
22 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Mike. You
23 can follow up.
24
25 MR. KRAMER: Yeah, I just wanted to
26 check on that. I hold the commercial services seat,
27 and I usually like to, you know, get reports as to
28 who's up there and how many are up here and what have
29 they taken. Okay. So you guys just had one permit?
30
31 MS. OKADA: Yeah, we just have one
32 active permit for the northeastern corner of Gates.
33
34 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.
35
36 Anyone else here from the Board. Go
37 ahead, Percy.
38
39 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, the muskox
40 populations that are -- were starting out about bulls
41 only and not cows, that's a recommendation that we're
42 going through. How often are these -- is this what we
43 get from Nome, this information here.
44
45 MS. OKADA: This information is for the
46 Seward Peninsula, and then Cape Thompson, and then
47 northeastern area, which would be just off of Kaktovik,
48 so more the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge area.
49
50 MR. BALLOT: Okay. And so now they're

1 calling.....

2

3 MS. OKADA: (Indiscernible)

4

5 MR. BALLOT: When they have herd, they
6 call them harem?

7

8 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair. Ken Adkisson
9 with the National Park Service.

10

11 I didn't specifically ask to get on the
12 agenda this time since I was telephoning in, but it
13 wouldn't take me very long. With the Council's
14 permission, I could just tack on to Marcy's
15 presentation. I could give you a quick update on some
16 of the Western Arctic National Parkland activities.

17

18 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Ken. Make
19 it brief. Thank you.

20

21 MR. ADKISSON: Okay. Let me just start
22 with staffing for WARE, which as indicated is actually
23 the three parks up in the Kotzebue area, plus Bering
24 Land Bridge.

25

26 We've lost our lead biologist Brad
27 Schultz who transferred out to go to U.S. Fish and
28 Wildlife Service, Office of Migratory Birds. We
29 haven't filled in behind that position yet, and I'm not
30 quite sure when we're going to do that. The Park is
31 going to be having some staffing discussions coming up
32 shortly, and I'm sure that the wildlife biologist
33 position will be one of the key topics of discussion.
34 Currently we have one wildlife biologist on Staff, and
35 that's Marcy Johnson based there in Kotzebue, and I
36 would encourage you to take any of your wildlife
37 questions to her. That's pretty much it for staffing
38 right now.

39

40 Let me just run through some of the
41 projects that we have been involved in this year.

42

43 We tried to do an interagency brown
44 bear survey on the Seward Peninsula in a large
45 north/south swath from the coast up by Espenberg and
46 Shishmaref all the way down through to Nome. That got
47 weathered out, and we weren't able to get a reliable
48 estimate of the bear population. We haven't quit
49 though, and we're going to maybe try again perhaps this
50 year or next year, depending upon funding and some

1 other availability issues.

2

3 Weather has been a real hassle this
4 year in doing projects, dealing with lack of snow cover
5 and extremely poor visibility on the Seward Peninsula
6 this spring. We had to cancel the major interagency
7 muskox population estimate survey, and composition work
8 for 2013, so that was a real blow to us as I indicated
9 in discussions on the muskoxen proposal. So we're
10 going into this 2014 year without new data. So it
11 remains to be seen whether we'll be doing that survey
12 in 2015 or hold off until 2016 on the regular cycle.

13

14 We had a little better luck with moose,
15 and we participated in an interagency moose population
16 estimate surveys on the northern Seward Peninsula in
17 Game Management Unit 22D and E. We're about to
18 undertake an interagency moose survey in the upper
19 Kobuk River area, and that will be kicking off here in
20 early April.

21

22 We had better luck with muskoxen on the
23 Camp Thompson population, and Park Service and ADF&G
24 was able to complete a survey, population estimate
25 survey for the core area of the Cape Thompson
26 population. It's really too early to say much about the
27 results of that as the data is still being analyzed and
28 worked through by some of the biometricians and things.
29 So I would hesitate to say. If the results are not
30 favorable, I think you can probably expect the Park
31 Service will probably come back with some perhaps
32 recommendations for emergency actions based on
33 conservation for that. If the results are more
34 favorable, we'll probably watch it for another year or
35 two. But we do have some real concerns about long-term
36 conservation viability of some of these muskoxen.

37

38 Some of you who may have followed the
39 Federal program over the years, you may recall that
40 when the muskoxen population crashed on the North
41 Slope, it was very, very quickly, and within the Arctic
42 National Wildlife, it's now been well over 10 years
43 since they've had an open season hunt up there. So,
44 you know, we don't want to see that happening with the
45 Cape Thompson population and the Seward Peninsula
46 population.

47

48 As Marcy indicated, we had a couple
49 years of bad weather on sheep, but we hope to be
50 getting a sheep survey done this year. While there's

1 some indications of declines, we have no real current
2 data for the western Bairds, and harvest has been
3 generally low under the Federal program. For example,
4 this year, for the 2013/14 hunt year, within the DeLong
5 Mountains area there's a Federal quota of eight sheep,
6 five of which are ram -- could be rams, three ewes.
7 We've had five rams taken in that hunt, and closed the
8 ram hunt in the DeLongs early. There's still three
9 ewes that could be harvested out of that population.

10

11 In the Bairds there's an allowable
12 harvest of 21 sheep of which 15 of those could be rams,
13 six could be ewes. To date we've had three rams
14 harvested out of the Baird population, so we don't
15 anticipate right now making any adjustments to harvest
16 quotas and things, but, you know, be advised though
17 that, you know, in addition to past -- you know, the 30
18 percent decline that Marcy mentioned between the last
19 time we had two surveys. We've also been getting a lot
20 of anecdotal information from pilots and others
21 commenting on seeing fewer sheep and things, so, you
22 know, we may be headed towards some sheep problems, and
23 like I said, we're not recommending any major changes
24 in harvest now, but I think we're going to be very
25 eager to see the results of this year's coming survey.
26 And depending upon how that turns out, have to make
27 some recommendations, so, you know, please feel free to
28 share any comments or thoughts or observations you have
29 on he sheep population with us, because you'll be
30 involved in any regulatory changes coming down the
31 pike.

32

33 I think that's basically about it for
34 WARE, except the issue of the transporters and the
35 numbers. I don't have any current data for this last
36 fall's hunt. The transporters should have turned that
37 information in, and it's being analyzed. And for those
38 of you who attended some of our SRC meetings and
39 things, you may be aware that we've got a study
40 undergoing on -- that's currently going on related to
41 transporter activities. And we're constructing a
42 database of transporter and client activity. And
43 periodically I think Frank has mentioned those to you,
44 Superintendent Hayes. And we'll be updating you on
45 that as we continue with that project.

46

47 My recollection of the whole thing is
48 though that, and then this is just my impression from
49 what little data I've seen, is that the number of
50 operators has stayed about the same, give or take maybe

1 one, and that's in the neighborhood of five operators,
2 but it does strike me that the client numbers are going
3 up again over the last several years. So that's
4 something I think we'd probably want to watch.

5
6 That's all I've got.

7
8 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Ken. So,
9 Marcy, are you done?

10
11 MS. OKADA: Yes, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

12
13 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thanks for
14 that report.

15
16 We will keep moving on. We'll got to
17 USFWS. Waiting patiently. Go ahead, Lee Anne. You
18 have the floor.

19
20 MS. MORAN: All right. Thank you, Mr.
21 Chairman. This is Tina Moran. I'm the deputy manager
22 of the Selawik Refuge.

23
24 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Tina.

25
26 MS. MORAN: That's okay. I'm honored
27 to be named that, but I can't fill her shoes.

28
29 I'm just going to start off real quick
30 on our staffing issues. I touched upon that earlier.
31 We lost four positions last year. Our two biologists
32 left in the fall, our pilot left last summer, and, of
33 course, Lee Anne Ayers, our Refuge manager, retired
34 this winter. So we are, like I said, in the process of
35 hiring a fish biologist that will replace one of our
36 wildlife biologist positions. And our new Refuge
37 manager, Sean Bayless, should be up here sometime in
38 May. We're looking at probably mid to late May for his
39 arrival. And hopefully, like I said, in the next year
40 or so we'll be able to hire another wildlife biologist.

41
42 And on the handout Brittany just handed
43 out to you, that's our transporter reports. We had
44 last year -- in 2013 we had one guide and he renewed
45 his permit, so he'll be a guide -- that's Joe Schuster,
46 Sportsman's Air Service, so he'll be the guide for
47 another four years, and then we go through the process
48 of selecting another guide or we go through the guide
49 selection process again.

50

1 And in 2013 we had five transporters
2 that had special use permits on the Refuge. Two of
3 them actually were active on the Refuge. So even
4 though five had permits, only two transported hunters
5 on the Refuge.

6
7 And as you can see, from last year, you
8 can see that the caribou were really late getting to
9 the refuge, so actually zero caribou were taken from
10 hunters that were transported or guided on the Refuge.
11 And there are 22 moose that were taken. And then I
12 think one wolf and one bear. So the numbers have been
13 fairly consistent. You can see when the caribou are
14 late in the last four years.

15
16 So if there's any questions on that, I
17 can sure take those, but that's been our numbers for
18 the past four years.

19
20 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

21
22 Go ahead, Verne.

23
24 MR. CLEVELAND: What kind of bear,
25 black or brown?

26
27 MS. MORAN: I think it was black bear.

28
29 MR. CLEVELAND: Thank you.

30
31 MS. MORAN: Yeah. And then I think
32 that was up in the upper Selawik.

33
34 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

35
36 Go ahead, Percy.

37
38 MR. BALLOT: So the Tupuk (ph), Kauk
39 River is way up there in the Wildlife Refuge. I know
40 we had moose population concerns on Kauk River itself,
41 going up into the -- how is that now?

42
43 MS. MORAN: I'm not real sure. We
44 haven't done -- I'm not sure when the last time we did
45 a moose survey down there. And these numbers aren't
46 from that area. Most of the areas that they're
47 dropping off hunters are in the Upper Selawik and on
48 the Tag River. It's pretty limited on where the planes
49 can land on the Refuge. There's spot up in the
50 Warings, and then the Upper Selawik, and the Tag River.

1 It's depending on the gravel bars, if they're
2 accessible by airplane. I think we have one floatplane
3 operator that can get into lakes.

4
5 Any other questions on the
6 transporters.

7
8 MR. BALLOT: And that guy we were
9 having trouble with years ago, he's not on the list, is
10 he?

11
12 MS. MORAN: No. No. Yeah, we've had a
13 lot less permit applications this year, and we haven't
14 had a transporter that's been a high end, dropping off
15 a lot of hunters. It's been pretty consistently kind
16 of at a good number, not like the early 2000s where we
17 had over 150 hunters dropped off on the Refuge. It's
18 dropped quite a bit since then.

19
20 And then the only other thing I was
21 going to mention, like I said, our biology program is
22 kind of at the minimum at the moment with no biologists
23 on staff, but hopefully that will change here soon.
24 But as we mentioned earlier, we're in partnership with
25 the Fish and Wildlife office for the fisheries project
26 in the upper Selawik, and hope to continue that. And
27 that's also partnered with the Native Village of
28 Selawik.

29
30 And then Fish and Game has been
31 assisting us with our snow survey that we're hoping to
32 continue with all the snow markers to look at caribou
33 habitat in the winter.

34
35 And we also hope to continue our water
36 quality project in Selawik River. This will be the
37 fourth year of that project. We're just hoping to hire
38 a grad students from Michigan Tech to complete that
39 work.

40
41 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

42
43 Any questions. Go ahead, Verne.

44
45 MR. CLEVELAND: And these
46 transporter/guides are with planes, no boats?

47
48 MS. MORAN: No, we do not -- we have
49 not had any boat transporter applications for a permit.
50

1 MR. CLEVELAND: There can be some,
2 right?
3
4 MS. MORAN: There can be, yeah. They
5 can apply for a transporter permit for using boats.
6 And we've had folks ask about them, them, but we
7 haven't had an application for them, yet. But they
8 sure can. If they're a commercial, if they're going to
9 be transporting people out for money, they need to go
10 through the application process.
11
12 MR. CLEVELAND: Thank you.
13
14 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Rene.
15
16 Anyone else. Go ahead, Hannah.
17
18 MS. LOON: I just wanted to say, you
19 know, I live in Selawik. I wanted to say thank you to
20 Tina, and Brittany, and Susan, and Lee Anne. All these
21 years, and -- I've forgotten your name.
22
23 MS. DAGGETT: Carmen.
24
25 MS. LOON: Carmen. Last fall we had
26 science camp in Selawik, and everybody was involved,
27 and thank you very much for your funding and support,
28 and we learn a lot from those every year. And thank
29 you to Brittany for always coming into Selawik and
30 bring out kids to go berrypicking, and bird watching,
31 and maybe spring camp, and lots of activities going on
32 around with Selawik School. Thank you very much all of
33 you from the bottom of the elders' hearts from Selawik.
34 Thank you.
35
36 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Hannah.
37
38 Anyone else.
39
40 (No comments)
41
42 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you for that
43 report.
44
45 MS. MORAN: Okay. And thank you,
46 Hannah. I appreciate it, and you definitely were the
47 impetus of that culture camp, and we're hoping to
48 continue that again this year. And hopefully these
49 guys will be out at the villages helping out with some
50 of the other kids' programs as well. Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. We'll go to
2 the BLM update report. Dave Parker on radioland.

3
4 MR. PARKER: Yeah. This is Dave Parker
5 with BLM in Fairbanks. Can you hear me all right.

6
7 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Loud and clear.

8
9 MR. PARKER: Okay. Mr. Chair. Thank
10 you.

11
12 I have given a report also to Melinda
13 last week. Hopefully you've got a copy of that. Just
14 a two-page summary of the BLM activities out in your
15 area. What I want to do is just run through that and
16 touch on the high points, and if you have any question,
17 I'll try to answer them.

18
19 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead. They're
20 being handed out. Go ahead.

21
22 MR. PARKER: Okay. We've got the
23 planning -- our planning coordinator is Jeanie Cole.
24 Of course, the Central Yukon Field Office here, we're
25 redoing a resource management plan for the Central
26 Yukon planning area, about 16 million acres. Most of
27 it's off the Dalton Highway. Some of it includes the
28 Upper Kobuk and Upper Selawik, but that's about the
29 only areas that will be affected for you folks in this
30 land use plan.

31
32 But we've gone through scoping on the
33 various villages in the wintertime here. A scoping
34 report is being put together. We're reviewing all the
35 public comments. And we'll just keep updating you
36 folks on what the progress is on that plan.

37
38 And that's really all I want to say
39 about that.

40
41 From the recreation department here,
42 Kelly Egger is our contact with that.

43
44 BLM had a total of seven hunting guides
45 permitted in Guide Use Area 23-06. These guides were
46 in the Squirrel River. Three guides reported use on the
47 lands with a total of 32 clients. The species taken,
48 there were zero caribou, six moose, four grizzly, and
49 one wolf. We have had no requests for new permits for
50 guides in the area. Also there are two guides we

1 permit for the Guide Use Area 23-01, which I believe is
2 the Wulik and Kivalina drainages.

3
4 Since 2009 all the air transporters
5 taking clients to BLM-managed lands in the Squirrel
6 River special recreation management area, are required
7 to have a BLM permit. We issued five permits to
8 transporters in 2013. One permittee reported no use
9 during the fall hunting season. The other four
10 permittees reported a combined total of 40 clients
11 compared to 28 last year. The 40 were transported for
12 hunting, and there were an additional 12 clients for
13 backcountry recreational activities. So about a
14 quarter of the folks going out there were going out for
15 a float trip kind of thing, not hunting.

16
17 All the transporters have resubmitted
18 their permits for 2014. So that's what the report is
19 for the recreation.

20
21 We look at the wildlife and ecology
22 group here, Jennifer McMillan is our ecologist and Erin
23 Julianus is our wildlife biologist. All of the BLM
24 Western Arctic Caribou Herd winter habitat long-term
25 monitoring transects in the Nulato Hills and eastern
26 Seward Peninsula have been revisited as of July of last
27 year. The data analysis and reporting on detectable
28 changes in the habitat are planned for 2014, and I know
29 that Erin and Jen are working on that report right now.
30 So that should be done soon.

31
32 BLM continues work on the Western
33 Arctic Caribou Herd winter range habitat management
34 plan. Public and interagency scoping has been
35 completed, and BLM is working on the conceptual
36 development for the plan.

37
38 Erin participated last year in the
39 caribou tagging project at Onion Portage, and she
40 really learned a lot and enjoyed that, going out there.

41
42 BLM continues to work on the Squirrel
43 River management plan, special recreation management
44 plan. The plan will incorporate alternatives that will
45 address the user conflicts in the Squirrel River.

46
47 The BLM Central Yukon Field Office is
48 developing a new database with the purpose of tracking
49 hunting activity in the area -- hunting and other
50 activity in the area. The database will be an

1 important tool to managers to easily access information
2 on where, by whom, and which animals are being
3 harvested. Now, when I asked Erin for a little ore
4 information about that, she didn't know how much of
5 that would be available for your area. So I think this
6 may be focused on the Dalton Highway. But we'll have
7 more information on that.

8

9 If we look at fisheries, I've been out
10 in the last six or seven years working on the Kivalina
11 and Squirrel River, essentially doing fisheries
12 habitat, and stream channel classification, baseline
13 data collection. And, oh, the Kivalina the last two
14 years, I was just limited to flying out there in
15 helicopter and putting out some minnow traps and such.
16 But all the precipitation, the heavy rain that occurred
17 in the late summer and fall of 2012, really tore up the
18 middle channel, the middle fork or Sapumik or Grayling
19 Creek, whatever you want to call it. It tore that
20 channel, and it totally changed that channel. A lot
21 of the willows on the side of the stream banks were
22 all, you know, denuded -- not denuded, but ripped off,
23 and so they've been deposited downstream. So where you
24 may have been able to land a lane on a lot of those
25 gravel bars, you really would have had a hard time
26 doing it when I was out there last -- oh, late August.

27

28 The further result of that was all the
29 sediment that got washed out of that middle fork,
30 Sapumik, Grayling Creek, was deposited at the mouth of
31 that tributary, and so the main stem of the Kivalina
32 River at the mouth of Sapumik, has now got a lot more
33 sediment than it's had in the past. The result of that,
34 that area from the mouth of the middle fork downstream
35 to about a mile is where most of the fall chum are
36 spawning. Because of all the sediment that got washed
37 out, all the chum have moved upstream in the main
38 channel. So they are upstream of the mouth of the
39 middle fork or Sapumik.

40

41 So there really is a massive change
42 that went out there in that channel. And, of course it
43 was all natural, and sediments move, and that's what
44 streams do. But really it looked like a different
45 landscape last year from the previous four years that
46 I've been out there. So I just thought that was
47 interesting, and you folks would be interested in
48 hearing that.

49

50 I counted at the mouth, the fall chum

1 spawning at the mouth of Sapumik was 3,250. Now, I
2 think the report I gave you says 2350, so I had a
3 little dyslexic moment there, but there were 3,250 fall
4 chum counted, and no doubt that's, you know, an under-
5 estimate. There were more fish there than that.

6
7 In the middle proper Sapumik, I counted
8 80 spawning adult Dolly Varden. And, of course, there
9 were a lot more Dollies in there, it's just that the
10 spawning ones are easier to pick out the spawning
11 coloration. So that was fairly comparable to other
12 years that we've flown out there. But, again, due to
13 all the changes in the channel, the spawning areas were
14 different from where I've seen them in the past.

15
16 Over on the Squirrel River, the same
17 kind of thing. I've been going in there trying to
18 extend the anadromous catalogue to show where the Dolly
19 Varden -- how far upstream they've gotten. I've
20 extended that in several of those drainages.

21
22 What I'm trying to do also is put
23 together a stream discharge curve for the Upper
24 Squirrel River drainage, and I'm close to doing that.
25 I'll go out again this summer and I'll collect a few
26 more sites to be able to put this curve together. And
27 the whole idea behind that is to document the natural
28 condition, so if something like say a placer mine comes
29 in and changes a channel, when the reclamation time
30 comes, we'll be able to say, okay, this is what the
31 channel needs to look like based on the data we
32 collected earlier with, you know, the slope and such.

33
34 So that's what I'm doing on the
35 Squirrel River. And that will be completed again this
36 summer. Well, I'll be out there in the late -- well,
37 mid July and then early September I will go back. So I
38 will have two reports that are being prepared for both
39 the Kivalina River, Dolly Varden spawning habitat work,
40 and also the Squirrel River work that we're doing in
41 support of the special recreation management area. So
42 that's a mouthful on the fisheries.

43
44 The other groups, really we don't have
45 much to report. In the mining, Darrel Vandeweg covers
46 that for us. There's no new mining activity planned on
47 BLM-managed lands in the region. One former operation
48 has proposed reopening their mine, but at this time
49 we've not received a complete mining plan with which we
50 can start the NEPA process. I believe that is up on

1 Timber Creek in the Squirrel, but again if this mining
2 plan has not been submitted to us now, it most likely
3 will not be approved in time for folks to go out and
4 mine this summer.

5
6 On the realty side of things, Robin
7 Walthour has been covering that for us. All the lands
8 and realty actions for the area have been transferred
9 to the Anchorage Field Office. And there's another
10 contact there listed, Dave Mushovic, and he's at 907-
11 267-1252.

12
13 The archaeology side of it, Bill Hedman
14 had no operational funding out in the area for 2013 or
15 for this coming field season, so Bill's not going to be
16 out there this summer.

17
18 And we do -- again we've got a new
19 ranger. Seth McMillan started last year at this time
20 for us. And we've got a contact number for him on this
21 sheet.

22
23 And quite frankly that's all I've got
24 for you. Do you have any questions on any of that.

25
26 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

27
28 Any questions from the Board here. Go
29 ahead, Percy.

30
31 MR. BALLOT: Yeah. Mr. Chairman.

32
33 Yeah, pretty well in the report on BLM
34 lands, but I never hear nothing in regard to the
35 Buckland area in regards to work that BLM do. There's
36 a lot of BLM-managed lands there. I don't know if you
37 have any guides or transporters around that area.

38
39 But I wanted to make a comment on the
40 last winter range habitat management plan. Buckland's
41 right in the heart of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd's
42 winter range. And I haven't seen anything in regard to
43 this plan maybe. I would hope that we're going to be
44 seeing somebody in Buckland in regard to the plan
45 that's being done.

46
47 And the other question was that
48 archaeology. We were told last summer that BLM was
49 going around in our area looking at old sites, and
50 there was some stuff taken out from those old sites,

1 but I never hear a report. I'm not too sure if it was
2 BLM, but that's what I was told. No reports on what
3 was done within those helicopter flights that are going
4 around in our area.

5
6 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Go ahead,
7 Dave.

8
9 MR. PARKER: Okay. Okay. Percy, we're
10 aware of the acreage, you know, BLM-managed public
11 lands on the Buckland, and there certainly are, you
12 know, concerns that we have there.

13
14 You know, what's going on, I didn't
15 want to go into it much, but there's a boundary change
16 that most likely is going to happen, that the Anchorage
17 District Office is going to take over management of a
18 lot of the lands that we're managing out of Fairbanks
19 now. That would include the Buckland River drainage.
20 It would include the Squirrel River. It would include
21 the Kivalina. And so future work on the Buckland will
22 be coming out of the Anchorage District Office.

23
24 I've helped the fish biologist down
25 there, and sent him some project information on what I
26 think should happen in the future, and if he has the
27 staffing and time to do it, I'm sure he'll get to that.

28
29 Now, as far as the archaeological
30 sites, Bill Hedman, I can -- what I can do is have him
31 call you and talk to you about that, but I know that
32 nothing was removed that shouldn't have been removed or
33 was not legally allowed to be removed. Bill's very
34 conscientious that way, but he can address any of those
35 concerns for you directly and tell you exactly where he
36 was out there, and what he did.

37
38 MR. BALLOT: Okay. I appreciate that
39 if you could have him email the Native Village of
40 Buckland or myself, then I could share it with the
41 public, because I think they want to know, because it
42 came from the public that some action was going on over
43 there.

44
45 And the other part is this plan that's
46 being built. I hope -- it said there's public
47 involvement, and I don't remember seeing BLM in
48 Buckland, so BLM is coming up with a plan, or are they
49 -- is public input going to be -- or is involved in
50 there not I'm not aware of.

1 MR. PARKER: Yeah, the Central Yukon
2 RMP does not include the drainage of the Buckland.
3 That was covered under our previous Kobuk/Seward
4 Peninsula plan that was completed about five years ago.
5 And so now the only lands that will be addressed under
6 this new plan again will be in the very upper Selawik
7 drainage, and very upper Kobuk River. And so, yeah,
8 Buckland has already been addressed under the
9 Kobuk/Seward Peninsula plan.

10
11 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. Enoch
12 here. I have one question. You mentioned the Nulato
13 Hills for the caribou. I know you were doing a winter
14 habitat at that. You need from the people there, from
15 the land or area, did you hear them about any caribou
16 spending summer in their hills there? And the other
17 year, of Huslia and other places that they were telling
18 me a lot of caribou spend the summer there instead of
19 migrating up north. Did you hear anything from the
20 Indians there?

21
22 MR. PARKER: You know, I can't answer
23 that myself, but I will ask Erin about that, and see if
24 she's heard about that, and if she spotted any large
25 groups of caribou when she was out there doing the
26 surveys. Yeah, I would have to put that onto Erin and
27 have her get back with you.

28
29 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

30
31 Anyone else have a question for Dave.

32
33 MR. BALLOT: One more question.

34
35 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Percy.

36
37 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, I just have one more
38 quick one. I asked about any transporters or guide
39 activities in the Buckland drainage. Was there
40 anything there.

41
42 MR. PARKER: You know, I don't think
43 there are, but I can't say that for sure. I will go
44 ahead and talk to Kelly and ask him exactly about it.
45 You know, as a fish biologist, I review the NEPA
46 actions that give the permits to these guys to go out
47 and get their transporter permit. And I haven't seen
48 any for the Buckland River, but again I will talk to
49 Kelly and we'll find out if there are any new ones that
50 have put in for that, but right now I don't think there

1 are.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. Okay.
4 Dave, are you done? We're getting tired and we're
5 getting there, and have one.....

6

7 MR. PARKER: Yes, I'm all done. I'm
8 sorry for taking up so much of your time, but thank you
9 for getting me on the agenda.

10

11 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: No, it's all right
12 about the time, it's just we're just getting tired.

13

14 MR. PARKER: Sure.

15

16 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: And is if you're
17 done, we could move on.

18

19 MR. PARKER: Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: ADF&G. Probably it
22 was going to be Brandon Saito.....

23

24 MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chair. This is Drew
25 Crawford with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in
26 Anchorage.

27

28 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead.

29

30 MR. CRAWFORD: Yeah. I've got just two
31 quick things to share with you here.

32

33 This morning I heard the RAC expressing
34 concern about the high number of beavers in your area,
35 particularly in the Selawik and Kobuk rivers, and that
36 the concern of the beavers damming streams important
37 for subsistence fishing, and the threat of giardia in
38 the drinking water.

39

40 I just wanted to let you know that I
41 consulted the Alaska trapping regulations, and they are
42 very liberal for taking beaver in Unit 23. Currently
43 there's no closed season for beaver and no limit. You
44 can take beaver either by a steel trap or a snare, or
45 in Unit 23 you're also allowed to shoot beaver,
46 provided that either the meat or the hide is salvaged.

47

48 Over.

49

50 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

1 MR. CRAWFORD: Okay. The second topic
2 I have, would like to share with you is that also when
3 you were discussing priority fishery projects in your
4 area, you reported that you had seen rainbow trout with
5 skin lesions in the Noatak River area. And I wanted to
6 let you know I went down the hall and talked to our
7 fish pathologist, Jayde Ferguson, and we have a fish
8 pathology lab here in the Anchorage office, that they
9 said they'd be happy to examine some of these fish for
10 you and get back to you as to what they find. But you
11 would need to send them in to our lab. He said that
12 fresh and refrigerated samples are preferring, but
13 frozen samples may be adequate for some tests. And if
14 you have anybody there who will be interested in
15 sending in some samples, I can email a file which gives
16 sampling guidelines to your Council coordinator, and he
17 can pass that on to you.

18
19 Mr. Ferguson was also interested in
20 knowing, he was wondering if we could get a better
21 description of what these lesions are on the rainbow
22 trout for our records.

23
24 Over.

25
26 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. I'll give you
27 a real brief. they were more like -- they looked more
28 like warts than anything else. They were dry, they were
29 less than fingernail, and some are even bigger than my
30 fingernail, the one I saw, but they had just like a
31 little lump on it, and when I cut it open, I never see
32 anything, or any little worms come out of it. All I
33 did, and I didn't see no puss or anything come out form
34 it. But like I said, by the time I get home, they were
35 too well soft, the muscles, the meat, so I didn't send
36 them out. But if I do get it, I will depend heavily on
37 Lee Anne and Tina and Susan to know who you are, and
38 I'll just take it, here, you guys, send it out. And
39 I'll try not to do it on a weekend, I'll tell you that
40 right now.

41
42 (Laughter)

43
44 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Because I do have
45 concerns about it.

46
47 MR. CRAWFORD: Okay. Well, I'll send
48 you the files that Jayde Ferguson provided to me. And
49 it also will contain some information about black
50 fungus that the pathology lab has been examining from

1 fish in Norton Sound and southwestern Alaska that this
2 particular fungus has been showing up on tom cod and
3 also some smelt and eulachon in your area.

4

5 Over.

6

7 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. I know
8 it, I've seen it. I accessed them on the computer,
9 too, and I saw what you were talking about. They're
10 pretty much close to it, but they were a little bit
11 different to me, because maybe the picture was a little
12 bit different than what I see. I don't know, because
13 they were rainbow trout, spawned-out fish.

14

15 MR. CRAWFORD: Okay. Thank you very
16 much. That's all I have on this end.

17

18 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Any questions for
19 Department of Fish and Game. Go ahead, Mike.

20

21 MR. KRAMER: Yeah. This is Councilman
22 Kramer.

23

24 I was wondering, do they have any new
25 word as to the count on the caribou herd? I know
26 that's always a big subject. And I know that at our
27 last meeting, they stated that they took a lot of good
28 pictures.

29

30 The other thing I really wanted to try
31 and -- sometime when Jim comes back and at our next
32 meeting, hopefully he does, you know, put up some
33 slides as to -- actually what I would like to prove is
34 I'd like to prove that Red Dog Mine has an impact on
35 our caribou herd's migration, you know. And I know
36 they've had collars on caribou for the last 10, 15
37 years, and having yearly slides put up as to their
38 migration differences -- and also, you know, the
39 Squirrel, seeing -- because they are moving farther
40 east, because on the Lower Noatak and the Aggie,
41 hatchery, (indiscernible) hatchery area, all the way
42 to, you know, below the -- or on the lower canyons of
43 the Noatak, there's just no more caribou there any
44 more, unless it's wintertime, and where they're coming
45 from, I'm still unsure.

46

47 What I'd like to prove is I'd just like
48 to prove is I'd just like to prove that, you know, the
49 Red Dog Mine has an impact on our caribou herd. And if
50 it does, and if our caribou herd continues to decline,

1 you know, we may end up having to put something forth
2 for Red Dog not to be transporting from the month of
3 August all the way into, you know, late November.

4
5 That's all I have.

6
7 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Mike.

8
9 Yeah, go ahead. Someone had their hand
10 -- go ahead, come on up.

11
12 MS. DAGGETT: So for the record, I'm
13 Carmen Daggett again with Fish and Game.

14
15 And I know that Jim is currently in the
16 process of counting caribou on photos. They've been
17 busy doing that. He's not doing it at the moment
18 though because he's in Africa. So he will likely be
19 able to give you some information, I would assume it
20 would probably be coupled with the fall Advisory
21 Committee meetings that occur in this area at some
22 point, but he's unavailable at the moment.

23
24 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you.

25
26 Anyone else have any questions.

27
28 MR. CLEVELAND: Attamuk.

29
30 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Verne.

31
32 MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah. We had a
33 meeting, Western Arctic Caribou Herd about the
34 migration, that they shouldn't drill and blast during
35 caribou migration, because you know how they drill and
36 blast and it makes a lot of noise, and it shakes the
37 ground. And we talked to one guy from Red Dog. He was
38 the president I believe. And we told him not to drill
39 and blast during caribou migration, because when they
40 blast, you could feel it when you're at Red Dog, it
41 moves, you know. And in the cave (ph) warren, you
42 could hear the noise a long ways. So if they wouldn't
43 drill and blast at the migration time, then probably
44 the caribou will come this way. And we all hear from
45 him, maybe Jim Dau will know about it before anybody
46 else.

47
48 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, I think, Verne,
49 they're not going to admit that road have a problem
50 with the caribou crossing it. And we've seen that, and

1 they don't want to say that. They don't admit it, and
2 we see it on his report, if you translate it a little
3 bit, caribou are not crossing due to the road. They
4 will hit the road, they'll try to go around. They'll
5 stay there and finally instinct will take over and they
6 will cross later. And they're holding back in there,
7 and that's why the migration going out all these years
8 through well above Noatak. They used to go right
9 through Noatak. We used to harvest them, because I'm
10 from Noatak.

11

12 Go ahead, Mike.

13

14 MR. KRAMER: Yeah. Last fall I was up
15 by the Kelly River and we were getting some Char for
16 the freezer, and, man, I know it's peaceful up there.
17 And all of a sudden I just hear back-up alarms. And
18 I'm at the Kelly River, and I could hear them coming
19 from Red Dog. That's a long ways, you know. And I
20 know the Red Dog mine is just right over the hill. I
21 mean, I could hear back-up alarms, you know, the back-
22 up beeping sounds, and I could hear vehicles operating,
23 and I'm at the Kelly River, you know, right there by
24 Wrench Creek, right over there by Wrench Creek, and
25 we're fishing for Char to put away for the freezer; and
26 I could hear, you know, the operation at Red Dog Mine
27 from the Kelly River. And that just goes to let you
28 show -- that just shows to let you know that, you know,
29 it can -- you know, that sound travels a long ways.
30 And, you know, with the ore trucks going back and
31 forth, you know, we don't know exactly if they're
32 following the rules, you know, the rules of the road
33 for our caribou herd. Because I know last year Jim put
34 on a slide show stating that, you know, how our caribou
35 herd had rebounded off the Red Dog Road three, four,
36 maybe five times, I'm not sure, but, you know,
37 hopefully that when he does come back, I'm hoping to
38 hear, you know, and see if that road a had an impact on
39 it with his satellite collars, because what's the
40 purpose of those satellite collars if they aren't, you
41 know, proving anything. I'd like to see that data come
42 up next time for us to be able to see and witness.

43

44 That's all.

45

46 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Mike.
47 I've heard that noise before, too, when you're near
48 Kelly. Like I told you, I'm from Noatak. Right from
49 there, when you go down a little bit, you could see
50 that mountain right there. We used to call it -- we

1 call it Nyshuvik (ph), and you could look at Wulik, and
2 you could look at Noatak. I walked there twice, not
3 that I wanted to, but the old people take me, and that
4 way I could see it. And I tell you, it's a good walk,
5 and I'll tell you what, don't walk with them old
6 people, you have to run behind them, and they're just
7 crawling and I'm running just to keep up with them.
8 And these are people that do it. And I know what
9 you're talking about. And that Red Dog Mountain, you
10 could hear -- will drain both side to Noatak and to
11 Wulik.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 Anything else. Brandon.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Silence is golden. I
20 think we'll have to move on. You got anything else out
21 there.

22

23 MR. CRAWFORD: No, that's all I have
24 here. Mr. Chair. Over.

25

26 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you. I
27 think we could move on. Is Brendan Scanlon is the one
28 that's next on the project updates for Department of
29 Fish and Game.

30

31 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Go ahead,
34 Carl.

35

36 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah. As Ms. Daggett
37 noted earlier, neither of the individuals identified
38 under ADF&G for the project updates are currently
39 available. They were available for the earlier
40 meeting, but they're all out in the field right now.

41

42 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. And thank
45 you for that report.

46

47 I'll ask one more time. Anyone from
48 the Board here want to have a question. Go ahead,
49 Percy.

50

1 MR. BALLOT: Yeah. I just want to take
2 this time to thank Carmen. She's worked with our ACs
3 in getting our resolutions and our proposals on time
4 and to emphasize we need to get this done before the
5 Board meeting, and I thank her for her work.

6
7 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Well taken. And the
8 job that you're doing, thank you.

9
10 Thank you, Percy.

11
12 Go ahead, Hannah.

13
14 MS. LOON: Yeah. Since caribou is a
15 priority for us and we know that it's declining, I know
16 people are busy in springtime doing their moose counts
17 and caribou counts, and they even used to do beaver
18 counts, ADF&G, while I used to work for Subsistence
19 Division in 1986. I would like to see that ADF&G,
20 their agenda be moved up some place earlier so we could
21 hear from them. Thank you.

22
23 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Hannah.
24 Note probably well taken by Carl.

25
26 Okay. Anything else. Anything we need
27 to catch up on on this agenda, Carl.

28
29 MR. JOHNSON: Just the last thing, Mr.
30 Chair. Future meeting dates.

31
32 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Hawaii.

33
34 (Laughter)

35
36 MS. LOON: Seattle.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: I think we could --
39 future meeting dates in say -- we could look at the
40 calendar. I'll give you guys a moment to all look at
41 it.

42
43 MR. JOHNSON: And you also have --
44 there's an updated calendar that I provided for you
45 that's in your supplemental folder. And those are
46 confirmed dates as of last week's Council meetings.

47
48 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Anyone find it yet.

49
50 MS. LOON: In the back, way in the

1 back.

2

3

CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Carl, is our
4 coordinator is not going to conflict with King Cove and
5 Cold Bay. King Cove have September 11 and 12 and it
6 look like for here it would be nice to have one around
7 September 8 to 10. And there later, mid September,
8 too.

9

10 MR. JOHNSON: Well, Mr. Chair, there's
11 no problem with having two Council meetings in one
12 week. So if you wanted -- you'll note your current
13 tentative dates were October 8th and 9th, location to
14 be determined. So if you want to move your meeting to
15 September, September's pretty wide open. There's only
16 one Council meeting the entire month.

17

18 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. So October 8
19 and 9, it's not going conflict with our coordinator
20 with Nome? Nome is September 7 and 8.

21

22 MR. JOHNSON: No, because Melinda, her
23 other Council is Western Interior, which is meeting at
24 the end of October.

25

26 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: So it looks like it
27 will be so far in favor of October 8 and 9. That way
28 you guys could travel back for your weekend.

29

30 MR. JOHNSON: nd we jus need to have
31 the Council express it's desire as to location for that
32 meeting.

33

34 MR. CLEVELAND: Kotzebue.

35

36 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: So far I'm just
37 hearing Kotzebue for October 8 and 9.

38

39 So, Carl, let me ask you then. When is
40 our joint meeting we should have with Nome and North
41 Slope, once how many years with Nome or Barrow.

42

43 MR. JOHNSON: Well, Mr. Chair, there's
44 no regular cycle for having joint meetings. The
45 Councils can have them. We try to organize them when
46 there's a desire for the Councils, if they have mutual
47 issues of concern. For example, the Southcentral and
48 Southeast Council just had a joint meeting earlier this
49 month, and they had an agenda where they had a bunch of
50 items that were of mutual concern for their regions.

1 And as noted, Northwest Arctic and
2 North Slope met in the fall 2011 cycle down in
3 Anchorage.

4
5 So if the Council would like to do a
6 joint meeting with Seward Peninsula or any other
7 region, we can certainly work on organizing that. It's
8 coordinating between the two Councils and seeing what
9 their preferences are.

10
11 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: So that meeting would
12 be more like in a fall then, like November or so, or
13 whether we could have on in October. Because I hate to
14 go, because it's caribou time for us.

15
16 But I brought it up. Yeah, I remember
17 going wintertime, better off, with Barrow when we had
18 concerns close to each other, you know, we wanted to
19 talk about it.

20
21 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, again timing is, of
22 course, whatever the Councils desire. If you want to
23 have it at a meeting, then that's when you would have
24 it. We start with identifying Council dates that for
25 sure you'd want to have for your own Council, but then
26 since the other Councils have already picked their
27 dates, we'd need to go back and confer with the other
28 Council through their Council coordinator to see if
29 they would like to change to a mutual meeting time, and
30 then, you know, go from there.

31
32 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. I thought I'd
33 just bring this up.

34
35 But right now it look like they're in
36 favor of October 8 and 9 here in Kotzebue. That's what
37 I heard Verne.

38
39 Anyone else from the Council would like
40 on the dates.

41
42 Any conflict with your work, Hannah?

43
44 MS. LOON: No, they always give me
45 leave to attend these. They're very receptive. Thank
46 you.

47
48 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. So it look
49 like we're going to have it October 8 and 9 here
50 Kotzebue. And the location will be decided when

1 Melinda could get the one at the Borough or not. That
2 way we won't freeze here.

3

4 MR. JOHNSON: Yes. Certainly Melinda
5 will work the details as to the best meeting venue here
6 in Kotzebue for that fall meeting.

7

8 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. And I think
9 what she'll need to do is see the Council and see if
10 that building is available 8 and 9. So it will be up
11 to us to find -- Melinda to find out whether those
12 dates is open. And we'll keep that open and in mind.
13 And as soon as she hear, and they're confirmed, maybe
14 she could email all of us on exact dates. So far
15 everybody's agreeing to October 8 and 9. Okay. About
16 or around October 9. We'll see if the building is
17 available. If not, we'll have it here. October 8 and
18 9.

19

20 But if we could put it on radio.

21

22 Go ahead, Hannah. You'll be right
23 after, Percy.

24

25 MS. LOON: Yes. Right here, Mr.
26 Chairman is really good. That way we could each (In
27 Inupiaq). If we have it at hotel, we won't bring (In
28 Inupiaq) down there, and we'll be happy to bring
29 something from home for here.

30

31 Thank you.

32

33 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. We'll take it
34 up like the Borough in here. Because that way got
35 access to the radio at the Borough.

36

37 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

38

39 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Go ahead, Percy.

40

41 MR. BALLOT: I did a little lobbying
42 for us today, and I talked with OTZ. They said if we
43 make a request, they'll come to wherever we are.
44 They'll have the capability to hook up a phone line, so
45 if we have it here or wherever. We just need to make
46 that request ahead of time to say we're going to be on
47 they radio, and they'll make that happen.

48

49 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah. Okay. Then if
50 we can get it, we would have -- if we could decide,

1 we'll just have it here then. And Melinda could
2 request that radio station, could accommodate.
3
4 Go ahead, Verne.
5
6 MR. CLEVELAND: I make a motion to have
7 our meeting October 8-9 here in Kotzebue.
8
9 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Any second.
10
11 MS. LOON: I second it.
12
13 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Question, or should
14 -- okay. Any question.
15
16 MS. LOON: Question called for.
17
18 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: The question's been
19 called for. All in favor signify by saying aye.
20
21 IN UNISON: Aye.
22
23 (No opposing votes)
24
25 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. We'll see you
26 guys all in October 8th and 9th, 9:00 a.m. starting.
27
28 Go ahead, Carl.
29
30 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair. Then on the
31 back side of your calendar is the winter 2015 meeting
32 calendar. So this would be the time for the Council to
33 make its first pick. Again you could change it at your
34 fall meeting, but to express which dates and location
35 you would like to meet for our winter 2015 meeting.
36
37 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, maybe March 2
38 and 3, right around there.
39
40 MR. JOHNSON: Well, Mr. Chair, you'll
41 note that the Western Interior and Eastern Interior are
42 already meeting that week. So we don't have the
43 staffing ability to support three Council meetings in
44 one week.
45
46 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: So what you're
47 saying, we've got to week of March.....
48
49
50 REPORTER: Your microphone.

1 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Excuse me. We've got
2 to meet within the week of March 8 or so. That way you
3 only have two. Or earlier, February.

4
5 MR. JOHNSON: Correct, Mr. Chair.
6 Currently the weeks of February 8th, March 8th, and
7 March 15th the Council could chose for its winter
8 meeting dates.

9
10 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: March 8 and 15.
11 Okay.

12
13 MS. LOON: March 9 and 10.

14
15 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: How about for travel
16 we make it 10, 11. Yeah, we travel Monday and go home
17 Thursday or Friday. Okay. How about that, March 10,
18 11, our winter meeting at Anchorage.

19
20 (Laughter)

21
22 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Everybody, just don't
23 smile. Tell me.

24
25 (Laughter)

26
27 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: I can't read your
28 smiles.

29
30 MR. JOHNSON: So you want to hold your
31 winter meeting in Anchorage. That's what I just heard
32 the Chair say.

33
34 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, I think that is
35 -- you guys want to have it in Anchorage? We could
36 have it here, too, again.

37
38 (Indiscernible - mics not on)

39
40 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. We could have
41 it here in Kotzebue. That would be a lot.....

42
43 MR. BALLOT: Regional or statewide.

44
45 MS. LOON: Regional.

46
47 MR. BALLOT: Statewide.

48
49 (Mics not on)

50

1 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. I have one
2 here for Kotzebue and one for Anchorage during the
3 regionals. Me, I don't really care. I'd prefer
4 Kotzebue.

5
6 IN UNISON: Kotzebue.

7
8 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Kotzebue it is.
9 Well, we decided while Percy's not here, so we won't
10 get.....

11
12 (Laughter)

13
14 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: So that's how we
15 solve our problems. If we have an issue and we have
16 objection, we tell somebody to call them, and they get
17 out, and we then decide. Make it faster.

18
19 Go ahead, Verne.

20
21 MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah. Most of the
22 agencies are in Anchorage. I don't see why they would
23 object to Anchorage. They mostly come from Anchorage,
24 and some of them are not here. I know it costs like,
25 what, 600 bucks round trip.

26
27 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: I think Carl, what
28 he's asking really about, like costwise, what's
29 cheaper, here or in Anchorage?

30
31 MR. JOHNSON: Actually, Mr. Chair, I
32 would look at the broad spectrum of the Staff, the
33 Federal and State agency Staff who attend your meeting,
34 and I think you would find that overall there were more
35 people here who are local Staff than there were Staff
36 who came up from Anchorage. So in the big picture,
37 it's probably better for you to get the information you
38 need from the local staff than from the Anchorage
39 Staff.

40
41 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Then we'll
42 have it here. March 8th -- when? What date in March.
43 10, 11?

44
45 MR. BALLOT: That quarterly meeting in
46 that neighborhood in NANA.

47
48 MR. CLEVELAND: 10, 11. Do it on a
49 Thursday, Friday.

50

1 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: That's right, that
2 quarterly meeting is -- oh, no. Oh, yeah. That's
3 right. That quarterly meeting. When does this usually
4 happen? I don't go to quarterly meeting.

5
6 MR. STONEY: Me neither.

7
8 (Mics not on)

9
10 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Well, how about --
11 okay.

12
13 MR. CLEVELAND: How about 9th and 10th.
14 Travel on Sunday.

15
16 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, we could do
17 that. And quarterly meeting usually start around
18 Wednesday anyhow.

19
20 MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Who's going to go? I
23 don't really go. It don't bother me which time I have
24 it, because I try to stay away from NANA. Okay. Let's
25 put it this way, March 9 and 10, if the Staff is
26 willing to travel on Sunday; otherwise we could have it
27 10, 11.

28
29 What do you think, Carl. I think
30 you're the final say-so on the Staff travel.

31
32 MR. JOHNSON: It's not regular, but
33 there are times when we do need to travel on a Sunday
34 or a Saturday. So it's really when the Council --
35 based on the Council members' own schedules, when is
36 the best time for you to have a meeting.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Then March 9
39 and 10 is decided. And you could travel Sunday night.
40 Okay. So our winter meeting will be March 9 and 10,
41 probably here in the same building. Okay.

42
43 Okay. Everybody's leaving. We ought
44 to get into the closing comments from the rest of the
45 board here.

46
47 Are you happy now, Carl, for the winter
48 and -- anything else you need to say?

49
50 MR. JOHNSON: (Shakes head no)

1 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Closing
2 comments from the Council here, and we will start from
3 our lady. Hannah.

4
5 MS. LOON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6
7 I would like to thank all the agencies
8 for their reports. I know it was hard on the first
9 day. You know, some of us can't understand from your
10 reports, but as time goes, and every time we come from
11 a meeting, we always understand it later.

12
13 And thank you, Staff, Carl, the Staff
14 for being here and arranging for our travel and hotel.
15 And I enjoyed my visit here.

16
17 Good to see Council again. And
18 congratulations for our appointments.

19
20 Thank you.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Hannah.
23 Percy.

24
25 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

26
27 I thank everybody, and we've had a good
28 meeting. I particularly liked the discussions
29 regarding the mine and hunting and fishing on some of
30 these hunting and fishing proposal.

31
32 I wanted to give you, pay a little
33 attention here for FYI on the handout that was sent to
34 you from the North Slope on how to assess food security
35 from an Inupiaq perspective. It's run by Carolina Behe
36 with ICC Alaska, and we had a Northwest one here in
37 early March. We don't have any report out yet, but it
38 will be distributed to everybody. The goal is to go to
39 all the regions and find out what food security means
40 to your, whether it's, you know, fuel, whether it's
41 cultural, whether it's economical or whether it's the
42 resources itself. So it's a very good project. It
43 don't have a very big budget, but we've gone to four
44 villages in each region, and we've interviewed
45 traditional hunters, elders, olders, we call them
46 traditional experts, in regards to what food security
47 means to them in their life. And we've got all that
48 information that we did with them, and we'll get our
49 whole region of people appointed by the tribes to
50 attend and to confirm the data and the things they

1 compiled, and add on and delete some of the stuff that
2 were in there.

3

4 So we'll have a report sometime, and I
5 hope that it's on our agenda at some point in time.
6 I'll ask Carolina to cc Melinda so that you guys get a
7 report.

8

9 You had seen earlier documents that
10 we're going to be doing this project a year or so ago.
11 I can't remember. But I just wanted to point that out
12 to you guys before we end.

13

14 And thanks for the meeting.

15

16 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Percy.

17 Mike.

18

19 MR. KRAMER: It's always good to hear
20 agency reports. You know, I always like to hear all,
21 you know, the things that people bring up when they
22 come here.

23

24 And, you know, the thing that irks me
25 the worst is when someone gets busted doing something
26 that they, you know, normally did for years. And, you
27 know, I'm glad we're -- it's sad that we're fixing it
28 after it was already broken. But I'm glad we're
29 getting somewhere, you know, and hopefully we'll start
30 making people a lot happier within the area and the
31 subsistence users. You know, there's still things that
32 we need to fix. I now we do need to make at least a
33 subsistence proposal for animals when they're beginning
34 to have high numbers and becoming threats to persons,
35 villages, camps, and our subsistence food that we put
36 away.

37

38 I know that my brother Lance is working
39 with the borough. He's been traveling all over the
40 region. He just came back from Bettles not too long
41 ago, and he's doing the subsistence mapping with the
42 Northwest Arctic Borough. It would be interesting to
43 see what he could come up with hopefully at our fall
44 meeting.

45

46 But that than that, I'm patiently
47 waiting for our caribou count to see if we need to do
48 any kind of protective measures.

49

50 And it would be good to see Carmen stay

1 longer. The State needs to get on there, where she's
2 there, you know, year round. She's always an asset to
3 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Advisory
4 Council, and, you know, she's very helpful with all of
5 us there, and it would be good to see her stick around
6 year round.

7

8 That's all I've got.

9

10 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Mike.

11

12 Go ahead, Verne.

13

14 MR. CLEVELAND: Thanks for a good
15 meeting.

16

17 Lance and those subsistence mapping
18 crew at the borough, we should invite them to come here
19 and speak on what they're doing with their subsistence
20 mapping. Some of us had the wrong idea about the
21 mapping, but afterwards, understanding, well, it's good
22 for us. So them guys should come over here and talk to
23 us about what they're doing with subsistence mapping.
24 I forgot to bring it up to them about our meeting, and
25 they wanted to come in to talk about it.

26

27 But thanks to all the agencies, and
28 thanks for a good meeting. We'll see you guys next
29 week, or every day almost. Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you,
32 Verne.

33

34 Raymond.

35

36 MR. STONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
37 It's been a great honor and a good pleasure for all the
38 agencies come here and to report to us, especially the
39 State of Alaska. Carmen, you know, has done so well in
40 the last several months. And we've got no way to
41 comment, but thank you, how much you have done for us.
42 It is a great honor to me and the villages.

43

44 Number 2, of course, you know we've
45 been lawbreakers for the last 500 years. This is the
46 second time those beaches been open to us to hunt.
47 Before, in the last 100 years and 500 years, we were
48 lawbreakers, because every spring we'd go out there,
49 shoot a duck. When you cook that duck or geese at
50 home, you know, you break the law, and eat it.

1 Now today it's the wolf and wolverine.
2 We finally -- we've come to the point again where we're
3 not breaking the law any more.

4
5 Again, Carmen, thank you for so much
6 for this proposal that was presented through you, and
7 thank you so much. And I know the people in Game Unit
8 23 and Northwest Alaska, even the Bering Strait area
9 there, waiting to hear about the issue of this on the
10 radio to say you're legalized to hunt wolf and
11 wolverine with a snowmachine. I know all of us and
12 every people are excited about this one deal, be
13 excited. And I think you so much for all that.

14
15 Again on this meeting here, of course,
16 it's nice to hear, but we should be at least not all
17 day on KOTZ radio so people will listen to us in all
18 the villages, just like in the other agency, like
19 caribou working group, we air it. It's been monitored
20 way down in Unalakleet, you know, listen to our issues
21 up here in Kotzebue. I think that the Federal
22 Subsistence Board should deal with KOTZ and that's how
23 we can be aired to our people in hometowns.

24
25 Last of all is, of course, you know,
26 like for myself, this is my 16th year with the RAC, and
27 then it's for me. Now I have to start retiring one way
28 or another later, but it would be nice to invite
29 selected students from the school and listen to our
30 business being here. They are the ones going to be
31 next. It happened with the caribou working group when
32 they're tagging caribou, and the school from
33 (indiscernible), Alaska, they want to come up to
34 Kotzebue and watch and work with the people that tag
35 these caribou. They were excited. So this thing here
36 would be important to our next generation.

37
38 Mr. Chairman, you've done so well on
39 this meeting here, so I want to congratulate you, and
40 good luck everybody. Good flight home.

41
42 Thank you.

43
44 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Raymond.
45 I don't know if I did good, but I tried.

46
47 Okay. For me, I want you to know that
48 I'm with the Kotzebue Sound Fishermen's Association.
49 I'm part of the Board, and I will tell you one thing.
50 We need to more looking into opening bottom fish,

1 crabbing, and stuff like that here in Kotzebue for us
2 commercial fishermen. So I think we need to eventually
3 do that, because we're going to open it commercially,
4 and we want to expand it to help the community. And
5 the reason why I brought that up, it's going to come
6 up, and we're going to ask permission to go ahead and
7 try to expand our fishing for commercially here in
8 Kotzebue.

9

10 And I want to thank all the agencies
11 for doing such a good report. Sometimes we have a hard
12 time understanding, but once we pick it up, I think we
13 do pretty good, because you Staff are starting to do it
14 and trying to understand how we speak in our layman
15 language. And once we understand it, we are sharp in
16 our own way. And I tell you one thing, once we learn
17 our scientific way, it's okay, and we get along, and
18 that's the problem we're having here.

19

20 And I would like to thank Carl. I
21 think next year you need to find a way for our
22 coordinator to go somewhere. You're doing a good job.

23

24 (Laughter)

25

26 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: And then that way she
27 just get paid and say, let my boss do the work. That's
28 the kind of boss I need.

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: So if you've got an
33 opening, you could hire me, and you could do my work.
34 I'll just get paid.

35

36 Okay. Thank you all, and our
37 coordinator patiently over there waiting for us to
38 close. And I would like to thank you all. And anyone
39 here from the audience could give thanks, it's open,
40 before we close. Come ranting if you want.

41

42 (Laughter)

43

44 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.
45 Looks like they're all smiling, they're all happy.
46 Okay.

47

48 Meeting is now.....

49

50 MR. CLEVELAND: Make a motion to

1 adjourn.

2

3

CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Motion to adjourn.

4

5

MS. LOON: Second.

6

7

CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: And a second. Okay.

8 A second. We are now adjourned. See you guys in

9 September.

10

11

(Off record)

12

13

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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