

1 NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME I

7
8 TELEPHONIC
9 April 3, 2009
10 8:30 o'clock a.m.

11
12 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

13
14 Victor Karmun, Chairman

15
16 Percy Ballot
17 Walter Sampson
18 Attamuk
19 Hazel Smith
20 Austin Swan

21
22
23 Regional Council Coordinator, Barbara Armstrong

24
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S
2
3 (Telephonic - 4/3/2009)
4
5 (On record)
6
7 MS. ARMSTRONG:Percy Ballot.
8
9 MR. BALLOT: Here.
10
11 MS. ARMSTRONG: Hazel Smith.
12
13 MS. SMITH: Here.
14
15 MS. ARMSTRONG: Victor Karmun.
16
17 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes.
18
19 MS. ARMSTRONG: Walter Sampson.
20
21 MR. SAMPSON: Present.
22
23 MS. ARMSTRONG: Enoch Shiedt.
24
25 ATTAMUK: Here.
26
27 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Swan.
28
29 MR. SWAN: Here.
30
31 MS. ARMSTRONG: You have a quorum, Mr.
32 Chair.
33
34 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you. Willie,
35 we'll start with you.
36
37 MR. GOODWIN: Willie Goodwin, Park
38 Service.
39
40 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson, National
41 Park Service.
42
43 MR. HELFRICH: George Helfrich,
44 National Park Service.
45
46 (PHONE BREAKING UP - DURING
47 INTRODUCTIONS)
48
49 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: We have a new member,
50 I'd like her to introduce herself.

1 MS. SMITH: I'm Hazel Smith. I'm the
2 natural resources coordinator for Maniilaq Association.
3
4 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter.
5
6 MR. SAMPSON: (In Native)
7
8 MR. BALLOT: Percy Ballot from Buckland
9 and I'm a new old member.
10
11 (Laughter)
12
13 ATTAMUK: (In Native)
14
15 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'm Barb Armstrong,
16 your coordinator.
17
18 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Victor Karmun,
19 Kotzebue.
20
21 Oh, we have some phone guests, too,
22 excuse me. Can we have some introductions on the
23 phone, please.
24
25 MS. GREFFENIUS: Hello, my name is
26 Laura Greffenius. And I'm a wildlife biologist in the
27 Office of Subsistence Management. And I wish I could
28 be there with all of you but we're here and so we'll
29 carry on.
30
31 MR. PAPPAS: Yeah, this is George
32 Pappas, Department of Fish and Game. I'm on the
33 subsistence liaison team, also here in the Anchorage
34 office.
35
36 MR. SHARP: I'm Dan Sharp with Bureau
37 of Land Management here in Anchorage.
38
39 MR. ARDIZZONE: I'm Chuck Ardizzone
40 here with the Office of Subsistence Management. I'm
41 the leadership team representative here today.
42
43 REPORTER: I'm Nathan, I'm the court
44 reporter.
45
46 MR. ARDIZZONE: And that's it, Mr.
47 Chair.
48
49 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you. Did we
50 miss anybody.

1 MR. SAMPSON: Excuse me, could I get
2 the last name, please, the last person.
3
4 MS. ARMSTRONG: Nate Hile, H-I-L-E.
5 He's the court reporter.
6
7 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: We have a new guest
8 that just walked in. Introduce yourself, please.
9
10 MS. AYERS: LeeAnne Ayres, Fish and
11 Wildlife Service, Selawik Refuge.
12
13 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Review and adoption
14 of agenda.
15
16 MS. ARMSTRONG: I have one addition,
17 Mr. Chair. I'd like to add recognition of a member
18 under.....
19
20 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Page please.
21
22 MS. ARMSTRONG: Under 13 of your
23 agenda, No. 13, new business, recognition of a member.
24
25 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: New business.
26
27 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yes, under new
28 business.
29
30 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Where would that be
31 please.
32
33 MS. ARMSTRONG: You'll find out, just
34 recognition of a member.
35
36 That's all I have, thank you.
37
38 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you.
39
40 MR. SAMPSON: (In Native)
41
42 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, it says
43 Memorandum of Understanding.
44
45 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.
46
47 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, Office, OSM.
48
49 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah. Okay.
50

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Ken Adkisson.
2
3 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair. Ken
4 Adkisson, National Park Service.
5
6 Yes, under Item 11, call for proposals.
7 I would like to add a proposal to change the muskox
8 seasons for Unit 23 Southwest.
9
10 MS. ARMSTRONG: 11B.
11
12 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah, it'd be 11B or A1
13 or however you want to do it. And then I believe maybe
14 Noatak has a couple proposals.
15
16 MS. SMITH: Yeah, I'm working on them
17 right now.
18
19 MS. ARMSTRONG: Those she can submit
20 since they've already met with (breaking up).
21
22 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Discussion.
23
24 (No comments)
25
26 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Hearing none. Motion
27 in order.
28
29 MR. SAMPSON: Motion (In Native).
30
31 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Do we have a second.
32
33 ATTAMUK: Second.
34
35 MR. BALLOT: Question.
36
37 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: All in favor.
38
39 IN UNISON: Aye.
40
41 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Same sign any
42 opposed.
43
44 (No opposing votes)
45
46 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Hearing none, thank
47 you.
48
49 MR. ARDIZZONE: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.
50

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes, sir.
2
3 MR. ARDIZZONE: This is Chuck
4 Ardizzone. Could you tell us who made us the motion
5 and the second, the court reporter needs to write that
6 down.
7
8 MR. SAMPSON: (In Native)
9
10 MS. ARMSTRONG: Walter Sampson. Walter
11 Sampson motion and Enoch Shiedt seconded.
12
13 MR. ARDIZZONE: Thank you.
14
15 REPORTER: Thank you.
16
17 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: No. 6 is election of
18 officers, Barbara.
19
20 MS. ARMSTRONG: No, number 5.
21
22 MR. SAMPSON: We did it.
23
24 MS. ARMSTRONG: No, we.....
25
26 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Oh, excuse me, review
27 and adoption of minutes.
28
29 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chair.
30
31 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes.
32
33 MR. BALLOT: I move to adopt the
34 minutes.
35
36 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay.
37
38 MS. SMITH: I have a question. I
39 wasn't -- this is my first meeting but in reviewing the
40 minutes, on Page 9 there seems to be a discrepancy in
41 the second paragraph where Mr. Jim Dau talked about --
42 or gave his short report. Halfway down it says Mr. Dau
43 does not think the herd is steadily declining, all of
44 the herds statewide are also declining. That doesn't
45 make sense to me.
46
47 MR. SAMPSON: (Indiscernible - no
48 microphone) Mr. Dau, 500,000 (In Native)
49
50 MS. SMITH: One sentence says it does

1 not think that it is steadily declining and the next
2 sentence says are also declining.
3
4 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.
5
6 MS. ARMSTRONG: On Page 9 on that
7 paragraph with Mr. Magdanz?
8
9 MS. SMITH: No.
10
11 MR. SAMPSON: Not Jim Dau.
12
13 MS. SMITH: No, Jim Dau.
14
15 MR. SAMPSON: Jim Dau (In Native).
16
17 MS. ARMSTRONG: Oh, Mr. Jim Dau?
18
19 MS. SMITH: Yeah.
20
21 MS. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay. Okay.
22
23 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Dau does not think it
24 (In Native)
25
26 MS. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay, what should
27 it say, thinks -- Mr. Dau thinks.
28
29 ATTAMUK: I think he was talking about
30 the Western Arctic Herd steadily, the herd is
31 declining, Western Arctic -- but on the other herds,
32 right, because.....
33
34 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: The other herds are
35 declining although this one.....
36
37 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay.
38
39 CHAIRMAN KARMUN:the Western
40 Arctic Herd did decline.....
41
42 ATTAMUK: Yeah.
43
44 CHAIRMAN KARMUN:about six
45 percent, I think is what they brought out at the -- if
46 I remember right he didn't say we are in danger of the
47 herd crashing yet. It's too early to tell.
48
49 MR. SAMPSON: The information that he
50 was providing to us was necessarily the Western Arctic

1 Herd -- 500,000 now down to 377,000, that is continuing
2 to decline and I wonder if the report today, I guess
3 regards to how that herd is doing, do you want to leave
4 that for right now, but I think Hazel made a point
5 that.....

6
7 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. So you guys can
8 make changes to that, Mr. Dau does not think the herd
9 is steadily declining, all the other herds statewide
10 are also declining.

11
12 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I think there's still
13 a question there, Barbara.

14
15 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

16
17 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: You know, possibly if
18 we could get that answered sometime today.

19
20 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Okay.

21
22 MR. SAMPSON: (In Native) Motion (In
23 Native)

24
25 MS. ARMSTRONG: Need a second.

26
27 MS. BALLOT: We need a second.

28
29 MS. SMITH: Second.

30
31 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Seconded by Hazel.

32
33 MR. BALLOT: Question.

34
35 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Question's been
36 called. All in favor.

37
38 IN UNISON: Aye.

39
40 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you. No. 6.
41 Before we go into elections the other seats that are
42 vacant representative from.....

43
44 MR. SAMPSON: From where?

45
46 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Noorvik, Selawik, up
47 river, Ambler.

48
49 MS. ARMSTRONG: We have -- I think we
50 had just two or three applicants from this last

1 nomination period.

2

3 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I would like to ask a
4 question in that respect. Is it okay for OSM or the
5 Interior Department's to go through the other
6 applications that have been submitted before and review
7 them again.

8

9 MS. ARMSTRONG: No.

10

11 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: They can't do that?

12

13 MS. ARMSTRONG: No.

14

15 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Why?

16

17 MS. ARMSTRONG: One nomination per.....

18

19 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: One time.

20

21 MS. ARMSTRONG: One time.....

22

23 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: One time per

24 application, okay.

25

26 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, and if anybody
27 wants to reapply they have to wait. It starts again by
28 this fall, they'll be open again for applications for
29 this fall. For right now I think we only have two, two
30 applicants, two or three applicants.

31

32 MR. GOODWIN: So in our region?

33

34 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

35

36 MR. GOODWIN: There's six.

37

38 MS. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay.

39

40 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay. So with that

41 then that.....

42

43 MS. ARMSTRONG: At first they were
44 trying to do it the other way, now it's just anyone
45 from the region, just so they're residents from this
46 region, Northwest Arctic, NANA region.

47

48 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay. So it doesn't

49 have to.....

50

1 MS. ARMSTRONG: It doesn't have.....
2
3 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay.
4
5 MS. ARMSTRONG: It doesn't have no
6 certain seats to represent what so.....
7
8 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: So I have a question.
9
10 MR. SAMPSON: (In Native)
11
12 MS. ARMSTRONG: They'd have to work
13 with it, they haven't done any panel meetings yet over
14 this so we'll have to wait for the names to come out
15 later.
16
17 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah, Mr. Chairman,
18 Willie Goodwin. I'm one of the -- one of the
19 questionnaires with all of the applicants, their
20 references.....
21
22 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes.
23
24 MR. GOODWIN:and (Indiscernible)
25 Parker, is it, from BLM is it, will do three and I will
26 do three.
27
28 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Oh, okay.
29
30 MR. GOODWIN: And then we'll present
31 the names.
32
33 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay.
34
35 MR. GOODWIN: To a panel meeting and
36 once that's done we'll make a recommendation to the
37 Office of Subsistence to the Federal Board.
38
39 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I still have a
40 question. If you read the charter for this, they used
41 to say 70/30, does that still stand?
42
43 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yep, it's back.
44
45 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: It's back?
46
47 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.
48
49 MR. GOODWIN: If there's no applicants
50 for sport then we're okay.

1 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.
2
3 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: They're not going to
4 make it mandatory then?
5
6 MR. GOODWIN: No.
7
8 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's mandatory.
9
10 MR. GOODWIN: Oh.
11
12 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's 70/30.....
13
14 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: It's on the paper,
15 but I haven't seen.....
16
17 MS. ARMSTRONG:the 70/30 is back
18 on.
19
20 CHAIRMAN KARMUN:anything saying
21 to where it's mandatory yet. Is it?
22
23 MS. ARMSTRONG: 70/30, yep.
24
25 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I know it's 70/30 is
26 what they suggest and recommend but I haven't found
27 anything or seen anything that says it's mandatory
28 right now yet.
29
30 MS. ARMSTRONG: Chuck, is there anyone
31 there that would answer that?
32
33 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, this is
34 Chuck Ardizzone. 70/30 is a recommended guideline.
35 Some regions cannot meet that guideline so it's not
36 hard and fast.
37
38 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay, it doesn't have
39 to be.
40
41 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay.
42
43 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay, thank you.
44
45 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.
46
47 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: That clarifies.....
48
49 MS. ARMSTRONG: The applications --
50 applicants.

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay. Any other
2 discussion.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Audience.
7
8 (No comments)
9
10 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Hearing none, okay.
11 So we've got the minutes done then?
12
13 MR. SAMPSON: Yes.
14
15 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay. Barbara, it's
16 yours.
17
18 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay, election of
19 officers. And I'll start this off. Once the Chair is
20 elected then we'll turn that over to the new Chair to
21 run the rest of the meeting today.
22
23 So nominations are now open for the
24 Chair.
25
26 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Mr. Chairman -- or
27 presiding Chair, I nominate Walter Sampson.
28
29 MS. ARMSTRONG: Walter Sampson has been
30 nominated.
31
32 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, I nominate
33 Victor Karmun.
34
35 MS. SMITH:
36
37 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Mr. Chairman
38
39 MR. SAMPSON: I move to close
40 nominations.
41
42 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay, nominations have
43 been closed.
44
45 MR. SAMPSON: You got paper?
46
47 MS. ARMSTRONG: You guys want paper?
48
49 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.
50

1 (Pause)
2
3 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay, Victor, Victor,
4 Walter, Walter, Victor, and Walter. We have three and
5 three tie.
6
7 MS. SMITH: Can we have co-Chair.
8
9 (Laughter)
10
11 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, there is a co-
12 Chair.
13
14 (Laughter)
15
16 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Sure.
17
18 MS. SMITH: Would it work as co-Chairs?
19
20 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, you have a
21 Chairman and vice-Chairman and then you have to decide
22 who's going to be your Chair.
23
24 How would you want to deal with that?
25
26 MR. SAMPSON: I think for purpose --
27 representing to the Federal Board or -- or other
28 agencies, what -- what -- would there be any effect?
29
30 MS. ARMSTRONG: No.
31
32 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: That would be the big
33 question.
34
35 MR. BALLOT: For Chair or for vice-
36 President?
37
38 MR. SAMPSON: No, I mean how would
39 agencies.....
40
41 MS. SMITH: That we're all working
42 together I would assume. That's what it would mean to
43 me.
44
45 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Sure.
46
47 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's' the Chair's call,
48 if you guys want it left that way you can do it that
49 way, to break out, one Chair and vice-Chair.
50

1 MR. SAMPSON: (In Native)
2
3 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yeah.
4
5 MR. SAMPSON: Well, we just need to
6 vote for secretary and treasurer now.
7
8 MS. ARMSTRONG: What have you guys
9 decided?
10
11 (Laughter)
12
13 MS. ARMSTRONG: You could flip a coin.
14
15 MR. SAMPSON: (In Native)
16
17 MS. SMITH: Yeah, instead of Pres,
18 vice-Pres, just have two Chairs, will that work?
19
20 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: It will work for me.
21
22 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay, so I can work
23 with both of you.
24
25 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.
26
27 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yeah.
28
29 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Did you
30 understand that, did.....
31
32 MR. ARDIZZONE: Barb, this is Chuck,
33 what just happened?
34
35 MR. SAMPSON: (In Native)
36
37 MS. ARMSTRONG: The Council, we had two
38 candidates, and that's Walter Sampson and Victor
39 Karmun.
40
41 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right, and you tied.
42
43 MS. ARMSTRONG: And it was a tie. And
44 then the Council have decided to run both of them as
45 co-Chairs, and now they're just going to vote for --
46 find a secretary and go with that.
47
48 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay, I guess.
49
50 MS. ARMSTRONG: Working together, yeah,

1 if that's what they want to do that's their call.
2
3 MS. ARMSTRONG: As long as it's okay, I
4 don't know how it's done so.....
5
6 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, we've worked with
7 that pretty much up here in their region and they
8 understand that pretty clearly.
9
10 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay.
11
12 MR. SAMPSON: We're finally applying
13 the wish of the region.
14
15 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I might as well
16 finish it, I guess, secretary.
17
18 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Hazel Smith.
19
20 MR. SAMPSON: Austin Swan.
21
22 MR. BALLOT: I move to close.
23
24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (In Native)
25
26 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (In Native)
27
28 (Laughter)
29
30 MS. ARMSTRONG: Then we'll really.....
31
32 (Laughter)
33
34 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I got one Barbara.
35
36 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay, I thought I --
37 Hazel -- okay.
38
39 (Laughter)
40
41 MS. ARMSTRONG: Austin.
42
43 (Laughter)
44
45 MS. ARMSTRONG: Austin.
46
47 (Laughter)
48
49 MS. ARMSTRONG: Austin. Austin.
50

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay.
2
3 MS. ARMSTRONG: Austin. Austin got
4 five, Hazel got one, so Austin you're the secretary.
5
6 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: You got that settled?
7
8 MS. ARMSTRONG: That's settled.
9
10 MR. SAMPSON: (In Native)
11
12 (Laughter)
13
14 MS. ARMSTRONG: (Breaking up)
15 everything I said to him anyway so that's good.
16
17 Okay, thank you.
18
19 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Are you up, Barbara?
20
21 MS. ARMSTRONG: No, it's No. 7.
22
23 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Excuse me. Austin,
24 do you want to start?
25
26 MR. SWAN: Yeah. We are getting ready
27 for whaling in Kivalina. Last week I assisted with
28 caribou sampling at Red Dog with Jim Dau and another
29 guy from Kivalina and some biologist. We did find one
30 caribou with tape worm larvae in its lung, pretty good
31 size tape worm larvae. And I got to try a warble fly
32 (ph), yeah, they -- salty taste, first time for me.
33
34 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.
35
36 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yeah.
37
38 MR. SWAN: Jim talked me into it so if
39 I get sick I'll blame him.
40
41 (Laughter)
42
43 MR. SWAN: Other than that we have a
44 lot of snow. I think we'll have plants, we'll have a
45 lot of berries, maybe, hopefully.
46
47 Fishing's been good this year. For
48 some reason they're still fat, the fish they're getting
49 in the winter, I don't know why. But that's it. The
50 last few years they've been fat, the fish have been all

1 year, even in the spring when they're going out when
2 they're normally lean, they -- they still have some
3 oily taste to it.

4
5 That's all.

6
7 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Hazel.

8
9 MS. SMITH: I've been working with
10 Noatak, actually with the State Subsistence Division
11 doing survey work out in the communities. And right
12 now I'm working with Noatak IRA Council on their.....

13
14 (Phone cutting out - loud buzz)

15
16 MS. SMITH: (Still talking)

17
18 (Phone cutting out)

19
20 MR. ARDIZZONE: Are you still there?

21
22 MS. GREFFENIUS: We're here.

23
24 MR. ARDIZZONE: We're here.

25
26 MS. GREFFENIUS: We just had some noise
27 but can you hear us okay?

28
29 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yeah, thank you.

30
31 MS. GREFFENIUS: Okay. Good. Well,
32 could you repeat -- I think it was Hazel speaking,
33 maybe you could start again from her so the court
34 reporter can get that please?

35
36 MR. SAMPSON: Oh, geez.

37
38 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay.

39
40 MS. SMITH: I've been working with the
41 Noatak IRA Council on their next proposal to change the
42 controlled use area dates. They do want to extend it
43 for six weeks. If that doesn't seem like it's going to
44 work they want to have an option to proposal to submit
45 at the same time so I am working with them on changing
46 the dates.

47
48 I've also learned from the upper Kobuk
49 that they want to establish a controlled use area for
50 the upper Kobuk.

1 I haven't worked with any of the other
2 villages lately except that two.

3
4 That's all I have.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Victor here. On the
9 Squirrel River. I've heard talk around Kotzebue and
10 some people from Kiana, if they can't implement a
11 controlled use area they'll possibly make it a wild and
12 scenic river. I don't know the implications of that or
13 what it would entail or how much it would close off or
14 even, in fact, if it would be effective. I think in
15 the past it had been proposed and it was shot down once
16 already so I don't know if it would even be considered
17 again. But that's basically what I'm hearing on the
18 Squirrel River.

19
20 Attamuk.

21
22 ATTAMUK: Attamuk here. Yeah, I did
23 hear in Kotzebue, caribou are pretty much fat (ph)
24 (breaking up) for fall and that's the word I had two
25 weeks ago.

26
27 And I went fishing about a month ago at
28 Paul Slough, I laid about 11 holes all the way to the
29 mouth there was a lot of dead smelts and herring coming
30 up, I mean real stink where it made me just gag, they
31 were that bad. And they got good at the mouth, I think
32 it was from the current, but I just got call yesterday,
33 they heard I was back, that they go little bit further
34 up they're getting out of that -- that smelt and
35 herring but where you're fishing it's okay. But you
36 could smell it a little on the ones that -- holes that
37 are a little further up, otherwise everything's okay
38 and they were concerned what's going on. I mean when I
39 made holes in Paul's Slough, I mean I was cleaning more
40 fish than ice, we couldn't even put our hook down,
41 that's how thick it was. And we made -- but like I
42 said, all the way the mouth we counted 11 holes, we
43 made all the way to the mouth and it was like that
44 until we get where the current crossed Lockhart Part.

45
46 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: You think would be
47 killing those fish.

48
49 ATTAMUK: The way I was told by two
50 elders from Kotzebue years ago, Jerry (breaking up)

1 Adams tell me that when they're slushing ice in the
2 bottom and it -- when it stop it makes a pocket and it
3 freezes it. It'll be open, the fish will just die of
4 lack of oxygen, they'll run out of oxygen when that
5 slush stop and that's how they -- that's how -- and
6 Jerry (indiscernible) told me that -- that's what he's
7 always told and I can't -- I can't prove it, I --
8 nobody could prove it it's just knowledge that was
9 given to me and passed on, I mean that's what they told
10 me. It was years ago, we -- at the school -- we were
11 going to fish -- and we -- we -- that's what came up
12 and he was -- he came around and he told us that's what
13 happened, he said you have to go further out to the
14 current, it would be okay at the current. And we --
15 more like in an eddy, that's how I know that -- I say
16 -- but -- and I believe what they told me, I'll tell
17 you that, and they were sti -- you couldn't even --
18 they come up they were just falling apart, just rotten.
19

20 This -- this happened, maybe you guys
21 remember -- look in the minutes, this happened maybe
22 about six years ago here too, this -- where
23 (indiscernible) all the way to -- and at the time I was
24 working like -- I traced it all the way to Little
25 Noatak, me and Walter, we -- all the way up to the
26 Noatak and right at -- all the way to (indiscernible),
27 this is what happened at the time -- when we went to
28 (indiscernible) and they called and they were coming up
29 like that. That was a big -- that was a big one that
30 time. This time I just went -- I didn't go no further.
31

32 MS. SMITH: I wonder what's causing
33 them to stink, I mean we like to eat stink fish, but,
34 you know, it's -- it -- why would it be so bad.
35

36 ATTAMUK: I know like the -- like them
37 elders say it was the -- i's the dead water, it's dead
38 and they die and they're not moving so they just get
39 rotten and they just die right there and the water,
40 it's not in freezing temperature, it's more like
41 lukewarm and when it's lukewarm why you think we like
42 our trout old, we get them for (In Native), that --
43 what -- what it is really but it never freezes and --
44 at that temp.
45

46 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Even sheefish in the
47 net, Hazel, if you leave them too long they get real
48 rank.
49

50 ATTAMUK: Yeah, they get rotten.

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: They get rotten.
2
3 MS. SMITH: It makes me not want to eat
4 fish now.
5
6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Still the best.
7
8 MS. SMITH: Yeah.
9
10 (Laughter)
11
12 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you, Attamuk.
13 Mr. Ballot.
14
15 MR. BALLOT: We haven't gotten very
16 much caribou last fall, I don't know so it might be
17 good to find out just exactly what's passing. Because
18 of the shallow water I guess might be why we're not
19 getting much last year or they come too late and
20 they're already (indiscernible). So we had a tough
21 time with meat early in the fall. But during the
22 winter we're doing okay now. In fact we've been
23 getting wolf in town so I think some guy got three
24 wolves right in town. And they've been seeing a lot of
25 foxes with no tails, and a lot of foxes, period, even
26 in daytime now.
27
28 MR. SAMPSON: How come no tails?
29
30 MR. BALLOT: I don't know.
31 Probably.....
32
33 MR. SAMPSON: Somebody's borrowing them
34 for their hats.
35
36 (Laughter)
37
38 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Foxy lady.
39
40 MR. BALLOT: But otherwise everything's
41 been good. It's good to be back.
42
43 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter.
44
45 MR. SAMPSON: (Breaking up) but
46 certainly continues to plague the region and I think
47 that being affected, price of fuel continuing to -- and
48 also the high and consistent (breaking up - paper
49 rustling) by that and (breaking up - or else not
50 talking in the phone) cost continue to -- to rise. And

1 that is the continuing issue and the likes of the
2 sportshunter, there's no (indiscernible - not talking
3 by phone) area. There's also the question of caribou,
4 at least, initial herd that, you know, certainly this
5 -- this fall that was sort of a (indiscernible) but not
6 so (papers shuffling) similar communities that were
7 pretty much (indiscernible). So whether these --
8 whether the herd is being held up north because of some
9 of the problems that's in place or -- or it's just that
10 they didn't make it down, they -- you know at some
11 point in time we certainly will see the kind of
12 (indiscernible - papers shuffling) like sportshunting
13 issue, I know every darn year we talk about this issue,
14 every fall we get impacted by (indiscernible) the last
15 two to three years we've been addressing this -- next
16 year we'll continue to address that. They just -- just
17 can't take of the problem, there's got to be a way for
18 -- to address the (breaking up) and find the course to
19 address the problem.

20

21 And life isn't getting easier for --
22 for people -- it's getting much harder. We've got some
23 of the communities that are running out of fuel, you
24 know, Ambler's been (indiscernible), but, you know,
25 Noorvik now has (indiscernible - breaking up) problems
26 because of some of the mechanical issues with their
27 pumps. And our people, too, will continue to find a
28 way to get fuel into -- in from Kotzebue.

29

30 And I think we need to look for
31 alternatives to do some of these things.

32

33 I don't know what we can do with the --
34 with the sportshunting issue. Like I said we're going
35 to -- I mean we're going to address this issue next
36 year again to resolve it -- the problem, and what do we
37 do do we go to Congress and -- and, say, hey, we've
38 been having this problem for -- for -- for a time now,
39 I guess they've been unable to address the problem.
40 (Indiscernible) that management authority to -- to deal
41 with these things (indiscernible) maybe that would be
42 an option that we can go to the Alaska Delegation and
43 say, hey -- certainly I'm going to raise that next week
44 when we go to D.C., because we do have some meetings
45 with some of our -- with agency folks and these are
46 some of the critical issues that are going to be
47 addressed as the leadership team goes to D.C., these
48 are some of the issues that we have that we need -- and
49 the cost of living continues to rise and
50 (indiscernible) more so to -- to some of the less

1 fortunate people that don't have -- that are trying to
2 make do with what they have.

3
4 I think I've heard it more so from
5 (indiscernible - away from phone) on these issues.

6
7 Thank you.

8
9 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you, Walter.
10 Percy Ballot.

11
12 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, can I add something
13 to that. I think Walter's hitting it right on the
14 button. We've been having problem with a guide, over
15 the years he's always having -- doing things that he's
16 not supposed to do in our area. And last year between
17 Buckland and Koyuk, he was camping on one of our hot
18 springs (ph) where he -- and he had -- he was doing
19 work out of there at the Granite Mountain. And so he
20 had a license to hunt on their side but he was looking
21 at moose on our side because he was right on the border
22 line and so we had fish -- Fish and Game here go check
23 him out but he left -- but he's been going back on and
24 off, this guy's been in trouble different times and
25 nothing is really done. I mean we go out there and we
26 -- the hunters and we'll cite them for -- a few of them
27 have a little clip in there so you have 23 shots or
28 whatever in there, and we put them up and do something
29 about it but we don't do nothing about these guys that
30 are doing things wrong with their game, especially when
31 they have two or three incidents, and that's got to
32 stop. We need to do something though, things like
33 that. If we can put a lot of money into checking out
34 our local hunters or -- and I -- when I saw the report
35 about the -- they did check and saw a lot of camps and
36 ran into a lot of loc -- non-locals but we still need
37 to put more attention to the issue of the transporters
38 and guides in our area.

39
40 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter, addressing
41 some of your concerns, I can understand where you're
42 coming from.

43
44 Secretary Salazar -- and if you listen
45 to the new administration President Barack Obama saying
46 he's going to try and have a better working rapport
47 with Native Americans, the Secretary of Interior's
48 right-hand man in Alaska -- I kind of looked into this
49 background, he's not an outdoorsman by a long shot, but
50 I did find out he's very thorough and very fair. And I

1 heard that from two or three different sources. He's
2 more or less like a college professor or a newspaper
3 individual. However it remains to be seen what this
4 new administration is going to bring.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 Any other comments.

9
10 Mr. Swan.

11
12 MR. SWAN: Mr. Chairman. I would like
13 to add to Walter's comment, too, you mentioned the cost
14 of fuel for gas and heat, now we're not going to be
15 under (indiscernible) for very long I don't think in
16 the region. We need to start thinking about some kind
17 of transportation corridor for the villages. You know
18 we have two ports here that can take in fuel and I
19 think it would be a really good idea to double up those
20 ports and then build transportation corridors to the 11
21 villages from either one of those or both of those
22 ports, you know, I -- I -- that, in itself, would
23 probably help fuel costs a lot, especially heating
24 fuel.

25
26 MR. SAMPSON: I'm glad you -- you
27 raised the issue because actually developing a road
28 system between the communities, one of the areas that
29 Noatak certainly is going to be looking at constructing
30 a road into -- into the -- the (indiscernible) village
31 system, and I think that's one of the issues that we're
32 certainly going to be looking at, the Alaska Delegation
33 in D.C., in trying to get -- getting an easement (ph)
34 from Congress to do that and we'll do that. I mean our
35 way of life has always been -- been dictated by -- by
36 -- by government. I think it's -- it's -- for, too
37 long has -- has happened. We need to -- to change that
38 but our people have an opportunity to address, you
39 know, (indiscernible) at that level -- not at the
40 government -- government level. And -- and I mean if
41 you look at the existing system that we came from, it
42 was a dictorial type of a system where -- heirachial
43 system with -- with changing times and -- and -- and
44 all this continues to dwindle, rather than doing moss
45 studies, rather than doing grass studies, let's start
46 using some of these dollars to improve a way of life
47 for -- for the communities. Look at all this money
48 that's being spent on helicopter time to go take a look
49 at grass plots where I think it's -- it's only fair to
50 us that we start applying some of these things to -- to

1 look at to better life as costs continue to rise
2 (indiscernible) will continue to -- to -- to be
3 suppressed by government, and I think it's time that we
4 -- we change that.

5
6 I mean look at the issue in regards to
7 -- to the sports hunting. For the last several years
8 we've had that issue. For the last couple years we've
9 talked about that very issue, to-date nothing's being
10 done. And it will continue to be a problem down the
11 road.

12
13 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Speaking of that I
14 like to check the internet, which I did this morning
15 again, Northwest Arctic Herd, a hunt out of the
16 Northwest Arctic Caribou Herd is still a bargain and
17 the hunters are standing in line trying to get on a --
18 get on a hunt, they're waiting for cancellations
19 already and they have a waiting list. But a hunt out
20 of this herd basically anywhere else in Alaska, what I
21 keep seeing is still bombarded (ph).

22
23 Thank you, Walter.

24
25 Any other comments.

26
27 (No comments)

28
29 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: People in the
30 audience. Mr. Adkisson, you're awful quiet.

31
32 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: He won't be later.

33
34 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Any other comments or
35 questions.

36
37 MR. SAMPSON: I think the
38 (indiscernible) to the statement in regards to what
39 they're doing to this hunt, that's management
40 responsibility.

41
42 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I think it's coming
43 up here shortly on the agenda.

44
45 Any other comments.

46
47 (No comments)

48
49 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Council.

50

1 (No comments)
2
3 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Attamuk.
4
5 ATTAMUK: That main concern about the
6 villages, cost of living.
7
8 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Hazel.
9
10 (No comments)
11
12 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Austin.
13
14 (No comments)
15
16 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay.
17
18 (Laughter)
19
20 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Item No. 7.
21
22 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman.
23
24 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes.
25
26 MS. WILKINSON: This is Ann Wilkinson.
27 Hi. I understand that there was some question about
28 the election for Chair position.
29
30 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes, that's been
31 done.
32
33 MR. SAMPSON: It's done.
34
35 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I think we got it
36 rectified.
37
38 MS. WILKINSON: And what was your
39 decision?
40
41 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: We will be co-Chairs.
42
43 MS. WILKINSON: I'm sorry, sir, but
44 that is not allowable under your Council Charter. The
45 Council Charter says.....
46
47 (Laughter)
48
49 MS. WILKINSON:that you may have
50 a Chair and a vice-Chair and a secretary, singular. So

1 you will need to resolve that so that you have one
2 Chairman or Chairwoman, or Chair -- one Chair.
3
4 MS. SMITH: We'll pick it up later.
5
6 MS. WILKINSON: Okay.
7
8 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay. At the advice
9 of the Council we'll take that up at a later time.
10
11 MS. WILKINSON: All right, thank you.
12
13 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Do we have a new
14 visitor.
15
16 (Laughter)
17
18 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Introduce yourself,
19 please.
20
21 CHARLIE: Northwest Arctic Borough.
22
23 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you, Charlie.
24
25 (Whispered conversation - away from
26 phone - static - paper shuffling)
27
28 MR. SAMPSON: I heard that too.
29
30 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Barbara.
31
32 MS. ARMSTRONG: No. 8.
33
34 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes, ma'am.
35
36 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. No. 8 we do not
37 have an .805 letter because we did not have any
38 proposals for the last meeting so there is no .805
39 letter for this region.
40
41 And we also do not have an annual
42 report this year because I was just given this to --
43 time to work with the Council just within the year and
44 then I wanted at least a couple of meetings before so I
45 could hear.....
46
47 (Phone ringing)
48
49 MS. ARMSTRONG:what kind of
50 discussions you have and doing an annual report on your

1 -- for you by this year. And so I -- so if there are
2 any concerns or issues that you guys discuss or bring
3 up then we can bring that forth in your annual report
4 for next year.

5
6 MS. SMITH: Where does this -- where
7 does this annual report go and what happens when we
8 have nothing to report?

9
10 MS. ARMSTRONG: If you have nothing to
11 report we do write a letter to the Federal Board
12 telling them that there will be no report from the
13 Council to the Federal Board. The annual report is the
14 letter that you guys submit to make a request on your
15 concerns on any wildlife -- fish or wildlife in your
16 region or other issues you may have and I write up
17 your annual report and submit it and then the Federal
18 Board will make a response to you to those issues that
19 you guys submit.

20
21 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Barbara, would the
22 Title VIII of ANILCA, maybe it's time to revisit
23 ANILCA, make some amendments to it, revise it or
24 something because in my opinion right now it's not
25 being implemented nor is it working.

26
27 I would like to see that.

28
29 MS. ARMSTRONG: I don't think we have
30 that power to do that. We can make a request.

31
32 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: If it has to be a
33 request, suggest or recommendation, we have to start
34 somewhere.

35
36 MS. ARMSTRONG: If that's what you want
37 to do we can do that.

38
39 MS. SMITH: I think we -- I'm new to
40 the subsistence arena but I'm hearing more and more and
41 more locals that we need to do something about ANILCA.

42
43 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Mr. Walter.

44
45 MR. SAMPSON: I think that's a very
46 dangerous way of getting into ANILCA. I think you ask
47 for a change and outside interests will certainly get
48 into the role of playing -- to make other additional
49 changes to include those things that we don't want in
50 there. I think that's a pretty scary way of dealing

1 with ANILCA.

2

3 Sure it can be done in a way that won't
4 open up for -- for others -- the provisions of ANILCA
5 are being already attacked anyway. We look at the
6 State system, the way -- the way it's been going. Part
7 of the State mentality is now within the Federal
8 system. I will -- I will continue to work to find a
9 way to -- to do -- with ANILCA. Look at what's
10 happening with the MOU that was with -- they don't
11 even given us an opportunity to comment on -- on the
12 MOU. And that's the frustration that -- that we have.
13 We have a system in place that dictates to us how
14 things are going to work, how our lives are going to be
15 run.

16

17 Look at the problems that we have. The
18 opportunities that have been given to -- to the people
19 outside but yet we're being impacted, what's the
20 Federal doing, nothing. The provisions of ANILCA is
21 not -- not even being enforced. That's the frustration
22 of.....

23

24 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I could see where the
25 dangers are but somehow I would still like to see it
26 visited, discussed or something. Maybe we still have a
27 trump card on this new administration somewhere.

28

29 MR. SAMPSON: Well, I think with this
30 new administration there is certainly a way to -- to
31 try and get into some of those folks at the upper level
32 and the opportunity is coming up to do that and I plan
33 to address some of those things hopefully with some of
34 those folks.

35

36 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you.

37

38 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, because I don't
39 think this would be the time because we only deal with
40 fish and wildlife issues in the region, in the NANA
41 region and ANILCA is -- but then it would have to take
42 another channel to.....

43

44 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Well, it seems like
45 to me it directly deals with fish and wildlife with the
46 case implying or the securing of these renewable
47 resources.

48

49 MR. SAMPSON: Well, I think, Victor,
50 you try to apply it to this agency, just imagine what's

1 going to happen, it will devastate our way of life even
2 more than what it has to this point. I just raise an
3 issue in regards to this issue in getting into the
4 Federal system and it certainly will erode our way of
5 life.

6
7 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Should we strike that
8 out and put it on hold?

9
10 MR. SAMPSON: I certainly ain't going
11 to support it from this level when there are other
12 areas that can be looked at. I think we need to try to
13 address some of the issues that are before us and deal
14 with those things.

15
16 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you, Walter.
17 Any other comments, suggestions.

18
19 (No comments)

20
21 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Hearing none, okay.

22
23 MR. SAMPSON: (In Native)

24
25 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Are we ready to move
26 on. Fisheries. Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program.

27
28 MS. ARMSTRONG: (Indiscernible - away
29 from phone) report at probably the fall meeting.

30
31 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Fall meeting?

32
33 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. So you can look
34 at No. 10.

35
36 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: (Indiscernible -
37 breaking up) views and Council recommendations.

38
39 MS. GREFFENIUS: Mr. Chair and members
40 of the Council my name is Laura and I'm a wildlife
41 biologist with OSM. I'll be presenting this part of
42 your agenda. Can you and members of the Council here
43 me okay?

44
45 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes, ma'am, go ahead.

46
47 MR. SAMPSON: Yes.

48
49 MS. GREFFENIUS: The closure review
50 briefing and the actual policy on closures to hunting,

1 trapping and fishing can be found in your Council book
2 on Pages 13 through 17, so if you want to refer to that
3 while I'm presenting.

4
5 Section .815 of ANILCA allows the
6 Federal Subsistence Board to establish closures to
7 hunting, trapping and fishing on Federal public lands
8 and waters when necessary for the conservation of
9 healthy populations of fish and wildlife and to
10 continue subsistence uses of the populations. In 2005
11 the Federal Subsistence Management Program began a
12 review every three years of all Federal wildlife
13 closures to hunting, and the reviews are to determine
14 whether the original justifications for the closures
15 continued to apply.

16
17 These reviews are being conducted in
18 accordance with guidance found in the Federal
19 Subsistence Board's policy which begins on Page 14 in
20 your book, and this policy was adopted by the Federal
21 Board in 2007.

22
23 Mr. Chair and members of the Council,
24 the closure policy clearly states that the Board will
25 consider the recommendations of the Regional Advisory
26 Councils before it takes regulatory action on Federal
27 issues on Federal closures.

28
29 All of the closures being reviewed this
30 cycle were originally reviewed by the Regional Advisory
31 Councils and the Federal Board in 2006, so three years
32 have passed and it is time once again to take a look at
33 the closures to hunting and trapping in your region.

34
35 Today I will present to the Council two
36 reviews on Federal closures that were originally
37 reviewed three years ago and through these reviews we
38 will summarize the status of the wildlife population,
39 if the status of the wildlife population has changed in
40 three years. In other words, has it remained the same
41 or has it grown or decreased in size. We must also
42 consider if the wildlife population has improved to
43 where it can sustain the needs of subsistence users and
44 other uses.

45
46 Again, the Board would like your
47 recommendation today on the closure reviews that I will
48 present to you shortly. After each presentation the
49 Council will have an opportunity to recommend to either
50 maintain the status quo or leave the closure in place

1 or initiate a proposal to the Federal Subsistence Board
2 to modify or eliminate the closure or the Council can
3 make some other recommendation to the Board.

4
5 So Mr. Chair this concludes my
6 presentation on the wildlife closure review briefing
7 and the Board's closure policy. I'll stop here and
8 answer any questions you may have before I present the
9 closure reviews for your region which begin on Page 18.

10
11 So any questions?

12
13 Thank you.

14
15 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Any questions?

16
17 MR. SAMPSON: Under the closure
18 provisions, this isn't a -- a type of cycle system, is
19 that accurate?

20
21 MS. GREFFENIUS: Okay, I didn't hear
22 the whole question, just under this closure review, if
23 something was applicable?

24
25 MR. SAMPSON: What I'm asking is, in
26 the event there's an emergency closure request or open
27 how are those addressed through the process?

28
29 (No comment)

30
31 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Do we have one in
32 existence right now?

33
34 MS. GREFFENIUS: Well, we have closures
35 that are in the permanent regulations that usually will
36 state something -- it will state Federal public lands
37 are closed to the taking of and then to -- except by
38 Federally-qualified subsistence users. So these
39 closure reviews are referring to closures that are in
40 the Federal subsistence wildlife regulations in your
41 book. If something is going to be closed on short
42 notice, it's a different procedure. So I just want to
43 make that clear.

44
45 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Would that have to be
46 Council action or what's the protocol for something
47 like that?

48
49 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, this is
50 Chuck Ardizzone.

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes.

2

3 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes, if there's an
4 emergency closure we would do that under our special
5 action authority. That would be someone would have to
6 submit a special action to our office and the Board
7 would take action that way, you know, if it was an
8 emergency special action versus these are closures that
9 are in regulation all the time unless we remove them is
10 what Laura will be briefing later.

11

12 MR. SAMPSON: Can you define emergency?

13

14 MR. ARDIZZONE: I can't really define
15 emergency. It's, you know, extenuating circumstance
16 which affects wildlife for subsistence uses. It's kind
17 of a judgment call of the Board whether they
18 determined, they're the ones that actually determine if
19 it's an emergency or not. We get a number of requests
20 every year that give different reasons for the
21 emergency and the Board has to evaluate those reasons
22 and make their decisions on those.

23

24 MR. SAMPSON: Would you consider sports
25 hunting to have an affect in defecting the caribou herd
26 and folks are not getting any caribou as an emergency?

27

28 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. I wouldn't
29 make that judgment. You could surely submit a special
30 action on that and the Board would make that decision.

31

32 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: It seems like I
33 presented that at the last Federal Game Board meeting
34 and if I remember right I think it was deferred.

35

36 Okay, thank you.

37

38 MR. ARDIZZONE: You're welcome.

39

40 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Any questions,
41 comments, recommendations.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 MS. GREFFENIUS: Okay, Mr. Chair, I'll
46 continue. The first closure review, it's on Page 18 in
47 your Council book. And I'll make these brief. The
48 closure reviews, you're familiar with the area and I'm
49 just going to highlight what it is and then just really
50 quick just touch upon current information and then what

1 our recommendation is. If you have further questions
2 then we can certainly go into more detail.

3
4 So the first one that's labeled at the
5 top of the page, WCR Wildlife Closure Review 08-18, it
6 pertains to Unit 23 sheep. And as you can read there
7 in the current Federal regulation the last sentence
8 reads, Federal public lands are closed to the taking of
9 sheep except by Federally-qualified subsistence users
10 hunting under these regulations. And as I mentioned
11 these are the regulations that are in the regulation
12 book, they're already established.

13
14 The regulatory year this was initiated
15 was in 1999 and as I said I'll just mention real
16 briefly this is the current situation, the recent
17 survey in 2004 counted 598 sheep in the Baird
18 Mountains. Following the 2004 population survey the
19 National Park Service management objective indicates no
20 change of Federal subsistence harvest quotas is
21 recommended for the Baird Mountains.

22
23 Given the population and harvest
24 information, the OSM preliminary recommendation is to
25 maintain the status quo to keep the closure. And on
26 Page 20, just the reason for this recommendation under
27 the justification is the number of sheep counted in the
28 Baird Mountains has risen since the sharp population
29 decline that occurred during the 1990s. However, given
30 the significant conservation concerns maintaining the
31 closure is consistent with sound management principles
32 to conserve a healthy sheep population and is
33 consistent with ANILCA mandates giving preference to
34 rural residents to continue subsistence uses, Section
35 .815 for this population.

36
37 This concludes just what I have to say
38 on this closure review. I'll stop if there's any
39 comments or questions. I can either go to the next
40 one and you can make your recommendations or you can do
41 your recommendation after each one, so that's all I
42 have for right now, Mr. Chair.

43
44 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter.

45
46 MR. SAMPSON: I guess while -- a
47 question of mine while we're hearing the
48 recommendations and what -- what's been done to this
49 point, we ought to move ahead to -- to make a
50 suggestion regards to what we ought to do with -- with

1 the closure reviews. I certainly want to -- to
2 continue to support the closure issue on the sheep.

3
4 So status quo is what I'm saying.

5
6 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Is that a motion,
7 Walter?

8
9 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

10
11 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: We have a motion on
12 the table pertaining to sheep to keep it status quo.

13
14 MR. BALLOT: Second.

15
16 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Seconded by Percy.

17
18 MR. SAMPSON: Is that what you're
19 asking for, in that fashion like that?

20
21 MS. GREFFENIUS: Yeah, Mr. Chair,
22 that's correct. I -- we have the preliminary
23 recommendation and then the Council makes their
24 recommendation to the Board so we've just said maintain
25 the status quo based on the biological information and
26 if that's the Council recommendation as well then
27 that's what will be brought before the Board.

28
29 MR. SAMPSON: Yep.

30
31 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I have a question,
32 Victor here. You stated the last survey was conducted
33 in 2004?

34
35 MS. GREFFENIUS: That's the information
36 in this write up right here. If there's.....

37
38 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: When will the next
39 one be conducted just out of curiosity?

40
41 MS. GREFFENIUS: Okay, I'm not sure who
42 is all sitting in the room, if there's somebody from
43 the local area that might be able to answer that but
44 that's a good question.

45
46 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Well, Ken Adkisson is
47 going to address that. Thank you.

48
49 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson, National
50 Park Service. The Park Service has taken primary

1 responsibility for the survey in the Bairds, which is
2 the subject, the Baird Mountain hunt area, the closure
3 you're talking about. And largely due to a couple of
4 things, predominately whether we've been closed out of
5 those surveys the last several years. The other thing
6 that's happened is with the development of the Arctic
7 network inventory and monitoring program the monitoring
8 of sheep has been included and is one of the vital
9 signs for the Arctic network program, and the survey
10 areas have been expanded essentially to cover pretty
11 much the Brooks Range to deal with some sheep across a
12 larger area and other park units. And like I said --
13 but the main reason that we haven't been able to get
14 into the Bairds the last several years is weather, but
15 the plans are to come back this summer in July 2009 and
16 hopefully conduct a successful survey of the Bairds
17 this coming summer.

18
19 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you, Ken. Any
20 other questions or comments.

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: The motion on the
25 table is to keep it status quo. All in favor by aye.

26
27 IN UNISON: Aye.

28
29 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Did you hear that?

30
31 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes, six aye's, I
32 believe.

33
34 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you.

35
36 MS. GREFFENIUS: Okay, Mr. Chair, the
37 next closure review begins on Page 21 in your Council
38 book, it's labeled WCR08-19, and it pertains to muskox
39 in Unit 23.

40
41 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Five, 10 minute
42 break.

43
44 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay, standby.

45
46 (Laughter)

47
48 MS. GREFFENIUS: Okay, just let me know
49 when you're ready.

50

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yeah, okay. Let's
2 take a five minute break.
3
4 (Off record)
5
6 (On record)
7
8 MS. GREFFENIUS: Yes, are you taking a
9 break there?
10
11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes.
12
13 (Off record)
14
15 (On record)
16
17 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Muskox.
18
19 MS. GREFFENIUS: Yes, Mr. Chair. I'm
20 ready, are you all ready there?
21
22 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes, ma'am.
23
24 MS. GREFFENIUS: Okay.
25
26 MR. SAMPSON: Been ready.
27
28 MS. GREFFENIUS: We're on Page 21 of
29 your Council book and this is WCR08-19 and it pertains
30 to muskox in Unit 23.
31
32 Under current Federal regulation you
33 can see there's a -- in the middle of that paragraph it
34 says Federal public lands are closed, et cetera, and
35 then it's also annual harvest quotas are done in
36 conjunction with the National Park Service and ADF&G
37 and BLM.
38
39 And this closure was initially begun in
40 1996. And just continuing on to Pages 22 and 23, I
41 just -- there was a population census based on a 2007
42 census, the muskox population in Unit 23 Southwest is
43 219. One of the management objectives for this
44 population is continued growth and expansion of the
45 herd. And as you all know from being in the area
46 there's the quota system that's set up.
47
48 But I'll just go to the preliminary
49 recommendation is to maintain the status quo, to keep
50 the closure, and going to the justification, the reason

1 being that since the muskox populations are small but
2 growing there are conservation concerns involved with
3 eliminating the closure. At this time there have been
4 no recommendations by the Seward Peninsula Muskox
5 Cooperators Group to eliminate the closure and,
6 therefore, the status quo is consistent with sound
7 management principles and the conservation of healthy
8 populations while providing a preference for
9 subsistence uses over other consumptive uses.

10

11 So that concludes my presentation of
12 this closure. And then just for the Council -- needs
13 to make a recommendation on what they'd like to do.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Mr. Ballot, you have
18 some comments?

19

20 MR. BALLOT: No. I think what you said
21 to do is that we did want to have a management -- have
22 them continue to grow -- we're going to have a proposal
23 with -- to try to change where we hunt for the next
24 year and (indiscernible - paper rustling) with Ken.

25

26 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter.

27

28 MR. SAMPSON: Taking a look at the
29 census from '92 (ph), it looks like the population
30 certainly has spiked here and there and dropped here
31 and there, what causes that -- is it the take or it is
32 something else that causes that to -- for instance,
33 from 134 to -- in '94 to 246, that was an increase in
34 that -- while in two years it went down to 178?

35

36 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Mr. Adkisson.

37

38 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair. Member
39 Sampson, Council members. Ken Adkisson, National Park
40 Service. We don't really have a good answer for that.
41 There are some possible explanations. Some of it has
42 to do with large groups of animals on the boundary
43 between the different game management units and it's
44 sort of the luck of the draw where that group of
45 animals is when you go out and count them.

46

47 The other thing, there's been a real
48 phenomena, the last number of years where the growth n
49 22E has been phenomenal, way beyond what you could
50 expect just out of the biological reproduction of

1 animals. Those animals got to be coming from somewhere
2 and likely 22D and 23 Southwest are candidates for that
3 but whatever the reason is, when we go in and do the
4 counts every -- every spring, you know, or every other
5 -- now it's like every three years, the numbers are
6 staying relatively flat with some up and down spikes in
7 there as you've indicated.

8
9 So I think the best interpretation
10 right now is that that population may have sort of
11 stabilized or be exhibiting variable small growth but
12 -- or going somewhere else, they could be feeding B
13 (ph).

14
15 Yeah.

16
17 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you, Ken.
18 Walter.

19
20 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I think
21 based on all the information that's been provided to us
22 and based on what -- what we know I'd -- I'd like to
23 recommend that we kept WCR08-19 the muskox status quo.

24
25 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: There's a motion on
26 the table to keep WCR08-19 status quo.

27
28 ATTAMUK: Second.

29
30 MS. SMITH: Second.

31
32 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: There's a second.

33
34 MS. SMITH: Question.

35
36 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Question. Comments
37 or suggestions.

38
39 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair.

40
41 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Go ahead.

42
43 MR. ARDIZZONE: This is Chuck
44 Ardizzone. We're just trying to figure out who the
45 second was on that.

46
47 ATTAMUK: Attamuk.

48
49 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Attamuk.

50

1 MR. ARDIZZONE: Thank you.
2
3 MS. SMITH: Question.
4
5 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: The question's been
6 called. All in favor.
7
8 IN UNISON: Aye.
9
10 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Motion passes, thank
11 you.
12
13 (Pause)
14
15 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Next one.
16
17 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay, Mr. Chair, this
18 is Chuck Ardizzone. If you flip to Page 26 in your
19 Council book, that addresses some of the new procedures
20 for accepting wildlife proposals.
21
22 The government's been moving towards
23 trying to do things electronically, on line, so they
24 set up a new system which is called eRulemaking and
25 there's a portal called regulations.gov for submission
26 of wildlife proposals. However, our office had
27 discussions with people back in D.C., and explained
28 that we have many individuals who live in rural Alaska
29 who do not have the capability to connect to the
30 internet so we were granted special permission to
31 basically maintain status quo. We can accept proposals
32 if they're mailed to our office or hand-carried to our
33 office or given to individuals like Barbara, who's your
34 coordinator, but individuals who have electronic access
35 to the internet can also submit proposals to the
36 www.regulations.gov. So basically there's no changes
37 at this time to how things can get submitted by the
38 Council but we just wanted to make people aware that
39 the government's working towards doing things
40 electronically.
41
42 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you very much. I
43 think that's critical in regards to issues in regards
44 to some of the folks at the community level, at the
45 rural level that don't have a computer at home so the
46 capability is not there.
47
48 Thank you very much.
49
50 MR. ARDIZZONE: You're welcome.

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Next one please.
2
3 MR. SAMPSON: Do we need to make a
4 recommendation on that then?
5
6 MS. ARMSTRONG: 11B, Ken Adkisson.
7
8 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.
9
10 MS. ARMSTRONG: No, it's information.
11
12 MR. SAMPSON: Okay, okay, good,
13 information. It was just for information purposes,
14 okay.
15
16 MS. ARMSTRONG: Ken Adkisson on his
17 proposal.
18
19 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chairman. Council
20 members. Ken Adkisson with the National Park Service.
21
22 I've distributed for you to look at and
23 for your information draft language for a potential
24 proposal related to adjusting muskoxen season in 23
25 Southwest, Buckland and Deering area. Just as an
26 informational item, this is not an official proposal at
27 this point, it hasn't been submitted by anyone to OSM,
28 it's something that the Alaska Department of Fish and
29 Game and the Park Service has basically developed very
30 recently based on our experience with this years first
31 ever Tier I hunt and, you know, basically it's for your
32 review, comment, suggestions and perhaps even support
33 at this meeting.
34
35 If you do agree with it and what it's
36 trying to accomplish, you can either adopt it as yours
37 and OSM and the Park Service will work on finishing the
38 actual proposal or we can continue -- you know, I can
39 continue working on it and feeding it around through
40 the cooperators, et cetera.
41
42 But let me begin by just a brief
43 history for some of you who may be new to the Council.
44
45 Muskoxen hunting in recent times is new
46 on the Seward Peninsula. The first hunt was held in
47 1995. It was a very small hunt. I believe the total
48 allowable harvest for all the three hunt areas at the
49 time was something like 15 animals. It was a bulls
50 only Federal subsistence hunt. Over the next several

1 years the population continued to grow and expand and
2 the Federal hunt was -- oh, by the way it was only
3 limited to Federally-eligible qualified users, which
4 were the Unit 23 southwest residents, Buckland,
5 Deering, and it could only happen -- animals could only
6 be harvested off of Federal public lands, which are
7 basically BLM in the Buckland area and Park Service
8 lands in the eastern part of the unit. And then there
9 were problems with accessing Federal lands and all of
10 that.

11
12 Basically though the population
13 continued to expand. A few years later the State
14 instituted -- had a positive C&T determination and
15 instituted a State Tier II hunt. Those of you in the
16 area know what the Tier II system is like. You had to
17 fill out a questionnaire, basically an application that
18 had to get mailed into the State, it got scored and
19 there were only a limited number of permits available
20 so hunters were really restricted.

21
22 Well, over the years the population
23 continued to expand and grow and this last year we've
24 seen the most significant change in the kind of hunting
25 that's taking place, or the regulation part of it
26 anyway. In January of 2008 the Board of Game, based on
27 recommendations that came from the Seward Peninsula
28 Cooperation Muskoxen Group basically moved out of Tier
29 II under the State system into what's called a Tier I
30 hunt, or Tier I subsistence registration permit hunt.
31 What that meant was anyone who was a resident of the
32 state of Alaska could get one of those permits. There
33 were restrictions on where the permits were issued,
34 i.e., Kotzebue and the hunt area, so if you were in
35 Fairbanks or Palmer or somewhere you had to come out to
36 this area to get one of the State permits, you couldn't
37 apply on line. But, yeah, anyone in the state could
38 get -- if they were a state resident could get one of
39 those permits. So the pool of potential hunters
40 expanded tremendously, okay.

41
42 Well, the quotas for that hunt are set
43 based on recommendations that come out of the Seward
44 Peninsula Cooperator's Group and then are endorsed by
45 the Board of Game and the Federal Subsistence Board.
46 That current harvest quota is 16 muskoxen of which up
47 to eight of those can be cows. Okay. In the past we
48 only had a limited number of permits and a limited
49 number of hunters. Now, we still have the 16 but
50 almost infinitely large population of hunters because

1 anyone in the state can get a Tier I permit.

2

3 So what happened this year of the first
4 brand new hunt, two things. One is I actually think
5 the Tier I worked better for Buckland and Deering
6 residents. Overall it's my impression that the actual
7 number of animals that they took went up, actually
8 increased a little bit, that's a plus. Is there a down
9 side to it, yes. And that was the hunt opened August
10 1st. The 16 animals were taken by the end of November,
11 and the hunt closed by emergency order on December 1st.
12 All 16 animals were gone. What did that mean? I means
13 if you had a State or a Federal permit and were
14 planning to hunt later on in the winter by snowmachine,
15 you were out of luck. The hunt was over.

16

17 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: That order was meant
18 even if you had a permit?

19

20 MR. ADKISSON: Oh, yeah. I mean,
21 that's how it's managed. The hunt is based around the
22 quota. In the old days, what it was, we would say
23 like, okay, there are 16 animals. We're only going to
24 issue 16 permits. Well, obviously that had problems,
25 and so over the years the number of permits available
26 kept growing, but never more probably than double the
27 allowable harvest. So let's say there was a total of
28 32 permits. Okay.

29

30 Under Tier 1 there's an unlimited
31 number of permits. So where actually the only
32 limitation is, do you qualify as a State resident. So,
33 like I said, the number of permits, potential hunters,
34 expanded greatly.

35

36 So the hunt closed August -- or
37 December 1st. And that was the end of the hunt.

38

39 So basically what we did was sit down
40 after this, and this experience, and say, look, how can
41 we spread the harvest out to keep that from happening.
42 The good news is the permits are easier to get and it
43 works I think for Buckland/Deering residents.

44

45 What was the results of the hunt this
46 year. Okay. 16 were taken. Four of those were taken
47 by Kotzebue residents. Two were taken by State
48 residents totally outside of the region. The other 10
49 were taken by Unit 23 villages, most of which I believe
50 went to Deering and Buckland under the State system.

1 So maybe six to eight of those were probably Buckland/
2 Deering residents.

3
4 If you look at the harvest results from
5 previous years' hunts, you'll find it was hard to get
6 permits, hard to access Federal public lands, and total
7 harvest for those communities was generally much lower
8 than that. So, you know, I think you can say the Tier
9 I worked for them, but the problem we've got is demand
10 and people that are really aggressive and they got out
11 there and the hunt closed early.

12
13 So based on that experience, what we've
14 come up with as a suggestion is what you have before
15 you. And that's what I'd like to talk about, you know,
16 this morning.

17
18 The current regulation reads, Unit 23,
19 south of Kotzebue Sound and west of and including the
20 Buckland River drainage, one muskoxen by Federal permit
21 or State Tier II permit. However, cows may only be
22 taken during the period January 1 to March 15th.

23
24 And the cow season came out of
25 recommendations endorsed by the cooperators, consistent
26 with the growth and expansion of the population that
27 was mentioned as an objective. I could give you the
28 biological basis of why they did that, but that's what
29 they settled on. The season is August 1 to March 15th,
30 quite long.

31
32 But we all know now, based on this
33 year's hunt, the hunt didn't run to March 15th.
34 Normally, every year that we've had one up to now, it
35 did. It ran right to the end of the season. This one
36 closed December 1. Okay.

37
38 So what we're proposing is, down under
39 the proposed regulations, the changes would be Unit 23
40 south of Kotzebue and west of and including the
41 Buckland River drainage, that stays the same, one bull
42 by Federal permit or now it's the new State Tier I
43 subsistence registration permit, August 1 to December
44 31st. That means for those months you could take a
45 bull, okay. And then, or one muskoxen, either sex, cow
46 or bull, by Federal permit or State Tier I subsistence
47 registration from January 1 to March 15th.

48
49 What we've done is taken one season,
50 broken it into two, taken a part of the total allowable

1 harvest and allocated it to that winter hunt to ensure
2 people (indiscernible, coughing) got a chance at a
3 muskox. That's very similar to what's been done both
4 by the State and the Federal program in Unit 22B west
5 for moose on the Seward Peninsula. It's very similar
6 to what we had to do in the very early days of the
7 restoration of the sheep hunt up here in the Bairds.
8 It makes sense to create that -- break that one season
9 into two and put some of those animals into that second
10 season to let those people have a -- in the villages
11 have a better shot at getting a musk ox.

12
13 We're not changing the total allowable
14 harvest. The regulation provides a lot of flexibility
15 if the winter hunt turns out to be a big success and
16 works for the communities. Both the Department of Fish
17 and Game and the Federal program have the ability to
18 shift more of the fall harvest into the winter hunt for
19 those communities' benefit.

20
21 So overall, I think, giving this new
22 regulation proposal a shot will work to the advantage
23 of local people.

24
25 Basically what I -- let me see if there
26 are other questions at this point.

27
28 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter.

29
30 MR. SAMPSON: I think the first of my
31 question has been answered in regards to the take. I
32 flew out of Kotzebue two state outside into Unit 23.

33
34 On that issue in regards to applying,
35 State Tier II permit. Why should we deal with the State
36 Tier II hunt?

37
38 MR. ADKISSON: The answer to -- my
39 answer to that is why should we deal with the State
40 Tier II hunt, right now the way the Federal regs are
41 written, if you have a State permit, and I don't care
42 whether it's the old Tier II or the Tier I, you can use
43 that on State lands and on Federal lands. The converse
44 is not true. If you have a Federal permit, you can
45 only use that on Federal permit land.

46
47 MR. SAMPSON: Okay. That clarifies it.
48 Okay.

49
50 MR. ADKISSON: The combination hunt

1 works best for our users, because they can hunt close
2 to home, which most of the lands around the villages
3 are managed by the State for.....

4

5 MS. SMITH: So an individual can have a
6 Federal permit and also apply for a State II permit,
7 trying to catch the season?

8

9 MR. ADKISSON: I don't think that would
10 be a problem, and you could probably do that. You
11 don't need to, but you could. But the bottom line is
12 you can only have one harvest limit no matter how many
13 permits you've got. It's one muskoxen per hunt year.

14

15 The exception to that is if, and here's
16 an advantage of the Federal permitting system right
17 now, if you get a designated hunter permit under the
18 Federal program, you can go out and hunt for other
19 people, which means you can have more than one muskoxen
20 in your possession at one time.

21

22 MS. SMITH: And how do you designate
23 another individual?

24

25 MR. ADKISSON: Oh, it's very easy. You
26 just come to like us and we issue you a -- if you're
27 qualified and eligible, we issue a designated hunter
28 permit, and you tell us who you're going to hunt for.
29 They need a permit of their own, but, you know, we work
30 that out, and you basically then go out and you take
31 the animals, deliver them their animal, and they fill
32 out a little paperwork, you fill out a little paperwork
33 and it goes in.

34

35 MS. SMITH: And are you limited to just
36 hunting for one individual?

37

38 MR. ADKISSON: I'd need a Federal reg
39 book. Does anybody have a quick Federal reg book? The
40 reason I say that is it varies depending upon which
41 hunt area you're in. Plus the (breaking up) have
42 a.....

43

44 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: That's the only one
45 I've got.

46

47 MR. ADKISSON: I think it's probably --
48 up here my guess would be you couldn't have more than
49 like two animals at any one time, but, you know,
50 without the reg book, I couldn't tell you that for

1 sure.
2
3 ATTAMUK: Well, one of you folks get
4 your reg books.
5
6 MR. SWAN: Wasn't I told that a family
7 got three.
8
9 MR. ADKISSON: Hang on, folks, I'll get
10 my own.
11
12 MR. ARDIZZONE: Hey, Ken.
13
14 MR. ADKISSON: Yes.
15
16 MR. ARDIZZONE: This is Chuck
17 Ardizzone. You are correct, you can only have two
18 harvest limits in possession at one time.
19
20 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah, that's what I kind
21 of said. Two animals. Yeah. If you look on Page 108
22 of the Federal reg book, it says, a Federally-qualified
23 subsistence user recipient may designate another
24 Federally-qualified subsistence user designated the
25 hunter to take muskoxen on their behalf. And then it
26 goes on to talk about (breaking up) you can't do that.
27 The designated hunter must get a designated hunter
28 permit and must return a completed harvest report. The
29 designated hunter, and here's the answer to your
30 question, may hunt for any number of recipients. Okay.
31 You could -- everybody in your village, if you wanted
32 to, you could hunt for, but have no more than two
33 harvest limits in their possession at any one time.
34
35 So that means you could take several
36 permits from people in your community, go take two
37 muskoxen, go back and deliver those two muskoxen. Take
38 some other permits and go out and do it again.
39
40 MR. SAMPSON: Ken.
41
42 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter.
43
44 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman. I think
45 the other question I have, when is the 2009 census
46 report will be done, or is that being taken today
47 or.....
48
49 MR. ADKISSON: No. I'm trying to
50 think. It's either -- the next one will either be done

1 I think in the spring of 2010 or 2011.

2

3 MR. SAMPSON: Okay. Because every two
4 years it looks like.....

5

6 MR. ADKISSON: 2010 I think, because
7 the last one was 2007, if you look on the back page.

8

9 MR. SAMPSON: Right. That is what that
10 is. That's why I asked.

11

12 MR. ADKISSON: So the next one is
13 scheduled for 2010. The trouble with that is that's
14 going to be like the spring of 2010, and the proposal
15 period will be closed for both the Federal and State
16 systems before we get the population data. So what
17 will happen is after we get the numbers, there's a
18 certain amount of flexibility build into the State
19 program and the Federal program. After we get new
20 census data, we'll probably run that through the
21 cooperators and try to make any needed harvest limit
22 changes.

23

24 MR. SAMPSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, based
25 on what's been provided to us as far as the tier
26 concern and the harvest take and the proposed
27 regulation that's being proposed for Unit 23 southwest
28 muskoxen, certainly I like that proposal much better
29 than the current regulation that's in place. That
30 would certainly put a little more beef into (breaking
31 up) where they can be taken. Not only that, but also
32 the date ranges with us, so.....

33

34 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: It would spread it
35 out. I like that better.

36

37 Percy.

38

39 MR. BALLOT: I had a question, Ken.
40 Through this process or the other process a family that
41 has -- that are all adults, can get three muskox?

42

43 MR. ADKISSON: I believe that's
44 currently the case, and we've had that come up in other
45 contexts since the beginning of the hunt. And it was
46 so hard for people to fill the musk ox quotas that we
47 kind of -- at least on the Federal side, we left that
48 up (breaking up) to decide. The State I believe may
49 have to have regulations or they may have a certain
50 amount of flexibility.

1 The one advantage of like the Tier I
2 thing, too, is that they can put conditions on the
3 permit. The Department has that flexibility.

4
5 What I didn't tell you, and let me just
6 quickly say this, is this not entirely just a Federal
7 proposal. The State I believe, I mean, from my
8 understanding from talking to Jim Dau and Charlotte
9 West is the State has a certain amount of flexibility,
10 and that's where they want to go, too. So if this
11 proposal is adopted, there will be a similar, you know,
12 flip side to it on the state side so people won't get
13 confused. But the question is, as a family, how many
14 people -- or how many animals can be taken by a
15 household, we need to run that question by the State
16 and see if people are really upset about the results of
17 one situation, how that might get fixed.

18
19 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I have a question,
20 Ken. It sounds like the way you were talking, you
21 could either have a State or a Federal permit, right?

22
23 MR. ADKISSON: Or in my opinion you
24 could have both.

25
26 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: If you fulfill one,
27 does that make the other one null and void, or
28 does.....

29
30 MR. ADKISSON: That's correct.

31
32 CHAIRMAN KARMUN:one have a
33 priority over the other?

34
35 MR. ADKISSON: No. It's one muskox.

36
37 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: But whichever that's
38 applicable, it makes the other one null and void?

39
40 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah, basically, because
41 the harvest quota is -- or the limit for an individual
42 is one muskoxen a year.

43
44 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you. Walter.

45
46 MR. SAMPSON: So, Mr. Chairman, based
47 on the presentation, since this has been worked out
48 through the cooperators as well and -- it is, Andy?

49
50 MR. ADKISSON: Charlotte has done

1 talking to a fair number of people in the community,
2 and at least in Deering I understand with some folks. I
3 believe she's talked to maybe some people in Buckland.
4 I have not had a lot of time to really run this through
5 the communities, but I did talk to Percy about it last
6 night. Obviously the cooperators have not met, and
7 they have not had a chance to consider this. We would
8 likely, because of the -- this year the State Board of
9 Game will meet in November, middle November, in Nome,
10 and, of course, the Federal Board will be dealing with
11 the 2010 to 2012 regulatory year, we'll probably have a
12 cooperators meeting. But I don't feel too bad about
13 not having this seen by the full cooperators group,
14 because it's something really that's just going to
15 affect Unit 23 southwest residents, and.....

16

17 MR. SAMPSON: So can we act on this
18 thing at our fall meeting? I mean, do you.....

19

20 MR. ADKISSON: No. I need to put
21 something into the Federal program by the end of this
22 month. And so what will happen was, if you endorse
23 this, you can just make this your own proposal if you
24 want, which for me works better. But it will get
25 written up. It will get a Staff analysis. You'll see
26 it again at the next meeting, and have a chance to act
27 on it based on any additional information that's been
28 gathered.

29

30 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman. I move
31 that this proposed regulation that has its write-up
32 with some changes on dates and with the change of date,
33 I move that this would be a proposal from this very
34 body.

35

36 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter, on the dates
37 that are on here, the proposed regulation, is that
38 acceptable to you, or do you want those changed now?

39

40 MR. SAMPSON: Well, do we need to
41 change that? No.

42

43 MR. ADKISSON: No, the dates will run
44 August 1 to December 31st for a bull only, and then
45 January 1 to March 15th for either a bull or a cow,
46 which really is sort of similar. Yeah.

47

48 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: This is okay for you
49 as written?

50

1 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.
2
3 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: There's a motion on
4 the table, sir?
5
6 MR. SAMPSON: Yep.
7
8 MR. BALLOT: Second, Mr. Chairman.
9
10 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: We have a second by
11 Percy Ballot. Any other questions or comments.
12
13 MR. BALLOT: For Buckland side, we'll
14 be having discussions on it, but it matches
15 Buckland/Deering's management practice. To have them
16 continued. Of course, it really doesn't change
17 nothing. So it's good. We'll be able to get some of
18 our meat in the summer. It's a little harder than in
19 the winter.
20
21 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: But you still have a
22 good opportunity.
23
24 MR. BALLOT: Yes. Yes.
25
26 MR. SAMPSON: I think what the big
27 difference is going to be, the dates, that changes, it
28 certainly will have an affect on that. And not only
29 that, you know, because the census has not been taken
30 and won't be taken until 2010, then at that point in
31 time, then we could also make a recommendation to make
32 the necessary changes where we see fit.
33
34 MS. SMITH: Question.
35
36 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: The question's been
37 called. All in favor.
38
39 IN UNISON: Aye.
40
41 (No opposing votes)
42
43 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Mr. Adkisson.
44
45 MR. ADKISSON: A quick point. I think
46 based on that, since you want to basically, you know,
47 have a proposal before the RAC, Chuck and I could
48 probably work on it and, you know, provide the Chair
49 with any feedback or whatever, if they feel like they
50 want to see it before it actually, you know, hits the

1 table at OSM by the end of April. Or you can just let
2 this go forward with the.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Well, I think.....

5
6 MR. ADKISSON:because the
7 language will be pretty much just what you see here.
8

9 MR. BALLOT: Well, that's what I was
10 just going to say. If the language that is being
11 proposed is going to be submitted as is, then that's
12 (breaking up) satisfied with.....

13
14 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I know it's got to be
15 reviewed at the committee. But as long as it's
16 acceptable to Buckland and Deering, it sounds okay.

17
18 Thank you, Ken.

19
20 MR. ADKISSON: You're welcome.

21
22 MS. SMITH: Mr. Chair. Before we move
23 on to (breaking up) and I just brought it up to you
24 earlier that I'm working with (breaking up) that stuff,
25 that I met with them yesterday, and they are wanting to
26 increase it to six weeks, because the way the
27 Constitution and all the laws are written, there's no
28 way to get language that would allow the dates to be
29 changed, you know, by anybody. So I think what they
30 want to do is increase it to six weeks.

31
32 The second, they also want a back-up
33 plan. If that doesn't get accepted at the same
34 meeting, they want to move back to three weeks and to
35 increase the take from one caribou to two.

36
37 MR. SAMPSON: What is the opportunity
38 time previously? I mean, for six-week?

39
40 MS. SMITH: It was always three weeks,
41 yeah, no planes.

42
43 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay. This is the
44 controlled use area on the Noatak drainage?

45
46 MS. SMITH: Yes, the controlled -- yep.
47 Is it -- I guess what I'm wondering, is it status quo
48 of this body to support whatever the community wants?

49
50 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yeah, it's always

1 been that way. Let me ask you this, are we going to
2 address that now or take it up on new business?
3
4 MS. ARMSTRONG: She's just bringing you
5 informational. This will come forward again in front
6 of you once the analysis is done for it, and then
7 you'll see it again.
8
9 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you, Barbara.
10
11 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chair.
12
13 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes.
14
15 MR. BALLOT: First of all, didn't you
16 say you wanted to have back-up plan? I think you could
17 put two proposals in.
18
19 MS. SMITH: That's what I was going to
20 find out. That's what I wanted to know.
21
22 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, you can do that.
23
24 MS. SMITH: That's what they wanted to
25 know.
26
27 MR. BALLOT: Then if one don't work,
28 you've got the other.
29
30 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: But they have to make
31 sure that they're two different, distinct, separate
32 proposals.
33
34 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair.
35
36 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes.
37
38 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah. This is Chuck
39 Ardizzone. You cut out there a little bit. Is it my
40 understanding that Ms. Smith was going to submit
41 several proposals on behalf of one of the communities?
42 The deal with the closed.....
43
44 MS. SMITH: Yes. On behalf of Noatak
45 IRA.
46
47 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay. Thank you,
48 ma'am.
49
50 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Any other questions,

1 comments, Council.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: The next item.

6

7 MR. BALLOT: Invite us down for a
8 meeting.

9

10 MS. ARMSTRONG: Number 12, agency
11 reports. MOU.

12

13 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay. Mr. Chair. It's
14 Chuck Ardizzone again. You're going to get tired of
15 hearing my voice, I'm sure.

16

17 If you turn to Page 27, that is where
18 the MOU is located. That is what Mr. Sampson was
19 talking about earlier. It's in the book for
20 informational purposes. If you have any questions, I
21 can try and answer them.

22

23 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: This is just a
24 proposed MOU, Chuck?

25

26 MR. ARDIZZONE: No, Mr. Chair. This is
27 a signed MOU between the Federal Board and the State.

28

29 MR. SAMPSON: Chuck, why didn't we as
30 Regional Advisory Councils was not given an opportunity
31 to comment on the MOU?

32

33 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Sampson, I'm not
34 sure it was the call of the Board. I can research that
35 and get back with you, but I can't speak to that at
36 this moment.

37

38 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter.

39

40 MR. SAMPSON: Well, the problem that I
41 see is that if we're being used as people for other
42 things, but yet are not being involved in the
43 discussions that will have an impact on the way of life
44 of the rural communities, I've got a problem with that.

45

46 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Sampson, I
47 understand that.

48

49 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: That was exactly --
50 Victor here -- my question also. I also belong to the

1 SRC and this is the first time I've seen this. We
2 would kind of like to be involved with something like
3 this in the future possibly. This is the other one
4 I'll bring up in D.C., too.
5
6 MR. ARDIZZONE: I understand that, and
7 I will pass that on to the Board to make sure they
8 understand that you'd like to be involved in things
9 like this.
10
11 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you. Any other
12 questions, comments, Council.
13
14 MR. BALLOT: So this MOU is good for
15 very long?
16
17 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I don't know how long
18 it's for.
19
20 MR. BALLOT: Is this a year-by-year
21 thing, or is this going to be.....
22
23 MS. SMITH: How long is it effective in
24 other words.
25
26 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. My
27 understanding is it's effective until it is changed.
28 And I don't think there's any.....
29
30 MR. SAMPSON: That's a problem. That's
31 why I said we should have at least been given the
32 opportunity to comment on the MOU. That's another
33 mechanism that is being used to get at as far as
34 Federal management is concerned. Eventually it will
35 become a State-managed system rather than Federal
36 system. That's why we object to some of these things,
37 but somebody's not listening.
38
39 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair.
40
41 MR. SWAN: And how long or when does
42 this come up again or I guess we look at what's the
43 process to make comments towards it.
44
45 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. This is
46 Chuck Ardizzone.
47
48 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Go ahead, Chuck.
49
50 MR. ARDIZZONE: I stand corrected.

1 This is in effect for five years and then it will be
2 readdressed in five years. And it was signed late last
3 year. December. And reviewed annually is what I'm
4 being told.

5
6 ATTAMUK: Enoch here. If they're going
7 to review it, are they going to contact us, or are they
8 going to just pull it and after they do it, they're
9 going to get ahold of us?

10
11 MS. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me.

12
13 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Go ahead, Barbara.

14
15 MS. ARMSTRONG: What you guys can put
16 in and add -- I was thinking to add this onto your
17 annual report is communication with OSM, and you guys
18 can request that and then when that MOU comes up, I can
19 ask the people that are higher up that has this
20 information directly, like Polly Wheeler, to write a
21 letter to you and explaining the MOU. If that is okay
22 with you.

23
24 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: That sounds good.
25 Thank you, Barbara. But like I say, even we, the SRC,
26 should have had the privilege of reviewing this. And
27 I'm also getting questions from some of the local fish
28 and game advisory committees on their input on this
29 also.

30
31 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, I'll ask Polly to
32 write a letter to you regarding the MOU.

33
34 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you.

35
36 MS. ARMSTRONG: And we'll go from
37 there.

38
39 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: And that will be the
40 other thing that I will bring to the Department when
41 I'm in D.C., D.C. trip.

42
43 Comments, questions, Council.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Go ahead, Chuck.

48
49 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay. Mr. Chair. If
50 there's no more questions, we can move on to the two-

1 year cycle, which is Page 34 in your book.

2

3 Basically it's just another
4 informational item to show you where we are in the
5 process of this new two-year cycle that we started.
6 Currently we're in our Regional Advisory Council
7 meetings cycle window, which is February through March.

8

9

10 New fishing regulations that the Board
11 took action on last year will take effect April 1st.

12

13 And then we'll have another round of
14 meetings this fall, which you'll address any wildlife
15 proposals and make recommendations on those analyses.
16 And then the cycle starts all over again in 2010 with
17 the, excuse me, the Board meeting in January and making
18 decisions on those proposals. And then we'll go back
19 at the fish proposals.

20

21 If there's any questions on that little
22 table on Page 34, I can answer them for you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Hazel.

25

26 MS. SMITH: When you developed this
27 cycle, did you take into consideration the State cycle
28 as well, because oftentimes you've got to submit
29 proposals to both, and if you miss one, the other one
30 will defer to the other Board. And I'm just curious if
31 you tried to merge this with the State calendar.

32

33 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. This is
34 Chuck Ardizzone.

35

36 I think it was looked into, but our
37 systems have been different for a long time. Our
38 system used to be an every year cycle, and I believe
39 the State's rotates every two or three years. So we
40 were off then. And going to two years, I don't know if
41 it made it any better or any worse, but it was looked
42 at before they made this decision.

43

44 MR. SAMPSON: I have a question. It
45 seems like it would be in our best interest if we could
46 coordinate this with the State cycle also, or let them
47 coordinate with our cycle, one of the two.

48

49 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah. Mr. Chair. The
50 problem with that is, you know, our program, when we

1 have a cycle up, and we take it for the whole State.
2 We take proposals for the whole State. And the State's
3 cycle is done by regions, because they get so many more
4 proposals than we do.

5
6 And Mr. Pappas just informed me it's
7 every three years for the State, so it's hard to
8 coordinate, because we're always out of cycle no matter
9 what happens.

10
11 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: It seems like it
12 would be better if we stayed in a one-year cycle then.

13
14 MR. ARDIZZONE: I don't know how to
15 address that. But it was the decision by the Board to
16 go to two years at the moment.

17
18 MR. SAMPSON: Well, I can see the
19 mentality of the State going into this cycle as well.
20 I mean, if they can get their proposed regs into the
21 State regs, and this is another way in for the State to
22 do their thing, and that's why I keep alluding to the
23 fact on the State mentality getting into the Federal
24 system.

25
26 How do you treat emergencies?

27
28 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. This is
29 Chuck Ardizzone again.

30
31 We do take special action requests
32 based on emergency actions. We've had 24 of them this
33 year. And if there's something that needs to be
34 changed before the next regulatory cycle, people can
35 surely submit a special action or a temporary special
36 action to change a regulation.

37
38 MS. SMITH: So another question. If
39 you got 24 special action requests, how many proposals
40 do you get? I mean.....

41
42 MR. SAMPSON: It don't matter.
43 Sometimes you'll get -- on the State side you'll get a
44 good couple hundred.

45
46 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. This is
47 Chuck again.

48
49 On our side, we range from normally 30
50 to 60 proposals for wildlife. We're not sure what's

1 happening this year. I think we're at least around 30
2 so far.

3
4 MS. SMITH: I guess what I'm getting at
5 is if your regular cycle doesn't work, you know, why
6 are you getting almost half special action requests.
7 There's something not working if you have 30 to 60
8 proposals in a year and then you have 30 special action
9 requests. There is something in the system not
10 working. So that's why I was asking.

11
12 MS. ARMSTRONG: There are a lot of
13 special actions this year because of the weather. And
14 a lot of the -- especially from Seward Pen, their
15 quotas weren't being met, because they couldn't get out
16 and no gas, the prices of gas and their designees, they
17 couldn't get out. And especially over in the Wales
18 area, because their weather was changing every few
19 minutes over there for a long time, so a lot -- some
20 SA's came from them, St. Michael and Wales for this
21 reason, for this region.

22
23 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Victor here. My
24 question is, if it has to have a closure, or a special
25 session or something of that nature, does the whole
26 Council have to meet or by phone or teleconference, or
27 what's the protocol on that?

28
29 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. This is
30 Chuck Ardizzone.

31
32 For emergency special actions, the
33 Board does that quickly and we don't seek normally
34 Council recommendations, because they're a very rapid
35 moving request. However, on temporary special actions,
36 if it's more than 60 days, we would have a public
37 meeting and get the Council's recommendation on that.

38
39 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay. You partially
40 answered my question, because I was wondering how it
41 would get -- would the Federal Board have to take
42 special action or meet on a special activity like this?

43
44 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah. Mr. Chair. What
45 they do, they do it via email. They do a polling, and
46 then if there's lots of questions, they will have a
47 special meeting on it.

48
49 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you.

50

1 MS. ARMSTRONG: And you will be
2 informed whenever a special action comes in. But it
3 comes in by email and I send them out. The
4 coordinators send them out. Always mostly to the
5 Chairs, but then all of you guys here have email, so
6 it's been easier.

7
8 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you, Barbara.

9
10 MS. ARMSTRONG: When there's a special
11 action from this region, then that's how it goes.

12
13 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Any other comments,
14 suggestions.

15
16 (No comments)

17
18 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Next item.

19
20 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah. Mr. Chair. This
21 is Chuck Ardizzone again.

22
23 The item will be tracking of
24 handicrafts made with brown bear claws. It would be
25 Page 35 in your Council book.

26
27 So basically this is a working group
28 that we're putting together based on a deferment of a
29 proposal. In April of 2008 the Federal Board deferred
30 Proposal WP08-05 which addressed the sale of
31 handicrafts made with brown bear claws. There's a
32 recommendation by Fish and Game to form a work group to
33 try and determine a way to track bear claw handicrafts.
34 There's some concern about commercialization of the
35 sale of handicrafts made with brown bear claws.

36
37 So we had a pre-meeting, Staff did, and
38 we developed I guess some recommendations on how this
39 might be done, but we wanted to get input from Regional
40 Councils.

41
42 So this is kind of an action item. If
43 the Council would like to be involved, to assign a
44 member on the State-sponsored work group, we're looking
45 for a yes and possibly a name at this time.

46
47 MR. SAMPSON: Could I ask you when
48 bears are being mounted, how are those things mounted,
49 with claws and all?

50

1 MR. ARDIZZONE: For this regulation,
2 they have to be made into a handicraft, so that could
3 include.....
4
5 MR. SAMPSON: You're not answering my
6 question. I'm asking you.
7
8 MR. ARDIZZONE: I guess I'm not
9 understanding your question then. I mean, the bears
10 aren't mounted themselves. This addresses just the
11 bear's claws and their use in artwork and handicrafts
12 like regalia.
13
14 MR. SAMPSON: Well, if the bear is
15 mounted, it's a sale, right? People purchase it.
16 What's the difference between that and somebody trying
17 to make a little bit of money on handicraft? Is there
18 any difference?
19
20 MR. ARDIZZONE: Under our system there
21 is. Under our system you can only sell parts made into
22 handicrafts.
23
24 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: It seems like.....
25
26 MR. SAMPSON: What about a mounted
27 bear?
28
29 MR. ARDIZZONE: That's not allowed
30 under our regulations.
31
32 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: It sounds like to me
33 you're putting the cart before the horse here. Pure
34 speculation.
35
36 MR. SAMPSON: With all the bear hunts
37 that occur, what do you think those things come from,
38 within Federal lands. Where do those go? Are those
39 tracked, too?
40
41 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. No, they're
42 not tracked.
43
44 MR. SAMPSON: Then why are you picking
45 on people that are trying to do a little bit of sewing
46 here and there and doing arts and crafts?
47
48 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. We're not
49 trying to pick on anybody. That was a proposal that
50 was put in, we're trying to address the issue and

1 include Regional Council members. I mean, that could
2 be part of the discussion right there, why are we doing
3 it.

4

5 MR. SAMPSON: Somebody had to have
6 written -- originated the proposal. Where did it come
7 from?

8

9 MR. ARDIZZONE: The State.

10

11 MS. ARMSTRONG: In fact, didn't this
12 start way back from the Southeast area where they were
13 trying to do this and then selling and they stopped
14 them, and then now it's coming back working with them,
15 and now it's asking the Regional Councils out statewide
16 to see if they want to be involved. Like Seward Pen
17 requested that they want to be involved, and then they
18 are sending a representative from their Council to
19 attend this work group. And we're also asking
20 Northwest if they want to be involved and have a
21 designee attend one of the State meeting, too, please.

22

23 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes, Barb. You're
24 correct. This regulation's been in place for a while,
25 and there's always been issues about possibilities of
26 abuse. And this tracking system was trying to address
27 that. And right now we're trying to get Regional
28 Council involvement, to get their recommendations on
29 what may need to be done or may not need to be done.
30 And I guess all we're asking for is if the Council
31 wants to have a member on that committee or not.

32

33 MS. SMITH: So what kind of abuse was
34 reported before and how much and from where?

35

36 MR. ARDIZZONE: Ms. Smith, I don't have
37 any reports of abuse at this time. It's like you have
38 said, or other people have said, there's speculation
39 that it could occur, but we don't have any documented
40 evidence of it.

41

42 MR. SAMPSON: So this is the effects
43 that these kinds of proposals are going to get on the
44 table, and you'd better start looking at bears that are
45 being taken within Federal lands and being mounted and
46 being sold, too, for commercial.

47

48 ATTAMUK: And a lot of them is
49 handicraft, because they were mounted by a person.
50 Just like a subsistence sew it together to make

1 artifacts.

2

3 MS. ARMSTRONG: So do you guys want to
4 have someone go to that meeting to just check it out,
5 or is.....

6

7 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: When is this meeting.

8

9 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's not going to be up
10 right now. It's a new thing that came over I think
11 from the State. The State is sponsoring it.

12

13 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Let me ask you this,
14 Barbara. What is -- is the State kind of thinking that
15 there might be too many illegal take of these fantastic
16 animals?

17

18 MS. ARMSTRONG: I think that's what
19 their thinking was at first, because there were a lot
20 of -- some bears were showing up in some area with just
21 hands cut off. And some of the teeth were pulled out
22 and stuff like that. That came up. and then that came
23 into discussion, because there are some people out
24 there who use these for their costumes in dancing and
25 whatnot, and then -- so I think they're trying to make
26 it legal for them to be doing this. But then
27 there's.....

28

29 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: In the 80s, in this
30 region, Northwest Arctic or Game Management 23, I was
31 in Barbara's slot then. The average take of grizzly in
32 this region in the spring time was about 30 to 35
33 bears. And it never varied. And they wouldn't do a
34 third one, because that -- in order to stay. But the
35 reason why I remember that, because I won two of Dos
36 Equis beer. The State Fish and Game only said about
37 half a dozen bears were taken and used. The two
38 surveys that were conducted was 35 to 36 bears, both
39 seasons. And this was from upper Kobuk to Kotzebue and
40 all places in between. And these were not incidental
41 catches either. These were taken and used.

42

43 So I can't -- I don't know. What is
44 the wish of the council on this.

45

46 MS. SMITH: I don't support it.

47

48 MR. SAMPSON: I don't support it
49 either. It's just an attack on the culture basically.

50

1 MR. SWAN: Yeah, but we should have
2 somebody there.
3
4 MS. SMITH: Yeah. To find out what
5 they're going to do.
6
7 MS. ARMSTRONG: I think all the other
8 Councils are being represented. And the last meeting
9 will be for mine with the North Slope. Seward Pen is
10 sending someone.
11
12 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Does the Council wish
13 to.....
14
15 MS. SMITH: Somebody should.
16
17 MR. SWAN: Yeah, to have someone there.
18
19 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Well, how do you want
20 to word this then. Do you want to.....
21
22 MR. SAMPSON: No support.
23
24 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: No support. Let's
25 go.....
26
27 MS. ARMSTRONG: But you want someone
28 there from the Council. So you guys need to figure out
29 who wants to go.
30
31 MR. SWAN: I think the Chair ought to
32 go.
33
34 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I'm open. I have no
35 problem with that.
36
37 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. So whoever
38 becomes the Chair will attend the meeting. Okay.
39 Thank you.
40
41 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Go ahead.
42
43 MS. SMITH: I think just for Staff,
44 it's the tracking of handicrafts. You know, it's one
45 thing to try to conserve, you know, a bear population,
46 but it's like you're really micromanaging when there's
47 other uses that we know of, like Walter pointed out,
48 you know, bears that are mounted. So I think the word
49 tracking is what bothers me. That's my point of view.
50

1 MR. SAMPSON: Well, what's going to
2 happen is Federal folks are going to go right into
3 people's damn places again like they did in the upper
4 Kobuk.
5
6 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Did you want an eye
7 or nay on this?
8
9 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. This is
10 Chuck.
11
12 If you want to participate, that's all
13 we need to know, if someone from the Council would like
14 to participate, and if you have a name, that would be
15 good.
16
17 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay. Thank you.
18
19 MR. ARDIZZONE: Thank you.
20
21 MS. ARMSTRONG: Chuck, they said the
22 Chair will attend.
23
24 MR. ARDIZZONE: I got that. Thank you.
25
26 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thanks.
27
28 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Next one, please.
29
30 MR. ARDIZZONE: I'm afraid to give the
31 next one.
32
33 (Laughter)
34
35 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. The next
36 issue is the Chistochina case, which can be found in
37 your books on Page 36 through 40.
38
39 Is basically a case that was brought up
40 against the Board based on an action they took in Unit
41 12 for a C&T. I guess I'll just boil it right down.
42
43 Basically there was a decision, and
44 nothing is going to change the way the Board does its
45 customary and traditional use determinations at this
46 time. And that's what it boils down to.
47
48 There was a lawsuit, the Board won, and
49 there's no changes to the way C&T's will be determined.
50

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Does the Board have
2 the final say on C&T?

3
4 MR. ARDIZZONE: Well, C&T can always
5 be, you know, appealed by an RFR, which is a request
6 for reconsideration, but the Board would have the final
7 say on that. But, however, there can always be a
8 lawsuit and things can change. And that's kind of what
9 happened here. The Board made a final decision, the
10 State didn't like the decision. It went to a lawsuit
11 and the Board won the lawsuit and there's no changes to
12 the way things are done.

13
14 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: So what is your
15 request from the Council, sir.

16
17 MR. ARDIZZONE: There's no request.
18 This is just kind of an informational item, because
19 some regions are really involved in this, and other
20 regions weren't. But we just want to make sure you
21 understand there was a case and the Board won.

22
23 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay. Thank you.
24 The next one. National Park Service.

25
26 MR. HELFRICH: Mr. Chairman. Member of
27 the Council. My name is George Helfrich. I work for
28 the National Park Service here in Kotzebue. I'm the
29 superintendent of Western Arctic National Parklands.
30 Western Arctic National Parklands is an administrative
31 term for four National Park Service managed areas in
32 this region. Bering Land Bridge National Preserve,
33 Cape Krusenstern National Monument and Noatak National
34 Preserve, and Kobuk Valley National Park.

35
36 As always it's a pleasure to have a
37 chance to speak to the Council members. And if I may
38 start off by saying, Mrs. Smith, welcome to the
39 Council. I sincerely appreciate your interest.

40
41 Right now with me, Ken Adkisson is
42 here, and Ken is, of course, the Western Arctic
43 National Parklands subsistence program manager. Also
44 Dan Stevenson is here. And Dan is a protection ranger
45 with Western Arctic. I believe that Brad Shultz who's
46 the Western Arctic wildlife biologist will be joining
47 us in a couple minutes. If he does not, then I believe
48 Marcy Johnson, who is the lead biologist on our staff
49 will be able to attend.

50

1 We've had many accomplishments. When I
2 say we, I would like to think of both the Park Service
3 and the Council. We have had many accomplishments
4 since the last meeting.

5
6 We've started the construction of this
7 Northwest Arctic Heritage Center, which is being built
8 at the intersection of Second and Third Streets. It's
9 about 12,000 square feet. About one-third of the
10 building will be used for National Park Service
11 administrative space, and the other two-thirds will be
12 used as public space. There's a large exhibit area
13 that will show off the natural, cultural and Inuit
14 history of this region. And then there's a large
15 multi-purpose room that we will be able to use for
16 everything from Junior Ranger programs to research
17 presentations to community gatherings.

18
19 We expect the building to open up in
20 December of this year. And I think that it's a
21 building that both the National Park Service and the
22 region will be able to take a lot of satisfaction in.

23
24 We have an award-winning education and
25 interpretation program both in the Kotzebue office and
26 also in the Nome office. And between Linda Justki
27 who's the interpretation ranger here in Kotzebue, and
28 Nichole Andler who's the interpretation ranger over in
29 Bering Land Bridge, we are reaching students, young
30 people and adults from around the region.

31
32 Over in Cape Krusenstern National
33 Monument, we are continuing a multi-year archaeological
34 project that is looking at historical use of the beach
35 ridges over the last 4,000 years. And I would
36 particularly like to thank all the private land owners
37 in Cape Krusenstern who are allowing us to do this
38 research on their allotments. It's been very helpful,
39 very important to the success of the projects.

40
41 Last year we cleaned up more than a ton
42 of debris in Noatak National Preserve and Kobuk Valley
43 National Park. It was a project that Dan Stevenson was
44 primarily responsible for. And I would like to think
45 that picking up this trash, disposing of it, getting it
46 into the recycling stream will be of real importance to
47 the residence of the region who are the future.

48
49 We've hired a second wildlife biologist
50 to be on our Staff. For years we only had one, Brad

1 Shultz, who's duty-stationed in Fairbanks. In August
2 of 2008 we hired Marcy Johnson. Marcy has experience
3 working in northern latitudes all around the globe, and
4 she brings a lot of expertise and knowledge to the
5 position. Right now she's out flying moose surveys in
6 a cooperative effort that we are doing with the Alaska
7 Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and
8 Wildlife Service.

9
10 Finally, we've hired a new
11 superintendent for Bering Land Bridge National
12 Preserve. That person is responsible for the
13 administration of the preserve. She is Jeannette
14 Palmranki, formerly Jeannette Cross. Jeannette was a
15 National Park Service employee in the late 1990s. She
16 then went to work for Kawerak and Nome Eskimo
17 Community. I was pleased when she applied for the job.
18 Even more pleased when she accepted our job offer.
19 She's been in the position since the end of January of
20 2009. And she's already making an impact on preserve
21 operations.

22
23 Right now I would like to ask Ken if he
24 would like to add anything to what he has already said
25 about closures and other regulatory issues and other
26 subsistence issues.

27
28 MR. ADKISSON: Sure. Mr. Chair.
29 Council members. Mr. Helfrich. I do have a couple
30 things on the agenda. I mean, if you want me to deal
31 with those.

32
33 The first and foremost is really an
34 action item from this Council, which is the
35 appointments to the Subsistence Resource Commissions,
36 which I could deal with right now if you'd like.

37
38 MR. HELFRICH: Mr. Chairman. Would you
39 like to take those now or would there be some more
40 opportune time on the agenda?

41
42 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: What's the wish of
43 the Council.

44
45 MR. SAMPSON: Well, that's what it says
46 on our agenda. SRC representative appointment
47 discussion.

48
49 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Let's go.

50

1 MR. ADKISSON: Okay. I'll try to make
2 this quick. And again there are some new appointments,
3 new members to the Council.

4
5 The Subsistence Resource Commissions
6 are basically chartered under Title VIII of ANILCA.
7 Title VIII, of course, deals with subsistence
8 provisions. The Subsistence Resource Commissions are
9 unique to national parks and monuments. Wildlife
10 refuges don't have them. BLM lands don't have them.
11 And even national preserves like Noatak and Bering Land
12 Bridge don't have them. Up here there's the Cape
13 Krusenstern Commission and there's a Kobuk Valley
14 Commission.

15
16 These commissions have nine members.
17 Three of them are appointed by the Secretary of the
18 Interior, three are appointed by the governor, and
19 three of them are appointed by the Regional Advisory
20 Council.

21
22 Their primary function is to advise the
23 Park Service, the Secretary of the Interior and the
24 State on wildlife and subsistence issues, and their
25 primary function is to develop and oversee a hunting
26 management plan.

27
28 Today what I'd like to do is touch on
29 the vacancies that current exist. So you folks have
30 three seats on the Krusenstern Commission to appoint
31 vacancies for. Three on the Kobuk Valley.

32
33 And some of you may not be aware of it,
34 too, but you also have an opportunity to appoint one
35 person to the Gates of the Arctic Commission, because
36 they're working with especially the upper Kobuk River
37 communities. And the reason there's one there is Gates
38 has several RACs that they have to deal with, and each
39 RAC can make an appointment to bring up the total to
40 three. So you have one.

41
42 So there are seven appointments that
43 we'd like to run through today.

44
45 The basic requirements for a Regional
46 Advisory Council appointee are that they are a
47 subsistence user of the area, and that they're a member
48 of either the Regional Council or a local fish and game
49 advisory committee in the area. So those are the basic
50 things.

1 We've had some troubles filling and
2 maintaining a membership roster on them. And therefore
3 what I would like to do is kind of give you an update
4 on where we're at, and perhaps make some
5 recommendations at least for now, because all of our
6 appointments for the Krusenstern and Kobuk Valley
7 expired technically in November of last year, because
8 of quorum issues and things and weather and things that
9 you folks had, you weren't able to act on them. And
10 then I'll fill you in on the Gates situation.

11
12 Okay. Let's begin with the Cape
13 Krusenstern Commission. Currently we have no one from
14 Noatak serving on that Commission, and we feel it's
15 very important to get someone, so our recommendation
16 would be, while we can use a Secretarial appointment,
17 that could take a lot of time. And the cleanest,
18 easiest way to fill that thing, deal with the lack of
19 Noatak representation I think now would be through you
20 folks, through the Regional Advisory Council.

21
22 So here's the status. We have one
23 vacancy and we have two incumbents. Alex Whiting and
24 Attamuk Shiedt. Our recommendation to you would be for
25 the Krusenstern to reappoint Alex and Attamuk, and to
26 appoint Virgil Adams who's not here today
27 unfortunately, but is on your RAC, to that vacancy.
28 That would help us with the Noatak -- lack of
29 representation from Noatak. We've talked to most of
30 the membership at previous SRC meetings and most people
31 have expressed an interest in reappointment. So I
32 think for now that's not an issue. So, if possible, we
33 would like, you know, to have Virgil, Alex and Enoch
34 appointed to the Cape Krusenstern SRC.

35
36 MS. SMITH: Mr. Chair.

37
38 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes.

39
40 MS. SMITH: Did you approach Noatak and
41 talk to Noatak about any interested, or have you talked
42 to Virgil?

43
44 MS. ARMSTRONG: They have to be on the
45 advisory committee.

46
47 MR. ARDIZZONE: Willie Goodwin has.
48 And I'm sure we could do more, and I wish we could. I
49 don't know how much time Willie has had to really work
50 with Noatak. But, you know, for example, as much as

1 you work with Noatak, your interest in seeing that that
2 position gets filled would be, you know, really helpful
3 I think, but, you know, right now this seems to be one
4 of the few options. And I'd rather not delay things
5 and put it off to another site or whatever. But, you
6 know, the RAC can do what it wants to do as far as the
7 appointment goes.

8

9 There is a provision that if people are
10 not replaced by the RAC, they can continue. But it's
11 cleaner if we get the appointments up to date. They're
12 good for basically three years.

13

14 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Uh-huh. Walter.

15

16 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman. Based on
17 the report that's been given, I make a motion that we
18 support the nomination of Attamuk and Alex and to
19 include Virgil Adams from Noatak.

20

21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Second.

22

23 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: We have a second
24 already.

25

26 MS. SMITH: Question.

27

28 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: The question's been
29 called. Discussion.

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: All in favor.

34

35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36

37 (No opposing votes)

38

39 MR. ADKISSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
40 We'll move on to the Kobuk Valley.

41

42 Currently we have three incumbents
43 there. Elmer Ward from Kobuk, Louie Commack from
44 Ambler, and John Goodwin from Kotzebue. If possible, I
45 think we'd just like to suggest retaining those
46 incumbents.

47

48 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman. I so move.

49

50 MR. SWAN: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Motion by Percy
2 Ballot.
3
4 MR. SAMPSON: Who do we have -- do we
5 have anybody from Kiana?
6
7 MR. ADKISSON: Actually, let me run the
8 whole roster if you want, and this is -- we're always
9 kind of trying to balance the Governor's appointments,
10 the Secretary's. From Kiana we have Raymond Stoney
11 and.....
12
13 MR. SAMPSON: Okay. As long as they
14 have representative. That's fine. That's good.
15
16 MR. ADKISSON: And then Gates of the
17 Arctic National Park has a vacancy that they're really
18 having a problem with, and they're having trouble
19 getting a quorum, and they really would like your
20 action. And what my counterpart at Fairbanks has had
21 conversations with Louie Commack, Jr. And he's
22 expressed an interest in them as well as ours,
23 obviously, because he's from -- yeah.
24
25 MS. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me. On your
26 Kobuk Valley, you're not done.
27
28 MR. ADKISSON: What do we need to do?
29
30 MS. SMITH: We never took action.
31
32 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: We've got to finish
33 taking action on Kobuk Valley.
34
35 MR. ADKISSON: I thought we did. Okay.
36 I'm sorry. My apologies.
37
38 MR. SAMPSON: There's a motion and a
39 second, right?
40
41 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.
42
43 MR. SAMPSON: Question.
44
45 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: The question's been
46 called. All in favor.
47
48 IN UNISON: Aye.
49
50 (No opposing votes)

1 MR. ADKISSON: Thanks, Barbara.
2
3 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay. Mr. Adkisson.
4
5 MR. ADKISSON: Anyway, Dave Kruppa, my
6 counterpart over at Gates of the Arctic in Fairbanks
7 has had, you know, several conversations with Louie
8 Commack, Jr., and Louie's expressed an interest. So
9 Gates would like it if you could appoint Louie as your
10 representative to the Gates of the Arctic Commission.
11 And that would be a new appointment for them.
12
13 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter.
14
15 MR. SAMPSON: The only issue or concern
16 maybe I may have is Louie's at Kobuk Valley. You need
17 to take a look and see what his attendance record is.
18 And I know he hasn't gone to Kobuk Valley meetings a
19 lot, and it's maybe something that we'd need to
20 consider.
21
22 MR. ADKISSON: I have a little bit of
23 concern there, too, but I'd rather et the seat filled
24 and if we have issues, we can.....
25
26 MS. ARMSTRONG: The only other one
27 that's from there is Elmer Ward. He's from Kobuk and
28 he's on Krusenstern, right, or Kobuk Valley? Elmer
29 Ward's from the Kobuk Valley.
30
31 MR. SAMPSON: Is there somebody else we
32 could even get in or does it have to be from upper
33 Kobuk?
34
35 MR. ADKISSON: Right now I guess -- no,
36 for the Gates it should come from the upper Kobuk
37 group. And the reason I'm offering up Louie is because
38 Dave Kruppa has had conversations with him, and I'm not
39 sure how extensive anything else has been, because
40 they've really had troubles with that, filling that.
41 We're a lot more flexible for the Kobuk Valley
42 Commission, and perhaps we should, you know, spend some
43 more time with our Chair and others and talk about how
44 we can restructure all of the things.
45
46 Right now we're also kind of I think
47 running into some -- I won't call them roadblocks, with
48 the State appointments to the Commissions. I believe
49 we've only had one of the six appointments, you know,
50 actually filled at this time by the Governor. As of

1 this date.

2

3 MR. SAMPSON: Why don't we appoint
4 Louie then, and the alternate of Elmer.

5

6 MR. ADKISSON: You can try that. Yeah,
7 that would probably make -- yeah.

8

9 MR. SAMPSON: So move.

10

11 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: So moved.

12

13 ATTAMUK: Second.

14

15 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: We've got a second by
16 Attamuk.

17

18 MR. BALLOT: Question.

19

20 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: The question's been
21 called. All in favor.

22

23 IN UNISON: Aye.

24

25 (No opposing votes)

26

27 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: You've got your
28 answer, Mr. Adkisson.

29

30 MR. ADKISSON: Thank you very much, Mr.
31 Chairman and Council members. Appreciate the support.

32

33 The only other thing that I had this
34 morning was a very -- I've already talked about the
35 muskox hunt and we don't need to revisit that.

36

37 But just to give you a brief update on
38 the Bairds. Well, actually in the De Longs, there's a
39 quota of eight sheep, of which five of those could be
40 rams and three can be ewes. Basically the hunt went
41 very quickly. It opened up early August in the De
42 Longs. Five rams were taken very quickly and the ram
43 portion of the hunt was closed by special action or
44 emergency notice on August 25th. There's still three
45 ewes in the De Longs hunt area that are available for
46 harvest. And the season basically runs to the end of
47 this month.

48

49 In the Bairds, we've issued about 28,
50 30 permits to date, and the harvest has been five rams

1 and two ewes. So there's still a fair amount of
2 harvest out there in the Bairds if good weather, and
3 hopefully people will get out and be able to take
4 advantage of that.

5
6 And the Cape Krusenstern muskoxen hunt,
7 I could add in there, too, is a small population.
8 You're probably already hearing about some of the
9 biological problems associated with it. But you folks
10 were quite instrumental in helping, you know, setting
11 up the current hunt there, which is limited to two
12 bulls totally, residents of really there. And that's
13 working I think. This year so far we've issued --
14 we've had two permits out and had one animal harvested
15 under it, so 50 percent success rate. But the meat's
16 going to the people over there at the Krusenstern area
17 as defined under the .804 closure.

18
19 That's it for me.

20
21 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thanks, Ken. Thank
22 you. Mr. Helfrich.

23
24 MR. HELFRICH: Thank you. I'd now like
25 to ask Dan Stevenson to come up. Dan is a protection
26 ranger for Western Arctic National Parklands. And he
27 can speak about some of our field work last year and
28 our upcoming field work this year.

29
30 MR. STEVENSON: Thank you, Mr.
31 Chairman. My name is Dan Stevenson, I'm ranger/pilot.

32
33 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: (Breaking up)

34
35 MS. SMITH: How long will he be.

36
37 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: How long is your
38 report?

39
40 MR. STEVENSON: Oh, I'm sorry. Five
41 minutes.

42
43 MS. SMITH: Not much enforcement going
44 on. A five-minute report.

45
46 MR. STEVENSON: Would you like me to go
47 ahead? Okay. My name is Dan Stevenson. I'm a
48 ranger/pilot with the Park Service here.

49
50 I'll just talk briefly about our patrol

1 programs. Most of you have heard this in the past. We
2 have a pretty intensive effort starting about mid
3 August, all through September, where we try to -- our
4 goal is to contact roughly 75 camps in the field. And
5 primarily those are the western half of the preserve,
6 mainly the Aggie, the Eli, the Kelly, the Kug. Those
7 are the main areas that we work, because of the issues
8 with non-local hunters, transporters and outfitters.
9 We spend a lot of time in those areas.

10

11 With our field camp checks, we actually
12 walk into the camps and talk with the hunters in the
13 camps, whether they're either by transporters or
14 private camps, or in there by an outfitter. And we're
15 really -- one of the biggest we're looking at and one
16 of the biggest things we're trying to do is pass on
17 information about the importance of the subsistence
18 issues in the area and how to avoid conflicts with
19 these that we're so aware of. We hand out literature
20 that the State Fish and Game has produced, a real nice
21 pamphlet, Hunting in Game Management 2 Responsibly, and
22 then we also hand out some literature from the Park
23 Service that we've produced, talking about the
24 importance of allowing the first caribou to come
25 through, the importance of certain subsistence issues,
26 (indiscernible, papers rattling on microphone) like
27 picking berries to avoid. So we hand out a lot of
28 material.

29

30 Oftentimes we go into these camps, they
31 haven't killed anything yet, they haven't harvested any
32 caribou. Oftentimes we're in there within a day, two
33 days, sometimes hours after the camp has been
34 established. And that's really just been luck of the
35 draw. It's not really effective enforcement, it's just
36 we're lucky to be in there, based on weather, and we
37 get in there right when the camps are going in.

38

39 So we do stress -- we're as proactive
40 as we can with a lot of these non-local hunters that
41 are coming into the entire Noatak preserve now, handing
42 out literature material.

43

44 Then we do -- later in the season we
45 are checking animals. These camps will have caribou
46 there, and we do field checks on those, too, to make
47 sure the meat is salvaged, all the meat's salvaged
48 that's supposed to be salvaged, that there's no waste.
49 We're looking at litter issues. So we address those
50 issues as well when we see those at the camps, too.

1 So that -- part of our main focus
2 areas, as you now, we use helicopter, fixed wing. We
3 use both, and boats on the river on the Noatak and the
4 Kobuk.

5
6 The helicopter's very effective. We're
7 very careful how we use the helicopter for a number of
8 reasons. We try to stay away from important
9 subsistence areas. We fly high over certain areas.
10 The helicopter is really effective for going into camps
11 that we normally can't get into with a Super Cub. If
12 you don't have the skill to get into these small
13 strips, the helicopter's much safer for us, my crews,
14 going in to talk to these hunters. So the helicopter's
15 a very effective tool, and it's allowed us to get into
16 areas that normally we haven't been able to get into.
17 It's very expensive, so we can only use it for a
18 limited amount of time.

19
20 We contact roughly each year about 130,
21 150 hunters in the field, and that's working from mid
22 August to the end of September, so roughly about 150
23 non-local hunters that we physically contact, visit,
24 check licenses, check meat, check camps. That's our
25 goal, somewhere in that neighborhood. Primarily the
26 western half of the (breaking up).

27
28 We do put out some rangers on stakeout
29 teams where we have some problem areas. And that's
30 what we're always looking for from this Council are
31 problem areas, areas that we can do better in, and
32 areas that we can focus on, whether it's camps that are
33 being -- staying too long and not -- past their limit.
34 We can put in teams to watch certain areas. And what
35 we'll do it put in teams by helicopter on high ridge
36 points, good vantage points, and they can watch a lot
37 of country, and they can look for same-day airborne,
38 they can look for aircraft harassing wildlife or
39 herding wildlife to hunters. And then they can look at
40 camp use, if we have camps that are setting up by
41 transporters and staying too long at individual camps.
42 And that's something that's been brought up by the
43 Council and the SRCs that we're trying to address. The
44 best way to do that is to have people out there
45 observing that happening, and then we can use them as
46 witnesses in court if we take that to court. So we try
47 to build a strong case.

48
49 So based on this Council and SRCs,
50 we're trying to address that issue by putting people

1 out and watching these areas. And we're always looking
2 for suggestions from you as well to other areas that we
3 can be doing better in.

4

5 And then just one last plug. I would
6 like to say we're always looking for young adults, 18,
7 19, 20, early 20's year olds that would be interested
8 in law enforcement, working here. Local folks, working
9 here out of Kotzebue, men and women. So if you know of
10 anybody, please have them -- I would be happy to visit
11 with them any time, and they could job shadow or we
12 could explain the process, how to get in with the Park
13 Service if they're interested. The law enforcement
14 academies, how to go about that, how to apply. But I'd
15 be happy to work with any local folks that might be
16 wanting to pursuing that.

17

18 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Hazel.

19

20 MS. SMITH: Are there other enforcement
21 personnel that go out besides the Park Service? State?
22 BLM?

23

24 MR. ADKISSON: Yes. The state trooper,
25 Eric -- you probably know Eric Loring, Trooper Loring,
26 wildlife protection officer. So he's out with an
27 aircraft, too. The BLM will bring folks up from
28 Fairbanks a little bit to work certain areas.

29

30 MS. SMITH: I was up doing some work in
31 the upper Kobuk and received a report about this young
32 lady that just was totally terrified, because fish and
33 game protection officers come, you know, and they were
34 like rude and where's your license. And, wait, my
35 husband just went around the bend, you know, to go pick
36 up his partner; he'll be right back. But how do you
37 approach the local people? How do you alleviate this,
38 you know, there's a fish and game, you know. I'm just
39 -- I mean it's scared this person, because she didn't
40 have a license. Her and her daughter were there to
41 help the husband and his friend, you know, cut the meat
42 and whatnot, and it just -- it was a horrible
43 experience for her, and I'm just curious how.....

44

45 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: That's a very
46 important issue. I know at the Park Service we have
47 cross cultural training with the officers that we bring
48 up, and we do bring up officers sometimes. I either
49 try to grab people from Alaska, so they have Alaska
50 experience, but that's not always the case. But any

1 new officers that we bring up at the Park Service, we
2 do sit own and explain, and they have -- we try to do
3 as much cultural, cross cultural training as we can.
4 And Willie is really helpful with that, too, on our
5 Staff.

6
7 But we are aware of those issues, and
8 we try to do the best we can with -- because it is
9 different. There's different contacts in the field.
10 We do check a lot of subsistence people in the field.
11 We check licenses, we check the same type of checks
12 that we do with non-local individuals, but we are
13 sensitive to that.

14
15 MR. BALLOT: And just -- and, too, when
16 you're going up out to Buckland here.

17
18 MR. STEVENSON: Well, we don't.....

19
20 MR. BALLOT: (Breaking up) wildlife?

21
22 MR. STEVENSON: No, that's not our.....

23
24 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: It's the preserve,
25 monuments (breaking up).

26
27 MR. STEVENSON: We do assist Bering
28 Land Bridge. We try to go down to Bering Land Bridge
29 and assist them whenever they request it or.....

30 MR. BALLOT: We're on the Bering Land
31 Bridge. So that's why I ask.

32
33 MR. STEVENSON: Up by Hemrick Lake, in
34 that area we do (breaking up), but not right around
35 Buckland/Deering area. It's all Park Service land.

36
37 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Attamuk.

38
39 ATTAMUK: I've just got one question.
40 Attamuk here. You say you try to go to 75 camps. How
41 many camps do you think are out there, and you try to
42 visit 75?

43
44 MR. STEVENSON: You know, on the camps,
45 it's a little misleading. The same -- the outfitters
46 all go to the same spot. Say the Aggie, we'll go into
47 the same camp maybe five or six times with different
48 hunters, because the hunters cycle through there. And
49 so we.....

50

1 ATTAMUK: You probably get maybe five
2 or six on that.
3
4 MR. STEVENSON: Yeah, if we go in
5 there, there's one group one.....
6
7 ATTAMUK: Now I've got you.
8
9 MR. STEVENSON:one week, and then
10 we go in the next week. We call that a hunter camp
11 visit, even though it's the same (breaking up).
12
13 MR. SAMPSON: Are these camps pretty
14 much set up by guides or what?
15
16 MR. STEVENSON: Well, most of them are
17 all associated with an air strip as you know, so most
18 of them are either transporters that have put in a camp
19 or private individuals that have put in a camp.
20 Private folks who happen.....
21
22 MR. SAMPSON: I thought there's not
23 supposed to be any permanent camps within the area for
24 a period of time.
25
26 MR. STEVENSON: Correct. And so a lot
27 of transporters will drop in people, pull them out, and
28 we'll see that there's no tents there, there's no tents
29 there, and then within a day or two they'll bring in
30 another group and drop them off. So there are breaks,
31 but at times the issue is where some of the
32 transporters are putting up tents, leaving those tents
33 up and cycle hunters through. And that's illegal. And
34 we're trying to get a handle on that.
35
36 ATTAMUK: That's taking advantage of
37 the regulation of pulling out and coming back into the
38 same area.
39
40 MR. STEVENSON: They're a different
41 client.
42
43 ATTAMUK: Yeah, we understand that
44 part. But it's the same ground.
45
46 MR. SAMPSON: Is there any way you can
47 enforce the use of the airport for -- it's just like
48 dropping off hunters and as soon as these caribou comes
49 in, they shoot it that same day.
50

1 MR. STEVENSON: I don't have
2 jurisdiction here.....
3
4 MR. SAMPSON: Same-day airborne.
5
6 MR. STEVENSON:on the Kotzebue
7 airport, but once they go on Federal land, we do. If
8 we can.....
9
10 MR. SAMPSON: And that's what I mean.
11 When the caribou is moving, if these folks should go in
12 and get dropped off, they shoot a caribou the same day,
13 that's same-day airborne.
14
15 MR. STEVENSON: Yes.
16
17 ATTAMUK: It's how many times I report
18 it. Attamuk here. That I reported right behind my
19 camp. They land in the mountain. Within a few hours I
20 could hear the bang-bang, they're way up in the
21 mountain. A plane land there and drop off hunters, and
22 I've seen actually maybe about a couple mountains
23 behind me, there's a camp. I could -- you know, and I
24 go up, I could see them.
25
26 MR. STEVENSON: Some of the areas that
27 we're very interested in finding out about, and that's
28 where we can try to put a team in with a helicopter.
29 There's lots of those areas. Difficult to -- a lot of
30 areas and actually witness that ourselves. Or if we
31 get a report from a local person, we can use that, too,
32 to build a case.
33
34 ATTAMUK: Yeah, I understand your
35 point. A couple of times I report it even local
36 commuters were flying, flying on top of my camp, when
37 they were low, when I have to look down at the plane,
38 and when I report it, I didn't know where was the Fish
39 and Game or anybody to help me enforce it. And yet we
40 always try to say we want to enforce, and yet nothing
41 happened. I still have guys -- I still remember as of
42 today who that person was. And I came to town, and
43 address, and I gave them the date and time, and they
44 already know who their pilot was flying at the time,
45 and nothing was done. And he was lower than my camp.
46
47 MR. STEVENSON: And he landed right
48 there behind your place?
49
50 ATTAMUK: No, they were just flying by,

1 they were so low.

2

3 MR. STEVENSON: Yeah. The hunters that
4 you heard shoot though, where were.....

5

6 ATTAMUK: No, they weren't hunters. I
7 said local commuters. They were 300 feet aerial, and
8 they're -- and they zoomed right by and go up and go
9 check on the caribou and go right by below my house and
10 back to Kotzebue. And that was maybe two years ago I
11 witnessed that.

12

13 MR. BALLOT: I just had one question.
14 This is Percy Ballot. When you go out and you see
15 transporters or guide and do some wrong, I was just
16 wondering how many incidents or how many have been
17 cited for whatever reason, like that. Or do they
18 just.....

19

20 MR. STEVENSON: We usually have about
21 half a dozen cases each year that we pursue, that are
22 more serious and we pursue and continue more of an
23 investigation. Oftentimes our investigation takes us
24 to Anchorage, because some of the hunters are non --
25 most of them are non-local hunters. So I've gone down
26 to Anchorage and done interviews. We'll issue
27 subpoenas, we'll issue search warrants. We'll pursue
28 those, but it's often down in Anchorage or Fairbanks.
29 And then we have special agents and then our
30 prosecuting attorneys help us down there and help
31 develop the case.

32

33 MR. HELFRICH: Mr. Chairman, if I may.
34 To highlight one important case, Percy, in 2004 I
35 believe it was, Dan and another ranger found a
36 transporter violating the Noatak Controlled Use Area.

37

38 MR. STEVENSON: And I would add to that
39 that the only reason we made that case is because a
40 local individual reported to us where that camp --
41 there was an illegal camp. And then we went and found
42 it. If it hadn't been a local person who said, hey,
43 they're in an illegal area, we never would have found
44 it. So it really highlights the importance of getting
45 that information from local people.

46

47 And then we pursued it and it ended up
48 going to Anchorage and that actually dragged on for a
49 number of years, and we finally got a conviction.

50

1 MR. HELFRICH: And that resulted in
2 that operator's losing his authorization to operate
3 inside the Preserve, and he is no longer operating in
4 this region. And he was I think the largest
5 transporter in the Northwest Arctic at that time.
6
7 MR. STEVENSON: Thank you.
8
9 MR. HELFRICH: Mr. Chairman, I just had
10 a couple other things, but I can wait until after lunch
11 if you would like me to do that.
12
13 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yeah, it sounds like
14 we're going to take a lunch break.
15
16 MR. HELFRICH: Okay. What time would
17 you like us back, Mr. Chairman.
18
19 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: 1330. Enjoy.
20
21 MR. HELFRICH: Thank you.
22
23 (Off record)
24
25 (On record)
26
27 MR. HELFRICH: So before lunch
28 (breaking up) Western Arctic Distance Program manager
29 had the opportunity to speak about a couple issues.
30 Also Dan Stevenson, a protection ranger for Western
31 Arctic also had the opportunity to speak. Brad Shultz,
32 Western Arctic wildlife biologist is here, and he has a
33 couple projects to describe to the Board.
34
35 Brad, are you ready now?
36
37 MR. SHULTZ: Yes. Sorry I'm late.
38 I've been in what seems like a purgatory of meetings
39 this week, just like I'm sure a lot of you have.
40
41 I don't know what you talked about this
42 morning, but I guess at the top of the agenda might be
43 to.....
44
45 ATTAMUK: A lot of it was about you.
46
47 (Laughter)
48
49 MR. SHULTZ: (Indiscernible - laughter)
50 to that. Dan, you probably led the discussion, didn't

1 you.

2

3 ATTAMUK: Why don't you talk to him.

4

5 MR. SHULTZ: I think (breaking up) you
6 know that. The muskox and research project, did you
7 guys have a chance to talk about that much at all?

8

9 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: No, we talked about
10 the proposals.

11

12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Peninsula
13 proposals.

14

15 ATTAMUK: And one thing that we sort of
16 asked was information in regards to the upgraded study
17 on moose population.

18

19 MR. SHULTZ: Okay. Let me respond
20 to.....

21

22 ATTAMUK: Based on what information was
23 provided, but 2010 we should have a report.

24

25 MR. SHULTZ: Okay. So we had a -- we
26 finally completed a peer reviewed study plan last fall.
27 The project, let me back up. The project is actually a
28 U.S.G.S. research project, Biological Resources
29 Division. Years ago they created a bunch of biologists
30 in U.S.G.S., which seems kind of weird, but that's
31 where they ended up. Do you remember the O.M.B.S.
32 thing that Bruce Babbitt started that kind of fell
33 apart? That ended up being part of U.S.G.S. So our
34 research biologist for wildlife that we used to have in
35 the Park Service actually worked for U.S.G.S.

36

37 ATTAMUK: And what is U.S.G.S.?

38

39 MR. SHULTZ: United States Geological
40 Survey. So they were created years ago to do nothing
41 but mineral work. So all these biologists have ended
42 up with a bunch of geologists now, and it hasn't been a
43 happy marriage by any means.

44

45 But nonetheless, this project is
46 actually run by a U.S.G.S. research biologist named
47 Blaine Adams. He worked for us for years in Anchorage
48 and has done research all over the state, especially
49 with caribou. But he's the lead research biologist.
50 We have one other person, Joel Berger, who works for

1 the Wildlife Conservation Society out of New York,
2 Bronx Zoo, is kind of the outfit. And they do research
3 all over the world. You've probably heard of them.

4
5 So then the Park Service, we basically
6 came up with the monies. That was our job, was to come
7 up with the money for the study and to (breaking up)
8 their expert (breaking up).

9
10 So we had a peer reviewed study plan,
11 basic of that, I don't know if we talked about this
12 before, was essentially to compare the population
13 dynamics of the Seward Peninsula population and the
14 Northwest Arctic Coast population from Noatak to
15 Lisburne, with what's going on in the (breaking up).
16 And since the reintroduction, the ones on this
17 northwest coast have hardly grown at all. It appears
18 that, you know, that it looks like it kind of peaked
19 out in about 2000/2002 at about 400 plus animals. And
20 then the Seward Peninsula's grown at about 16 percent.
21 They're up over 3,000 animals, and they're just really
22 healthy. An we'll talk a little bit about that from
23 the results of our capture work.

24
25 So the main gist is to observe the
26 population dynamics of those populations.

27
28 So as part of that, we radio -- the
29 initial intent was to radio collar 30 adults in each
30 location, and we ended up -- excuse me, 20 adults in
31 each location. We're using regular, conventional VHF
32 telemetry which, you know, you've got to fly around and
33 listen for the beep kind of thing, which is the old
34 way.

35
36 The new way is we've got GPS collars
37 that actually collect the latitude and longitude every
38 four hours on these animals. They save it up for a
39 week and then they shoot it up to the satellite once a
40 week. And we get six locations per day per animal
41 every day for three years.

42
43 And the other thing we did on the
44 collars is they actually have a break-away device on
45 them that's programmed to release on the 1st of June
46 three years from now essentially, so the collars will
47 actually just -- it's a little explosive .22 charge and
48 it will just break off and off they go. And then the
49 ones that don't actually come off, because they don't
50 work or something, we'll have to pull them off at the

1 end of three years. It's a three-year project. And
2 then we take them all off.

3
4 So in a nutshell that's where we're at.
5 We went out and started capture work on the -- I don't
6 even know what day it was. The 16th of March here or
7 something like that. Ended up deploying 20 collars on
8 adult female muskoxen on the Seward Pen, and we
9 deployed 14 out here at Cape Krusenstern from the
10 Kivalina River south. All the collars are on adult
11 cows. We didn't collar any bull muskox. (Breaking up)
12 I might be one or two off there, because we just
13 finished up the other day and I'm trying to keep them
14 straight.

15
16 So I guess what I ought to do is tell
17 you what we've learned so far, which has been pretty
18 striking. I don't have enough copies. Marcy made
19 these this morning, if you'd pass those around.

20
21 ATTAMUK: You said you collared mostly
22 females?

23
24 MR. SHULTZ: They're all the same.

25
26 ATTAMUK: Okay. So then you never
27 collared males. Is there a reason why you never
28 collared males, because I know for a fact that like in
29 the Noatak River by my camp above Noatak, bulls will
30 get to be loners. Like they tried to start their own
31 little herd there or what's going on? That's why you
32 don't collar them or what?

33
34 MR. SHULTZ: We don't collar them,
35 because we get more population information out of
36 females mainly. You know, males are somewhat
37 irrelevant until they get to such a low number, and
38 then (indiscernible, coughing). In terms of biology
39 and population dynamics, you just learn more from
40 females. You learn, you know, how often they're
41 pregnant, how often they give birth, how often their
42 calves survive to a certain age.

43
44 With bulls, you don't learn anything if
45 you catch a bull. You can find out how old it is
46 maybe, and you can find survival rates on bulls, and
47 that's interesting. But it's really the survival rate
48 and the productivity of cows that's important.

49
50 ATTAMUK: Thank you.

1 MR. SHULTZ: I'm not saying that
2 there's nothing to be learned from bulls, but in terms
3 of population dynamics, females make (indiscernible,
4 background noise).

5
6 MR. SAMPSON: Do you do any, because
7 you're collaring them -- you know, with the collaring,
8 do you do any analysis on blood work to see if there's
9 any diseases or something like that?

10
11 MR. SHULTZ: Yeah. We're doing a full
12 panel of disease screening. So we drew blood on --
13 let's say we got blood on probably 75 percent of them.
14 It's really difficult on these guys. In fact, what
15 everybody told us to do, and what we actually practiced
16 on muskoxen in Fairbanks was pulling it out of a vein
17 on the front leg. And it worked great in Fairbanks
18 with a bunch of farmed muskoxen, but it worked horribly
19 out here. And so we found out we could get blood from
20 the rear leg. And once we figured that out, we were
21 getting blood on all of them. But we do a disease
22 screening of the actual serum, you know, serum
23 analysis, to look for all kinds of different diseases.
24 We did -- we've got fecal samples from all of them to
25 look for parasites

26
27 We did, of course, an examination of
28 the entire body to see if there's lesions and that sort
29 of thing. And we did find some that actually, which
30 was pretty interesting, some pretty big lesions,
31 especially on the legs of a couple of cows. And I
32 think what it looks like is they're just infections
33 from that crusty snow. When they get to running, it
34 just rips their skin up. It's just like knives and
35 cuts them all up. And it didn't look real serious, you
36 know. We didn't see anything that was life-
37 threatening.

38
39 Anyway, we're doing -- the big thing on
40 blood, too, Walter, is we can assess pregnancy from the
41 blood, because there's a serum progesterone. You can
42 look at that in the blood to see if an animal's
43 pregnant. So we get pregnancy rates from all these 34
44 cows just based on the blood analysis. So we'll know
45 who's pregnant. We'll look at them again in June and
46 see who actually still has a calf in June. So we'll
47 get their productivity.

48
49 So we're looking at a bigger thing than
50 what I told you, but we are looking.

1 And I handed out a picture. I guess
2 that one of the striking things that everybody knows is
3 the muskoxen up here haven't grown that much in
4 population size here near town. And one of the first
5 striking things we figured out with the cows that we
6 caught, if you look at these pictures, the dentition on
7 the cows in Krusenstern, the teeth are just broken up
8 and busted up. It looks like they're 100 years old.
9 And the top left picture you see there for Cape
10 Krusenstern, I think that's the best set of teeth we
11 saw from Cape Krusenstern, and that's (indiscernible,
12 background noise) still in their head, that many teeth.
13 They make a living -- all the ungulates make a living
14 with eight teeth. They don't have any upper teeth up
15 here. They have their teeth (ph) teeth as you guys
16 well know, but those are the teeth they make their
17 living with. And if you're missing half of them,
18 you've got a big problem in being selective.

19
20 These guys are selective sedge eaters.
21 They eat sedges out of the tundra. And what we've seen
22 from some other work we did out here with Claudia Eel
23 (ph) a couple of years ago is that the muskoxen at
24 Krusenstern are eating a tremendous amount of moss. We
25 couldn't figure out why they were eating so much moss.
26 And I don't have anything to prove this, but I think
27 it's just because they're missing so many teeth,
28 they're taking big bitefuls [sic] of ground, because
29 they can't be as selective. I mean, you look at the
30 Bering Land Bridge teeth, they've got normal teeth.

31
32 So what ties in to that? So they've
33 got bad teeth, so what. But the so what of it is, is
34 the animals, the cows we caught at Bering Land Bridge
35 are 60 pounds heavier on average than the cows we
36 caught in Cape Krusenstern. That's a huge average
37 difference in weight.

38
39 MR. SAMPSON: While you're doing your
40 studies or analysis of these things, the blood, or
41 whatever, maybe a suggestion would be to seriously look
42 at some of those up by Cape Thompson just in case one
43 of those run into the area that there's some of that
44 stuff that was left.

45
46 MR. SHULTZ: We wanted to do that.
47 Quite honestly we didn't catch anything north of the
48 Kivalina, but we can consider it for next year
49 actually.

50

1 MR. SAMPSON: That would be a good
2 thing to look at.
3
4 MR. SHULTZ: We just didn't have the
5 time or money is really what it boils down to. And the
6 other honest answer is that we've got to get Fish and
7 Game kind of on board with that, because.....
8
9 MR. SAMPSON: Well, ask them to shoot
10 (ph).
11
12 MR. SHULTZ: You know, it's way outside
13 of our legal jurisdiction in terms of our imaginary
14 boundaries that we always play with. So that's a good
15 suggestion and we'll talk about doing that.
16
17 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah, periodically you'll
18 see this helicopter going in for capture of the muskox.
19 One guy that jumped on a muskox, has to be a biologist
20 of some sort. Periodically you'll see that on TV.
21 (Breaking up) to do something with a muskox.
22
23 MR. SHULTZ: They must have been
24 visiting hunters, but they're famous for catching
25 animals like that. They're also famous (breaking up)
26 from helicopter. But we've usually darted them.
27
28 MR. SAMPSON: It's an older picture. I
29 don't now where that came from.
30
31 MR. SHULTZ: Probably Canada, because
32 they're been catching muskox on some.....
33
34 MR. SAMPSON: (Indiscernible)
35
36 MR. SHULTZ: We talk about a population
37 of 3,000 on the Seward Peninsula and a population up
38 here on the coast of 400, but Banks Island in northern
39 -- the Canadian archipelago had 65,000 muskox on it at
40 one time.
41
42 MR. SAMPSON: Take that as a challenge,
43 hey, George, we need (breaking up). Ken.
44
45 MR. ADKISSON: This is Ken Adkisson. I
46 just would suggest to members of this committee, or the
47 Council that if you have membership on like a local
48 fish and game advisory committee or know people that
49 are on the fish and game advisory committees, and you'd
50 like to see that project expanded, you might use some

1 influence and suggest that through the AC's, but then
2 get back to the Department. And they have the depth,
3 and we could find the money and the time to go Cape
4 Thompson, but we really need to do it with the State,
5 because there's so much State land up there.

6
7 MR. BALLOT: Brad, you said something
8 earlier about you collared them and they're supposed to
9 stay on so many years and then they fall off or pop
10 off. What happens with that collar that falls off?

11
12 MR. SHULTZ: We'll pick them up.

13
14 MR. BALLOT: Oh, you'll pick them up.
15 So there's a process to.....

16
17 MR. SHULTZ: Uh-huh. They beep long
18 enough to pick them up, so if they work right, they'll
19 fall off at I think it's 3:00 o'clock p.m. on 1 June,
20 2012, if you believe. That's what they tell us. And
21 they do work really well. But the ones that don't fall
22 off, we'll go pull off. You know, we'll kind of weigh
23 that out with the age of the animal, but I think for
24 the long-term deal that we should probably go take them
25 off. It's a little different than what we've done with
26 sheep where we've actually left them on, because
27 they're a little more fragile in terms of catching
28 them. But that's what will happen.

29
30 And, you know, there's a whole bunch of
31 issues with the whole collaring thing, and one of them
32 is that they're really hard to see the collars.
33 They're really, really hard. As you guys know, you've
34 been hunting them and watching them for years, and
35 they're really hairy. And so the collars actually have
36 a big yellow flag with a number on it so we can see
37 them from the air and figure out who they are. And
38 from ground work in April, that you can barely see
39 that.

40
41 The one thing we were concerned with
42 that's happened in the past is there's been instances
43 with collars and I think maybe even down your way, the
44 collars actually getting over the loss of the horns and
45 then getting over their eyes like this, sliding over.
46 The way -- you know, I think what we figured out is
47 these things were just on too loose. So we put the
48 collars on pretty tight, and the hair, moved the hair
49 around a little bit, and then we essentially tried to
50 pull them ourselves over the boss and we weren't

1 physically able to do that. So I don't think we're
2 going to have problems with that. But, you know, if
3 you see one like that, you need to call us so we can
4 fix it. But I don't think it's going to be that big of
5 a problem with them, on the way we're kind of putting
6 them on. But that's what I wanted to tell you about.

7

8 Well, the other thing I should tell you
9 guys right up front so.....

10

11 MR. SWAN: I had a question. Oh, I'm
12 sorry, go ahead.

13

14 MR. SHULTZ: Oh, I'm sorry. Go ahead.

15

16 MR. SWAN: The tooth problem, would it
17 be because of the terrain?

18

19 MR. SHULTZ: That's what I think.

20

21 MR. SWAN: Is there very much
22 difference between here and there?

23

24 MR. SHULTZ: I think that's exactly
25 what it is. I mean, we don't have any proof or
26 anything, but I think you hit on the most common sense
27 answer that, you know, they're spending all their time
28 on those rocky ridges out on the coast out here in the
29 Tahinichok Mountain, the Igichuk, and it's rocky. And
30 they're foraging in rocks all the time, from the time
31 they're born, and foraging in that rocky stuff. You go
32 down to the Seward Peninsula, and, sure, there's rocky
33 mountains and things, but they're mostly in the tufted
34 tundra (breaking up).

35

36 MR. SWAN: Yeah. The ones that are on
37 the Wulik when my wife and I are digging for roots, we
38 found them digging along the banks, digging for the
39 same roots in the rocky land.

40

41 MR. SHULTZ: I think you're absolutely
42 right. I mean, it's one of those surprise sorts of
43 things that you find out sometimes that you wouldn't
44 think about too much that -- but it's striking. If
45 you're missing those teeth.

46

47 One of our objectives was to actually
48 pull the canine tooth, which is the eighth tooth, or,
49 you know, the outside tooth on each one, because
50 they're smaller than the incisors, and then cross

1 section number eight, cementum. They're putting on
2 layers of cementum just like the scale of a fish. We
3 didn't pull any teeth at all, because you can't go
4 pulling, you know, 75 percent of what they've got left
5 if they have a couple teeth. So we didn't pull any
6 teeth to age them. So we're not going to actually have
7 ages in years for them. We just know that they're
8 greater than four years old. That's about all we're
9 going to know.

10
11 MR. SWAN: You're sure these aren't
12 British ancestry?

13
14 MR. SHULTZ: British ancestry? Bad
15 teeth?

16
17 MR. SWAN: Yeah.

18
19 (Laughter)

20
21 MR. SHULTZ:maybe the Dutch. Was
22 it the Dutch? No, it was the -- that's just right
23 anyway. Dutch, yeah.

24
25 MR. SWAN: Danish.

26
27 MR. SHULTZ: Danish. Anyway. I don't
28 know how they're (breaking up).

29
30 But I was going to get back to kind of
31 a more important point that I didn't bring up right
32 away, that -- so we caught, we collared 34 animals I
33 believe. We actually ended up capturing a couple of
34 extra young animals that we did not put collars on.

35
36 But one of the animals out of the 14 at
37 Krusenstern died. And it died about -- I've got a lot
38 of numbers in my head. I apologize. But it was five
39 or six days after we collared. She didn't -- she got
40 back with her group which was only a group of two
41 animals. She stayed with them for five days. And we
42 were checking -- after we caught them each day, we
43 would go check on them to see how they were doing. But
44 she died about five days after we caught her, and
45 there's absolutely nothing we can tell as to why she
46 died. But the one thing I can tell you is that she
47 died because we caught her, but we don't know exactly
48 what the cause was. So you should know that, because
49 we did kill one animal in my mind, and I think you
50 should know that right up front.

1 We did get up there a couple of days
2 later. I think as you know it was horrible up there at
3 Kivalina for a few days, so it took us a while to get
4 back. But we looked around the dart wound, we looked
5 for -- we looked to see if she'd aspirated some of her
6 rumen. And there was basically no reason for her to
7 die. I think she just didn't recover from the narcotic
8 drugs we use. And why it was, she was healthy, you
9 know, as healthy as the other Krusenstern animals. So
10 anyway we had one capture mortality.

11
12 We ended up marking -- we left the
13 carcass. We didn't sling the carcass or do a full
14 necropsy or anything like that. And so we left the
15 carcass. It's in the Tahinichok Mountains, and we put
16 flagging on its leg. So basically we said don't eat
17 this animal. That's the only way we could mark it.

18
19 MR. SWAN: Mr. Chairman. Yeah. I
20 think they should have done something with the meat
21 anyway at least. But it probably stressed, because
22 like you said earlier, that comment about if they're
23 old, I don't know if we'll do anything about taking the
24 collars off. We were taught to respect animals. I
25 understand if we're studying them, we collar them. It
26 would be good, useful information for later on. But
27 these animals have the right to life, especially when
28 you could do it, not leave these collars on them.

29
30 MR. SHULTZ: I respect that, and, you
31 know, I've heard that for many years, and I think that,
32 you know, we've got a pretty good track record I hope
33 with you guys for showing the responsibility to remove
34 collars. We remove collars from moose and we removed
35 collars from brown bears that had them. We did not
36 remove collars from sheep, because the risk is just too
37 high catching them. Not higher risk, but killing them.
38 But we did put break-away mechanisms in there so they
39 would actually wear out and fall away.

40
41 So I understand that, and that's our
42 strategy with the muskoxen is to say, you know, they're
43 got three years of this, and then we're done with them.
44 And I think what we've learned from this will help us a
45 lot with the management especially of these hunts. And
46 so I look at them at short term kind of view and hope
47 that that's worth it to you, too. And I hope by giving
48 you information like that it makes it worth it. And I
49 think there's a lot more to learn about them as we go
50 along.

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: On the flagged one,
2 would it be unsafe to eat the meat?

3
4 MR. SHULTZ: Yeah, the drugs we used,
5 they are narcotics, so if you've ever had surgery, I
6 always use this example. We use the same narcotic
7 actually that (breaking up) class, it's a morphine
8 derivative. It's very potent, and when we use those
9 drugs on animals, there's a 45-day, what they call a
10 withdrawal period with the Food and Drug
11 Administration. So you're really not supposed to
12 consume meats that have been drugged within 45 days.
13 So that's why we marked it. And the reality is that
14 those drugs are metabolized within about two days.
15 That's the reality, so the fact that she died five days
16 afterwards, you probably would not even be able to
17 detect any of those drugs. I'm sure you wouldn't be
18 able to detect them. They're metabolized very quickly.

19
20 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: We'd get high if we
21 eat the meat right away?

22
23 MR. SHULTZ: No. Maybe if you eat the
24 liver. Most of those drugs are metabolized in the
25 liver and kidneys. So, you know, unless you eat the
26 tissue right around the dart site.

27
28 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: We'd smile a little
29 bit and go to sleep.

30
31 MR. SHULTZ: It's more of a liability
32 thing than it is a practical.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: That's morphine,
35 right?

36
37 MR. SHULTZ: It's a morphine
38 derivative. It's called Carfentanil and
39 anesthesiologists use Remifentanil. (Breaking up) is
40 more potent on a volume basis than morphine, and
41 Remifentanil is another 10,000 times more potent than
42 Carfentanil. So it doesn't take much.

43
44 Anything I'm forgetting on muskoxen,
45 George, that was of interest?

46
47 MR. HELFRICH: Very good.

48
49 MR. SHULTZ: So I guess, you know,
50 where we're heading now, we're collecting these six

1 locations a day per animal on the GPS collars, which is
2 about half the collars. And the other half are these
3 conventional ones. We're going to radio track them
4 every two weeks. (Indiscernible, background noise)
5 airplane, we're going to be out there every two weeks
6 initially in the first couple months to make sure
7 they're wearing those collars and fitting them, doing
8 things like that. Probably go (breaking up) where
9 they're at. We're going to be looking -- here in April
10 we're actually going to be on the ground looking at
11 those groups, doing composition work to see what the
12 age classes are in terms of recruitment, especially
13 with the yearlings.

14

15 So next year come March, we'll probably
16 increase the sample size to 20 in each place and
17 replace collars if we have any mortality. But we don't
18 have a huge capture operation (breaking up) like Walter
19 suggested and go up north and try to add those guys in.

20

21 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I see on the internet
22 where the Canadian Inuit were having a problem with
23 their muskox getting radio collars on and everything,
24 too.

25

26 MR. SHULTZ: What kind of problems?

27

28 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: They put out the
29 information that these animals should not be taken and
30 eaten.

31

32 MR. SHULTZ: It's a lawyer thing
33 really. I think that's the reality of it. But, I
34 mean, I think just to be safe, you tell people not to
35 eat them.

36

37 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: They're having a
38 pretty good go around over there.

39

40 MR. SHULTZ: Well, you know, I could
41 tell you from Fairbanks, you know, and the interior,
42 they've been collaring moose there for a long time, and
43 they've had a lot of cow hunts over the last couple
44 years to try to bring the population down south of
45 Fairbanks. And people have been shooting a lot of
46 collared cows and eating them and returning the
47 collars.

48

49 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: How close do you work
50 with the Canadians on something like this?

1 MR. SHULTZ: Yeah, we talk to a guy
2 named Bret Eckland who's caught a bunch of muskoxen
3 over there. He's a veterinarian. But, you know, but
4 in terms of an Ann Gunn, if you've ever heard her name,
5 she's worked over there for 35 years.

6
7 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Have they come across
8 anything like this with the teeth on their animals over
9 there?

10
11 MR. SHULTZ: No, no one's mentioned it.
12 No one's mentioned it from the North Slope here. Fish
13 and Game's been catching muskoxen east of the Haul
14 Road. No one's mentioned any of these dentition
15 problems at all. It's just pretty unique to Cape
16 Krusenstern it appears. The only other place I think
17 you might see it is on the Canadian high Arctic
18 islands, and no one mentioned it.

19
20 The one thing that is curious about
21 muskoxen is sometimes they don't have their canine
22 teeth in the front row, so they only have six teeth
23 instead of eight. And people have known about that for
24 a long time. And the Bering Land Bridge animals, a lot
25 of them are missing their canines. They just don't
26 have them. So they have six teeth instead of eight.
27 But no one knows why. Some kind of genetic thing
28 that's been passed on, or it could be the fact that
29 muskoxen kind of went through a little bottleneck in
30 terms of genetics. Don't know.

31
32 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Any other questions.
33 Comments.

34
35 (No comments)

36
37 MR. SHULTZ: Anything else you guys had
38 questions about in the realm of.....

39
40 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Council.

41
42 MR. SHULTZ: I feel kind of left out,
43 because Walter hasn't picked on me yet.

44
45 MR. SWAN: Some of those places where
46 you're collaring them out, we have some around here,
47 like 22, 23, because we have -- our Council always know
48 they're probably migrating. When those radio collars
49 are in those areas, will they show whether they're on
50 that side or move to that side or our side?

1 MR. SHULTZ: You know, the supposition
2 of people is that muskoxen don't move much, but I know
3 that -- in terms of science people, you know. In the
4 village you may -- you probably know different, but
5 they move a lot. They've found out that they're moving
6 a lot so far. And on the Seward Pen they collared a
7 bunch last year and they're all over the place. So I
8 think we're going to kind of change our perspective on
9 how we count them a little bit, because, you know, we
10 see our numbers go up and down, and I think it's just
11 because they're moving from one place to another.

12
13 But I would warn you, I guess. We did
14 do a minimum count out here on the northwest coast.
15 And it appears that these guys might actually be
16 declining now. And I don't know how fast that's going
17 to happen, but we're certainly (indiscernible,
18 background noise) about this. And it may be less than
19 300, and there was over 400 eight years ago. So I
20 don't know if it's related to the things we're finding
21 here, like the body weight, productivity or what. But
22 that's just something to think about. And I wouldn't
23 change the way we're doing the subsistence hunt or
24 anything like that right now, because we're targeting
25 bulls anyway. But (breaking up) monitor the decline
26 (breaking up).

27
28 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Comments.

29
30 (No comments)

31
32 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay. Mr. Shultz,
33 thank you.

34
35 MR. SHULTZ: You're welcome.

36
37 MR. HELFRICH: Mr. Chairman, let me
38 just finish up with a couple points about the conflict
39 between transporters and their clients, sport hunters
40 and local subsistence users. We continue to be aware
41 of that conflict, and attentive to it. We are actively
42 participating in a Big Game Commercial Services Board,
43 and supporting its efforts to better regulate the
44 transporter issue.

45
46 We're participating in the Unit 23
47 working group that Walter sits on, and also other
48 people from the community. One of the working group's
49 proposals is to change the gate to the controlled use
50 area and also the length of the controlled use area.

1 And that will go to the Board of Game this November in
2 Nome.

3
4 We have, as Dan Stevenson talked about,
5 an active law enforcement program. During the fall an
6 effort to identify and curtail problems out in the
7 field.

8
9 As Dan described, in 2004 we
10 successfully brought a case against one of the largest
11 transporters in the region and denied him permit later
12 on based on the outcome of that case. That was for
13 violation of the controlled use area.

14
15 We also have a couple of other cases
16 going on right now. One of those has to do with
17 someone who may, and I may want to emphasize may, not
18 actually be a local rural resident and got a
19 subsistence permit to take a sheep in the Baird
20 Mountains. And we also have a case against a couple
21 people who again may -- are not local -- or who may not
22 be local rural residents who took a moose in Kobuk
23 Valley National Park.

24
25 So we have this law enforcement
26 program, and we are trying to address law enforcement
27 issues out in the field.

28
29 Finally, we took a couple of actions
30 last year. We put a cap on the number of transporters
31 who are allowed to operate in Noatak National Preserve.
32 We capped that number at eight. So there are only
33 eight transporters operating inside the preserve. As I
34 said before, or at an earlier meeting, some people have
35 said to me, eight, that seems like a lot. Maybe that's
36 too many. And my reply was that at least we've ensured
37 that there's no growth in the industry, that there
38 weren't 10 operators, that there weren't 12 operators
39 inside the preserve.

40
41 We've also capped the number of clients
42 that these transporters may bring in at 357. And last
43 year transporters brought in only about 275 clients, so
44 we're well below that cap.

45
46 Six of the eight companies have
47 responded with their activity reports. And they
48 described bringing in 263 clients. A couple companies
49 have not responded yet. I'm going to estimate that
50 between them they'll bring in 12 clients. So we think

1 that altogether there were about 275 sport hunters who
2 came in with the transporters in the Preserve.

3
4 And then finally we are working on a
5 big game transportation services plan. It will
6 actually ultimately change the way that we manage
7 transporter operated (breaking up). In 2007 we
8 curtailed it when the State (breaking up) not support
9 from doing this unit-wide, Unit 23 Working Group to
10 look at issues across all of Unit 23. And now that the
11 working group has some momentum, we are ready to start
12 our own transportation services plan that will focus on
13 the issues inside of Noatak.

14
15 Earlier in the meeting Walter said this
16 has been a problem for the last few years. My best
17 understanding is that this has been a problem for the
18 last 20 years. And I have a lot of confidence in the
19 work that we have done since 2006/2007 in addressing
20 this problem between transporters and their clients and
21 local subsistence users. And I also have a lot of
22 confidence that eventually we are going to come to a
23 solution.

24
25 MR. BALLOT: So George, Percy Ballot.
26 Is this, the transporter plan, that's Noatak only, not
27 all Unit 23.

28
29 MR. HELFRICH: That is Noatak only,
30 because there's no sport hunting and thus no big game
31 transportation services in Cape Krusenstern. No sport
32 hunting and thus no transportation services in Kobuk
33 Valley. And then, Percy, as far as Bering Land Bridge
34 is concerned, we have just not seen the sport hunting
35 over there that we have seen in Noatak.

36
37 MR. BALLOT: But this is (breaking up)

38
39 MR. HELFRICH: No, this is different.
40 The Squirrel River is mostly Bureau of Land Management
41 land and State land.

42
43 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Questions.

44
45 MS. SMITH: Are you done?

46
47 MR. HELFRICH: Yes, ma'am.

48
49 MS. SMITH: You said you started this
50 big game transportation services plan in 2007. What is

1 the timeline and how is -- is there going to be a
2 public process? I mean, we're the ones that are most
3 impacted and we need to have input into it.

4
5 MR. HELFRICH: It will be a public
6 process, Hazel. We started in 2007. We were about to
7 begin the public process portion of that plan. We
8 stopped, because the State proposed doing this Unit 23
9 working group. And there was I believe unanimous
10 support in the community for that working group
11 process. Now the working group has taken on some
12 momentum. It has, for example, this proposal in to the
13 Board of Game that the Board will consider in November.
14 And we believe it's opportune for us to begin our own
15 planning process again. That planning process will
16 include an environmental assessment with trips to the
17 villages to get people's concern and their
18 identification of issues that the plan should address.
19 Then there will be a written document that will be put
20 out for public review and comment, again including
21 visits to the affected villages. And then and only
22 then will there be a decision. So, yes, a lot of
23 public outreach.

24
25 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Any more questions
26 for George.

27
28 MR. SWAN: Yeah.

29
30 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Austin.

31
32 MR. SWAN: Applicants. You have eight.
33 How many do you get a year?

34
35 MR. HELFRICH: Last hear when we had
36 gotten eight by the time we announced the moratorium.
37 I'm not sure how many more companies would have
38 applied.

39
40 MR. SWAN: Do you have some kind of
41 rotational basis, or is it the same ones each year?

42
43 MR. HELFRICH: It's typically the same
44 ones each year. They've established a business up
45 here, and so every time a permit ends, and the permits
46 are good for two years, they will reapply.

47
48 MR. SWAN: So it would be hard for
49 somebody new to really get in there.

50

1 MR. HELFRICH: Yes. Not impossible,
2 but hard.

3
4 MR. SWAN: There goes my aspirations
5 now.

6
7 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I think what Walter
8 -- oh, go ahead, Enoch.

9
10 ATTAMUK: I've got a question. So you
11 have transporters, they're limiting how many they can
12 take. Are you talking about the one place. How about
13 if that local would -- that permit where Native people
14 at Noatak to take hunters out and drop them off. Is
15 that going to be a different category or what?

16
17 MR. HELFRICH: It's actually the same
18 category. And there was one company called Ryan
19 Outfitters that has a connection with a person in
20 Noatak for taking out clients.

21
22 MR. SWAN: Would there be a difference
23 or like if it's on Native corporation lands, would
24 there be any difference with that?

25
26 MR. HELFRICH: Our permits aren't good
27 for Native corporation lands, so a transporter could
28 not land on corporation lands. That's private
29 property.

30
31 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter.

32
33 MR. SAMPSON: I've got several I wrote
34 down. I guess the issue with regards to the museum. I
35 certainly appreciate what's being done. The issue in
36 regards to the junior ranger program that you said you
37 will be working on. And that then will help hopefully
38 this region as well. And any future research that will
39 be dealt with based out of the facility there. And not
40 only that, the archaeology, and the cultural side of
41 the picture also has been part of the system, part of
42 the creation of the museum. And as well as the use of
43 public facility.

44
45 This third one was that when it was
46 initially funded for a project to making sure all the
47 aspects of the plan would be put into place, but yet
48 you as the superintendent cut \$2 million off the
49 project. And based on information that, sure, you cut
50 part of the offices off, but in order to accommodate

1 your offices, you took out some of the research areas
2 downstairs that supposedly were part of the plan. And
3 that was my discouragement. I guess not
4 discouragement, but part of the problem that I had in
5 regards to it after fully telling this is going to be a
6 good cultural facility, and not for all day use. But
7 cutting off something like that could make it even
8 smaller than what it is, is bothersome.

9
10 And under the Kobuk Valley program, one
11 thing that is really troublesome and bothersome is that
12 when we were charged as a resource (breaking up) to put
13 together a hunting plan, and we've been working on that
14 hunting plan for some years now. And do this point we
15 haven't seen a response in regards to that hunting
16 plan. Where these plans are going, whether they're
17 sitting in the regional offices collecting dust, I
18 don't know. I think we probably need some
19 accountability for some of these things we're charged
20 to do.

21
22 And, in fact, during one of the
23 discussions that we had in regards to the Kobuk Valley
24 specifically, there was a discussion in regards to
25 limiting (breaking up) of the Kobuk Valley. In fact,
26 the criteria that was set was -- like at one point the
27 Park Service said, we'll put together a list of user
28 groups of the Kobuk Valley. Just like the hunt. Just
29 put a list. Those folks that are listed within that
30 Kobuk Valley use all die, what happens? Nothing. No
31 longer is it used for subsistence purpose.

32
33 There is provisions of time we made
34 this, is something that's been in place. That was put
35 in place by Congress. The definition is clear under
36 .803. The for subsistence priority is clear. I think
37 if the provisions of ANILCA aren't clear enough, that
38 that should be put in place.

39
40 And the State of Alaska is out of
41 compliance with ANILCA, but yet the Federal system is
42 doing MOUs to making sure that they -- I don't know
43 (breaking up) with them, but how can you work with a
44 government that is not in compliance with a Federal
45 system. Then placing restrictions on the subsistence
46 users based on what the State of Alaska wants. That's
47 the frustrating part.

48
49 I'm glad you raised the issue in
50 regards to 20 years of problems. I say several years,

1 because within that several year period (breaking up)
2 you've never done nothing to address the subsistence
3 issue or the transporter issue in the Aggie and the
4 Squirrel River. And all we're doing is waiting for the
5 State of Alaska's recommendation to put into your
6 recommendation. I fail to know how those areas will be
7 utilized in the future. That's my frustration, is that
8 if Title VIII provides for subsistence for those that
9 depend on it, it's clear in Federal Law that the State
10 of Alaska is out of compliance with ANILCA, but yet
11 there's provisions that are being made to work with the
12 State of Alaska to do exactly what the State wants to
13 do. It's not the Federal system that's managing. It's
14 the State of Alaska that's managing these lands.
15 That's been my frustration all along. And that's why I
16 raise some of the issues. That's why I have some
17 problems with the way the system is set up.

18

19 That's why when you go into the working
20 group, the process, that the individual that's making
21 the big bucks out of the State, the Park Service, BLM,
22 and Fish and Wildlife, forces you to say this is what
23 the working group was, right? Okay. This is how it's
24 going to be done. And that's exactly what she's doing
25 to this point. She forces those things to the group
26 and said this is the consensus of the working group
27 when it's not. And these are some of the things that
28 are frustrating.

29

30 But yet on the other hand, you're
31 saying as a land manager, well, I have the authority to
32 do certain things, but I'm depending on the working
33 group to come out their recommendation. That to me is
34 not managing. That's all along has been frustrating.
35 I've got nothing against you, it's just the process and
36 the system that's in place that allows for these things
37 to happen.

38

39 And yet on the other hand you have the
40 subsistence users placed in second place under ANILCA,
41 and try to survive with what little they can do in
42 those areas. That impacts on them, not the State, but
43 on the subsistence user itself. Provisions are being
44 made for the outside groups, interest groups to go in
45 and do what they want to do, but the impact's on the
46 subsistence user that is there is sort of being ignored
47 on the side.

48

49 So that -- these are some of the issues
50 that I tied to address. As far as that working group

1 is concerned, that's a failed system as far as I'm
2 concerned. As far as that -- those criterias, those
3 issues that are being withheld -- are being forced on
4 us when we don't agree to those things. But yet as my
5 name has been put out, I don't agree with the intent of
6 what it's doing. I make it known to Jan. All she's
7 doing is making big money out of that working group.
8 And that's the other frustrating thing.

9

10 So I'm done.

11

12 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you, Walter.

13

14 Any other comments, questions, Council.

15

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: George, is that.....

20

21 MR. HELFRICH: Mr. Chairman, if I just
22 can respond to a couple things that Walter raised.

23

24 I did not apply to remove \$1 million
25 from the heritage center budget. That was made at the
26 (breaking up). And it was done because at the same
27 time that we were bringing the contract out for the
28 heritage center, the Federal Government was also going
29 for Hurricane Katrina relief, and so that money was
30 redirected from the heritage center to the hurricane
31 need.

32

33 Ken could speak to the status of the
34 hunting plans if you all are interested.

35

36 And then as far as the working group, I
37 certainly understand Mr Sampson's frustration with it.
38 I would like to assure you, Walter, and all the other
39 members of the Council, that the State is not going to
40 dictate what we finally do inside Noatak National
41 Preserve as far as management of the transporter
42 services. And that this working group that we are
43 participating in is only part of the public process
44 that Ms. Smith asked me about. The working group which
45 has I believe 20 members from the local communities,
46 from the State from the other Federal agencies, from
47 the businesses, are providing us information that we
48 will eventually use in our own plan. And it's that
49 plan that will decide how we manage transporter
50 services in the future.

1 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you.
2
3 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Comments. Questions.
4
5 MR. SWAN: Yeah.
6
7 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Austin.
8
9 MR. SWAN: I had concern, too, about
10 the working group, because when we first started the
11 working group on the caribou herd co-op there, we were
12 part of it, but now we can't even -- we can't go and
13 attend the meetings. They had one in Anchorage and we
14 wrote and tried to get a representative there. They
15 said we had already appointed members from our region
16 and we can't -- there's no room, we can't attend. So
17 that kind of bothered me. And we need to be involved,
18 I mean, if we want to be there.
19
20 MR. HELFRICH: Okay. Let me talk to
21 LeeAnne about that outside this meeting.
22
23 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Anything else,
24 George.
25
26 MR. HELFRICH: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
27
28 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you. Bureau of
29 Land Management.
30
31 MR. SHARP: Yeah. This is Dan Sharp in
32 Anchorage. I'll be very, very brief here.
33
34 First off I'll reference the meeting
35 minutes from the fall meeting wherein the BLM report
36 has some forward-thinking language and discusses some
37 of the 2009/2010. And that remains.
38
39 The one thing I was going to update the
40 RAC on is the timber policy, and the status of timber
41 and other vegetative resources on BLM lands.
42
43 Just to remind folks, what BLM is
44 trying to do is go without a permit for most uses of
45 timber, firewood, and such on BLM-managed public
46 lands. And right now we're trying to resolve that with
47 current regulations.
48
49 The motivation behind that is
50 subsistence users particularly in the Western Interior

1 RAC region wanted their subsistence uses recognized
2 under ANILCA, and not under existing BLM land use plans
3 and regulations. And so we're currently trying to
4 resolve some of the wording in the policy to provide
5 for that, to provide for a permitless system for most
6 uses and still allow for responsible resource
7 management, especially if folks are using more than 15
8 cords, provide allowances for folks to harvest for
9 other individuals under a proxy system and such.

10

11 And again it just comes down to a
12 variety of regulations that are on the books now, and
13 right now we have some questions in front of the
14 solicitors to try to resolve what authorities we can
15 manage this under, under ANILCA, under the Free Use
16 Timber Act of 1898, or under the Federal Land
17 Management Policy Act. So certainly hope to have a
18 timber policy out that recognizes subsistence uses
19 under ANILCA and provides opportunity for folks to take
20 advantage of those resources on BLM lands with the
21 least adverse impact and the least amount of permitting
22 and paperwork possible,

23

24 And that's about the status of that, if
25 folks have questions.

26

27 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Hazel.

28

29 MS. SMITH: I'm looking at your
30 subsistence use of timber and other vegetative
31 resources on BLM lands. There's like a four-page
32 sheet. Under number 2 you have, in the majority of
33 cases, non-commercial harvest of up to 15 cords per
34 calendar. Now, is that 15 cords per community? Within
35 city limits? 15 cords per household? 15 cords per
36 persons? Is there an age limit per person? I would
37 assume it would mean per person based on the sentence
38 that follows that says, used by qualified rural
39 resident. Can it be more specific?

40

41 MR. SHARP: Well, Hazel, your
42 interpretation is correct. Through the Chair. It is
43 per person. And again that's on BLM lands. The 15
44 cords is a cut-off to where if there is more use, we
45 would like to be able to document that level of use.
46 But up to 15 cords, it's per person. And again, that's
47 not a strict limit. Folks can certainly have the
48 opportunity to harvest more, or again harvest for other
49 folks if there are in fact elders that don't have the
50 ability to meet their own needs. But I can certainly

1 make that perfectly clear as to what that 15 cords
2 applies to.

3
4 In essence we're trying to make sure
5 people can stay warm. And the limit is more of an
6 artifact of trying to keep track of use as opposed to
7 limiting use.

8
9 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter.

10
11 MR. SAMPSON: The issue in regards to
12 subsistence priority, or the issue in regards to the
13 problem on the Squirrel River, how does BLM plan to
14 address that very issue?

15
16 MR. SHARP: As far as the user
17 conflicts that go on there, I guess it's somewhat news
18 to me. I'm not that familiar. I haven't been involved
19 with the work group. But I guess the fact that folks
20 are somewhat discouraged by the outcome of the work
21 group is certainly an eye-opening to me. I suspect if
22 we need to resolve that particular outcome, I think
23 we'll have to talk to the managers within BLM that are
24 participating that. I can't really address how BLM is
25 planning to resolve it, simply because I have not been
26 party to the work group.

27
28 MR. SAMPSON: Now the issue in regards
29 to doing some of this work, what's your plans in
30 regards to some of the village meetings.

31
32 MR. SHARP: Village meetings with
33 respect to the caribou issue?

34
35 MR. SAMPSON: The planning.

36
37 MR. SHARP: For the Peninsula planning?

38
39 MR. SAMPSON: Northwest area plan.

40
41 MR. SHARP: I guess that would be up to
42 the planning folks. I believe in the minutes there
43 that that plan had been issued and signed, I believe.

44
45 MR. SAMPSON: Well, as a BLM
46 representative, it sounds like you're not what's going
47 to happen within BLM lands?

48
49 MR. SHARP: Well, I'm not all things to
50 all BLM offices and such. I'm certainly here, my

1 primary motivation was to listen to folks and get a
2 head's up on wildlife proposals coming up. I apologize
3 if there were additional questions there that weren't
4 on the agenda that I'm not prepared to address. But if
5 you'd like, I'll certainly find out what the planning
6 process is an if folks are desirous of having BLM
7 representatives there.

8
9 MR. SAMPSON: Well, thank you. I
10 apologize for that comment, but I understand now you're
11 basically a biologist type of a person dealing with
12 those issues. When you start talking about firewood
13 and this sort of thing, I thought you was really a
14 planner for BLM.

15
16 MR. SHARP: No, sir. That was just
17 sort of a -- BLM is trying to do this statewide, and
18 that fell on my desk the first day at work with BLM
19 last summer. So I'm just trying to see that through,
20 and again trying to at least put that policy out for
21 folks to comment on statewide.

22
23 And again I'll certainly try to check
24 on the status of the planning process and certainly go
25 back to the folks coordinating those, that there is, as
26 always, a desire for input.

27
28 MR. SAMPSON: Okay. Thank you.

29
30 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Questions. Percy.

31
32 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, this is Percy
33 Ballot. I didn't know -- I want to thank you again for
34 being here anyway. But I had questions about who's
35 guiding up in Buckland on BLM lands, too, it's around
36 there somewhere, about guides and transporters and
37 stuff, and wondering -- I thought we used to have a BLM
38 stationed here in Kotzebue, but we don't have that any
39 more, or it was -- need a person up here.

40
41 MS. SMITH: They just hired someone
42 again.

43
44 MS. ARMSTRONG: They hired him. I
45 think that's -- I don't know, is that you?

46
47 MR. SHARP: I didn't do the hiring. I
48 believe Jeff Beyersdorf was somewhat aware, but I
49 believe, yes, there was somebody that was just brought
50 on.

1 MS. SMITH: Nathaniel Starr.
2
3 MR. SAMPSON: Who's the guy that will
4 be based in Kotzebue?
5
6 MR. SHARP: I don't have his name, I'm
7 sorry. I'll certainly find out, but Jeff Beyersdorf
8 who'd normally be whispering in my ear right now is
9 flying surveys in Unit 21, and he's otherwise
10 indisposed.
11
12 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Willie.
13
14 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah, this is Willie
15 Goodwin. I'm one of the residents here. When are you
16 guys going to have that old camp cleaned up at the head
17 of the Squirrel River. (Breaking up) that's probably
18 about 10 years now.
19
20 MR. SHARP: Is that a BLM garbage up
21 there?
22
23 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah. It's BLM land, had
24 a camp in there on top of a mountaineer landing strip.
25 The blue tarps are still there. When are you guys
26 going to have it cleaned up.
27
28 MR. SHARP: I guess as soon as
29 possible, but I don't when possible is. But I'll
30 certainly take note of it and pass that along.
31
32 MR. GOODWIN: Okay. Thanks.
33
34 MR. SHARP: Could you describe that
35 location again for me?
36
37 MR. GOODWIN: I was wondering what --
38 whose tarps (breaking up).
39
40 (Laughter)
41
42 MR. GOODWIN: On the other side of
43 Squirrel River.
44
45 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Any other comments.
46 Questions. Council.
47
48 MR. BALLOT: Just the guy that we need
49 to talk about the guides and transporters, if we could
50 get all that information from him?

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I have no idea.
2
3 MR. BALLOT: I heard the same thing
4
5 MS. SMITH: It depends on who (breaking
6 up) with BLM.
7
8 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, BLM land.
9
10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's on BLM lands,
11 so.....
12
13 MR. BALLOT: I'm talking about BLM
14 land. (Breaking up) we need to know what's going on up
15 there, because that's where we.....
16
17 MS. SMITH: Is there any other BLM
18 staff on the telephone?
19
20 MR. SHARP: Not in Anchorage. I
21 suspect you'd probably be working through the Fairbanks
22 office and Shelly Jacobson.
23
24 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: You have to call
25 Fairbanks.
26
27 MR. GUNDERSEN: Okay. Thank you.
28
29 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Jim Dau, State Fish
30 and Game.
31
32 MS. ARMSTRONG: He's not here. We just
33 have Susan Bucknell here today from Fish and Game.
34
35 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Susan, you're on the
36 spotlight. Go ahead, Susan.
37
38 MS. BUCKNELL: For the record, my name
39 is Susan Bucknell. Can you hear me okay?
40
41 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes.
42
43 MS. BUCKNELL: Let the record reflect I
44 was actually here all day. I just (breaking up) this
45 morning, but for speaking up. So Susan Bucknell, I'm
46 the regional coordinator for the State Fish and Game
47 Advisory committees in this region and Norton Sound.
48
49 There's five advisory committees in
50 this region, and they're all pretty much up to date

1 except Kivalina members. So I'll be working on
2 (breaking up).

3
4 So deadline, the comment deadline for
5 the Board of Game meeting in Nome next fall, and the
6 proposal deadline is August 28th, so that means it will
7 be sometime in September before the proposals are
8 available on line or in the book. So if this RAC meets
9 September 2nd like it says right here, then your
10 meeting will be over and done before the State Board of
11 Game proposals for this region are available to comment
12 on. I'll throw that out.

13
14 For Nome, it works out really well,
15 because every two years the Board of Game takes
16 proposals from this region, and for this region, it
17 looks like the RAC is on the same cycle, so you're kind
18 of in step there a little bit.

19
20 For the fish it's more complicated.
21 Every three years they take proposals from this region,
22 so it will always be kind of staggered in (breaking
23 up). The deadline for Board of Fisheries proposals is
24 April 10th. It's a week from today. If anyone has
25 proposals from this region.

26
27 And one that's going to be on the
28 (breaking up) and one (breaking up) runs to -- right
29 now technically you can't use rod and reel (breaking
30 up) fish without getting a sport fish fishing license
31 from the State. And there's a proposal in to change
32 that. So rod and reel will be legal. And (breaking
33 up) because they thought you could get a big onslaught
34 of sport fishers from everywhere in the state coming up
35 and saying, I'm subsistence, (breaking up) fish for
36 them (breaking up) subsistence fishing. And the way
37 they got around that was just saying (breaking up) fish
38 limits. If can you go out and rod and reel subsistence
39 for your dinner, but you can't take more than whatever
40 the sport fish limit would be. So that's the way that
41 kind of gets around that.

42
43 Norton Sound made this change a few
44 years ago. They're happy with it. Northern Norton
45 Sound did. Southern Norton Sound didn't, because
46 Unalakleet gets a lot of sport fishers. They were
47 really worried. So this time around, southern Norton
48 Sound is going to do proposals that say all of southern
49 Norton except, excluding Unalakleet River and all the
50 drainages. That's because Unalakleet feels that that

1 in the future they really want this distinction between
2 sport fishing and subsistence. They think in the
3 future as things change, that they really want to keep
4 that distinction for them.

5
6 This region (breaking up) talk about
7 some of the same thing. Other Kobuk in particular
8 worried about if it would be out of control, so we'll
9 see what happens next.

10
11 The Board of Fish meeting will probably
12 be next spring before we get around to that.

13
14 Let's see. That's Board of Fish, Board
15 of Game, coordinating. Just that if there's any way
16 that these two systems can coordinate. I'd just remind
17 people that the advisory committees actually can do a
18 few things like request emergency closures if there's a
19 biological emergency, or request extensions, so just
20 (breaking up) everybody work together.

21
22 That's it, Mr. Chair.

23
24 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you. Willie.

25
26 MR. GOODWIN: Yes. Susan, yeah, this
27 is Willie Goodwin. Do you need a sport fishing license
28 also to get clams?

29
30 MS. BUCKNELL: You know, I could
31 check on that for you, but I.....

32
33 MR. GOODWIN: Because they do wash up
34 on the beach and people pick them up, you know, but I
35 understand in Southeast you need a sport fishing
36 license, you know.

37
38 MS. BUCKNELL: Totally. I don't know
39 around here. And I don't know if it washes up, if
40 that's different than if you're actually going digging
41 down for them.

42
43 MR. GOODWIN: Well, it's on State tidal
44 land.

45
46 MS. BUCKNELL: Let me find that out for
47 you. That's a good question.

48
49 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yeah.

50

1 MR. GOODWIN: So how do you catch and
2 release a clam with a sport fishing license.
3
4 (Laughter)
5
6 MR. PAPPAS: This is George Pappas,
7 Fish and Game, Anchorage.
8
9 Yes, you are correct. To dig clams you
10 need a sport fishing license as part of the State
11 regulations, attempting to take fish. And then that
12 includes clam shovels, clam guns, what have you. That
13 came up all over the State, but that is correct.
14
15 Thank you.
16
17 MR. GOODWIN: Even the ones that are
18 washed up on the beach over in like in Krusenstern?
19
20 MR. PAPPAS: Now, I'll have to look
21 into that. I'll get something to Barbara to pass along
22 to you. That's the first time I've been asked that
23 question.
24
25 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
26
27 ATTAMUK: Now, Willie's right. They do
28 wash up on the coast. It's only after a good storm.
29
30 MR. GOODWIN: And we've got to feed the
31 seagulls.
32
33 (Laughter)
34
35 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter.
36
37 MR. SAMPSON: Susan, so an individual
38 goes out with a rod and reel, with a short rod and
39 reel, and ice jigs. Is that considered sports fishing.
40
41 MS. BUCKNELL: No. If you (breaking
42 up), that's find. If you actually were using a
43 reel.....
44
45 MR. SAMPSON: Well, that's what I mean.
46 Some of these folks use a little reel and rod, a little
47 rod.
48
49 MS. BUCKNELL: That's one of the kinds
50 of questions I just hope doesn't come up. But I don't

1 know. I can find out through the fish (indiscernible,
2 laughter) ask Eric. I wondered that.
3
4 MR. SAMPSON: No, I mean, they're not
5 some of these Natives that do it.
6
7 MS. BUCKNELL: Really.
8
9 MR. SAMPSON: Some of these docs and
10 nurses that go out there.....
11
12 ATTAMUK: No, there's a little packet.
13
14 MS. BUCKNELL: Oh, like these
15 little.....
16
17 MR. SAMPSON: Little jig it, jig
18 equipment, so they use these little rod and reels.
19 They sit there then.
20
21 MS. BUCKNELL: They may be illegal. I
22 don't know. I'll have to.....
23
24 ATTAMUK: I've got a -- you said it's
25 for rod and reel for subsistence that you need the
26 sports fishing.
27
28 MS. BUCKNELL: (Breaking up)
29
30 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yeah.
31
32 ATTAMUK: Yes, but we all know that
33 sometimes when we are out there hunting caribou, we
34 want to eat fish, and if we get it with rod and reel,
35 we don't have to get 80 fish versus 1 and we're going
36 to spoil our 80 fish, and you're going to get caught
37 wasting fish. And that's always been my concern, why
38 can't we make it equal for fishermen as Kivalina an
39 Noatak when they're in a boat and they don't have to
40 set net.
41
42 MR. SAMPSON: Some of the guys go
43 fishing upriver.
44
45 MS. BUCKNELL: Through the Chair. I
46 think you're right. I think there's a lot of reasons
47 why it makes sense.
48
49 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I think one of the
50 big things was the technicality, about on the -- I

1 think it may have happened on the (breaking up) River
2 or somewhere around that proximity earlier. Somebody
3 got cited for that.

4
5 MS. BUCKNELL: Yeah.

6
7 ATTAMUK: And that's what my concern
8 is, you know, were you fishing just for subsistence and
9 they got cited for it.

10
11 MR. SWAN: That always tick (ph) me off
12 and so on. Back when we were using dog teams, we used
13 seining nets in the river a lot. Now we don't have the
14 dog team, we use rod and reels for personal use. There
15 was hardly anything for our dog team.

16
17 MR. SAMPSON: It's considered a sports
18 hunt -- sports fishing.

19
20 MR. SWAN: We've quit using the long
21 seining nets that we -- well, some still do when they
22 want to do a one day thing, but not like the one or two
23 week thing any more.

24
25 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Is there a difference
26 between personal use and subsistence, or just
27 nomenclature?

28
29 MS. BUCKNELL: In Norton Sound they do.
30 You have personal use permits and subsistence that can
31 be different. It's really complicated down there. And
32 I don't think we have that distinction here at all.
33 It's just subsistence or sport or commercial. And this
34 whole thing started in Bethel when a guys was -- the
35 Bethel area, a guy was cited down there for not having
36 a sport fish permit to rod and reel for his dinner, and
37 I saw him at a Board of Fisheries meeting, and he was
38 just like I'm not going to do this, I'm not going to
39 get a sport fish -- I'm not going to get a sport fish
40 permit. And a Board of Fishery guy was like, well,
41 what if we didn't call it sport fish, what if we just
42 call it fish. And.....

43
44 MR. PAPPAS: Mr. Chair. This is George
45 Pappas, Fish and Game, Anchorage.

46
47 Yeah, the difference between a personal
48 use fishery and a subsistence fishery. The personal
49 use fisheries do not have an allocative priority over
50 anything else. Subsistence is number 1, and then the

1 allocations go down from there between sport and
2 commercial, what have you. But personal use does not
3 have a priority in the State of Alaska.

4

5 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

6

7 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you. That's
8 good. Any other. Yeah, Percy.

9

10 MR. BALLOT: Susan, the State did the
11 vendoring, so (breaking up) Delbert's the vendor, and I
12 know that he's talking about quitting, but I don't know
13 what the process is, or how he got it, but he's always
14 getting bills from the State for being a vendor. And
15 he's talking about quitting, and he's our only source
16 for my people. We used to have Taylor for 20 years,
17 but now he's gone, too, and so I'd like to clear up
18 whatever issue, or know whatever issue Delbert has with
19 the State in regard to his vendor stuff or probably
20 make an offer that we work that through the tribe,
21 because we don't want to go without a vendor in our
22 area, in Buckland. If you know of anybody I liked to
23 do a proposal to later.

24

25 MS. BUCKNELL: Yeah. I know that's
26 been a lot of headaches over time. And I don't know
27 exactly the ins and outs of that, but it seems like to
28 me that if some office or institution (breaking up)
29 some kind of staff sometime, instead of -- and could
30 get more support more easily than just somebody in
31 their house, that that sure would help. Now just
32 Buckland. It keeps coming up different places
33 frequently. So I don't know if there's some way even
34 the NANA coordinators or somebody like that would be
35 (breaking up). I know it doesn't pay very much.
36 That's the other thing, too, it doesn't.

37

38 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, it doesn't.

39

40 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Well, Taylor Moto's
41 comments was he thought he could make a few extra
42 dollars to get some gas. He said, yeah, 20 years later
43 he said, I finally made enough to get a jerry jug of
44 gas.

45

46 (Laughter)

47

48 MR. PAPPAS: Mr. Chair. This is George
49 Pappas in Anchorage. Fish and Game.

50

1 Yes, you are correct. It's a quarter
2 here, a quarter there. It's not much money involved
3 with it. But they are all available on line now. I'm
4 not sure how much internet access there is in that part
5 of the world, but if you do have access to a computer
6 somewhere, you can actually print your own out at home
7 instead of having to use a vendor.

8
9 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10
11 MR. SAMPSON: Two things. Some folks
12 that utilize the resource don't have a computer. And
13 secondly, those folks don't have not credit cards to
14 pay with. And that's the difficult part of trying to
15 deal with folks that have to use -- over the system
16 like that.

17
18 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
19 fully understand it. I didn't mean to insult anybody.
20 It's just another option that's just become available
21 recently. It only might help out a few people, but it
22 will.....

23
24 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25
26 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter, go ahead.

27
28 MR. SAMPSON: Sue, you were talking
29 about the five advisory groups within this region, and
30 Kivalina needs to become active.

31
32 MS. BUCKNELL: Yes.

33
34 MR. SAMPSON: Now, what is the make-up
35 of the Board presently?

36
37 MS. BUCKNELL: It's Kivalina and
38 Noatak.....

39
40 MR. SAMPSON: No, no, the make-up of
41 the Game Board.

42
43 MS. BUCKNELL: Oh, boy.

44
45 MR. SAMPSON: What I'm looking at is
46 what kind of representation is there in regards to that
47 Board that makes the decision that will have an impact
48 on the daily lives of people at the local community.

49
50 MS. BUCKNELL: You know what, I really

1 erred in not actually bringing that information with
2 me, and so maybe George would have that.
3
4 MR. SAMPSON: George, would you have
5 that info?
6
7 MR. PAPPAS: Mr. Chair. George Pappas.
8 No, I don't have the info of individuals and what they
9 do for a living if that's what you're asking, sir.
10
11 MR. SAMPSON: Ken, do you have a State
12 (indiscernible, away from microphone).
13
14 MS. ARMSTRONG: Oh, that's State right
15 there, yeah. The new one by the State.
16
17 MR. SAMPSON: (Indiscernible, coughing)
18 under the -- okay. Right here. We've got Wasilla,
19 Sitka, Fairbanks, Palmer, Soldotna, Fort Yukon and
20 Anchorage. That's the make-up of the Game Board.
21 They've got Cliff, Ben, Richard, Bruce, Hans Brinker, and
22 Craig on the.....
23
24 MS. BUCKNELL: Yeah, and.....
25
26 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Go ahead, Susan.
27
28 MS. BUCKNELL: Through the Chair, there
29 have been a few changes since then. I think Craig
30 Fleener is now the head of Subsistence Division for the
31 State of Alaska.
32
33 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair.
34
35 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yeah.
36
37 MS. BUCKNELL: (Breaking up) is off.
38 And.....
39
40 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yes, go ahead.
41
42 MR. ARDIZZONE: This is Chuck
43 Ardizzone. I believe there's two new members. I think
44 there's a member from Bethel and I believe a member
45 from Tok. Craig Fleener was replaced and Richard
46 Burley was replaced.
47
48 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you.
49
50 MS. BUCKNELL: Yes, Mr. Chairman. And

1 it's Stosh Hoffman, is it, from Bethel. Have I got the
2 right name?

3
4 MR. SAMPSON: Oh, yeah. Yeah.

5
6 MS. BUCKNELL: And I haven't met him
7 yet. And was it.....

8
9 MR. ARDIZZONE: There was a new woman
10 replacing Mr. Fleener I believe.

11
12 MS. BUCKNELL: Sager Albaugh. I'm
13 afraid I don't know how to say her name, but I
14 think.....

15
16 MS. SMITH: Is that Olga Meyer?

17
18 MS. BUCKNELL: Oh, no. Sorry. No.
19 So, yeah, this is last year's reg book that will
20 have.....

21
22 ATTAMUK: That could have been very
23 interesting.

24
25 MS. BUCKNELL: Yeah. Sorry, I didn't
26 bring a new one.

27
28 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Thank you, Susan.

29
30 MS. BUCKNELL: Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: U.S. Fish and
33 Wildlife. LeeAnne.

34
35 MS. AYRES: This is LeeAnne Ayres
36 representing the Selawik Refuge. I'll keep it pretty
37 short.

38
39 Most of our staff has been involved
40 since our last meeting in working on our comprehensive
41 conservation plan. And as we talked about, we were
42 just starting our public scoping when we met last fall.
43 And so pretty much throughout the winter and up until
44 just recently, we've been visiting the villages around
45 the Refuge and also (breaking up) by mail, and
46 basically collecting public comments from folks about
47 just feedback on what they think the major issues on
48 the Refuge are that the Fish and Wildlife should be
49 addressing, and also really checking in on just how
50 we're doing managing the refuge right now from folks.

1 We're at the point where we've
2 collected all that information, talked to a lot of
3 folks. We spent time in Selawik, Noorvik, Kiana,
4 Buckland, (breaking up) and Shungnak, Ambler and Kobuk
5 talking to folks directly, and (breaking up).
6

7 What I thought might be helpful for you
8 and just a little -- I think would be interesting for
9 me if I was in your position, is just maybe going over
10 some of the major issues that people have brought up in
11 (breaking up).
12

13 I'm just going to go down the list of
14 about eight major issues that the comments feel into
15 categories of. And the first one which isn't (breaking
16 up) interest and on interested (breaking up) wildlife
17 habitat (breaking up), along with Refuge community
18 needs. Was that as something that was very important
19 for the refuge to be doing, and wanted us to continue
20 working along those lines.
21

22 Another issue that came up quite often
23 was long-term transportation needs, and making sure
24 that when we're developing and looking at our
25 management alternatives, we consider that for planning
26 on the Refuge.
27

28 Maintaining fish and wildlife
29 population, as well as managing hunting opportunities
30 on the Refuge.
31

32 Another area that probably held a lot
33 of the most vocal comments was for us to look at public
34 use and access, especially in regard to winter trails,
35 shelter cabins, the hot springs and a bridge (breaking
36 up).
37

38 (Breaking up) was climate change,
39 asking folks (breaking up) be involved, proactive in
40 climate change. They thought that the Refuge could
41 play any role in climate change.
42

43 And one of the problems that came up
44 (breaking up) what they might do about climate change.
45 That's really -- one of the top recommendations was
46 just to really help folks (breaking up) the information
47 that was coming in with the models and tradition of
48 just really helping get that information out to folks
49 in the communities that are really being affected by
50 climate change, as well as some of these programs and

1 projects that are starting to come down the pike on it.

2

3 The last topic was -- or another topic
4 was water quality and quantity. There's a lot of
5 issues involving water quality on the Selawik Refuge
6 (breaking up), contamination from beaver, from
7 (breaking up) dump up there, as well as the cargo plane
8 that's in the river. And that's one that they really
9 recommended they wanted to see (breaking up) to try and
10 address some of those. And we agreed with them
11 totally. And that's one of the things that affect
12 Refuge resources as well as community (breaking up).

13

14 And the last topic, outreach and
15 communication with the public. We got a pretty good
16 mark for keeping in touch with folks, sharing
17 information. But they would come up with some good
18 ideas about how we could do better. And (breaking up)
19 that should be an important part of our program and
20 (breaking up).

21

22 Some other things about the highlights
23 of the issues that came up, and that's from now through
24 -- pretty much through this summer and into August
25 we'll taking those comments and coming up with
26 alternatives, and actually drafting our management plan
27 to address those issues. Our timeline is to have a
28 draft plan available to go back out to the public this
29 coming fall. So we're hoping to basically use that
30 same timeframe of October through February to take the
31 revised plan that we have and go back to the same
32 communities and let them know what we've kind of --
33 what we're proposing to do as a direction (breaking up)
34 for the Refuge for the next (breaking up).

35

36 So that's pretty much taking up all of
37 our staff time. And it's real important to really
38 (breaking up). And we see that as being a dominant
39 thing in our program for this summer and fall.

40

41 We do have some other projects going on
42 with Fish and Wildlife up here in this area right now.
43 And that involves the polar bear research going on. We
44 have -- the Marine Mammals folks have a crew of
45 researches, and these are the same folks that were out
46 here last year working out of town here. They're
47 basing a helicopter and a small (breaking up) side, and
48 looking at polar bears just off the coast here. And I
49 believe they've captured three bears so far. And I
50 haven't talked to them since they've been out. They

1 are planning on coming back through town and spending
2 some time talking to folks. And I know, Victor, you've
3 been in touch with them, and of giving us a little
4 update and get on the radio and let people know that
5 they've been out and what they've seen out there. I do
6 know when they first started that there was quite a few
7 really unusually large openings (breaking up). I'm
8 sure (breaking up).

9

10 Through this month they actually plan
11 on being (breaking up) a regular project going on with
12 (breaking up) and, you know the sheefish work on the
13 Selawik River and up on the (breaking up) in
14 partnership with the Park Service, and ADF&G Sport Fish
15 Division.

16

17 I do have one new project starting up
18 that I'm excited about, and that involves the slump up
19 at the headwaters of the Selawik. We just worked out
20 an agreement with Richard (breaking up) from Idaho
21 State University to do a three-year project looking at
22 that slump, and particularly at the impact of the
23 sediment that's coming out of it on the river. So that
24 will be something that we'll be starting up this year.
25 Kind of our (breaking up). A few field projects going
26 on this year, but we had to kind of prioritize the
27 things that we thought were important, and I think that
28 one will be of interest not just to folks with water
29 quality issues in Selawik, but also have some big --
30 potentially has quite a big impact on sheefish on
31 (breaking up). And that's kind of one of the reasons
32 we put that as a high priority to get started this
33 year.

34

35 A couple staff updates that we have.
36 We just hired a new pilot for the Refuge, Eric See is
37 now working for us (breaking up) as a pilot for our
38 Staff here. And we're very excited about that. He'll
39 also be doing quite a bit of flying for the Park
40 Service as well. We're hoping to make this a shared
41 position between the agencies. I think we both have
42 just enough for him, to keep one person -- one good
43 person really busy. So that's what we're hoping to do.

44

45 I'm also really excited about having
46 somebody here on the staff, especially a pilot that can
47 help us with search and rescue work. That's something
48 that we (breaking up). And another part of (breaking
49 up).

50

1 We have one other position that we're
2 looking to fill this summer, and that's the other
3 wildlife biologist position. It will be at the tier
4 7/9, and we're hoping to have it be some (breaking up).
5 And that will be (breaking up) advertised here the next
6 possibly two months at the most. And for anybody who
7 has -- probably the entry level for that is a bachelor
8 degree, but there's possibly some folks that are out
9 there that (breaking up) fisheries work that you know
10 that have changed their undergraduate degree. We'll be
11 (breaking up) up there. And actually people who are
12 near the end of their undergraduate degree career in
13 any type of wildlife or fisheries work would also be
14 something we'd real interested in hearing about, seeing
15 (breaking up) working with (breaking up).

16
17 That completes my report.

18
19 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter.

20
21 MR. SAMPSON: Would you have -- you've
22 got someone working out of Selawik on.....

23
24 MS. AYRES: We do. Art Greenman.
25 (Breaking up).

26
27 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter, go ahead.

28
29 MR. SAMPSON: I want to thank LeeAnne
30 for her work. I know periodically when I travel out
31 here, flying, talking about some of the problems and
32 some of the work that Fish and Wildlife does in
33 Selawik. (Breaking up). Thank you for that
34 relationship (breaking up) got with Fish and Wildlife
35 with regards to resources and the work that you put in
36 (breaking up). Thank you very much.

37
38 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I have a question,
39 LeeAnne, completely different.

40
41 MS. AYRES: A shooting range.

42
43 (Laughter)

44
45 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I still bug the city
46 manager on that.

47
48 MS. AYRES: Well, you've made great
49 progress on that. I'm really excited about having
50 something we can work (breaking up).

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Customary and
2 traditional Native dances use parts of birds or animals
3 or whatever in their customary and traditional dances.
4 Eagle feathers is one. I was approached by a person
5 that participates in the Northern Lights Dancers and
6 they would like to get their gear and equipment
7 authentic again. Eagle feathers is part of it. North
8 Slope the same way. I told him call enforcement in
9 Anchorage, I don't have the phone number any more. But
10 I said I think that's where you have to go, possibly
11 get on the list for eagle feathers.
12
13 MS. AYRES: Yeah. I'll check into
14 that.
15
16 MR. SWAN: And you see all kinds
17 of.....
18
19 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I checked into that.
20 I said, how much, can we go to Chilkat and just pick up
21 the discarded feathers. Illegal. The bird is no
22 longer on endangered species list. But I looked into
23 that, and that's illegal yet.
24
25 MS. AYRES: I'll be glad to get you a
26 contact, because I know they do have that repository or
27 (breaking up).
28
29 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Yeah, I know you can
30 tell them what kind of eagle you want, a golden eagle
31 or a bald eagle or whatever. But there are some
32 dancers that like to use bald eagle feathers for being
33 authentic.
34
35 MS. AYRES: Oh, yeah, that sounds like
36 -- exactly.
37
38 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Also ravens.
39
40 MR. SAMPSON: Ravens are protected too,
41 now.
42
43 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: That's right. It's
44 under Federal protection.
45
46 Thank you, LeeAnne.
47
48 MS. AYRES: Okay. I'll et back to you
49 with that.
50

1 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Any other questions,
2 comments for LeeAnne.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Hey, Toby (ph) How
7 will we know what we are. Number 13. (In Inupiat).
8 What is this?

9
10 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's recognition of a
11 member. You have a person here who's been here since
12 1999. And then he has served five years, so 2004, and
13 until today. He's got nine years in. That's Attamuk
14 Shiedt.

15
16 (Applause)

17
18 MS. ARMSTRONG: A certificate of
19 appreciation.

20
21 MR. BALLOT: He's got fire (ph) on his
22 head.

23
24 MS. ARMSTRONG: And (In Inupiat).

25
26 (Comments re cup and certificate)

27
28 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. This is your
29 charter review, 14. It's this time of year that you
30 guys do check, se if you guys ant to make any changes.
31 It's on Page 41. If there's anything that you guys
32 want to make. You guys can make changes on the name,
33 the member size. Or make a recommendation, not make
34 changes. Make a recommendation on the.....

35
36 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: 41?

37
38 MS. ARMSTRONG:appointment. Page
39 41.

40
41 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: The one I'm looking
42 at is different.

43
44 MS. ARMSTRONG: And removing a member.
45 You can make changes in any of those four things on
46 your charter. And I'm open to questions.

47
48 MS. SMITH: How about election of
49 officers.

50

1 MS. ARMSTRONG: No.
2
3 MS. SMITH: We can't change that?
4
5 MS. ARMSTRONG: Nope. You can make a
6 change on the name.....
7
8 MS. SMITH: I mean, not -- I mean, can
9 we change it in the charter to say Council members will
10 elect a Chair and a Vice Chair or Co-Chairs.
11
12 MS. ARMSTRONG: That's a part that you
13 don't make changes. The FACA makes that requirement,
14 and that's the way it is. An ability -- FACA says they
15 have to do.....
16
17 MR. SAMPSON: So we have to go through
18 the process of election then.
19
20 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.
21
22 MR. SAMPSON: Is there anything that we
23 need to change on this?
24
25 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I read that and it's
26 -- I really can't see anything. I believe the only
27 thing I would like to see if they gave us more thunder.
28
29
30 MR. SAMPSON: I think the only other
31 thing that we need to do is to enforce that charter,
32 which means that the people that should be at meetings
33 are not making it without any excused absence, then we
34 need to enforce that section. I think that should be
35 enforced immediately.
36
37 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Emphasized.
38
39 MR. SAMPSON: Because (breaking up) of
40 the representation that we have to the Federal Board.
41 I mean, this is our only mechanism that we have. It's
42 just like the State advisory board that makes a
43 recommendation to the State Game Board. So is ours.
44 That's our only tool to get into the Federal system.
45 It's our basic avenue of communication. How many
46 meetings would they -- would be sufficient, two? One.
47
48 MS. SMITH: One.
49
50 MS. WILKINSON: Two.

1 MR. SAMPSON: (Indiscernible -
2 simultaneous speech)
3 missing three I think. Yeah, three consecutive.
4
5 MS. ARMSTRONG: And this meeting right
6 here. Two.
7
8 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Okay. Two.
9
10 MS. ARMSTRONG: But they usually have
11 been good in letting me know. And Austin and Virgil
12 are always the first ones to respond.
13
14 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: That Austin.
15
16 MS. ARMSTRONG: And I'm really thankful
17 when you guys respond right away when I ask you guys,
18 because they (breaking up) come up with these
19 questions, and I send -- and you guys are all on email.
20 And then you guys respond right away. And I like that.
21 Thank you.
22
23 And that's all I have with the chart.
24 Thank you.
25
26 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I would like just
27 sometimes -- you know, I feel comfortable talking to
28 Eva (ph). I think in talking about (breaking up) to
29 Eva.
30
31 (Simultaneous conversation)
32
33 MR. SAMPSON: We can talk, too, and
34 sometimes we can't quit pick up where we tried to to
35 describe (breaking up).
36
37 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I can understand
38 where you're coming from. I don't see any reason why
39 it can't be set up at a later date.
40
41 MR. SAMPSON: That's what we said
42 last.....
43
44 MS. ARMSTRONG: Well, North Slope.....
45
46 (Several people talking)
47
48 MS. ARMSTRONG: North Slope did that.
49 When they have a discussion and then it's not being
50 understood by all the Councils, the Chair or whoever

1 just speaks it in Inupiat, and then it's understood and
2 they say okay, so we understand it now, and we can
3 (indiscernible - simultaneous speech).....

4
5 MR. SAMPSON: And we could. You need
6 to start talking English with our.....

7
8 MS. ARMSTRONG:so they all do
9 that.

10
11 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: End up speaking
12 Japanese here.

13
14 (Laughter)

15
16 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Any further
17 questions or discussion on charter?

18
19 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: No, I think the
20 charter is good.

21
22 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. For.....

23
24 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: When do we -- go
25 ahead.

26
27 MS. ARMSTRONG: 14.B. Chair, Vice
28 Chair, discussion. We need to finish that.....

29
30 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I think we ought
31 to.....

32
33 MS. ARMSTRONG:that's -- earlier
34 section, it's on your charter.

35
36 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Chuck, are you still
37 on.

38
39 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, Mr. Chair. I'm
40 still here.

41
42 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Ann, you there?

43
44 MS. WILKINSON: Yes, I am, sir. The
45 Council have these three offices set the way they are
46 for some very good reasons. The Council Chair is the
47 point of contact for the coordinator for many things.
48 Also for setting up Council meetings, there needs to be
49 one person that they contact. Then also for
50 representation with the Board. When the Board needs to

1 contact the Council, they can contact the Chair and not
2 have to be trying to juggle between two people.

3
4 And the Vice Chair, you know, is
5 authorized to sit in for the Chair when the Chair is
6 not available, or when the Chair delegates him to do
7 so.

8
9 So how one of the Councils has worked
10 that is that they have a very -- their Chairman is very
11 strong in game management issues, and their Vice Chair
12 is very strong in fisheries issues. And when there's a
13 fisheries issue at the Board meeting say, then the
14 Chairman designate the Vice Chair to go to that
15 meeting. So that works well for them.

16
17 But for the purposes of your charter,
18 you can only have one Chairman.

19
20 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: So that relates to
21 election of officers.

22
23 MS. WILKINSON: Yes.

24
25 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Council members will
26 elect.

27
28 MS. WILKINSON: Yes. A, singular.

29
30 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Walter. What if I
31 finish this cycle and then I'll step down. (Breaking
32 up) this next Federal Game Board meeting.

33
34 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Want to go over
35 the.....

36
37 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: If it's acceptable.

38
39 ATTAMUK: Yeah, but I'm not trying to
40 oppose those meeting, but on our agenda we're supposed
41 to elect a Chair when we meet. And it's a split yes.
42 I understand your part, Victor. I understand it. But
43 Walter's (breaking up). We need a chair is what she's
44 saying.

45
46 MR. SAMPSON: Well, that's what the
47 charter says.

48
49 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Well, that's what I'm
50 just trying to say. I'll just finish this one, attend

1 our Game Board, and I won't be the Chair next fall.
2
3 ATTAMUK: So what do you want with the
4 Game Board?
5
6 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: Federal Game Board.
7
8 MS. ARMSTRONG: That's in May.
9
10 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: May, yeah.
11
12 MS. WILKINSON: What's May?
13
14 MS. ARMSTRONG: Is it the first part of
15 May?
16
17 MS. WILKINSON: The Board of Game?
18
19 MR. ARDIZZONE: The Federal Board is
20 January.
21
22 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: The Federal Board.
23 That way.....
24
25 MS. ARMSTRONG: Simpler.
26
27 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: I won't interfere
28 with his actions or activities and he can take over the
29 fall meeting from there on out.
30
31 MR. ARDIZZONE: Hey, Barb.
32
33 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.
34
35 MR. ARDIZZONE: It's Chuck. Yeah, our
36 Federal Board meeting is actually in January.
37
38 MS. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay. Then that's
39 almost a year.
40
41 MR. SAMPSON: Want to flip a coin?
42
43 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: What's the use?
44 What's the wish of the.....
45
46 MS. ARMSTRONG: You guys want to vote
47 again, we can vote again.
48
49 MR. SWAN: May I pass out either of the
50 -- for those officials, co-chairs feel about sitting in

1 for this next year. How do you feel about.
2
3 MS. WILKINSON: No.
4
5 MR. SWAN: Do you think you can.....
6
7 MR. SAMPSON: We can't.
8
9 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: We can't.
10
11 MR. SAMPSON: It's clearly spelled out
12 in the charter, on the charter is what we're having
13 problems with.
14
15 MR. SWAN: Yeah, so it's do a re-vote
16 then?
17
18 CHAIRMAN KARMUN: This is the first
19 time we end up with six. We should be seven.
20
21 MS. WILKINSON: Or you could draw --
22 this is Ann Wilkinson. If you really are at an
23 impasse, you could just draw straws or flip a coin.
24
25 MS. ARMSTRONG: No, they're going to
26 vote again.
27
28 MS. SMITH: We're going to try one more
29 time again. Then we will draw straws.
30
31 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's between Walter and
32 Victor.
33
34 (Voting)
35
36 MS. ARMSTRONG: Walter, four to two.
37 So we have Walter for Chair. No, that's your election.
38 But you need to -- then we need a Vice Chair election
39 and the Chair will take over.
40
41 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Thanks for your
42 confidence. I know I sometimes get (indiscernible,
43 papers rattling) for being -- sound like I'm mad when I
44 try to raise issues. And when I try to make points,
45 sometimes I will get (breaking up) to that point to
46 (breaking up). I'll try to better myself if I can.
47 And, you know, it's -- take times to try to understand
48 how the Federal and State laws are written, to have a
49 good understanding of what you're trying to do as a
50 leader for a group. At least you have to have some

1 good basics for what those are, because representation
2 that you have for your people, that suppose they are
3 under that system, and have -- or be -- have the
4 priority over (breaking up). I always feel like I'm
5 inadequate sometimes when I want to make a point. But
6 I do get (breaking up). But I'm working on myself. I
7 had an order from my wife (breaking up) came back and
8 (breaking up).

9

10 So thank you very much for your trust.
11 For your attendance. We want you to go shoot -- be
12 able to (indiscernible) your own wife (ph).

13

14 (Laughter)

15

16 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: But the electing a
17 Vice Chair.

18

19 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chair.

20

21 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Yeah.

22

23 MR. BALLOT: I move to nominate Victor
24 Karmun.

25

26 MR. SWAN: I second.

27

28 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: There's a motion
29 made.

30

31 MR. SWAN: I second.

32

33 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Okay. It's been
34 seconded. Does anyone have any problems with the Vice
35 Chair.

36

37 MR. BALLOT: Question.

38

39 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Okay. The
40 question's been called. All those in favor of the
41 motion signify by saying aye.

42

43 IN UNISON: Aye.

44

45 (No opposing votes)

46

47 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Then the Secretary.

48

49 MS. ARMSTRONG: That's already.....

50

1 (Several talking at once)
2
3 MR. BALLOT: I want to be the
4 secretary.
5
6 (Laughter)
7
8 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Okay. So with that,
9 the next meeting date.
10
11 MS. SMITH: Excuse me. Before we talk
12 about that, Susan brought it up, and I just now
13 received the proposal deadline is August 28th for the
14 State, if we're going to do the new -- no, it's okay.
15 Yeah, never mind.
16
17 (Several talking at once)
18
19 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: We can deal within
20 the advisory council on that part.
21
22 MR. KARMUN: The biggest thing to me,
23 Walter, when we set a date it not be in conflict with
24 any other activity around the region.
25
26 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: That's been a
27 problem. I think the tentative date that's been set is
28 for 2 September. What do we need in order to change?
29 How much leeway do we need as far as time in order to
30 get it into the Register. If we should make a request
31 to change the date. Before Labor Day or after Labor
32 Day?
33
34 MS. ARMSTRONG: At least -- I need at
35 least six weeks.
36
37 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Six weeks. Okay.
38
39 MS. ARMSTRONG: Because I need to make
40 a request for the per diem for the people who travel in
41 from the villages.
42
43 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Okay. So would
44 anybody have any problems with September 2 as a
45 tentative date right now.
46
47 MR. KARMUN: I have no problem with
48 that, but right before a major holiday?
49
50 MS. ARMSTRONG: When's the holiday?

1 MS. SMITH: The following Monday.
2
3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: September 7.
4
5 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: It's a Wednesday.
6 It's a meeting on Wednesday. And the holiday is the
7 following Monday. Well, we'll try to reschedule for
8 Wednesday the 2nd.
9
10 There was one thing that I had written
11 down. In regards to, George, I forgot to ask you, the
12 superintendent position in Bering Land Bridge. Who was
13 previous to (breaking up) your (breaking up).
14
15 MR. HELFRICH: Tom Hinely was the
16 superintendent in Bering Land Bridge. He had been the
17 chief of resources over here in Kotzebue, and then he
18 went over to Bering Land Bridge as the superintendent.
19
20 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Okay. I used to see
21 him in Bethel all the time before he came here.
22
23 What's the -- yeah, September 2.
24
25 MS. ARMSTRONG: September 2.
26
27 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Our meeting, and
28 we'll try to hold it here in the conference room?
29
30 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.
31
32 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: And if you want to
33 conference, too, to work with.....
34
35 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Park Service might
36 have their building up and running by then.
37
38 MR. HELFRICH: Perhaps we could have it
39 in our conference room. Maybe we could have it in our
40 conference room.
41
42 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Either one.
43 Whenever it's ready.
44 (Breaking up)
45
46 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Barb, what I would
47 offer, too, is our conference room. It (breaking up)
48 we have video conferencing, so if the subsistence folks
49 in Anchorage wanted to simply conference in, we could
50 (indiscernible - simultaneous speech).....

1 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Okay. That's
2 (indiscernible - simultaneous speech).....
3
4 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. I was going to
5 suggest that after (indiscernible).
6
7 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It would save on
8 airfare.
9
10 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: We could have used
11 this one, too.
12
13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I was just going
14 to propose that it might be worth it to try one.
15
16 (Several conversations going on)
17
18 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: We'll take bids on
19 how much credence (ph) you have in your conference
20 room.
21
22 (Laughter)
23
24 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: What's the wish of
25 the RAC.
26
27 MR. BALLOT: Move to adjourn.
28
29 CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Move to adjourn.
30 This would be the word.
31
32 MS. ARMSTRONG: All right. Thanks,
33 Percy.
34
35 (Off record)
36
37 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 135 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically by Computer Matrix Court Reporters on the 3rd day of April 2009, beginning at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m. by Teleconference;

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 16th day of April 2009.

Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 03/12/12