

1 NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE  
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3  
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5  
6 Nullagvik Hotel Meeting Room  
7 Kotzebue, Alaska  
8 October 7, 2005  
9 9:00 o'clock a.m.

10  
11  
12  
13 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- 14  
15 Raymond Stoney, Chair  
16 Percy Ballot  
17 Reggie Cleveland  
18 Victor Karmun  
19 Calvin Moto  
20 Ralph Ramouth  
21 Walter Sampson  
22 Enoch Shiedt - Attamuk  
23  
24  
25 Regional Council Coordinator, Barbara Armstrong

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Kotzebue, Alaska - 10/7/2005)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Good morning. I'll call the Northwest Arctic Regional Advisory Council to order. Right now we're about 10 minutes late, so it's 20 to 9:00. The next item is roll call, Barbara, please. When you say present, press your mike and then respond to Barbara.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Percy Ballot.

MR. BALLOT: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Ralph Ramoth.

MR. RAMOTH: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Victor Karmun.

MR. KARMUN: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Reggie Cleveland.

MR. CLEVELAND: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Raymond Stoney.

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Walter Sampson.

MR. SAMPSON: Present.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Austin Swan was excused because of death at Kivalina. Enoch Shiedt.

MR. SHIEDT: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Calvin Moto.

MR. MOTO: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, you have a quorum.

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Barbara. So

1 we do have a quorum. Welcome to this advisory meeting  
2 here at Kotzebue. Now we'll have introduction where  
3 you're from and your agencies. Please stand up and  
4 introduce yourself.

5  
6 (Introductions - away from microphone)

7  
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you very much.  
9 Did we miss anybody? Okay. I know that we've got pretty  
10 much all day on the agenda here. It will take some time,  
11 but we'll get everybody in. Before I go any further I'll  
12 tell you a story about our people that actually respect  
13 the species in Northwest Alaska, especially the moose.  
14 Everybody in the field has got the respect, like I say,  
15 to all the species.

16  
17 I'll tell you one good story. When the  
18 moose first was introduced to us, almost like 50 years  
19 ago, there was no moose. It was strictly closed. If you  
20 get up, you wound up in jail. So after four or five years  
21 beyond that the moose was still closed. They know the  
22 moose will open, say, August 1 and they've got to wait  
23 until midnight, exactly midnight, to go out and get that  
24 moose. The story I heard from Selawik is that, well,  
25 I've got one hour left. I will turn my clock one hour  
26 fast so I get that moose. That's how the species are  
27 respected.

28  
29 So in the last three or four days now we  
30 heard about moose, moose, moose regulations. It will  
31 continue to be that way. We will respect the  
32 regulations.

33  
34 Okay. Before you on item 4 we'll go  
35 through adoption of the agenda, review and adoption of  
36 the minutes and adoption of today's meeting. Council, do  
37 you have any additions or corrections of this agenda for  
38 today's meeting?

39  
40 Barbara.

41  
42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Let me add  
43 these on first and the Park Service or whoever help me if  
44 I make any mistakes. Under 8A put moose 05-18 and then  
45 the B will be Federal Land Closures. So 8A is moose 05-  
46 18 and then B will be the Federal Closures. Under 12 add  
47 Gates of the Arctic and Kobuk Valley SRC. Those are the  
48 three that have come up before me.

49  
50 The other thing is Council application

1 period. I'll just make that announcement now. It's open  
2 now until January 3, 2006, anyone who wants to make an  
3 application to be on the Council. That's the opening  
4 time. That's all I have, Mr. Chair.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Mr. Sampson.

7  
8 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I'd like a  
9 copy of an application if I may.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Ken, you had your hand  
12 up.

13  
14 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair. Ken Adkisson,  
15 National Park Service. If possible, since that's an  
16 action item and those three SRC's have a number of  
17 expiring appointments, we would like the Council  
18 hopefully to be able to act on those. If we could get  
19 that one moved up to right before the fisheries resource  
20 reports as kind of the last action item before you get  
21 into reports.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Where do you want it  
24 now? On the fisheries resource reports?

25  
26 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah, right above Tim on  
27 your agenda.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

30  
31 MR. ADKISSON: Thank you very much. We  
32 appreciate that.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further additions.  
35 Mr. Sampson.

36  
37 MR. SAMPSON: Just a question to Sandy, I  
38 guess. Was the application period amended to extend or  
39 what was the deal?

40  
41 (Off record comments)

42  
43 MR. RABINOWITCH: All right, an assist  
44 for Willie. Make sure that's in the record books. Maybe  
45 I need that coffee. Walter, actually I am not sure if  
46 you're asking about SRC's. Is that your question, about  
47 SRC's?

48  
49 MR. SAMPSON: Is that was that is, for  
50 SRC's?

1 MR. RABINOWITCH: For item 10, yes. The  
2 item that were we are adding, Kobuk Valley and Gates of  
3 the Arctic. Park Service Subsistence Resource  
4 Commissions and their appointments or re-appointments.

5  
6 MR. SAMPSON: I guess more specifically  
7 on the Regional Advisory Council membership application.

8  
9 MR. RABINOWITCH: I'm going to refer to  
10 OSM staff because I don't know the answer to that  
11 question. I am told they made that a little earlier than  
12 in the past. The deadline is a little earlier.

13  
14 MR. SAMPSON: What's a little earlier?

15  
16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Barb isn't here, so  
17 I'm -- Barb, Walter wants to know when the application  
18 period opened last year. Wasn't it November?

19  
20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It started when we  
21 went to our meeting.

22  
23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: What we're doing  
24 differently, Walter, and this is because of the problems  
25 we had last year, is we're making sure it gets announced  
26 at the fall meeting and the applications are there so  
27 that they can be given to people so that we don't have  
28 any problems with people not knowing and letting people  
29 know we made a couple of changes, so we were trying to be  
30 proactive. In the book you have, we're now listing the  
31 terms so that people are aware that that's what their  
32 term is and then we're making sure that the coordinators  
33 have the packets to hand out to people at the meeting.  
34 So you could fill it out today and give it to Barb, so  
35 you won't even have to mail it in. We're trying to do  
36 some things so that we won't have the problems we had  
37 last year.

38  
39 MR. SAMPSON: Okay, just for  
40 clarification, I guess, the Regional Advisory Council  
41 seeks application, but the process itself is open until  
42 January?

43  
44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's correct.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I've got a question for  
47 you, Barbara. I think one of the things that the staff  
48 should do when the Council's term expires, send a  
49 certified letter to make sure they know the term is  
50 expiring and then respond. Otherwise a lot of people

1 don't know when the term is expiring.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: What we're doing is  
4 saying it personally to people at the fall meeting. No,  
5 there wasn't any discussion if someone is not at the  
6 meeting to send a letter. But to tell them at the  
7 meeting your term has expired, here's an application and  
8 do it in person. That way we know it's been done.

9

10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Each region is  
11 different and each coordinator works differently in each  
12 region. I do send my letters out. I sent my letters out  
13 to the outgoing Council members and also remind them in  
14 person by a phone call and again at the meeting in the  
15 fall time. I think other coordinators have their own way  
16 of notifying their Council members.

17

18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: But we are changing  
19 that so they are the same so we don't have this problem  
20 anywhere else as well.

21

22 MR. SAMPSON: I guess that change is  
23 being done because I challenged the regional director's  
24 process in dealing with the application where there's  
25 some inconsistencies. In some cases some of the regional  
26 coordinators are filling out the applications for some of  
27 these outgoing folks. So, because of that, after  
28 discussion with the regional director, I basically  
29 challenged him to make sure that there's a change to the  
30 application process. It was sort of an upsetting deal  
31 where there was a claim that it was mailed and was told,  
32 which I don't recall having any discussion with any staff  
33 in regards to my term. So based on that I told the  
34 regional director if the department has one choice to fit  
35 and that's how it's operated, then that's how it should  
36 operate rather than having to deal with people in  
37 different ways.

38

39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You're absolutely  
40 correct, Walter. I think you were heard and that's why  
41 we changed the process and making sure it will always be  
42 on the agenda. When we made the decision to make sure it  
43 was on the agenda these books were already printed. So  
44 that's why Barb brought it up first thing, that it's on  
45 the agenda, the packets are here, so nothing happens like  
46 that again. We were very sorry that that happened and I  
47 know you know. We've talked about it and you have our  
48 apologies.

49

50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Barbara.

1                   Reggie, you had your hand up.  
2  
3                   MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah, I was trying to  
4 call a point of order. We're doing the agenda approval  
5 right now. That discussion will come later, I assume,  
6 after we've placed it on the agenda.  
7  
8                   Thank you.  
9  
10                  CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Reggie. Now  
11 we're still with the review and adoption of agenda. Are  
12 there any further additions or corrections on the agenda?  
13  
14                  MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman. I'd like to  
15 add under other business commission comments. I think  
16 it's only fair that we listen at the end of the session  
17 to some viewpoints and comments from the commission  
18 members in regards to how they feel about how the meeting  
19 went.  
20  
21                  CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further discussion  
22 on the agenda.  
23  
24                  MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman. I move to  
25 approve the agenda with the amendment.  
26  
27                  ATTAMUK: I second.  
28  
29                  CHAIRMAN STONEY: It been moved by Percy  
30 with the additions of this agenda. Second. All in favor  
31 of adopting the agenda signify by saying aye.  
32  
33                  IN UNISON: Aye.  
34  
35                  CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.  
36  
37                  (No opposing votes)  
38  
39                  CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. The agenda for  
40 today passes. Okay. Next is review and adoption of  
41 minutes for March 8, 2005 meeting which was held in  
42 Kotzebue. I'll give you a few minutes to go through the  
43 minutes and we need approval for these minutes.  
44  
45                  MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman. I move to  
46 approve the March 8, 2005 meeting minutes.  
47  
48                  MR. CLEVELAND: Second.  
49  
50                  CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion has been made by

1 Percy to adopt the minutes of March 8th meeting. Who  
2 seconded it?

3

4 MR. CLEVELAND: Reggie.

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further corrections  
7 or discussion on the March 8th minutes.

8

9 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chair. I have one.

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

12

13 MR. BALLOT: Just for the record, I was  
14 excused on that date, but I think it would be good to  
15 show what time I came in because I did participate in the  
16 meeting at some point. So, for future minutes, that we  
17 put that in somewhere.

18

19 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. Percy, are  
20 you saying to put down what time the person comes in even  
21 if they're late?

22

23 MR. BALLOT: Yes.

24

25 MR. MOTO: I wasn't here because we had  
26 bad weather. Are we going to do anything about the moose  
27 population around our region or just Noatak area?

28

29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think it's going to  
30 come up in the discussion with that moose 05-18.

31

32 MR. MOTO: They didn't act on it at that  
33 time. I was wondering if we were going to bring it up  
34 again or we have to bring it up on the next meeting.

35

36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It will come up.

37

38 MR. MOTO: Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin, for your  
41 information, whether we try and avoid it or not, it's  
42 going to come up again. If we have to take most of the  
43 day, we will discuss the moose.

44

45 MR. MOTO: The reason I brought that up  
46 is all of a sudden we have a lot of moose in our area,  
47 more than they counted last -- I think the hunters  
48 counted about 50 to 75 moose in our area all of a sudden.

49

50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further discussions

1 on the minutes from the March 8th meeting.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 MR. CLEVELAND: Question.

6

7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question has been  
8 called. All in favor of adopting the minutes of March 8,  
9 2005 signify by saying aye.

10

11 IN UNISON: Aye.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.

14

15 (No opposing votes)

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Minutes pass for March  
18 8th meeting. Item number 6. I'll give every Council  
19 Member, we'll start with Reggie, the conditions of what  
20 you think about your area concerning all species. Start  
21 with Reggie.

22

23 MR. CLEVELAND: Good morning. Thank you.  
24 I don't have a written report, but I know there are a  
25 shortage of caribou in my area.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

30

31 MR. BALLOT: Yes, Mr. Chairman. We have  
32 the same concern as Reggie. We haven't seen any caribou  
33 coming from up north. We understand there are 10 permits  
34 given out in the Selawik Hills, Kauk River area this  
35 year. I don't know what's come about with that. For  
36 some reason we're starting to see them coming from  
37 Deering way, but they're always pretty prime and strong,  
38 so hopefully something else will come down. There's a  
39 log of reports of bears again in our area. That's all  
40 I've got.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that it Percy?

43

44 MR. BALLOT: Uh-huh.

45

46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

47

48 ATTAMUK: Okay. I get calls from Noatak.  
49 I see locals here in Kotzebue, they did get caribou, but  
50 not all. I get a call from Noatak twice this week saying

1 they are still trying to get their caribou. They are now  
2 up in the upper canyons and they are late coming in. I  
3 asked them about the weather and they say it was pretty  
4 warm up there. It cooled off and it warmed up.

5  
6 Like Reggie and Percy stated, for us that  
7 usually get them in September did not really get what we  
8 wanted for some reason or another. Caribou was late.  
9 Let's just say bursts, small bursts of caribou coming in  
10 and they did not come in like the numbers for some  
11 reason. But these are the calls I'm getting from the  
12 villages. Mainly Noatak and I get few from Noorvik.

13  
14 I talked to a couple people from Shungnak  
15 and Ambler that came down and I see them in the stores  
16 and they tell me what's going on. They're getting word  
17 about what's happening to the caribou. It's not the  
18 numbers there usually. Like me, I never get my bull yet.  
19 I'm not the only one. Somebody finally got theirs  
20 yesterday. They called me up and they told me that. We  
21 don't know what's really going on.

22  
23 But there was word from Red Dog. A  
24 worker called me up and told me they stopped the Haul  
25 Road for a while to let the caribou cross. They're now  
26 crossing this way in numbers and I wanted to know if they  
27 have a rough idea of the numbers they see. They would  
28 not give me that. They said they are now crossing the  
29 Haul Road and I think that's the problem.

30  
31 A few years ago we testified canoers and  
32 floaters are impacting us by changing the migration of  
33 the route. We know that will happen in the future and  
34 they will take that route for a few years until it's back  
35 to normal. If you look into the stories that happened  
36 years ago when the Natives wanted to change the  
37 migration, they put rocks as people to change the  
38 migration and that might be affecting it also if you  
39 think about it. This gets worrisome.

40  
41 Like I always stated, I was taught by  
42 Missiuk. He died 117 years old and he said he was part  
43 of the crew that put these together when he was young.  
44 He said he didn't have to haul big rocks, he hauled what  
45 he could. That way they could get the caribou where they  
46 wanted and maybe that's why these floaters are really  
47 important for us to put in place. Timing is really what  
48 I'm talking about.

49  
50 That way our people who live off the land

1 and just to make it through the year, fall is important.  
2 That's where our life really begins. For the hard times  
3 that come in the winter, we need to have fall. Spring to  
4 fall is important how much food we put away. It's really  
5 hard for us to hunt with a snowmachine because you have  
6 to chase them down and position them in place.

7  
8                   So I think the Park Service and other  
9 places that do permits for floaters to come in, timing is  
10 very important. When I talked to three canoers that went  
11 by my camp this summer, they were way above Kotlik when  
12 they saw caribou and these are the same -- the one I saw  
13 was from Juneau. He's been floating down that river for  
14 the last seven years. When he sees me, he'll stop and  
15 talk to me and he knows where my cabin is. And he did  
16 stop by and told me that he did not even see the numbers  
17 that he's seen before.

18  
19                   That's alarming. If my people have to  
20 hunt right at late fall and right now the ice is coming  
21 and starting to form in the river, it gets dangerous.  
22 I've been there. I lived it. It really gets hard for us  
23 people. So the Park Service, mainly Noatak Preserve that  
24 allow floaters to come in, need to have the timing in  
25 place.

26  
27                   I think what we need to do is get  
28 together sometimes and talk about how important this is  
29 because this is the last of the biggest herd in Alaska.  
30 And if they do decline, we Natives are going to suffer.  
31 Susan knows and other places know that average, and to me  
32 it's a low count, 14 per year, and with the gas prices  
33 going up.

34  
35                   People from Noatak, the last few years,  
36 they are attempting to hunt down river, which is unusual.  
37 Kobuk tell me that they have to go down river to hunt.  
38 They have to go up river and fight the current with their  
39 little boats just to make it. So we need to understand  
40 what our people are trying to say. And they're trying to  
41 use me to talk for them and it gets really hard  
42 sometimes.

43  
44                   If you guys are willing, I sure would  
45 like to have a meeting somewhere in one of the villages  
46 that's being impacted more. That we could have more of  
47 the hunters here in the audience. I tell you one thing,  
48 if you go to a village and you can't get anything off the  
49 land, it's really hard to make it through the winter.  
50 Everything is being cut back. Everybody knows we're

1 being cut back. We're worrying and I'm scared if the  
2 caribou crash and we're going to have a cutback in the  
3 take.

4  
5 We really need to think this out fairly  
6 and evenly for everyone, not just in Kotzebue, all of our  
7 villages. The migration route of the caribou from Barrow  
8 to Nome need to be involved because they are the ones  
9 living off the caribou. Thanks.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Enoch. For  
12 the report you gave, you know all the agencies are  
13 listening to all the comments and reports from the  
14 villages. On the minutes I believe of last meeting we  
15 are to name a meeting place, it's supposed to be the  
16 villages. Isn't that what we decided, Walter?

17  
18 MR. SAMPSON: Yes.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: But it's not in the  
21 minutes. So in our next meeting we were going to select  
22 a village. That's today. I didn't see that in the  
23 minutes at all. We'll discuss that as new business.  
24 Like Enoch said, we have to meet in these villages.  
25 Right here in Kotzebue nobody gets information. Walter.

26  
27 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
28 think some of the issues that's been put on the table is  
29 not something new that we have to listen to and have to  
30 deal with. We have different user groups within this  
31 unit. Certainly we know every fall we see it. We have  
32 the sportsman group, we have the air carriers drop-offs,  
33 we have the guides in place. Certainly the impact will  
34 be on that source. We also see in the media how things  
35 are happening. There's e-mail in place. People get  
36 pictures of certain things happening in certain parts of  
37 this region, within the communities where floaters are  
38 taking in horns with no meat. Other user groups are  
39 doing the same thing.

40  
41 In regards to the caribou, I think we  
42 also need to think of what's happening today. Look at  
43 what's happening with the weather. That might have an  
44 impact on caribou. Usually this time of the year we have  
45 a good freeze on portions of the rivers, but you still  
46 can boat up the Noatak. You still can boat up the Kobuk  
47 and today is the 7th of October.

48  
49 Migration patterns also might be  
50 changing. Two reasons. One, the migration patterns

1 might be changed because of divergence of different user  
2 groups being dropped off into certain areas, so therefore  
3 those herds can be diverted in certain ways.

4  
5                   The issue with regard to habitat. We  
6 don't know exactly what the feed is like on the migration  
7 patterns, but we know when you have a herd that's going  
8 through, once they deplete that source, they certainly  
9 are going to move into certain areas to migrate. Sure  
10 there's going to be some portions of the herd that will  
11 be moving through that same area, but the good majority  
12 of that will probably be diverted down into other areas.

13  
14                   These are some of the things I think we  
15 all need to consider. Certainly cost of living in this  
16 region is becoming an issue at the village level. The  
17 price of gas here in Kotzebue is almost \$4 per gallon.  
18 Just imagine at the village level for a small community  
19 of Ambler, Kobuk, Noatak, where fuel is being flown into  
20 the community, where you're paying 6.50 a gallon.

21  
22                   The creation of competition within their  
23 area, what does that do to the traditional hunter. Two  
24 things. One, certainly they get aggravated and  
25 disappointed. Not because they can't find the resource,  
26 but because they have to go much further out, which means  
27 they have to buy additional gas, additional food to go  
28 further away to that resource. But yet, as both State  
29 and Federal agencies, we allow these kinds of things to  
30 happen by issuing permits to certain people. Even though  
31 we recognize and see the need at the village level,  
32 that's happening. I think it's something we need to go  
33 back and look at.

34  
35                   Are we really doing what we should be  
36 doing for an agency? If we're not, at some point in time  
37 we need to bite that bullet and say enough is enough,  
38 especially when you and I know publicly that wanton waste  
39 continues to occur. I hear reports right from the  
40 airport where meat was being dumped in the dumpsters,  
41 just this fall at the airport. You see a lot of horns  
42 going through and a very little bit of meat. Maybe it's  
43 time some of you can go out and talk to some of the air  
44 carriers and say was there enough meat that was being  
45 taken out by the user groups. Some of the meat that's  
46 being given to the village, which they claim is being  
47 given, certainly some of it is not edible meat. A lot of  
48 it is green meat, slime green meat. That don't taste too  
49 good. And if that's the case, then education needs to  
50 come forth, where people need to be allowed to go through

1 a process for education to take care of meat. Maybe that  
2 would be an ideal thing to do.

3

4                   These are some of the concerns that you  
5 hear at the village level and not only at the village  
6 level, but throughout this region. You see it through  
7 media where pictures are being sent out through e-mail,  
8 through newspapers and stuff. I think we need to make a  
9 change in that status quo and start doing something to  
10 make sure that the impacts are the least to those people  
11 that are trying to put food on the table for their  
12 families. That hardship that people are going through  
13 today is just the beginning.

14

15                   As agencies allowing things to happen,  
16 using the law to say they're required to have permits, we  
17 have to issue permits, let's re-look at those laws. If  
18 policy can be changed, let's look at changing the policy  
19 so there will be the least impact on our people who are  
20 in need of that source. I don't know what's more  
21 important, eating the meat or grinding the horns. I  
22 don't know. Something for you to make that  
23 determination.

24

25                   But I think we certainly need to listen  
26 to the concerns that we get both at the regional level  
27 and at the village level. These very issues that some of  
28 these folks are putting on the table and look at  
29 ourselves as managers of these lands, as biologists to  
30 these critters, as staff to the agencies. Remember we're  
31 part of the Federal system of this region. This region  
32 has roughly 85 percent Federal lands. We should be  
33 represented as part of the Federal system as well, too,  
34 not just those other user groups outside this region.

35

36                   I talk to much. I'll stop there. Thank  
37 you, Mr. Chairman.

38

39                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter.  
40 I've got quite a bit to say about that, but I'll wait  
41 until later on. I'll have Ralph now. Ralph, you may  
42 talk in Eskimo if you want. We'll try to interpret it  
43 somehow. I know you've got a lot to say. This is your  
44 first time with the agencies here. They're not only from  
45 the National Park, Fish and Wildlife, everybody is here.  
46 Ralph, you can report to us. We'd like to hear from you.  
47 Ralph.

48

49                   MR. RAMOTH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My  
50 name is Ralph Ramoth and I'm from Selawik. As you see,

1 now I am to be an elder to live over 70 years. Right now  
2 I don't really have a report from the village, but  
3 there's very few concerns. What I heard from the hunters  
4 this year. There was one guide with a Beaver, I don't  
5 know, most of you that knows that kind, that's been  
6 bringing the hunters around when the caribou went  
7 through. You know, when they do that, they're changing  
8 the route pretty much.

9  
10 This I can see myself. I work most of my  
11 time up at the Spud Farm with the alcoholism program and  
12 I see pretty much caribou when they start migrating. But  
13 this year there's not very many caribou going through  
14 that area. What I usually see is quite a bit of numbers  
15 that's crossing the river below the village and on their  
16 way to Buckland River to Selawik Hills. But when they  
17 do, they change the migrating route like that by the  
18 hunters, when they first start going by. They go around  
19 pretty much, way further up. I can see a lot of caribou  
20 going up that way till they start heading east from where  
21 I was working at. And what I heard from the reports is,  
22 like some of the reports on the regulations we need to  
23 watch, especially on the wanton waste, which we really  
24 look out for being a subsistence hunter.

25  
26 I've been a transporter before,  
27 transporting hunters up with a boat. I'm not a pilot.  
28 And I've taken some hunters out. When I had clients, I  
29 really take care of those. I tried not to let them leave  
30 anything from what they checked. I said put everything  
31 in the boat. What you have right now, we have to take  
32 everything back to the village. If they can't take all  
33 the meat out, what I usually do is have them sign a paper  
34 and have my name on it and leave them there where people  
35 need some meat with no hunters. These are the kind of  
36 things that we need to start looking at. Sport hunters I  
37 run into in some areas. Before the guides run into their  
38 clients the meat starts spoiling already because of  
39 weather or the guide is so busy or the transporter may be  
40 so busy for going back to pick up their clients at the  
41 places where they dropped those people off.

42  
43 Before we go too far, I would think we  
44 should go ahead and look over at the sport hunters from  
45 wasting too much meat, wanton waste, because I've seen a  
46 lot of people going on subsistence they don't do that.  
47 They bring everything home that they catch. This is our  
48 traditional life. We live like that from the beginning  
49 because we didn't have moose or caribou before.  
50

1                   The land wasn't divided at all before.  
2 Now we have all kinds of agencies to take care of our  
3 land. Our land is chopped so much. You don't know what  
4 land you're shooting at sometimes. We need to educate  
5 our people. Our people have to find out what land  
6 they're shooting on, especially where there's a lot of  
7 regulations. We need to educate our people where they're  
8 going. Living on a Federal land like that, going through  
9 the Federal regulations, we live in the Refuge land where  
10 I'm from and people know that, but some of the land that  
11 goes around the village that goes by corporation lands,  
12 these are the kind of things that some of the people  
13 don't really know.

14  
15                   I don't have other reports to talk about,  
16 but I can talk about the other things later on.

17  
18                   Thank you.

19  
20                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Ralph.  
21 Victor.

22  
23                   MR. KARMUN: Good morning. Thank you,  
24 Chairman. I lucked out and got five good caribou bulls  
25 this fall. The one thing I noticed about them though, in  
26 years past, at that time of the year sometimes they would  
27 have two or three inches of fat on the rump. This year  
28 not one bull had more than an inch of fat on the rump,  
29 although they were in real good, excellent shape.

30  
31                   Bears, I saw one. Excellent condition,  
32 unusual color. It had a black rump, black hind legs and  
33 a real light brown front legs and head. I noticed in the  
34 SRC meeting -- my other concern is the byproducts Native  
35 crafts and last year it was discussed black bear claws,  
36 and especially black bear claws it says in here that they  
37 were legal. By that Native craft deal from the SRC  
38 yesterday said it was illegal. Maybe in the future I'd  
39 like to get a clarification on this. I know grizzlies  
40 are taken and used in some regions and I consider the  
41 claws just a byproduct of it. Whether it's a technicality  
42 or not, I would like to see it legal for the taker of  
43 that magnificent animal to do whatever he wants with the  
44 byproducts of that animal, whether it be the hide or the  
45 claws.

46  
47                   Small game or migratory birds, to me,  
48 ptarmigan are down this fall. I only saw three flocks.  
49 As to the rest of it, the caribou where I was hunting  
50 this fall moved in small bands. Probably the biggest

1 bunch I saw this fall didn't go over 200. Mostly they  
2 were in small bands from half a dozen to a dozen and that  
3 seems more or less the way they were moving this year. I  
4 just exercised patience for a little while and lucked  
5 out.

6

7

Thank you, Chairman.

8

9

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Victor.  
10 Those of you that wish to speak, there's a green paper  
11 over there on the desk. Fill it out with your name and  
12 give it to Barbara to have an opportunity to speak. Mr.  
13 Moto.

14

MR. MOTO: Good morning. My name is  
16 Calvin Moto for those of you who don't know. We had a  
17 couple meetings this last month. I had a meeting and we  
18 brought up some issues about what they thought of the  
19 different types of activities we had for subsistence.  
20 Some of the things brought up were harvesting of sea  
21 mammals. This is something that a lot of you aren't  
22 familiar with because you're mostly inland, you know.  
23 But the coastal people where I come from rely mostly on  
24 the sea, the Kotzebue Sound for our subsistence because  
25 we don't have a supply of seal oil and meat.

26

We usually have to really search for the  
28 caribou or moose. We used to have reindeer herds at one  
29 time, but they all drifted in with the caribou, so this  
30 is why maybe you see a lot this year especially, a lot of  
31 the caribou are pretty big.  
32 Their rib cages were heavy because they were half-breeds.  
33 They have half-breed caribou, you know. Just like  
34 people. But the meat is pretty good.

35

Anyway, the thing about this -- I'd like  
37 to get back to climate change. What we've seen with this  
38 climate change is this year our crane, our geese, most of  
39 our ducks, our brants, they were gone before the middle  
40 of September and this is unusual. Usually we see them  
41 there to about now when it starts freezing up. So  
42 migratory bird hunting is something that we have to look  
43 at. We may be getting a proposal for that later on for  
44 migratory bird hunting, whether we could have it open  
45 earlier because right now, if I wanted to go find a  
46 goose, I'd have to go to Anchorage or some place further  
47 south. Our people are used to getting our usual quota of  
48 migratory birds in the fall. This year hardly any were  
49 taken.

50

1 Right now we have kind of an abundance of  
2 caribou. Last year I know we talked quite a bit about  
3 the moose population was pretty low. The hunters that  
4 went up there to hunt caribou this fall counted anywhere  
5 from 50 to 75 up there because they were looking for  
6 certain type of bulls, you know. They didn't want the  
7 old bulls because they're tough. That's how they know.  
8 They tell us that there's quite a few moose. Where did  
9 they come from? Maybe a bunch of moose had triplets or  
10 twins or something. I don't know.

11  
12 This is why we kind of frown on the fact  
13 that they wanted to shorten the season of moose instead  
14 of till March 31st to December 31st. Well, the thing  
15 about it is, where I come from, we hunt for moose before  
16 the caribou come and when the caribou come, then we just  
17 rely mostly on caribou. We start thinking about February  
18 or March when we start thinking about changing our meat  
19 so we get moose before they close a lot of times. That's  
20 why we kind of frowned when you were trying to change it  
21 to December 31st as opposed to March 31st. I would have  
22 brought this up if I was here last spring, but due to  
23 weather we couldn't get in.

24  
25 I don't want to talk too long, but one  
26 other thing I was thinking about, whenever we have  
27 something really important for our region, whether it be  
28 feasible to put on the radio so our people in our region  
29 could hear what decisions we're making for them. I feel  
30 some of the issues we have here are very important not  
31 only to us but the whole region. Would it be possible to  
32 maybe find a few dollars to have some of our -- not all  
33 of our meeting, but when it comes to something like for  
34 upper rural Noatak or something like that, some issue  
35 that's really important to them, we could put on the  
36 radio.

37  
38 With that I'll close and I want to thank  
39 you for your time.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Calvin. I  
42 appreciate you reporting to us and the agency, but,  
43 Calvin, please don't worry about -- don't say I'm talking  
44 too much. That's what we're here for, to advise the  
45 agency here. They are writing everything you say and it  
46 will become law within 18 months, so all of you don't  
47 worry and say I'm talking too long. Please don't  
48 hesitate. If we have to stay another day, fine. That's  
49 what we're here for.  
50

1                   For myself, I've been with the RAC since  
2 '93. I've been through a lot of discussions and mostly  
3 all the species that you see, like the Northwest Arctic  
4 Caribou Working Group, SRC and RAC. We have come to the  
5 point where the villages are very concerned about the  
6 moose regulations. The moose populations. We all know  
7 the moose is decreasing. You see the report from the  
8 Council here about the sport hunters. Did you guys see  
9 those huge antlers and the meat is practically spoiled or  
10 gone.

11  
12                   I've seen a report from every village  
13 that say they've got too many moose sport hunters. They  
14 tell me you are with the Federal people, you are with the  
15 State people, let this stop, this sport hunting on moose  
16 in Unit 23, and we get the blame for wanton waste. Some  
17 individuals say from agencies, no, we can't do that. Why  
18 can't you? We give you advise to close all sport hunters  
19 on moose. We could do that. But our people are  
20 concerned. Not just from Noatak, everywhere on the  
21 Kobuk. It's wasteful. We can stop sport hunters in Game  
22 Unit 23.

23  
24                   As you all know, the census said it's 30  
25 to 100. My flying time this fall, all early in August,  
26 all female moose. Hardly any ones that had antlers on  
27 them. That's something to think about. I know it would  
28 take some time, but it could be done. I know it's an  
29 impact to the guides and transporters, but we have to  
30 make that judgment.

31  
32                   Caribou. The caribou system this fall  
33 was a little bit late than usual. The first herd of  
34 caribou came through the  
35 Hunt River, a little bit through the Squirrel but most of  
36 it was on the Park land, upper Kobuk. Of course, all of  
37 us can't afford to load our boat up and run out of gas.  
38 It was \$6 a gallon, so we just leave the antlers there,  
39 but we can't afford to bring the horns up to Ambler,  
40 which is 100 miles from Kiana. Like 200 pounds of  
41 weight. We put them away and leave them there on the  
42 Park land. The guys right behind us came from some  
43 place, Anchorage. Right in the Park land. She bounds  
44 them up, she chartered a caravan aircraft to take them  
45 up. She loads them on a Herc. What she do with them, I  
46 don't know.

47  
48                   That is why I requested two years ago we  
49 need the rangers in Kiana area because we've only got  
50 from Kiana 18 miles the Park land starts and it ends at

1 Upper Onion Portage. People come from Anchorage, they  
2 charter a boat or rent a boat and collect all these  
3 antlers. We all know it's illegal for them to do that.  
4 No rangers. We have to come up with something for law  
5 enforcement to be on that river. The Park Service tried  
6 it one time, but they run out of props or stuck or lost,  
7 going back and forth, going back and forth, asking for a  
8 certain area. Sure, there's a lot of local that can  
9 drive the boat better than you guys can do. Save you a  
10 lot of money on props when the water is low. These props  
11 are worth \$400. Like I said two years ago we need some  
12 rangers in the Monument.

13  
14                   Wanton waste. Again there was a report  
15 just several days ago up in Noatak and it was good  
16 caribou. They just chopped the head off and left it  
17 right in the gravel bar. That was a report by the  
18 transport. They left it right there and shot that moose.  
19 The same day shot the head off and then took off. Left a  
20 good piece of meat there. Again, where are the rangers?

21  
22                   All information that we get here will be  
23 asked again from local areas, like for Selawik and  
24 Deering, Buckland, Noorvik. Today we see now that law  
25 enforcement they just don't care for us because they  
26 won't legalize law enforcement just for a few days. I'm  
27 not gonna go get the Park Service. Sure we know they're  
28 in Kotzebue, but they have to be active in the field  
29 where activity is going on, mostly on the Squirrel River.  
30 I estimated in Squirrel River like 80 hunters out there.

31  
32                   Finally, whoever issues these permits to  
33 hunt for sport hunters, again, they have to have a guide  
34 at the camp after I seen what happened two weeks ago. If  
35 you were out there, you'd feel the same way as I feel. I  
36 couldn't land. They were in two feet of water, and poor  
37 guys were out there standing knee-high in the water. I  
38 tried to go pick them up. By luck, the Alaska State  
39 Trooper was in the area. He seen these guys and he  
40 called for help and he called a big piece of help. He  
41 called Anchorage Elmendorf Rescue Center and they sent a  
42 Herc and a Blackhawk helicopter. Who's going to pay for  
43 it? All of you is paying for it. So these guys need a  
44 guide in the camp. These people didn't know what to do  
45 when they got wet by the water at 2:00 in the morning.  
46 That's why each carrier needs a guide in the camp.  
47 That's something to think about.

48  
49                   Do we have any questions from the  
50 audience to all of us here what we have said? You're

1 more than welcome to come up if you have any questions.

2

3 Barbara, I've got two requests. Can we  
4 take them now?

5

6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Barbara.

9 We've got Robert Mulluk from Noorvik. Robert, the  
10 microphone is right there. Would you give us your  
11 statement, please. Say your name and where you're from.

12

13 MR. MULLUK: My name is Robert Mulluk and  
14 I don't know if I want to call myself (In Native)  
15 anymore, but I decided when I came in without being  
16 knowledgeable, I saw there's nobody from Noorvik, but I  
17 understand Raymond is taking care of both Kiana and  
18 Noorvik. My name is Robert Mulluk and Eskimo name Agpik.

19

20 I'd like to share some things. I'm  
21 trying to catch a flight here shortly and go to the  
22 airport and check in. I know you're a Federal  
23 Subsistence Board, right, the Regional kind of thing.  
24 I'd like to share some point of views that I have, what I  
25 observe. I've been living with my (In Native) down in  
26 North Dakota. I've seen the impacts of the pressures  
27 from the outside of their culture. They have three  
28 cultures within a reservation. A lot of times there's  
29 always dispute between this tribe against this tribe,  
30 this town against this town, which we are the same in a  
31 lot of ways. We have the Upper Kobuk people, you know,  
32 they have different concerns, you know, their subsistence  
33 lifestyle is a little different than the coastal, so a  
34 lot of times there's overlapping and a lot different.

35

36 The other thing that I'm disappointed is  
37 that I looked around and observing this audience here and  
38 where are our epochs that, you know, have all this  
39 knowledge, have all this concerns and I don't see them.  
40 I don't know if it would put it in the responsibility of  
41 the agencies here to where you have at least a couple of  
42 elders from each region to come in here and show you  
43 firsthand in terms of how we (In Native), you got some up  
44 there that fall in that, but I would suggest that you  
45 have more of that, so that way you can make a decision in  
46 terms of how -- I mean our elders are meant for that (In  
47 Native).

48

49 In fact, just before I came down I  
50 listened to my dad. My dad is 83 years young. I've been

1 trying to pick his brain in terms of the knowledge and  
2 the stories of all the things. Just recently he made a  
3 comment (In Native) and this in English means the weather  
4 is changing dramatically and yet people cannot understand  
5 that or recognize it or see it. What does that tell me?  
6 It tells me that it's affecting all aspects of our  
7 species in our region.

8  
9 I had the opportunity and pleasure to  
10 travel with Attamuk on the migratory bird. Although they  
11 address only the migratory birds, it falls in the same  
12 category in terms of habitat and how they live and the  
13 migratory and all the aspects of the birds they're  
14 different. There are cases that you probably address all  
15 aspects of the species that we have in our region.  
16 Caribou.

17  
18 When I was a young man, my father asked  
19 me one profound question when I got kicked out of school  
20 as a third grader and I thought, wow, this is going to be  
21 an opportunity for me to be a subsistence hunter, trapper  
22 and a gatherer, I went home and I did that, my dad taught  
23 me that, and he asked me what I was going to do next year  
24 since I got kicked out of third grade. I told him, Dad,  
25 I really enjoy the outdoors, I enjoy it when you take me  
26 out, I want to be like you, I want to be like my dad. My  
27 dad looked at me and he said how are you going to provide  
28 for your family. And he put his arm up and he pointed at  
29 his biceps and he said you want to provide for your  
30 family with this or with this. Of course I chose this  
31 one right here, although my muscles are not as big as  
32 his. He told me his story about how he struggled with  
33 not fluent English and tried to survive in Fairbanks or  
34 wherever he'd go and he just followed people around that  
35 knew the ropes of whatever and he told me, he said, but  
36 if you use your head up here, there will be better  
37 opportunities and better opportunities.

38  
39 So at that time I decided that I would  
40 try and use my head. And it wasn't a very simple task.  
41 I struggled through it for probably 20-some years to try  
42 to get an education, much less speak English. When I  
43 first went to school I failed miserably at the school  
44 because the only language I knew was Inupiat. Of course  
45 I got picked on up in Kiana when I was small and at the  
46 school it becomes a struggle.

47  
48 But you have a responsibility here to  
49 listen, as you go home to listen to your people, and to  
50 observe. Some of you are hunters. You know all these

1 things that are going on. These agencies right here,  
2 yeah, they know the books and they know how to write  
3 regulations and all this other stuff right here, but you  
4 as subsistence Board members right here, you can make  
5 those recommendations what is best for our people.

6  
7 If you don't do that, you will be like  
8 (In Native). They hunt only two weeks out of the whole  
9 year. If you're going to hunt, you've got a big license  
10 that's about 5 x 7 that you have to carry around at all  
11 times. You can only carry five bullets in your rifle.  
12 You can't drive any kind of mobile vehicles. You've got  
13 to walk. And the other thing is you have to tag it the  
14 minute you shoot it, whether you make the right shot or  
15 not. Of course, they usually prefer the big antlers,  
16 which are real small by the way. But if our people get  
17 into that level, what's going to happen to them?

18  
19 Right now our gas is -- I was just  
20 talking with somebody at Noorvik and I said how's the  
21 hunting season. He said, well, I spent \$500 yet and I  
22 haven't got my caribou. Of course, he went every day.  
23 And you guys know the caribou migration is changing.  
24 It's changing right now. Why? Because of the weather.  
25 The weather is getting too warm. You know, we talked  
26 about the over-grazing. While it's getting too warm and  
27 all that vegetation that they have is changing. So what  
28 they do is they go to the prime area.

29  
30 Not only that, the first caribou that  
31 comes through here, this is our (In Native) that we have  
32 from our elders, is that we let the first batch go  
33 through because they're the ones that mark the trail for  
34 the bigger herd that's coming through, which is the bull.  
35 If we (In Native) them, they will go that route that  
36 scouts go through first. We know that, but do a lot of  
37 people know that?

38  
39 These younger people, we have  
40 responsibility not to these agencies to make  
41 recommendation, but we have responsibility also to go  
42 there and train our youth or young adults. They're  
43 getting worse and some of them are getting worse than our  
44 guides because we're not teaching them. As a hunter,  
45 I've been hunting all my life and my dad told me that he  
46 would show me how to hunt and he taught me about nature.  
47 We have responsibility as Inupiat's too. My dad always  
48 told me this right here, we can't fight over those  
49 animals. Those animals don't belong to us. Yeah, they  
50 migrate through our area, but do they have name Aqqik on

1 the caribou when it comes through? No. If somebody  
2 shoot it first, that's yours. We've got to respect our  
3 animals. Animals have spirits. There's many ways of  
4 releasing the spirit of animals and we, as Inupiat, once  
5 we start doing that, we're going to lose those animals.

6  
7                   Let me give you an example. When I got  
8 my first wolf, my dad let me (In Native), show me how.  
9 Once I was done, I was proud. I was thinking about  
10 selling that wolf skin for a thousand bucks, but my dad  
11 taught me a lesson. He said you forgot the main part of  
12 that wolf that was laying there with no skin. He told me  
13 to grab that wolf and put in front of me and cut around  
14 with my knife on the neck and he told me to snap it and  
15 he told me to say (In Native). I learned a valuable  
16 lesson that day. When I say (In Native), meaning it is  
17 done, I have just completed the cycle of that animal.  
18 Now that wolf was ready to come back from the spirit  
19 world. All animals have spirits and we have to respect  
20 those. If we quit doing that, people, we're not going to  
21 have them.

22  
23                   I hear people fighting about animals and  
24 say they only belong to one village. Well, you're  
25 mistaken. They don't belong to no village. They don't  
26 belong to (In Native), no Inupiat or anybody. We  
27 respected these animals for thousands and thousands of  
28 years. Right now all these things are eroding to the  
29 point to where we will be able to not have these animals.

30  
31  
32                   So there's all aspects of whatever we  
33 have here that is part responsibility of the agencies as  
34 well as you Board members and I would suggest that you  
35 listen until these things are -- suggest that you listen  
36 to your constituents out there because they do have a lot  
37 -- and the other thing I would also suggest is to make  
38 sure maybe once in a while have the meeting out in the  
39 village. Maybe you can have one time in the coastal  
40 area, one -- you know, we have two different kinds of  
41 Inupiat here. We have (In Native) and we have (In  
42 Native). Not that they're different -- I mean they're  
43 different, but which is stronger than the other or better  
44 than the other, they're not. We're both Inupiat from  
45 this region right here.

46  
47                   Before they cut my mike off right here,  
48 I'd like to thank you guys for the opportunity to be able  
49 to speak. If you don't take care of these right here and  
50 if you're not involved in what they do, the regulations

1 will be to the point where you have no control over it.  
2 Otherwise you'll be like (In Native). You'll be hunting  
3 only two weeks of the year and you'll have an orange hat  
4 and orange vest. Because those lunatics are the ones  
5 that -- I'm not saying the agencies here -- making the  
6 regulations. I'm not talking about this agency here.  
7 I'm talking about down in North Dakota. Those lunatics  
8 over there thought they know everything and they write  
9 all the regulations. You know, when they go out there,  
10 they hunt, they shoot and they ask questions later kind  
11 of mentality.

12  
13                                 What I'm saying to you, if you don't be a  
14 part of the policy-making and advising, whatever your  
15 responsibility is, at some point in the future, if you  
16 just let an inch opening, it's going to be opened. Look  
17 at the guiding service and all this other stuff.

18  
19                                 (In Native)

20  
21                                 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Robert.  
22 Very interesting. In the last 20 years I've been  
23 experiencing the regulations. The regulations 20 years  
24 ago was not even made in Alaska. The hunting regulations  
25 was written in Washington, D.C. When the regulations  
26 came to us, they're always 18 months late and we wind up  
27 in jail. Today you see now you've got the Council  
28 Members right here. They will give strong  
29 recommendations to these regulations what the State and  
30 Federal are doing and I'm very proud of it that we're  
31 involved in making these recommendations to the agencies  
32 to make these regulations. I appreciate your  
33 commitments, what you have experienced in the lower part  
34 of the state in the Lower 48. We realize that and we  
35 sure hope nothing like that will be directing us in the  
36 future and our kids and their kids.

37  
38                                 Thank you very much, Robert.

39  
40                                 Walter.

41  
42                                 MR. SAMPSON: I just wanted to clarify  
43 something with Robert. This is not a Federal Board, it's  
44 a Council to the Board. We make recommendations to the  
45 Board. However, just like a State extension, State  
46 advisory council, same concept. So just clarify that.

47  
48                                 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter.  
49 Barbara, I've got one question. This next one is also  
50 for this hour?

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes, Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Nate from Selawik  
4 Wildlife Refuge. Keep it like 10 minutes or so.

5

6 MR. OLSON: I won't be too long. Thank  
7 you for allowing me to speak. I'd like to address one  
8 issue that we've been hearing from the village of Selawik  
9 that may be of concern. I'll go in a different reg book,  
10 the Harvest of Fish and Shellfish subsistence management  
11 book, Page 24. The regulation is dealing with complete  
12 blockage of streams and sloughs with nets. In the  
13 Federal regulation that you guys recommended and was  
14 passed, it states that you may not obstruct more than  
15 one-half the width of a stream, creek or slough with any  
16 gear used to take fish for subsistence uses, except when  
17 fishing for whitefish or pike in the Selawik and Kobuk  
18 River drainages as follows, and it gives a brief  
19 description of time frames that you can completely block  
20 a stream and different mesh sizes and maximum lengths of  
21 your nets and such.

22

23 There's some confusion and there's  
24 actually some contradiction between this regulation and  
25 State law and actually Federal law as well. So this says  
26 it's okay for you to do that, yet the State has control  
27 over those waterways because they're navigable waterways.  
28 Technically, if you do completely block a stream, the  
29 State can come in and actually site you. I'm not sure if  
30 that will actually happen, but the point is that this may  
31 need to be addressed and clarified within the communities  
32 it affects.

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Nate, the gentleman  
35 right beside you may have more information for you. Go  
36 ahead.

37

38 MR. GOODWIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
39 was chairman of the RAC. My name is Willie Goodwin.  
40 When we proposed this regulation, it went round and round  
41 for a whole year before we passed it because of some of  
42 the concerns within the State law. Now there's some  
43 areas that was in Federal waters that are exempt from  
44 this. This was passed by the Federal Board and there was  
45 no objection from the State. So this regulation was  
46 carefully crafted and I had Bert Grist from Selawik in  
47 charge of this project from the RAC to make a  
48 recommendation to the Federal Board. There were some  
49 concerns. Because it said stream, we couldn't get into  
50 the more navigable so to speak waters, like the Kobuk

1 River or the main rivers. So I don't know where the  
2 confusion is at. It's pretty clear to me that it's  
3 legal.

4  
5 Thank you.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Willie.  
8  
9 Helen, you got a question.

10  
11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. Helen  
12 Armstrong with Fish and Wildlife Service Subsistence  
13 Office. Waters within Federal Conservation Units are  
14 under Federal jurisdiction, they're not under State  
15 jurisdiction. I would just suggest that maybe we at the  
16 Fish and Wildlife Service need to discuss this. We  
17 aren't taking fisheries proposals right now. That comes  
18 with the winter meeting and we can clarify this by the  
19 winter meeting if there's some disagreement.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Helen.  
22  
23 Walter.

24  
25 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
26 think you need to go one step further and that is to  
27 provide clarity to the community of Selawik in regards to  
28 that very section of the law. We understand it at our  
29 level, but at the village level is something that they  
30 need clarity on.

31  
32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We'll work with the  
33 Selawik Refuge staff on that.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Nate.  
36 Walter.

37  
38 MR. SAMPSON: Two areas I wanted to  
39 clarify with Robert. I wanted to mention two things.  
40 Robert, in regards to the issue on meeting. If I  
41 remember right, the last meeting I indicated to this  
42 committee that we start conducting our business in  
43 Inupiat if it provides for an opportunity for some of the  
44 elderly folks, a setting to where they feel comfortable  
45 talking in their language. I mean Yupik folks down south  
46 they do their meetings in Yupik and there is no reason  
47 why we can't have Inupiat interpreters to handle that.

48  
49 Secondly, one of the problems we have in  
50 regards to not having very many of our people is the

1 process in advertising for the Regional Advisory Council.  
2 Maybe we could get it in Inupiat over the radio. That  
3 would be an ideal way to advertise so we could get some  
4 of our people to these meetings.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter.  
7 Robert.

8  
9 MR. MULLUCK: (In Native). The reason I  
10 said that is because, you know, me, as a person (In  
11 Native), but when it comes to share my thoughts in  
12 Inupiat is that I have to struggle with what's up here  
13 and what's to come out here. So I know our elders having  
14 all that knowledge are the ones that will have the same  
15 struggle in terms of the English and not being able to  
16 eloquently express themselves like they can do in  
17 Inupiat. I know a lot of people have that concern.

18  
19 I think if you take the time and effort  
20 to listen to a lot of people, it's the talk in all  
21 villages, you know that, is that there's different issues  
22 in different villages and those need to be brought forth  
23 out. And I don't know what their policy is in terms of  
24 traveling to the villages in their line of work or  
25 whatever, but if they go informally to the village, they  
26 can hear all the chat about where the game are and the  
27 hunt, whatever.

28  
29 (In Native)

30  
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Robert.  
32 Walter, I'll answer your question. As you know, we  
33 talked in the last meeting that we'd be happy to  
34 broadcast our meeting on the radio. I sure would like  
35 to. I wonder if we could get information on this,  
36 Walter. How could we proceed our meeting to KOTZ radio?  
37 Any idea, Walter?

38  
39 MR. SAMPSON: All we have to do is make a  
40 telephone call to the radio station and they'll record it  
41 for you right at the station.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Thanks. We're  
44 on the reports and concerns from the villages. You guys  
45 have any questions for any of our Council members.

46  
47 (No comments)

48  
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, I'll go down  
50 to item number 7, Chair's report. It says Chair's

1 report, an 805 letter was sent, what the actions, what  
2 the Federal Board took actions in May 4. There's a  
3 number of pages right there what the Board did in May.  
4 You can see on the report there's a whole bunch of areas  
5 where input was, especially for the one you see come  
6 before you last spring about the bear parts. It's a  
7 statewide proposal. You could see on the report right  
8 there some supported this proposal strongly and some  
9 didn't. For Northwest Arctic, I made very strong  
10 recommendations to oppose this proposal. If it ever  
11 become law and gets effected, I said and I say it again,  
12 eight years ago when the State legalized antler sale,  
13 they buy it for just \$2 a pound, then sell it for \$40 a  
14 pound. We saw carcasses everywhere. The young kids go  
15 out there, shoot up all the caribou, they chopped the  
16 horns off to sell it for \$2 a pound.

17  
18 If we follow this proposal on bear parts,  
19 exactly that is going to happen, wanton waste. That's  
20 why the Council should make a strong recommendation to  
21 oppose this proposal and presented it to the Federal  
22 Board of Game. I keep my fingers crossed when they're  
23 voting. I was very, very nervous. I didn't want it to  
24 pass and we won this case for Northwest Alaska bear  
25 parts.

26  
27 So all these proposals are right there  
28 before you. If you have any questions on proposals that  
29 were acted on, I'm here to answer any questions if I can  
30 do it. If not, I'll find the answer for you.

31  
32 Barbara, do you have anything on the 805  
33 beyond what I just said?

34  
35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, I don't, Mr.  
36 Chair. It's all self-explanatory on the letter itself.

37  
38 Thank you.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from  
41 Council members about this 805 letter. Attamuk.

42  
43 ATTAMUK: I need the State regulation  
44 book in front of me. We've got the Federal one here to  
45 compare it to what's going on. Is it possible someone  
46 could get us a copy of the State because I've got mine in  
47 my office.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

50

1 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
2 think I was trying to refer to the section of the State  
3 law that refers to sale of antlers. I thought that was  
4 illegal. The only thing that is legal is naturally  
5 shedded antlers, not somebody hunting to get horns. Am I  
6 not correct?

7  
8 Jim Magdanz, would you be able to address  
9 that, please, and clarify it.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Jim.

12  
13 MR. MAGDANZ: Walter, I don't have a copy  
14 of the reg book in front of me, but that's my  
15 understanding of the regulations as well. Jim Magdanz,  
16 for the record, Fish and Game.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Willie.

19  
20 MR. GOODWIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
21 The reason this regulation is in place is because they  
22 were doing it illegally in the Kobuk Delta and the  
23 Selawik areas. We all know it was the practice  
24 throughout the region in the springtime when you're  
25 getting whitefish you put the net all the way across  
26 these small streams. The regulation was proposed to the  
27 Regional Advisory Council. We had some deliberations on  
28 it, we tried to get some clarification on it and it was  
29 passed by the Federal Board because the people were  
30 afraid they were going to get cited, especially in the  
31 Kobuk Delta, so this regulation was crafted and passed.  
32 Certainly there was some objection from the State because  
33 it was illegal, but it was also clear within the Federal  
34 conservation units we wanted to make it legal and that's  
35 why it was passed.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anything on the 805.

38  
39 (No comments)

40  
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If not, do you guys  
42 want to take a short break before we go to proposals.  
43 Take a 10-minute break.

44  
45 (Off record)

46  
47 (On record)

48  
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I'll call the meeting  
50 back to order. It's exactly 10:30. Before we get to

1 proposals, we have one more statement from Cyrus Harris.

2

3 MR. HARRIS: Good morning. My name is  
4 Cyrus Harris and I work for the Maniilaq Association and  
5 I work for the Elders Traditional Foods Program. The  
6 program is designed to help our elderly people with  
7 Native foods they were raised with, for the ones that  
8 cannot provide for theirself anymore. Under this program  
9 we do have hunter support and it's not only Kotzebue,  
10 it's around the surrounding villages, to where we are  
11 able to help out hunters with gasoline, motor oil or  
12 ammuniton to go out and provide for the elders. There  
13 was a request to increase the funding source because of  
14 gas prices and hunters having to go farther than usual  
15 during their hunting trips to make their hunting  
16 successful.

17

18 I'll be talking a little bit about the  
19 migration route. I'm raised along the coast here and  
20 it's a little bit different than upriver, so I was raised  
21 over at Sheshalik and when the caribou first started  
22 coming by our Elders over in the camp site would get  
23 together and discuss the strategy, but they've always let  
24 the first caribou go by before they start hunting. So  
25 once the first caribou go by that one certain area,  
26 there's nothing that's going to stop the rest of the  
27 caribou back there.

28

29 On the migration route, we see a lot of  
30 activity going out there early in the year when the first  
31 bunch of caribou are coming through. I mean it's open  
32 season and we have a lot of outfitters who have a lot of  
33 transporters that's being landed out along the caribou  
34 path. So I could understand they don't understand our  
35 traditional values of having the first caribou go  
36 through. They just get what they could right there while  
37 they can.

38

39 I'm requesting that the outfitters and  
40 transporters delay their activities for the first two  
41 weeks of the first bunch of caribou that's migrating  
42 through to help out our traditional hunters here and also  
43 help out with the caribou migration routes. Am I leaving  
44 anything out, Paulette?

45

46 MS. SCHUERCH: Good morning. My name is  
47 Paulette Schuerch, the administrator for Tribal  
48 Government Services at Maniilaq Association. The hunter  
49 support program is one of our programs under Tribal  
50 Government Services. The biggest concern that we're

1 hearing throughout our villages -- when we have all of  
2 our hunters go out, they report back to us on the amount  
3 of fish and game that they get. We're hearing that  
4 they're traveling further distances, that they're having  
5 unsuccessful hunts due too many hunters being dropped off  
6 along the river and onto the lands.

7  
8 But Cyrus did a good job presenting this  
9 to you. What we're requesting is that we have at least  
10 the first two weeks in September, which is the prime  
11 caribou hunting season, that you regulate them to not  
12 start until after then. There's just a lack of caribou.  
13 We see a lot of hunters coming through Kotzebue and  
14 shipping their caribou outside to wherever it is and it's  
15 frustrating when we can't provide food to our Elders who  
16 are in dire need. Our Elders are really depending on  
17 this. The lack of gas that we have in our community and  
18 also the price of the gas. So if we could have a two  
19 week leeway on transporters and outfitters, we'd really  
20 appreciate it and it would be very beneficial to us as a  
21 people, to our culture, to our Elders.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Any  
24 questions to Cyrus or Paulette.

25  
26 MR. BALLOT: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Percy  
27 Ballot from Buckland. When you say first two weeks,  
28 where at?

29  
30 MR. HARRIS: I understand if you could  
31 close it off for the first two weeks, it's going to allow  
32 the first part of the caribou migration route, whether it  
33 be along the coast, along the Noatak or along the Kobuk,  
34 that two week time span is going to allow the first ones  
35 to go through. And once they go through that area, then  
36 there's nothing that's going to stop the rest of them  
37 back there.

38  
39 Right now, the way it is, with the  
40 outfitters and transporters and all the traffic that's  
41 out there, the way I see it it's holding the caribou back  
42 from going through their main migration route and cutting  
43 them off into bunches. The caribou do have a scout  
44 that's running in front. If the front part of the  
45 caribou is being hunted and the scout got away and went  
46 back to the main herd, then they're going to be hesitant  
47 to cross their main migration routes.

48  
49 Obviously these outsiders they don't know  
50 our traditional values and how we allow the first caribou

1 to go by. They're out there, they're up in the  
2 mountains, up in the hills. They're where we can't go,  
3 but they're along the caribou migration route. So if they  
4 were delayed for two weeks, that would solve that  
5 problem.

6

7 Thank you.

8

9 MR. MOTO: Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin.

12

13 MR. MOTO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
14 would like to thank Cyrus and Maniilaq for the hunter  
15 program. Some of the Elders last week we had, they were  
16 wondering who to thank, so I decided I'd pass it on to  
17 you that they thank you. Some of the Elders that never  
18 got their moose this year got some and a lot of the  
19 Elders this last summer had been getting their salmon  
20 through this program. Also this past week caribou. We  
21 want to thank you for your efforts and want to say it's a  
22 good program. We enjoy it very much at our dinner table.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 MS. SCHUERCH: Thank you, Calvin. I'll  
27 relay that on to the board of directors for Maniilaq  
28 Association. I just want you guys to know how important  
29 it is for our Elders to continue with this and have this  
30 program and without us having to expend more monies.  
31 This year we had to double our funds. We provide \$50,000  
32 a year. That didn't even cut it close. We had to  
33 allocate another \$50,000 because it wasn't even caribou  
34 hunting season.

35

36 If this Council could at least think of  
37 our Elders first and think of our people and our  
38 traditional ways and our culture, we'd really appreciate  
39 that. I know each and every one of you guys sitting up  
40 there also depend on it. There's just no way we're going  
41 to change it. You're one Council. You guys can make  
42 recommendations and help make this decision and help us  
43 persuade them that our Elders come first in our lands.

44

45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Cyrus Harris.

46

47 MR. HARRIS: I'd like to thank this  
48 Advisory Board or you people here to allow us to go out  
49 and speak on what we feel, what we live and how we see  
50 things.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Mr. Harris, this  
4 meeting is for public. We take a lot of comments.  
5 That's what we're here for and all the agencies are here  
6 also. Your presentation is very important to every  
7 village. I'll try to send you a thank you letter for  
8 what you have done for all the villages. You've done a  
9 great job. People like it because they can't afford to  
10 buy gas anymore. Mr. Karmun.

11

12 MR. KARMUN: Mr. Chairman. On the  
13 concerns of Maniilaq Association, are we going to need a  
14 motion on the floor and present this to the Federal Board  
15 at a later date or how do you want to work this.

16

17 MS. SCHUERCH: Mr. Chairman. If I may  
18 request a letter in response to our comments that we made  
19 today.

20

21 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. We can put  
22 this down on your annual report for this time and then  
23 Paulette will get a copy.

24

25 Helen.

26

27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. Soon on  
28 the agenda we are calling for proposals to change  
29 wildlife regulations, so you could put forth a proposal  
30 to change a regulation if you wanted to at this time.  
31 They could do it, you could do it.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Willie.

34

35 MR. GOODWIN: Mr. Chair. For  
36 clarification, the proposals that come from this Council  
37 deals in subsistence. I don't think you can propose any  
38 sport regulation to the Federal Board.

39

40 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We still can put it  
41 down as an item under your annual report and that way it  
42 will follow it through to the Board of Game.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Barbara.  
47 Anything else.

48

49 MR. GOODWIN: Mr. Chairman. Anybody can  
50 put proposals to the State Board of Game, right? So you

1 guys could draft one working with some of our staff or  
2 whatever here.

3

4 MR. MOTO: Mr. Chairman. I understand  
5 the Board of Game are planning to have a meeting with the  
6 people here in Kotzebue, if they don't back out. Maybe  
7 this would be the time for us to draft up a proposal and  
8 have somebody go to the Board of Game meeting on -- I  
9 think it's November 11th.

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, Calvin, the Board  
12 of Game meeting will be November 11, 12, 13, 14 and I  
13 believe 15.

14

Thank you very much.

15

16 Okay. Item number 8, call for proposals  
17 to change Federal Subsistence wildlife regulations.

18

19 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. We'll have  
20 8A with Park Service on moose 05-18, 8A. I think that's  
21 Ken Adkisson.

22

23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is National Park  
24 Service going to take that proposal?

25

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes, sir.

26

27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Ken. This is  
28 introduction of proposal and analysis.

29

30 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair, Council  
31 Members. Ken Adkisson, National Park Service. I'll just  
32 offer a couple really quick comments and then turn it  
33 over to Brad Shults, who can also be assisted by Kyle  
34 Joly and they put together a short presentation for you.

35

36 As quick background, you'll recall that  
37 Proposal 18 appeared last year and as originally drafted  
38 would have reduced or cut your moose hunting season  
39 opportunity by three months, which is fairly substantial.  
40 Basically, when the Council revisited that proposal, you  
41 folks tabled it. It still went to the Federal Board.  
42 After a lot of sometimes almost heated discussion, the  
43 Federal Board voted unanimously to support your Council,  
44 but they did want the proposal to come back for  
45 additional work because some of the Federal Board members  
46 did have some real conservation concerns or what they  
47 thought were real conservation concerns with the moose  
48 population. So, essentially, that's why we're back,

1 because the Board wanted us to revisit it.

2

3 Brad can fill you in on specifics of what  
4 the Board wanted and provide any biological information  
5 as well as perhaps alternative recommendations. At this  
6 point, I'll just turn it over to Brad and he can do the  
7 presentation and you can address any questions you might  
8 have to him.

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Brad.

11

12 MR. SHULTS: Okay. I know that some of  
13 you already heard this, at least four of you. We've re-  
14 tooled it a little bit for you four, so it's going to be  
15 pretty short. Raymond, I'll be very brief and I respect  
16 what you said earlier that it's your time to talk and not  
17 mine, so I'll be pretty succinct here.

18

19 I handed out some materials this morning  
20 and there's some extras on the table. I've included what  
21 Ken just talked about, which is WP05-18. This is the  
22 proposal which the BLM and the Park Service went to the  
23 Federal Subsistence Board back in May and spoke to to the  
24 Board.

25

26 The other thing you're going to see if  
27 you want to follow along, this isn't a good audio/visual  
28 room so you have it right in front of you, but this is  
29 going to hit the main points of what I want to say here  
30 and I'll do it fairly quickly and then we can move on to  
31 the discussion hopefully.

32

33 I put them on poster size also of the  
34 alternatives that we're going to talk about that we've  
35 come up with as agencies and it's not to limit the scope  
36 of alternatives. You can come up with anything you want  
37 and we've heard a little bit about that this morning.

38

39 If you look on the first page of this  
40 handout, this is a point I want to make right from the  
41 start before we get talking about this, is that when we  
42 talk about regulation alternatives, we're not talking  
43 about who can hunt where. If you're a Federally-  
44 qualified user, you can hunt on Federal public land for  
45 moose anywhere there's Federal public land. We're not  
46 monkeying with that. If you live in Selawik, you can  
47 hunt on the Kobuk, you can hunt in Noatak. If you live  
48 in the Upper Kobuk, you can hunt in the Lower Kobuk on  
49 Federal public land.

50

1                   We're only talking about when you hunt,  
2 the open seasons, and what you hunt in terms of the  
3 harvest limit, whether it's a bull or an antlerless  
4 moose. Those are the only things we're talking about.  
5 Try not to get caught up in thinking of where you hunt.  
6 You're a Federally-qualified user. Unit 23 Federal  
7 public land is open to you. So I want to make that  
8 really clear.

9  
10                   What are the current management issues,  
11 next page. These are things we could probably agree on.  
12 Moose have declined. Some of us have spoken about this  
13 at length. We don't think a crash in the moose is  
14 imminent at this point. We think moose have leveled out  
15 at low densities across the unit and are stable  
16 population sizes. That's one thing I think we can agree  
17 on. There's been low calf recruitment, so the moose  
18 population isn't growing. Adult mortality probably  
19 equals the recruitment rate across most of the unit. So  
20 moose are, like I said, stable.

21  
22                   The regulations over the years have  
23 become more restrictive. There's no doubt about that on  
24 both the State and the Federal side. You've been part of  
25 that on the Federal side. There's an incredible amount  
26 of pressure to continue those restrictions. So the  
27 question for this Board on the Federal side is what to do  
28 with the moose regulations and I'm going to present a  
29 couple alternatives for you.

30  
31                   The next slide I would have presented --  
32 you know, we went to the Federal Board on behalf of 05-18  
33 to defeat it basically. We told the Federal Board after  
34 that that we wouldn't just be naysayers, we would do some  
35 things and we would look at the available data, talk to  
36 the subsistence users, which we've done through the  
37 National Park Service Subsistence Resource Commissions.  
38 They've seen this and now we're bringing it back to you.  
39 And we've developed some regulatory alternatives which  
40 we're going to talk about.

41  
42                   There's been a lot of work that's gone  
43 into this from the National Park Service, the Bureau of  
44 Land Management and the Fish and Wildlife Service and a  
45 lot of people have seen this. We spent a whole day on it  
46 at the Subsistence Resource Commission, so it's been  
47 reviewed by quite a few folks and we tried to re-tool our  
48 alternatives based on what we heard this week.

49  
50                   I think the point we'd like to get to,

1 there's a couple things we'd like to get out of you today  
2 and I'm going to get to those in the end. So there's  
3 some definite products I'd like to hear about. So what  
4 are they. The last page here you can see it. These are  
5 the alternatives that we've come up with.

6  
7                   One of the things is the State has put a  
8 lot of pressure on the Federal side. They don't accept  
9 the fact that we just tabled WP05-18 without any type of  
10 restrictions. That is an alternative. No change. What  
11 you see under existing Federal regulation 1, which is  
12 this one, is what you have in the book now. You can keep  
13 it and do absolutely nothing. That's a reasonable  
14 alternative, is not to mess with your regulations. Go  
15 back to the communities and talk to folks more. That's  
16 the simplest thing I'd say to do.

17  
18                   Another one is to actually change the  
19 existing regulation and there's two parts that I could  
20 suggest. That's alternative number two in the red  
21 language is how it would change the existing language.  
22 And the two things I could suggest is, one, to prohibit  
23 the harvest of calves. The State does that. Right now  
24 you can harvest a calf under the Federal system. I think  
25 we talked about that at the SRC's. I think that's  
26 certainly something if we can get a proposal out of you  
27 today to prohibit the calf harvest, that would be a good  
28 step in moving towards a regulation that's acceptable to  
29 more folks. That's one thing.

30  
31                   The other pressure is to shorten the  
32 harvest season for cows. We kicked that around. Calvin,  
33 this morning, spoke about the importance of having a cow  
34 season in the spring. That's certainly something you  
35 need to kick around in terms of date. Right now you have  
36 an eight-month cow season from August 1st through March  
37 31st in all region of Unit 23 except the Noatak. If you  
38 want to shorten that up, if you want to leave it the  
39 same, if you want to pick some months you want it open,  
40 that's entirely up to you. All I've done in alternative  
41 two is I've taken what already exists in the Noatak,  
42 which is November 1st through March 31st and substituted  
43 it in for the rest of the unit. That shaved off August,  
44 September and October. So that's one alternative.

45  
46                   Those are the simple ones. The last one,  
47 which I think we heard loud and clear from the  
48 Subsistence Resource Commissions is alternative three and  
49 you see a lot more red language in there. That's  
50 essentially to divide Unit 23 into hunt management areas.

1 We heard a lot of discussion about that. There's some  
2 real good biological reasons to do that. I've provided  
3 you with a map how we survey moose and overlaid the  
4 regions that we're talking about for management areas.  
5 It makes great biological sense. I know there's other  
6 issues and we've heard about those and you can discuss  
7 those at length.

8

9 As a biologist, I would like to see  
10 something more like this. It makes it easier to manage  
11 moose for me in terms of a regulatory sense because we  
12 have data that's tied to those areas. It wouldn't  
13 restrict your ability to move about the area and hunt  
14 wherever you want. It just means if you're in a  
15 different river drainage you might have a little bit  
16 different regulation.

17

18 With that I think I'll shut up and let  
19 you ask questions or discuss whatever you'd like to  
20 discuss.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: How much time do we  
23 need on this proposal to the Federal Board of Game? Is  
24 there a time limit on this? We tabled it before and we'd  
25 like to know what the Federal Board wants when.

26

27 MR. SHULTS: You have until October 21st  
28 to do a proposal for this round, this regulatory cycle.  
29 As I said, one of your alternatives is to do nothing.

30

31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: For the public, if you  
32 want to make a comment or a statement, there's a green  
33 form over there you can fill it out and give it to us and  
34 you can talk about this proposal. Is that what you've  
35 got now?

36

37 MR. SHULTS: I'm done.

38

39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions for Brad  
40 on this proposal. We have a number of agencies. We have  
41 to deliberate this. Calvin.

42

43 MR. MOTO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
44 noticed your calf to cow population where you had in some  
45 cases 20 calves per 100. With that mortality of the  
46 calves, how much is attributed to predation? Like we  
47 have an increase of bears, wolves and wolverines in our  
48 area. Is there any way we could find out how many those  
49 predators would take or is that something that would have  
50 to be followed more closely?

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Brad.

2

3 MR. SHULTS: That's a good question. I  
4 think we only looked at that for two years in the Noatak  
5 drainage and what we found were 60 percent of the calves  
6 that hit the ground were dead within the first two weeks.  
7 Over 90 percent of the cows had calves, 40 percent of  
8 those cows had twins, which is a high twinning rate, but  
9 they suffered high mortality within the first two weeks  
10 and that was a combination of brown bear and wolf  
11 mortality. That's pretty typical across the state.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Helen.

14

15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. Helen  
16 Armstrong. I needed to clarify that. Chuck just  
17 reminded me that the proposals are -- the time period is  
18 open until October 21st, so an individual could put forth  
19 a proposal by then at that late date, but if you were  
20 going to put it as a Council, you would need to finalize  
21 that today because if you're going to vote on it that  
22 this is what the Council wants, this is the day you're  
23 together. If you need help, if you want to talk about it  
24 at lunch time, draft it, get it finalized later on. I  
25 mean you don't have to do it right this minute. So it's  
26 up to the wishes of the Council. Or you can do nothing.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Helen. You  
29 know, for the members of the Council, we have a total of  
30 eight agencies, including the Council, to deliberate this  
31 proposal. Anything else to Brad.

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Brad.  
36 Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

37

38 MR. KARMUN: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to  
39 see if there's any questions or comments from the people  
40 in the audience pertaining to the proposal we're going to  
41 come up with hopefully here shortly.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor, like I said,  
44 you need a green card, fill it out, give it to us and  
45 we'll give you an opportunity to comment on this.  
46 Walter.

47

48 MR. SAMPSON: I guess, Mr. Chairman,  
49 we're not in a debate section. I think the report has  
50 been given to us, the report that we need to act on and

1 someone on the Council needs to make a recommendation on  
2 it.

3

4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

5

6 ATTAMUK: Thank you. Brad, with the  
7 difference between yesterday and today, I want to  
8 congratulate you. The choice of words you used yesterday  
9 and today made a big difference on my feeling of this  
10 here saying any Native could hunt in Unit 23. So, in the  
11 future, to all of us we need to understand that we need  
12 to use our words wisely. Today I will support this one  
13 here because it explains to everyone that we could hunt  
14 anywhere in Unit 23. I understand your concern  
15 yesterday. When you put together each drainage it's  
16 important because each river drainage is where the people  
17 hunt mainly. We are separated also by mountains and yet  
18 we will hunt on the other side mainly with snowmachines  
19 during the winter. Like I say, I congratulate you. You  
20 came up with something I can live with. I will support  
21 this now, but yesterday I wanted to go back to the  
22 villages to understand. But you will understand that  
23 even what we did with the Fish and Game that we didn't  
24 support because he did not go back to talk to the  
25 villages. But still we need to have a chance for our  
26 villages, to go back and talk to them. But if I get a  
27 call from the villages, which I do, I will recommend it.  
28 This is a nice proposal.

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

31

32 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
33 Brad, thank you for the report in regards to the proposed  
34 regulation on moose. Even though we recognize and  
35 understand that first of all the Board delayed the action  
36 regards to the take of moose is something I would like to  
37 thank the Federal Board in delaying. I'm sure that even  
38 though they made that delay, certainly something that I'm  
39 sure they'll probably take action on this coming Board  
40 meeting.

41

42 So, Mr. Chairman, I would like to move  
43 on. Even though there's some requests to provide  
44 information to the village, which can proceed, but I  
45 think it's something I would like to put on the table for  
46 action so this Advisory Council can take action and move  
47 forward on the proposal.

48

49 I certainly would like to support the  
50 proposal regards to the existing regulation change where,

1 first of all, prohibit calf hunting. I mean that's common  
2 sense. We should know that. And, secondly, by  
3 shortening the cow season. I think those two are  
4 certainly something I would support and it's something I  
5 want to move and make a motion for supporting WP05-18 as  
6 a motion.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter, under the  
9 rules, we have to deliberate this.

10  
11 MR. SAMPSON: Okay. I'm sorry. Go  
12 ahead. Deliberate this.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You will have an  
15 opportunity to move after the deliberation from all  
16 agencies.

17  
18 MR. SAMPSON: Thanks for the recognition.  
19 I jumped the gun, so I'll wait.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter.

22  
23 MR. SAMPSON: Sure.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.

26  
27 MR. KARMUN: Thank you. I would go along  
28 with changes that are proposed by the biologist. I don't  
29 really care for the taking of calves and, in some  
30 instances, I don't really care for the taking of a cow  
31 either, especially in the spring you could be putting  
32 down up to three moose if that cow is carrying calves.  
33 Our moose are depleted in the region and not endangered  
34 yet. I think this would add significantly to the total  
35 numbers and it would not take long. Maybe even just by  
36 shortening the cow season might enhance the numbers of  
37 moose in the region.

38  
39 Thank you.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Mr. Karmun, you will  
42 have an opportunity to comment on this proposal when it  
43 comes to the final.

44  
45 MR. KARMUN: Thank you. You're right.  
46 Like Walter, I didn't mean to jump the gun.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Helen.

49  
50 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I just wanted to help

1 clarify the process. Actually, because you're just  
2 making a proposal to us, you don't actually have to have  
3 -- all you have to decide is which of those three  
4 alternatives Brad suggested or if you have a fourth one.  
5 There aren't comments at that point from the State or the  
6 agencies. That will come in the winter meeting after we  
7 do the analysis. Right now all you need to do is decide  
8 what you want your proposal to be. Chuck Ardizzone, our  
9 wildlife biologist at OSM, is happy to help you write it  
10 up if you just give him the basic idea of what you would  
11 like. Okay.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. What is the wish  
14 of the Council. You want us to write a proposal?

15

16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If you tell him which  
17 of those alternatives you want, Chuck can write it up  
18 based on that. You don't need to physically write it.  
19 We'll take it from there. We just need to know which one  
20 the Council is interested in proposing. Then what will  
21 happen is we'll do the analysis, it will go out to the  
22 public for comment and then in the winter meeting you get  
23 to vote on it and then we hear comments from the public,  
24 the State and the agencies.

25

26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

27

28 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. I think if  
29 you just direct Chuck to write the proposal for you, I  
30 think he already has an idea of what to write.

31

32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Chuck.

33

34 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. I'd be happy  
35 to write the proposal up. If you just want to pick one  
36 of these alternatives that's okay with the Council,  
37 that's fine. If you want to change something, I'll  
38 surely change it. I'll write it up and get it to you by  
39 the end of the day. It would be easiest if you agree  
40 with one of these to pick one of these, but you can  
41 change anything you would like to.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What is the wish of the  
44 Council. Percy.

45

46 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman. Percy Ballot.  
47 I'm ready to move on and working out a proposal. I want  
48 to thank the Federal Subsistence Board for listening to  
49 our wish to table this until now and they need a product  
50 that we could put out. We have three proposals there.

1 From my own mind I already struck out number one. We do  
2 need a change. So I'm ready to move on. I also want to  
3 thank the agencies for coming up with the numbers, the  
4 data we needed.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Mr. Stein.

7  
8 MR. STEIN: My name is Frank Stein. I've  
9 been listening and as far as I understand it you've got  
10 several proposals in front of you. The agencies are  
11 asking you to make a decision pretty much on short  
12 notice. I think you need to be very, very clear in the  
13 instructions that you give to the agency that wants to  
14 write the proposal. Let them write it the way you want.  
15 I think to confirm that you need to do it by a motion so  
16 it will be a matter of record. Then, when it comes time  
17 to act on this specific proposal, you can make any  
18 specific changes to that proposal. You don't have to  
19 pick any one of these. You can combine some of them.  
20 Use the authority that you have. Understand it.

21  
22 Thank you very much.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Frank.  
25 Walter.

26  
27 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
28 would like to you to consider my previous statements  
29 earlier and recommend as an action that we have Staff put  
30 together a proposal that directly prohibits the taking of  
31 calf harvest and make that recommendation to the full  
32 Board and nothing on the cow season.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Do you have that,  
35 Chuck?

36  
37 MR. SAMPSON: That was my motion.

38  
39 MR. ARDIZZONE: My understanding.....

40  
41 MR. SAMPSON: My recommendation is that  
42 because of the report that was given in regards to even  
43 though the moose population in general is in decline and  
44 with an understanding it's not a crash yet, the Federal  
45 Board had delayed their action, I would like to make a  
46 recommendation to the Federal Board to put a proposal  
47 together to prohibit the taking of calf harvest only.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's a recommendation  
50 or motion?

1 MR. SAMPSON: That's a motion.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter made a motion to  
4 prohibit calf and cow only. Second.  
5  
6 MR. KARMUN: I would second it, Mr.  
7 Chairman, if we could add cows to that list one way or  
8 another. I think we're going to have to take action on  
9 this. I still maintain and say you put down a cow, you  
10 could put down up to and including three moose.  
11  
12 Thank you.  
13  
14 MR. BALLOT: I have a question for  
15 clarity, Mr. Chair. Did he say just calves or calf and  
16 cow?  
17  
18 MR. SAMPSON: My motion states that there  
19 is a prohibition in taking calf only, calf only and not  
20 cow. I will justify it after.  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is there a second to  
23 the motion. Calvin.  
24  
25 MR. MOTO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I see  
26 in the existing regulation it says no person may take a  
27 cow. In other words, you want to take off just the calf  
28 part on that, right?  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin, the motion said  
31 it's calf only. We'll have discussion after the motion  
32 has been seconded.  
33  
34 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, I was just  
35 wondering, within that motion how is it going to work  
36 with these two proposed alternatives, number two and  
37 number three, that were given to us.  
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.  
39  
40 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman. We've been  
41 told that we can put together our own proposal the way we  
42 want. So those alternatives that you see on those two  
43 sheets we don't have to act on. That's why I'm making  
44 that motion.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Chuck.  
47  
48 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. I believe  
49 Walter is looking at number one, existing Federal  
50 regulation, and wants to add the language no person may

1 take a calf or a cow accompanied by a calf, which is  
2 already in there. So he's just adding a calf. Is that  
3 correct?

4  
5 MR. KARMUN: I was going to second it if  
6 we could include the cows in there one way or another,  
7 Mr. Chairman.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: It is.

10  
11 MR. KARMUN: Okay, I will second it then.  
12 Thank you.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Seconded by Victor.  
15 Any further discussion on the motion. Calvin.

16  
17 MR. MOTO: I'd like to have a roll call  
18 vote on this.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: It's the wish of the  
21 Council to do a roll call vote on this.

22  
23 Willie.

24  
25 MR. GOODWIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
26 think there's some confusion here. The existing  
27 regulation says you can't take a cow if it has a calf  
28 right now. The other existing regulation that's in place  
29 says that you can take a cow, an antlerless moose in the  
30 wintertime. The proposal last year was to strike the  
31 spring season for antlerless moose and that's what you  
32 voted to table. Walter made a recommendation just to add  
33 calf, which is okay. You can add that. The other thing  
34 we talked about last spring was if we acted on a shorter  
35 cow season we may hurt the subsistence user in the Upper  
36 Kobuk, which they have no caribou right now. The was the  
37 discussion last spring. You heard from the biologist  
38 there's no crash. Certainly there's a decline in the  
39 moose population, but I still feel that we shouldn't  
40 restrict any more than we have to in not allowing a  
41 subsistence user to continue to get moose. That's my  
42 feeling.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

45  
46 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
47 Since it's seconded, I guess I didn't make my proposal  
48 clear enough. The existing regulations that's in place  
49 that prohibits the taking of a cow with a calf is in  
50 place. So I wanted to make sure that's covered. But to

1 prohibit the taking of calves is what I wanted to  
2 address. I think one other thing that was discussed at  
3 the Regional Advisory Council was we need to take this  
4 information out to the villages to provide information  
5 for educational purposes. Even though we make this  
6 recommendation to the Federal Board, if we see fit that  
7 the numbers of moose is on the rise, then we can make a  
8 recommendation to make those changes in the future. So,  
9 based on that, that was my motion.

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So on the discussion on  
12 these regulations, all of us in our area knew that the  
13 cow season opens November 1. Do not take a cow with a  
14 half. That's how we understand it.

15

16 Jim.

17

18 MR. MAGDANZ: Just briefly. Jim Magdanz,  
19 State Fish and Game. When the regulation reads as  
20 written, a person may not take a cow accompanied by a  
21 calf. If you have two hunters, it is legal under the  
22 current regulations for one of them to shoot the calf and  
23 the other one to then shoot the cow because it's no  
24 longer accompanied by the calf. That's why the State  
25 changed the regulations. There was not to our knowledge  
26 a situation where that occurred, but it would not be  
27 illegal to do that. And Walter's motion as proposed  
28 would make that illegal.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any more discussion on  
33 the motion.

34

35 MR. KARMUN: Call for question.

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question has been  
38 called. All in favor of that motion signify by saying  
39 aye.

40

41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.

44

45 MR. MOTO: I believe I asked for a roll  
46 call vote.

47

48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Let's go to a  
49 roll call vote on this motion.

50

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Roll call vote.  
2 Percy Ballot.  
3  
4 MR. BALLOT: Yes.  
5  
6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Ralph Ramoth.  
7  
8 MR. RAMOTH: Yes.  
9  
10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Victor Karmun.  
11  
12 MR. KARMUN: Yes.  
13  
14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Reggie Cleveland.  
15  
16 MR. CLEVELAND: Yes.  
17  
18 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Raymond Stoney.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.  
21  
22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Walter Sampson.  
23  
24 MR. SAMPSON: Yes.  
25  
26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Enoch Shiedt.  
27  
28 ATTAMUK: Yes.  
29  
30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Calvin Moto.  
31  
32 MR. MOTO: After hearing the explanation  
33 I say yes.  
34  
35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion carries.  
38  
39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We're on Federal  
40 closures by Helen and Chuck.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Helen.  
43  
44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
45 Helen Armstrong, Office of Subsistence Management, Fish  
46 and Wildlife Service. This item is partially on Page 25  
47 of your book. There was a packet that was mailed to you  
48 at some point and then we also had them here to hand out.  
49  
50 This is something new that the Council

1 has never seen. The Federal program decided that they  
2 should look at all of the closures to non-subsistence  
3 users statewide and just see if any of those should still  
4 be in existence. Since the program has been going on  
5 since '91, some of those closures haven't been looked at  
6 since the early '90s and we just decided to look at all  
7 of them.

8  
9                   Statewide there are 22 closures in  
10 wildlife and there are three fish closures. These are  
11 closures where non-subsistence users cannot harvest a  
12 resource. In the Northwest Arctic there were only two  
13 and Chuck is going to talk about those in a minute.  
14 There are two others that are listed in the agenda.  
15 However, those were for Unit 26(A). The person putting  
16 this together thought 26(A) also affected you because  
17 Point Hope is in Unit 23, but Point Hope is part of the  
18 North Slope Region, so those closures don't affect people  
19 in the Northwest Arctic. There are no people in the  
20 Northwest Arctic Region that have customary and  
21 traditional use of those resources. They're for taking  
22 caribou and moose by Anaktuvuk Pass, so it's way out of  
23 your region.

24  
25                   The reason why we're reviewing this is  
26 because we can only close Federal public lands according  
27 to Section .815(3) of ANILCA which allows the closures  
28 necessary for conservation of healthy populations or to  
29 continue subsistence uses of the population and because  
30 climate changes, habitats, differences, there are all  
31 kinds of variations that make populations decline and  
32 grow, so it's for that reason we're revisiting these.

33  
34                   This won't be something that we do every  
35 year, but we are going to start reviewing closures I  
36 think on a three-year basis. So, with that, I'm turning  
37 it over to Chuck Ardizzone. He's the one that did the  
38 analysis of the two closures that you have in this  
39 region.

40  
41                   MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. Chuck  
42 Ardizzone. I'll just briefly cover these. We don't  
43 recommend any changes, so I don't want to go into a lot  
44 of detail. You can read the closures if you want to.  
45 I'll just discuss what they are and what our  
46 recommendations are. It's basically status quo.

47  
48                   We have two we want to discuss. The  
49 first one is Unit 23 sheep in the Baird Mountains.  
50 Currently it's closed to non-Federal hunters. The

1 regulatory year it was initiated was 1999. Our current  
2 recommendation is to maintain the status quo, which means  
3 keep the same regulations, keep it closed. The  
4 justification for that is since the sharp population  
5 decline in the 1990s the number of sheep counted in the  
6 Baird Mountains has risen; however, given the significant  
7 conservation concerns, maintaining the closure is  
8 consistent with the sound management principals to  
9 conserve a healthy population and is consistent with  
10 ANILCA mandates giving preference to rural residents to  
11 continue subsistence uses of this population.

12  
13 So basically we're recommending no change  
14 for this regulation. We just went through and reviewed  
15 it, looked at the population data, harvest trends and  
16 decided it should stay the same.

17  
18 Our second closure is for muskox in Unit  
19 23. It's also that Federal public lands are closed to  
20 the taking of muskox except by Federally-qualified  
21 subsistence users hunting under these regulations. It  
22 was initiated in 1996. And we also looked at the  
23 population trend and harvest data and we also recommend  
24 we maintain the status quo of muskox in Unit 23. The  
25 muskox population management is guided by the Seward  
26 Peninsula Muskox Cooperative Group. We feel that they're  
27 doing a good job. They recommend regulations where they  
28 feel it's necessary. There has been no recommendations  
29 at this time for Unit 23 muskox, so we therefore  
30 recommend the status quo. Once again, it's sound  
31 management principals and conservation of a healthy  
32 population and provide a preference for the subsistence  
33 user.

34  
35 So both the closures in our region we  
36 want to maintain. We don't want to change them. If  
37 there's any comments or questions, I can answer them, but  
38 these documents are pretty thorough.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions on the  
41 Federal closures. Walter.

42 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chair. Unless I'm not  
43 reading right, under Page 1 of WCR5-19, it indicates to  
44 me species and bag limits of moose, but rest of it talks  
45 about muskox.

46  
47 MR. ARDIZZONE: That's an error. For  
48 some reason it says moose instead of muskox. That's a  
49 very good catch, Mr. Sampson.

50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.  
2  
3 MR. KARMUN: Are we going to need a  
4 motion to bring this up to vote yea or nay or leave it  
5 status quo, discussion or what? What are we supposed to  
6 do with this one, please.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is it just  
9 informational?  
10  
11 MR. ARDIZZONE: At this time it's  
12 informational. If the Council wanted to make changes,  
13 they could, but the recommendation of the Staff is to  
14 maintain the status quo.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions. Walter.  
17  
18 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman. I would like  
19 to thank Chuck for the information that was provided to  
20 this Council and I would certainly like to recommend that  
21 we stay status quo. Unless something comes up in the  
22 future, then we can take action or make a recommendation  
23 in the future in regards to what's been presented to this  
24 Council.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter.  
27 Anything else from the Council. Thank you, Helen, Chuck.  
28 Well, it's 11:25 and we're still on the first page.  
29  
30 MR. SAMPSON: Let's go eat fish.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The next item, 9,  
33 fisheries 2006-07, is that a proposal or just  
34 informational.  
35  
36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. There's  
37 only one fish proposal. There were none for this region,  
38 but there's one statewide proposal. I actually believe  
39 we could do it in about five minutes if you want to do it  
40 right now. It's up to you, but it won't take very long,  
41 I hope.  
42  
43 Leeann wanted to know on the moose  
44 proposal earlier if your intention was to keep the Noatak  
45 closure. Maybe we'll talk about it and come back after  
46 lunch. Shall we do that?  
47  
48 Let's go ahead and do the fish proposals  
49 and then we can come back to that if we need to.  
50

1 MR. SAMPSON: Unless I'm misinterpreting  
2 the reading of that portion in Unit 23 and on Noatak,  
3 it's in there.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: There's a number of  
6 hands up now. I'll go with Brad first and then Ken will  
7 be next. Brad.

8  
9 MR. SHULTS: I won't be able to talk in  
10 that because I want to show you what she's talking about.  
11 You've got a split season for moose in the Noatak, which  
12 was an artifact of some changes from the State a couple  
13 years ago. In this proposed alternative two, which  
14 you've already passed a motion on to put this language in  
15 there, disregard the antlerless thing, you're not  
16 monkeying with that. What this thing would have done was  
17 actually just had a special season for the Singauruk,  
18 which you've had for a long time, nothing changed there,  
19 but it would take out the restriction on the Noatak and  
20 then the rest of the unit would have an August 1st  
21 through March 31st season. That would get rid of this  
22 split season, which really is an artifact, that two-week  
23 deal. I didn't bring that up to you because I didn't  
24 want to just keep rolling along because it's obviously up  
25 to you what you want to do, but this actually simplifies  
26 your regulations.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Brad. Ken,  
29 you've got something.

30  
31 MR. ADKISSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. Ken  
32 Adkisson, National Park Service. There had been some  
33 discussion before about removing the provision to  
34 simplify the regulation. I believe it's already  
35 disappeared from the State regulations where it  
36 originated. I guess our concern was maybe muddling up  
37 the situation that really needed to be addressed. I  
38 think if you wanted that to go away right now just direct  
39 Chuck to write the regulation to make it go away and then  
40 that would be part of that regulatory package you've just  
41 adopted.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Anything  
44 from the Council before we go to the next item. Walter.

45  
46 MR. SAMPSON: Let's take a couple  
47 minutes, Mr. Chairman.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Helen.

50

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. Do you  
2 want to go back to the moose issue after lunch so it will  
3 give you some time to think about that or I could do the  
4 fish right now.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Apparently we need more  
7 time on this moose issue. It's not a thing that's going  
8 to stop. It's going to continue on. We'll take a rest,  
9 a lunch break, come back and continue on the moose.  
10 Let's be back here at 1:30.

11  
12 (Off record)

13  
14 (On record)

15  
16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I'll call the meeting  
17 back to order. It's 1:14. All morning we've been  
18 discussing the moose issue. Are we still with the moose?  
19

20 MR. SAMPSON: We're going to fisheries.  
21 We're not done with the moose.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Item number 9,  
24 fisheries.

25  
26 Helen.

27  
28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
29 Helen Armstrong, OSM. As I said earlier, there are no  
30 fish proposals for this region, but there is a statewide  
31 proposal FP06-01. The executive summary is on Page 26.  
32 The analysis is on Page 28 of your book.

33  
34 This proposal is administrative in nature  
35 because it's really just trying to clarify something that  
36 we feel was left out mistakenly when the regs were first  
37 created. It was submitted by our office, OSM, Fish and  
38 Wildlife Service, and it requests that Federal  
39 regulations permit the sale of handicrafts made by rural  
40 Alaskans from the non-edible byproducts of subsistence-  
41 harvested fish or shellfish.

42  
43 This came about because we had the bear  
44 handicraft issue and then someone said, gee, I wonder if  
45 we have this covered under fish and found that we didn't.  
46 Interestingly enough, the State also didn't have it.  
47 They had never thought about it. The State has it in  
48 their definitions, but they didn't actually have it in  
49 their regulations and they can't regulate something  
50 that's not regulated. So the State is also making a

1 change to their regulations. They're doing an agenda  
2 change this month and I think it will go into effect  
3 January or February.

4  
5                   Allowing the sale of handicraft articles  
6 made from fish or wildlife is something that is described  
7 in ANILCA that should be allowed, so this is something  
8 that should have been in there. It would provide the  
9 same opportunities to Federal subsistence users that are  
10 being proposed under State regulations and it does not  
11 change seasons, it doesn't change harvest limits, methods  
12 or means, or C&T. It just says it's okay for people to  
13 sell any byproduct of fish that's been taken for  
14 subsistence.

15  
16                   The conclusion from the Staff is to  
17 support the proposal and we're hoping that this probably  
18 won't be a really big deal like Raymond knows how the  
19 bear handicraft got discussed and discussed and  
20 discussed.

21  
22                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Helen. Item  
23 number two after introduction of proposal on 06-01, the  
24 Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

25  
26                   Jim.

27  
28                   MR. MAGDANZ: Jim Magdanz, Fish and Game.  
29 Very briefly, Helen's correct. The Department submitted  
30 a similar proposal to the Board of Fisheries. They're  
31 actually talking about the agenda change request  
32 yesterday and today in Anchorage and they would provide  
33 for the sale of handicrafts made from subsistence-caught  
34 fish, so we're on the same page here, I think.

35  
36                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Jim. Other  
37 agencies.

38  
39                   (No comments)

40  
41                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Interagencies.

42  
43                   (No comments)

44  
45                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Fish and Game  
46 Advisories.

47  
48                   (No comments)

49  
50                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anything from the

1 public on this proposal.

2

3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Helen, did we have any  
4 comments on this proposal, public comments.

5

6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't think so.

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: No public comments.

9

10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, sir.

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Regional Council on  
13 Proposal 06-01.

14

15 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman.

16

17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.

18

19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Barbara.

20

21 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: There is one written  
22 comment. It's to support. The Ahtna Tene Nene'  
23 Subsistence Committee supports the sale of handicrafts  
24 made by subsistence users from non-edible byproducts of  
25 fish and shellfish. Subsistence users should be allowed  
26 to sell these handicrafts.

27

28 The other support is from Chilkoot Indian  
29 Association. They support the sale of handicrafts made  
30 by subsistence users from non-edible byproducts of fish  
31 and shellfish. This statewide change has the potential  
32 to help economically deprived region to generate needed  
33 cash. It also makes sense to use as much of the  
34 harvested fish to minimize waste and this change would  
35 also promote cultural skills with the tribes.

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Barbara.  
38 Walter, did you have anything on the proposal.

39

40 MR. SAMPSON: Just a question. I have no  
41 big heartburn over this proposal, Mr. Chairman. It is  
42 something that would certainly possibly come up down the  
43 road. Addressing the issue up front before somebody  
44 challenges it I think is an ideal thing to do. My  
45 question to the agency, this reflects all fish or just  
46 certain species?

47

48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: All fish. But the  
49 fish have to be harvested for consumption. You can't  
50 just harvest them because you want to make wallets out of

1 the skin or something.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anything else from the  
4 Council.  
5  
6 (No comments)  
7  
8 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman. I move for  
9 approval of Proposal WP06-01.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: There's a motion on the  
12 floor to adopt Proposal WP06-01 by Percy. We need a  
13 second.  
14  
15 MR. RAMOTH: I second the motion.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Ralph. Any  
18 further discussions on Proposal 06-01.  
19  
20 MR. CLEVELAND: Question.  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question has been  
23 called. All in favor of adopting Proposal 06-01 signify  
24 by saying aye.  
25  
26 IN UNISON: Aye.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.  
29  
30 (No opposing votes)  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: It passes. Okay, what  
33 else do we have now. Item number 10, Fisheries Resource  
34 Monitoring Program.  
35  
36 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman. Weren't we  
37 going to go to appointments, number 12?  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Willie.  
40  
41 MR. GOODWIN: Mr. Chairman. The request  
42 by the Park Service also moved it up. That's the way I  
43 heard the motion to approve the amendments.  
44  
45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I didn't hear to move  
46 it up to 10.  
47  
48 MR. SAMPSON: I thought under Agency  
49 reports Gates of the Arctic and Cape Krusenstern were  
50 just to be added on and that's how I understood it. I

1 didn't catch your request, Ken.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Can you get a mike,  
4 please.

5

6 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair. Yes, it was  
7 actually a two-part request. One was to add Gates of the  
8 Arctic and the Kobuk Valley to it and then also to move  
9 it up as an action item because it needed your action  
10 before the report section.

11

12 MR. SAMPSON: So basically what we did  
13 then, Mr. Chairman, is acted on the first portion of it  
14 or the second portion, too.

15

16 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair. It was my  
17 impression you approved the request to move it up before  
18 10.

19

20 MR. SAMPSON: I don't have a problem with  
21 that.

22

23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I don't know if anybody  
24 got all the copies of this Subsistence Resource  
25 Commission. As of Wednesday, as far as I know, we've got  
26 two names on the list. It's Elmer Ward and Louie Comack.  
27 They were considered as being reappointed to this  
28 commission and I think Willie has more names.

29

30 MR. GOODWIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Do you  
31 want to take them on the agenda as it is with Cape  
32 Krusenstern first?

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

35

36 MR. GOODWIN: Okay. Thank you, Mr.  
37 Chairman. Willie Goodwin, Park Service. In Cape  
38 Krusenstern Resource Commission we have three seats that  
39 are up. Enoch Shiedt, Raymond Holly and Alex Whiting.  
40 Alex Whiting and Enoch Shiedt indicated to us during the  
41 SRC meeting that they are wanting to be reappointed. I  
42 didn't hear from Raymond Holly, but I do have another  
43 application of an interested person from Noatak named Joe  
44 Arey who was interested in getting appointed to the SRC.  
45 So those are the four names.

46

47 Under the Subsistence Resource Commission  
48 membership the original council appointees, Section 808  
49 of ANILCA, must be a member of either a Federal, Regional  
50 Advisory Council or a local advisory committee within the

1 region and also engaged in subsistence uses within the  
2 Park. The names that I gave you all qualify under those  
3 conditions, the four.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Willie, did you want  
6 these approved as you just mentioned, separately, from  
7 Kobuk and Krusenstern?

8  
9 MR. GOODWIN: Yes. If that's your wish,  
10 you can do it like that.

11  
12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: How many seats for  
13 Cape Krusenstern and how many seats for Kobuk.

14  
15 MR. GOODWIN: Three seats each.

16  
17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. For Krusenstern  
18 you have Enoch Shiedt, Alex Whiting and Joe Arey?

19  
20 MR. GOODWIN: And Raymond Holly. Raymond  
21 Holly is the existing one, but we didn't hear whether or  
22 not he wanted to be reappointed and he wasn't at our SRC  
23 meeting the last time, but we had another application in  
24 from Joe Arey in Noatak for some months now that showed  
25 an interest in being appointed to the Krusenstern SRC.  
26 It's up to you to decide who you want on the commission,  
27 but we already have two members from Kivalina on the  
28 Krusenstern SRC and none from Noatak. We do have  
29 residents from Noatak that do engage in activities in  
30 Krusenstern.

31  
32 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And you have how many  
33 applicants for Kobuk?

34  
35 MR. GOODWIN: We'll take care of that  
36 after we take care of Krusenstern.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter, you had your  
39 hand up.

40  
41 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
42 In regards to equity, the issue with regards to splitting  
43 the seat for Noatak, I certainly would support the three  
44 names that were given, Enoch Attamuk Shiedt, Alex Whiting  
45 and Joe Arey for the SRC for Cape Krusenstern.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's your motion,  
48 Walter?

49  
50 MR. SAMPSON: Yes.

1 MR. BALLOT: Second.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion by Walter and  
4 second by Percy. Any further discussion on the three  
5 appointees.  
6  
7 MR. BALLOT: Question.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question has been  
10 called. All those in favor of adopting these three for  
11 the Subsistence Resource Commission for Cape Krusenstern  
12 signify by saying aye.  
13  
14 IN UNISON: Aye.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.  
17  
18 (No opposing votes)  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: All in, Willie.  
21  
22 MR. GOODWIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
23 For Kobuk Valley we also have three seats that need to be  
24 filled. Presently they're being filled by Elmer Ward  
25 from Kobuk, Louie Comack from Ambler and Elmer Armstrong,  
26 Sr. from Kotzebue. However, in reviewing the  
27 qualifications, Mr. Armstrong is not qualified under the  
28 conditions that I just read earlier. He's not a member of  
29 the RAC or the local advisory committee. We do have one  
30 other name that we have an application for and that's  
31 John Goodwin, Sr. and he's on the Kotzebue Advisory  
32 Committee for State of Alaska Fish and Game. So those  
33 are the three names that we have that are qualified.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What is the wish of the  
36 Council for Kobuk Valley?  
37  
38 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman. I move  
39 approval of the Elmer Ward, Louie Comack, John Goodwin.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Moved by Percy to  
42 appoint Elmer Ward, Louie Comack and John Goodwin.  
43  
44 MR. MOTO: Second.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Calvin. Any  
47 further discussion on these three appointees.  
48  
49 (No comments)  
50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: No discussion. Do I  
2 hear a question.  
3  
4 ATTAMUK: Question.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question has been  
7 called for. All in favor of reappointing Elmer Ward,  
8 Louie Comack and John Goodwin signify by saying aye.  
9  
10 IN UNISON: Aye.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.  
13  
14 (No opposing votes)  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, Willie.  
17  
18 MR. GOODWIN: Mr. Chair. We have one  
19 more and that's Gates of Arctic also under ANILCA. The  
20 Regional Advisory Council from Northwest was able to  
21 appoint one into the Gates of the Arctic SRC and I'll  
22 have Sandy speak to that.  
23  
24 MR. RABINOWITCH: Good afternoon,  
25 everybody. I won't repeat anything that Willie said.  
26 For Gates of the Arctic, which is a council kind of far  
27 away from you but is in Unit 23, there's one name,  
28 Frederick Sun from Shungnak. He currently serves on the  
29 Council and wants to continue to serve and meets all the  
30 qualifications that Willie explained. So I'll keep it  
31 that short unless you have questions.  
32  
33 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I so move for  
34 adoption of supporting Frederick Sun.  
35  
36 MR. CLEVELAND: Second.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any discussion on the  
39 Gates of the Arctic appointee.  
40  
41 MR. RAMOTH: Question.  
42  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question has been  
45 called. All in favor of adopting Frederick Sun for Gates  
46 of the Arctic signify by saying aye.  
47  
48 IN UNISON: Aye.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.

1 (No opposing votes)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that it, Willie?  
4  
5 MR. GOODWIN: Yes. Thank you.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Chuck.  
8  
9 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. Before we get  
10 too far along, I wanted to revisit the moose proposal.  
11 Brad and Kyle were kind enough to go and type up some  
12 revised language based on that little discussion we had  
13 before lunch. You could look at it and decide if that's  
14 what you want to go with or what we voted on before  
15 lunch. If this is more to your liking, we'll have to get  
16 a positive vote and I'll write up the proposal with this  
17 language.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: This here is a  
20 proposal?  
21  
22 MR. ARDIZZONE: This is what got drafted  
23 during lunch time based on what we discussed before  
24 lunch.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: And you want to take  
27 action on this proposal today?  
28  
29 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes. If the Council  
30 would like to take action if it is agreeable.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We would have to  
33 follow the procedure of deliberating this proposal.  
34  
35 MR. ARDIZZONE: At the next meeting is  
36 when we do the deliberating. This is just to submit it.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. You need an  
39 action to approve this draft.  
40  
41 MR. ARDIZZONE: Correct.  
42  
43 MR. SAMPSON: So moved.  
44  
45 ATTAMUK: Second.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further discussion.  
48  
49 MR. BALLOT: Question  
50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question has been  
2 called for. All in favor of adopting this draft proposal  
3 signify by saying aye.

4  
5 IN UNISON: Aye.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.  
8  
9 (No opposing votes)

10  
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: It passes.

12  
13 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chairman, just for  
14 clarification on the record, we added the calf or cow  
15 language and then we changed the season in the Noatak to  
16 go from August through March 31st.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's it. Thank you.  
19 Now, from 9 to 10. It says Fisheries Resource Monitoring  
20 Program.

21  
22 MS. CRAVER: Good afternoon, Mr. Chair.  
23 For the record, my name is Amy Craver and I'm an  
24 anthropologist with Fisheries Resource Monitoring  
25 Program. I'm responsible for providing the oversight and  
26 tracking for the harvest monitoring TEK projects from the  
27 Northern Region.

28  
29 Today I'm going to provide a brief  
30 overview of our program. I'm only going to touch on the  
31 highlights. If you're interested in more depth  
32 information, please see the introduction on Page 33.

33  
34 The goal of the Fisheries Resource  
35 Monitoring Program is to fund technically sound research  
36 projects that address high-priority issues and  
37 information for subsistence fisheries management. These  
38 research projects address fisheries issues and  
39 information needs that are identified by local  
40 subsistence users and management agencies.

41  
42 The program also develops fisheries  
43 management expertise within tribal and rural  
44 organizations. The projects that we fund provide both  
45 immediate information. For example, in-season harvest  
46 monitoring and long-term information. For example,  
47 traditional ecological knowledge projects for Federal  
48 subsistence fisheries management.

49  
50 In order to get at the important issues,

1 the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program relies on  
2 Regional Advisory Councils working with fisheries  
3 managers to identify issues and information needs. While  
4 existing issues and information needs are okay, limited  
5 money mandates that high-priority issues are identified  
6 in all regions. To do this, we've begun a strategic  
7 planning process. The planning process has been  
8 completed for the Southcentral and Bristol Bay Regions.  
9 The rest of the regions of the state should be completed  
10 by 2007.

11  
12 The Northern Strategic Planning Workshop  
13 will tentatively be held sometime in the fall of 2007.  
14 The participants in this workshop will include  
15 appropriate Federal agencies, Alaska Department of Fish  
16 and Game, Regional Advisory Council members, academia and  
17 representatives from Alaska Native and rural  
18 organizations.

19  
20 Workshop participants will collectively  
21 develop three products for the Monitoring Program. The  
22 first product will be goals, objectives and information  
23 needs by the region for Federal subsistence fisheries.  
24 Two, identification of gaps of knowledge for each  
25 information need. Finally, a prioritization of  
26 information needs for soliciting and evaluating study  
27 proposals.

28  
29 If you take a look on the bottom of Page  
30 43 in your book you'll see a section on criteria for  
31 project selection. Projects are evaluated on the  
32 priority issues for Federal subsistence management based  
33 on the following criteria. We're looking for are they  
34 technically sound, can the principal investigators do the  
35 work and are they qualified to do the work. Finally,  
36 capacity building, to the extent that local organizations  
37 are involved in the conducting of the research.

38  
39 The process for project selection is  
40 basically made up of, number one, our Technical Review  
41 Committee review and recommendation and then with input  
42 from the Regional Advisory Councils. The Federal  
43 Subsistence Board policy guidelines are as follows: A  
44 minimum of 60 percent of the program monies go towards  
45 non-Federal sources. Some activities that are not  
46 eligible for being under our program include topics like  
47 habitat protection, restoration and enhancement, hatchery  
48 enhancement, restoration and supplementation and then any  
49 projects dealing with contaminants assessment and  
50 evaluation.

1 Guidelines by region for the 2006 are  
2 located on Page 35 and you'll see in the table for the  
3 Northern Region and 17 percent of the total amount is  
4 devoted for projects in the Northern Region, which  
5 includes North Slope, Northwest Alaska and Seward  
6 Peninsula and that equals up to \$187,000 of Department of  
7 Interior funding.

8  
9 On Page 36 you'll see an overview on  
10 Table 2 with the projects by region and data type.  
11 Twenty projects were submitted for funding and  
12 consideration statewide for this funding cycle, including  
13 three projects for the Northern Regions. Those three  
14 projects included stock status and trend projects.  
15 Unfortunately, no harvest monitoring or TEK projects were  
16 forwarded. Fifteen projects were recommended for funding  
17 statewide by the Technical Review Committee with two  
18 recommendations from the Northern Region.

19  
20 Then if you take a look on Pages 38 to 54  
21 on the overview for the Northern Region, this section  
22 begins with a brief discussion of the issues and  
23 information needs. The 200 request for proposals for the  
24 Northern Region identified collection of baseline  
25 information, including harvest assessment and Traditional  
26 Ecological Knowledge, for important non-salmon fish  
27 species as a priority. So that went out for call for  
28 proposals.

29  
30 On Page 39 you'll see a list of ongoing  
31 projects in the region. Twenty-three of these projects  
32 have been funded in the Northern Region since the  
33 inception of the program and 11 of the projects are  
34 currently ongoing.

35  
36 In terms of the 2006 projects you'll see  
37 on the bottom of Page 38 and then on 40. There's a list  
38 of six projects that were approved to be part of the  
39 2004-2005 monitoring plans that will be operating right  
40 now. Of those six projects, there's two projects that  
41 are currently being conducted in Northwest Alaska. The  
42 first project is seasonal migration habitats used by  
43 humpbacks and broad whitefish in the Selawik River using  
44 radio-telemetry. Then the second project, developing a  
45 long-term plan for collecting fisheries harvest data in  
46 Northwest Alaska is also being obviously conducted in  
47 this region.

48  
49 This second project that I mentioned is a  
50 TEK project and because there's been sort of a shift in

1 the principal investigator, Susan Georgette, who is now  
2 with the Refuge, so Fish and Game is trying to figure out  
3 who they're going to appoint to kind of take on that lead  
4 role. So that's being delayed briefly. Of course,  
5 Maniilaq is also on that project as a co-P.I.

6  
7 I guess I asked the Council to take a  
8 look at these projects and identify which of the projects  
9 are particularly interesting to you and during our winter  
10 meeting we can bring some of the principal investigators  
11 to report to the Council about sort of some of the  
12 preliminary results they've come up with.

13  
14 At this time, take a look at Page 43 in  
15 your book and you'll see a summary of each of the  
16 projects that have been submitted. The Technical Review  
17 Committee has taken action on and they're asking for the  
18 Council to support the recommendations. If you'd take a  
19 look at Page 43, you've got the Pikmiktalik River chum  
20 and coho salmon enumeration and sampling. The TRC  
21 recommended funding a continuation of the tower  
22 operations for two more years. The proposal actually  
23 requested three years, but the TRC asked Kawerak and the  
24 fisheries managers to consider an alternative approach  
25 based on evaluation of current harvest for maybe that  
26 third and additional years. So they recommended that  
27 that project gets funded for two years.

28  
29 And then on Page 45, distribution and  
30 stock structure of subsistence fish in the NPR-A.  
31 Basically this project is a collection of baseline  
32 information for non-salmon fish in the Northern Region  
33 and sort of the impetus for submitting this proposal was  
34 there's a great concern for potential oil and gas  
35 exploration and they want to conduct a baseline study  
36 before that starts occurring.

37  
38 Unfortunately, the TRC recommended that  
39 this project not get funded at this time. They asked the  
40 principal investigators to basically rework their  
41 objectives and study methods because they just weren't  
42 quite clearly articulated. They want them to sort of  
43 focus the proposal more on collecting baseline data  
44 rather than -- it was sort of pitched towards more the  
45 exploration aspect, which doesn't really -- it needs to  
46 be more based on just collecting strict baseline data.  
47 So they recommended that the principal investigators  
48 rework the proposal and resubmit.

49  
50 Finally, for the Northern Region, on Page

1 47, aerial monitoring of Dolly Varden overwintering  
2 abundance in the ANWAR and the Technical Review Committee  
3 recommended that this project be funded and basically the  
4 local concern there is about potentially overfishing the  
5 resource. So what they want to do is conduct aerial  
6 index count. I think that's like in mid-September and  
7 that would occur for three years.

8  
9 Finally, we've got one inter-regional  
10 proposal that was submitted that we need to get support  
11 from all the Councils and the summary of that project is  
12 on Page 52. It's called mixed-stock analysis of Dolly  
13 Varden within the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. The  
14 TRC recommended that this project be funded and basically  
15 it's just to evaluate, get a baseline for mixed-stock  
16 analysis. Again, this is a real important subsistence  
17 fish for the local folks in that region.

18  
19 So, I guess at this time if there's any  
20 questions, I'll do the best I can to answer them. I'm  
21 asking for the Council to support the recommendations of  
22 the TRC's. Just to clarify a little bit, I handed out a  
23 sheet to each one of you with all the different projects.  
24 From what I understand, each project we need the support  
25 from your Council.

26  
27 Thank you.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. What is the  
30 wish of the Council. Walter.

31  
32 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
33 guess for future references any time you use abbreviated  
34 lettering into something like that, you and I can  
35 understand it, but a simple reader out there doesn't know  
36 what TRC and Council recommendation is. The other is  
37 that as long as the planning and studies that are being  
38 done doesn't conflict with the subsistence user groups  
39 during the subsistence period, then that would be my only  
40 concern. So with the rest of it, I don't have no big  
41 heartaches over.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.

44  
45 MR. KARMUN: Is it a practice that we  
46 make comments and suggestions for other regions?

47  
48 MS. CRAVER: For the purposes of the  
49 Northern Region, you're sort of all lumped together and  
50 this has come up in other regions as well. People sort

1 of feel uncomfortable making recommendations for others,  
2 but generally all these proposals have been generated  
3 from the Regional Advisory Council. They've identified  
4 information needs and then they've sort of supported  
5 these proposals. So while I can't say if the Seward  
6 Peninsula is going to recommend their own proposals or  
7 not because their meeting hasn't occurred, nor has the  
8 North Slope, but generally in the past, and I haven't  
9 been there that long, people of one region usually  
10 support the other region.

11  
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: They don't have to.

13  
14 MS. CRAVER: But you don't have to. Like  
15 Helen said, you don't have to necessarily.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.

18  
19 MR. KARMUN: If these projects are going  
20 to be ongoing, I don't know what the other regions are  
21 going pro or con, so I wouldn't feel very comfortable  
22 making recommendations on these myself.

23  
24 Thank you.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Amy.

27  
28 MS. CRAVER: I just talked with Helen and  
29 she said if you don't feel comfortable recommending a  
30 proposal that's not in your region, that's absolutely  
31 fine, too. So you don't need to feel pressured or  
32 anything.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin.

35  
36 MR. MOTO: I know Charlene did some work  
37 with a couple of people in Deering with chum, my daughter  
38 and a couple other ladies sent samples of the pink and  
39 measurements of the chum, too. When we will get that  
40 report do you think, six months or a year? That fell  
41 under this Norton, right?

42  
43 MS. CRAVER: Off the top of my head, I'm  
44 not sure when that report is due and I'm not exactly sure  
45 what project you're referring to.

46  
47 MR. SAMPSON: Ken's got the answer.

48  
49 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson, National  
50 Park Service. I believe the project that Calvin was

1 referring to was actually funded through the Norton Sound  
2 Fishery Research and Restoration Program and was a fish  
3 genetic study in which the Park Service helped  
4 participate and it was largely run and administered  
5 through Kawerak. I'll be glad to check with Karen  
6 Dunmall of Kawerak when we can expect those results back.  
7 The samples were just recently sent in or the end of the  
8 season when they were collected, so I can't tell you  
9 exactly when the data will be back. But we'll be glad to  
10 talk to her and let you know, Calvin, and share the  
11 information with you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin.

14

15 MR. MOTO: Mr. Chair. I think that fell  
16 under the research when they found all that mercury and  
17 other waste oil up in the mine where the salmon go to  
18 spawn. That's the reason we were kind of wondering when  
19 we'll hear about that because the sampling will tell us  
20 if there was a reasonable amount of mercury in the salmon  
21 to be concerned, you know. We're in the process of  
22 trying to get the mercury and all that oil from the  
23 previous mine cleaned up. We're really concerned with  
24 this.

25

26 MR. ADKISSON: Calvin, I'm not sure, but  
27 I'll check on that, too. My understanding the project  
28 was largely a genetic study to look at the stocks from  
29 the northern part of the Seward Peninsula compared to  
30 some of the central and southern stock. I wasn't aware  
31 of any contaminant related work to it, but I'll check.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I've got a question for  
34 you. In Selawik, who is doing the fish projects way up  
35 Selawik River? Is that part of your projects? I've  
36 noticed the Wildlife Refuge was up there with boats and a  
37 pretty big size crew monitoring what I believe was  
38 sheefish.

39

40 MR. OLSON: We can address that in agency  
41 reports.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's fine then. What  
44 do you want, recommendations or action on this.

45

46 MS. CRAVER: What I'm asking for is for  
47 the Council to go ahead and support the recommendations  
48 of the Technical Review Committee if you feel comfortable  
49 doing that. So on the paper I provided you each project  
50 requires you to make a recommendation or not for support.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish of the  
2 Council. Walter.

3  
4 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
5 What type of support are you getting from the regional  
6 folks doing some of this stuff other than the Technical  
7 Review?

8  
9 MS. CRAVER: Unfortunately, the Seward  
10 Peninsula Regional Advisory Council hasn't met. They're  
11 going to meet next week, so I don't know. Then also next  
12 week the North Slope Regional Advisory Council will meet.  
13 Hold on.

14  
15 Helen says you can go ahead and defer to  
16 those other Councils' decision if you so choose, but  
17 you're the first to meet, so I can't tell you.

18  
19 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, what I was  
20 leading to, the reason why I asked that, was maybe what  
21 we ought to do is take a look at some of the studies  
22 areas within our respective regions other than somebody  
23 else asking certain studies be done in certain regions  
24 because I would hate to say, yes, we have approved  
25 studies be done in your region without consulting those  
26 folks.

27  
28 So I would feel more comfortable getting  
29 on a region-based type study. For instance, several  
30 years back we made a recommendation I believe from this  
31 body to do fishery studies on Selawik side of the picture  
32 and that was region-based and I think that would be an  
33 ideal thing to do, to reflect it to each region area,  
34 rather than having somebody else tell us this is what you  
35 need to do to study these fish within your respective  
36 area.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin.

39  
40 MR. MOTO: When you talk about the Seward  
41 Peninsula, you forget that we have two separate boards.  
42 We have the Southern Seward Peninsula and we have the  
43 Northern Seward Peninsula, which Board has not yet been  
44 replaced for several years. So a lot of our people from  
45 the Northern Seward Peninsula haven't been able to put  
46 input on a lot of decisions that Southern Seward  
47 Peninsula has been putting in for us. And I feel right  
48 now that I wouldn't make any recommendation because of  
49 that. The Northern Seward Peninsula has been trying to  
50 get somebody to get us organized. We've been waiting two

1 years now. We've had names submitted for Northern Seward  
2 Peninsula. There's supposed to be three seats from  
3 Buckland, three seats from Deering and they told us they  
4 were going to appoint us and we never heard from them  
5 again. So that's why I just thought I'd bring that up  
6 right now.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.

9  
10 MR. KARMUN: Would you entertain a motion  
11 that we defer this to the respective regions? Would it  
12 be a motion?

13  
14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

15  
16 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
17 What Calvin is referring to, is that the State's work  
18 there, Magdanz or Susan?

19  
20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes, it is. There's a  
21 Northern and Southern Regional Council with the State and  
22 I think that's what Calvin is referring to, the State  
23 Advisory Committees.

24  
25 MR. GOODWIN: Mr. Chairman. It is and  
26 they're members from Deering, Buckland and Selawik.

27  
28 MR. SAMPSON: So they don't have a  
29 reflection in regards to what we're trying to do.

30  
31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Who Calvin should talk  
32 to is Charlie Gregg at the State office.

33  
34 MR. SAMPSON: And not only Charlie Gregg.  
35 I think this might be an ideal thing to present to the  
36 Game Board at that point in time because they deal with  
37 fisheries at the river level, not really the commercial  
38 type.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What is the wish of the  
41 Council.

42  
43 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman. I would  
44 suggest that we regionalize our studies and those  
45 requests come from the regional entities rather than  
46 coming from somewhere else.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

49  
50 ATTAMUK: Mr. Chairman. Walter, will you

1 put that under a motion. I'll second it. It's hard for  
2 me to decide for outside our region, especially when they  
3 haven't met, and I would not recommend outside what I do  
4 in my region because I have a problem unless I talk to  
5 the villages here locally. I need their input. I think  
6 they need to change their strategies to work on each  
7 region or each Board because we're all mixed up enough  
8 already and it's not getting any better.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That was a motion. It  
11 was moved by Walter to recommend, is that right?

12  
13 MR. SAMPSON: Defer to the regions.

14  
15 MR. MOTO: I second.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Seconded by Cal. Any  
18 further discussions of the deferral.

19  
20 (No comments)

21  
22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question has been  
23 called. All in favor of deferring signify by saying aye.

24  
25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.

28  
29 (No opposing votes)

30  
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's it. Thank you.  
32 Item number 11, annual reports. Barbara, I'm not  
33 familiar with this annual report for 2005.

34  
35 Barbara.

36  
37 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes, Mr. Chair. Every  
38 year we're required for all Regional Councils to do an  
39 annual report. This is the call for items for 2005  
40 annual report. So far in your discussions today I've  
41 just picked up moose. If you would put that in your  
42 annual report. If there are any items that you can think  
43 of in the next few months if you would get them to me,  
44 then those would be in your annual report.

45  
46 Thank you.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Barbara.  
49 Number 12. Agency reports. U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
50 Subsistence Management.

1 Helen.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, here I am  
4 again. I get to be everybody today. The first one is on  
5 Page 55. We've been talking or over the past couple  
6 years you've heard a little bit about rural  
7 determinations. This doesn't affect your region at all,  
8 but we just want you to know what's going on.

9

10 Every 10 years the Federal Subsistence  
11 Program is required to revisit rural determinations, what  
12 communities are rural and what communities aren't rural.  
13 We actually have been waiting because we were putting a  
14 new process in place. We also found out that some of the  
15 data we want from the census just became available, so  
16 we'll probably be doing it every 10 years but on the five  
17 cycle. So we'll probably revisit this again in 2015.  
18 Hopefully I'll be happily retired by then.

19

20 In any case, the communities that are  
21 below 2,500 are automatically considered rural.  
22 Communities that are larger than 7,000 are considered  
23 non-rural unless there are characteristics of the  
24 Community that make it rural. And communities in between  
25 are evaluated to determine if there rural or non-rural.  
26 What we're doing right now is looking at which  
27 communities we want to have on a list to look at. We're  
28 not actually analyzing them, we're just saying these are  
29 the ones on the list.

30

31 The ones that we're proposing to be  
32 revisited are Kodiak; Sitka; Adak, only because Adak has  
33 dropped down below the 2,500 threshold; Fairbanks, North  
34 Star Borough, we're looking at what the boundaries of  
35 what non-rural area should be; Kenai, whether or not to  
36 exclude Clam Gulch; Seward, whether or not to exclude  
37 Moose Pass; and Wasilla area, whether or not to include  
38 Willow and Point MacKenzie; Homer area to include Fox  
39 River and Happy Valley; and Ketchikan area, whether or  
40 not to include Saxman and then what are the boundaries of  
41 the Ketchikan area. And then Delta Junction, whether we  
42 should be grouping Delta Junction, Big Delta and Deltana  
43 and Fort Greely.

44

45 None of these affect you. All we're  
46 asking for today is if you want you can -- if you have  
47 any ideas of other places that need to be on this list,  
48 you can tell me. You don't have to vote on anything  
49 today at all. You'll be hearing more about this at the  
50 next meeting. We'll actually have an analysis of those

1 areas. Probably, knowing this Council, you won't want to  
2 vote on it because it's not in your area, but I'm just  
3 briefing you as to what we're doing.

4

Are there any questions.

6

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

8

9 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A  
10 community with a population below 2,500 is considered  
11 rural.

12

13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's an absolute  
14 rural. Meaning there's no question it's rural.

15

16 MR. SAMPSON: What is the determining  
17 factor? If you look at the traditional community with  
18 additional transients who make the number even much  
19 higher, does that disqualify the community then from  
20 rural preference?

21

22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, not at all and I  
23 can see where you're going with this. Kotzebue, for  
24 example, is more than 2,500. That's where they then look  
25 at community characteristics and they look at things like  
26 is it road connected. Right now, and I'm not promising  
27 in 10 years it won't be different, but we're not looking  
28 at any of the regional centers, like Kotzebue, Nome,  
29 Barrow, Bethel, Dillingham, Dutch Harbor, Unalaska. We  
30 thought about it and we all felt nothing had changed in  
31 those communities that had changed the character from the  
32 last time the Board did the evaluations. I don't believe  
33 that anyone has suggested those communities be evaluated.

34

MR. SAMPSON: Okay, thank you.

36

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.

38

39 MR. KARMUN: Thank you. What if they put  
40 in an international airport or a deep water port, would  
41 that also be considered for change?

42

43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I wouldn't want to say  
44 it wouldn't, but I don't think so if there weren't other  
45 changes in the community. That question actually came up  
46 about Unalaska, but at least so far the Staff Committee  
47 has not supported adding Unalaska, but that type of  
48 question or some big development close by there's a  
49 possibility that in the future it would be evaluated. I  
50 can't say. I can't predict the future what the Board

1 would do.

2

3 MR. KARMUN: Don't worry about it.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Helen.

6 Marine waters.

7

8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Marine waters is just  
9 for your information on Page 66. It's just meant to be a  
10 written document, but I'll just summarize what it is  
11 about. After the Katie John decision, what was  
12 considered Federal waters was still under discussion and  
13 this clarifies. As you can see from the list, there are  
14 all these little bays that they're clarifying which ones  
15 are Federal waters. None of these are in your region, so  
16 I'm not even going to discuss that in any detail.

17

18 The next briefing is on Page 67 and this  
19 one is the Federal news release and this is actually  
20 regarding a State regulation, but it affects the Feds. I  
21 think this is really important for you to understand  
22 what's happening. Alaska Department of Fish and Game has  
23 been letter people know that if they have an ADF&G  
24 registration permit if they fail to return the hunt  
25 report that they will not be eligible to register for any  
26 registration, drawing or Tier II hunting permits for the  
27 following year and they may face fines.

28

29 What I've understood from this and maybe  
30 the State can speak to this more is that they are going  
31 to be enforcing this. It's been in regulation, but  
32 they're saying they're going to enforce this. This does  
33 affect a few hunts in your region. There's a State  
34 registration permit for brown bears, a Tier II permit for  
35 muskox and then the moose hunt is a registration permit.  
36 Is that right? Or is it a Federal? It's State. Yeah,  
37 the moose one is the one that would be probably the  
38 biggest effect in terms of numbers of people. So there  
39 is concern about this because it would -- because it's a  
40 State permit and the State is enforcing it, but it's a  
41 Federal hunt, so we're alerting you to it.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions for

44 Barbara.

45

46 Walter.

47

48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Don't call her Barbara

49 again.

50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh, okay.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 MR. SAMPSON: I guess the existing  
6 definition of navigable water determination, how is that  
7 determined? As long as it's within Federal lands or is  
8 that under State? I know there's two different  
9 definitions. The State has its own and the Feds have  
10 their own determination on navigable waters. How is the  
11 Federal government's determination made within Federal  
12 lands?

13

14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Are you talking about  
15 under fisheries regulations?

16

17 MR. SAMPSON: I guess I'm trying to get a  
18 feel of when you talk about marine water jurisdiction and  
19 navigable waters is what I was getting at because there's  
20 some large lakes within this region that can be used to  
21 traverse, you know, canoes and that sort of thing, and  
22 that can change the determination on some of these.

23

24 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I see what  
25 you're asking. All waters within a conservation unit or  
26 within the park or the refuge and sometimes the adjacent  
27 waters, all those are considered under Federal  
28 jurisdiction for fisheries management, which is what the  
29 marine jurisdiction is about.

30

31 MR. SAMPSON: So some of the larger lakes  
32 in Selawik, for instance, can be determined as a marine  
33 or a fishery -- or based on fishery management those can  
34 be considered Federal land rather than State dealing with  
35 that.

36

37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If they're within the  
38 boundary of the refuge, yes, they are.

39

40 MR. SAMPSON: Is that how you look at the  
41 terms, Leeann, when you issue permits to transporters and  
42 outfitters?

43

44 MS. AYRES: This is Leeann Ayres, Selawik  
45 Refuge. Walter, my understanding of your question is we  
46 do not issue special use permits for transporters or for  
47 the one guide on the refuge to operate on selected or  
48 conveyed lands. We don't have jurisdiction on the main  
49 river that's navigable water within the refuge  
50 boundaries.

1 MR. SAMPSON: Do you consider that as  
2 State jurisdiction then?  
3  
4 MS. AYRES: They do have jurisdiction on  
5 the Selawik River and actually on the Tag River, the  
6 low/high water mark.  
7  
8 MR. SAMPSON: So in order to change that  
9 then classification has to change?  
10  
11 MS. AYRES: Yes, something above our  
12 level.  
13  
14 MR. SAMPSON: Okay. So the lakes and  
15 nonconveyed lands.  
16  
17 MS. AYRES: Right.  
18  
19 MR. SAMPSON: The lakes within the  
20 refuge. I'm talking between Noorvik and Selawik where  
21 presently drop-offs were made. Is that under your  
22 jurisdiction then?  
23  
24 MS. AYRES: The area that I think you're  
25 referring to, that's all selected or conveyed land and  
26 that's not -- none of our special use permit holders  
27 should have been operating or allowed to operate in that  
28 area. Now on the larger lakes that exceed the size limit  
29 that become considered navigable by the State, those they  
30 can land on them but they can't touch the bank and  
31 there's some other restrictions that basically prohibit  
32 transporters from operating on those within other areas  
33 of the refuge, but that whole area from kind of north of  
34 Selawik all the way through the Kobuk Delta, with the  
35 exception of just a few blocks or townships, all of that  
36 is off limits to our special use permit holders.  
37  
38 MR. SAMPSON: So the transporter that  
39 used that lake, do you know which lake that was?  
40  
41 MS. AYRES: No, I don't. I'm not aware  
42 of where you're talking about.  
43  
44 MR. SAMPSON: There was a transporter  
45 that was apparently transporting hunters to a lake  
46 between Selawik and Noorvik. That's why I was trying to  
47 check in regards to how you determine navigability in  
48 regards to who has jurisdiction over that based on what  
49 you provided, Helen. In order to get that under the  
50 jurisdiction of the Federal system, then classification

1 has to be made as a fishery type of determination, right?  
2 Maybe I'm confused.

3

4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Maybe I'm confused,  
5 too. I know that our Federal regulations in terms of  
6 harvests and seasons and C&T, those apply. I'm not sure  
7 about the transporter part, but in our regulations -- and  
8 maybe Sandy can cite the reg number for me.

9

10 MR. RABINOWITCH: Section III, scope and  
11 applicability.

12

13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Section III, scope and  
14 applicability. So I think that's what may be confusing,  
15 that we're talking about two different parts of  
16 regulations. I think that's where the confusion is. But  
17 when we're talking about harvest limits and seasons in  
18 fish regulations, it applies to all waters. I think with  
19 the transporters it's something different and that's not  
20 part of what I would do, so I would look to Leeann for  
21 that. But I think that's where the confusion is.

22

23 MR. SAMPSON: I guess I'm getting more  
24 confused even now on the determination or the definition  
25 of navigable waters. Maybe we could sit down and have a  
26 good talk sometime.

27

28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Our fisheries  
29 regulations are not determined by whether they're  
30 navigable or not, it's determined by where it is, whether  
31 it's within the conservation unit, within the refuge or  
32 within the park, and that's what determines whether it's  
33 under fish regulation or not. So that's different. But  
34 what Leeann is talking about, where the transporters can  
35 go, I think that's -- because we're dealing with fish  
36 regulations and that has to do with -- it's a different  
37 regulations, so I think that's where the confusion is.

38

39 MR. SAMPSON: I think the differentiation  
40 between the two, you're separating the two when it should  
41 be one because you're dealing with fisheries on one hand  
42 where there's fish certain in those lakes, but taking  
43 that out and considering it in something else, then it  
44 becomes even more confusing. Maybe what we probably need  
45 is a legal opinion to get an understanding of what it is  
46 that -- maybe I'm confused. I don't know.

47

48 MS. AYRES: Walter. I guess I think your  
49 idea of sitting down and getting some clarification on  
50 this would be an excellent idea or something that perhaps

1 George with the Park Service, myself and certainly NANA,  
2 KIC and the Borough. I think there's some jurisdiction  
3 of where we have jurisdiction and who has jurisdiction  
4 would be a really good thing for us to get together and  
5 talk about. And also some of the comments that I think  
6 Raymond and Calvin made is that we've been focusing on  
7 trying to get that information out to our transporters  
8 and special use permit holders, but I think we've kind of  
9 missed an area of trying to get that information out to  
10 the local people as well who can kind of help us see  
11 what's going on in the refuge as well as they need to  
12 know themselves whether they're on land within a refuge  
13 that really has State jurisdiction or State regulations  
14 apply or whether Federal ones do, so I would look forward  
15 to meeting with you and following up on this with you  
16 this winter.

17

18 MR. SAMPSON: The reason why I'm asking  
19 that is I was hoping I'd use this forum so these folks  
20 can also understand and get a better and clear picture  
21 with regards to what we're talking about, but I could  
22 probably deal with it outside this meeting. At some  
23 point in time there's got to be clarity in regards to the  
24 jurisdictional issue, in regards to water bodies, which I  
25 think this body also needs to have a good understanding  
26 of because not having an understanding of those water  
27 bodies and have to deal with it, then we get into  
28 somebody else's turf sometimes. I'm talking about the  
29 State because State is the one that's always challenging  
30 those things. So I think if we can get clarity in  
31 regards to that and bring that back to this body, it  
32 would be an ideal thing to do.

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions  
35 to Helen about this news release. Thank you for that  
36 report. US Fish and Wildlife Selawik Refuge.

37

38 MS. AYRES: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd  
39 like to take a moment to just share some wonderful  
40 additions to the Selawik staff with the Council. As you  
41 know, Susan Georgette joined us as our outreach  
42 specialist and we also have Patrick Snow as the new  
43 assistant manager who has joined us from Bethel,  
44 originally from McGrath and is here in Kotzebue with us.

45

46 MR. SAMPSON: (Off-mike comment)

47

48 (Laughter)

49

50 MS. AYRES: Now, Walter, don't start off

1 by giving him a hard time. Earlier you had some  
2 questions about the fisheries work that's going on in  
3 Selawik, so I'd like to hand it over to Nate Olson, one  
4 of the refuge biologists, to kind of give you an update  
5 on what's going on with those projects.

6  
7 MR. OLSON: Good afternoon. I'm Nate  
8 Olson, wildlife biologist for Selawik Refuge. You guys  
9 had asked earlier about the sheefish project and the  
10 whitefish projects that are going on in Selawik for the  
11 past few years, so I'll give you a brief update. Both of  
12 those projects are finished in the respects that there  
13 won't be field crews on the ground anymore, at least not  
14 next year for those particular projects.

15  
16 The one aspect of those projects that is  
17 still continuing is we put radio transmitters in both  
18 sheefish, humpback whitefish and broad whitefish and  
19 we'll be tracking those fish for several years to come to  
20 help identify spawning areas, spawning periodicity and  
21 fidelity and also monitor survival if there are any  
22 survival issues related to putting these transmitters in  
23 the fish.

24  
25 I know Enoch was present last winter.  
26 Someone in Kotzebue Sound actually caught one of the  
27 fish, a sheefish, that we had put a radio transmitter in  
28 the previous year, so we brought up fisheries biologist  
29 Randy Brown from Fairbanks and we did an autopsy and  
30 Enoch was present for that, so if you have any questions  
31 on that, he can give you an update on that as well. But  
32 we didn't find anything really wrong with the fish that  
33 we can tell, but we're getting really good information.

34  
35 So with the sheefish project to start off  
36 with, they're basically doing a population estimate of  
37 the sheefish that's spawned in the Selawik River and  
38 they're repeating a study that was done in the mid '90s  
39 by Tevis Underwood and they're finding quite a bit larger  
40 spawning population this time around than 10 years ago.  
41 We're still waiting for the final report. They just  
42 finished up a few weeks ago, so they're going to be busy  
43 writing that up and we'll get you a summary of that at  
44 the next meeting if possible.

45  
46 The same with the whitefish study. We  
47 put another 64 transmitters in humpback and broad  
48 whitefish. We'll be following them around for the next  
49 three years and keeping you updated on that as well.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What is the conditions  
2 of the sheefish after they were tagged?

3  
4 MR. OLSON: Oh, the condition was -- it  
5 was good. We were satisfied that the fish was not in any  
6 way unable to do fish things after it was tagged. The  
7 way we do these transmitters is we actually make an  
8 incision, surgically implant the transmitter inside the  
9 abdominal cavity of the fish and then we sew them back up  
10 with like stitches. We got this fish and we opened it up  
11 to check what the condition of the wound was and also  
12 inside to see if there were any negative effects from  
13 this transmitter rubbing against anything inside the fish  
14 or whatnot, and also see how well it had healed because  
15 we knew pretty much exactly when we had tagged that  
16 particular fish, so we had a timeline to go on to see how  
17 well it had healed. Everything went well. We were  
18 impressed by the condition of the fish. My opinion, I  
19 don't think there's any real negative effects from the  
20 transmitters.

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's for how long  
22 after you tag it and you got it, one year, two years,  
23 three years?

24  
25 MR. OLSON: This particular one was about  
26 eight months after we tagged it.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

29  
30 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you. First of all, I  
31 don't know how you  
32 plan to follow the fish around underwater when you can  
33 only spend a minute, minute and a half under water as a  
34 human being, but I can see the satellite track it.

35  
36 Spawning area. You mean to tell me we  
37 don't know any major spawning areas for these fish  
38 already?

39 MR. OLSON: We had ideas. For the  
40 whitefish, kind of yes and no. We had the spawning areas  
41 that the individuals in Selawik had identified and we did  
42 verify those. We actually found a few additional ones,  
43 particularly with the humpback whitefish. This year we  
44 found Singauruk Creek as a spawning area that we didn't  
45 know or at least find last year and Fish River and then  
46 the Upper Selawik River as well for that whitefish. The  
47 broad whitefish are still a bit of a mystery to us at  
48 this point, but we're hoping to resolve that in the next  
49 few years.

50

1                   The way we track these fish is with an  
2 airplane. We track them in the air.

3  
4                   MR. SAMPSON: Some of the major spawning  
5 areas for sheefish, we know where those are. Has there  
6 been any plans in regards to doing the study of impacts  
7 of what's happening within those areas? I'm talking  
8 about sportsfishing within some of those  
9 spawning areas.

10  
11                   MR. OLSON: We don't have any studies  
12 directly addressing that. But the sport harvest in those  
13 particular areas during those critical times from my  
14 observations is fairly minimal.

15  
16                   MS. AYRES: Walter, that was one of my  
17 follow-up questions here to ask if there were any other  
18 studies that you think we should be doing. These  
19 original ones identifying the spawning areas were  
20 basically proposals or needs the Council identified and  
21 they're kind of coming to an end. We probably have  
22 another year or two and then I think questions like yours  
23 for follow-up studies is what we need to start developing  
24 proposals for.

25  
26                   I guess I'd like to ask Amy what the  
27 series is or what the time line is for submitting  
28 proposals for additional fisheries projects.

29  
30                   MR. SAMPSON: I guess my interest was  
31 looking at -- is Powell (ph) part of the Federal system?

32  
33                   MS. AYRES: (Shakes head negatively)

34  
35                   MR. SAMPSON: That's outside your  
36 jurisdiction. Okay, thanks.

37  
38                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

39  
40                   ATTAMUK: I don't know if this question  
41 relates to you or not. It might be for Jim. I thought  
42 the State of Alaska at Fairbanks was doing a study for  
43 catch and release on fish including sheefish. When I  
44 talked to the guy in Fairbanks and I saw him also in  
45 Anchorage, he told me after on catch and release if you  
46 -- you know how slimy the fish is and you wipe that off  
47 and put it on your clothes and you release it back into  
48 the same river that's already contaminated, that's to  
49 preserve it, and he told me at the time within 24 hours  
50 that fish will die.

1                   Also, for your assurance here, he's  
2 right. I was there when they biopsied the fish and I  
3 didn't see anything wrong. It was fat, it was healthy.  
4 The only recommendation I made to him at the time was put  
5 extra stitches on the inside for it to heal. It was  
6 healthy and fat and edible yet.

7  
8                   Back to that question of fish being  
9 studied in Fairbanks. I think that was State of Alaska,  
10 right, Jim? The guy gave me a report verbally twice on  
11 it. This leads to the issue of sportfishing for catch  
12 and release, mainly on Wulik.

13  
14                   MR. MAGDANZ: This is Jim Magdanz, Fish  
15 and Game. There have been a number of studies that the  
16 State has done about that. ON the Upper Kobuk, they did  
17 a catch and release sheefish in the late 1990s. Talby, I  
18 believe, was the lead author on that. They caught  
19 sheefish with a rod and reel. Biologists caught them.  
20 They put them in a fenced-in holding pen and kept them  
21 for 24, 36 hours and then released them. In that study  
22 they found low mortality. Fred DeCicco would know much  
23 more about this than I do. He's actually on the Wulik  
24 River right now looking at the fall char right now. But  
25 if you wanted more references on catch and release  
26 survival we can certainly get them from Fred.

27  
28                   ATTAMUK: Okay, thanks.

29  
30                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions  
31 for the Refuge. Thank you.

32  
33                   MS. AYRES: There's one other thing.  
34 We'd just like to thank a number of folks in Selawik that  
35 helped out with these projects for the last couple years.  
36 Frank Arey, Jr. and Alby Stoney. I think they've just  
37 been really instrumental for us being able to do this  
38 project. So I want to make sure we acknowledge them for  
39 that.

40  
41                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you.

42  
43                   MR. RAMOTH: Mr. Chairman.

44  
45                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Ralph.

46  
47                   MR. RAMOTH: I got a comment. My  
48 question here is about studying whitefish. I'd like to  
49 know if the fish is declining or going up in numbers at  
50 this time of the year, you know. I've been subsisting all

1 my life on fish. Ever since I'm a little boy I've been  
2 helping my mom and I've been fishing every year all  
3 through summer before I started going to school. And I  
4 learned pretty much about how much fish we gather every  
5 year. Before, you know, we start using the commercial  
6 dog food we've been gathering as much as we can, big  
7 piles. Also you're talking about the humpbacks. When we  
8 catch those humpback, we catch those in fall time, block  
9 the whole river with a wire and start dipping them until  
10 we get enough. And also in Selawik River same thing.  
11 They block the whole river like that and been catching  
12 sheefish in the fall time. Same thing with humpback  
13 whitefish that they were studying right now. They can  
14 get those by the thousands if it's not a million to  
15 gather every year for dog food, for, you know,  
16 transportation, something we need to feed our dogs every  
17 year.

18  
19 A few years back I kept on talking like  
20 that and the snowmachines came around and we started  
21 using the snowmachines and we don't really need to worry  
22 about catching fish anymore. Now we start monitoring the  
23 fish, how much in the lake, how many in the river, how  
24 many fish people are catching.

25  
26 We have a number of people that are  
27 fishing in the summer, spring, early spring and in the  
28 fall time but then they don't overdue it, you know.  
29 They're conservationists, you know, and they know how  
30 much they're catching. When they catch enough, they stop  
31 fishing.

32  
33 On this earlier report here it came to my  
34 mind about Selawik and Kobuk River. There's one thing I  
35 been thinking about ever since they put that regulation  
36 about not to block the whole river or the stream or the  
37 creeks or slough. There's less than half of what they're  
38 intending to set net. If it's a slough, it might be at  
39 least 10 feet. You need three feet of net. Would you  
40 catch a fish like that? I wouldn't think so. The fish  
41 wouldn't be going through the middle. They would be  
42 going around the little net you put out.

43  
44 This regulation that was made by the  
45 State, I wanted to go through the history of what I went  
46 through before. I've been traveling a lot. I've been  
47 hunting a lot. I'm a hunter and trapper and I travel a  
48 lot in the refuge. That was before it became a refuge.  
49 I know the country. We still live on subsistence. We  
50 don't have no income some part of the year and we get to

1 know fish and game, what we have around the area. The  
2 same thing with the fish. We know the fish, common fish  
3 areas and other areas. Like this blocking the fish here.  
4 I'd like to make a comment on that.

5  
6                   You know, when you go for subsistence,  
7 you like to catch as much fish as you can in a short  
8 period of time, but then you can't block the creek or  
9 slough for all summer, just for a little while until you  
10 get enough. But then later on the engineers started  
11 blocking our water ways, you know. We've got a lot of  
12 engineers that are smarter than Inupiats. They are  
13 blocking our water ways. They are blocking our fish off.  
14 I run into one creek with my dog team. One creek was all  
15 blocked up by the engineers. Once it freezes up, the  
16 engineers must have done something wrong on what they  
17 engineered for blocking the creek and broke off after it  
18 freeze up and then the fish started escaping over the ice  
19 and die off.

20  
21                   So the population of those engineers are  
22 starting to increase. Every corner in our village river  
23 there are nothing but beaver lodges and in the lakes.  
24 Once you go into the lakes you can't get in there with a  
25 boat because it's all blocked up. That's what I call  
26 engineers. Do you know how to stop the flowing of water?  
27 Once the water gets too high in spring, they go over  
28 those, they go over the dam, the fish go over the dams,  
29 that spawn in the lakes and the fish stays in the lakes  
30 all through the summer and start coming out in the fall  
31 time, which I'm talking about the broad whitefish.  
32 That's the time we want to get more fish again.

33  
34                   So I talked about this earlier with the  
35 agencies before when I worked for IRA, about the beaver  
36 situation we have in our refuge. Not only there, the  
37 beavers are really blocking up all the creeks around the  
38 Kobuk River Delta. The only chance they had when the  
39 fish comes in the spring time and start rushing back out  
40 again. That's the only time I can notice that some of  
41 the people from Noorvik area and below to catch enough  
42 fish for them, so they don't fish all summer for the  
43 whitefish.

44  
45                   But in Selawik here, I know some of you  
46 agents have been up there before and being around with  
47 the people with these little gillnets, but what they do  
48 in spring time that's the only time they had to gather  
49 whitefish just so they can dry those out while the  
50 weather is nice and cool and before the flies come out

1 and spoil the fish.

2

3

4                   What I'm talking about blocking the  
5 creeks and slough, I didn't like that. What we need to  
6 do is take the engineers blockings off and if they want  
7 to keep this up, we can start using one-third of a  
8 slough, put our nets so we can have all those fish  
9 abundantly instead of going up to the block, that dam,  
10 and turn around from there.

11

12

13                   I'm going off a little bit on our agenda,  
14 but I want to keep on talking a little bit. The  
15 engineers, what I am calling the beavers, they have year-  
16 round opening, 50 a year now in our area, and nobody's  
17 hunting them because they're worthless. Go out and catch  
18 four or five just for a hat. And also they're  
19 contaminating the water source. They are contaminating  
20 our water source. We've been fighting beavers where I  
21 come from.

22

23

24                   I've been asking who's going to be blamed  
25 if the whitefish are declining. Are you going to blame  
26 subsistence users. I can't get no answer. One person I  
27 talked to from Kiana, he said he was checking his net and  
28 a biologist came around and started asking how far does  
29 the fish go out when they go out like that and he started  
30 answering, well, I don't know, I don't travel with the  
31 fish.

32

33

(Laughter)

34

35

36                   MR. RAMOTH: People like that they have  
37 good answers. They don't know. They don't travel with  
38 fish. What I'd like to do is go ahead and finish this  
39 out since it came to my mind. I strongly oppose this  
40 regulation here, the Kobuk and Selawik River drainages.  
41 We had a lot of sloughs and waterways around Selawik, but  
42 below Noorvik in some of the creeks when they went out  
43 fishing not very many places where they can just keep.  
44 You know, go in and go out in a short period.

45

46

47                   Any questions you might have, I'm in Room  
48 211 any time anyone want to ask me.

49

50

Thank you.

51

52

53                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Ralph. I  
54 suppose we have to contact the engineers, huh?

55

56

Walter.

1 (Laughter)

2

3 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman. I think  
4 Ralph raised a good point, raised an issue that we need  
5 to think about. Is it really worthwhile doing studies on  
6 fisheries now when you have an existing problem when the  
7 engineers are damming the spawning areas? Or should you  
8 change your management techniques and start dealing with  
9 the engineers? I think it's something to think about.  
10 Like Ralph said, once the fish numbers start going down,  
11 who's to blame for it. The first finger that goes up,  
12 Selawik.

13

14 I think he's got a good valid point,  
15 something that we need to think about. As a manager, as  
16 a biologist, you need to think about exactly what you  
17 want to do with those problems that have been put before  
18 you. I once heard a guy saying, well, with Katrina, what  
19 happened, send them engineers down. They're better  
20 engineers than the people down south, so they won't have  
21 to worry about the levies breaking.

22

23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter.  
24 Attamuk.

25

26 ATTAMUK: Yeah, Ralph brought up an  
27 important point about the whitefish, about the beaver.  
28 Give you an example. If you look at the Interior, at  
29 Nunana and Cantwell, where they don't have anymore  
30 whitefish where the beavers dammed it up where they were  
31 spawning, they could not go out. And the Indians, when  
32 they see me, they tell me that two miles away you could  
33 smell the rotten fish for how many years. Now they don't  
34 have any more fish.

35

36 He brought up a real important one that  
37 we have to look into because eventually it's not only  
38 going to affect fish, it's going to affect sheefish and  
39 salmon and we are going to be hurting. Like Walter said,  
40 they're going to start blaming the people of Selawik for  
41 overharvesting and we don't have exact numbers of what we  
42 have for five, six schools of fish out there. Thanks.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Let's take  
45 a 10 minute break.

46

47 (Off record)

48

49 (On record)

50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Barbara, are you ready?

2

3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes, I am. Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Now we're down to  
6 National Park.

7

8 MR. ADKISSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. Ken  
9 Adkisson, National Park Service. I'll try to make this  
10 quick. I'd like to touch on some muskoxen things. Most  
11 of you are probably aware that the State has closed by  
12 emergency order their Tier II muskoxen hunt north and  
13 west of the Noatak River. I wanted to assure you that  
14 does not affect the subsistence hunt in Krusenstern and  
15 those that have permits for Krusenstern will be allowed  
16 to continue to hunt.

17 For the Buckland/Deering area, the  
18 Muskoxen Cooperators Group met this summer and a number  
19 of recommendations will be going forth both to the Board  
20 of Game in November and the Federal Subsistence Board in  
21 May. The effect of those proposals on Buckland and  
22 Deering will be to raise the allowable harvest area from  
23 5 percent to 8 percent of the total population within the  
24 hunt area and also raise the allowable cow harvest from 2  
25 percent to 4 percent.

26

27 Other proposals on the State side will be  
28 to include muskoxen in the State's proxy hunters program.  
29 On the Federal side, proposals will be going forth for  
30 muskoxen on the Seward Peninsula to establish community  
31 harvest systems for Buckland, Deering, Shishmaref and  
32 Wales where we'll be attempting to move away from  
33 individual permits and those kind of limitations and  
34 focus more on community harvest. We'll also be adding  
35 muskoxen to the Federal programs, designated hunter  
36 program. So there will be some significant changes  
37 coming down the road for muskoxen.

38

39 On wildlife research and activities, Brad  
40 Shults has passed out a handout to you. One of us should  
41 apologize. Brad quickly whipped out the cover for this  
42 meeting because he used the same report for the SRC  
43 meetings and inadvertently typed committees instead of  
44 Subsistence Advisory Council. Some of you who went to  
45 the SRC meetings are already familiar with this material,  
46 but it outlines our wildlife research activities for the  
47 year. We were quite active in several population counts,  
48 composition work and everything from Dall sheep in the  
49 Brooks Range to moose in this area to muskoxen on the  
50 Seward Peninsula, muskoxen in Krusenstern and so forth.

1 Additional research that we're involved  
2 with involved our Inventory and Monitoring Program, part  
3 of a nationwide program. We have several projects in  
4 this area related to that. Our Inventory and Monitoring  
5 Program will be gearing up next year to do a fish  
6 inventory. We also did some lichen research  
7 identification and lichen range studies for reindeer on  
8 the Seward Peninsula, as well as vegetation, land  
9 mapping, land cover mapping, that sort of thing.

10  
11 Basically Dan Stevenson is here and he  
12 can fill you in if you wish on our ranger activities,  
13 protection program activities. As usual, they were  
14 pretty active this fall, especially on the Noatak in  
15 making contacts with hunters, checking our IVP holders  
16 and so forth. Dan has information on that if you'd like.  
17 Best I understand it right now though, we don't have  
18 numbers of clients from the transporters because they  
19 haven't submitted that information yet.

20  
21 The other big thing is staffing changes.  
22 Like with the wildlife refuge, you may also be aware by  
23 now that Charlie Lane, our fisheries biologist, left us  
24 to go to work for Norton Sound Economic Development  
25 Corporation, so we'll probably be restructuring that  
26 position and trying to fill it this fiscal year.

27  
28 The other big news is we've had a change-  
29 over in superintendents. Julie Hopkins took a job in our  
30 regional office in Anchorage and George Helfrich here has  
31 filled the job as superintendent. I'm sure you're going  
32 to be seeing a lot more of him because so far he's shown  
33 a real interest in subsistence and support for local  
34 cultures.

35  
36 George.

37  
38 MR. HELFRICH: Thank you. George Helfrich  
39 with the National Park Service. Mr. Chairman, Members of  
40 the Council. First, thank you for your welcome that you  
41 extended to me and my family since we arrived in the  
42 Northwest Arctic four months ago. It's a real pleasure  
43 to be here. I'd also like to thank all of you for your  
44 participation in this Resource Advisory Council. The RAC  
45 is one of the most important things to the success of the  
46 National Park Service programs. So the thought and the  
47 time and the energy that you put into this is really  
48 important to us.

49  
50 Thank you.

1                   Most of the members of the National Park  
2 Service staff were here today and introduced themselves.  
3 Ed and Alfred down there, Dan in the back, and of course  
4 you know Ken and Brad, but there is one person here who  
5 came in after lunch and I would like her to introduce  
6 herself, Alisa Denton.

7  
8                   MS. DENTON: Thank you. My name is Alisa  
9 Denton and I've been doing education work here with Linda  
10 Jeske, so I've been traveling to a lot of the local  
11 schools. I'm very glad to be here.

12  
13                   MR. HELFRICH: Alisa came as a volunteer  
14 this summer and now she's working as a season employee  
15 just for a couple months, but I particularly wanted to  
16 introduce her because, as she said, she's been working  
17 primarily on education programs and she has contacted a  
18 lot of children and young adults and help increase their  
19 knowledge and put effort into making sure they continue  
20 to be productive citizens at the Borough. She's really  
21 been an asset to our program.

22  
23                   Mr. Chairman, at the beginning of the  
24 meeting today you said it was going to be moose, moose,  
25 moose and I know that it did primarily did turn out to be  
26 moose. Just from my brief time here I think there are  
27 three subsistence issues that are going to be very  
28 important in the coming years. One is moose management.  
29 As you all know we have a disagreement with the State  
30 about the status of the moose population, but I think our  
31 interest and the State's interest and certainly your  
32 interest that there be a healthy moose population for  
33 subsistence users today and subsistence users tomorrow  
34 and the day after that.

35  
36                   Another important subsistence use issue  
37 will be bears. The State is going to go forward to the  
38 Board of Game this November with a proposal that we think  
39 will change some of the state regulations concerning  
40 bears and we think that may have an impact on subsistence  
41 users in the Kobuk Valley, so we are concerned about  
42 that.

43  
44                   And then finally caribou. A number of  
45 people, you on the Council, made remarks today about  
46 people not getting their caribou and, of course, that is  
47 a very big concern to us. There are a number of  
48 explanations for that, from changes in climate patterns  
49 to changes in vegetation patterns, but certainly one of  
50 the things I've heard since I got here is that the

1 clients of the transporters are affecting caribou  
2 migration.

3  
4 For example, Paulette Schuerch spoke  
5 today about perhaps these clients not letting the first  
6 caribou go through and then the remainder of the herd not  
7 following them. As I said at the Subsistence Resource  
8 Council meeting a couple days ago, while I recognize  
9 transporters' legal rights to operate inside the Noatak  
10 National Preserve, I believe there are a number of things  
11 we can do as far as the terms and conditions of their  
12 permits to minimize the impacts that the transporters'  
13 clients have on subsistence users and I would like to  
14 work with my staff and also members of the community on  
15 seeing what some of those terms and conditions might be  
16 so that transporters' clients do have less effect.

17  
18 So moose, moose, moose and bears and  
19 caribou, those are, as I said, I think some of the most  
20 important issues that we face as far as subsistence and I  
21 look forward to working on those issues in the coming  
22 years.

23  
24 Mr. Chairman, again, thank you very much  
25 for your welcome.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you very much.  
28 Any questions from the Council to the Park Service?

29  
30 (No comments)

31  
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: None. Thank you very  
33 much.

34  
35 MR. HELFRICH: Thank you, Chairman  
36 Stoney.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: BLM.

39  
40 MR. JOLY: Good afternoon. I'm Kyle Joly  
41 with the Bureau of Land Management. I first wanted to  
42 extend an apology from Randi Meyers. She's busy working  
43 on the Kobuk/Seward Plan and can't make it today. She  
44 also wanted me to let you know she will report on SOP's  
45 in the Squirrel River at the next meeting.

46  
47 The first thing I want to touch on is the  
48 Bureau of Land Management has undergone some  
49 realignments. Our new title is the Fairbanks District  
50 Office. Just to let you know, there won't be any changes

1 in service. Bob Schneider is still the head of the  
2 office. It's an internal realignment and it shouldn't  
3 affect the Northwest Region at all. If you have any  
4 questions about that, you can contact me or ask me  
5 questions later on.

6  
7                   The Kobuk/Seward Plan is currently  
8 underway and we should have a draft plan to you by March  
9 of 2006. After the draft is released, there will be a  
10 90-day comment period. At that time you'll be able to  
11 tell us whether there's pieces of different alternatives  
12 that you agree with or disagree with. There will be four  
13 different alternatives. After the comment period is  
14 over, the comments will be analyzed and a proposed plan  
15 and EIS will be released in the fall of 2006.

16  
17                   The Squirrel River, in the preferred  
18 alternative as it is right now, is going to have a  
19 step-down activity plan which will address commercial use  
20 within the Squirrel River. That is guiding and  
21 transporting will be limited, one of the alternatives,  
22 but it's not in the preferred alternative right now, and  
23 that's something you can comment on when the draft comes  
24 out. The website is offline currently due to the Kobel  
25 legislation and it will be in the foreseeable future. If  
26 you have any questions on the Kobuk/Seward Plan, you can  
27 contact Jeanie Cole and I and her contact information is  
28 on the handout.

29  
30                   To the north of the northwest area is the  
31 South NPRA Plan and that could potentially have some  
32 effects on this region as it is the core calving ground  
33 for the Western Arctic herd. The initial comment period  
34 that deals with the scoping process is open just for  
35 another week, until the 17th. The planning is going to  
36 be -- the plan is to have a draft EIS by the fall of 2008  
37 and then a final plan the summer of 2009. Again, I've  
38 listed contact information if you have comments.

39  
40                   We've beaten up moose regulations, so  
41 I'll skip over that. The only thing I wanted to add is  
42 that BLM, in cooperation with Fish and Game, National  
43 Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service, conducted a  
44 moose survey and that was in the Noatak and Squirrel  
45 River drainages.

46  
47                   As Ken mentioned, the Seward Peninsula  
48 Muskox Cooperators Group got together and we had a whole  
49 bunch of new data to look at. We were able to conduct a  
50 census of the entire Seward Peninsula this March and

1 that's why I was absent from the meeting. The survey is  
2 run by Fish and Game, National Park Service, Fish and  
3 Wildlife Service and Bureau of Land Management. The  
4 final tally was 2,387 muskox, which is a 16 percent  
5 increase from 2002. The southwest portion of Unit 23  
6 actually reported 182 muskox, which is down from 2002 and  
7 2005, but the biologists think that there isn't an actual  
8 decline. More likely that some of the smaller groups  
9 were on the edge of the subunit and had moved over to  
10 other subunits and that's backed up by a very high  
11 yearling percentages. We found 18 percent yearlings in  
12 GMU 23 southwest. The next census is scheduled for 2008.

13  
14 Also, Randi and I and a couple other BLM  
15 members were able to go out to the Western Arctic Herd  
16 vegetation transects this summer and we worked out at  
17 Buckland. It's a project that began in 1981. They put  
18 out 27 transects. They were revisited in 1995, 1996 and  
19 we got out there again this year and were able to look at  
20 all the original transects. We hope to get out next year  
21 to look at the additional transects that were put in in  
22 1995 and '96. We're still working on the data analysis  
23 for that project and hopefully we'll have more  
24 information for you at the March meeting.

25  
26 That's all I have. Are there any  
27 questions.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

30  
31 MR. SAMPSON: So from these transects you  
32 have large timbers now?

33  
34 MR. JOLY: We actually did find a couple  
35 aspen. They were about yea high in one plot.

36  
37 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

40  
41 MR. BALLOT: Kyle, I want to thank you  
42 guys for coming up to Buckland. My name is Percy. I saw  
43 you up there. And I want to thank you for the excess  
44 fuel you guys left behind. It's been very helpful for  
45 them. Every one of them received fuel that you guys left  
46 and hope to see you guys up there again sometime.

47  
48 I was wondering about the caribou counts.  
49 Are you guys going to have numbers or transporter counts  
50 this winter?

1 MR. JOLY: We'll have that information  
2 for you at the March meeting. And it was good for you  
3 guys to take the fuel off our hands as well. Otherwise  
4 we would have had to ship it back, so it was a win-win  
5 situation. I'm glad you guys appreciated it.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.

8  
9 MR. KARMUN: On these transects, there's  
10 been some tundra fires around the region. In the past,  
11 we or the region got reports from the BLM on the  
12 revegetation on some of the bigger burns. Are those  
13 studies ongoing or are they complete?

14  
15 MR. JOLY: They're actually ongoing. We  
16 managed to go to a fire where transects were set up in  
17 1981, so we'll have information. They're paired  
18 transects, so we have one set inside the burn, one set  
19 outside the burn and they're multiple transects, so we  
20 collected that data. I've got the data entered, but it's  
21 not analyzed yet. Hopefully we'll have something for you  
22 by March. Another transect that we had that was not  
23 burned in the previous two go around burned, we believe,  
24 the year before 2004.

25  
26 That was out by Traverse Peak.

27  
28 MR. KARMUN: Thank you.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin.

31  
32 MR. MOTO: I'd like to get back to the  
33 muskox. We had quite a meeting with the small group.  
34 They're going to say for State hunts they propose  
35 requesting that muskox be added to the list of species  
36 that can be taken by proxy or be submitted to Board of  
37 Game for consideration in November. This is for the  
38 people who don't have hunters who get a permit. This is  
39 something they're working on right now. And then for  
40 Federal hunt, they propose the same for Seward Peninsula.

41  
42 The other small group recommendations was  
43 how much should be put into Federal and State. Some of  
44 them said they wanted if there are 10, get 4 and then the  
45 rest to State. In our area it was like 3 to 7. These  
46 things we went over and the change of how big they're  
47 getting. In our area we got smaller number. Why? Is it  
48 because we have more bears chasing them or more wolves  
49 chasing them, making our area smaller? When you look at  
50 the numbers right now, there's 2,387 and out of those I

1 know there used to be a lot more than they said in  
2 Deering area. Is it because of predation? This is what  
3 some of our people are saying. They'd like to see more  
4 taken because they're mostly after caribou and moose and  
5 other stuff, you know. This is something new to us  
6 because, you know, they've only been back since 1988, '89  
7 and now we've got all over the area.

8  
9 Thank you.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions  
12 for BLM.

13  
14 MR. BALLOT: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have  
15 one. Back in March Randi reported there were some folks  
16 doing studies on the grayling and Dolly Varden in the  
17 Buckland River. We've yet to see a report or outcome of  
18 that study. I hope we can see one by the winter meeting.

19  
20 MR. JOLY: I'm not sure what that was  
21 about, but I'll make sure you get some information on  
22 that.

23  
24 MR. BALLOT: That was Charlie Lean that  
25 responded. So whoever took his place I hope somebody  
26 give us something.

27  
28 MR. JOLY: I'll work with Ken Adkisson to  
29 make sure we get some information to you, Percy.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions  
32 of BLM.

33  
34 (No comments)

35  
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: None. Thank you very  
37 much.

38  
39 MR. JOLY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Alaska Department of  
42 Fish and Game. Staff.

43  
44 MR. MAGDANZ: I guess I'm the only one  
45 left, Mr. Chair. Jim Magdanz with Fish and Game  
46 Subsistence Division. Jim Dau has been in the field a  
47 lot this fall and is trying to catch up on things today.  
48 Just flew in yesterday from Fairbanks with the plane, so  
49 he regrets that he can't be here this afternoon.

50

1                   There have been some staff changes that  
2 you've already heard about from the Federal side. I just  
3 want to say I've done my part for Federal/State  
4 cooperation.

5  
6                   (Laughter)

7  
8                   MR. GOODWIN: Everyday.

9  
10                  MR. MAGDANZ: Everyday. The news on our  
11 watch is the Board of Game will be here 11th to 15th of  
12 November. There are a couple proposals that will be of  
13 interest. The Department has only put one forward and  
14 that's to remove the exemption for Kotzebue to be part of  
15 the brown bear management area. We would expand the area  
16 to include Kotzebue now. It's mostly housekeeping  
17 proposal. The regulations for the regular hunt and the  
18 subsistence hunt as far as seasons and bag limits are now  
19 the same and it's really no point in having special regs  
20 for Kotzebue in that subsistence hunt, so we're proposing  
21 to remove that.

22  
23                  There are some proposals from the public  
24 that would undue the moose registration hunt that went  
25 into effect a year ago, so people may want to testify  
26 about that moose registration hunt and whether they want  
27 it to continue or not. The hunt was in effect last year  
28 and this year. The drawing hunt for moose for  
29 non-residents took effect this year. Just looking  
30 briefly at the numbers from last year, it looked like  
31 there was a substantial decline in non-local moose  
32 hunting here. I think some of those hunters have  
33 switched to caribou. I'm not sure that we have a decline  
34 in traffic. I think we may have a shift in the species  
35 that are being harvested.

36  
37                  One of the other developments this year  
38 has been House Bill 76. It was co-sponsored by Reggie  
39 Jewell that created a big game commercial services board  
40 to manage guides and transporters. The Northwest Arctic  
41 Borough worked very hard to get that passed. Reggie  
42 Jewell worked very hard to get that passed. The Borough  
43 had Reggie include in that law a requirement that the  
44 State release to the Borough information about the  
45 transporter/guide activities in the Borough. That  
46 information was received by the Borough about three weeks  
47 ago. It's a big stack of the last two years of hunter  
48 activity reports and hunt records from big game guides.

49  
50                  Kim Franklin is entering all that data

1 over at the Borough. We worked together for a day to  
2 make sure we had the data entry underway, but they will  
3 have actually better information over at the Borough now  
4 than we have on transporter activity and that should be  
5 ready by the time the Board of Game meets here in  
6 November.

7  
8 Big Game Commercial Services Board I  
9 understand their first meeting will be in December. Roy  
10 Aschenfelter is a member from Nome and he'll be up here  
11 for the Board of Game. I encourage you to touch base  
12 with him and let him know about your transporter concerns  
13 because he's in a position to do something about them.

14  
15 Let me just close briefly with a few  
16 comments on the transporter situation. We continue to be  
17 frustrated as you've been frustrated by the inability to  
18 manage the transporter activities. There were a number  
19 of public safety issues. We had three rescues. Mention  
20 was made this morning of one of those day when two  
21 parties were rescued. A week later we had another rescue  
22 on the Aggie, a similar situation. It reminds me very  
23 much of commercial fishing. What we have here is  
24 commercial hunting. The effort and the capitalization,  
25 the expenditures on equipment, it reminds me very much of  
26 a commercial fishery, but we're managing it. The only  
27 tool we've had so far to manage it is the sport hunting  
28 regulations and they clearly haven't been adequate to the  
29 job, so I'm hoping Big Game Commercial Services Board  
30 will move us in the right direction.

31  
32 Mr. Chair, thank you.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions for Jim.  
35 Calvin.

36  
37 MR. MOTO: At the time last year because  
38 of the small harvest there was an emergency closure when  
39 we only had our season open for less than two weeks  
40 because of the decline of moose at that time. Maybe  
41 that's why you have a smaller number for last year. Any  
42 chance that's going to change this year or has it been  
43 expanded again for moose hunting or is that closure still  
44 in effect for the 21st?

45  
46 MR. MAGDANZ: We do not have a closure in  
47 effect for the Buckland/Deering area for moose at this  
48 time.

49  
50 MR. MOTO: Our people were wondering

1 because they were wondering if they were going to be  
2 legal to go out hunting because there's a few extra  
3 moose.

4

5 MR. MAGDANZ: Well, one, Leeann points  
6 out there are two moose hunts on the books. There is the  
7 registration hunt for which you have to register in  
8 advance by July 15th and in that hunt the season runs  
9 from August 1 to December 31st and the bag limit is a  
10 bull until November 1 and then it's antlerless moose, one  
11 moose.

12

13 The other moose hunt is a general hunt,  
14 which on State lands is open from September 1 to  
15 September 20 and the bag limit is one bull 50-inch or  
16 greater. So if they didn't register for that  
17 registration hunt, the State lands are closed now to  
18 general moose hunting. You've got to have the advanced  
19 registration permit. Federal lands, however, can be  
20 hunted with the green State report card, so you can go  
21 out and hunt, but you need to pay attention to your land  
22 status. If you have the green card, you need to hunt on  
23 Federal lands right now. If you've got the white card,  
24 you can go both directions.

25

26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions to Jim  
27 about the moose hunt.

28

29 MR. MOTO: I have one. You know, because  
30 of the Bering Land Bridge we're able to hunt moose  
31 because it starts about eight miles from Deering. What  
32 I'm trying to understand, when I look at the map, I'm  
33 trying to figure out whether the old mine is part of the  
34 Land Bridge or is it further west of it. When I look at  
35 the map, it looks like the Land Bridge is right over  
36 Utica. Am I right or wrong?

37

38 MR. MAGDANZ: I'll defer to the Park  
39 Service, who probably knows land status there better than  
40 I do.

41

42 MR. ADKISSON: No, I believe that's  
43 outside the park.

44

45 MR. MOTO: So if somebody from a  
46 different region comes to hunt over there, it wouldn't be  
47 legal for him to hunt there, right? He'd have to be a  
48 person that lives in Deering or Buckland or Shishmaref,  
49 right?

50

1 MR. ADKISSON: Calvin, that depends on  
2 what it is you're hunting and under whose system you're  
3 hunting. Generally if you're hunting under a State  
4 system, basically you need the State permits and need to  
5 comply with State seasons and harvest limits. If you're  
6 hunting under the Federal system, you need to comply with  
7 whatever Federal requirements there are. So it really  
8 depends on where you're hunting and under what system  
9 you're hunting.

10  
11 MR. MOTO: We've been getting a lot of  
12 non-resident hunters there all of a sudden. I was just  
13 wondering if they went through the process or they're  
14 just going to the hunt because they used some of the  
15 local people to take them out.

16  
17 MR. MAGDANZ: The way I understand it, at  
18 this point it's still State managed land, so in that  
19 September 1 to September 20th window, that season would  
20 be open to Alaska residents, so they wouldn't have to be  
21 local residents to hunt moose in that area. If local  
22 people are taking non-local people out there during that  
23 time period, that's probably legal hunting as far as the  
24 Department of Fish and Game are concerned. There could  
25 be trespass issues on top of that.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

28  
29 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
30 Calvin, the issue in regards to land status, you go 22  
31 miles upriver, that's all NANA selected lands. Any non-  
32 shareholder is not allowed to hunt in those lands. Any  
33 shareholder who is taking hunters out has to be a guide  
34 legally through the State system. Any shareholder who  
35 wishes to go into NANA lands cannot guide within your  
36 selected areas. So it's basically for subsistence  
37 purchases only. The reason that is is McDowell forced  
38 NANA into a trespass program, so therefore any non-  
39 shareholders are not allowed within NANA lands to hunt.

40  
41 MR. MOTO: Yeah, I understand that. When  
42 it's not a person that's guiding the people, they always  
43 say something, but when they're guiding somebody they  
44 just overlook the fact they're using NANA lands to hunt,  
45 you know. But when somebody else try to do that, they  
46 holler and scream and call NANA.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If they want to holler  
49 and scream, here's the man to holler and scream. He's a  
50 trespass officer. Any other questions to the State.

1 (No comments)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Jim, thank you.  
4  
5 MR. MAGDANZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Item number 13,  
8 other business.  
9  
10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. Under 13 I  
11 wanted to mention that we have art contest again. The  
12 year before we had some good input from the villages up  
13 here in the Northwest. I hardly saw any last year. Some  
14 of them were winning from Shungnak, Kivalina, Buckland  
15 and Deering. If I pass these out to you, if you would go  
16 to your schools and encourage students to enter into the  
17 drawing contest. This will be statewide.  
18  
19 MR. MOTO: The students in Deering were  
20 wondering when they were going to get these. They'll be  
21 glad to see them again.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead.  
24  
25 MR. STEIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
26 just want to comment. I didn't know where general  
27 residents come under. I'd just like to comment on my  
28 observations of sitting here and see what's really going  
29 on. I wrote some notes to remind myself what I might  
30 need to say.  
31  
32 I heard comments pretty much about  
33 caribou, the decline of population. I can tell you right  
34 now the biggest obstacle is us. I mean everybody. At one  
35 point in my lifetime somewhere around and including 1942  
36 to 1950, but I was dog teaming around there about the  
37 time Ralph was dog teaming. We had to go up on the North  
38 Slope area and in the Colville River area, Mede River  
39 area just to get caribou. There was really no fall runs  
40 up until somewhere around the latter part of 1956, '58.  
41 We still at some points had to go long distances to get  
42 caribou.  
43  
44 We were under the jurisdiction of Federal  
45 government at that time, too, Fish and Wildlife, and they  
46 were the controllers and a lot of time there was only one  
47 person here that enforced that and he was a pilot and he  
48 went around.  
49  
50 During those years I don't know who they

1 blamed or anything. In some years we were only allowed  
2 to get one caribou per person. Later on we were really  
3 doing good when we thought we could get three caribou per  
4 family. So when you look at the caribou herd and you  
5 wonder what's really going on, every living thing has a  
6 cycle, even you and I. I think we have to look at the  
7 whole picture and try to see what we can do for the  
8 future generations.

9  
10 Some of the questions that I wrote to  
11 myself. I want to commend you on addressing a lot of the  
12 issues that has been brought before you to act on. I  
13 think the Council needs to really -- and these are only  
14 recommendations -- identify yourself what I am charged  
15 with in my packet. I downloaded from the web site your  
16 charge. How many of you have really read it? I think  
17 it's really important that we know what we're charged  
18 with.

19  
20 The only thing that we really look at is  
21 subsistence issues and that's your charge, basically.  
22 Recommendations from the agencies that you're working  
23 with, they have to work with you. As I stated earlier,  
24 those are only recommendations. You have a right to make  
25 your own recommendations in the language that you want.  
26 You have a lot of authority. I think you should exercise  
27 it in a lot of ways. Demand things. People that are not  
28 here for the meeting, using excuses, should have very  
29 valid excuses not to be here.

30  
31 People or agencies are coming here  
32 without data. It's the same thing as I didn't know, I  
33 can't get it. When we go against regulations, I can tell  
34 right now ignorance is not an excuse. I think you need  
35 to demand why a lot of that data is not coming to you  
36 because you're being asked to make decisions without  
37 enough data. When you are asked to make recommendations,  
38 make them in the form of a motion and it stays in the  
39 record, your minutes, and nobody can question your  
40 action, what were they really after.

41  
42 I think what this committee needs to look  
43 at is identify the user groups and enforce the  
44 regulations that you're recommending. We've got Federal  
45 regulations, we've got State regulations. We need to  
46 learn to let the two agencies sit down and fight it out.  
47 Walter had a really good idea about bringing these  
48 agencies together and sit down. Get clear definitions.  
49 Even today I listened to one government agency defining  
50 one navigable water in two different ways.

1                   One of the questions I had is who gives  
2 these permits. The transporter hunting and everything  
3 that we're having problems with now. Who do we turn to  
4 to see how we could regulate it. Get current reports.  
5 Hey, even if data is stacked that high and it's placed in  
6 front of you right now and you had a chance to look at  
7 it, you would have more data in front of you that you  
8 could use to make really sound decisions. I think you  
9 need to really demand that. Not ask for it, demand it.

10  
11                   This council was created by ANILCA and  
12 it's public law 86-487. That is your origination. I  
13 don't know what else I can say other than maybe a couple  
14 more comments. What is a State hunt? I don't know.  
15 What is the others? I don't know what a Federal hunt is.  
16 We have two different permit systems. If I can't  
17 understand it, just think of some of those people living  
18 in the villages and being confused.

19  
20                   At one point one of our strategies used  
21 to be, from sitting in your positions now, was to keep  
22 the Federal and State government at odds with each other,  
23 then we kind of get our way. But I think those days are  
24 over. We need to sit down together and develop  
25 something. We need definitions.

26  
27                   I think I've said enough and, Mr.  
28 Chairman and Council, I thank you for giving me the  
29 opportunity to speak.

30  
31                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you very much,  
32 Mr. Stein. We always welcome public comments, which is  
33 important to us at the RAC.

34  
35                   MR. STEIN: Thank you.

36  
37                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, 14. Confirm  
38 March 7-8, 2006 in Kotzebue.

39  
40                   Barbara.

41  
42                   MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes, those are the  
43 dates, Mr. Chair.

44  
45                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: What are the wishes of  
46 the Council for March 7th and 8th in Kotzebue.

47  
48                   MR. SAMPSON: If there's no problem, do  
49 we need a motion or what?

50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We need a motion to  
2 approve March 7th and 8th in Kotzebue for the next  
3 meeting. Is there a motion on the floor?  
4  
5 MR. SAMPSON: So moved.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.  
8  
9 MR. KARMUN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. What  
10 I'd like to do before we set a particular date is check  
11 around the region and see if there's any conflicting  
12 activities going to be possible for those two days also  
13 and go from there.  
14  
15 Thank you.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Does anyone have any  
18 information on activities on those two dates in our  
19 region. Calvin.  
20  
21 MR. MOTO: NANA Day.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I don't have the exact  
24 date for that annual meeting in Shungnak. I can give it  
25 to you. But the dates are right here in front of you,  
26 March 7th and 8th.  
27  
28 Willie.  
29  
30 MR. GOODWIN: Mr. Chairman. It's not set  
31 this year. Remember you had to change the date because of  
32 the quarterly meeting last year.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.  
35  
36 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman. I agree with  
37 what Victor is saying. If we give it some technical  
38 review and find out what's going on. I wouldn't mind  
39 being here when they have the high school basketball  
40 games.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anything else from the  
43 Council for March 7th and 8th.  
44  
45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.  
46 Do you want me to check for you and then get back with  
47 you on those dates to see what's going on that week from  
48 the school district and then you guys said it would be at  
49 the call of the Chair.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What is the wish of the  
2 Council, have Barbara find out what's going on that week  
3 and then let us know?  
4  
5 MR. SAMPSON: Yes.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, we'll do that.  
8 So we'll leave it up to you, Barbara.  
9  
10 Victor.  
11  
12 MR. KARMUN: Thank you. This packet that  
13 we got today, would it be possible to get it a week early  
14 to where we could review everything in it?  
15  
16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Why didn't you get  
17 yours? I know they mailed them out like two weeks ago or  
18 longer. Percy got his.  
19  
20 MR. KARMUN: I sure didn't get mine.  
21  
22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: What address do you  
23 have?  
24  
25 MR. KARMUN: The same one I've always  
26 had, P.O. Box 343.  
27  
28 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, thank you,  
29 Victor. I'll check.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin.  
32  
33 MR. MOTO: Would it be possible to have  
34 one day for a work day to go over some of this or  
35 wouldn't that be cost-effective?  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I have no information  
38 on that. Maybe Barbara would. Could we do that?  
39  
40 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's at the call of  
41 the Council if they want. I'm not the one to tell you  
42 what to do. You're the one to decide on how you want it.  
43 If you guys want to make a motion and have a work  
44 session, that's at your call. It's not mine.  
45  
46 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman. I understand  
47 Calvin's concern, but I think we get our packet way ahead  
48 of time and they're going to work on fixing up the  
49 process for some of them that don't get them. We should  
50 be reviewing them and we should be here ready to do

1 business and that's why I'm against it.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Percy. So  
4 the dates Barbara will let us know. B, establish date  
5 and place of fall 2006 meeting.  
6  
7 MR. SAMPSON: October 7th.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that a motion for  
10 October 7, 2006, Mr. Sampson?  
11  
12 MR. SAMPSON: Yes.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion on the floor for  
15 fall meeting would be October 7, 2006. Where?  
16  
17 MR. CLEVELAND: Ambler.  
18  
19 MR. SAMPSON: Oh, that's a Saturday,  
20 wrong date. Let's go with the 13th, Mr. Chairman, and we  
21 can go to one of the villages.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that October 13th,  
24 2006?  
25  
26 MR. SAMPSON: That's affirmative.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Where? Percy.  
29  
30 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman. If I remember  
31 right, we went to Kiana, Noatak, and I'm ready to go  
32 farther up the river, one of the three villages there. I  
33 think you mentioned Ambler. That's where the main herd  
34 passes by. We could make sure they pass by real good.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We need an idea where  
37 it's going to be. Seattle or Las Vegas.  
38  
39 MR. SAMPSON: Let's go to Ambler, Mr.  
40 Chairman.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish of the  
43 council. The next fall meeting would be October 13,  
44 Ambler. We need a motion on the floor for approval for  
45 October 13th at Ambler for our records.  
46  
47 MR. BALLOT: So moved.  
48  
49 MR. SAMPSON: Second.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, moved by Percy  
2 and seconded.  
3  
4 MR. KARMUN: Mr. Chairman. My question,  
5 I wouldn't mind going to a village. Would this be we fly  
6 up in the morning and come back in the evening or we  
7 spend the evening. Some of these villages would be kind  
8 of tight for accommodations.  
9  
10 MR. SAMPSON: That's why you take your  
11 sleeping bags.  
12  
13 MR. CLEVELAND: Annually we accommodate  
14 more than 500 people every year. Less than 100, no  
15 problem.  
16  
17 MR. MOTO: What date are we agreeing on,  
18 7th or 13th?  
19  
20 MR. BALLOT: The 13th.  
21  
22 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman. I think he's  
23 suggesting Shungnak.  
24  
25 MR. BALLOT: If you want to amend my  
26 motion, that's fine.  
27  
28 MR. CLEVELAND: Why I mentioned Shungnak  
29 is I'm on the boards here and they can start planning for  
30 it and I think Shungnak can be a good host.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We have an amendment to  
33 move the meeting to Shungnak from Ambler.  
34  
35 MR. BALLOT: I concur.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: There's an amendment on  
38 the motion to move the meeting from Ambler to Shungnak.  
39 Is there a second on the amendment.  
40  
41 MR. KARMUN: I'll second it.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Seconded. Let's go to  
44 the main motion. Should we meet at Shungnak. I need one  
45 more motion.  
46  
47 MR. SAMPSON: I thought it was amended.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Barbara would probably  
50 let us know what would come up next if we selected

1 Shungnak.

2

3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, we've had  
4 restrictions for the last five years or so on travel or  
5 having meetings out in the villages. Before we can even  
6 say yes to you right now, although you have selected  
7 Shungnak, we'd have to go to our ARD to get approval to  
8 say we can meet out in the village. And that's the same  
9 for all the other Councils statewide. So I'll let you  
10 know and we'll put this proposal to our ARD once we get  
11 back.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: How long will that take  
16 to let us know?

17

18 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It will be a couple  
19 weeks or so. We have that one-year leeway. Helen has  
20 something to say.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Helen.

23

24 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If a Council member  
25 doesn't receive their packets of information before the  
26 meeting, like a week before, I think it would be good to  
27 call our office and then we could send it express mail or  
28 something to make sure you get it. We've been pretty  
29 good about getting stuff out to people. I'm sorry,  
30 Victor, you didn't receive it. Next time let us know.

31

32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If we were denied to  
33 have the meeting in Shungnak, then we need an alternative  
34 besides Kotzebue.

35

36 MR. BALLOT: A few years ago we were  
37 talking about Buckland, but somehow we never made it over  
38 there. I remembered that as we were talking.

39

40 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: If they say no to  
41 Shungnak, then they'll say no to any other village in the  
42 region, then they'll dub Kotzebue for your meeting place  
43 if they say no to Shungnak. But we'll put your proposal  
44 forth to the ARD and we'll let you know as soon as we  
45 hear.

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We'll leave it  
48 the way it is and have Barbara let us know. Did we miss  
49 anything at all on today's meeting. Do we have any  
50 comments from the RAC before we adjourn.

1 (No comments)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Do we have any comments  
4 from the audience, government agencies, Maniilaq or  
5 anybody.  
6  
7 (No comments)  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Well, if none, we're  
10 down to item 15.  
11  
12 ATTAMUK: Motion to adjourn.  
13  
14 MR. CLEVELAND: Second.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The meeting has been  
17 moved by Enoch to adjourn. The meeting will adjourn at  
18 exactly two minutes after 4:00. Meeting adjourned.  
19  
20 Thank you very much ladies and gentleman.  
21  
22  
23 (Off record)  
24  
25 (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:

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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 19th day of October 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph P. Kolasinski  
Notary Public in and for Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 03/12/08