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NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

PUBLIC MEETING

Nullagvik Hotel Meeting Room
March 8, 2005
8:30 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Raymond Stoney, Chair
- Percy Ballot
- Reggie Cleveland
- Victor Karmun
- Walter Sampson
- Enoch Shiedt - Attamuk
- Austin Swan, Sr.
- Regional Coordinator, Michelle Chivers

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Kotzebue, Alaska - 3/8/2005)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We had a little difficulty with our speakers here, so I'll call the meeting back order, the Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council to order. It's 8:45. Roll call, please.

MS. CHIVERS: Walter Sampson.

MR. SAMPSON: (In Inupiat)

MS. CHIVERS: Raymond Stoney.

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Here.

MS. CHIVERS: Lance Kramer. We did receive an e-mail from Lance Kramer. He is going to be resigning from the Council, just so the Council members are aware.

Percy Ballot. I talked to Percy yesterday, and he mentioned that something came up, and he's going to try to fly in this morning. And he said if he could make it in, he would probably be in around 10:00 a.m.

Reggie Cleveland.

MR. CLEVELAND: Here.

MS. CHIVERS: Attamuk.

ATTAMUK: Here.

MS. CHIVERS: Calvin Moto. Calvin is also weathered out. He's going to try to make it in this morning. I talked to him yesterday.

Ralph Ramoth. And I talked to Ralph's wife yesterday, and apparently there was a death in the family, so he will not be making it to the meeting.

Austin Swan.

MR. SWAN: Here.

1 MS. CHIVERS: And Victor Karmun.
2
3 MR. KARMUN: Here.
4
5 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We
6 have quorum. We have six.
7
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Michelle.
9 For Mr. Kramer, is he going to put in a resignation for
10 this Council?
11
12 MS. CHIVERS: Yes, he submitted an e-mail
13 stating that he would be like sending in a letter of
14 resignation. So once I can get ahold of him, I'll ask
15 him to go ahead and submit that to the Council.
16
17 Thank you.
18
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. For the record,
20 you know, we'll have to have his letter of resignation
21 for the records.
22
23 MS. CHIVERS: Well, I talked to our FACA
24 coordinator, and she stated that if we're unable to
25 receive a letter of resignation, the e-mail would serve
26 its purpose, because he did state in that that he would
27 be resigning from the Council.
28
29 Thank you.
30
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Michelle.
32 We do got a quorum.
33
34 Okay. Go down to Item No. 3. I
35 certainly welcome the staff and the Council members right
36 here to this RAC meeting. Welcome. So we'll introduce
37 ourselves. You know, we start from Walter and go all the
38 way around and across I guess.
39
40 MR. SAMPSON: (In Inupiat)
41
42 MR. KARMUN: Victor Karmun, Kotzebue.
43
44 MS. DOWNING: You turned yours off.
45
46 MR. KARMUN: Victor Karmun, Kotzebue.
47
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Raymond Stoney, Kiana.
49
50 ATTAMUK: Attamuk with Maniilaq.

1 MR. SWAN: Austin Swan, Kivalina.
2
3 MR. CLEVELAND: Good morning. I'm Reggie
4 Cleveland from Shungnak.
5
6 MR. SAMPSON: Walter Sampson.
7
8 MS. DOWNING: I meant the gentleman next
9 to you, he forgot to turn his mike back off.
10
11 MR. SAMPSON: Oh, okay.
12
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Our guests, you need to
14 introduce yourself, please.
15
16 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson, National
17 Park Service.
18
19 MR. BERG: Jerry Berg. I'm a fishery
20 biologist with the Office of Subsistence Management out
21 of Anchorage.
22
23 MS. JEWEL: Linda Jewel from the Native
24 Village of Kotzebue.
25
26 MR. GOODWIN: Willie Goodwin, National
27 Park Service.
28
29 MR. LEAN: Charlie Lean, biologist with
30 the National Park Service.
31
32 MR. MAGDANZ: Jim Magdanz, Fish and Game,
33 Kotzebue.
34
35 MR. RABINOWITCH: Sandy Rabinowitch, Park
36 Service, Staff Committee for the Federal Subsistence
37 Board.
38
39 MS. GEORGETTE: Susan Georgette. I work
40 with Fish and Game in Kotzebue.
41
42 MR. GREG: Ron Greg, Kotzebue Fish and
43 Game.
44
45 MR. KESSLER: I'm Steve Kessler with the
46 U.S. Forest Service out of Anchorage. I'm a member of
47 the InterAgency Staff Committee.
48
49 MS. CRAVER: Amy Craver, and I'm an
50 anthropologist for the Office of Subsistence Management

1 out of Anchorage.

2

3 MS. MEYERS: Randy Meyers, a natural
4 resource specialist with BLM in Kotzebue.

5

6 MS. MORAN: Tina Moran, wildlife
7 biologist with the Selawik National Wildlife Refuge in
8 Kotzebue.

9

10 MR. SCHULTZ: Good morning. Brad
11 Schultz, wildlife biologist with the Park Service.

12

13 MS. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong. I'm a
14 cultural anthropologist and serve this Council, from the
15 Office of Subsistence Management, Anchorage.

16

17 MS. CHIVERS: Michelle Chivers, Council
18 Coordinator.

19

20 MR. ARDIZZONE: I'm Chuck Ardizzone from
21 the Office of Subsistence Management, wildlife biologist
22 for this Council.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Did we miss
25 anybody?

26

27 MS. DOWNING: Meredith Downing, court
28 reporter with Computer Matrix out of Anchorage.

29

30 MR. SAMPSON: Turn your mike on.

31

32 (Laughter)

33

34 MS. DOWNING: Sorry, Walter. Meredith
35 Downing with Computer Matrix out of Anchorage.

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We got
38 everybody. Walter.

39

40 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, before we
41 proceed with the meeting, I would like to know the
42 process that the agency goes through to advertise our
43 regional meetings.

44

45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Michelle.

46

47 MS. CHIVERS: Your talking about for
48 local advertising in the area?

49

50 MR. SAMPSON: Yes, local advertising,

1 yeah.

2

3 MS. CHIVERS: Well, we have a technical
4 writing staff. They actually put together all the news
5 releases and the regional ads for different newspapers,
6 and so they send them to the main locations, like
7 Kotzebue. There should have been an ad in the paper, and
8 they usually run them for a week. And then again I think
9 two weeks later. So it's usually in the newspaper. And
10 I believe they still have it on cable television, you
11 know, when they have -- if they still have that service.
12 I'm not sure, but there's some pretty wide advertising
13 for the meeting.

14

15 MR. SAMPSON: Maybe the other option you
16 probably can use is the radio station. I mean, the
17 purpose of these meetings, it's just like the extension
18 of the state government. We're trying to get some local
19 participation from the region in regards to some of the
20 issues that we have to discuss, because of the very fact
21 that it impacts their very livelihoods one way or
22 another. And I think if we can find a way to better
23 regionally advertise and encourage participation from the
24 people throughout the region, it would be an ideal thing.
25 I think, you know, there's -- not everybody reads
26 everything now, but a lot of people listen to radio. So
27 maybe that would be an ideal thing to do, is to go to the
28 radio station, both in English and in Inupiat, you could
29 advertise these meetings.

30

31 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Walter. I know
32 years ago we used to do that, and we did have Barbara
33 Armstrong who did the translation on the radio. And I'll
34 bring that back to the office, because I guess that was
35 probably well worth the time when they did it then. I
36 don't know why they are not doing it now, but I'll bring
37 it back to the office.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter,
42 that's a good point. Evidently that we will -- on our
43 next meeting, we'll have somebody from Anchorage, maybe
44 Barbara Armstrong use the native language, and be on the
45 air to this region up here. Walter.

46

47 MR. SAMPSON: And the other thing I would
48 also like to raise is that the fact is that with the
49 Language Commission that's been making proposal in
50 regards to conducting meetings in Inupiat. Maybe at some

1 point in time we need to start encouraging that type of a
2 process as well, which means that we would have no.....

3

4 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair. Walter. I was
5 just informed that we do send out the radio ads, and then
6 it's just a matter of whether the radio actually runs the
7 ads or not. And Mr. Berg also informed me that Barb does
8 still does the translation, but lately it's been just for
9 the nominations process when we're requesting new Council
10 members, applications for Council. But we will bring it
11 back about the meetings, though.

12

13 MR. SAMPSON: Okay. I lost my train of
14 thought there for a second.

15

16 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Sampson. Mr. Chair.
17 Michelle was listening to Jerry when you asked your
18 question about having the meeting in Inupiat. I hope I'm
19 not speaking out of turn, but I think that if that's
20 something the Council wanted, it could be done. We do
21 that in the Y-K Delta, all of those meetings are done
22 with simultaneous translation. And, you know, I believe
23 -- I hope I'm not speaking out of turn, but I believe if
24 that's something the Council wanted to request, it could
25 be done, because we do it there. We have people on the
26 Council there who are not bilingual, and it's a
27 necessity. So, you know, if that's something you want us
28 to take forward, we can do that.

29

30 MR. SAMPSON: I raise that, because it's
31 something that this region has been trying to do is to
32 try to keep the Inupiat language within the region. If
33 it's done elsewhere, then it can be done here as well,
34 too. I mean, you can get a simultaneous interpreter to
35 do that. And this does not also exclude anyone to speak
36 English. So I think it would be an ideal thing to start
37 doing is to speak the Inupiat language and where we feel
38 comfortable for some of you that wants to talk Inupiat.
39 I know he's really going for that one. So.....

40

41 MR. KARMUN: Good luck.

42

43 MR. SAMPSON: Well, anyway, with that, I
44 think it would be an ideal thing to at least to try that
45 out. We're trying to make sure that we do not lose our
46 Inupiat language, and in fact the elders had encouraged
47 where we can speak Inupiat, even though others don't
48 understand it, with the hope that sometime somebody will
49 speak -- will start picking up some of the Inupiat
50 language. That is encouraged throughout the region. I

1 think it would be an ideal thing for us to start doing.
2 If we can get translating equipment to happen, we ought
3 to try it. And maybe by doing that, and allowing Inupiat
4 translation or English translation into Inupiat, we can
5 get some folks from the local level that can participate
6 in these meetings.

7
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter.
9 We're still on introductions. Did we miss anybody? We
10 know who you are now.

11
12 Okay. Go down to the next item, Item No.
13 4, election of officers, the chair, vice chair and the
14 secretary. It will be entirely up to the Council members
15 if you guys want to elect officers right now. Right now
16 we've got Lance Kramer, Percy Ballot and Calvin Moto are
17 not here. And if you guys decide what you want to do,
18 elect officers, or wait until next meeting before we
19 elect officers. It's up to the Council members here.

20
21 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I.....

22
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish of the
24 Council. Walter, you got anything?

25
26 MR. SAMPSON: I do. I think we have
27 enough folks to do our election. I mean, not unless you
28 want to -- Calvin is the other one that is going to be
29 making it in. There's two missing, right? Calvin
30 and.....

31
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We've got four now with
33 Ralph Ramoth.

34
35 MR. SAMPSON: Okay. Ralph is -- okay.
36 Ralph won't make it in. It don't matter I guess. When
37 is our next meeting?

38
39 MS. CHIVERS: The next meeting will be in
40 October.

41
42 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

43
44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk, I'll start
45 with you.

46
47 ATTAMUK: Yeah, I think we should hold
48 the election now, because, you know, six months from now
49 the chair will be up, and we need to have a chair that's
50 updating the -- instead of just filling in as the chair.

1 We've got a quorum here, and we could do business within
2 the quorum.

3

4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Reggie.

5

6 MR. CLEVELAND: Mr. Chairman, my
7 suggestion is that No. 7 should be right under
8 introductions I think, and that way we can discuss --
9 well, excuse me. No. 5 should be above No. 4. That way
10 we can discuss the whole agenda and we can change that
11 election to a later part of the day or table it
12 altogether.

13

14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Michelle.

15

16 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, if you'd like we
17 can wait until this afternoon. We're hoping that Percy
18 and Calvin may make it. If weather permits, they'll be
19 here this afternoon. They'll try to make it in this
20 morning, but we may have them here this afternoon.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Do you guys want
23 to hold this election process until this afternoon just
24 in case Percy or Calvin shows up? What's the wish of the
25 Council?

26

27 MR. SWAN: Mr. Chairman.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Austin.

30

31 MR. SWAN: Yes. I would go with holding
32 the election until the afternoon, but proceed with it in
33 the afternoon whether they come in or not.

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. That's good.
36 Everybody agree?

37

38 ATTAMUK: Yeah. Okay.

39

40 MR. KARMUN: Sounds good.

41

42 ATTAMUK: Go for it.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We'll table it
45 then, election of officers until later.

46

47 MS. DOWNING: Your microphone, sir.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Until later on in the
50 day.

1 Okay. The next item, review and adoption
2 of agenda.

3
4 Before we get going, I guess there's a
5 blue form on the table there if you make testimony, and
6 fill it in and give it to Michelle, and we'll take your
7 testimony. It's a blue form.

8
9 So I'll give you a few minutes for the
10 review of the agenda. Right now we've got I think one
11 addition right here. First of all, I'll ask the Council
12 to go through the agenda, and if you want to make any
13 changes or additions. If there's none, right here we've
14 got one, the Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource
15 Commission, we want to add that onto -- Walt, you got any
16 idea?

17
18 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman.

19
20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: It's Gates of the
21 Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission, plan
22 recommendation from the Gates of the Arctic.

23
24 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, under 17 I
25 believe we can put that under other business, (C). I
26 would also like to add on the Kobuk Valley Resource
27 Commission's letter, and Cape Krusenstern's letter in
28 (D). Cape and Kobuk Valley.

29
30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: On where at, new
31 business or.....

32
33 MR. SAMPSON: Under the new business,
34 yeah. Under other business. Do we have new business?

35
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Other. Okay. Okay.
37 And Gates to the Arctic, where do you want this, on the
38 same category?

39
40 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

41
42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Also we've got
43 one more, the appointment member to the Gates of the
44 Arctic. Would be on the same category?

45
46 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

47
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Okay. And any
49 other additions to the agenda? If none, could we have a
50 motion on the floor to adopt amended agenda for today?

1 MR. SAMPSON: I so move, Mr. Chairman,
2 with the changes to the agenda.
3
4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter.
5 There's a motion on the floor. Is there a second, on the
6 agenda?
7
8 ATTAMUK: I'll second it.
9
10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second. Any further
11 discussions.
12
13 (No comments)
14
15 MR. SWAN: Question.
16
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question's been
18 called. All in favor of adopting the agenda for today
19 signify by saying aye.
20
21 IN UNISON: Aye.
22
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.
24
25 (No opposing votes)
26
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion carries. No. 6,
28 ethic disclosure. What is it, Michelle?
29
30 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This
31 is something the Federal Advisory Committee act -- well,
32 let me start over. Okay.
33
34 In 2003 the Secretaries of the Interior
35 and Agriculture added the ethics paragraph to the Council
36 charters. The Department of Interior noticed that all
37 the -- there were many advisory committee members, they
38 realized that there were over 100 of them, and so they
39 decided that they needed to come up with some guidelines
40 regarding financial disclosure by members. And the
41 purpose of the new requirement is to maintain the
42 integrity of the Federal Advisory Committees before the
43 public.
44
45 And so they've asked that each of the
46 Council members go through the ethics disclosure and
47 select a paragraph that best describes their situation,
48 whether they're a commercial operator or a commercial
49 fisherman. And then what they would do is they would
50 take a look at each of the proposals and see if there is

1 any financial gain that they would have if they voted on
2 that particular issue.

3

4 So when it comes time for the proposals,
5 what we'll have each of the Council members do is state
6 whether there was any financial gain for them or not.
7 And there most likely is not. I don't believe there
8 would be on this Council.

9

10 But I also heard, I know Walter's very
11 much opposed to this, but in talking with our FACA
12 coordinator, when she was talking with our Washington
13 office, they did not realize that you are all volunteers.
14 And so I believe that this is going to happen just this
15 meeting or next meeting, and after that it won't be
16 required of our 10 Regional Advisory Councils members.

17

18 So we'll just go with what we have for
19 now, just so it's stated on the record, and then
20 hopefully at the end of this year that's going to be --
21 it will be removed from the charters. That's my
22 understanding is it will be removed from the charters in
23 2006.

24

25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor, you've got
26 something?

27

28 MR. KARMUN: No, sir.

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

31

32 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, thank you for
33 the time.

34

35 The reason why I was objecting to this is
36 that this is one way of weaving out the regional folks
37 that are basically volunteering to this organization.
38 It's just like the State system that's in place. You get
39 weaved out if you're a regional or rural representative.
40 And it's the control that people have at the urban level.
41 And I think this is a process that can be used as a tool
42 to weave us out, and basically that was -- I was
43 objecting to that. And I think it's something that we
44 need to be aware of and deal with. If we're going to be
45 effective in what we do for the people of this region, as
46 regional representatives, that we need to be cognizant of
47 how things work in the system and how others deal with or
48 dictate to us on what we need to do in our meetings. And
49 that's important time.

50

1 We have to take a stand as appointed
2 people. Sure, my appointment might be, my credibility
3 might be such that I might be weaved off here, because of
4 the very fact that I get vocal sometimes. But that's
5 something I do, and I intend to continue to voice the
6 concerns of others in this region.

7
8 Thank you.

9
10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further
11 discussions. Attamuk.

12
13 ATTAMUK: Raymond, I concur with Walter.
14 The way they pick for this Council here, they'll pick
15 like an agency, BLM, the Federal, the Park Service, that
16 they could -- and if someone start getting outspoken
17 against an agency, they will start weeding them out.

18
19 And I've seen people that applied, and
20 they haven't even considered from the villages. I mean,
21 they're the only ones that should be picked. We as
22 Council members, because this is our land. It is what we
23 hunted with. We're here to protect it. And we're trying
24 to protect it our own way.

25
26 And yet we're getting weeded out, exactly
27 what Walter is saying. And I know that's get into
28 consideration. And you guys talk together who should get
29 in and who should get out, and without even talking to
30 us. And we live here.

31
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Before we get going
33 here, who's the coffee making expert here? Our coffee's
34 not even dripping.

35
36 Any further discussions on Item No. 6?

37
38 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.

39
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish of the
41 Council? Michelle.

42
43 MS. CHIVERS: Actually we are required by
44 law to do this. And so if we could just go ahead and
45 have the Council members pull out this -- there's a sheet
46 that gives -- it says the guidelines for the ethics
47 disclosure, and on the back it gives suggested language.
48 And maybe if each of the members want to select a
49 paragraph that would describe them best, and go ahead and
50 just put their name and where they're from, and just kind

1 of read that paragraph, and that way we have it on record
2 that it was taken care of. And we can just do it now
3 rather than waiting until the proposals. Will that work?

4
5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the time limit
6 on this? It's now or just.....

7
8 MS. CHIVERS: There's not really a time
9 limit, but it's best just to go ahead and get it out
10 ahead of time so that we won't have to worry about it
11 when it comes time for each of the proposals.

12
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Would it be possible to
14 have it presented to you on next meeting?

15
16 MS. CHIVERS: No, it has -- it's required
17 to be done at the beginning of each meeting. Thank you.

18
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

20
21 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, as I
22 understand it, is that we're required to disclose under
23 ethics law, if the intent is to do away with this in the
24 future, eventually it will weave itself out. So with
25 that, Mr. Chairman, I would go through the process of our
26 ethics disclosure.

27
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You're saying you want
29 to do it now, Walter?

30
31 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, my
32 name is Walter Sampson, and I live in Kotzebue. I
33 subsistence hunt in Federal lands, waters under
34 consideration at this meeting. I do not hold any
35 commercial permits or conduct any business activities
36 directly affected by the agenda items before the Council.

37
38 MR. KARMUN: Mr. Chairman.

39
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.

41
42 MR. KARMUN: Victor Karmun here. I do
43 subsistence hunt in Federal waters and lands under
44 consideration at this meeting. I also hold a commercial
45 fishing permit, but not in any areas under consideration
46 at this meeting.

47
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I'm Raymond Stoney, and
49 I live at Kiana. And I'm a subsistence hunt user, also
50 subsistence fishing and then I consider -- the Federal

1 lands being considered in this meeting. I do not hold no
2 commercial fishing license.

3

4 ATTAMUK: Attamuk, Enoch Shiedt. I
5 subsistence hunt and fish, I hold a commercial fishing
6 permit, but I do not -- I don't hold a guiding or
7 transporting and outfitting.

8

9 MR. SWAN: My name is Austin Swan. I'm
10 from Kivalina. I am a whaling captain, and just recently
11 this past year I've obtained a permit from the State of
12 Alaska to guide fishings in the Amaluk (ph) River, which
13 is non-navigable by the way, so as far as that goes.
14 That is my disclosure.

15

16 MR. CLEVELAND: My name is Reggie
17 Cleveland. I live in Shungnak. I subsistence hunt and
18 fish in the Federal lands under consideration at this
19 meeting. I do not hold any commercial permits or conduct
20 any business activities directly affected by any agenda
21 items before the Council.

22

23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Anything
24 else on this?

25

26 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Thank you, and
29 let's go down to the next item, Item No. 7, review and
30 agenda (sic) of minutes of October 8, 2004.

31

32 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I move for
33 the adoption of minutes from October 8th, 2004.

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. It's been moved
36 by Walter to adopt the minutes of our last meeting,
37 October 8, 2004. Is there a second.

38

39 MR. CLEVELAND: Second.

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second. Any
42 discussions on the minutes from the last meeting.
43 Reggie.

44

45 MR. CLEVELAND: Under Page 12 of the
46 minutes, I went over the minutes, and a typo maybe. Mr.
47 Sampson asked if herding caribou with an airplane is
48 harassment. Ms. Meyers stated that, yes, it is. Mr.
49 Sampson, that he, or thought that he.

50

1 MR. SAMPSON: Under 12?
2
3 MR. CLEVELAND: Number 12, top.
4
5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: On Page 12?
6
7 MR. CLEVELAND: Yes. Mr. Sampson said he
8 thought or -- that word didn't get to me.
9
10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that a correction.
11
12 MR. SAMPSON: It sounds like Inupiat
13 talking, all right.
14
15 MR. CLEVELAND: How should it be
16 corrected? Thought that he? It just needs to be
17 corrected I guess.
18
19 MR. SAMPSON: So delete some wording.
20
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Did you find it? Any
22 further discussions on the minutes.
23
24 (No comments)
25
26 MR. SAMPSON: Question.
27
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I see we've got coffee
29 now.
30
31 (In Inupiat)
32
33 Any further discussions on the minutes.
34
35 (No comments)
36
37 MR. SAMPSON: Question.
38
39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question's been
40 called for. All in favor of adopting the minutes of last
41 meeting signify by saying aye.
42
43 IN UNISON: Aye.
44
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.
46
47 (No opposing votes)
48
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: All in favor of
50 adopting the minutes, I'll say it again, signify by

1 saying aye.

2

3 IN UNISON: Aye.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion carries. Okay.

6 Thank you.

7

8 Item No. 8 is the Chair's report, the
9 Federal Subsistence Board meeting in January. I believe
10 that January meeting was all concerned about Southeastern
11 Alaska fisheries. We didn't have no proposals. There
12 was not too much affecting in northern part of the State,
13 which is up here. So I think that maybe Michelle has got
14 a few more items on this meeting in January in Anchorage.
15 All of it was on commercial fishery for Southeastern
16 Alaska. Have you got anything, Michelle?

17

18 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Our
19 region did not have any proposals, but we always -- have
20 always in the past invited each chair to the meeting just
21 to kind of hear the other concerns of the other regions,
22 and so it was really good to have Raymond there to attend
23 the meeting. And thank you for attending. I don't have
24 anything to add to that.

25

26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. When I attended
27 that meeting in January, I reviewed some of the proposals
28 that were submitted in Southeastern Alaska. I see that
29 one proposal, it took four hours, just one fish, for one
30 grayling. You know, four hours is a long time for one
31 proposal. So evidently up here in north part of the
32 state up here, Unit 23, we're lucky we don't do it like
33 Southeastern Alaska. They've got so many restrictions on
34 every fish, commercializing.

35

36 That's the end of my report. Any
37 questions on this report, I know very concerned about you
38 guys.

39

40 Walter.

41

42 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
43 You indicated that there was no support of any proposals,
44 any discussions in regards to any proposals or any plans
45 for future meetings to discuss any specific proposals?

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, Mr. Sampson, this
48 came up from Staff, you know, that one way or another, if
49 we ever come into commercial fisheries, or subsistence,
50 if there's purported to be presented, sure, we'll do it.

1 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, do we have
2 fishery reports that will be discussed here today?
3
4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I think we do, don't
5 we, from Selawik area.
6
7 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, I apologize.
8 This agenda that is in the book is different from what I
9 had submitted. We do have a report from the Alaska
10 Department of Fish and Game, and it had everything listed
11 as to what the reports were going to be. I know Susan
12 has a report that her and Attamuk were going to present.
13 And I've noticed there's some other items on this agenda
14 that I was unaware of until just reading just moments
15 ago. So, yeah, we do have a report from the ADF&G later
16 today.
17
18 Thank you.
19
20 ATTAMUK: Mr. Chairman.
21
22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Attamuk.
23
24 ATTAMUK: Yeah, but that report Susan is
25 giving is on subsistence fishes, not commercial fishing,
26 on whitefish. I mean, we've got to get it straight. He
27 was talking about commercial fishing.
28
29 MS. CHIVERS: Okay. As far as I know, we
30 do not have any reports on commercial fishing. Thank
31 you.
32
33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.
34
35 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, for the
36 issues that are critical to address, if those things did
37 not get on the Federal Register as a discussion item,
38 what happens to that?
39
40 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair. Walter. We
41 still will have a presentation from them. They are
42 listed as one of the agency reports, and so they will
43 bring it up at that time. It's just not listed under the
44 Alaska Department of Fish and Game as it was in the
45 previous one.
46
47 MR. SAMPSON: So it don't matter if it
48 really gets on the Federal Register or not then?
49
50 MS. CHIVERS: What do you mean by the

1 Federal Register?

2

3 MR. SAMPSON: I thought that when we have
4 a meeting, agenda items and stuff are placed into the
5 Federal Register for the public. Am I not correct or
6 not? No?

7

8 MS. CHIVERS: No, they are not.

9

10 MR. SAMPSON: Okay. That's good then. I
11 mean, we're always being pushed we have to put the
12 meeting dates on Federal Register when we don't have to
13 then?

14

15 MS. ARMSTRONG: The meetings get
16 announced publicly and that has -- but not the specific
17 agenda items. You guys can talk about whatever you want
18 at this meeting. That's fine.

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: (In Inupiat)

21

22 MR. KARMUN: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, can we
23 get a report or update from Charlie Lean on his recent
24 surveys or studies? It's not on the agenda. I'm just
25 asking.

26

27 MR. SAMPSON: That will be on the agenda
28 item for discussion, am I not correct?

29

30 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair. Walter. Helen
31 just pointed out.....

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That will be on that
34 agency reports. Won't that be on agency reports?

35

36 MS. CHIVERS: Yes.

37

38 MR. SAMPSON: So agency reports, it will
39 be covered then. State of Alaska will take the right
40 side of the fin, and the Feds will take the left side,
41 left fin of the fish.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. So it will be on
44 agency report then. Any further questions on this
45 report.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anything else?

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We'll go down to
4 the next item, Item No. 9, Council member reports,
5 village concerns from all Council members. So we'll
6 start from Mr. Cleveland. What's your -- what is your
7 concern about moose, caribou, black bear, brown bear,
8 whatever it is.

9

10 MR. CLEVELAND: This being my first
11 meeting, and picking up information, I think the minutes
12 tells me a lot. I don't meet people to know them, I
13 mean, go by what they've written, what they're doing.
14 It's important to me that things are written down. It's
15 important to me that we're discussing -- have things
16 written down. For me to help you, I want to know things
17 that are written down.

18

19 Surveys being done in my area. There's
20 people that takes surveys in my area for \$20 a person.
21 These are some of the elders' concerns. Why give a \$20
22 report when it last for 2000 years. Let's start paying
23 these people for their information. Let's upgrade their
24 \$20 for survey.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Reggie.

29 Austin.

30

31 MR. SWAN: We have here just recently or
32 this past year really big increase in the wolf population
33 in our area, which is good in a way for hunters,
34 subsistence gatherers, users. But it's been a goodly
35 number this year than the past few years. And it's
36 gotten to where we've seen -- we're seeing wolves from
37 the village, across the lagoon on occasional days. And
38 the hunts such as for wolves has been phenomenal I might
39 say.

40

41 From last year's, last summer's fishing,
42 I did not catch near as much dolly varden, char as I
43 usually did, mainly because the river system, the Wulik
44 River was really very low. It was even difficult to
45 navigate the river with jet units. It was that shallow.
46 But good for fish. The fish did go way up. Fish and
47 Game reported that fish was noted up there close to Lake
48 Camp, which is just due northwest of the Red Dog Mine
49 area, and very seldom do they go that far north I think.

50

1 That is the extent of my report.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Austin.

4 Attamuk.

5

6 ATTAMUK: Okay. For the caribou, people
7 for this winter they're pretty much happy. I'm getting
8 calls from Noatak locally here in Kotzebue and Noorvik
9 saying for some reason -- I called Jim Dau on this, too,
10 that the bulls are holding their horns a lot longer this
11 year than normal. I get a couple of calls from Noatak, a
12 couple young, Norton and the Luther boy, and a couple of
13 hunters here in Kotzebue, and they're saying that's
14 unusual. My best explanation to them is if they're
15 reindeer and they're steers, they will hold their horns a
16 lot longer. That's the best I know of base reindeer
17 herding.

18

19 Otherwise, everybody was happy with
20 caribou all over this year. They're pretty much -- trail
21 conditions are bad, and are getting wolves, like Austin
22 stated, is pretty heavy again, so we will probably hear
23 it more later as the conditions are now warming up, and
24 we won't be hearing right at -- they just start really is
25 just going to start hunting now. Days are longer.

26

27 And under fisheries, like Austin say,
28 last summer I went to Wulik and Noatak to check on the
29 trout. They went up, way up the river from both Noatak
30 and Wulik. They went way up the river. And I took water
31 temperatures at Noatak, and upper Noatak. I couldn't
32 believe, this was warmer than down below by at least two.
33 I couldn't believe it, and I did not send out to have
34 them -- to, you know, check and make sure they're right
35 at precise to Anchorage. These are -- what I had last
36 checked was three years ago. And it was unusual. And we
37 were getting a lot of trout in Noatak, way down below,
38 than normal. Until it came just before freeze up when
39 the water cool off. And I mean, but there was a lot of
40 trout late for some reason. Both -- they had -- but
41 Noatak had more juveniles than adult fish, what I could
42 see.

43

44 Otherwise, everybody's pretty much happy
45 and had their take.

46

47 So far I haven't heard much as usual from
48 Selawik area like before, and Buckland. Buckland people,
49 a couple of them called me saying they were concerned
50 about wolves -- I mean moose being low in numbers, but

1 we've been hearing that for a while. So we'll see what
2 happen later. Thanks.

3

4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Enoch.

5

6 For myself report. I certainly was glad
7 that Mr. Schaeffer, Pete Schaeffer, chair of the Cape
8 Krusenstern is here with us this morning. Thanks for
9 showing up, Pete. We were sort of looking forward for
10 you. Pete Schaeffer.

11

12 So for Kiana, you know, that this winter
13 the caribou in Kiana was very scarce. We don't have any
14 caribou at all. I think there's some around Selawik area
15 and Kotzebue area. So evidently that what's happening in
16 Kiana is lots and lots of moose. You can't even go to
17 the post office some day, because there'd be five moose
18 right near the post office. So nobody's hunting them.

19

20 So evidently that in Kiana they're having
21 what they call a church conference, and we're expecting
22 about 300 guests is going to be in Kiana starting today.
23 And they are looking for some caribou meat to feed them.
24 And we have been in contact with Jim Dau and the Federal
25 Fish and Game in Anchorage. What's going to happen is
26 right now that, first time we're going to use it, is the
27 -- on moose. Because it's open on Federal land, moose
28 season is open on Federal land until March 31st, and on
29 State land it closed December 31st, so the first time
30 we're going to try and use it to harvest the moose for --
31 you know, for memorial purposes, celebration purposes in
32 Kiana, so that's legalized to do that now, so that's the
33 first time we're going to do it. If they ever decide to
34 go get a moose, they will either on State land or Federal
35 land. But I did request, please just go to federal land,
36 so -- and so it will be a lot more legalized, so when I
37 talked to Jim Dau is that he legalized us to get a moose
38 if we had to from the State land. But it have to be one
39 moose, either cow or a bull with no calves. So that's
40 what's going to be happening. I hope it do happen.
41 That's the first time we're going to try, so it's been
42 legalized.

43

44 Other than that, everything seems to be
45 normal in that area, except for moose and wolves, and
46 there's lots of wolves there.

47

48 MR. KARMUN: Thank you. I'm now getting
49 back on part time with the State Fish and Game, Jim Dau.
50 I sit eight to 10 hours in the back seat of a Super Cub,

1 gets a little hard on the old Ponderosa. But a couple of
2 weeks ago we took a survey up the Aggie, up into the
3 Myumeruks, up to Noatak, Kelly River, Trail Creek, Rench
4 Creek. This particular survey was strictly for moose.
5 We did see some good evidence of moose. Some with twin
6 calves, which was pretty encouraging to me. Muskox up
7 the Aggie River, which is the first time I've seen, up in
8 the -- I don't know the Eskimo name of that real sharp
9 peak off the Aggie River, but there was four muskox up on
10 that mountain. One jack rabbit, which I've never seen in
11 that region for a long time.

12
13 Up in the Myumeruks, during the whole day
14 we observed one wolverine, one otter in one of the open
15 streams up there.

16
17 And in the mountains, or up in the Brooks
18 Range, 20 years ago when I was still doing this with the
19 State Fish and Game, we used to count 50 to 100 sheep.
20 This time I observed only one.

21
22 The other thing that to me was very
23 evident, we sighted no wolf kills that whole day,
24 nowhere. Nor did we sight any wolf packs anywhere that
25 day, being a beautiful day like it was. I just thought
26 they might be laying up on top of the mountains sunny
27 themselves, but we did not see one wolf pack where in the
28 area, the square miles we flew in, usually see at least
29 three to five good wolf packs. There were none that day.

30
31 There was a lot of other small game.
32 Ptarmigan were very evident up in the streams, well up
33 into the Brooks Range. That I've never seen before.
34 Maybe they're on a high cycle. But outside of that,
35 caribou were also very evident all over, throughout the
36 Brooks Range all the way down to right back of town here.

37
38 Moose. We did sight one moose right
39 above Noatak. To me that was unusual. It still had its
40 rack. And this bull moose, its rack was in excess of 60
41 inches is what we estimated when we flew over it. To me,
42 that's very unusual.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Victor.
47 Walter.

48
49 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
50 tell you, that rabbit wouldn't -- that jack rabbit must

1 have been one heck of happy rabbit to see you.

2

3 Some of the issues that I would like to
4 cover, Mr. Chairman, are critical. I think it's
5 something that certainly needs some attention. Certainly
6 we continue to see the influx of outside hunters through
7 transporters. Certainly that transporter issue is a big
8 problem within this region.

9

10 A lot of wanton waste. I even wonder
11 sometimes if the Federal agencies go out to take a look
12 at that waste that occurs. And that waste comes in
13 pallets at the airport. In fact, you hear it over the
14 public radio station. Anyone wanting meat, come down to
15 the airport and get it at the pallets at the airport.
16 Any of the folks that come to go out, see what the meat
17 looks like, a lot of it is in black plastic bags. By the
18 time it gets to Kotzebue, it's green meat. I don't know
19 if there's any intent of any public education in regards
20 to how meat ought to be taken care of. Every fall this
21 occurs.

22

23 When something happens within this region
24 during the winter months, with no problem, enforcement is
25 done. Enforcement on the very people that try to provide
26 food for their families. But yet publicly we hear that
27 there's wanton waste, and you never hear anything that
28 occurs or happens to these people. I think it's
29 something the agency needs to get a handle on. If we're
30 to be treating one people, one group of people one way,
31 and treat the others another way, we've got a problem. I
32 think there's got to be some equity there.

33

34 Last fall we looked at a film at the
35 Borough where there's a lot of environmental issues that
36 are being looked at. I'm talking about trash being left
37 out in the country, right in the preserve. Right in
38 Federal lands. But yet on the other hand, when we as a
39 regional people go out, we get that very crux of
40 condemnation I guess if you will, right on the Kobuk
41 River, saying, oh, you guys need to go out and pick up
42 your trash. Is there equity? I don't think so. If one
43 group of people are being targeted, then you ought to
44 target everybody else.

45

46 I think these are some of the things that
47 you hear from the -- at the village level, that things
48 are happening. No enforcement is being done, but yet
49 during the times when people are out trying to provide
50 for their family, to put food on the table, then at that

1 point in time there's more enforcement. Not during the
2 activity time.

3

4 The other thing I would also like to
5 recommend to the Regional Advisory Council, at some point
6 in time we need to at least hit one or two villages every
7 other year maybe, just to hold a meeting so people can
8 participate in a village meeting like this. Give them
9 the opportunity to participate.

10

11 The issue in regards to conducting
12 business in Inupiat certainly I support. At our next
13 meeting, Mr. Chairman, I suggest that we conduct our
14 meeting in Inupiat, and have the agency bring in their
15 translating equipment so people can participate. At
16 least we can offer that opportunity to some of the folks
17 that do not speak and understand the English language.
18 Give them that opportunity. They're part of us, they're
19 part of the Federal system. With that encouragement, Mr.
20 Chairman, I certainly want to ask that we conduct our
21 next meeting in Inupiat.

22

23 In regards to the ethics law, as a
24 volunteer to this organization, I think it's something
25 that we need to consider, which Michelle had indicated
26 anyway eventually that law hopefully will phase out.

27

28 And the other issue that I want to allude
29 and reinforce a little bit more, we have resource
30 commissions in place. That's been working on hunting
31 plans. The provisions that they would like to place into
32 the hunting plans. The issue in regards to the resident
33 zone issue, people within this region hunt not only in
34 one area. They go to certain areas within both zones.
35 But yet within those areas where there's some
36 restrictions placed for outside hunters to utilize those
37 areas, you continue to see that. It's been reported to
38 the Federal agencies that these things are occurring, but
39 yet continues to happen. I'm talking about some folks
40 that are coming from the outside, using others' boats to
41 hunt within Kobuk Valley, creating some problems
42 sometimes when people are waiting on the river. These
43 folks not having the knowledge of how people hunt. When
44 caribou start coming down the hill, they go right after
45 them. People on the other side of the river, waiting,
46 then don't get what they would like. These people doing
47 that divert some of these caribou herds further away from
48 the areas that people are trying to hunt. And this has
49 continued to be a problem, as price of fuel has gone up,
50 it's over \$4 a gallon in the community, which means that

1 people now have to buy more gas to go further away from
2 the areas that they traditionally hunt. It continues to
3 be a problem.

4
5 That's why I raised the issue in regards
6 to having a village meeting at some people. People at
7 the village level would tell you this. And I think it's
8 only right that we ought to set up a meeting, Mr.
9 Chairman, at one of the villages at some point in time.
10 And thank you very much for the time.

11
12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter. On
13 your agenda right now, our next meeting day is October
14 17, 2005 in Kotzebue. So if we get to that point, Mr.
15 Sampson, we'll decide the date and where the meeting will
16 be. Like you said, also in native language. However, on
17 this date you might make some changes, because that AFN
18 is close to that in October. Also the NANA regional
19 meeting also in that date sometime. So I'll work with
20 Michelle and try to get the exact date for the next
21 meeting in one of these villages, any of these 11
22 villages, we'll hold that meeting. So we'll decide what
23 village if we get to this on the agenda.

24
25 Okay. Thanks for your report, Mr.
26 Sampson. Do we have any questions from the audience for
27 the Council members here concerning our reports?

28
29 MR. SWAN: Mr. Chairman.

30
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Austin.

32
33 MR. SWAN: Yes. I have an addition to
34 make to my report. Behind Red Dog Mine on the east side
35 of Deadlock Mountain is a drainage going into the Noatak
36 River. That drainage has probably better than 60, maybe
37 60 dams, beaver dams, and increasing. that is starting
38 to become a concern for the people in our village,
39 because if they do migrate into the Wulik River, that
40 will create problems for the fisheries. I know there in
41 the fresh water lake for the mine, they do have two
42 beaver dams in a short drainage to the fresh water lake,
43 and so they are moving up.

44
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Austin, for
46 that report. I've seen recently now in several years now
47 that I deal with the people from the Interior concerning
48 beaver. Especially Fort Yukon. I asked Ron, the guy
49 that I knew over there, about the beaver population in
50 Fort Yukon area. They said, well, they're disappearing.

1 I said, where are they heading. He said they're heading
2 west to Kotzebue. Now you're seeing them at Wulik now.

3
4 Okay. Do we have any questions from the
5 public to our Council members concerning their reports?

6
7 (No comments)

8
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, as you know
10 now on the agenda that public testimony and proposals is
11 next. Do you guys want to take a few minute break before
12 we go to proposals? Yeah, let's take a 10-minute break
13 before we go to proposals.

14
15 (Off record)

16
17 (On record)

18
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. I'll call the
20 meeting back to order. On your agenda we're at Item 10,
21 public testimony. So far I've got two blue forms allowed
22 for testimony, so if you want to testimony, there's some
23 forms way on the corner over there. Just fill it out and
24 then we'll give you an opportunity.

25
26 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.

27
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Michelle.

29
30 MS. CHIVERS: Those are pertaining to
31 actual proposals. Sometimes we receive public testimony
32 just over something in general. And so if you'd like to
33 wait until after they do the proposal analyses and go
34 through the whole process you can call them up at that
35 time. Thank.

36
37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: After the proposal
38 analysis?

39
40 MS. CHIVERS: Correct.

41
42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Okay. Willie.

43
44 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, we've
45 approved and adopted the agenda. I think we need to
46 follow that.

47
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Just go through this.
49 That's what -- okay. Okay. So that's what we're going
50 to do, go through these testimonies. The first one we've

1 got right here is Willie Goodwin from National Park
2 Service.

3

4 MR. GOODWIN: (In Inupiat)

5

6 Mr. Chairman, my name is Willie Goodwin,
7 Jr. I live here in Kotzebue, and 54 of my 60 years I've
8 lived here, so I have a fair amount of knowledge on the
9 land and its resources. And I would like to speak
10 specifically with two proposals here.

11

12 Proposal 18, which would place limits on
13 subsistence uses of moose I oppose. Basically I've never
14 been one to go backwards on any regulation until there is
15 firm evidence that that there is a problem. I know that,
16 because as an example you also have a muskox proposal in
17 the packet. Look how many years it has taken us to get
18 to be allowed to get two muskox, because the population
19 has stayed the same.

20

21 Now, if the moose population stays the
22 same for the next 20 years, are we ever going to be able
23 to get the regulation back where we are allowed to hunt
24 on Federal lands right now with respect to cow moose.
25 That is a serious question that you should ask
26 yourselves, because unless we -- if we're going to limit
27 the subsistence user, which we have a priority on Federal
28 lands, why don't we limit those people, the other users
29 that are not out there trying to get the meat for
30 consumption?

31

32 I am not sure if there is any uniformity
33 on the surveys, because I've seen surveys count in
34 different areas at different times at different years.
35 And I know there's some declines in some areas. But
36 according to Victor, when they surveyed the Noatak, which
37 will affect the people that live in that area with this
38 proposal, there's moose out there. And if it goes
39 forward, then it's the Federal subsistence user, or the
40 subsistence user out there that's going to be hurt the
41 most.

42

43 And I'm just afraid that after we worked
44 so hard to put this proposal in and get it passed through
45 the State system, that we probably will never get it
46 back. So until there's firm evidence that there is a
47 problem on Federal lands, then you can certainly take the
48 action. Certainly the State has its options on State
49 lands to do whatever it wants. But as long as there's
50 qualified subsistence users up in our region here in Unit

1 23, and to further limit us, I think is wrong. That's
2 what you would be doing with this proposal. You would be
3 limiting only the subsistence user. And you're charged
4 with upholding subsistence on Federal lands.

5
6 So my suggestion would be to defer this.
7 Certainly if there's a problem in some areas in our
8 region, we wouldn't completely be taking this off the
9 books, but it would still be there to be looked at at
10 this time.

11
12 The other comments I would like to make
13 is on the muskox. You know, when I was sitting on that
14 side of the chair, I think I was the first one that
15 brought it up. I think we should be able to hunt muskox
16 in the Krusenstern over there, because they're over
17 there. They've been over there since '72 or '78 or
18 whatever when they brought them over, and yet the people
19 that actually live over there aren't even able to allow
20 to hunt them, because they're around stomping all the --
21 they're trying to get dried fish. Last year they stomped
22 a dog. You know, they're just over there in the camps.
23 And I support the proposal, because it's been carefully
24 crafted and it's been -- it affects those people that
25 live in the Monument, in Krusenstern, and I think it
26 should go forward. At least we will have a hunt on the
27 books that would satisfy some of those people that live
28 in the monument. You know, they see them, they can't
29 hunt them, they can't shoot them. But now with this, at
30 least they'll be able to get two, so I fully support
31 that.

32
33 And thank you very much for your time.

34
35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Willie, concerning
36 muskox, you know, that I hear a few comments from the
37 local villages that's affecting and seeing muskox, is the
38 point was, you know, that why are you giving me
39 restrictions to hunt muskox? Why did you transplant
40 them? And now why you say I can't hunt them. In these
41 cases, they said bring them back where you get them from.
42 That's the point that they've been giving me.

43
44 MR. GOODWIN: Yes.

45
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: They said, after they
47 transplant them, now they said they won't let them hunt.
48 The best thing to do is just bring them back where they
49 came from.

50

1 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah. Now we have an
2 opportunity, you know, and, you, you know, until we
3 really, truly understand what's going on with the muskox,
4 I think we ought to leave the hunting -- because, you
5 know, there was a reason why they went away thousands of
6 years ago. I don't know if the conditions have changed
7 that much, you know. If they'd been migrated out of the
8 North Slope now, and basically my -- and I'm not a
9 biologist, but, you know, I can think, too. I think it's
10 the same reason they were wiped out thousands of years
11 ago. There's nothing there to eat. It's the same thing
12 at Krusenstern. It will never grow more than that,
13 because that's all they've got to eat there.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Willie. I
18 guess we'll probably have some questions to Willie and
19 the other individual after we hear from the other
20 testimony, so Pete Schaeffer from Cape Krusenstern
21 National Monument. Pete, there's a mike right there in
22 front of you right there.

23

24 MR. SCHAEFFER: Well, thank you, Mr.
25 Chairman, members of the Rural Advisory Committee. I'd
26 like to speak on two points which I didn't see on the
27 agenda, so I'll just speak generically about them.

28

29 One is the concern of the guide bill or
30 the commercial services bill that is attempting to re-
31 authorize the creation of the guide board, commercial
32 services board. And I spoke to Reggie Jewel at length
33 about it about four days ago, and it apparently passed
34 the House with two no votes, which is kind of the
35 opposite, because last year you'll recall it passed the
36 Senate unanimously and kind of buried itself in the House
37 for political considerations I guess in regards to some
38 of the language in the bill.

39

40 On the Senate side, I think it's going to
41 pass as well, so I think since the Administration
42 supports it this time, as they did not last year, there
43 is probably chance that it will pass this half of the
44 session.

45

46 Upon initial review, I think we have some
47 major concerns about some of the language in the bill,
48 and then speaking to some of the legislators about it, I
49 think the concern there was that it was probably a
50 decision on the part of the politicians not to put too

1 many red flags in it to attract too much attention, to
2 get it passed first, and then the strategy being to kind
3 of dink with it later to get some of the issues taken
4 care of.

5
6 And, of course, one of the major concerns
7 we have is the issue of transporters and how those people
8 would be handled, because we have a significant user
9 conflict problem up here that I think belongs to
10 everybody, and those that pretty much deny it are
11 basically the transporters. And let me just rag on them
12 a little bit, because I think they're are a major issue,
13 because in several people's opinion, I think they have no
14 real long-term concern for the viability of resources
15 that they take up here, moose in particular. They have
16 developed strategies to basically saturate entire
17 drainages by blocking off their access to some of those
18 drainages, and I think that constitutes a significant
19 issue of whether that's legal to do, especially when the
20 strategy that they use to block off access prevents
21 enforcement people from, you know, going down to check on
22 them for proper documentation and things of that nature.

23
24 And, of course, when they leave as was
25 stated by some of you in your concerns, they pretty much
26 just trash the area and don't give a damn about whether
27 they clean up or not. And I think that's the major
28 concern of what the Borough is trying to do in
29 conjunction with their permitting system.

30
31 In relation to that, I think back in '86
32 when we did the regulation review for the Fish and Game
33 Advisory Committee, we had pointed out some of the more
34 pressing problems at the time, which related to what we
35 considered regulations that were against the grain of how
36 people hunted and did their thing up here. And some of
37 you may remember that several of our elders were arrested
38 for taking sheep out of season, without a permit, or in
39 season without a permit, or whatever the case was at the
40 time. And I think that incident forced us to review the
41 regulations and the system even back then when we decided
42 that we would make it an issue simply because prior to
43 the State coming out of compliance for subsistence in the
44 McDowell decision, it was State management even for
45 subsistence and I think it's safe to say that native
46 participation in management was very limited.

47
48 And then with the advent of the Federal
49 subsistence management system, I think it became an issue
50 of native hunters being active participants in a

1 meaningful way in fish and game management. And I think
2 with what we see happening here, with your in-putting
3 into the Federal Subsistence Management Board, I think in
4 many ways it's a good thing, and I believe that local
5 participation has spread out to more of an understanding
6 of the regulatory systems, and, of course, dealing
7 directly with regulations, we come to understand that in
8 the days of old when they passed a regulation or thought
9 they fixed stuff, in fact sometimes they made it a whole
10 lot worse for a selected user group, which wind up being
11 you and me, and us in the wrong side of the fence.

12
13 One of the things that I think the guide
14 bill's intending to do is to plug up some of the
15 loopholes that relate to transporters, and I believe that
16 some of the correspondence in amongst the legislators,
17 verbal and otherwise, has been that they feel confident
18 that the language in the bill now will suffice for
19 whatever it will take to put that group of people under
20 some control.

21
22 I had an opportunity to testify on the
23 bill as it was in the House side, and relay to them some
24 of our concerns, one of which was exactly what I said
25 before about making sure that the transporters were
26 included in the bill.

27
28 And some of the other language pertaining
29 to other issues, such as perhaps having more of a site-
30 based system so that any user group would have to report
31 to a central location, like for GMU 23 it ought to be
32 Kotzebue as a point to reinforce the notion that if we
33 are indeed into resource management, then that management
34 should have some participation by the Department of Fish
35 and Game in terms of them being able to gather the
36 information and make some assessment as to what's
37 happening out there, rather than doing it after the fact,
38 which usually happens because information is not
39 centralized to Kotzebue. You know, some hunters coming
40 from other areas, Galena, probably Nome and Fairbanks and
41 Anchorage directly for all we know.

42
43 So that was kind of the general drift of
44 what we were trying to do, and I think it's also aimed at
45 trying to get some handle on the issue of user conflict,
46 of abuse of areas and that kind of thing.

47
48 And then wearing my hat as a resource --
49 chairman of the Kobuk -- excuse me, Cape Krusenstern
50 Resource Commission, we have a couple of regulatory

1 proposals, one dealing wolves, one dealing with muskox.
2 And my understanding is that you're going to have a
3 review of agency first before you make any decision on
4 them, so I'll just leave that up to Ken Adkisson for Park
5 service, and then Charlie Greg and Jim Dau for the State
6 on our recommendations not only as a resource commission,
7 but in our deliberations as the Kotzebue Fish and Game
8 Advisory Committee.

9
10 And that's all I have for now, and if
11 there are any questions, I'd be happy to try to answer
12 them.

13
14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: At this moment, I'll
15 give the Council an opportunity to ask Mr. Schaeffer or
16 Mr. Goodwin, I know it's not the way to do it, but if you
17 can up here at least ask a brief question to Mr.
18 Schaeffer by Council members. Victor.

19
20 MR. KARMUN: Yeah, Pete, especially on
21 Federally-managed lands, do you think if we introduced a
22 proposal for guide-only hunts on Federal-managed lands,
23 do you think that would eliminate some of the
24 transporters and outfitters?

25
26 MR. SCHAEFFER: Well, my response would
27 be that my understanding is that Federal management only
28 entails subsistence, and the only part that sports
29 hunting and commercial hunting is allowed is in the
30 Noatak Preserve. But even there I think there's probably
31 room for improvement, and my understanding is that Park
32 Service is going through extensive public review and
33 public meetings to get people's views as to, you know,
34 what that entails.

35
36 I've often pressed about the issue of how
37 economics and what happens in hunting don't really jive,
38 and that is in previously testimony I've illustrated the
39 point that if native hunters were allowed to guide, to
40 have some person from outside participate particularly in
41 a traditional hunt using a boat or some other means of
42 transportation other than aircraft, you know, basically
43 it winds up when the hunt is over that if it were in
44 favor of the native hunter being a guide, then basically
45 what could happen would be that all the hunter from
46 outside wants is the horns, you know, the guide could get
47 the meat, and he'd be paid for it, and probably be paid
48 for his transportation, which seems like a win/win
49 situation, and some of the villages which -- my
50 understanding is that in every survey that's been done,

1 almost all villages fall under some poverty level. That
2 just seems to make the whole scenario insane. I mean,
3 it's crazy.

4
5 Whereas in Canada, the big difference
6 there is since their participation in fish and game is
7 part of their native claims settlements, their lands
8 claims, that it seems to work a whole lot better. As a
9 matter of fact, it even spills over into how they hunt
10 narwhal and polar bear, and they have to use traditional
11 means of transportation to take people out to get those
12 kinds of animals, and basically for Narwhal, all the
13 hunter wants is the long tusk, and out of the polar bear
14 all they want is another, you know, rug to brag about,
15 and, you know, basically it seems to work okay.

16
17 I don't know if I even answered your
18 question.

19
20 MR. KARMUN: Yeah. Thank you. That was
21 good.

22
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Mr. Sampson, you know,
24 for the members of the Council and our guests here, you
25 know, these proposals, it means lots so much to us, you
26 know. Whenever it takes time to do all these proposals,
27 we're not going to rush. If it takes all day entirely,
28 that would be fine with me, because these proposals mean
29 a lot to us. Mr. Sampson.

30
31 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Pete, for your
32 testimony, more so to the proposals that were recommended
33 by Cape Krusenstern.

34
35 The issue in regards to management, you
36 alluded to the fact in regards to how the State managed
37 its resources, and the Federal system and how it manages
38 its resources. I guess I want to get a feel in regards
39 to how you feel about the issue in regards to a proposal
40 at one time Congressman Young made in regards to finding
41 an organization to manage Federal lands. How do you feel
42 about management of an entity, an organization within
43 this region to manage Federal lands?

44
45 MR. SCHAEFFER: My understanding is that
46 there are several parks in the United States already that
47 allow their indigenous peoples to manage the parks. I
48 think in a worldwide ideology of parks, several countries
49 that have developed big parks in Africa and Australia and
50 other places have also made it an issue by making sure

1 that concessions and all that kind of activity associated
2 with parks is run by the indigenous peoples themselves.

3

4 I know that there are some constraints on
5 Federal law, and I am aware of Kawerak in particular
6 having pursued some scenario to have management either
7 638'd or compacted, but my understanding is that Park
8 Service is somewhat of a different entity, that it's not
9 a true Federal entity since it involves actually making a
10 profit from some of the entities in some of the larger
11 parks, Yellowstone and Yosemite I believe, and probably
12 some others.

13

14 But I believe that there's some room for
15 local participation. In my experience with the resource
16 commissions, although they kind of languished for a few
17 years, is a way to input into the system, to have a
18 meaningful part of what management actually turns out to
19 be. And then when something happens that we don't
20 anticipate, such as perhaps Krusenstern with its ocean --
21 being next to the ocean, you know, the possibility exists
22 of ships coming in with people debarking that we see on
23 television that they do down in Antarctica and some of
24 those places where interesting things happen biologically
25 I guess.

26

27 But I think that since I believe Walter
28 and I and several others in here have concluded that the
29 Feds are here forever, it's far better to develop ways of
30 cooperation than it is to lock horns and duel it out in
31 Congress or somewhere else.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions
34 from the Council. Victor.

35

36 MR. KARMUN: Yeah. Pete -- thank you,
37 Chairman. You spoke of a win/win situation. There was a
38 problem from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife at one time for a
39 brief three years on the Selawik National Wildlife Refuge
40 which I ran when I was with the organization, and I dealt
41 strictly with archery individuals, and they'd go up the
42 Selawik River. The hunter would buy the gas and food,
43 but they had no financial gain from their activities.
44 Right now to this day, some of the people up there still
45 talk about that program. It worked.

46

47 And the reason I dealt strictly with
48 archery individuals, because they're well aware of their
49 surroundings and they were also well aware of the customs
50 and traditions of the local people.

1 Thank you. That was a good presentation.

2

3 MR. SCHAEFFER: Well, I just wanted to
4 reiterate, I think that there are some real long-term
5 benefits to working with agencies. And I know some of
6 them have been in place -- the Alaska Department of Fish
7 and Game has a caribou collaring project that's happened.
8 It's also moved into marine mammals where a couple of
9 ulujacks (ph) were tagged, you know, last fall with
10 expoxidon (ph) transmitter, and it was interesting to
11 find out, you know, some of their activity. And as well,
12 up in the north where beluga were actually outfitted with
13 a transmitter, and they were astounded to find activity
14 that, you know, that kind of verified what the natives
15 had been telling those scientists all along about some of
16 their experiences and how those animals travel.

17

18 But I think the long-term issues is
19 related to trying to get some of our young people
20 interested in resource management, because some of you
21 old timers will remember that at one time the Tech Center
22 offered a resource management program, but because of
23 non-participation, it kind of got wiped off the books.
24 And I think for native peoples that are very astute and
25 observers of fish and game, that you would think it would
26 be a natural course for children and the young adults to
27 follow up as a career, because now the opportunity is
28 here, and I think with the experiences that some of us
29 have had that have been in fish and game issues for a
30 long time, kind of twiddle our thumbs waiting for an
31 invitation to, you know, partake of some of our knowledge
32 to those people that need it when we think that some of
33 that knowledge was pretty hard earned. It was not the
34 fun thing back in the old days to go and testify anywhere
35 on behalf of native people.

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

38

39 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Pete, again for
40 your testimony. You allude to the fact, the issue in
41 regards to wanton waste. do you see that as an increase
42 from previous years by listening to some folks in the
43 public, or groups of people from throughout the region?
44 Would you be able to tell us a little bit in regards to
45 what you see and how you feel about the wanton waste
46 issue?

47

48 MR. SCHAEFFER: In my experience, I think
49 it's been partially budget driven, because we see that
50 Enforcement Division, particularly in the State where the

1 brown suits have disappeared and have been woven into the
2 blue suits, although there's probably still some old
3 timer brown suits that are going to, you know, leave by
4 attrition, because they're probably getting kind of old
5 like us.

6
7 I think that is an incredible problem
8 that belongs to mostly the sports hunters and the
9 transporters, probably the same thing, because I think
10 most of those people come up mostly to hunt for just the
11 western notion of how they enjoy hunting to begin with,
12 you know, a sports hunting mentality, and a commercial
13 hunting mentality much different than the native hunting
14 which is actually more complex than western people are
15 led to believe.

16
17 And I think it's a tragedy, because I
18 think that the issues of waste demonstrate to a large
19 extent, you know, the political prowess of those that are
20 able to get away with it. And in large part I think it's
21 hard to deal with, especially with an enforcement agency
22 that's now having to deal with other issues such as
23 prisoner transport to Anvil Mountain and that kind of
24 thing, and not much time to deal with fish and game
25 issues.

26
27 And I think in our experience with some
28 of the brown suiters of the past, there is a highly
29 developed level of familiarity and skill that belongs to
30 that kind of enforcement, and the blue suiters kind of
31 trod in some ways as kind of not necessarily
32 inexperienced with resource management, but more oriented
33 toward people management and what they wind up doing, you
34 know, to enforce State law.

35
36 Unfortunately what I see, and I have seen
37 pallets of wasted meat, and I just feel kind of helpless
38 in terms of offering any solution as to what might help
39 the problem, but I think that if there's going to be such
40 a high degree of meat taken, that perhaps maybe that
41 avenue ought to be explored for some kind of a win/win
42 situation and my analogy has been to go get some sausage
43 maker from Hungary or Poland somewhere, bring them up
44 here, and then train the hunters, the sport hunters how
45 to take care of their meat, and then, you know, maybe
46 that would be part of an industry that could be developed
47 up here, because most of the stuff that I've seen in that
48 regard are sent to Anchorage to be formed into goodies,
49 you know, and then flown back, which makes not much sense
50 either.

1 But I'm not advocating for that. I'm
2 just saying that as an example of what, you know, could
3 be if there was some kind of cooperative effort extended
4 to the commercial and sport hunter. But I think that's
5 pretty hard to do simply because of the nature of how
6 those people operate, and they operate on a circuit, or
7 at least the transporters do. And the guides are of a
8 lesser problem simply because I think they do have some
9 semblance of ethic that they adhere to, and there are
10 other issues, limited, you know, in numbers of hunters
11 that they take. And looking at the meat of the guide
12 bill, I think some of it is kind of up in the air as to
13 what the final language is going to be, but I believe
14 that it's going to get some of that activity under at
15 least some control that doesn't exist now.

16
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Mr. Sampson and Pete,
18 as you know, on the proposals, you will also be in front
19 of us on number 7 on deliberation on presentation of
20 public testimonies. Walter.

21
22 MR. SAMPSON: Because of the mere fact
23 that you raised some of the issues, and as a member of
24 the community, as a member of this region, if there would
25 be an interest in regards to creating a check point
26 station, how would you feel about a creation of a
27 checkpoint for everybody within Kotzebue?

28
29 MR. SCHAEFFER: Well, I think for
30 resource management it's probably leaning towards some
31 necessity to do that, but as far as the do-ability I
32 would leave it up to Jim Dau and Jim Magdanz and others
33 in the Department to kind of refer the question to the
34 do-ability of it. But I think from the standpoint of
35 resource management, it's another loophole in trying to
36 gather current information out in the field rather than
37 tallying up harvest tickets after the fact, which, you
38 know, reflects in what's going to happen the next season,
39 which is kind of crazy when you really think about it,
40 but that's the way the system works. And when you tally
41 the information and then go out and do the surveys, such
42 as what's happening now, then that has an impact on the
43 deliberations of how the system is advised, like the
44 advisory committee and then to the Regional Councils or
45 to the advisory committee to the Board of Game on the
46 State side to make some of the adjustment there in terms
47 of having the support of the local folks, along with the
48 support of the Department to effect those changes. But
49 my personal feeling is that it's a major impediment to
50 effective resource management, not having a central

1 source of information required by law.

2

3 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

6

7 ATTAMUK: Yeah. Pete, I've got a
8 question for you. I've got a question for you for the
9 transporter, outfitters and guides. You know we're being
10 overrun by them falltime. Yet when the Fish and Game and
11 the agencies count the moose, they say per square mile
12 there's so many moose per square mile. I've been
13 thinking about this, and I don't know if this is just
14 completely out of whack what I'm thinking, but I think
15 what we need to do, and we need to get ahead of this
16 dropped off hunters in a certain area, maybe we do to --
17 there's .8 moose per square mile, that we should cut a
18 person in eight and send him there to hunt only that one
19 moose, because in that one square mile, there could be 12
20 hunters competing for that one moose. That's just the
21 way I've been thinking. Because I see that a lot in my
22 camp, every half an hour there goes a plane over to
23 Squirrel River and the Aggie, dropping off hunters. And
24 I mean, I would -- I'm pretty sure there's four or five
25 hunters in that plane. And all day long, 10, 12 hours a
26 day, you know, there's planes. That's what I was -- and
27 this idea came out of my boy. He said, Dad, he was
28 reading the regulation, and he said, there's so many
29 moose per square mile, that all should be allowed to hunt
30 there. It's just coming out. I mean, these young people
31 are starting to think, and they can't get any moose from
32 our area. And I understand, you know, we're being
33 overwhelmed completely. Thanks.

34

35 MR. SCHAEFFER: Well, I think the
36 different methods that are used to gauge density and that
37 kind of thing, I'm not a biologist, so I'm not familiar
38 with them, but I think some of those are kind of like
39 tried and true methods that have been used, and seem to
40 work to some extent. But I'm also concerned though about
41 the fact that when we see a single-engine otter with
42 floats on it landing in lakes previously inaccessible,
43 what's happening is a different kind of resources issue,
44 that it's putting people into places that, you know,
45 native people considered almost sacred. I mean, it's a
46 different kind of proliferation of areas.

47

48 And the other fact of life is that I know
49 that some of the transporters have been here a long time,
50 you know. I'm talking about the Buck Maxsons and some of

1 those others that I think are being dragged into the
2 scenario of competition just by the sheer fact of life
3 that it's a business. And if you don't have ability to
4 generate business, you're not going to make it in this
5 thing. And that's the unfortunate part where the
6 prominence of whether or not -- especially in the
7 conflict issue, whether or not profit has precedence over
8 need, and sometimes pretty basic need is a significant
9 question. And I have been at several forums to address
10 the issue, and not one have I ever seen a representative
11 from the Department of Natural Resources. And they have
12 some authority over State land, and, you know, the next
13 time there's a forum dedicated to the issue of conflict,
14 then those people ought to be invited to hear what they
15 have to say about maybe providing some assistance to the
16 problem.

17
18 And, of course, the other is the
19 emergence of what I think is the awareness on the part of
20 native people where -- and if they want to make it an
21 economic issue, we can point out to the fact that
22 somebody mentioned here that gas is, you know \$4 a
23 gallon. A lower unit for a V-6 is somewhere around
24 \$4,000 now. And then you've got to maintain your boat,
25 and, you know, make preparation for a hunt, which in some
26 families is a major undertaking because of the economics
27 of it, to make just one trip, and then have all of the
28 interruptions whether from on the ground with ATVs or in
29 the air with aircraft, disrupting migratory patterns and
30 that becomes another issue on the resource management
31 issue, because native input into what's happening say to
32 migration is considered anecdotal because we don't have
33 the scientific data to prove it. That's what, you know,
34 the managers look at when you go to the Board of Game,
35 and although they've become somewhat more sensitive to
36 our input, it's not taken as gospel by those that have
37 the information and the data to kind of tear down your
38 argument.

39
40 For example, and just one more thing
41 before I keep quiet, an example is that we're having the
42 conflict of user groups, and there's, you know, damn near
43 half a million caribou running around. So in the eyes of
44 resource management with sustained yield, you know, it's
45 like GMU 23 is where all the action's act in comparison
46 to the activity in all the other GMUs in the State, and,
47 you know, what's happening with the Ninilchik caribou
48 hunt, in case, you know, you've kept up with it, is that
49 it's going to allow a hunt only in that area, and anybody
50 that hunts in that area can't hunt anywhere else. Well,

1 if I was sitting in Ninilchik and I wanted moose and
2 sheep and whatnot, what that may well do is that it may
3 increase the user conflict issue up here by diverting
4 some of those hunters. That may be a good solution for
5 the Ninilchik Herd, but a damn poor one for what's going
6 to happen up here.

7
8 Just like what happened with the Noatak
9 Controlled use area, as another example, where the
10 displaced hunters from that area wind up going to upper
11 -- on the Selawik drainage, Tugrivik (ph) River, and then
12 over on the Buckland and Candle drainages, and, you know,
13 that X-amount of hunters is going to go somewhere.
14 Unfortunately, it looks like they're going to head up
15 here.

16
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Walter.

18
19 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
20 Thank you, Pete, for the information. I guess my last
21 question is in regards to the requirements of ANILCA and
22 the provisions of the law that provides for the hunters
23 within the region versus what's happening within -- in
24 today's world. How do you see the conflicts between what
25 the requirements are within Title 8, and what's happening
26 with the free-for-all issue, if you want to call it that
27 I guess, in regards to take of resource.

28
29 MR. SCHAEFFER: Well, again from the
30 issue of a traditional native hunt and their ability to
31 afford it, I think it's created a real problem in terms
32 of, you know, what you define, or would define as a
33 fairness issue. Whether or not for sport and guiding for
34 profit is one issue, and then for people to make sure
35 that they have a resource, and a real migratory one, to
36 meet their needs for the entire year is a significant
37 question. And I think that's what's happening in Federal
38 law. And actually we had a report out of this body done
39 back in the earlier days, and I don't know whatever
40 happened to it, but it took the Secretary of Interior
41 about two years to respond to one of them. And basically
42 it was a response that shot holes in the theory that we
43 believe -- we made the suggestion that some of the
44 hunting areas were not totally equivalent to sacred
45 hunting grounds, but, you know, alluding to that, simply
46 because the displacement of hunters from their favorite
47 hunting spots, and we know where they are. The way the
48 commercial and the transporters have worked it is they
49 don't give a hang about that. And I think it always
50 winds up being a jurisdictional issue where you're

1 talking about Federal jurisdiction and under what agency,
2 you're talking about State and private land ownership,
3 and then you're talking about air space, which is
4 extremely difficult to even suggest to control. So, you
5 know, if you have like a Federal agency having a 500-foot
6 ceiling, and, of course, we all know that the weather
7 forces you down lower than that, you know, what do you
8 do?

9
10 And then when you see -- when you hear of
11 National Guard, you know, Herc taking a close look at
12 caribou, in fact buzzing, you know, what do you do then,
13 too.

14
15 And we've always pressed the issue that
16 perhaps it's one of enlightenment where we try to get
17 information to those kinds of hunters to try to educate
18 them as to what they're really doing, because I think
19 most of them don't even know. And our experience with
20 some of the transporters, they were taken aback to find
21 out that they affected some of the native hunt as much as
22 they did in some of the other meetings that we've had,
23 that we've invited them to. And some of them were with
24 the Western Arctic Working Group.

25
26 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you.

27
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Pete, you
29 know, for that testimony you've just given us. And I
30 know it's long in your seat, but you did have some good
31 comments. Good questions. Thank you, Pete.

32
33 MR. SCHAEFFER: Yeah. You're welcome,
34 and I'm afraid that I'm going to have to leave soon.
35 Like I said earlier, Ken is here to represent our
36 resource commission regulatory proposals, and Charlie and
37 Jim are here for the State advisory committee side.

38
39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Pete. As
40 you see now that we have two individuals that did
41 testimony, you know, that affected us on these proposals,
42 about the proposals, means a lot to us.

43
44 A final question would be from the
45 Council to Willie Goodwin. Have you guys got any
46 questions about Willie's testimony earlier from any of
47 the Councils? Otherwise, we'll be ready for these
48 proposals, which is going to take some time.

49
50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. There's no
2 question. Go down our agenda, No. 11, wildlife proposal
3 review and Regional Council recommendations. As you know
4 going through these proposals, we have to go through the
5 procedure of introducing these proposals. We've got
6 eight categories. One on proposal WP05-01, introduction
7 of proposal and analysis. Who's going to do that?
8

9 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. Council
10 members. My name is Chuck Ardizzone. I'll be presenting
11 WP05-01 this morning.
12

13 Proposal WP05-01 was submitted by the
14 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Regional Office, to
15 address the need for clearer definitions and regulatory
16 language regarding the sale of handicrafts made from bear
17 fur. The proposed changes to the definitions and the
18 proposed new regulatory language are found in your
19 meeting book.
20

21 These changes are not intended to result
22 in any new harvest opportunities or to provide any
23 additional opportunities to sell handicrafts. They just
24 provide language that clarifies our current understanding
25 of the Board's previous decisions.
26

27 In 2002 the Federal Subsistence Board
28 approved the sale of handicrafts made from black bear
29 fur. In 2004 they approved the sale of handicrafts made
30 from brown bear fur in Southeast, Bristol Bay and
31 Eastern Interior. In 2004 the Board also clarified that
32 the Federal regulations include claws, which means claws
33 can be used in handicrafts for sale.
34

35 This is different from State regulations.
36 The State does not allow the sale of handicrafts that
37 contain claws. The State appealed the Federal
38 Subsistence Board decision to include claws last summer
39 through an RFR, or a reconsideration; however, the
40 Federal Subsistence Board rejected the RFR and maintained
41 their regulation to allow the sale of handicrafts to
42 include bear claws in Southeast -- or excuse me, black
43 bear claws statewide, and brown claws in Southeast,
44 Bristol Bay and Eastern Interior.
45

46 Several questions were brought up by law
47 enforcement, the State and others during these
48 discussions. Some of these questions are what qualifies
49 as a handicraft. Does a single claw constitute a
50 handicraft? Can the handicrafts be sold in urban gift

1 shops, or just by rural residents? Can the handicrafts
2 be manufactured outside of Alaska? Can handicrafts be
3 made from the skin or just the hair? And what's the
4 difference between skin, hide, pelt and fur. OSM
5 addressed these questions with a question and answer
6 sheet which the Board approved last summer, which is
7 appendix C in your book under this proposal.

8
9 This proposal intends to address these
10 questions in regulatory language, provides a more
11 complete definition of handicrafts, affixes a definition
12 of skin, hide, pelt and fur. It states regulatory
13 language that claws can be used in handicrafts for sale.
14 It clarifies that handicrafts must be made in Alaska by
15 rural Alaskans, and it states clearly that sales are not
16 allowed by anyone operating a business or, i.e., that
17 would be commercial sales.

18
19 This proposal does not change any
20 subsistence opportunity. It basically takes the
21 information that was provided in the question and answer
22 sheet and puts it into regulatory language.

23
24 We believe that it facilitates the
25 understanding of the existing regulations and we support
26 the proposal with modification. Our modification
27 incorporates some additional language in the handicraft
28 definition in paragraph 8 which addresses the sales by
29 business, which can be found in the errata sheet which
30 was handed out by Michelle. It should be this
31 highlighted language.

32
33 Well, thank you. That concludes my
34 presentation on this proposal.

35
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Alaska
37 Department of Fish and Game. Have we got somebody from
38 Alaska Department of Fish and Game on the proposal?

39
40 MR. DAU: Mr. Chair. I'm Jim Dau, Alaska
41 Department of Fish and Game in Kotzebue.

42
43 And the Department does not support the
44 proposal. Their position on that is in your book, and
45 it's not very helpful. From what I know about it, I
46 think they're just concerned not about what this would
47 allow people to do legally, I think what they're mostly
48 concerned about is illegal behavior. Black market and
49 things like that. But I really haven't had any
50 conversations with enforcement people to talk about this

1 proposal specifically.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Jim. Other
4 agencies on the Proposal WP05-01.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: InterAgency Staff
9 Committee comments.

10

11 MR. RABINOWITCH: None.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: None? Okay. Fish and
14 Game advisory committee comments.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Summary of written
19 public comments on the proposal. We're on WP05-01
20 Proposal. Public testimony.

21

22 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, there are some
23 public comments. I'll read them into the record.

24 They're at the end of this analysis. AHTNA supports.....

25

26 MR. SAMPSON: What page are you on?

27

28 MR. ARDIZZONE: There's no page numbers
29 in the book, so it's hard for me to tell you what page
30 we're on. It would be found at the end of the analysis,
31 after the question and answer sheet.

32

33 So we support Proposal WP05-01 to clarify
34 the definition of handicrafts and prevent the
35 commercialization of bear handicrafts. We support rural
36 subsistence users being able to take -- or to make
37 handicrafts out of skin, hide, pelt, including claws, for
38 black and brown bears. We support the efforts to
39 prohibit commercialization of skin, hide, pelt, or the
40 fur of black or brown bear, including claws. That's
41 AHTNA.

42

43 The other one would be Department of
44 Public Safety. They oppose it. We believe that allowing
45 the sale of bear parts will increase illegal take and the
46 waste of bears. It will exasperate the black market
47 issues. It will go against a North American trend that
48 is more restrictive concerning the sale and it's not
49 consistent with customary and traditional practices.

50

1 And Don Quarberg from Delta Junction
2 opposes or modify to exclude claws. Including claws is
3 only encouraging poaching in which the claws are quickly
4 removed and the carcass left to rot in the field. The
5 claws are the most economically desirable part of the
6 handicraft.

7
8 And that concludes what's in the book.

9
10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Regional Council
11 deliberation, recommendation and justification. Any
12 recommendations from the Council.

13
14 MS. ARMSTRONG: Your mike.

15
16 MR. SAMPSON: Your mike.

17
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh, excuse me.
19 Regional Council deliberation, recommendation and
20 justification. Anything from the Council on this, on the
21 proposal. Walter.

22
23 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I want to
24 thank you for the opportunity. Having listened to some
25 of the testimony, and having listened to some of the
26 reports, under the recommendations that I was looking
27 for, I was hoping that I would have a feel of what the
28 other regions were feeling with regard to these
29 proposals.

30
31 I think it's clear that by adopting and
32 supporting this proposal, certainly there would be some
33 increase in regards to potential black market problem.
34 Take of bears would certainly increase, which means that
35 they would start taking more bears just for some of these
36 things.

37
38 If you look at the existing system,
39 what's happening today, the traditional handicraft has
40 been part of the Inupiat way of life. And just recently
41 people started to use some of the handicrafts that they
42 made to barter, which means to exchange for other things,
43 and the other is economics are changing within this
44 region. And that's been to support their families in
45 regards to their way of life.

46
47 If you look at the trend today in regards
48 to what's happening in the world, look at the atekluk
49 (ph) that were traditionally being made. You go to
50 Sears, you go to some of these stores. That very

1 traditional thing that the Inupiat make, people or
2 others are commercializing. If you look at the
3 traditional ulu that our people make, in some instances
4 that is trade for other things so some of these people
5 can use it to support their families. You go to
6 Anchorage, you'll see the Ulu Factory. Some of these
7 things are being taken away from the traditional
8 lifestyle that people have.

9
10 By supporting this regulation, that will
11 be the thrust of things. You will no longer see
12 traditional handicrafts that usually happen with the
13 regions to continue to support their family groups.
14 Nonetheless, it will get commercialized.

15
16 And not only that, the resource that
17 these people are dependent on for handicrafts at one
18 point will be down to the point where only so much will
19 and can be taken in the future.

20
21 I think based on the testimony that we've
22 heard and based on information that's been provided to
23 us, Mr. Chairman, as a member of this Advisory Council,
24 there's no way I can support this proposal.

25
26 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

27
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter.
29 Anybody else on the Council. Yes.

30
31 MR. BERG: Yes, Mr. Chair. My name is
32 Jerry Berg with the Office of Subsistence Management. I
33 do have the recommendations from three of the other
34 Regional Councils that have met prior to your Council, so
35 if you'd like to hear those, I can go through those for
36 your Council.

37
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, you may.

39
40 MR. BERG: We have the recommendations
41 from, as I said, three different Councils. The Eastern
42 Interior Regional Council supported the proposal with
43 modification.

44
45 MR. SAMPSON: Wait a minute. Just a
46 second.

47
48 MR. BERG: Oh, sorry.

49
50 MR. SAMPSON: Okay. Go ahead.

1 MR. BERG: Yes. Sorry we didn't have
2 copies for you. We just got these just before we left
3 Anchorage, so we didn't have time to make copies, but the
4 Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council just met last
5 week. They supported the proposal with a modification,
6 and their modification basically would allow sales with
7 people who do have a business license as long as it's not
8 part of their business transaction, so it's not part of
9 their business. One of their Council members does make
10 handicrafts, and does have a business, so she wanted to
11 be able to sell those items, but as long as it's not part
12 of her normal business. So that was the modification
13 they made. And I have some specific language here, maybe
14 we can make copies if the Council wants to see it.

15
16 The Southeast Regional Council supported
17 it with many modifications to include a lot of different
18 types of jewelry, regalia. They included different kinds
19 of the skin, hide, pelt.....

20
21 MR. SAMPSON: Was that Southeast or
22 Southcentral.

23
24 MR. BERG: Southeast. This is Southeast.
25 They made a lot of modifications. I don't know if Steve
26 Kessler might be able to speak a little bit more
27 specifically to it. I wasn't at that meeting, he was.
28 But anyway they supported it with a lot of modifications.
29 Again, we can get those specifics to you if you'd like
30 them.

31
32 And then the last Council that met was
33 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Council, and they supported the
34 proposal as it was modified on the errata sheet.

35
36 MS. ARMSTRONG: And Seward Pen.

37
38 MR. BERG: Oh, I'm sorry, yes. Helen
39 just reminded me. I do have Seward Pen Council did meet,
40 and they deferred the proposal to the home regions,
41 because this really doesn't affect their area. Thank
42 you, Mr. Chair.

43
44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Now, for
45 the Council, you know, this is a statewide proposal.
46 I'll ask you this question. Now, there was three
47 different other regions supported this proposal. If
48 there's a possibility like Mr. Sampson recommended that
49 we not support the proposal, it is legal to -- like they
50 want it -- they supported it in Southeastern, and up here

1 we don't want it. Can we do it that way?

2

3 MR. BERG: Yeah.

4

5 MR. SAMPSON: Sure. That's no problem.
6 That's our choice. That's our choice.

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

9

10 ATTAMUK: That's our choice.

11

12 MR. SAMPSON: Just nods of the heads.
13 Somebody answer.

14

15 MR. BERG: Yes, your Council can make any
16 recommendation that you feel is appropriate for your
17 region. And there are regional modifications to
18 different regulations, and exceptions in the regulations
19 for certain regions, so certainly any recommendation you
20 Council has will be carried forward to the Federal
21 Subsistence Board for their consideration at their May
22 meeting.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Attamuk, you had
25 anything?

26

27 ATTAMUK: Yeah, Attamuk here. I would
28 oppose this, and up to a point maybe I would support it.
29 But mainly I would oppose this, because it would be hard
30 for me to prove someone is getting bear just for the --
31 you know, for carving and stuff. And it's hard for us to
32 prove they get it for subsistence. And if we support
33 this activity as this here just to make money, because
34 everybody need income in our region, they might start
35 hunting bear for a different reason than why we want bear
36 reduction in our area. It's going to be completely --
37 it's going to be a big controversy, and they're going to
38 start citing some natives for getting bear just for the
39 claws and for something else. It's really hard for me to
40 really decide right now. Maybe we should get a native
41 caucus and talk about this or whatever. I can't -- but
42 personally I would oppose it.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, comment.

45

46 MR. ARDIZZONE: Chuck Ardizzone. This is
47 already allowed. This is just really clarifying
48 language. Last year I think we voted that we wouldn't
49 allow brown bear sales up in this region, but -- so
50 basically it applies to black bears in this region. But

1 it is already allowed. This is just language to clarify
2 what's a handicraft and thing like that. So you can
3 either support this language, add some different language
4 or -- it's something that's already allowed. You can
5 sell claws of black bears under the regulations
6 currently.

7
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You know, I see
9 something like this, you know, in the history of
10 handicraft from these wild creatures, you see what
11 happened eight years ago on caribou antlers. You know,
12 they want to buy them. The next thing we know, it went
13 out of control. You know, we lots and lots of wanton
14 waste in the country, everywhere. So I imagine something
15 like this, you know, for if we legalize this for this
16 area, will become again a problem.

17
18 What's the Council wish, you know,
19 whether we take we'll take action on this. Attamuk.
20

21 ATTAMUK: Yeah. Yeah, Raymond is right.
22 This problem occurred when they did it for caribou
23 antlers. If you go to Seattle, the entrance way to one
24 of the museums is all the antlers that's come from this
25 region. I talked to the owner and the guy when I was in
26 Seattle. And he bought majority of it from the villages,
27 I mean, and they did it, and they sell just the horns,
28 our young kids, just to make a few dollars, because they
29 need the money. And if we support this, we're just going
30 to make criminals out of our people, to find another way
31 to cite them.

32
33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.
34

35 MR. KARMUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
36 Attamuk, I go along with some of your comments, although,
37 boy, I'm kind of divided on which way I would go on this.
38 I can also see where some of the villages or individuals
39 would really welcome the financial gain they would get
40 from something of this nature. Maybe if the local IRAs
41 would police their own ranks. The reason I say that is
42 it's working in other communities for different species.
43 Somehow I don't see how it can't work around here. It
44 should work if they elect to go that route.

45
46 As for -- it seemed like of all the
47 surveys done around in the region since I've been back
48 here, whether it be the State Fish and Game or the
49 Interior Department organizations, they basically know
50 now many brown bear or grizzly are taken in the region,

1 or the black bear, which is probably more highly
2 desirable, but right now the way I'd vote is strictly up
3 in the air.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

8
9 ATTAMUK: Yeah. The more -- when you
10 look at it here, Victor, you're right. It's under that W
11 -- what's summary here, right down near the bottom. If
12 you are a business as defined under Alaska statute, you
13 may not purchase. If we could not allow any handicraft
14 store to purchase it from the natives, I would support
15 it. Like Victor, really I stated that, and I don't know
16 which way to go about it. But I would still oppose it,
17 scared that they might start hunting bears for a
18 different reason. But if a native just could sell it
19 individually, maybe I would support it. If you look at
20 it -- well, I don't know what's the page, 15 from our
21 book here.

22
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anything else from the
24 Council before we take any action.

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, is there a
29 motion on the floor to defer this proposal or support it.

30
31 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I move that
32 we put Proposal 05-01 on the table for action.

33
34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Would you repeat your
35 motion, please, Walter.

36
37 MR. SAMPSON: The motion is to put on the
38 table for action Proposal 05-01

39
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk?

41
42 ATTAMUK: Nothing.

43
44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Reggie.

45
46 MR. CLEVELAND: Second.

47
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The motion has been
49 second. Any further discussions on this proposal, WP05-
50 01.

1 (No comments)
2
3 MR. KARMUN: Question.
4
5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question's been
6 called for by Victor. All in favor of tabling Proposal
7 WP05-01 signify by saying aye.
8
9 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, it's not
10 tabling, it's for action.
11
12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Action then.
13 Excuse me.
14
15 MR. SAMPSON: Either support it or not
16 support it.
17
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. You guys got
19 that? Not support or support. We're on discussion.
20
21 MR. SAMPSON: Sandy Rabinowitch is
22 shaking is his head. Is there a problem?
23
24 MR. RABINOWITCH: No, sir. I'm just
25 looking at something else.
26
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.
28
29 MR. KARMUN: Is this to support or.....
30
31 MR. SAMPSON: His question will be all
32 those in favor of the motion to support the proposal say
33 yes, and if you don't support it, you say no.
34
35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I'll refer it, that all
36 in favor of supporting the proposal signify by saying
37 aye.
38
39 (No affirmative votes)
40
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.
42
43 IN UNISON: Aye.
44
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: It seems be a lack of
46 proposal. It's been opposed. Okay. You guys got it?
47
48 Okay. Are we ready for the second
49 proposal? It's statewide Proposal WP05-02, reduce season
50 length of wolf. Introduction of proposal and analysis.

1 Who does that?

2

3 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, once again
4 Chuck Ardizzone. I'll be presenting this proposal.

5

6 Proposal WP05-02 was submitted by Mrs.
7 Karen Deatherage from the Defenders of Wildlife from
8 Anchorage, Alaska, and requests that the starting date
9 for wolf hunting seasons be changed to September 15th for
10 a number of units. The wolf hunting season would still
11 end on April 30th.

12

13 The main reason we are discussing this at
14 this meeting this morning is that units of -- or
15 residents of Unit 23 have customary and traditional use
16 determinations in a number of these units that may be
17 affected by this proposal.

18

19 This proposal would reduce the length of
20 the current Federal subsistence wolf hunting season in a
21 number of units, 1, 3, 4, 5(A) by 45 days, and by 36 days
22 in Units 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 through 13, 14(C), 15 through
23 21, and 24 through 26. This proposal will have no affect
24 on the wolf hunting season in Unit 23. We will be
25 addressing the season and harvest limits changes for Unit
26 23 when we discuss Proposal WP05-20.

27

28 The proponent references Section 802(2)
29 of ANILCA which mandates that nonwasteful subsistence
30 uses of fish and wildlife and other renewable resources
31 be a priority consumptive uses on Federal public lands in
32 Alaska. Additionally, she claims that wolf pelts hold no
33 apparent value during the month of August, therefore, any
34 harvest under Federal subsistence wolf hunting seasons
35 for August are considered a waste of public resources and
36 all Federal subsistence would hunting seasons should be
37 changed to begin on September 15th.

38

39 Currently the wolf population in the
40 State is healthy and is estimated -- population statewide
41 is approximately 7500 to 10,000 wolves. Currently wolves
42 are common over much of the State. Wolf densities range
43 from about one wolf per 25 square miles in the southern
44 part of the State and in Interior portions of the State
45 to one wolf per 150 square miles or less in the coastal
46 portions in western and northern Alaska. Wolf
47 distribution has remained fairly constant during recent
48 times.

49

50 I'm going to skip a lot of the history

1 and stuff, since this basically affects units which we --
2 this Council has c&t in, or customary and traditional
3 use, and doesn't affect our region directly.

4
5 Table 1 shows Fish and Games hunting
6 harvest records for reported statewide wolf harvest from
7 1979 to 2001. I wish I had some page numbers so I could
8 direct you around, but for some reason the book doesn't
9 have page numbers.

10
11 I'll go right into the effects of this
12 proposal. This proposal would shorten Federal wolf
13 harvest seasons by 45 days in Units 1, 3, 4, and 5(A),
14 and 36 days in Units 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 through 13, 14(C),
15 15 through 21, and 24 through 26. Federal subsistence
16 wolf hunting seasons in all the subject areas would start
17 on September 16th. This would reduce the subsistence
18 wolf harvest opportunities on Federal public lands. If
19 this proposal is adopted, State and Federal regulations
20 would be out of alignment.

21
22 This proposal would eliminate the
23 opportunity for hunters to take wolves wile moose, deer
24 or caribou hunting during the August and early September
25 seasons.

26
27 This proposal does not respond to any
28 specific biological concerns, and wolf populations in the
29 State. Wolf populations are currently considered to be
30 healthy throughout nearly all the historical range in
31 Alaska.

32
33 The preliminary conclusion for this
34 proposal is to oppose this proposal.

35
36 Thank you for your time. This concludes
37 my presentation.

38
39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter, go ahead.

40
41 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I move that
42 we defer this proposal at this time. It does not deal
43 with Unit 23.

44
45 MR. KARMUN: I would second that, Mr.
46 Chairman.

47
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter and Victor,
49 right now we've still got the other people that's on the
50 deliberation. Mr. Sampson, Victor, we'll come to your

1 point.

2

3

MR. SAMPSON: I'll withdraw.

4

5

MR. KARMUN: I'll withdraw mine also.

6

7

8

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Alaska Department of
Fish and Game.

9

10

11

MR. DAU: Jim Dau, Department of Fish and
Game. I'll be quick.

12

13

14

15

16

17

The Department does not support the
proposal for two reasons that Chuck already mentioned.
There's no biological reason to restrict subsistence
users, and it will make State and Federal regulations
less consistent.

18

19

20

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Jim. Other
agency comments on this Proposal WP05-02.

21

22

23

(No comments)

24

25

CHAIRMAN STONEY: InterAgency.

26

27

(No comments)

28

29

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Fish and game advisory
committee.

30

31

(No comments)

32

33

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Public comments.

34

35

36

37

MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We
did have three public comments that were received prior
to printed the book.

38

39

40

41

42

43

The first one is from Dan Quarberg, who
is from Delta Junction. He opposed this proposal for the
reason that there's no biological reason for this
proposal, and the value is in the eyes of the beholder.

44

45

Robert Jahnke of Ward Cove, he opposes
the proposal.

46

47

48

49

50

And then the AHTNA Tene Nene' Subsistence
Committee opposed the proposal to reduce the wolf season.
They do not support aligning State of Alaska and Federal
seasons for hunting wolves just for the sake of aligning

1 hunting seasons under the two management systems. We
2 support the more liberal hunting seasons so that more
3 wolves can be taken to reduce the wolf population.
4 Reducing the numbers of wolves will prevent them from
5 killing calves of caribou and moose in Units 11 through
6 13.

7
8 And that concludes the public comments.
9 But we also received the comments that were given -- or
10 the recommendations that were given by the other
11 Councils. The Eastern Interior opposed this proposal, as
12 did the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. And I checked with Steve
13 Kessler, he attended the Southeast meeting, and he said
14 that they also opposed the proposal.

15
16 Thank you.

17
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Public
19 testimony.

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Regional Council on
24 Proposal WP05-02. Walter.

25
26 MR. SAMPSON: Are we listening the reason
27 -- did you give the regional discussion from the.....

28
29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes. It's Regional
30 deliberation.

31
32 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I make a
33 motion that we defer this proposal.

34
35 MR. KARMUN: I'll second.

36
37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. There's a motion
38 by Walter to have them defer this proposal. Any second?

39
40 ATTAMUK: Question.

41
42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Attamuk.

43
44 ATTAMUK: No, Victor.

45
46 MR. KARMUN: Okay. Thank you, Attamuk.
47 I'll second it.

48
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Second by Mr.
50 Karmun. Any further discussion on Proposal WP05-02. Any

1 further discussion.

2

3 ATTAMUK: Yeah, Raymond, for the future I
4 guess for the time, we're always worried about the time
5 being late. I think for proposals like this that don't
6 affect my region, I hate to comment, because I will not
7 tell outside units how to hunt. And this lady's proposal
8 is all wrong, because the pelts are at different time at
9 different areas. Because we get colder here first, and
10 it takes a lot further to get colder down south, and the
11 pelts is not as good. And I would say proposals like
12 this shouldn't even go to our table.

13

14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.

15

16 MR. KARMUN: Question.

17

18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been called
19 by Mr. Karmun. All in favor of supporting the proposal
20 signify by saying aye.

21

22 IN UNISON: Aye.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any objection to.....

25

26 SEVERAL: Your microphone.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any objection to.

29

30 (No opposing votes)

31

32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, then WP05-02
33 is -- motion passed.

34

35 Okay. We're down to -- okay. Proposal
36 WP05-17, a proposal to lengthen season and remove permit
37 requirement for brown bear. Go.

38

39 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. Council
40 members. Chuck Ardizzone once again.

41

42 Proposal WP05-17 was submitted by this
43 Council, and requests that the Federal season for brown
44 bear in Unit 23 be lengthened, and that the permit
45 requirement be removed. Request that the harvest season
46 for brown bear be changed because numerous reports from
47 public, commercial operators and ADF&G staff suggests
48 that brown bears are currently abundant throughout Unit
49 23.

50

1 The proposed change would provide
2 subsistence users additional opportunity to harvest brown
3 bears, and make State and Federal brown bear regulations
4 consistent in Unit 23, thus reducing regulatory
5 complexity.

6
7 In Unit 23, the only brown bear
8 population census was completed in 1987. From this
9 census an estimated density of one adult brown bear for
10 every 25 square miles was estimated for the vicinity of
11 Red Dog Mine. There have been no recent censuses and
12 there is no other quantitative data to indicate
13 population trends. However, residents of Unit 23 point
14 out that the brown bear numbers have increased since the
15 1940s and 50s.

16
17 Moose, caribou and muskox numbers in Unit
18 23 have in general increased since the 1950s providing a
19 stable prey base for large predators, which could account
20 for increases.

21
22 The reported harvest of 73 bears from
23 Unit in 2000 to 2001 was the highest reported harvest
24 since ADF&G began collecting harvest information in 1961,
25 62. And that can be found on Page 68 in Table 1. In
26 2001/2002, the reported harvest was 50. The reported
27 brown bear harvest taken under subsistence regulation
28 permit hunt has been relatively low, and can also be
29 found in Table 1 on Page 68. Brown bear harvests have
30 increased since the 1960s; however, there has been
31 substantial annual variability in harvest numbers that
32 can be seen in Figures 1 and 2 on pages 68 and 69.

33
34 Community harvest estimates suggests
35 villages within Unit 23 take relatively few brown bears
36 for subsistence.

37
38 And I'll skip over to the effects of the
39 proposal. Adoption of this proposed season dates would
40 meet the intent to align State and Federal reg -- excuse
41 me, State and Federal brown bear regulations.

42
43 If adopted, additional harvest of bears
44 is not likely in most of Unit 23, since currently under
45 State regulations individuals may already harvest one
46 bear between August 1st and May 31st by registration
47 permit every year.

48
49 This regulatory change would have the
50 greatest impacts on the Gates of the Arctic National

1 Park, Kobuk Valley National Park and Cape Krusenstern
2 National Monument where State hunting regulations do not
3 apply. This additional opportunity in the National Park
4 Service lands may slightly increase bear harvest within
5 their boundaries, but is not likely to have much, if any,
6 impact on the overall brown bear population in Unit 23.

7
8 Currently, the brown bear population is
9 considered stable to increasing, and this proposal should
10 have little effect on the overall population. The
11 numbers of hunters eligible to hunt within the affected
12 National Park Service lands is also limited by existing
13 National Park Service eligibility requirements, which can
14 be seen on Page 70 in Table 3, so that also increase any
15 -- or should also limit any increase in harvest.

16
17 The proposed regulation does not provide
18 for a harvest reporting mechanism; however, maintaining
19 the current reporting requirement would be prudent.
20 Currently there's no sealing requirement for bear hides
21 and skulls that stay within the unit. Therefore, if the
22 permit requirements were dropped, there would be no way
23 to track Federal subsistence harvest of brown bear.
24 Without these data, there would be no way to determine
25 the subsistence users needs and the number of bears
26 harvested, which could lead to future conservation
27 concerns.

28
29 The preliminary conclusion for this
30 proposal is to support with modification, maintaining the
31 reporting requirement.

32
33 Thank you. This concludes my
34 presentation.

35
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The Alaska Department
37 of Fish and Game.

38
39 MR. DAU: Jim Dau, Fish and Game.

40
41 The Department supports as modified
42 because it would provide additional opportunity for
43 subsistence hunters to take bears and it would make State
44 and Federal regulations more consistent.

45
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Jim. Other
47 agencies.

48
49 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson, National
50 Park Service.

1 Mr. Chair. Council members. The
2 National Park Service would support the proposal with the
3 recommended changes laid out in the Staff analysis. That
4 would in effect lengthen the season, but would retain the
5 permit and the reporting requirements.

6
7 The Park Service continues to support
8 increases in opportunity where appropriate, but again
9 cannot support proposals that are based on predator
10 control, or simply to manipulate one species to the
11 advantage of another.

12
13 In the existing regulations, both State
14 and Federal, there are fundamental differences between
15 the use and salvage requirements for the subsistence
16 regulations and the sport general regulations. And since
17 this applies to the subsistence regulations, we agree
18 that lengthening the season essentially would result in
19 very little increase in brown bear harvest, but we do
20 believe it would provide additional opportunity as
21 appropriate to a number of individuals, and therefore we
22 support the lengthening of the season.

23
24 However, doing away with the permit
25 requirements and things would simply transform it into
26 pretty much a general hunt, which then bears could be
27 taken pretty much for sport purposes under the guise of
28 subsistence, and that could lead to an increase in bear
29 harvest, which we think would be inappropriate,
30 especially in places like Cape Krusenstern. So we feel
31 retaining the permit and the reporting requirements is
32 appropriate.

33
34 And as I say, we do support the proposal
35 with the recommended changes in the Staff report. Thank
36 you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Ken.
39 Victor.

40
41 MR. KARMUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
42 would have a question. How do you dispose of a bear that
43 was put down in defense of life and property under this
44 program?

45
46 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Karmun, bears that are
47 taken under defense of life and property are outside the
48 scope of the Federal subsistence program, and are dealt
49 with through the State regulations regarding defense of
50 life and property. So a bear taken that way needs to be

1 reported to the State and the harvester needs to comply
2 with State requirements.

3

4 MR. KARMUN: Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Ken.

7

8 MR. SWAN: I have a comment, Mr.

9 Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

12

13 MR. SWAN: In the past we used to store
14 dolly varden, char in the river for future use. Now we
15 don't do that anymore, because of the bear consumption.
16 There were times that we'd spend a whole week to two
17 weeks in the river gathering fish for dog food, which we
18 don't do now, but for personal consumption. And we don't
19 store the fish up river any more. We bring it home
20 possibly to get it infected by disease in the village,
21 but the bear population has been a problem in that
22 regard. I think I would support increased harvesting of
23 the bear some way.

24

25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Thank you,
26 Ken. InterAgency Staff comment.

27

28 (No comments)

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Fish and game advisory
31 committee comments.

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Summary of public
36 comments.

37

38 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
39 There were no written comments submitted. Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Public testimony.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Regional Councils.

46 Walter.

47

48 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, based on the
49 information that's been provided to us, it sounds like
50 there's no consistency between the two agencies. If one

1 agency is saying this is how things are going to be done
2 in regards to DLP, then you have a Federal agency that
3 does not have a policy in place or a reg in place that
4 would allow for these kind of actions. So I don't know
5 where that will lead to.

6

7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Walter.
8 Victor.

9

10 MR. KARMUN: Yeah, on the defense of life
11 and property, the reason I like to bring it up, if that
12 happens to people that's out in the camp somewhere, it
13 really puts a burden on them in terms of their renewable
14 resources, especially gas and oil and the time consumed
15 to follow the State policy to bring it back to town and
16 dispose of it correctly. That's why I would entertain a
17 policy by the Feds on how to handle it on Federally
18 managed lands.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Victor.
23 Yes.

24

25 MR. RABINOWITCH: Sandy Rabinowitch with
26 the National Park Service.

27

28 There may be some others in the room that
29 can help me with this, but the Federal -- my memory, in
30 my memory, the Federal Board has been asked to look into
31 that in the past, just what Mr. Karmun was asking you
32 about, and the Board did look into it, and there was a
33 report, at least one report, maybe more, but at least one
34 written up some years ago. And I'm kind of looking
35 toward Helen who I probably sat through meetings with
36 when it was discussed. I can't remember the details of
37 that, other than the Federal Board did conclude just what
38 Ken Adkisson said, was that it at that time choose not to
39 develop its own policy, and to simply kind of keep its
40 hands off of the defense of life and property issue and
41 leave it to the State. And maybe Helen can add some more
42 to it, but probably at your next meeting that work could
43 be brought back to you if you wanted to see it, and you
44 could at least see, you know, the discussion that went on
45 previously. So I'm just trying to offer a little bit of
46 history to the issue you raise.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anything else from the
2 Council? Helen.

3
4 MS. ARMSTRONG: It starts dating me how
5 long I've been in this program, but Sandy is absolutely
6 correct that this did come to the -- we brought it to
7 all the Councils, and then it went to the Federal
8 Subsistence Board, and as Sandy said, they decided not to
9 change anything and left the DLP up to the State.

10
11 But I guess I want to just emphasize that
12 it's not an issue as part of this proposal, that this is
13 something totally separate.

14
15 And as Sandy said, if you'd like, we can
16 bring -- we can get a summary of what happened in the
17 past so that you know how that was handled. It was a
18 number of years ago. I'm guessing probably about 1993 or
19 '94. It was before Jerry came, and Jerry came in?

20
21 MR. BERG: '95.

22
23 MS. ARMSTRONG: '95. So it was somewhere
24 in the early 90s, and I think it would be worthwhile to
25 bring that forward since you have a concern about it.

26
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Thanks, Helen.
28 Walter.

29
30 MR. SAMPSON: A question to Helen then.
31 Those very regulations that the State of Alaska had in
32 regards to bears, did the Federal Government rubber stamp
33 those as well then as regulations?

34
35 MS. ARMSTRONG: I don't believe that was
36 the case. I think it more that they decided they were
37 going to leave it up to the State and they weren't going
38 to have their DLP regulations. That's my memory, but it
39 was a number of years ago. I think the best thing for us
40 to do would be to research it and bring it to your next
41 -- at the next Council meeting. I'd rather do that than
42 to say something that's not accurate, since it was a
43 number of years ago. So would you like me to do that or
44 have someone from -- I don't know if it would be me or
45 Chuck, but would you like us to do that?

46
47 MR. SAMPSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, I think
48 if we're going to open a can of worms, I'd prefer not to.
49 If it's not, then -- not unless somebody has any problems
50 with it, then we leave it where it's at.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: But we still have to
2 take action on this, right?
3
4 MR. SAMPSON: Yes.
5
6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.
7
8 MR. SAMPSON: No, we're referring to what
9 she's asking for. And just take action on the proposal.
10
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, that we'll take
12 action at this time. Is somebody going to make a motion
13 to.....
14
15 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I move for
16 adoption of Proposal WP05-17 for adoption.
17
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: And that's a motion by
19 Walter to support Proposal WP05-17. Is there a second.
20
21 ATTAMUK: I'll second it..
22
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Enoch. Any
24 further discussions on the proposal.
25
26 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, did you want
27 that with the Staff modifications, or just as it
28 originally was?
29
30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.
31
32 ATTAMUK: Are you talking about Ken's
33 modifications or what that was introduced?
34
35 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, that would be
36 correct, with the modification to retain the registration
37 permit. That's what Ken had mentioned and I had
38 mentioned. That would be the change.
39
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We're still on
41 discussion. Walter.
42
43 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, the
44 modifications that you're talking are under the proposed
45 Federal regs then where you have some exclusions by bold
46 lines across the existing regulations?
47
48 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, it could be
49 found on Page 70, the modification language would just
50 remove the strikeout that says one bear by State

1 registration permit. So it removes the strikeout of
2 State registration permit and leaves it intact.

3

4 MR. SAMPSON: I was looking at Page 65.

5

6 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, Mr. Sampson, if you
7 look at Page 65 and then flip to Page 70, you can see
8 that the modification would just remove the strikeout
9 that goes through by State registration permit only.

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We're still on
12 discussion.

13

14 ATTAMUK: Yeah, I think we need to be
15 corrected here. I was looking at Page 70 and Walter was
16 looking at 65, so we're trying to do two different
17 wording here on the proposal. Can you redo it to where
18 we could understand 65 and 70, what Walter brought up,
19 and I was looking at 70, the difference between 65 and
20 70?

21

22 MR. ARDIZZONE: I can surely do that for
23 you. On Page 65 that is the original proposal, and it
24 removes the State registration permit only language. It
25 has a line through it. If you flip to Page 70, it's the
26 same language, except it removes the strikeout and keeps
27 the wording by State registration permit only. And that
28 would be the suggested modification that Ken and I were
29 discussing.

30

31 ATTAMUK: Okay. Thanks. Call for
32 question.

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: All in favor.....

35

36 MS. DOWNING: Your microphone, sir.

37

38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh, sorry. All in
39 favor of adopting Proposal WP05-17, signify by saying
40 aye.

41

42 IN UNISON: Aye.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed?

45

46 (No opposing votes)

47

48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion carries.

49

50 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, is that the

1 modified language that we voted on?

2

3

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

4

5

MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes. Okay.

6

7

8

9

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50

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Proposal WP05-18, proposal to reduce moose season in Unit 23. Introduction and proposal analysis. Are you going to do that?

MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Once again Chuck Ardizzone. I will be presenting this.

Proposal WP05-18 was submitted by this Council, and requested that the Federal season for moose in most of Unit 23 be reduced from 1 July, or 1 August depending on the area, through March 31st, which would be changed to August 1st through December 31st, allowing an antlerless moose season to be harvested only in November and December.

The proposer requests that the harvest season for moose be changed because the moose density in Unit 23 appears to have substantially declined since the early 1990s. It states that the census data suggests that moose density currently ranges from .1 to .3 moose per square mile in large portions of the unit, and that calf recruitment has consistently been low during recent years.

State moose hunting regulations have already been restricted to protect the moose, and similar Federal actions would conserve moose and reduce regulatory complexity between the State and Federal regulations.

Based on recent census results in large areas of Unit 23, moose densities range between .1 and .3 moose per square mile. This is lower than many other portions of Alaska. There are, however, small pockets of high quality moose habitat that may have higher densities of moose. Area biologists and many public reports suggest moose populations are declining throughout Unit 23.

The Selawik National Wildlife Refuge with the help of ADF&G, BLM and National Park Service censused moose in the Tag River drainage in March 2001. The estimated moose population in this area is approximately

1 1374 animals. The Tag River was also surveyed in 1997,
2 but a smaller area was covered. In 1997 there were 21
3 calves per 100 cow moose, and in 2001 there were only 10
4 calves per adult moose. This is more than a 50 percent
5 decline in recruitment in a four-year period.

6
7 Based on surveys and census data for the
8 Selawik River, the population has been relatively stable
9 over the last four to six years. However, calf
10 recruitment is extremely low along the river. Low calf
11 recruitment is attributed to bear predation on calves in
12 the spring.

13
14 Based on ADF&G's area biologist's
15 observations and observations by local residents, moose
16 have reportedly been declining in upper Kobuk drainage
17 since the early 1990s and calf recruitment has also been
18 low in this area.

19
20 The mean 1997 to 2000 spring calf/adult
21 ratio in the Noatak River drainage was nine calves per
22 100 cows. this is consistent with observations and
23 reports from many local residents, and some long-term
24 commercial operators that recruitment rates have been low
25 in this portion of the unit.

26
27 If you look at Table 2, you can look at
28 the total reported annual moose harvest for Unit 23
29 between 1995 and 2000 on Page 76, have ranged between 139
30 and 180 animals.

31
32 Based on community -- excuse me. Based
33 on community-based harvest assessments, approximately 335
34 moose were harvested annually by residents between 1999
35 and 2000. Residents of Kotzebue account for the largest
36 percentage of this harvest.

37
38 Georgette, et al., reported that
39 Northwest Alaska communities surveyed, bull moose
40 represented nearly all of the moose harvested, and that
41 overall the harvested moose whose sex was known were 95
42 percent bulls.

43
44 Moose harvest ranged from August through
45 January; however, 76 percent took place -- 76 percent of
46 the harvest took place in August and September, with
47 another 17 percent occurring in December. The number of
48 moose harvested for the Northwest communities surveyed is
49 displayed in Table 3 on Page 77.

50

1 The effects of this proposal. Unit 23
2 moose populations have been declining. Adopting this
3 proposal would give subsistence users less opportunity,
4 but would likely reduce the harvest of cow moose, and
5 preclude the harvest of calf moose, which would help slow
6 the decline of the moose population. If this proposal is
7 adopted, it would shorten the moose season by 90 days,
8 eliminating the January through March portion of the
9 season, and would limit the take of antlerless moose to
10 November and December.

11
12 This proposal should have minimal impacts
13 on subsistence users, because few subsistence hunters
14 have harvested cow or calf moose in the past, and most of
15 the harvest occurs between August and September, and a
16 four-month long bull season will provide an opportunity
17 take moose during the fall if caribou are not available.

18
19
20 The preliminary conclusion for this
21 proposal is to support the proposal.

22
23 Thank you. This concludes my
24 presentation.

25
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. The Alaska
27 Department of Fish and Game.

28
29 MR. DAU: Jim Dau, Alaska Department of
30 Fish and Game.

31
32 The Department supports this proposal.
33 I'm going to say more on this proposal than I have on the
34 other ones. I think this is one of the most important
35 proposals you have in front of you today.

36
37 You guys have heard me for a number of
38 years tell you that I think moose numbers are going down
39 in Unit 23. Now, this is a tough winter to argue to that
40 to you guys, especially to you, Raymond, because you're
41 sitting up there in Kiana and you're looking at literally
42 hundreds of moose that are down there in the willows all
43 around the village. Reggie, you're probably looking at
44 the same thing in the upper Kobuk.

45
46 It's a deep snow winter, and moose are
47 just packed on these rivers. And you guys told me when I
48 first got here in the early 90s that moose tend to go
49 near the villages, and I didn't believe you at the time.
50 But I believe you now. Around these villages you guys

1 are just covered with moose right now.

2

3 But what you may not realize is you're
4 looking at pretty much the entire populations. When you
5 get away from the main rivers and away from those
6 villages, it's hard to find moose at this time of year.

7

8 I think our information is pretty clear
9 that moose numbers are very low now in Unit 23. We've
10 got multiple census showing that, not just one census.
11 And we're not just looking in little honey hole areas.
12 We're looking in big areas that have marginal habitat as
13 well as good habitat, and our densities have consistently
14 been low.

15

16 The thing that disturbs me most about
17 moose is not so much what we're seeing. It's what we're
18 not seeing, and we're just not seeing many calves. I
19 flew this fall. I didn't do any kind of a rigorous
20 census at all this fall, but I flew in portions of the
21 Noatak and the Squirrel and the Kobuk delta down around
22 the refuge. I looked at about 1,600 moose, and I only
23 saw -- overall, on all those moose, I saw 20 calves per
24 100 cows, and that's really not enough I don't think to
25 maintain a stable population given adult mortality.

26

27 So I think the trend that we've seen for
28 the last 10 years is going to continue, you know, into
29 the future.

30

31 One thing I'm seeing, it's kind of a
32 disturbing trend, I think it's on both the State and
33 Federal sides, is that the two regulatory systems now are
34 starting to play chicken with each other. You know, I
35 hear comments on the Federal side, well, we're not going
36 to restrict Federal regulations until all nonsubsistence
37 users are eliminated. At the last Board of Game meeting
38 I was at in 2003, I heard Board of Game say, we're not
39 going to restrict, you know, the public any more when you
40 in Unit 23 have a seven-month long any moose season. How
41 can you expect us to close things down any more for other
42 users in Unit 23. So I hate to see this situation
43 developing where the two sides, neither is going to take
44 action until the other one jumps first.

45

46 On the State side, at the last Board of
47 Game meeting, we made substantial restrictions to moose
48 regulations in 23, and they'll affect you guys as well as
49 non-local hunters, too. We established a drawing permit
50 hunt for nonresidents. They can't hunt moose here any

1 more unless they get a drawing permit.

2

3 We established two options for resident
4 hunters. Resident hunters can hunt under a statewide
5 moose harvest ticket like we have for years. If you do
6 that, you basically have the same season that a
7 nonresident has. It's down to three weeks. It's
8 September 1 through 20 and you can only take large bulls.

9

10 Your other option on the State side is
11 for a registration hunt, and this was formulated
12 primarily to help people in Unit 23 hunt moose. If you
13 register to hunt between the 1st of June and the middle
14 of July, the moose season for resident hunters only is
15 August 1st through the end of December and there's a two-
16 month cow season.

17

18 This proposal would make State and
19 Federal regulations consistent throughout Unit 23.

20

21 If there's questions, go ahead and ask.

22

23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter, you've got a
24 question to the State Fish and Game?

25

26 MR. SAMPSON: I certainly do. Maybe to
27 the State and both to the Feds. Sections of ANILCA, the
28 provisions that it has in there that relates to resource,
29 where resource abundance are starting to come down. What
30 -- I guess I need some clarity in regards to sections of
31 that that says relation to the fact that once the
32 resource starts to come down, I think both the State and
33 Federal Government would look at the user groups. Can
34 somebody clarify that section of the law?

35

36 MR. DAU: Well, I can tell you I'm no
37 authority on ANILCA unequivocally. You know, maybe Sandy
38 or somebody else can talk about it.

39

40 MR. RABINOWITCH: I have to find it. Can
41 you give me minute to find it?

42

43 MR. SAMPSON: Please.

44

45 MR. DAU: While they're looking for that,
46 I'll just finish what I've got to say from the State
47 side, and then you can be done with me.

48

49 Anyway, I just would like to strongly
50 encourage you to consider the proposal, and again the

1 State supports it, and I personally strongly support it.

2
3

4 Whoever wrote this Department analysis
5 for Fish and Game, it wasn't me, but they talk about some
6 Federal reporting system, different reporting
7 requirements. If this is adopted, I don't think you need
8 to have a separate Federal reporting system. I think you
9 can just report -- continue to report moose taken under
10 Federal regulations under the State system, because they
11 would be consistent. This would get you out of the
12 situation of having to have a separate Federal reporting
13 system.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor, have you got
16 any questions to State Fish and Game?

17

18 MR. KARMUN: Thank you. This would be
19 either for Ken or Sandy. Under a dual system like this,
20 under ANILCA, at what point in time would ANILCA kick in
21 and take over these animals if they continue to decline?

22

23 MR. SAMPSON: That was the question that
24 I was leading to, that we need clarity on that provision.

25

26 MR. RABINOWITCH: Sandy Rabinowitch with
27 the Park Service.

28

29 I think the provision of ANILCA that
30 you're thinking about, and there are some others, but is
31 Section 804. And let me just read a sentence or two. So
32 ANILCA 804 says, except as otherwise provided in this
33 Act, that being ANILCA, and other Federal laws, the
34 taking on public lands of fish and wildlife for
35 nonwasteful subsistence uses shall be accorded priority
36 over the taking on such lands of fish and wildlife for
37 other purposes. That's the exact quote out of ANILCA
38 804.

39

40 There's other parts that -- and I don't
41 think you're asking about this, there's other parts that
42 go into when there's a shortage of the resource, and then
43 that sort of steps down to determining among subsistence
44 users which users sort of are first in line and second in
45 line. I'm not sure that you're asking.....

46

47 MR. SAMPSON: That was the section that
48 I'm looking for, yes.

49

50 MR. RABINOWITCH: Okay. Whenever -- same

1 section, 804. Whenever it is necessary to restrict the
2 taking of populations of fish and wildlife on such lands
3 for subsistence uses to protect the continued viability
4 of such populations or to continue such uses, such
5 priority shall be implemented through appropriate
6 limitations based on the application of the following
7 criteria. There's three of them. One, customary and
8 direct dependence upon the populations as the main stay
9 of livelihood. Two, local residency. And, three, the
10 availability of alternative resources.

11
12 This is -- and I'm just reading out of
13 the manual that you all have here.

14
15 MR. SAMPSON: That is the section of the
16 law that I was asking for.

17
18 MR. RABINOWITCH: And.....

19
20 MR. SAMPSON: Have those questions or
21 those issues been applied for then through this process
22 of proposing this regulation? And my last question is,
23 it says Northwest Arctic Regional Advisory Council
24 proposed this.

25
26 MR. RABINOWITCH: There's lots of head
27 shaking and tapping going on. Go ahead, Chuck.

28
29 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Sampson, at our last
30 meeting, we had a big discussion with Jim Dau and the
31 Council, and these are basically what we came up with,
32 and were submitted as Council proposals.

33
34 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I think -- I
35 guess I'm not quite satisfied with the clarification in
36 regards to the definition of the process that ANILCA has
37 in regards to that section that refers to when the
38 resource gets down to the numbers who gets to take what
39 rather than outright not allowing the subsistence user to
40 take.

41
42 MR. RABINOWITCH: Well, I think it's safe
43 to say that it's a judgment call on how all this gets
44 worked out, you know, that each is a case -- handled on a
45 case-by-case basis, and there's a lot of judgment that
46 has to be applied. So I don't think there's a heard and
47 fast rule. I think you look at the facts of the
48 situation and, you know, discuss the merits and so on and
49 so forth.

50

1 There's one other provision that Ken's
2 pointing out that would be worth reading here, and then
3 it sounds like Helen wants to jump in.

4
5 But in Section 815 of ANILCA, the same
6 part, just a little further on, the statute says that
7 authorizing a restriction on the taking of fish and
8 wildlife for nonsubsistence uses on public lands, and
9 it's in parenthesis, other than national park and
10 monuments which wouldn't apply here, unless necessary
11 for the conservation of healthy populations of fish and
12 wildlife for the reasons set forth in Section 816, to
13 continue subsistence uses of such populations or pursuant
14 to other applicable law.

15
16 So there's, and I feel like I've missed a
17 line here. But the point is that one does not casually
18 restrict the nonsubsistence users. One has to have a
19 good case, a good set of facts to do that. And at that,
20 I'm probably missing something that somebody wants -- if
21 someone else wants to jump in and help out.

22
23 MS. ARMSTRONG: This Council's never had
24 to deal with this issue, so I know it's new to you, and
25 we've been just dealing with this in the Seward
26 Peninsula, but you wouldn't implement Section 804 until
27 you had implemented Section 815. So in other words --
28 and 815 is when you shut down Federal lands to
29 nonsubsistence users. So once you close Federal lands to
30 nonsubsistence users, and if there's still a shortage,
31 then you start saying, okay, who -- of those people who
32 have customary and traditional use determination for a
33 resource, which of those people should only have the
34 ability to take the resource. And you're going to hear
35 more about this in the next proposal, because then you
36 start looking at who has the dependence, who lives in the
37 closest proximity, who has the alternative resources.

38
39 So you wouldn't even want to begin to
40 start talking about limiting between the subsistence
41 users until you had shut down Federal public lands to
42 nonsubsistence users. And you can't do that, you can't
43 shut down Federal public lands unless you can demonstrate
44 that there's a conservation concern, unless you say the
45 nonsubsistence users, if they continue hunting here,
46 we're going to have a really serious problem. They've
47 done this in other parts of the State. We have shut down
48 Federal Public lands to nonsubsistence users.

49
50 Or if there's a problem with the -- there

1 are three criteria. There's conservation. The other one
2 is if -- unless the subsistence users are being impacted,
3 and then safety concerns. But the Board does not do it
4 really lightly. They have to make -- you have to really
5 demonstrate a conservation concern before you shut down
6 Federal public lands, but you can do it if there's a
7 conservation concern. I hope that helps.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Helen. Walt
10 and members of the Council here, I'll ask you this
11 question. I know that this proposal is going to take
12 some time, you know. That's one of our main proposals.
13 That's what we're here for. And now we've got almost
14 five minutes to 12, we're still on deliberations, the
15 State of Alaska. It's still going to take some time in
16 order to finish the proposal.

17

18 I'll ask this question. Do you guys want
19 some time off for lunch, and then continue on after lunch
20 for this proposal, or continue right through lunch hour?

21

22 ATTAMUK: Let's go to lunch.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Let's go to lunch? How
25 about you guys? Because it's going to take some time on
26 this proposal. So we're through with deliberations for
27 the State of Alaska. It's five minutes to 12.

28

29 MR. CLEVELAND: I guess we go to lunch,
30 because we haven't made an order yet, and the order would
31 take half an hour. And if we go out and order our own,
32 we'd be back here by 12:45.

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: (In Inupiat)

35

36 What time do you guys want to come back?
37 1:00 or 1:30? Be back at 1:00 o'clock. Break for lunch.

38

39 (Off record)

40

41 (On record)

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. I'll call the
44 meeting back to order. Before lunch we were still with
45 Proposal WP05-18, and on deliberation, we'd done comments
46 from Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and now we're
47 down to other agencies on this proposal. I know there
48 are a number of conversials (ph) on the other agency
49 comments. We're on -- first we're on Page 73, which is
50 beginning of Proposal WP05-18. So we've got Ken. So

1 we're down to other agency comments. Okay. National
2 Park Service.

3

4 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chairman. Council
5 members. Ken Adkisson, National Park Service.

6

7 The National Park Service is neutral on
8 this specific proposal. On the one hand, we're not
9 convinced that restricting the Federal harvest is
10 necessary, and recognize that while it may not appear to
11 have much an impact on many of the Federal users,
12 shortening the season could adversely affect especially
13 some of the villages at a time when perhaps they could
14 use the meat. And so to that degree, we're not convinced
15 it's really a good proposal.

16

17 On the other hand, you know, we recognize
18 the complexities of land management, the issues related
19 to confusion from differing regulations, and also
20 recognize, you know, that the Regional Advisory Council
21 has tried to take some action in support of conservation,
22 in support of improving the status of the moose
23 population. And if the Council feels that it needs to
24 restrict users, you know, we're not going to say no.
25 But, like I said, we're not convinced that by and large
26 that it works to the benefit of especially some of the
27 villages outside of the Kotzebue area.

28

29 We also recognize that Kotzebue accounts
30 for a large hunk of the harvest, and poses special
31 problems where you have longer Federal seasons, but like
32 I said. So at this point, you know, we think there's
33 other ways to maybe go, but it's a complex issue, and I
34 think would take a lot more thought and input into
35 developing perhaps a better regulation than this one, and
36 so like I say, we're kind of neutral on this specific
37 position.

38

39 I should let you know that the Cape
40 Krusenstern Subsistence Resource Commission did not
41 address this proposal. However, the Kobuk Valley
42 Subsistence Resource Commission did take it up, and
43 you've got that in the information that I've provided
44 you, the handout. And they basically voted to oppose the
45 proposal as written, with the exception of the
46 elimination of the two-week closure in the Noatak
47 drainage. There was a lot of discussion at the
48 Commission, and Raymond who was chairing the Commission
49 at that time can fill you in on it. My take of it is, is
50 that did a pretty good job having just seen the proposal

1 in some cases for the first time. That there was
2 discussions of the problems related to dual management,
3 the issues of having two different seasons, different
4 permitting systems, those sorts of things. A recognition
5 that moose numbers were down. But I think in the final
6 analysis, it came down to they wished they'd had more
7 information, more time, and they just felt that it was
8 unnecessary to restrict Federal users, and so voted
9 against the proposal.

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Ken. Any
12 questions from the Council to the National Park? Walter.

13

14 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15 Ken, do you have some data, some information, some
16 pertinent good data I guess to the statement that you
17 made to the fact that Kotzebue takes a large hunk of that
18 source.

19

20 MR. ADKISSON: There's basically two
21 sources of information, and there's the harvest ticket
22 return stuff is, you know -- and I think some people
23 think that Kotzebue has better reporting than some of the
24 villages. Probably I would put more weight in the
25 community harvest surveys that are done that we help
26 support, and we've been doing, for example, abbreviated
27 surveys working with ADF&G Subsistence Division and
28 Maniilaq, and Susan could fill you in on those. And the
29 existing harvest and subsistence studies in the area that
30 would indicate that probably at least half the
31 subsistence harvest probably is accounted for by
32 Kotzebue.

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

35

36 MR. SAMPSON: A follow-up question, Mr.
37 Chairman. The issue in regards to the Kotzebue take, do
38 you have any idea what the number might be from the
39 Kotzebue take, and outside region take?

40

41 MR. ADKISSON: I don't have that right at
42 hand, but Jim Dau and Susan Georgette may have that, if
43 they've got that. I don't recall right now what it was,
44 but it's -- it seems like that the subsistence harvest is
45 fairly substantial, and accounts for a large part of the
46 harvest, but maybe even roughly half of the total, I
47 don't know.

48

49 But it seems like outside interests
50 continues to grow, too, and Jim and Susan could probably

1 address that better than I could.

2

3 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.

6

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

8 Under the present system, do the village people, do they

9 have an ample opportunity to participate, or do you hear

10 anything different from the village people?

11

12 MR. ADKISSON: Actually I think that may
13 be one of the problems, and I'm not sure there's been a
14 lot of input from the villages. I think, you know, a few
15 individuals have been talked to in the villages, and
16 sometimes their opinions may differ, but, you know, as
17 far as going and holding meetings with the Councils or
18 that sort of thing, I don't know. I think mostly it's
19 been individuals talking to a few individuals. And the
20 impression that I get is that most of the villages, you
21 know want to try to do the right thing, and they are
22 concerned about the low moose numbers and are willing to
23 accept some restrictions. Whether those restrictions are
24 necessary though, I don't know. Like I said, our feeling
25 is they may not be.

26

27 MR. KARMUN: Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

30

31 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

32 Ken, on other resources, has Section 814, 815 been

33 applied before?

34

35 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Sampson, Commission
36 members, 804, which is the restriction among eligible
37 subsistence users, has been applied in a number of cases,
38 and you're going to see one later on on the muskox
39 proposal.

40

41 Section 815, however, which is the
42 restriction to nonsubsistence uses before you start
43 restricting among subsistence users has been applied in
44 some instances throughout the State. It's easier to said
45 than done though, and I think interpreting 815 and how to
46 apply it in a meaningful way is a real challenge and not
47 taken lightly.

48

49 Those of you who have followed this
50 process perhaps for some time, and Willie Goodwin was

1 chair of the RAC for a number of years when we were
2 trying to deal with the moose shortages, and I think
3 people got very frustrated with it. For example, there
4 was a lot of talk about closing the Noatak to
5 nonsubsistence uses, and basically as frustrated as
6 people were, they gave up, because they realized if they
7 closed the Noatak, a lot of that use would just like go
8 to the Squirrel River where we didn't have any Federal
9 over, and it would only make the problem in the Squirrel,
10 you know, River, more serious, and so we were never
11 successfully able to, you know, close Federal public
12 lands to nonsubsistence moose at an earlier date.

13

14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter, you've got
15 follow-up?

16

17 MR. SAMPSON: Yes, thank you, Mr.
18 Chairman. I think, Ken, when we ask questions, I'd like
19 sort of a short answer if I may. The more information
20 you provide me, the more confused I get.

21

22 815. You said statewide. Has 815 been
23 applied in this region on other resources?

24

25 MR. ADKISSON: I don't believe we've ever
26 had one done in Unit 23, and the few times we've tried it
27 in Unit 22's been pretty complicated, too, and often what
28 they've done is adjusted seasons, and everybody shared
29 the pain so to speak rather than eliminate one group.

30

31 MR. SAMPSON: What about sheep, wasn't
32 sheep applied on 815?

33

34 MR. ADKISSON: I apologize. You're
35 right. That was a case where Federal public lands were
36 closed to nonsubsistence uses, and currently remain
37 closed. The case with the sheep though is that there was
38 a lot of Federal public land involved, and it was pretty
39 easy to do, and a pretty clear conservation need, and
40 also the subsistence need levels were identified, and it
41 was a lot easier I think to make happen. I think the
42 moose would be much more difficult.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Mr. Karmun.

45

46 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you.

47

48 MR. KARMUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
49 What actions or activities, do they have to be pretty
50 catastrophic or something has to happen in that regard

1 for 815 to be implemented?

2

3 MR. ADKISSON: I'd have to go back, maybe
4 Sandy or Helen could jump right in here. Basically, I
5 think it's maintaining a healthy population, and that is
6 defined in regulation, but that's pretty broad. And to
7 say that the moose population out here is not healthy I
8 think may be somewhat difficult to do. It's clearly, I
9 think, viable. It's not going to go away, but it's not
10 going to grow substantially probably very soon. And
11 there may be some other criteria, and perhaps again Helen
12 or Sandy could jump in and quote that for it, but it's a
13 tough one.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions
16 to National Park from Council.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If not, thanks, Ken.

21

22 MR. ADKISSON: You're welcome. Thank
23 you.

24

25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Got anything, Enoch?

26

27 ATTAMUK: Yeah, maybe to help answer the
28 moose take in Kotzebue, Alex, you did a survey here in
29 Kotzebue for a couple years. You've got any idea what
30 was taken last year, moose? I know you guys did a survey
31 in Kotzebue IRA.

32

33 MR. WHITING: No, we got three years of
34 surveys, but we haven't got the final.....

35

36 MS. DOWNING: You'll have to come up to
37 the microphone, sir.

38

39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Alex, would you get to
40 the mike, please.

41

42 ATTAMUK: This is just to help Walter's
43 question earlier, how many moose is taken in Kotzebue.

44

45 MR. WHITING: Alex Whiting, Kotzebue IRA.
46 We've done three years of harvest survey work, but we
47 haven't done our final analysis on that yet, so we don't
48 have any numbers at this time.

49

50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. InterAgency

1 Staff Committee.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Fish and game advisory
6 committee comments.

7

8 (No comments)

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Summary of written
11 public comments.

12

13 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair, there
14 are no written public comments at this time.

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Public testimony. Mr.
17 Goodwin.

18

19 MR. GOODWIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
20 just wanted to point out that some of the actions that
21 you've already taken and you're going to take on
22 predation, I think we should also wait and see how those
23 show up with respect to populations of the moose and the
24 caribou after you've lengthened the bear season, wolf
25 season, and the numbers. Because according to the
26 biologists, there's a lot of take by the bears and such
27 on the moose populations, so I would suggest that we wait
28 until we see some of that -- the results of some of that,
29 or if it's all human or hunter take that's affecting the
30 populations.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor, questions for
35 Willie?

36

37 MR. KARMUN: Yeah. thank you, Mr.
38 Chairman. Willie, what would your suggestion or
39 recommendation be for this, please?

40

41 MR. GOODWIN: I think until we get
42 further numbers and such and a clear cut population
43 count, because we've heard bits and pieces of populations
44 being counted here and there, and how they're counted, so
45 there's no -- in my mind, there's no uniform count, and
46 for years I've always been against the way they counted
47 the sheep, but I couldn't suggest any other way on how
48 they counted it. Not the sheep, but the moose, by
49 sectors, and, you know, they come up with a formula and
50 that kind of stuff.

1 One year when they were saying there was
2 1400 moose in the squirrel, I took a ride with Gordon Etu
3 and there was another airplane, and we counted 120, so,
4 you know, even in my mind we question what some of these
5 results are, but I can't come up with a clear cut
6 proposal to say that we should have a better way of
7 counting, but I think if we had a consistent way of
8 counting, then we can certainly make a better decision,
9 and that's my point.

10
11 And I would defer. If I were you, I
12 would defer this proposal until we get those numbers and
13 such.

14
15 MR. KARMUN: Thank you, Willie.

16
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter, you got
18 comments?

19
20 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Willie, for
21 reminding me. I initially had a note to ask the
22 biologists in regards to counts, more specifically to the
23 Federal biologists in regards to the methods and means
24 that they go through to take counts, other than how the
25 state system is set up, so if we can get the Federal
26 biologist to sort of give us a brief run down in regards
27 to the process that you go through to do your Federal
28 counts, I'd appreciate it.

29
30 MR. SCHULTZ: Hi, I'm Brad Schultz with
31 the Park Service.

32
33 To answer your question, Walter, we're
34 not doing it any different than the State. In fact,
35 we're working together to do them. So what the State
36 presents is pretty much what we have. The
37 interpretations may differ a little bit, but the way
38 we're doing it is the same. And, in fact, we're going to
39 be doing one here starting March 30th and it's going to
40 include everything from west of the north fork of the
41 Squirrel, up the main stem of the Noatak, the Kelly, the
42 Kuguroruk, and then up to the Kalukiavik, however you say
43 that. And so we're going to be doing that census this
44 spring.

45
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

47
48 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Brad. So
49 basically what you're saying then is the Federal system
50 is more influenced by State of Alaska's process in

1 regards to the process you go through to count moose.

2

3 MR. SCHULTZ: No, I'm not saying that.
4 I'm saying we're using the same scientific method to
5 count moose. And the only way we can get work done is by
6 pooling our resources, which are limited, and the number
7 of people we have to get it done.

8

9 I'm not saying that -- that's why I said
10 up front that the interpretations may differ in the
11 severity of population declines or what have you. I
12 mean, Jim and I could sit -- we don't necessarily agree
13 on everything, and we don't necessarily have to, but the
14 way we're collecting the information is the same. So if
15 you look at the raw data that we would present, it would
16 be the same. We could all argue about what it means, but
17 I wouldn't say that we're being influenced.

18

19 MR. SAMPSON: I guess I was trying to
20 lead to the question in regards to the process on how
21 Federal counts are made, so basically you and Jim do
22 flights together on doing the counts?

23

24 MR. SCHULTZ: We're using resources from
25 both agencies, so, you know, Jim may fly a plane, I may
26 bring in a charter aircraft, Park Service people may fly
27 airplanes. But the survey that we're doing this spring
28 includes BLM, they're putting in resources and people in
29 an aircraft. We're contributing at least three aircraft
30 from the Park Service, and Jim's going to contribute at
31 least two airplanes. So it's going to be a big deal.
32 That's what I'm getting at.

33

34 MR. SAMPSON: So basically what you're
35 saying then is at the -- the end product is that you --
36 the two agencies come out with one number?

37

38 MR. SCHULTZ: That's what we do. That's
39 absolutely right. And we can talk about how that fits
40 into the big picture of, you know, several surveys or
41 what we think trends are, and we may not agree there, but
42 the number we produce from the survey is one that we'll
43 all agree on before we send it out to the public.

44

45 MR. SWAN: Mr. Chairman.

46

47 MR. SCHULTZ: Let me add -- can I add one
48 thing? The outcome of the survey is strictly based on
49 the method we use. So we're not arguing about how we
50 decide on the number. The number is basically an

1 artifact of the method we use and the method we agree on
2 from the start. So we're not finagling the numbers in
3 any way. We're just making sure that they're correct in
4 terms of, you know, data sheets are correct and this that
5 and the other. So we're not monkeying with the number.

6

7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Austin.

8

9 MR. SWAN: I have a question. When you
10 do your count, are you doing it in a time frame where
11 you're pretty certain that count you did in one sector is
12 not too far from the time frame you do the other sectors,
13 like the more northerly sector?

14

15 MR. SCHULTZ: We are, and what we've
16 tried to do, and we've talked about it a lot, is we're
17 trying to do our abundance survey. So the surveys when
18 we go out to try to find out the total number of moose,
19 we're trying to do those in the spring when their
20 movements are already limited by deep snow, and so, you
21 know, their travel distances are, as you know, are not
22 very great, and so we try to -- and we try to do the
23 survey in consecutive days, all at once, and without any
24 breaks in our survey effort. And the methods also rely
25 on the assumption that moose aren't moving much.

26

27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions.
28 Reggie.

29

30 MR. CLEVELAND: So basically it's just a
31 moose count, not female or not by specie?

32

33 MR. SCHULTZ: The objective in the spring
34 is to get a total number of moose, and the only thing we
35 can tell are adults and the short yearlings, or the
36 calves from last year that are almost -- you know, that
37 are 10 months old, if we do it in April. That's what we
38 get in the spring.

39

40 In the fall we do the composition counts
41 where we do the same sampling methods, and we try to get
42 bull/cow ratio when, you know, bulls have their antlers.
43 We can tell some of the large bulls in the spring because
44 of the antler growth already, but we don't try to
45 separate those out.

46

47 So the spring is about total numbers and
48 calf recruitment, so how many yearlings are out there,
49 how many calves from last year are still surviving. And
50 then the fall surveys are about the bull/cow ratio and

1 the summer survival of calves.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you.

4

5 MR. SCHULTZ: Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Now deliberation
8 from the Regional Council on the Proposal WP05-18. On
9 your agenda it's 18. It says to reduce the moose season
10 on Unit 23. That's the proposal before you. Any
11 comments from the Regional Council. Victor.

12

13 MR. KARMUN: For right now I would
14 entertain no action on this one.

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You know, Victor, you
17 know, this proposal, you either support the proposal or
18 oppose it. Anything from one of the Council. Helen.

19

20 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, actually the
21 Council can also table it, which means you just don't do
22 anything, or you can defer it to next year after they get
23 a better count. So there are four things. You could
24 support, oppose, table or defer. Table means you just
25 won't see it again, it's gone. Okay. So you can have
26 those choices. Okay.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

29

30 MR. SAMPSON: Go ahead.

31

32 ATTAMUK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I would
33 defer this proposal. The way I see it, our subsistence
34 hunt is being reduced, yet the sport hunters falltime is
35 not being reduced, and we're paying for it as natives
36 trying to put food on the table. And probably this is
37 probably only the best time for some people to get moose
38 is now, and I wouldn't support this. I would defer it,
39 defer it until we get a better count, and the Park
40 Service and the State probably could get together and
41 come up with something better by our next meeting.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

44

45 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
46 do have a little different feel of what the -- that's the
47 purpose of deliberation is to agree in some points,
48 disagree in some areas, and certainly I think after
49 listening to the information that's been provided, I
50 certainly respect Jim Dau and his work throughout the

1 years that he's done some work. Certainly he's been --
2 his credibility is such that, you know, I certainly
3 respect it.

4
5 But I think there's some issues here that
6 we also need to consider. One is that before we proceed
7 to do any cut on any moose hunt within the Noatak
8 drainage area, Kivalina area, up north, upper Noatak
9 area, I think maybe what needs to happen is that we ought
10 to specifically target certain areas, and not in the
11 proximity of Kivalina area. No village meeting's been
12 held trying to get some input into this as I understand
13 it. We don't have any advisory council comments in
14 regards to this very proposal.

15
16 The process that's used to do survey
17 certainly is something that I heavily will weigh on. And
18 if there's one certain number that you come out with,
19 then there's got to be a difference in the process of how
20 the Federal system does its count versus how the State of
21 Alaska does it count. By making a statement to the fact
22 that there's one number out there has a reflection that
23 the State of Alaska is the agency that certainly has the
24 bottom line to this, and I do have a problem with that.

25
26 And based on that, Mr. Chairman, I will
27 vote down this proposal.

28
29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If that's a motion?

30
31 MR. SAMPSON: We're still in our
32 deliberation stages, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to hear some
33 other input from the rest of the Council.

34
35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Victor.

36
37 MR. KARMUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
38 would reinforce some of Walter's comments, but I have
39 some mixed feelings about shutting down one area, because
40 that will just shift the transporters, outfitters, guides
41 to another area and put a burden on another region. To
42 me, if we're going to shut it down, I would shut it down
43 for the whole region, and then it would eliminate
44 shifting the burden just to another region or river
45 drainage.

46
47 I understand and applaud, mainly because
48 I do like I said earlier a lot of back seat flying with
49 Mr. Jim Dau. Do a lot of circling out there. And the
50 way I found out how this system works, I called the

1 University of Alaska Fairbanks. I was looking around
2 during my lunch hour to bring an explanation down on how
3 he explained it to me, but I don't have it now. But
4 evidently this particular system, the way the moose is
5 counted is not only used in Alaska but also Canada to my
6 recollection. It's a little complicated. Maybe in the
7 near future there might be a better system, but for right
8 now it's the only one in existence.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter, follow up.

13

14 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Victor, for your
15 viewpoint. Certainly if the thinking is to cut the -- or
16 have a closure on the hunt across the board here, I'd
17 rather see 815 applied, or Section 815 of ANILCA applied
18 to this so that way that resource that the folks at
19 Noatak and Kivalina utilize, certainly they'd have an
20 opportunity to hunt. So rather than completely shutting
21 down that, I'd like to see a Section 815 of ANILCA
22 applied to this.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any deliberations of
25 the Councilmen here, especially Kivalina, on that.

26

27 MR. SWAN: Yeah, I think I have a
28 comment. Victor raised a concern about hunting pressure
29 in the northern sector, and for hunters to hunt up there
30 in the area, I think it would be a whole lot easier for
31 them to catch, capture, harvest, whatever you call it,
32 moose in the northern sector, because there's -- the
33 cover is less dense. Very sparse cover. It's wide open
34 country, and you can land on the beach and go several
35 miles back after you've spotted some, you know, and have
36 no problem getting to it. So that's a concern I think.

37

38 You might hear more of that from the
39 villages if you were to visit there, because the moose do
40 migrate. We know that. That's the main reason I
41 commented on the time frame.

42

43 But I for one very seldom catch moose
44 unless I need to, you know. My preference is caribou.
45 But we do have -- I think we do have an abundant supply
46 of moose in our area.

47

48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further comments
49 from the Council.

50

1 MR. CLEVELAND: Mr. Chairman.
2
3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Reggie.
4
5 MR. CLEVELAND: What's the difference
6 between deferred and table again? Can we table this to a
7 specific date like the next meeting? That way we'll put
8 it back on the agenda.
9
10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Helen.
11
12 MS. ARMSTRONG: Sorry. If you want to do
13 that, you should defer it to the next meeting. If that's
14 what you want, the word you use is defer. Table means it
15 just goes away. You just don't ever -- it just kind of
16 -- it means you don't vote yes, you don't vote no, you
17 don't do anything. It just goes away. But defer would
18 mean that next year we'd come back with another proposal.
19 I mean, with the same proposal.
20
21 MR. CLEVELAND: So if we're going to
22 defer it, we have to put a specific date on it, like the
23 next meeting or October to bring it back on the table?
24
25 MS. ARMSTRONG: Normally we don't put a
26 date on it, but it comes back the next fall, yeah.
27
28 And then if you wanted to, I mean, just
29 while I'm up here, I've been hearing Walter would like to
30 implement Section 815. You wouldn't be able to do that
31 today. You'd have to go in the fall, have a specific
32 proposal for that, so it could be analyzed, and it could
33 go to the public for their comments. So if you wanted to
34 implement Section 815, you need to do that in the fall.
35 And we just -- we would make a note that that's something
36 you wanted to bring up and whoever's the chair would need
37 to make sure that we bring that up and make a proposal in
38 the fall.
39
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.
41
42 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
43 Under the rules of Robert's Rules, when you table and put
44 a set date, it does not die. It's still active. When
45 you defer, that means you will act on it in the future.
46 So if you table this proposal with a set date for the
47 next meeting to act on, it will stay alive.
48
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.
50

1 MR. SAMPSON: I would like, I guess,
2 clarity, too, I guess through the process of discussion
3 here. I've really lost my train of thought. Can
4 somebody refresh my memory in regards to the sections of
5 the area that we're looking at to close off and what kind
6 of moose we're dealing with, calf, cow or bull. Can we
7 get some clarity to make sure.

8
9 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah. Mr. Chair, the
10 regulations we were looking at to change would be on Page
11 72 in the box, and it would read as it does in the box if
12 you supported it. You can modify it, or, you know, as
13 has been talked about, you can defer it or oppose it.
14 But the language we're talking about is on Page 72.

15
16 MR. SAMPSON: So basically what we're
17 talking about is the north and west and including
18 Singogalik River drainage. Is that up North Slope side
19 of the drainages we're talking about there?

20
21 MR. ARDIZZONE: I need some help with
22 this one.

23
24 MR. SAMPSON: It looks like that we're
25 talking North Slope operation and not too much into
26 Kivalina area or Noatak area, because there's provisions
27 in there for a moose hunt.

28
29 MR. SWAN: North of Kivalina.

30
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Jim, you've got
32 any.....

33
34 MR. DAU: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Walter.
35 That's misspelled. It's the Singolik River, and it's
36 just up north and west of Kivalina.

37
38 MR. SAMPSON: North and west.

39
40 MR. DAU: So it's in Unit 23. It takes
41 in the southern end of the -- it takes in all of the
42 Lisburne Hills, Chariot area, that's all north and west
43 of Singolik. Austin, maybe you can describe it better
44 than me, but -- or at least pronounce it correctly.

45
46 MR. SWAN: Singolik, yeah, it's in -- in
47 the map there, it's Cape Seppings. The Singolik River
48 drains into Cape Seppings. And that's about 25, 30 miles
49 south of Cape Thompson maybe. But the drainage goes all
50 the way -- pretty close to the Kukpuk River on the upper

1 ends. Between the Kukpuk and the Kivalina River.

2

3 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Jim.

6

7 MR. DAU: Just one other point of
8 clarification. That's just one area that this would
9 affect. It would also affect the rest of the unit, too.
10 There's two sections to that description.

11

12 MR. SAMPSON: Okay. Thank you, Jim. So
13 the rest of the unit would -- there's also provisions in
14 there where August 1 through December 31, a person may
15 take a calf or a cow accompanied by calf? An antlerless
16 moose may be taken during only November 1 through
17 December 31st?

18

19 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah, it reads no person
20 may take a calf or a cow accompanied by a calf. An
21 antlerless moose may be taken only between November 1st
22 and December 31st, that's correct.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We're still on Proposal
25 WP05-18, reduce the hunting season for moose, with the
26 Regional Council deliberation. Now, this proposal by the
27 time you get done, either support it or oppose it.
28 Victor.

29

30 MR. KARMUN: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
31 Chairman. Are we done with our discussions or whatever
32 on this?

33

34 MR. SAMPSON: Whatever you're going to
35 propose, we can still deliberate. We're still in
36 process.

37

38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We're in Regional
39 Council deliberation.

40

41 MR. KARMUN: Okay. We're still in the
42 process of deliberation. I'll let it go at that then.
43 Thank you.

44

45 MR. SAMPSON: Well, if you want to
46 propose something, go ahead. That's your chance to.

47

48 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, as we look at
49 the number of moose harvested, we're at 785 between '97
50 to '04, and on the take, the subsistence take, what we

1 only see over here by community has 111 in the five
2 years, or something like that. That's a big difference
3 in the numbers. So that tells us somebody else is
4 getting the moose and not the people that need it. And
5 if we're still going to wait for time, and for better
6 moose counts, I could move to defer the proposal until
7 October.
8
9 MR. SAMPSON: There's a motion.
10
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that a motion?
12
13 MR. BALLOT: Yes, that's a motion, Mr.
14 Chairman.
15
16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If that's a motion.....
17
18 MR. BALLOT: That's the motion, to defer
19 WP05-18.
20
21 MR. SAMPSON: Until next meeting?
22
23 MR. BALLOT: Until next meeting. Until
24 October.
25
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. There's a motion
27 on the Council to defer Proposal WP05-18 until next
28 meeting. Victor.
29
30 MR. KARMUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If
31 we defer it, that means that we will have to take action
32 on this on the next meeting, right?
33
34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's correct.
35
36 MR. KARMUN: Thank you.
37
38 MR. BALLOT: But at the same time, Mr.
39 Chairman, we'll be looking at current surveys by then.
40 Who's going to answer that one?
41
42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: After the motion has
43 been complete, Percy, you know, you made the motion.
44
45 MR. BALLOT: Right.
46
47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We need a second, then
48 we go to discussions.
49
50 MR. BALLOT: That's my discussion.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Any second on
2 his motion.
3
4 MR. KARMUN: Second.
5
6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: All in favor of
7 deferring the proposal signify by saying aye -- oh,
8 excuse me, it's for discussion.
9
10 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, that was my question,
11 will the moose counts be done by our next meeting that
12 you were talking about earlier?
13
14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We're on discussion
15 now. The motion's seconded, we're in discussion.
16
17 MR. BERG: Mr. Chair, just to clarify,
18 the process will just start over next fall, so that's
19 when the wildlife proposals will be accepted. So you
20 actually won't take action on it again until this time
21 next year. So the wildlife cycle starts again next fall,
22 but you won't actually take action on it until this time
23 next year. So in the spring time next year is when
24 you'll actually take action on it again.
25
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We're on discussions.
27
28 MS. ARMSTRONG: Was there a second?
29
30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Jim, do you have
31 something?
32
33 MR. DAU: The first thing, Helen's asking
34 was there a second to that motion to defer. That's
35 Helen's question.
36
37 MR. BALLOT: Victor.
38
39 MR. KARMUN: Yes, I think I seconded
40 that.
41
42 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.
43
44 MR. DAU: Okay. Then, Mr. Chair.....
45
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Now we're on
47 discussion.
48
49 MR. DAU:to answer Percy's
50 question, we're going to do a census this month, but it's

1 not going to be down near Buckland or Deering. Brad and
2 I and BLM are going to try and do a big census in the
3 Noatak. He talked about that just a few minutes ago, and
4 we're going to do every thing we can to finish that.
5 Realistically that's probably about all the additional
6 information you'll have by next October.

7
8 MR. BALLOT: But anyway, we still won't
9 be dealing with this until next winter meeting as I
10 understand it, right?

11
12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We're on discussion.
13 Walter.

14
15 MR. SAMPSON: What is the State hunt
16 regulations today, Jim, in regards to moose within those
17 areas that we're talking about?

18
19 MR. DAU: Mr. Chair. Walter. Right now
20 on the books, the State regulations are exactly what's
21 being proposed on the Federal side. So for that area
22 north and west of the Singolik, the season opens the
23 first of July and it runs through the end of December.
24 You can take a cow that doesn't have a calf in
25 November/December, as long as you register to hunt during
26 June 1st through July 15th. If you don't register to
27 hunt, and you're a resident, you get a three-week season
28 just like the nonresidents. It's September 1 through 20,
29 you can only shoot a big bull. That's if you don't
30 register to hunt.

31
32 We've made it hard for residents to
33 register. They've got to get here. They can only
34 register in person in Unit 23. So let's take your
35 average Anchorage hunter. He's got to come some place in
36 Unit 23 and register during that six-week period. Then
37 he's got to go home for two weeks, you know, at least,
38 and then come back and hunt. It takes two trips for them
39 to do that.

40
41 The reason that works here is if you live
42 here, you've got six weeks. You just have to walk to
43 Fish and Game or call us or whatever. It's easy for
44 people who live here to register.

45
46 Now, for the rest of the unit, Walter,
47 the season is August 1st through the end of December,
48 with the same two-month season for cows. You can't take
49 a calf anywhere in the unit, period, and you can't take a
50 cow that has at least one calf with it either. And if

1 you register to hunt, you can take any sized bull during
2 that either July 1st of August 1st through the end of
3 December period.

4
5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further
6 discussions?

7
8 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like
9 to ask for a step down period, please, and I want to get
10 some clarity myself I think so.....

11
12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We can take a vote
13 after.....

14
15 MR. SAMPSON: After a short break.

16
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Let's take a 10-
18 minute break.

19
20 (Off record)

21
22 (On record)

23
24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. I'll call the
25 meeting back to order. We're still on Proposal WP05-18,
26 reducing the moose season. And we went through all the
27 procedure. We're down on Regional Council deliberation,
28 recommendation and justification of this proposal. Now,
29 we're with the Council. We already made a motion, it's
30 been seconded, and we're on discussions whether to
31 support this proposal or oppose it.

32
33 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

34
35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

36
37 MR. BALLOT: That was my motion. After
38 some clarification, and some talk here and there, I'd
39 move to rescind my motion to defer WP05-18, if my second
40 will concur with me.

41
42 MR. KARMUN: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I
43 would rescind my second also. Thank you.

44
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Now we're
46 down to the final stages. We're still -- you both
47 withdraw you motion, right? Then we'll need, yeah,
48 another motion for what the recommendation this Councils
49 wish. Is there a motion on the floor on this proposal.

50

1 MR. KARMUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
2 would make a proposal that we just table this particular
3 proposal as it stands and see if the agencies can come up
4 with a better one that we can more come in compliance
5 with this Council. Thank you.

6
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The motion is to table
8 the proposal. Is there a second?

9
10 ATTAMUK: I will second it, if the
11 agencies will work with the State on this proposal.

12
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: It's been seconded.
14 Any further discussions. Walter.

15
16 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
17 It's not only the agencies. I think as far as the
18 process is concerned, we do have those that also utilize
19 that resource that you will need some input from. And as
20 landowners within the areas that will be impacted by
21 these very proposals, then the Federal agencies also need
22 to deal with other landowners in regards to coming out
23 with a compromised proposal that will work. I will top
24 there.

25
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter.
27 Victor.

28
29 MR. KARMUN: I would like to add I would
30 like to see a little bit more input from the villages
31 that this will impact than just from this Council. Thank
32 you.

33
34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks.

35
36 MR. SWAN: Mr. Chairman.

37
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We're still on
39 discussion.

40
41 MR. SWAN: Yeah. Seeing that the
42 Singogalik River is included in this proposal, I maybe
43 would suggest the Native Village of Point Hope also be
44 visited, because they do hunt the Singogalik area.

45
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further
47 discussions.

48
49 (No comments)

50

1 MR. CLEVELAND: Call for the question.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question's been
4 called for on Proposal WP05-18. And signify by saying
5 aye.

6

7 IN UNISON: Aye.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.

10

11 (No opposing votes)

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion carries.

14 Proposal WP05-18 has been tabled.

15

16 Okay. We're down Proposal WP05-19, a
17 proposal to establish a limited harvest for muskox.
18 Where are we at. You?

19

20 MR. ARDIZZONE: Helen.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Helen.

23

24 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. If
25 you could turn, please, to Page 80 in your book, and I
26 believe this one is page numbered fortunately. 80, 81 is
27 where the proposal starts.

28

29 Thank you, Mr. Chair. Helen Armstrong,
30 Office of Subsistence Management.

31

32 Proposal WP05-19 was submitted by Cape
33 Krusenstern Subsistence Resource Commission and the
34 National Park Service, and it requests that a season and
35 harvest limit be established for muskoxen in Cape
36 Krusenstern National Monument. Also requested was
37 establishment of an annual harvest limit of one bull by
38 Federal permit within the monument, with a harvest quota
39 of two bulls, and that the permits be available to only
40 those resident zone community members with permanent
41 subsistence camps within the monument, and the
42 immediately adjacent Napaktuktuk Mountain area.

43

44 This has been around for a while, the
45 interest in establishing a muskox hunt, and this is
46 something that people have been discussing and wanting to
47 start at some point. There has been a State hunt, but
48 not a Federal hunt. The only Federal public land
49 affected by this is the monument, which is managed by the
50 National Park Service.

1 Right now, the customary and traditional
2 use determination is for rural residents of Unit 23 east
3 and north of the Buckland River drainage, and that's for
4 muskox. And that includes the communities of Selawik,
5 Noorvik, Kiana, Shungnak, Kobuk, Ambler, Kotzebue,
6 Noatak, Kivalina, and Point Hope. And then all of those
7 communities, except Point Hope, are also resident zone
8 communities for the monument.

9
10 So you can see the problem when we have
11 two bulls for all those people. So this is why the
12 Subsistence Resource Commission wanted to figure out some
13 way of narrowing.

14
15 We were talking before about what to do
16 when you have a very limited resource, and how you --
17 what you do with that, and this is the case where we're
18 going to talk about Section 804.

19
20 The State of Alaska's had an established
21 Tier II hunt for the Cape Thompson muskox population.
22 They started that in 2000, and opened up an area north
23 and west of the Noatak River, but there has not been a
24 Federal hunt.

25
26 Muskox were originally translocated from
27 Nunivak Island. They were introduced in the Cape
28 Thompson area in 1970 with a relocation of 36 animals.
29 The population has finally grown enough that there is
30 enough of a population that there could be a very limited
31 hunt. By 2001 the muskox are regularly using the entire
32 area between the lower Noatak River and Cape Krusenstern.

33
34 The population within the monument has
35 averaged around 150 animals over the last several years.
36 They're -- about 20 percent of the population is mature
37 bulls, and of that, that totals about 30 bulls.

38
39 The Tier II harvest that's been happening
40 with the State from 2000/2001, there were six permits for
41 one bull muskox, and so far they've had 24 permits in the
42 past four years. There have only been -- no State Tier
43 II hunters reported taking a muskox in 2001/2002 and five
44 out of the six hunters reported harvesting a muskox in
45 2002/2003. None of the people in the resident zone
46 communities, none of these people have been the ones
47 getting the Tier II hunt.

48
49 The biologists estimate that the monument
50 could sustain a Federal harvest of two bulls. And they

1 would recommend allowing the harvest of two bulls, which
2 would be an annual take of seven percent of the bull
3 population. They do feel that monitoring the population
4 is extremely important to see what the effects are.
5

6 As I said, whenever there's a proposal to
7 change Federal regulations and to seek a priority for
8 some subsistence users over another, you have to
9 implement Section 804, and I believe this is the first
10 time this Council has ever had an 804 analysis done. I
11 could be wrong on that, but that's my memory.
12

13 So there are three criteria that we have
14 to look at when we do an 804, and we first look at
15 customary and direct dependence upon the population as a
16 mainstay of livelihood, local residency, proximity to the
17 resource and availability of alternative resources.
18

19 So the problem we have is that nobody's
20 hunted muskox in this area before, so we can't really
21 determine which people are the most dependent on it,
22 because they haven't had a hunt. So what I did was look
23 at the dependence on resources in the monument. And I
24 looked at the people who -- because this proposal was
25 made for those people with permanent subsistence camps in
26 the monument, I then through talking to people here
27 locally, I found out that there are families who have
28 maintained permanent camps for subsistence within the
29 monument for decades.
30

31 There are about 35 families that have
32 permanent cabins in or adjacent to the monument, who use
33 their cabins at one time or another during the year. And
34 then there -- and those people are mostly from Kotzebue.
35 There are about six families from Noatak. Then there are
36 three other families who live in the monument about six
37 months of the year and then there are three or four
38 families who live year round in the monument.
39

40 So in looking at those people, my
41 estimation was that the people who live there year round,
42 and there are just a few of them, are the people who are
43 the most dependent on resources in the monument.
44

45 There also are people who use the
46 monument, but don't have cabins. They just use tents.
47

48 So just to clarify again, there are those
49 people who use the monument occasionally, but do not have
50 cabins or tents; those people who have permanent cabins,

1 but use the monument at various times during the year;
2 those who have permanent cabins and stay at their cabins
3 six months of the year; and those who live permanently
4 year round in the cabins within -- either within the
5 monument or just immediately adjacent to the monument.

6
7 And there is a map on Page 86 that shows
8 the area that we're talking about. It's not the best map
9 in the world, but it at least shows the area we're
10 talking about. It's the Napaktuktuk Mountain area in
11 there. And we put this map in there so we could define
12 it by latitude and longitude, because we needed something
13 for definition in the regulations.

14
15 The second part of doing an 804 is local
16 residency proximity to the resource. And I think it's
17 pretty clear that the people who live within the monument
18 year round have the closest proximity to the resource.
19 They're the closest people.

20
21 Then availability of alternative
22 resources. Everybody in the region who's -- you know,
23 they all have a lot of availability of alternative
24 resources and haven't been hunting muskox, so it's not
25 like they really depend on hunting muskox. But it was
26 clear, too, that the people in the monument, because they
27 live there, and they don't have the ability to -- they
28 don't have a high cash income, they don't have the
29 ability to go long distances, because they don't have the
30 money to pay for the fuel, and so they're really limited
31 to harvesting resources right there in the monument, so
32 my analysis was that those people had the highest need
33 for taking muskox.

34
35 The effect of the proposal, if this
36 proposal were adopted with the modification to limit the
37 hunt to three families who have permanent residency
38 within the monument, the muskox harvest would provide
39 additional subsistence opportunities for these families.
40 The harvest of one or two bulls from the muskox
41 population of 150 animals, that is believed to be
42 sustainable. The addition of having muskox would provide
43 another source of meat and warm wool or hides for warmth
44 and clothing.

45
46 The other residence of Unit 23 would
47 still be able to hunt muskoxen under the State Tier II
48 hunt.

49
50 Without implementation of Section 804, if

1 this proposal were to not go forward like this, then all
2 of those communities that have resident zone status would
3 be able eligible for the hunt of just bulls, and it would
4 make management of the hunt extremely difficult.

5
6 Delegating authority to the Park Service
7 to create the annual quotas and announce any needed
8 closures would allow more flexibility in the regulations,
9 and it would eliminate a need to revisit this regulation
10 annually, and ultimately create better of the resource.

11
12 The proposal as it originally was
13 established requested that the hunt be limited to those
14 resident zone community members with permanent
15 subsistence camps within the monument, and the immediate
16 Napaktuktuk Mountain area. But limiting the hunt to 40
17 to 50 animals (sic) with permanent subsistence camps
18 could make administration of the hunt difficult with a
19 harvest limit of two bulls.

20
21 Determining who has permanent camps and
22 who doesn't, is difficult to enforce, or could be
23 difficult to enforce. And also we don't have a
24 definition in our regulations of what a permanent
25 subsistence camp means. So the Park Service would have
26 to determine, well, who has a permanent camp, who doesn't
27 have a permanent camp, and it was seen as being a fairly
28 complex issue.

29
30 Narrowing the hunt to the permanent
31 residents of the monument area would be more enforceable,
32 and would also provide the subsistence priority to the
33 people who are in closest proximity to the resource, have
34 the greatest dependence on the resource, and do not have
35 cash resources to travel outside the monument to harvest
36 other resources.

37
38 My conclusion is to support with
39 modification, to provide permits only to permanent
40 residents who live year round in the monument or the
41 immediately adjacent Napaktuktuk Mountain area, which we
42 define then on the last page as -- actually we didn't
43 define it there. I thought we had. Maybe this is an
44 older version.

45
46 Thank you, Mr. Chair. That concludes my
47 analysis.

48
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from the
50 Council to Helen.

1 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, I was reading off
2 one I printed off. It was an older version. The
3 definition of the area is the monument or the immediately
4 Napaktuktuk Mountain area, south of latitude 67 degrees,
5 05 north, and west of longitude 162 degrees, 30 west.
6 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

7
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Helen.
9 Alaska Department of Fish and Game on Proposal WP05-19
10 concerning muskox.

11
12 MR. DAU: Jim Dau, Fish and Game.

13
14 The Department supports the proposal, and
15 we especially like the part about basing the quota on
16 some percentage instead of just some flat number of two.
17 We like the percentage. But we support the proposal.

18
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: InterAgency Staff
20 Committee comments.

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Fish and game
25 advisory committee comment. Oh, okay. Oh, other agency,
26 okay. Excuse me.

27
28 MR. GREG: The advisory committee?

29
30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

31
32 MR. GREG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My
33 name is Charlie Greg. I'm the regional coordinator for
34 Game Unit 23 State Fish and Game.

35
36 On October 20th, the Kotzebue Sound Fish
37 and Game Advisory Committee had a meeting, and this
38 proposal came up, and they supported this proposal.
39 Thank you.

40
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions to
42 Charlie.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Summary of written
47 public comments.

48
49 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We
50 didn't have any public comments submitted. But I believe

1 Ken under other agency had some comments that were passed
2 out.

3

4 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair. Council
5 members. Ken Adkisson, National Park Service.

6

7 We kind of got passed by here a little
8 bit, but the National Park Service supports this
9 proposal. It was the co-author along with the Cape
10 Krusenstern Subsistence Resource Commission of the
11 original version. And it was seen as a work in progress,
12 and had gone through a little bit of evolutionary change,
13 no much. And we concur with the Staff recommendations to
14 change the eligibility wording to restrict it to
15 permanent residents rather than residents with permanent
16 camps. And we also concur with the change to define the
17 Napaktuktuk Mountain area as within the geographic
18 coordinates rather than terms of like section and range
19 description, or just a line on a map.

20

21 Both the Cape Krusenstern and the Kobuk
22 Valley Subsistence Resource Commissions have looked at
23 the different versions of this, and currently support the
24 latest version which you have before you with the Staff
25 recommendations. And they're well aware of the scaling
26 down of the pool of eligibles to the smaller grouping,
27 but they feel that these were the people who were most
28 deserving to benefit from this initial hunt, but at the
29 same time they hope that eventually the pool of eligibles
30 might be expanded through maybe a larger harvest quota,
31 or some sort of community bag limit or something which
32 can be explored down the road, but are comfortable with
33 the current proposal at this time.

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions to
36 National Park Service from the Council.

37

38 MR. SWAN: Yes, I have a question here.
39 Is there any language in the regulations that would allow
40 someone say like from Noatak to take somebody else's
41 permit, look from another village, if the other person
42 would allow it.

43

44 MR. ADKISSON: Currently there is not for
45 muskoxen. There is what's called a designator hunter
46 program, which does allow for that, but it would need to
47 be a special request, for example, coming from this
48 resource commission to the Federal Board to establish a
49 designated hunter program for it. And it's something we
50 might want to look at down the road.

1 Both the resource commissions were very
2 concerned about the small pool of eligibles, and how that
3 would concentrate, you know, the harvest within that
4 group over time or the possibility that for some reason
5 those people weren't able to utilize the permits, and so
6 again this is sort of I think a work in progress, and
7 we'll see how it goes, and we'll come back, the Park
8 Service will come back and work with the commissions on
9 revising it as necessary, and I'll bring those changes
10 back to the Regional Advisory Council, back to you folks.
11 But there is a way of eventually doing it if we think
12 that's needed.

13
14 Right now I think people didn't feel like
15 it was absolutely necessary, because of the options of
16 using the State Tier II hunt for people in those
17 communities to obtain permits.

18
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Ken. Public
20 testimony.

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: No public. Regional
25 Council deliberation on muskox. What they look like.

26
27 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, based on the
28 information and the action that was taken by the Cape
29 Krusenstern and the Kobuk Valley Resource Commissions
30 under the discussion, there's a statement in there that
31 says, that reads that they agreed that this "pool o
32 fusers" should be the first to benefit. I don't know
33 what the "o fusers" are. So I don't know who the fusers
34 are, so.....

35
36 (Laughter)

37
38 MR. SAMPSON: But based on the
39 information that's been provided, I think one other thing
40 that we also need to recognize, there's also a State
41 hunt, what, for six or eight?

42
43 MR. DAU: Six.

44
45 MR. SAMPSON: Six muskox that also can be
46 taken under the state hunt. So basically the two are for
47 the residents of Cape Krusenstern. So I think that
48 provision is -- that was the amendment was to have the
49 residents of Cape Krusenstern hunt for the two. I mean,
50 we've got a long future. If the numbers of muskox

1 continue to thrive like they are, it looks like the
2 numbers are certainly continuing to thrive, all except
3 for the fact that between 2000 and 2004 there was a loss
4 of 61 somewhere. But I'm sure that they will continue.
5

6 Now only that, you know, muskox is a
7 runner, and it goes all over. I note there's some above
8 Selawik. Some's been seen up above Noatak on the upper
9 canyons. So they pretty much migrate all over. There's
10 some up above Kiana. So these critters are migratory.
11 So I think some of the disappearances that are occurring,
12 are some of the individuals are wandering off, some of
13 their groups.
14

15 But based on the information that's been
16 provided to us, Mr. Chairman, I certainly will support
17 this proposal.
18

19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walt. That's a motion,
20 Mr. Sampson?
21

22 MR. SAMPSON: If you want to consider it
23 that, yeah.
24

25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Before we do that
26 though, I think we get any more comments from the Council
27 members?
28

29 ATTAMUK: Yeah, I -- this is for the
30 agencies and the State. You guys know I travel a lot
31 within my region, and I'll tell you one thing, the muskox
32 to me is increasing a lot faster than you're saying.
33 Like Walter stated, above canyons for the last few years
34 they more than doubled in less than three years. And
35 going by Sugar, by that -- what we call Salmonville where
36 the drainages get real shallow, four years ago there was
37 only two. Last summer I counted 12. And just in my
38 camp, a few years ago I saw one across the river from my
39 camp. Last summer I saw five. But I saw a different
40 muskox in the Aggie River. So like Walter say, I think
41 they're moving in different places, and you guys are just
42 counting them in a certain area, and they're increasing a
43 lot further, because the vegetation could only take so
44 much. That's why they're moving out. So I think you
45 should expand your count somewhere.
46

47 And when I was going to Point Lay with
48 boat last summer, I saw some other side, what they call
49 there Kugaruk, I saw muskoxen way over there on the other
50 side. I don't know if he's still alive. He was running

1 into bear territory, so I don't know if he's still there.

2

3

4 But I'll tell you one thing, I travel a
5 lot and I have seen muskoxen a lot more. And I will
6 support this proposal to have a Tier II hunt.

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further
9 discussions.

10

11 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

14

15 MR. BALLOT: I would support this, too.
16 There's a small group that started out with about 10 by
17 Buckland. Right now it's about 30, and we saw 10 young
18 ones born this summer, so they do grow quite a bit.

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Good report, Percy.
21 Any further discussions on the Proposal on muskox from
22 Council.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If not, the motion's on
27 the floor to support this proposal.

28

29 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.

30

31 ATTAMUK: So moved.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: It's been moved by
34 Enoch. A second? Michelle.

35

36 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, for
37 clarification, was that to support with modification?
38 Walter's motion?

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. Yeah.

41

42 MS. CHIVERS: Okay.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, support with
45 modifications. Been by Enoch. If there's a second.

46

47 MR. KARMUN: I'll second.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Walter.

50

1 MR. SAMPSON: I thought I made the
2 motion.
3
4 MR. KARMUN: I second.
5
6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.
7
8 ATTAMUK: Well, I'll second it. You can
9 motion it.....
10
11 MR. KARMUN: I'll second it.
12
13 ATTAMUK:we'll just trade.
14
15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. It's been
16 second. Any further discussions on this proposal.
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 MR. SWAN: Question.
21
22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question's been
23 called for. All in favor of the proposal signify by
24 saying aye.
25
26 IN UNISON: Aye.
27
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.
29
30 (No opposing votes)
31
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion carries. Okay.
33 I know we're getting close to something.
34
35 On your agenda, the last proposal is
36 WP05-20, proposal to increase harvest limits and lengthen
37 the hunting season for wolf in Unit 23.
38
39 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair. Chuck
40 Ardizzone. I'll be presenting WP05-20, the last proposal
41 today. I know that will break your heart.
42
43 Proposal WP05-20 was submitted by this
44 Council, and requests the Federal hunting season for
45 wolves in Unit 23 be changed from 10 November through 31
46 March to August 10 through April 30th. The proposal also
47 requests that the annual harvest limit for wolves in Unit
48 23 be raised from five to 20 wolves.
49
50 The proposer requests that the harvest

1 season for wolves be changed because reports from
2 residents of Unit 23 and ADF&G staff suggests that wolf
3 numbers are relatively, and either stable or slowly
4 increasing in the unit. The proposed change would
5 provide additional opportunity for Federally-qualified
6 subsistence users to harvest wolves. It would also align
7 the State and Federal hunting regulations for wolves in
8 Unit 23.

9
10 This proposal will have the greatest
11 affect on National Park Service lands in Unit 23. The
12 Parks and monuments that will be affected by this
13 proposal, excuse me, make up approximately 15 percent of
14 Unit 23.

15
16 Wolf harvest, seasons and limits were
17 last discussed by this Council in 1994, and this Council
18 recommended to shorten the wolf season, and to decrease
19 the harvest limit from 10 to 5 wolves. During the
20 meeting, the Council discussed the proposed season length
21 reduction within the context of pelt primeness, and at
22 least three members stated that wolves harvested prior to
23 November and after March 1st, had pelts that were not
24 considered prime. During further discussion, two members
25 stated that killing wolves when pelts were not in prime
26 was wasting. The Council subsequently recommended a
27 November 1 through March 31st season, which is currently
28 what we have in the unit.

29
30 There have been no unit-wide surveys of
31 wolf populations for Unit 23; however, both ADF&G
32 biologists and local residents agree that monitoring the
33 wolf population is important, and that there should be an
34 updated unit-wide survey conducted, because there is at
35 least four regions that have very different ecological
36 factors that can affect the wolf population.

37
38 Based on reports from local residents of
39 Unit 23, and some commercial operators, as well as
40 operations by ADF&G's area biologist, wolf numbers have
41 increased in that portion of Unit 23 west of and
42 including the Buckland drainage. ADF&G area biologist
43 also indicates that wolf numbers appear to be higher in
44 the upper Kobuk River drainage in comparison to the early
45 to mid 1990s.

46
47 Since there have been no recent surveys,
48 there is no data available to determine the composition
49 of the wolf population in Unit 23.

50

1 Wolf density in the spring of 1990 was
2 estimated to be approximately 8 wolves per 1,000 square
3 kilometers in the middle Kobuk River. For comparison,
4 the wolf density is estimated to be 7.4 wolves per 1,000
5 kilometers squared in the Gates to the Arctic National
6 Preserve in 1986.

7
8 During 1990 to 2000, 112 wolves were
9 sealed by hunters and trappers, 45 during 2000 to 2001,
10 and 68 between 2001 and 2002. Compliance with the State
11 fur sealing program is low. Harvest levels reported
12 through the fur sealing program can change dramatically
13 when a Department employee or protection officer visits
14 the village and encourage hunters and trappers to seal
15 their furs. Therefore the harvest levels reported should
16 be viewed as minimum estimates of harvest.

17
18 Any harvest date shown in Table 2, on
19 Page 97, illustrates the harvest between communities and
20 it can, excuse me, vary greatly.

21
22 Wolves are primarily harvested by local
23 residents with firearms. Approximately 81 percent are
24 harvested with firearms. Local hunters are opportunistic
25 and will harvest wolves incidental to travel between
26 villages or while hunting caribou.

27
28 Most wolves are harvested between
29 November and March. Only six percent of the reported
30 harvest occurs before November, and wolves harvested
31 during April account for 11 percent of the total harvest.
32 That can be seen Table -- or, excuse me, in Figure 2.

33
34 The effects of this proposal. Adoption
35 of this proposed regulation would meet the intent to
36 increase the opportunity for qualified users who want to
37 hunt additional wolves in Unit 23. If adopted,
38 additional harvest of wolves is likely in most of Unit
39 23, because a large percentage of the rural subsistence
40 users harvest wolves by firearm, and are currently
41 restricted from doing so in National Park Service parks
42 and monument lands while trapping.

43
44 Most area hunters have a trapping license
45 and are able to harvest an unlimited number of wolves
46 during the shorter trapping season on lands other than
47 National Park Service lands. Most wolves are harvested
48 during the trapping season between November 1st and April
49 30th due to better fur condition and better access.

50

1 Although pelts harvested in the early
2 part of the season may not be in prime condition for
3 sale, they are used for personal use in clothing and
4 ruffs.

5
6 Of the three categories of Federal lands
7 in Unit 23, harvest opportunities on National Park
8 Service parks and monument lands will be the most
9 affected by any changes in the Federal subsistence
10 hunting regulation for wolves, because only the National
11 Park Service park and monument lands prohibit the use of
12 firearms for trapping. The harvest limit under the
13 trapping -- excuse me, under the hunting regulation has a
14 significant effect on subsistence users operating in
15 National Park Service parks and monument lands, because
16 harvest with a firearm must be conducted under hunting
17 regulations and not under trapping.

18
19 Basically in Fish and Wildlife Service
20 lands and BLM lands, hunters can -- excuse me, trappers
21 can use firearms to harvest, but they cannot do so in the
22 Park Service parks and monuments. Okay.

23
24 Therefore, the additional opportunity
25 that would be provided with this proposal would have the
26 greatest impact on National Park Service parks and
27 monument lands in Unit 23 where wolf harvesting with a
28 firearm must be conducting under hunting regulations.
29 This additional opportunity on the parks and monument
30 lands may increase wolf harvest within their boundaries,
31 and may impact the overall wolf populations for Unit 23.

32
33
34 Currently the wolf population is
35 considered to be stable to increasing. However, the
36 number of eligible hunters within the park is limited by
37 National Park Service eligibility regulations. You can
38 look at Table 3 to see the resident zone communities for
39 the parks.

40
41 Another alternative that was considered
42 was limiting the annual harvest to 15 wolves and limiting
43 the number of wolves that could be harvested prior to 1
44 November to just five wolves, which would allow
45 subsistence users operating in the parks and monument
46 lands to benefit by allowing increased harvest while the
47 pelts are in prime condition. Although pelts harvested
48 in the early part of the season may not be in prime
49 condition for sale, they are used for personal use in
50 clothing and ruffs. Limiting the early harvest of wolves

1 would minimize the potential for wasting as expressed by
2 the Council during their 1994 discussions.

3
4 Furthermore, the 15 wolf harvest limit
5 would make wolf regulations for Unit 23 more in line with
6 existing wolf regulations in adjacent Units 24 and 26,
7 which under Federal subsistence regulations already allow
8 the harvest of 15 wolves.

9
10 The preliminary conclusion for this
11 proposal would be to support with modification to limit
12 the number of wolves harvested under the hunting
13 regulations to 15 with no more than five harvested before
14 1 November.

15
16 Thank you, that concludes my
17 presentation.

18
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Alaska
20 Department of Fish and Game.

21
22 MR. DAU: Jim Dau, Fish and Game.

23
24 The Department supports the proposal as
25 modified. The Department also supports the original
26 proposal, and of the two, we actually prefer the original
27 proposal. It's less complicated, it would align State
28 and Federal regulations better, and it provides more
29 opportunity for subsistence users. But we also support
30 the modification as well in the interest of compromise.
31 So we support everything on this proposal.

32
33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Jim. Other
34 agency comments.

35
36 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair. Council
37 members. Ken Adkisson, National Park Service. I'll try
38 to be very brief on this.

39
40 The Cape Krusenstern and Kobuk Valley
41 Subsistence Resource Commissions considered this proposal
42 and came up with some very different recommendations for
43 amendment. And basically we can go into the details of
44 that if you'd like, but they're in the information that's
45 provided under the discussion sections for the
46 commissions.

47
48 What the came up with was an opening date
49 of October 1st, a closing date of April 30th, which is
50 consistent with the proposal, and a harvest limit of 15

1 wolves. Basically the justification for that ran largely
2 along the lines of the discussion of this Council's
3 discussions in 1994 about the quality of the pelt, the
4 timing of the harvest, and there was a lot of, especially
5 among a lot of the older hunters on the two commissions,
6 of statements to the effect that we just wouldn't take a
7 wolf that early. You know, it's a waste. The pelt's no
8 good.

9
10 There was some discussion that the season
11 ought to be really maybe even shorter than what the, you
12 know, current season is, even for trapping. And they
13 felt maybe it was a little long, but they were willing to
14 compromise.

15
16 And there was some discussion about
17 opportunistic harvest in October in Cape Krusenstern by
18 families that had camps there, that that may be their
19 best opportunity to take a wolf, and that the pelt was
20 usable, but they didn't do that much before October. And
21 that's where the October 1 opening came from.

22
23 In fact, some of the Commission members
24 thought the end of March was probably a good time to cut
25 the season off, but the existing trapping season was
26 April 30th, so it's assumed that the pelt quality is good
27 enough then, and they settled for that.

28
29 The considered the alternative proposal
30 that Mr. Ardizzone provided you, which was the five -- no
31 more than five of the 15 could be taken like before the
32 fall or before November, and they rejected that as being
33 more complex. And they simply settled on the very simple
34 and easy to understand regulation that the wolf hunting
35 season would open October 1st, it would close April 30th,
36 and the bag limit was 15, or the harvest limit was 15.
37 And they felt that that would, you know, provide ample
38 opportunity and cover most of the harvest and most of the
39 users.

40
41 And the Park Service fully supports those
42 amendments that came from the two commissions. Thank
43 you.

44
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Ken. Any
46 questions from Council.

47
48 (No comments)

49
50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Ken. Fish and

1 game advisory committee.
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Summary of written
6 public comments from public.
7
8 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
9 There are no written public comments at this time.
10
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Public testimony.
12
13 (No comments)
14
15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Regional Council
16 deliberation, recommendation and justification on
17 Proposal WP05-20 on wolf. Walter.
18
19 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I think we've
20 got some good reports in regards to wolf there, with
21 numbers being high, in some instances where pack sizes
22 are even larger than what they used to be. I think
23 there's quite a bit of wolves throughout not only this
24 region but other regions as well, too. And based on
25 information that's been provided to the Subsistence
26 Resource Commission, and we feel that taking 15 wolves is
27 not going to really make a lot of difference, there's
28 still a lot of wolves in different parts of the unit.
29 And based on the information that's provided to us, Cape
30 Krusenstern is just a small portion of the area that
31 moose or wolves are hunted. And Kobuk Valley as well. I
32 know moose -- not moose, wolf is pretty migratory, pretty
33 much following where the meals are, which means when the
34 caribou moves south, they pretty much move down south.
35
36 So based on the information provided to
37 us, I make a motion that we adopt Proposal WP05-20.
38
39 MR. BALLOT: Second.
40
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The motion been called
42 by Walt and seconded by Percy.
43
44 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, for
45 clarification, are you supporting.....
46
47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Support with
48 modification.
49
50 MS. CHIVERS:the preliminary

1 conclusion to support with modification?
2
3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.
4
5 MR. SAMPSON: With modification, yes.
6
7 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you.
8
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Discussions.
10
11 (No comments)
12
13 MR. SWAN: Question.
14
15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been called
16 for. All in favor of supporting WP05-20 signify by
17 saying aye.
18
19 IN UNISON: Aye.
20
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.
22
23 (No opposing votes)
24
25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh.
26
27 MR. ADKISSON: I apologize for this, but
28 just for clarification, would you be supporting the
29 original proposal, the proposal as amended by Staff, or
30 the recommendations of the two Subsistence Resource
31 Commissions.
32
33 MR. SAMPSON: Recommendations of the two
34 Subsistence Resource Commissions.
35
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oppose -- no oppose.
37 Motion carried. Now we're -- do you guys want to
38 continue on and get done?
39
40 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I've got to
41 leave at 3:00 o'clock.
42
43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. So we'll
44 continue on. We're down to Item No. 12, marine waters
45 jurisdiction, OSM briefing, Council comments and
46 recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board. What
47 is that? All right. Have you got it?
48
49 MR. BERG: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
50 For the record, my name is Jerry Berg. I work in the

1 Office of Subsistence Management, and I will do this
2 briefing for you.

3
4 Just as a little bit of background, since
5 I am a new face to some of you, we had a little bit of
6 staffing reorganization in our office about a year ago,
7 or maybe it's been a little longer. And I was assigned
8 to this region. I previously was working on the Yukon
9 and Kuskokwim regions on fisheries issues, and some in
10 the Bristol Bay area. But anyway, I'm happy to be
11 working with some of you folks up here. Of course, that
12 doesn't mean I'm going to be coming to all of your
13 meetings. It really kind of depends on what the fishery
14 issues are and how many fish proposals.

15
16 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, are we
17 talking fisheries, or are we talking about water
18 jurisdiction?

19
20 MR. BERG: We're going to be talking
21 about marine jurisdiction. I'm just going to give you a
22 brief update on what we're doing with this proposed rule.
23 Our office has issued a proposed rule. You can find it
24 on page 109 starting -- or, no, I'm sorry, 103, starting
25 in your booklet. There's a briefing, it's about a page
26 and a half long, and then the full proposed rule is also
27 issued or published in there.

28
29 And if you'd like the details, this
30 proposed rule would like the details, this proposed rule
31 would revise and clarify our Federal jurisdiction in
32 coastal waters, and would amend the Federal subsistence
33 regulations to apply only in inland waters and pre-
34 Statehood withdrawals.

35
36 Now, this is an issue that really
37 primarily affects the Y-K Region, if you look at the maps
38 on the wall over here, primarily affects the Y-K Region,
39 Bristol Bay, and the Kodiak-Aleutians area. So it really
40 is not going to affect your region, but the Federal
41 Subsistence Board did want us to brief all of the
42 Councils and give each Council an opportunity to comment
43 if they so choose. So I'll just be real brief to let you
44 know the changes that they're proposing.

45
46 So basically in response to the Katie
47 John decision, that's when we got involved with
48 fisheries, regulations were published in 1999 that
49 extended our Federal jurisdiction to waters within the
50 external boundaries of the national parks and refuges in

1 Alaska.

2

3

4 And so as a result of that, we now have
5 regulations that include some marine waters and some
6 marine bays within refuge boundaries that were created by
7 ANILCA. And there was never any intent for us to include
8 those bays. It was just the way the refuge boundary was
9 drawn. And so, anyway, there was never an intent to
10 include those, and so this proposed rule will exclude
11 them, and make that more clear in our regulations.

11

12

13 So it's just an update to let you know
14 that we're making that change. If the Council would like
15 to comment, we'd be more than happy to carry that forward
16 to the Federal Subsistence Board. If you choose not to
17 comment, that's fine as well.

17

18

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

19

20

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter, have you got
21 any comments on this?

22

23

MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, yes. I guess
24 more so for clarity. Are we talking navigable waters in
25 general or are we talking fisheries in general when
26 you're talking marine waters jurisdiction?

27

28

MR. BERG: We're just talking about
29 marine waters jurisdiction, which will only affect our
30 jurisdiction for fishery issues.

31

32

MR. SAMPSON: Fishery issues, okay. So
33 we're not talking any water bodies that are navigable
34 within Federal areas?

35

36

MR. BERG: Well, they are navigable,
37 because they are bays. If you look at -- basically every
38 bay that's listed on those maps on the wall over there
39 will now be excluded from our regulations, so we will not
40 exert our Federal marine jurisdiction in those bays that
41 are listed on those two maps over there.

42

43

MR. SAMPSON: So what about the Kobuk on
44 the Kobuk River, what does that do?

45

46

MR. BERG: It will not affect any marine
47 waters in your -- in the Northwest Arctic Region.

48

49

MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

50

1 MR. BERG: So it's not going to make any
2 changes for the Northwest Arctic Region.

3
4 MR. SAMPSON: With that then, may I ask
5 you a question in regards to the State's lawsuit on
6 navigable waters within Federal areas, what does that do?

7
8 MR. BERG: Well, yeah, I don't know if
9 everybody's aware, but the State is challenging the
10 method that we use to establish what waters are
11 applicable under the Federal Management Program. They
12 felt like they wanted to file that lawsuit, because their
13 statute of limitations ran out on January 9th is why they
14 submitted that lawsuit at that time. It's also being
15 challenged by the Native American Rights Fund.

16
17 We really can't comment on that lawsuit
18 at this time. The Solicitor's Department in Anchorage,
19 the Alaska Solicitor's Office, is handling that lawsuit,
20 and we can't really comment on it at this time, because
21 we're not really involved with it. It's all been handed
22 over to the lawyers at this time. So we can't.....

23
24 MR. SAMPSON: I guess I was trying to get
25 sort of a quick overview in regards to the implications
26 of that lawsuit. In the event that the State should win
27 the case, what happens to Katie John's case.

28
29 MR. BERG: Well, I guess it would depend
30 on what decision the judge made on the decision. You
31 know, I think there's a number of ways it could go, and I
32 just wouldn't -- I would rather not speculate on, you
33 know, which direction that could go at this time.

34
35 They've basically told us to, you know,
36 not comment on it at this time. If you have questions,
37 you can call our Solicitor's Office in Anchorage and try
38 to get some more input from them at this time. But we're
39 really not involved with it. It's all been handed over
40 to the Solicitor's Office.

41
42 MR. SAMPSON: So you can't provide us any
43 other addition information then based on.....

44
45 MR. BERG: No, I'm sorry.

46
47 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

48
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions.
50 Willie.

1 MR. GOODWIN: I guess maybe I'm confused
2 like everybody else here, but does that mean that
3 whatever questions we might have, that we can go to the
4 Federal Board with subsistence fishing issues, say for
5 instance in Kobuk Lake. We couldn't go to them, but now
6 we'd have to go to the State? You're giving up your
7 jurisdiction. You're telling me you're giving up your
8 jurisdiction or whatever implied jurisdiction you have
9 say, for instance, in Kobuk Lake or the lagoon in
10 Sheshalik, behind Sheshalik, or Eschscholtz Bay.

11
12 MR. BERG: Mr. Chair, just to respond to
13 Mr. Goodwin. Yeah, you have to refer to the maps up
14 here, probably best displays the proposed rule that the
15 Federal Board has put out for review right now. It's
16 only going to impact those bays that are listed up there,
17 so it's not going to impact any of the waters, any of the
18 marine waters, or any of the waters at all in the
19 Northwest Arctic region. So it's not going to impact any
20 of our jurisdiction in the Northwest Arctic. It's only
21 going to impact the Y-K Delta, a little bit of Bristol
22 Bay and the Kodiak-Aleutians area is going to be impacted
23 the most. And those are all refuge lands. So it's not
24 going to impact any Park Service lands.

25
26 MR. GOODWIN: Well, maybe you can answer
27 this, what about False Pass where our salmon are
28 affected?

29
30 MR. BERG: Well, this proposed rule is
31 only going to impact these bays that are included within
32 refuge boundaries. So there's very few -- actually I
33 can't say for sure. I don't know if there may be some --
34 well, I do know that there are some commercial fisheries
35 inside some of those bays, but most of the fish that are
36 migrating past those areas going up to the Northwest
37 Alaska area are more than likely not going to be stopping
38 off in those bays and being fished on in those bays, so
39 this proposed rule's more than likely not going to have
40 any impact on the fish that are actually migrating up
41 towards this area, because this is only going to affect
42 those bays, and those fish are not going to be stopping
43 off in those bays more than likely.

44
45 MR. GOODWIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
46 for allowing me to ask.

47
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions.

49
50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I want to thank you for
2 your report. Okay. We're going right along. Item 13,
3 Fisheries Information Services Program. Who is going to
4 do that? Susan Georgette and Attamuk or who?

5
6 ATTAMUK: No, where's Susan.

7
8 MS. CRAVER: I'm going to start, and then
9 they're going to finish off.

10
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. That's on the
12 Fisheries Information. Okay.

13
14 MS. CRAVER: Thank you, Mr. Chair
15 and.....

16
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Before you get going, I
18 see Walter had to go somewhere else, so he's leaving us.
19 And I want to apologize to Percy, you know, that I should
20 have said earlier that you showed up at 1:00 o'clock.
21 Thank you, you know, for coming with us.

22
23 ATTAMUK: What happened to our voting for
24 office here, Mr. Chairman. Excuse me, Walter, before you
25 go, we're going to vote for a new chairman, secretary and
26 whatnot earlier after Percy come in. I mean, should we
27 do that before you go? I know it's 3:00 o'clock, but we
28 had plans to vote for a new chair and something else
29 earlier on the agenda, remember. Sorry, Amy. But there
30 was one in there, No. 4, elections of officers, and we
31 deferred it to later on this afternoon. So before you
32 go, Walter, is it possible you could sit for a few
33 minutes?

34
35 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

36
37 ATTAMUK: Election for new chair, vice
38 chair and secretary.

39
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So you guys want to do
41 that right now, to select your officers. Do you guys
42 want to? Okay. We'll withdraw that Item No. 13, and
43 we'll go through the procedure of electing the officers.
44 So I'll have to turn it over to Michelle, and then get
45 nominations for a chair, vice chair, and I believe
46 secretary. Michelle.

47
48 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just
49 a brief description of what the office of the Chair, what
50 the Chair's duties are. They serve a one-year term, but

1 may serve more than one year. They conduct the Regional
2 Council meetings, attend the meetings and represent the
3 Regional Council at the meetings of the Board. And the
4 Chair is also a voting member on the Council. And the
5 Chair's duties are to sign the reports, correspondence,
6 meeting minutes and other documents for external
7 distribution.

8

9 So with that brief description of what
10 the Chair's duties are, I'd like to open the floor for
11 nominations.

12

13 MR. KARMUN: Walter Sampson.

14

15 ATTAMUK: I'll second it.

16

17 MR. BALLOT: I nominate Raymond.

18

19 MS. DOWNING: Don't forget your
20 microphone.

21

22 MR. BALLOT: Oh, sorry. Percy Ballot. I
23 nominate Raymond Stoney.

24

25 MR. SWAN: Second.

26

27 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, on the
28 nomination for Walt Sampson, his term is up at the end of
29 this year, so he would be serving as chair for one year.
30 You would have to go through this nomination process --
31 or the election of officers process again in the spring
32 meeting. That's fine if you guys want to keep that
33 nomination. And I'm sorry, I didn't catch who seconded
34 when Victor nominated Walter.

35

36 ATTAMUK: What did you say, the Chairman,
37 this fall we'll vote over another chairman this fall?

38

39 MS. CHIVERS: Okay. Right now currently
40 Walter's term will expire at the end of this year, so if
41 he were to become chair now, he would be chair for the
42 next meeting, and then in the winter time, we would have
43 to go through this process again, the election of officer
44 again as he would no longer be on the Council. So that's
45 something you need to consider if you want to go ahead
46 and nominate him for one meeting, and then go through
47 this process again in the spring.

48

49 ATTAMUK: You mean after one meeting
50 Walter's not going to be on the Council no more?

1 MR. SAMPSON: I'm voted out, yeah.
2
3 MS. CHIVERS: Correct.
4
5 ATTAMUK: Yeah. Maybe I'm just being
6 stupid here. I mean, before we elect, you should tell us
7 that, whose term is going to be up. That way we won't
8 make us like fools trying to run, you know, like Walter
9 become the Chairman. You know, it made me feel like a
10 fool. I didn't know his term was going to be up, to tell
11 you the truth. There's a lack of communication besides
12 us and the Coordinator, that we could understand this
13 thing better.
14
15 MS. CHIVERS: Well, I'm sorry, I
16 didn't.....
17
18 ATTAMUK: I mean, don't laugh at us when
19 you go back to the office, please.
20
21 MS. CHIVERS: No, I'm not going to laugh
22 when I go back to the office. I'm sorry I didn't bring
23 that up. His term is the only term that is expiring.
24 And I didn't know you were going to nominate him. So
25 pardon me.
26
27 MR. BALLOT: Myself, I feel like -- she
28 said that he would still be able to run the office until
29 our next meeting, for one year, and then we could look at
30 it again. So I'd just let the process run its course,
31 the election process, and then the process of his
32 nomination, and just continue. I move to have the
33 nominations be closed, Michelle.
34
35 MR. KARMUN: I'll second that.
36
37 MS. CHIVERS: Okay. The nomination is
38 still for Walt and it was seconded by Victor. Okay. So
39 now he's -- oh, Raymond's in, okay.
40
41 MR. BERG: Percy nominated Raymond.
42
43 MS. CHIVERS: He was the other
44 nomination. Okay. I don't know if you guys want to
45 handle this by a vote, a ballot, cast a ballot, if we
46 have two nominations here. So if you want to go ahead
47 and cast some ballots, and then hand them to me, and I'll
48 go ahead and count them up.
49
50 (Pause - collecting ballots)

1 MS. CHIVERS: Would you please repeat the
2 question on record, please?
3
4 MR. SAMPSON: (In Inupiat)
5
6 MS. CHIVERS: I'm sorry, can you repeat
7 that in English.
8
9 MR. SAMPSON: I was just asking what
10 would I need to do at the end of the term to apply for
11 the position? Would I need to do any letter writing, or
12 is that handled through the office with my interest?
13
14 MS. CHIVERS: Currently right now the
15 nomination process is in full swing, and we did not have
16 an application from you. The new seats that will be
17 filled with this current year's nomination process will
18 begin serving on the Council next January. And so when
19 the nominations cycle comes around again, you can reapply
20 at that time to get back on the Council.
21
22 MR. SAMPSON: When is that cycle?
23
24 MS. CHIVERS: It will be next December
25 when it opens and closes about January 2nd -- or, excuse
26 me, October through January. That's when the next call
27 for nominations will come out.
28
29 MR. SAMPSON: That's when my seat is up?
30
31 MS. CHIVERS: No, your seat is up at the
32 end of 2005, the end of this year.
33
34 MR. BALLOT: So, Michelle, you're saying
35 that it's too late for him to reapply for the next cycle,
36 is that what I hear?
37
38 MS. CHIVERS: The nominations closed on
39 January 2nd, yes.
40
41 MR. KARMUN: A question, the incumbents,
42 they don't automatically get resubmitted?
43
44 MS. CHIVERS: No, they do not.
45
46 MR. CLEVELAND: Were the incumbents
47 notified?
48
49 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I guess in
50 that case then if I can't get into the position, which

1 will be another year in between, I'm just wasting my time
2 here. I'll just leave. And I appreciate and thank you
3 for the opportunity.

4
5 MR. CLEVELAND: Ballots are in. The
6 ballots are in already.

7
8 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah, but it wouldn't do us
9 no good even if I did run for the position.

10
11 ATTAMUK: Let me ask in behalf of Walter,
12 was he ever written a letter or by phone to contact him?

13
14 MS. CHIVERS: I'm sorry?

15
16 ATTAMUK: Was Walter ever contacted by
17 letter or.....

18
19 MS. CHIVERS: Yes.

20
21 ATTAMUK:by phone?

22
23 MS. CHIVERS: Yes. We have.....

24
25 ATTAMUK: Because I do -- you know, I
26 stated earlier I had a problem of the way there was
27 nominated by the agencies, and they basically hand-pick a
28 person they want to sit on this table. If I started
29 getting outspoken too much against the agencies or the
30 State, I've got a feeling I'm going to get weeded out and
31 somebody else, one of the agencies, the Park Service, is
32 going to weed me out and say 'bye-bye, Attamuk. And here
33 I'm trying to protect my people. I mean, it's wrong. I
34 think this got to be changed how the policy, the Federal
35 agencies are doing business in our own lands here. We
36 have to go all the way to Congress for the interest of
37 people that going to volunteer their time to sit here.
38 You know, I always had problem with that, because right
39 as soon as someone start being outspoken or something,
40 they could be weed out in a hurry. It would be no -- I
41 know you guys shaking your head, not going to happen, but
42 it could happen.

43
44 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair. Attamuk. The
45 nominations process is very lengthy, and we do have panel
46 members that actually interview each applicant. And
47 there's five sets of criteria that these people have to
48 meet in order to be considered for the Council. And so
49 what they do is they go through and pick the ones that
50 qualify under all five criteria, and then select from

1 that pool. And so it's not just drawing names or
2 anything like that. It's a pretty lengthy process. And
3 we are mandated by Congress to have the Secretary of
4 Interior make that selection. He makes the final
5 selection.

6
7 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate
8 the discussion. Personally I don't recall receiving any
9 correspondence relating to that very issue. And, you
10 know, I -- I mean, if that's the process that they want
11 to go through, that's find, too, and like Attamuk said,
12 when you're vocal in regards to some of the things, and
13 some agencies don't like what you do sometimes, that's
14 what happens. And if I offended anybody for the things
15 that I did or said, I apologize, and with that, I would
16 like to be considered a nonmember at this point in time,
17 and I've got to leave.

18
19 ATTAMUK: So if Walter's -- excuse me,
20 but if Walter's term is coming, if someone miss this
21 meeting, we won't be able to come with a quorum until all
22 10 seats are filled or whatever seats is open.

23
24 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, Michelle said,
25 I just asked her, but she said she sent three
26 applications to Walter by mail, that there was no
27 intention to ever exclude him from the Council. And she
28 called and left messages. So I think there was an effort
29 to make sure that he was included. And we were all quite
30 frankly shocked that he hadn't reapplied, and I just --
31 you know, I just asked Willie why didn't Walter reapply.
32 There was never an effort on anybody's part to keep
33 Walter from the Council. There maybe was some
34 miscommunication, but.....

35
36 MR. SAMPSON: I was just trying to recall
37 any correspondence coming to the office or not. I know
38 Michelle had called in regards to some other issues, but
39 not related to the seat position.

40
41 MR. BALLOT: What's the vote, Michelle?

42
43 ATTAMUK: Well, I nominated Walter for
44 the Chairman. I'll recall and my second will have to
45 recall it, so -- he's not going to be here.

46
47 MR. CLEVELAND: Point of order.

48
49 ATTAMUK: Okay. And they nominated
50 Raymond Stoney. I'll close the nominations. All

1 Raymond. Good luck.

2

3 MR. CLEVELAND: Point of order, we
4 already handed ballots in.

5

6 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair and Reggie, we
7 did have the ballots come in, and we did have four votes
8 for Walter Sampson and three votes for Raymond. However,
9 Raymond (sic) did rescind his vote, correct -- I mean his
10 being voted on, is that correct?

11

12 MR. KARMUN: I have a question. Because
13 of Walter's actions, does this make this voting session
14 null and void, and we have to start from square one again
15 and open the floor for new nominations?

16

17 MR. CLEVELAND: Well, now that the votes
18 have been counted as Walter have four and Raymond have
19 three, and Walter already stated that he's not going to
20 run for the seat, then we have to re-elect again, even
21 though we already heard the count. Then the nominations
22 are now open again.

23

24 MS. CHIVERS: So, Mr. Chair, with that,
25 I'd like to re-open the floor for nominations.

26

27 MR. BALLOT: I'll nominate Raymond.

28

29 MR. KARMUN: I'd like to leave it status
30 quo then and close the nominations.

31

32 MS. CHIVERS: With that, Mr. Chair,
33 Raymond Stoney, you can continue with our nominations for
34 the office of the vice chair and the secretary.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Members of
37 the Council, again, you know, I was looking forward to
38 this, but I got into it now again. But, you know, for
39 the next year I'll do the best of my ability as the Chair
40 of this group. Thank you everyone for your confidence.

41

42 Now the nominations are open for vice.

43

44 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chair, I move Reggie
45 Cleveland.

46

47 MR. KARMUN: I'll second that.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Reggie has been
50 nominated for vice chair.

1 MR. SWAN: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion
2 to close the nominations and ask for unanimous consent.
3
4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion's been made for
5 unanimous consent for Reggie Cleveland as vice chair.
6
7 MR. CLEVELAND: I object. No.
8
9 (Laughter)
10
11 MR. CLEVELAND: Thank you.
12
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Nominations are open
14 for secretary.
15
16 ATTAMUK: I nominate Austin Swan
17 secretary.
18
19 MR. KARMUN: Second.
20
21 MR. SWAN: Mr. Chairman, I seem to recall
22 receiving correspondence for application to the Council.
23 I'm wondering now when my term is up?
24
25 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair. Austin. Your
26 term is up at the end of the year also; however, you did
27 put an application in and your application is being
28 considered. I just didn't want to have -- let me restate
29 that. It's much easier if we know, you know, at the end
30 of the year who's -- we'll know before the end of the
31 year who's been reinstated by the Secretary of the
32 Interior, and if you have an application in, there's a
33 good chance that you may actually be appointed. But then
34 when you don't have an application in, it takes another
35 whole year for that whole process to go through, so in
36 effect for the Chair, we would had to have redone the
37 nominations again in the spring.
38
39 MR. SWAN: Thank you.
40
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Austin has been
42 nominated and second. Any more nominations for
43 secretary.
44
45 MR. KARMUN: I make a motion that
46 nominations be closed.
47
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Nominations closed and
49 then moved. Mr. Secretary is secretary of this group.
50 Okay.

1 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

4

5 MR. BALLOT: Before we go on, I think
6 maybe on our -- here we should have our terms up and
7 expiring or when we're in our descriptions. That might
8 remind our Council when we need to re-apply, or if we
9 want to re-apply. I think that would be a good thing to
10 have in here.

11

12 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, we do have a
13 sheet that lists whose seats will be expiring each year.
14 So I will provide that to the Council after each of the
15 -- after the sheet that gives the roll call vote. Thank
16 you.

17

18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that is on the
19 election of officers. Take a short break or continue on?
20 We've still got an hour or so.

21

22 ATTAMUK: Take a break I guess.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Let's take a 10-
25 minute break.

26

27 MS. CRAVER: I was going to say it's
28 going to take them a little while to set up for the
29 whitefish presentation. And my talk is not going to take
30 very long. You might just want to take it while they're
31 setting up for the whitefish report or presentation.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. You guys want a
34 break? Okay. Let's take a 10-minute break. Yeah.

35

36 (Off record)

37

38 (On record)

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. The time is
41 3:35. I'll call the meeting back to order. We're down
42 on Fisheries Information.

43

44 MS. CRAVER: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
45 Council. For the record, my name is Amy Craver, and I am
46 with the Office of Subsistence Management's Fisheries
47 Information Service.

48

49 Today I will be providing the Council an
50 overview on the monitoring projects funded by Fisheries

1 Information Program. A summary of these projects are for
2 the Council's information and do not require any Council
3 action at this time.

4
5 Additionally, I would like ask the
6 Council to identify and update new issues and information
7 needs from your area. I also plan to discuss Fisheries
8 Information Service's statewide strategic planning
9 efforts that have already occurred in Southcentral and in
10 Bristol Bay.

11
12 And finally, after my presentation, Enoch
13 and Susan are going to be giving a presentation on the
14 whitefish report that we funded, and I've also got some
15 excellent reports that they put together to give the
16 Council members.

17
18 Council members should refer to the
19 handout, which is the status report, and that was what we
20 passed around before the elections, refer to the handout,
21 which is a status report for the 2004 Fisheries Resource
22 Monitoring Plan for the Northern Region. The report
23 provides you with an update on the status and
24 accomplishments of projects funded under Fisheries
25 Resource Monitoring Program for the North Slope,
26 Northwest Alaska, and Seward Peninsula.

27
28 And unlike the regulatory side of Office
29 of Subsistence Management, the monitoring program is
30 focused on funding and overseeing multi-disciplinary
31 projects that blend together biological and social
32 sciences with traditional ecological knowledge to manage
33 and conserve fisheries resources.

34
35 The monitoring program is now entering
36 its sixth year of funding fisheries projects. The
37 program started with a total of \$6 million in 2000, and
38 which included funds to operate some studies for three
39 years. From 2001 through 2005, the statewide program has
40 funded 70 to 80 projects annually, at a cost of \$7.2
41 million. In 2004, most prior year funding commitments
42 had ended, and approximately \$5 million was available for
43 new projects. For 2005, available funding statewide for
44 new projects was only about \$1.9 million because of
45 funding commitments made in 2004.

46
47 The Federal Subsistence Board approved
48 funding for 24 projects for all regions in 2005. During
49 most years the Northern Region receives about 13.2
50 percent, or \$811,000 of the available funds that are

1 allocated for the Arctic, Kotzebue and Norton Sound
2 Region.

3
4 The status report that you have includes
5 a list of the summaries of projects completed, ongoing
6 projects that were started during the past years and will
7 continue in 2005, as well as a list of the new projects
8 that the Federal Board approved for funding in January
9 2005. For example, if you'll turn to Page 2 of the
10 report, in the Northern Region status report, you will
11 find a listing of the 29 studies that are either complete
12 or close to completion since 2000. The next list that
13 you'll find on Page 3 includes a list of summaries of the
14 12 projects that are currently active.

15
16 And since your time is short, I will just
17 give you some highlights from the report.

18
19 Since its inception in 2000, the
20 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program has funded a total
21 of 29 projects, studies for the Northern Region. And
22 that includes seven inter-regional studies that involve
23 this reason. And again, just please see your status
24 report for the summaries of the various projects
25 occurring in your region so that I -- rather than going
26 on and taking up your time to describe each one of them.

27
28 And one of the foundations of our program
29 is capacity building, and capacity building efforts
30 include rural and tribal organizations serving as
31 principal or co-investigators. The program is supporting
32 the hiring and training of local residents as research
33 assistants, technicians and provide information through
34 consultations, meetings and written reports. Of the 31
35 studies, 10 have tribal or rural organizations as co-
36 investigators, and these investigators, organizations
37 include Alaska InterTribal Council, Kaktovik Inupiat
38 Corporation, Kawerak, Stebbins Village Association,
39 Maniilaq, City of Anaktuvuk Pass, and the North Slope
40 Borough.

41
42 The Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program
43 plays an important role in providing data for the
44 fisheries management of the northern regions, and
45 although this program's focus is supporting the
46 collection of technically sound fishery data, supporting
47 Federal subsistence management, we do recognize that not
48 all the fish recognize our jurisdictions and boundaries,
49 and we must look in terms of the whole ecosystem. And so
50 therefore we do work with the State and other agencies to

1 support data collections for fisheries management in the
2 Northern Region.

3
4 And the issues and information needs from
5 this region that have been currently identified by the
6 three Councils are as follows. And in terms of the stock
7 status and trends project for Northwest Arctic, it's
8 Arctic cisco, broad whitefish, and Arctic grayling in the
9 Kotzebue area, whitefish in the Selawik River, and
10 affects of sport fishing in Kotzebue and Norton Sound.
11 And then in terms of the harvest monitoring projects, the
12 information needs that the Councils have recommended,
13 your Council in particular, subsistence fisheries for
14 char, Arctic grayling, and other fish for the North
15 Slope, an evaluation of subsistence harvest survey and
16 project designs. And in terms of the traditional
17 ecological knowledge projects, the information needs that
18 have been identified is documentation of traditional
19 fishing and resource information, documentation of
20 subsistence use and practices, and determination of
21 customary and traditional uses.

22
23 And then just briefly I wanted to just
24 tell you a little bit about the strategic planning
25 efforts that are going on, that have already occurred in
26 Southcentral Alaska, and also in Bristol Bay. And
27 basically this is a plan that we -- and in the next few
28 years we'll be -- this plan will be occurring here as
29 well. But the planning effort really it's Fisheries
30 Information Staff work with Federal and State agencies to
31 identify gaps in research, and then we invite Federal and
32 State and RAC members, local people to a workshop and
33 basically try to come together and identify all the
34 research that's been done on subsistence fisheries in
35 that region, and then try to prioritize where the
36 information needs are. So it's a pretty elaborate
37 process.

38
39 And I think people in Bristol Bay and in
40 Southcentral have been quite pleased. But it's really
41 kind of a joint effort, Federal, State, nonprofits. It's
42 biologists, it's anthropologists, and it's RAC members
43 and local people who are involved. So we're trying to
44 get as many perspectives as possible to really come up
45 with a plan that everybody's bought into in terms of
46 identifying where the research needs and information
47 needs are for the next I think it's three to five years
48 is what the plan comes up with.

49
50 So with that, I guess, if there's any

1 questions, or if there's any information needs between
2 now and when we start the strategic planning process,
3 that the Council has that you would like to include in
4 the call for proposals for 2007, I would be more than
5 happy to pass those on to folks in my office so that we
6 can include them in the call for proposals. Silence.

7
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from
9 Council.

10
11 (No comments)

12
13 MS. CRAVER: Well, if not, then maybe we
14 can just move on to Susan and Enoch's presentation on
15 whitefish.

16
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, they may proceed.

18
19 MS. CRAVER: Oh, I'm so sorry, Attamuk
20 and Susan. I apologize.

21
22 MR. BALLOT: I have one, Mr. Chairman.
23 I'm just wondering if Attamuk have any suggestions for
24 call for proposals from this Board for our region.

25
26 ATTAMUK: If I had my choice.....

27
28 MS. DOWNING: You're not on the record.

29
30 ATTAMUK: Excuse me. If I had my choice,
31 and I wanted to do another study, I would do it with
32 sheefish. It's one of those fish that is highly consumed
33 in our region, and probably the least studied. But
34 before I even say it, maybe I would need to go talk to
35 Kotzebue IRA and Willie and Ross and other guys and get
36 together. But for the villages of Shungnak and Selawik,
37 I would like to do sheefish, basically the same way, and
38 go more in depth since I see how good of work Susan did
39 on this one here. And I would like to do it.

40
41 MS. CRAVER: Thank you. I'll definitely
42 include that in our call for proposals.

43
44 MR. BALLOT: Sounds good to me, Mr.
45 Chairman. All I just want to do is eat it. Not study
46 it, but I'll eat it.

47
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anybody else on this
49 Fisheries Information.

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Susan, you don't have
4 any?

5

6 MS. GEORGETTE: Should I start on this
7 presentation here?

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

10

11 MS. GEORGETTE: Okay. My name is Susan
12 Georgette, and I work with the Subsistence Division with
13 the Department of Fish and Game.

14

15 And we wanted to give you an overview of
16 this project we recently completed. And this was a
17 cooperative project between Attamuk Shiedt at Maniilaq,
18 and LeeAnne Ayres at Selawik Refuge also participated.
19 It was funded mainly by the FIS program that Amy works
20 with, but we also received money from Gates of the Arctic
21 National Park, and from the Selawik Refuge.

22

23 We worked in six communities in the
24 region. Selawik and Noorvik, which represent delta
25 areas. Here's a picture of Selawik area for those who
26 don't know that area. Pauline Ramoth's fish camp. We
27 worked in Noatak, we worked in the upper Kobuk, Shungnak
28 and Kobuk. That's at Vera Douglas' camp. And we worked
29 in Kotzebue as an example of a coastal area.

30

31 All these areas are a little bit
32 different from each other in terms of the environment, in
33 terms of the kinds of whitefish they get there and when
34 they might fish, and how the fish move around.

35

36 What we did was talk to many elders and
37 fishermen in those six villages. Many, many people
38 contributed. This is a list which you can't really see
39 here, but it's on Page 9 of the report of the 57 people
40 we interviewed in the different villages, most of them
41 elders, some of them younger fishermen. Their
42 willingness to share their knowledge with us is what make
43 these projects possible, and we're really appreciative of
44 that and grateful to them. And as you know, they're vast
45 storehouses of information about fish and the resources
46 on their land.

47

48 There's a few other people I want to
49 mention who've helped a lot. For myself personally,
50 Wendell and Priscella Both in Noatak have fed and housed

1 me for years. Emma and Ralph Ramoth in Selawik, and
2 Leonard and Vera Douglas in Shungnak have taken me under
3 their wing. Hannah Loon and Ruth Sampson and Barbara
4 Armstrong have helped for years on our projects. There's
5 Hannah on the left. Clyde Ramoth in Selawik was
6 indispensable in the work there. I had Josephine and
7 Wesley Woods' family at their fish camp on the upper
8 Kobuk have always welcomed us to their place. Walter
9 Bear in Selawik helped show us around. Thomas Williams
10 in Anigaaq. This is Thomas fishing with us at Anigaaq.
11 Charlie Lean and Randy Brown helped with the biology, and
12 Jim Magdanz did the design and layout of this report to
13 make it look nice.

14

15 The reason we picked whitefish was
16 because it's a real staple food in the region. It's
17 found in almost every village. It's a complex -- or
18 they're complex fish that move around a lot and go
19 different places at different times of year, and
20 scientists know very little about them.

21

22 So here are a few highlights of what we
23 found out. this picture shows a comparison of the
24 Inupiaq names with the English and scientific names. And
25 this was -- there's a lot of confusion about this for a
26 long time. Even in the scientific literature there's --
27 it was unclear which name went with which species.
28 Inupiaq fishermen almost only know the names of the fish
29 by their Inupiaq names, and scientists hardly ever know
30 any of the Inupiaq names. And so it took us a while to
31 kind of make sense of it, and I'm not sure this is
32 totally correct. This is the best we could do. Selawik
33 especially had very complicated, for me at least, naming
34 of the fish, that what Noorvik might call a qausriluk, in
35 Selawik was only one kind of broad whitefish. And they
36 had -- they seemed to recognized three kinds of broad
37 whitefish. But this was a start for sorting out the
38 Inupiaq names with the scientific names.

39

40 And then I could give you a quick summary
41 of what the fishermen said about these different kinds of
42 whitefish. That one on the top is what scientists call a
43 broad whitefish, a qausriluk, and the middle one is
44 humpback whitefish, qaalgiq. Attamuk can say them. And
45 the bottom one is what we call a least cisco, a
46 qalusraaq, or iqalusaaq.

47

48 And those broad whitefish, the ones on
49 the top, they tend to be the biggest ones. They're a
50 very fat, rich fish that's difficult to dry without

1 spoiling. They have very thick scales so they're
2 difficult to scale. People don't like to scale them too
3 much. They're traditionally eaten as frozen fish, or
4 they're baked fresh. And they're much more abundant
5 along the Kobuk and Selawik Rivers than the Noatak or the
6 coastal areas. In Noatak people often describe them as
7 Kobuk River fish.

8
9 Here's a picture of broad whitefish baked
10 and ready to eat in the fall in Selawik, at the Selawik
11 science camp.

12
13 Those broad whitefish are the last
14 whitefish to spawn, usually in early November. So
15 they're the ones that people catch under the ice in nets.
16 Or the ones that are most abundant.

17
18 And that's where the biggest fishery for
19 them takes place in -- oh, this is a slide first of
20 Noatak area, and that lake in the far upper right corner,
21 that's one lake that Noatak people talked about having a
22 large number of these broad whitefish, which are actually
23 fairly uncommon above the village. But this lake was one
24 that many elders talked about as a place that you can get
25 a lot of broad whitefish. And I thought it would be an
26 interesting place to look at in more detail biologically
27 at some point.

28
29 Here's some pictures of the ice fishing
30 in Selawik. This is in November, and this is James
31 Ramoth chopping the ice out of the net pole, and there
32 James and Suney (ph) Jackson and Clyde Ramoth are
33 checking the net. Here they're just waiting to reset the
34 net. And loading up the sled with their catch for the
35 day.

36
37 You can see it takes place right in the
38 village, or right near the village. People don't go very
39 far to set those nets.

40
41 The humpback whitefish are the second of
42 the primary whitefish species used by subsistence
43 fishermen. They're a medium-sized fish. They're the
44 ones that are caught in the greatest abundance in most of
45 the villages. They're easy to dry and to scale, and
46 they're the preferred species for making dried fish,
47 which is just a staple in the region. You see it all the
48 time. It's also the main fish for making amatchiaq,
49 which are the whitefish dried with eggs in them. They
50 spawn about the same time as sheefish in late September

1 or early October. And they're caught throughout the
2 region with gillnets in the spring, seines and gillnets
3 in the fall, and over at Anigaaq with ditches.

4
5 This is on the upper Kobuk. People are
6 making amatchiaq in September. And this is Beverly
7 Woods.

8
9 It's used in great numbers along the
10 Kobuk River and Selawik.

11
12 This is least cisco. This is the
13 smallest white fish that's common in the region. It's
14 lower lip is longer than its upper lip, which is one way
15 you can tell them apart. And people often describe it as
16 having a big eye. It's quite abundant, but it's not
17 targeted as much as the other fish, because it's small,
18 and people prefer the bigger fish.

19
20 We learned some new thing things about
21 the range of these least cisco. The scientific
22 literature almost always shows them as being throughout
23 the Kobuk River, but in Shungnak people said that they're
24 not common above Shungnak. You can get them, you know,
25 somewhere above Shungnak and Kobuk, but really just above
26 Ambler is where there is -- is their upper limit on the
27 river. So we thought that was interesting.

28
29 Their eggs are considered tasty treats
30 throughout the region. Here are some Selawik girls
31 eating fresh least cisco eggs.

32
33 And one of their distinctive features
34 what elders described a lot was that their eggs are
35 different colors, so some fish have white eggs and some
36 have yellow, and some have pink, and some have orange.
37 And we have one slide here that doesn't show maybe the
38 full range, but you can see that the eggs on the left are
39 much paler than the ones on the right. And biologists
40 think that that can be caused by the fish eating
41 different food in the summer, so if some of those live in
42 one lake and eat certain kinds of little critters, their
43 eggs could be different colors.

44
45 Another -- a fourth kind of fish we have
46 is Bering cisco, a tipuk. These are considered salt
47 water fish, and you can get them in Kobuk Lake, you can
48 get them at Riley Wreck, Akulaaq, Anigaaq, Kiligmak. All
49 these coastal lagoons will have these. They're never
50 common. They're always considered somewhat rare, and

1 they're too oily to dry. People roast them, salt them.
2 I had some pickled TipuK just the other day that someone
3 made.

4
5 And no one had any information about
6 where these spawn. None of the elders I talked to had
7 any idea where they spawn, which is kind of unusual. And
8 biologists think that all the Bering cisco might spawn in
9 the Yukon, even those as far away as Barrow. And that
10 would be another interesting topic to explore further is
11 where these tipuks spawn.

12
13 And finally we have the fish on the
14 bottom there is what we call a round whitefish, quptik,
15 and the one on the top is a humpback whitefish for
16 comparison. And these had a limited distribution as well
17 in the region. They're real upriver fish that live in
18 clear water with gravel bottoms. So people in Noatak see
19 them, people on the upper Kobuk see them. They were
20 somewhat unfamiliar to people on the coast and in
21 Selawik, the delta areas, though they might know
22 something about them.

23
24 People describe these as tasting and
25 smelling different than other kinds of whitefish. And
26 many people describe them as having a metallic flavor.
27 One lady said they taste like a wet table knife, and
28 other people said that they taste like they've been in a
29 tin can too long. And so people don't like to mix these
30 in with sacks of other fish, because they make the fish
31 taste funny.

32
33 One thing that people talked about a lot
34 was that many fishermen observed that in the fall
35 whitefish scales become rough, and they'll describe it as
36 like sandpaper or just really rough. And in the upper
37 Kobuk people call this putting on a parky. It's a sign
38 of impending freeze up when the fish get these scales on
39 them, these really rough scales. The scientists call
40 these tubercles, and they develop on whitefish just
41 before they spawn. And this is a photo of what those
42 tubercles look like on a humpback whitefish. those little
43 white bumps on them. And they're just really rough. You
44 can tell it really easily when you pick one up.

45
46 And some places see those more than
47 others. And if you're in a village that gets a lot of
48 rough-scaled fish, it's probably a sign that you're near
49 a spawning area.

50

1 Nearly everyone said that whitefish have
2 always been abundant, and I found that really interesting
3 that it seemed to be a really reliable food. And even
4 though elders could recall times when there were no
5 salmon in the Kobuk River or, you know, everyone
6 remembers no caribou or no moose, that people said that
7 every year there's been a lot of whitefish, and that what
8 affects their fishing is mostly high water. If you have
9 a lot of high water, it's just impossible to fish at all.

10

11 A few things about the subsistence
12 fishing itself, there's a lot of things the villages had
13 in common. Nearly everyone makes dried fish, dried
14 whitefish. Nearly everyone fishes in the spring and the
15 fall. Most people really prize whitefish eggs.

16

17 One common fishing technique that this
18 Council would be familiar with is putting nets all the
19 way across streams. And this is an issue the Council
20 dealt with a couple years ago. Here's a net set in June
21 up near Shungnak in Kvichak that was set all the way
22 across a stream. It's actually a little tundra -- it's a
23 tundra stream. And people will do this for a while
24 during the spring time especially. Here's also an
25 example of one set in Selawik in June across a small
26 stream that's draining a lake system. People fish like
27 this for a while. It's legal now in Federal waters to
28 set your net all the way across streams for whitefish.
29 And it's a very, very widespread practice.

30

31 There's also some differences among
32 villages. In Noatak, for example, the men do the
33 seining, whereas on the Kobuk River it's mostly women who
34 seine, with the help of men. In some communities
35 seining is much more common. Well, seining is common
36 near a spawning ground. So on the Noatak, in Noatak as
37 you know, and on the upper Kobuk, seining is the main --
38 is the way people get most of their fish, whereas in
39 Noorvik and Selawik and along the coast it's less common
40 of a fishing technique.

41

42 I think I have -- oh, I have a picture
43 here of the upper Kobuk. There's some amatchiaqs that
44 are drying there.

45

46 In some communities, especially the Kobuk
47 River and Selawik, whitefish contribute a larger part to
48 the subsistence harvest than they do in Noatak, perhaps
49 were trout are really the main fish, and on the coast
50 there's just a larger range of resources.

1 People use -- throughout the region
2 people use fish traps a lot, fish weirs or fences they
3 built across streams in the old days to harvest fish.
4 And this is the Fish River near Selawik, and this is the
5 site of where people built one of these fish traps in the
6 past. And this is up just below some of the spawning
7 area. And in fact as I understand it this river is
8 called Ikkuiyiq in Inupiak in Selawik, and Ikkuiyiq in
9 Selawik is the name for humpback whitefish. It's the
10 only village that uses that name, Ikkuiyiq, for humpback
11 whitefish, and I'm not sure what the relationship is
12 exactly between the fish and the river, but I thought
13 that was pretty neat.

14
15 We went up here, and one of the things we
16 say, here's Charlie Lean, he was with us, and Walter
17 Berry were showing us around. And at that camp where
18 that fish trap was built, there's this old dip net frame
19 that is stored there, and when people built those fish
20 weirs in the old days, there was an opening -- they did
21 it in different ways in different places from what I was
22 told, but there was often an opening in the middle that
23 had a little door that you could take off, and then you'd
24 stick this dip net in there. And a lot of the elders had
25 stories of really strong men who could actually pull this
26 huge dip net out full of fish and flip them onto the ice.
27 And it was a pretty neat thing up there, and a well made
28 dip net. And you can see how big that opening is. It
29 must have been four feet wide at the tip of that dip net.

30
31 One of the most interesting or unusual
32 fisheries for whitefish in our region is at Anigaaq,
33 across here about 20 miles, I guess at 25 miles northwest
34 of Kotzebue. And this is the outlet to Krusenstern
35 Lagoon. And in the spring it's open to the ocean about
36 half way up there on the left side. It would actually
37 drain into the ocean. And over the course of the summer,
38 the wind and the waves move the gravel along the beach
39 until Anigaaq is actually dammed up. And this is a
40 picture of it in September.

41
42 When it's open, a lot of whitefish go
43 into the lagoon to feed after breakup. And then as it
44 gets closed over the summer, these fish get trapped in
45 there. And depending on when the mouth closes depends --
46 affects how many fish are in there. so if that mouth
47 closes early, there's a lot of fish trapped in there, and
48 if it closes late, there aren't too many trapped in
49 there.

50

1 As far approaches, the whitefish come out
2 of the lagoon and will crowd near the opening there,
3 because they're trying to get out to go to their spawning
4 areas. And this makes for a great whitefish fishery in
5 some years. The Sealing Point families and Sisualik
6 families traditionally spent two months here, camped here
7 in the fall, mainly for the purpose of harvesting these
8 whitefish. And they had an interesting technique for
9 doing it. They built these ditches. This is a small one
10 built by Sam Williams a couple years ago. And there used
11 to be quite a few of them there not all that long ago,
12 and they were maybe bigger than this and longer, and
13 you'd create a current in this ditch, and it would -- it
14 took some skill, because you had to have the right
15 gradient, and you had to have the right kind of gravel,
16 and then when the fish came down, they would follow these
17 currents into these ditches, and at the end of them, the
18 water would seep into the gravel, and you could just pick
19 these fish up and stick them in a sack. And people
20 caught sacks and sacks and sacks of these fish. And they
21 store them in the ground in those bluffs up there behind
22 the channel. It was really a significant whitefish
23 fishery for Kotzebue.

24
25 They had -- Sam and other elders talked
26 about the rules that used to guide that fishery, where
27 you couldn't pound on the ice, or you couldn't run
28 around, and you had to crouch when you walked by it,
29 because you didn't want to scare the fish back up into
30 the lagoon. You couldn't have lights, and you couldn't
31 have noise. And there were no nets allowed in the water
32 there for quite a ways. There was no seining allowed,
33 and it was quite -- I'm sure it was quite a scene when
34 that went on. There would be maybe, you know, eight or
35 ten extended families that camped there with all their
36 dogs, and they put away a lot of fish.

37
38 Nowadays people still build these
39 ditches, but gillnets are a little more common over
40 there. That's a gillnet set in a channel in September.

41
42 There's other lagoon -- oh, yeah, this is
43 one other thing. In the middle there where it says --
44 where it's Tuksruk Channel, several people talked about
45 how in the winter time when they've been out on their
46 snow-goes they came across open water at that site with
47 whitefish just packed in there like sardines. I mean,
48 just thousands in there. And it doesn't happen every
49 year, but many people have seen this in some years. And
50 it's an area where there's -- I think there's springs

1 underground there, and it makes for a lot of oxygenated
2 water, and that's why biologists think the fish are
3 attracted there. And some people think the fish might
4 spawn there, because people at Anigaaq wonder, well,
5 where do these fish spawn when they can't get out, when
6 they're trapped there. And we don't really know, and
7 elders think they go up to this spot that's marked there
8 in the middle where it says occasional winter
9 congregations of whitefish. But that would be an real
10 interest habitat site to check out further, and be an
11 interesting phenomenon to observe in the wintertime.

12

13 There's also other lagoons where
14 fisheries traditionally took place besides Anigaaq. At
15 Akulaaq, at Kiligmak, and then down by Cape Blossom,
16 Ninnuq, Aklaq. All the lagoons around here pretty much
17 at one time or another had those lagoon whitefish
18 fisheries, but they were not as large or as important I
19 guess as Anigaaq was for most people.

20

21 I think that's the summary I had.
22 There's more details on all of this in the report, and it
23 would be interesting I think to do some more biological
24 work on whitefish, really, you know, where they spawn,
25 the ones we don't know about. There's very few spawning
26 areas documented in our region. Anything about their
27 movements. Their movements are complex. It would be
28 interesting, too, to look at whitefish in areas we didn't
29 do in this project, including Buckland and Deering and
30 the Seward Peninsula area, and maybe up the coast towards
31 Kivalina. We haven't worked up there.

32

33 And it also might be interesting to do
34 similar kinds of work on other fish, because, of course
35 you can't just talk to people about whitefish. They talk
36 about, you know, burbot and seluk and trout and all the
37 other kinds of things, and there's really a lot known
38 about all sorts of resources.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions to the
43 fishery information from Council?

44

45 MR. BALLOT: Good work.

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that is, Susan?

48

49 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah, I'm finished.

50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Good. Thank
2 you. That was good information.

3
4 Okay. Item No. 14, rural determination
5 briefing, opportunity for public and Council Input. What
6 is that?

7
8 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'll tell you.

9
10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh, from Helen. Okay.

11
12 MS. ARMSTRONG: There are a few things
13 that relate to this. There's a handout that was back
14 there that's questions and answers that looks like this
15 that you may -- I think all of you have. There's also
16 some -- there were some talking points that look like
17 this that were also sitting back there. And then in your
18 book on page 109 there was a Federal news release. So
19 we've given you lots of information, and then I'll tell
20 you that it doesn't -- you don't really need to worry
21 about this much in this region, but we're informing you
22 just so that you know what's going on generally in the
23 area.

24
25 But you've heard us talk about rural a
26 few times before I think. It's kind of an ongoing issue.
27 Every ten years we're required to look at the communities
28 in the State to determine which ones are rural and which
29 ones are nonrural. And this was established by ANILCA,
30 and as you know, we give a priority to rural users over
31 nonrural users. In your region everybody is rural. So
32 it's not a particular issue.

33
34 The reason why we're doing this now in
35 2005 is that there was a study that was done that looked
36 at new methods. The Board looked at that study, decided
37 that they really liked the older methods that we used
38 before, so we've gone back to that. And then some of the
39 data that we needed from the Census Bureau has just now
40 become available. So we'll probably be doing this I'm
41 guessing on a 10-year cycle, but not when the census is
42 done, but every -- so it will be 2005, then it will be
43 2015, and not in five years.

44
45 The focus of what we're doing right now
46 is we're just making a list. We're not analyzing
47 anything. We're making a list of those communities that
48 will be looked at further to determine if there's a
49 change in the rural/nonrural status, and part of that is
50 to look and see was there a change in population, has the

1 population increased, has it decreased, and then was
2 there a change in the community characteristics. The
3 communities that are less than 2500 people are
4 automatically rural, as long as they have a
5 characteristics of being a rural community. The
6 communities greater than 7,000 are not always, but more
7 often are nonrural. That's not always true. Sitka, for
8 example, is greater than 7,000, but it is a rural
9 community.

10

11 So it's only the communities that are in
12 between, like Kotzebue that then the Board looks and
13 says, well, what's the nature of that community. We are
14 not anticipating that Kotzebue will be looked at, or, of
15 course, any of the other villages. They're all
16 definitely rural, because nothing's changed. Kotzebue's
17 population has grown a little bit, but the character of
18 the community has remained the same. So unless somebody
19 out there, you know, some member of the public said they
20 wanted us to analyze Kotzebue, we're not anticipating
21 that it would be on this list of further communities to
22 look at.

23

24 We will be -- we're creating the list
25 right now. We'll be bringing it back to the Council in
26 the fall, so you'll have an opportunity in the fall then
27 to look at that, and provide comments. Then we'll do an
28 analysis of those communities to determine if there
29 should be any recommendation for change. This whole
30 process is going to take about two years. It is not
31 something that will we'll do, you know, in a vacuum.
32 We're going to be seeing public comment. We'll be back
33 to you every single time we meet, letting you know what's
34 happening.

35

36 We are using some different criteria than
37 what we used in 1990 when the rural determinations were
38 initially made. Previously they looked at 15 percent of
39 the people community from one community to another. They
40 look at -- they group communities. For examples, Anchor
41 Point being grouped with Homer, or Nikiski being grouped
42 with -- should it be grouped with Kenai/Soldotna. And so
43 they look to see which communities should be grouped
44 together.

45

46 So they had looked at 15 percent of
47 people commuting, whether they were in a common school
48 district, and then daily shopping trips. We've changed
49 that now to 30 percent of the people commuting to another
50 community, and we did that because the data census data

1 provides that to us. We don't have data on 15 percent.
2 And then we also changed it, instead of the same school
3 district, to the same high school, because the Kenai
4 Peninsula is all one school district, and so it really
5 doesn't tell you anything. And then we added in
6 proximity or close to one another. Are they road
7 connected, because -- we took out the shopping trips,
8 because we have no data on that. So we've changed it a
9 little bit how we're going to be grouping communities.
10 But like I said, it won't be affecting you up here,
11 unless someone comes forward and says we should look at
12 Kotzebue, which I really can't imagine why that would
13 happen, but none of the communities here in this region
14 would be on the list for analysis.

15
16 Thank you, Mr. Chair. Do you have any
17 questions? You don't have to vote on anything. This is
18 just an opportunity for you to have information. If you
19 want to give me comments on what we're doing, you can.

20
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from
22 Council to Helen.

23
24 MR. KARMUN: I have one.

25
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.

27
28 MR. KARMUN: Yeah, on this
29 rural/nonrural, like a community possibly in the near
30 future like Kotzebue if they got an international
31 airport, what would that do?

32
33 MS. ARMSTRONG: I don't think it would do
34 anything if you had an international airport. The only
35 thing that would push Kotzebue into being a nonrural
36 community, and I think this is many, many years away
37 would be if you're population increased so much, and the
38 nature of the community changed. So that, you know, for
39 some -- you for some reason -- I mean, maybe you have
40 12,000 people living here and it has no longer -- that
41 subsistence is no longer a basis of the community, then I
42 think it would change, but I think that's quite a few
43 years away, if it happens at all.

44
45 MR. KARMUN: Thank you.

46
47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions.

48
49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, thanks, Helen.
2 Item number 15, call for proposals to change Federal
3 subsistence fisheries regulations. Michelle.

4
5 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. On
6 the back table we do have some forms for the call for
7 proposal for fishery proposals for 2006/2007. The Office
8 of Subsistence Management is currently accepting
9 proposals to change Federal subsistence regulations on
10 the subsistence harvest of fish and shellfish on Federal
11 public lands. The proposed changes are good through the
12 -- for the 2006/2007 regulatory year. They're accepting
13 the proposals through March 25th, and so we're giving the
14 Council an opportunity to submit a proposal if they wish
15 to do so at this time.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions to
20 Michelle from the Council.

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Michelle.
25 Agency reports. Office of Subsistence Management, (1)
26 subsistence use amounts, written briefing.

27
28 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, I'm sorry. I
29 think this is just a written briefing. If you look on
30 page 111, this was a written briefing that was submitted
31 for the Council to read. There's no action needed on it.
32 It's just informational for you.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that it? Okay. B.
37 Selawik Wildlife Refuge.

38
39 MS. MORAN: Thanks, Mr. Chairman. My
40 name is Tina Moran, biologist with the Selawik Wildlife
41 Refuge here in Kotzebue. And I'll try to be brief and
42 just let you know a few things that are going on.

43
44 This summer, or this coming fall we're
45 going to be doing a third year of the culture science
46 camp in the Village of Selawik. We've been pretty
47 successful the last two years, and hopefully the next
48 year will be just as successful. We're working with the
49 Selawik IRA and the Selawik school, and hopefully NANA
50 with that as well.

1 We're hoping to do -- we're scheduling a
2 steel shot clinic the Village of Noorvik tentatively July
3 25th. We'll let people know exactly the date, if that's
4 the date we're going to stick with. We're hoping to have
5 one also in Kotzebue this summer, but we're going to have
6 to find a designated shooting area. We're not sure if
7 that's -- if there is one yet.

8
9 We're also going to be doing a moose
10 survey in the next two weeks. We've been doing it in the
11 Tag, and we've also done it in the upper Selawik. This
12 spring we're going to do it in, excuse me, the Waring
13 Mountains and the Selawik River area. And what we're
14 hoping to do is to do a census of the whole refuge, so
15 this is sort of our third step in doing that. And we use
16 the same methods that Brad was talking about, and that
17 the State do as well.

18
19 And I also gave you a table on the
20 transporter reports that we get back from -- this
21 basically summarizes the data we get back from the
22 transporters, and we ask for a report from them each year
23 by November 1st. And this is what we've tallied, and
24 this includes this past fall's numbers.

25
26 And just a little added information, 47
27 total moose were taken by hunters that were dropped off
28 on the refuge by air taxi. Thirty-seven of those moose
29 were taken by non-Alaskan residents. The other 10 were
30 taken by nonlocal Alaska residents. So that's just for
31 transporters, the transporter reports.

32
33 And on a good news note, LeeAnne Ayers
34 who some of you know has been gone for medical leave
35 since about November, she'll be back next week. So just
36 a little happy news on that.

37
38 So I'm happy to take any questions.

39
40 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman. This doesn't
41 include subsistence?

42
43 MS. MORAN: No, this is just the
44 transporter report that we get.

45
46 MR. BALLOT: Do we know those numbers?

47
48 MS. MORAN: I don't personally. I can
49 get that for you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Thank you.
6
7 MS. MORAN: Thank you, Chair.
8
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: National Park Service.
10 Staff.
11
12 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair. Council
13 members. Ken Adkisson. I'll make my part of this very
14 brief, and then Charlie can address the questions that I
15 think Victor had for him on the fisheries end of it, and
16 Brad can quickly summarize the wildlife research that
17 he's got going.
18
19 A good news note. Last year you folks
20 backed some changes to sheep regulations, Federal
21 subsistence sheep hunt regulations that greatly
22 simplified the regulations and initiated a limited ewe
23 harvest in with that. And so far everything's been
24 working fine. We've had nine sheep reported taken out of
25 the Bairds and one out of the DeLongs. To date all of
26 those have been rams, no ewes have been taken, so we
27 still have a number of ewes that can be taken, and if the
28 weather holds, we'll expect the harvest to pick back up
29 again before the season closes. So the sheep hunt I
30 think is going very well based on the regulations that
31 were adopted last go around.
32
33 On the personnel changes, some of you may
34 already know that our superintendent, Judy Hopkins, will
35 be transferring to Anchorage in about two or three
36 months. She's doing that largely for family reasons, and
37 to be close to some of her grandchildren and an
38 opportunity came along in the regional office that she
39 just couldn't pass up. And she regrets not being here
40 today and having the chance again to thank you folks for
41 the opportunity to work with it. And as you know, Julie
42 has been here in the past. You know, she was an admin
43 officer, and then assistant superintendent, and later
44 this go around two years as Western Arctic National
45 Parklands superintendent. So we'll miss her. I think
46 she's been very supportive of our program, and especially
47 of our SRCs, and hopefully we'll get an equally capable
48 replacement sometime soon.
49
50 That's all I've got, and pass it over to

1 Brad and then Charlie.

2

3 MR. SCHULTZ: I'll be very brief. I'm
4 all about brief here. We just completed the coastal
5 muskoxen survey from Noatak to Cape Lisburne. Jim Dau
6 did everything from the Wulik north, the Park Service did
7 everything from the Wulik south. We counted 369 muskoxen
8 on the entire coast. This summer in July we'll have a
9 helicopter working again, and we're going to get the
10 composition data and get the ages. You know, we classify
11 calves, cows, two-year-old males, three-year-old males,
12 and males greater than four years old, which allows us to
13 monitor this hunt a little bit closer. So we'll be doing
14 that in July, probably about the 10th of July for about
15 four days.

16

17 We're in the process of doing the Seward
18 Peninsula muskoxen survey in cooperation with of Fish and
19 Game. They've got some units, the BLM's got some units,
20 Fish and Wildlife Service has some units. We've
21 completed two-thirds of our units and hopefully will be
22 done by the end of the week.

23

24 We're going to do the moose survey which
25 I talked about earlier. We're going to do that starting
26 March 30th, and we should have a result by mid to late
27 April for that.

28

29 And then this year we have the
30 opportunity, we're going to count sheep. We've got money
31 to count dall sheep from the Haul Road all the way to the
32 coast. So we've got a big undertaking there. We're
33 going to spend a month sampling -- well, not sampling,
34 we're actually going to survey census units that were
35 done in 1983 all the way across the western Brooks range.
36 So that's a pretty big project.

37

38 And in between the 1st and 10th of June
39 we're going to do a brown bear density estimate in the
40 upper Noatak is where it looks like we'll probably end up
41 doing that, in about a 2500 square mile area. So we'll
42 actually have a new estimate of brown density hopefully
43 if everything works out weatherwise. And we chose that
44 area for a bunch of different reasons, but mainly it's
45 the sightability for bears is going to be a lot easier up
46 there than it is to be down on the rivers with the trees.
47 Done.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions of the
50 Park Service from the Council so far.

1 (No comments)

2

3

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Charlie.

4

5

MR. LEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm
6 Charlie Lean with the National Park Service. I'm the
7 Federal fisheries analyst, kind of a manager sort of guy
8 for all agencies, not just Park Service, and also I do
9 some biology research type stuff. So I'll just kind of
10 run through what I've done here in the recent couple
11 years very briefly and then if you have any questions,
12 you could ask me.

13

14

So with regard to the management things,
15 the things that I focus on mostly are Kotzebue chum
16 salmon, Kotzebue sheefish, and in Norton Sound/Unalakleet
17 king salmon. And those are the three biggies for me that
18 I most worry about. I work close with Fish and Game,
19 because Fish and Game manages the sport and the
20 commercial fisheries, and as the Federal representative,
21 I can speak to the Federal waters, but not the State
22 waters subsistence. So it's a very convoluted mix where
23 I have to work with them closely to get things done.

24

25

On the biology front, I had a really
26 educational experience following Susan around. She is --
27 that report you saw is really remarkable, and I think
28 it's -- Attamuk and Susan deserve a lot of credit,
29 because it puts things, especially for us western science
30 guys in understandable terms. And I learned a lot just
31 going to the villages, to the fish camps and seeing
32 things as they really go.

33

34

Also I've been working a lot on
35 Krusenstern Lagoon the last several years with Melinda
36 and Terry Reynolds. Terry and Melinda are currently away
37 at college getting doctorates on -- Melinda's getting a
38 doctorate in biology of marine estuaries, Terry's getting
39 a doctorate on the anthropology or subsistence aspect of
40 that same area. So the two of their reports combined are
41 going to have science and TEK mixed together, just as the
42 whitefish report does. It's been a really interesting
43 experience for me, and it's fun for this old dog to learn
44 a few new tricks. So, you know, for years I've been
45 bouncing around on the edges of things, and mostly
46 working on salmon, and it a lot more interesting to see a
47 few different things.

48

49

And in the near future it looks like
50 Bering Land Bridge is going to have some fisheries work

1 done for the same reason that we work on Krusenstern.
2 The National Science Foundation has told the Park Service
3 that we really do need to to better with our fish biology
4 in Krusenstern and Bering Land Bridge. They think those
5 are the two places where we know the least and need to
6 work harder, and so in Bering Land Bridge we're going to
7 be scouting around, trying to work with people and do
8 some of our work, trying to figure out where fish are.
9 You know, the Bering Land Bridge has drainages going in
10 four different directions, towards Shishmaref, towards
11 Teller, towards Koyuk and towards Deering. So that
12 there's several different fish communities there, working
13 on those fish.

14
15 I've done a few other things, mostly in
16 Norton Sound. I don't think I'll go into great detail
17 there.

18
19 And FIS has recently received a proposal
20 to -- for a sheefish hook and release study using radio
21 tags. And that's going to be a little bit controversial.
22 It's pretty interesting work though. They have these
23 little tiny records about that big, and they put them in
24 the fishes throat. While the fish is spawning, they
25 don't each much. But when they -- after spawning, then
26 when they went to eat again they just kind of barf it up,
27 and continue on. So they'll be netting some fish,
28 they'll be hook and releasing some fish. The difference
29 with this study than some of the past studies is that the
30 radio tag part where you actually learn where the fish go
31 during spawning, like the Pau River's so brown, so tanic
32 you can't see into it. We don't know what kind of
33 numbers go there.

34
35 And it will also show us if there were --
36 if there are -- like contrasting one kind of catch versus
37 another, we might see that if hook and line tires the
38 fish out, and maybe they can't get to where they want to
39 go to spawn. So that would be an interesting aspect of
40 this.

41
42 I know a lot of people are disturbed
43 about playing with the fish, manipulating the fish,
44 putting weird things in them. I respect that, and I
45 think it's -- you know, it's something this body might
46 want to talk about. I would point out that this radio
47 tag technology has been used in the Selawik Refuge
48 recently with not much ill effect on whitefish, not
49 sheefish, but it's a very similar application. The catch
50 and release issue is what I think is controversial.

1 Anyway, with that, I'll be quiet and
2 answer questions.

3
4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions to the
5 Park Service from Council?

6
7 (No comments)

8
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Charlie.

10
11 MR. LEAN: Thank you.

12
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Bureau of Land
14 Management. BLM.

15
16 MS. MEYERS: Good afternoon, Council and
17 Chair. My name is Randy Meyers, and I work for the
18 Bureau of Land Management here in Kotzebue as a natural
19 resource specialist, and I am not a wildlife biologist,
20 nor a fisheries biologist.

21
22 So I wanted to tell you that normally our
23 wildlife biologist from Fairbanks would attend, Kyle
24 Jolie, but he is involved in the Seward Peninsula muskox
25 census right now working with Fish and Game, so that's
26 why he couldn't be here today. And then he will be
27 working with Brad and Jim Dau on the moose census that's
28 going to take place in the Noatak and the Squirrel River
29 at the end of this month.

30
31 One of the things that the BLM office in
32 Fairbanks has been working on this past year has been a
33 resource management plan, and an environmental impact
34 statement for managing the BLM lands in northwestern
35 Alaska, so that's been a big push. And we had the public
36 scoping meetings last March and April in Koyuk --
37 correction, in Kiana, Kivalina, Buckland and Kotzebue,
38 and down in the Nome area in Nome and Koyuk and
39 Shaktoolik and White Mountain.

40
41 So we are writing lots of different
42 parts, and we get together as a team, about 14 or so of
43 us, and meet and hammer out various parts of the plan.
44 So the plan that we come up with will be reviewed by our
45 district manager, Bob Schneider in Fairbanks, and then it
46 will be reviewed by our State director, Henry Bisson, in
47 Anchorage, and then it goes to the Washington, D.C.
48 office, and BLM folks there review it, and then it comes
49 back to us.

50

1 So once we have that draft piece of
2 writing, we'll be having some more meetings in the
3 communities that I already mentioned to hand out that
4 document, and to have lots of maps on the walls, and talk
5 to people and get their input on what we've written. So
6 that's still to come.

7
8 Those public meetings on the draft will
9 take place sometime during November and December of this
10 year, and January of '06. Sometime in that time frame.
11 So you'll definitely hear more about that later on.

12
13 The reason I stuck that map up there, it
14 wasn't to lecture you about rare plants, but it was to
15 tell you that there's been a boundary change between the
16 Fairbanks BLM office and the Anchorage BLM office. And
17 this won't affect you, but I just wanted to let you know,
18 because I can't really leave the microphone, but there's
19 kind of a greenish gold line down near the bottom center
20 of the map, and it -- what it does -- thank you, Percy.
21 It divides -- you're not Percy. You're Reggie. Sorry.
22 It divides about the northern third of the Seward
23 Peninsula will stay with Fairbanks, and the southern two-
24 thirds goes to Anchorage. And then the Buckland River
25 Valley and most of the Nulato Hills stays with Fairbanks.

26
27
28 And so it's a little bit of an
29 unfortunate decision, but it happened at the very top,
30 and we didn't have much say on it. I think they thought
31 that the folks in Nome and the villages in the southern
32 part of the Seward Peninsula had to deal with both BLM
33 offices, Anchorage and Fairbanks on a continuing basis,
34 and they thought it would be easier to just have them
35 deal with the Anchorage field office.

36
37 So the grazing program that the BLM
38 office in Fairbanks has been conducting, you know, ever
39 since the 70s is now going to be handled by Anchorage, so
40 that's kind of a slow phase over. And that's one of the
41 projects that I've been involved with in the past.

42
43 So the BLM office in Fairbanks will
44 retain management responsibility for the BLM lands near
45 Buckland, near Deering, and in the Nulato Hills.

46
47 The only portion -- the Nulato Hills,
48 that western segment as it -- that coastal segment with
49 Shaktoolik and Koyuk, that little strip goes to
50 Anchorage, but the reason we fought to keep the Nulato

1 Hills was the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, because it
2 moves, you know, back and forth, say from Unalakleet all
3 the way up to Barrow, and then quite a ways out to say
4 Anaktuvuk Pass. So it was important to try to keep the
5 management of BLM lands that the Western Arctic Herd uses
6 under one office, so that those lands are staying under
7 the Fairbanks office.

8
9 And then the last thing I wanted to say,
10 that this August a crew of four people, myself included,
11 will go out to the Buckland River Valley, the northern
12 section, and will look at about 12 vegetation transects,
13 and about four fire effects transects. And this is going
14 to be with the money that come from the tribal grant
15 given to Noatak and Maniilaq. And BLM is putting about
16 half of, or a little bit more than half of the money that
17 will be needed for this first year in the pot, and then
18 the tribal grant will give us just a little bit less than
19 half. And so this is the first year of three years that
20 we'll be looking at different places on the ground.

21
22 And the reason we're doing this is that
23 back in 1981 this effort was started, and we have an idea
24 back then what the plants were like, the cover and the
25 biomass of the lichen and various shrubs and various
26 other flowering plants and grasses and sedges. And so we
27 want to try to keep looking at about 10-year intervals.
28 So we looked in '81, we looked in '95 and '96, and put
29 out some additional transects, and how we're going to go
30 back in '05, and '06, and '07. So once -- and we want to
31 look at the lichen, especially because that area is a
32 real important winter range for the Western Arctic
33 Caribou Herd, and they certainly do use other areas, but
34 that's one area that they have spent a lot of time in the
35 last 20 years. So as we start to get results from that
36 study, I'll share it with this group.

37
38 And that's all I had for today. Any
39 questions.

40
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from the
42 Council for BLM.

43
44 MR. BALLOT: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Back
45 when we had our meeting, I made a question about what
46 sort of people were doing some stuff in Buckland area.
47 They were landing in Buckland, and they were saying they
48 were based of Koyuk, and we were wondering what kind of
49 stuff they were, but I never really got a clear answer.
50 I had someone say they were flying around looking for

1 wild and scenic rivers, and then I heard somebody say
2 that they were -- somebody was doing inventory on fish.
3 But I was wondering what the true answer, we're still
4 kind of wondering what those folks were doing up there,
5 and what's come out of that flying around.

6
7 MS. MEYERS: Well, I don't have any good
8 answers for you. Oh, good. Yeah.

9
10 MR. LEAN: Sorry. Mr. Chair, Charlie
11 Lean. Those were Fish and Game biologists with Sport
12 Fish Division based out off Anchorage, and they were
13 doing fish surveys on streams, trying to find the upper
14 limit of a number of a number of different kinds of fish.
15 They concentrated on over by Wales, and on the western
16 Seward Peninsula and then in your area, Buckland River,
17 Kiwalik River, and south on the Koyuk River as well. And
18 they were looking at Grayling and Dolly Varden, and also
19 salmon. Their reports due out very soon. I haven't seen
20 it yet myself.

21
22 MR. BALLOT: Thank you.

23
24 MR. LEAN: You're welcome.

25
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any more questions to
27 the BLM. Attamuk.

28
29 ATTAMUK: Yeah, you mentioned fire, and
30 studies for moss. Did you re-look at it or were you
31 going to find out later this summer, the effect on it
32 after fire. There's -- the kind of fire I'm talking
33 about, Forestry will have a controlled fire, and
34 different kinds of fires, they think that it's good for
35 the plants to grow, yet I do have a problem with that,
36 because that's going to affect the moss for the caribou,
37 because it takes 50 years to grow, you know, and if it do
38 burn in an area in a controlled fire, our caribou will
39 have to start moving to a different range, if it takes 50
40 years. I'll just use the Noatak Flats as an example.
41 Where I grew up, that area where it -- you know, I was 12
42 years old when it burned and they still avoid that area,
43 and the one behind Noatak, they are now coming back, it's
44 about 50 years it take to grow.

45
46 MS. MEYERS: And that's what it takes, 50
47 to 100 years to really get that good solid regrowth.

48
49 One of the things that we're doing in the
50 management plan is to look at the fire protection

1 options, and right now the Nulato Hills are zoned as
2 limited, which is basically a let burn policy, and so
3 we've started discussions within our team. There's a
4 fire specialist who's on the team, and we've got several
5 other wildlife biologists, and then myself as a botanist.
6 And so we're talking about maybe we might want to shift
7 it over to a modified protection options, and with that
8 you basically watch the fires that are out there, and
9 early in the season when you can have the real hot fires,
10 you jump on those right away and you don't let them get
11 any bigger, and then later in the season when it's
12 usually wetter, there's not as much lightning activity,
13 then you shift your resources elsewhere, and you say,
14 well, if something happens, then in this area we'll kind
15 of just watch it. But we don't think the fire is going
16 to get very big.

17
18 So there is a good chance that we'll be
19 shifting our management policy, and we also are going to
20 start keeping track of how many acres, what percentage of
21 say the winter range has burned, and establish a limit.
22 Say, okay, if say 20 percent of it has burned within the
23 last 50 years that we'll have percentage that we don't
24 want to go over, and then if we're getting close to that
25 percentage, we'll tell the Alaska fire service, okay,
26 we'll making a switch in our management desires and the
27 protection, and we want to increase the protection in
28 this particular area. And as long as we've got our
29 reasons, and the plan showing that as we approach that
30 percentage of acres that have already been burned, that
31 we want to shift into higher protection, they'll do it.
32 So we're definitely looking at things like that for the
33 Western Arctic Caribou Herd range.

34
35 ATTAMUK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, if I may,
36 just out of the scope a little bit. For the fire
37 control, the Forestry's planning, and firefighters are
38 planning to use different kind of pellets to fight the
39 fire without doing a real study on it. And I addressed
40 this at the Anchorage meeting. They don't really know
41 what's going to happen to the pellets if they don't
42 explode when they impact in the ground to fight the fire.
43 If they hit the lakes, they might be damaging our fish.
44 I'm saying this for you guys information. It's scary.
45 And the agencies are authorizing to use without really
46 doing a study that's going to impact the subsistence. I
47 mean, we are the last tier in Alaska, and yet they're
48 doing what they want. We aren't really talking to the
49 people. And I addressed this highly, and they told me
50 that I shouldn't have any concern, and this is out of BIA

1 and Forestry. They had no answers for me. And they
2 wanted to talk to me, you know, they wanted to talk to
3 them in the hallway, but I was willing to take everybody
4 to the hallway, because I wanted answers. That's why I
5 do have concern, because the Interior people want to have
6 a controlled fire. Yet after they work all summer and
7 get paid, when they go broke wintertime, they turn back
8 to subsistence. And they turn back into caribou. They
9 fall back into the fish. That's what my main concern is.

10

11 MS. MEYERS: So do you think that they
12 were going to these pellets instead of that liquid fire
13 retardant they've.....

14

15 ATTAMUK: Yes, they're going to use
16 it.....

17

18 MS. MEYERS:been using in the past?

19

20 ATTAMUK:starting this summer.

21

22 MS. MEYERS: Okay.

23

24 ATTAMUK: That's what I was told

25

26 MS. MEYERS: Okay.

27

28 ATTAMUK: But they haven't done a real
29 study, and what I was trying to address is why is EPA and
30 DEC allowing this. And they're going to use it this
31 summer is what they told me.

32

33 MS. MEYERS: Yeah. Well, it seems like
34 there must have been something that switched them over
35 from the liquid fire retardant to the pellets. Maybe it
36 was cheaper and easier to transport around, and not as
37 heavy. But other reasons, too, because I know there have
38 been concerns in the past about what the liquid fire
39 retardant would do to the ecology of an area. And so I
40 would -- I don't know anything about the pellets, but I
41 would hope that one of the reasons they're going to the
42 pellets is because they think it will be safer for the
43 environment.

44

45 ATTAMUK: If I may? I think the main
46 problem is the fire retardant they're using is now
47 showing up in samples that's being happened in the
48 vegetation, and they wanted to change to a different kind
49 of retardant to use, because it's being addressed for
50 health reasons. It's even -- I'll tell you in Idaho, in

1 that region, when I do my research on my computer,
2 whenever my computer is working good, in Idaho it's
3 showing up in breast milk in women. And it's getting
4 scary. Maybe that's why they are changing it. And
5 that's why I wanted to bring this up. Other people that,
6 you know, they don't go to as much meeting as I do, and I
7 really have concern for the young ladies out there.

8
9 MS. MEYERS: Right. If you want, I can
10 give you the name and I'll have to get the phone number,
11 because I don't have it with me, but Skip Anderson for
12 the Fairbanks office is our representative, and he has
13 worked with Alaska Fire Service, and he's just now
14 working for the Fairbanks office as opposed to being, you
15 know, a smoke jumper, but he's got lots of experience.
16 And if he doesn't know, he can put you in touch with
17 someone at Fort Wainwright, at Alaska Fire Service who
18 could talk to you knowledgeable about the pellets as
19 compared to the liquid fire retardant, because I think
20 it's, you know, a really good question to ask. So I will
21 give you a call and give you a couple of names and phone
22 numbers.

23
24 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

25
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Further question of
27 BLM.

28
29 MR. BALLOT: Yeah. Percy Ballot,
30 Buckland. I'm just getting kind of confused over here,
31 because I know Buckland being the winter grazing grounds
32 of the Northwest Arctic Caribou Herd, they're saying they
33 want to start fires when we're not a high priority for
34 fire -- fighting this fire?

35
36 MS. MEYERS: No. Not starting fires at
37 all. So we're not talking about prescribed fires, that's
38 not needed for the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, unlike
39 moose who could benefit if you burn and the willows grow
40 back bushier and younger, and they're more nutritious.
41 But what I was saying about it's just a chance for us to
42 look again at how we're managing the lichen in the Nulato
43 Hills, and maybe protect it a little bit more than we
44 have in the past. Instead of less protection, more
45 protection, but we want to balance it, because if you
46 protect it from all fires all the time, then the fire
47 ecologists and the people that actually fights the fires
48 say that you can put out 95 percent of the fires as long
49 as you, you know, have unlimited men and women and funds,
50 and et cetera. But that other five percent can escape,

1 and if you've protected an area for many, many years from
2 all fires, if you get that five percent fire in there,
3 it's just going to go everywhere and it will be a very
4 severe burn. So you want to balance some protection,
5 but, you know, let the little fires go, and burn a
6 patchwork over a number of years.

7
8 MR. BALLOT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
9 What would the process be if you had concerns about how
10 BLM prioritize what fires go and what fires are protected
11 or lands are.

12
13 MS. MEYERS: Right. Well, one of the
14 places will be the public meetings that we have, and we
15 had a scoping meeting in Buckland, and we'll have a
16 public meeting, and so the fire management policy will
17 have a couple of maps and will address it there. But in
18 -- when I first started working for BLM in '93, for say
19 the next, oh, at least three years or so, there were
20 yearly meetings where Alaska Fire Service would send a
21 few people around the State and they would come to
22 Kotzebue and they would go to Nome, and they would sit
23 down with the major landholders, and the land managers
24 and they would say, they would lay out the maps, and they
25 would say, this is the fire protection options that we
26 now have for the NANA region, do you want to make any
27 changes, and the meetings were well attended initially,
28 but after a while, you know, nobody was coming to their
29 meetings any more, and so they just stopped sending
30 someone around to the villages.

31
32 But again, I could put you in touch with
33 someone at Alaska Fire Service, that if you wanted them
34 to come to you village and give a presentation to the
35 village council or the IRA, they could certainly do it.

36
37 MR. BALLOT: Sure. Thank you.

38
39 MS. MEYERS: Okay.

40
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions
42 to BLM.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 MS. MEYERS: Okay. Great.

47
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Randy.

49
50 MS. MEYERS: And I just wanted to say

1 that, Susan, your report, and, Attamuk, your report was
2 outstanding. That was so interesting. I just -- I took
3 notes the whole time, and I've learned so much about
4 fish, and I was just enthralled. So you guys did a lot
5 of work and interacted with a lot of different people, so
6 I just wanted to say thanks.

7
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Randy.
9 Alaska Department of Fish and Game

10
11 MS. GEORGETTE: We don't have any further
12 reports, Mr. Chairman.

13
14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Thank you. Item
15 No. 17, other business. Checking my notes, I've got two
16 items here. One is the Gates to the Arctic Subsistence
17 Resource. Number 2, appointment of members to the Gates
18 of the Arctic. Anybody going to do that. The first one
19 is the Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource
20 Commission Hunting Plan Recommendations.

21
22 MR. RABINOWITCH: Okay. Mr. Chairman,
23 again I'm Sandy Rabinowitch with the National Park
24 Service, and I'm conducting some business for Gates of
25 the Arctic Park who's way to one edge of your region.
26 And let me pass something out to you here. There should
27 be enough copies for everybody at the table. And you
28 might pass those to anyone who wants them in the back.

29
30 So what I'm passing around is a two-page
31 handout here. And on the two-page handout, the front and
32 the back sheet is the item before you. It's an item that
33 the Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission
34 is interested in your opinion about, and I'll briefly
35 describe it. I understand, of course, it's late in the
36 day and we need to move on. But I need to go over a few
37 things there.

38
39 And then the second page, the one that
40 you can kind of tell is a xerox of a book with small
41 print is a copy of the existing regulation that the Gates
42 of the Arctic Commission would like to change.

43
44 So to back up just a step, Gates of the
45 Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission, as do the six
46 other subsistence resource commissions, periodically make
47 recommendations to the Secretary of Interior for hunting
48 plans in their area. You don't see these very often.
49 I'm not sure actually when the last one was before you,
50 but it's certainly been a number of years, so this is an

1 infrequent item.

2

3 And I'll quickly try to explain what this
4 one is now. In 1999 the Gates of the Arctic, I'll call
5 it SRC, originally brought up this recommendation about
6 customary trade. Because of the activity going on with
7 the Federal Subsistence Board on the topic of customary
8 trade, they kind of paused in their action and wanted to
9 sit back and wait and see what the Federal Subsistence
10 Board was going to do with customary trade regulations.
11 And you've heard many years about the discussions over
12 the past several year about that.

13

14 But that's all come to a conclusion now,
15 and the Gates of the Arctic SRC brought this item back up
16 at its November meeting, November of 2004. So it's kind
17 of been brewing for a long time, but they've been waiting
18 to see what would happen.

19

20 There's two things that they're trying to
21 put on the table, and the first one is number 1 at the
22 bottom of this first page. I'm going to just read a
23 couple parts, because it's I think the quickest way for
24 me to do it.

25

26 They would like the Park Service to
27 revise customary trade regulations for the Gates of the
28 Arctic National Park and preserve to better reflect
29 traditional practices of local residents in that area.
30 The first thing they want to do is make it lawful that
31 they can gather plans for making and selling of
32 handicrafts, that the wild renewal materials would
33 include, but not be limited to roots, tree bark, wood and
34 lichens, and that uses are to include, but not be limited
35 to making snowshoes, dog sleds, baskets, various arts and
36 crafts. They stress that the materials are harvested in
37 limited amounts for these purposes that the practice is
38 not detrimental to park resources.

39

40 The second thing that they would like to
41 make legal in the Park Service regulations is the small
42 scale manufacture of handicrafts made from horn, antler
43 and bone which are shed or from animals that have died
44 naturally, or such parts discarded by other subsistence
45 users.

46

47 So one parts about plants, the other
48 parts about horns and bones. And they make similar
49 justifications about why this would be an okay thing to
50 do.

1 So what they're really trying to do is
2 get into Park Service regulations what they consider to
3 be normal customary practices of their region, and this
4 is a process that's used to do this.

5
6 The way that it works is that, and I
7 didn't pass this out, because I wasn't sure that it was
8 going to be helpful, although we do have some copies, the
9 Park Service has nine-step chart, this little page here,
10 just each box is a step, and so when a subsistence
11 resource commissions begins to go down this road, we just
12 go through each step. And what I'm doing here with you
13 is one of those steps, that they make their
14 recommendations in a formal way just like you all act,
15 and then they circulate them to the appropriate
16 commissions, committees, and so on and so forth. So this
17 is a step along the way to gather input and specifically
18 your input and opinion.

19
20 It's up to you whether you take action or
21 not. You can take action or you can choose not to take
22 action. If you take action, you can support it or you
23 can reject it or you could suggest some modification.
24 It's really very open. It's up to you. You could even
25 table it to your next meeting if you wanted to. You're
26 not forced to do anything.

27
28 They are asking for comment, if you
29 choose to make it, I just covered my script up, by April
30 20th. That's their goal, because as you might expect,
31 they'd like to move their recommendation along.

32
33 After they've completed this, it goes
34 back to the Commission. All the input is shared with
35 them. They may or may not amend their own recommendation
36 based on your input and those of others, and then
37 eventually it moves up to the -- it goes to the Governor
38 of the State of Alaska and to the Secretary or Interior.
39 The Secretary of Interior is the decision maker on their
40 recommendation ultimately.

41
42 I'll stop there, be happy to answer
43 questions if you have them.

44
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

46
47 ATTAMUK: Yeah. Personally I would
48 support this, but I'm -- I always be scared of when
49 you're talking about horn and antlers, like I stated
50 earlier. When they were saying they could sell caribou

1 antlers. Young kids were leaving caribou carcass out
2 there to spoil. That's wanton waste. And I know for
3 sure I will support the from plants and trees, and, you
4 know, stuff like that, because I know they'll the bark
5 without killing the tree. But if they -- we translate
6 this the wrong way, it's going to be scary out there what
7 -- they might start killing our animals for a completely
8 different reason. But if they could prove to me that
9 they're the horns that shed, I've got no real problem
10 with it. But it's really hard for me to support it for
11 the antlers and the horn, because I've seen what happen
12 with caribou a while back in Kiana when they were hauling
13 it all the way to Seattle. So it's scary for me to do
14 it, because I know the caribou is plentiful right now.
15 We've got no real concern. But if the message goes out
16 the wrong way, all it takes is one time. And, I mean,
17 there were carcass at the time towards Kiana and Noatak
18 just for these young kids just to make a few dollars.

19
20 MR. RABINOWITCH: Mr. Chairman, if I
21 might respond in part. I believe what the com -- I think
22 I understand your concern. What I believe the Commission
23 is recommending is not to allow for the sale of raw horn,
24 antler or bone, but only after it has been turned into a
25 handicraft. So just to pick up an antler and then try to
26 sell it, that would not be what they're asking for. But
27 only after the individual made a necklace or a piece of
28 artwork or, you know, whatever. Just as a
29 clarification.

30
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So it will be sold
32 after it's been made to something, that's correct?

33
34 MR. RABINOWITCH: That's my understand,
35 yes.

36
37 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

38
39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

40
41 MR. BALLOT: I also have the same feeling
42 as Attamuk there. I still want to be able to have people
43 make arts and crafts out of these stuff, but I don't like
44 that large scale selling, too, but you have that already
45 in progress, don't you? People do sell horn? I see
46 advertisement to who wants to buy horns or sell horns,
47 call this number. Is that law? You can do that now? Or
48 is this something we need to do something about at some
49 point in time? Because I, too, don't think we need to or
50 want to see something like that happen. We need to

1 protect our resources.

2

3 MR. RABINOWITCH: Mr. Chairman, if I
4 might respond. Percy, I'm not familiar with, you know,
5 what you're mentioning. I don't know if anyone else in
6 the room is or not. But I think it's correct to say that
7 under Park Service regulations that simply selling horn
8 or bone that is just picked up would not be allowed,
9 whereas again if it were turned into a handicraft, then,
10 you know, that's a different thing. But I'm not familiar
11 with what you're referring to specifically.

12

13 MR. BALLOT: Well, I'm saying I saw a
14 sign that says horn company or some -- call this number,
15 we want to buy horns. That's all I'm saying. I've seen
16 advertisements of some sort like that, whether they're
17 old or whatever, I don't know what it is. But I thought
18 I'd bring it up. But you're saying you're not supposed
19 to be doing that, right?

20

21 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yes. So again, Mr.
22 Chairman, it's up to the group whether you want to take
23 action or not. The Subsistence Resource Commission is
24 interested in you doing that, but it's up to you whether
25 you choose to take any action or not.

26

27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish of the
28 Council.

29

30 ATTAMUK: Could I ask him first, Raymond,
31 which way does the agency sit on this one here? Do they
32 support it or not?

33

34 MR. RABINOWITCH: I believe that they do.
35 This has all come to me with a short amount of time and I
36 haven't been able to do as much homework as I might wish
37 I had. So I know -- I'd asked the question second hand,
38 I haven't been able to ask the superintendent of the
39 park. But my understanding is that he thinks this is a
40 reasonable idea. So I'm kind of giving you a qualified
41 we think it's okay in terms of an agency review.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.

44

45 MR. KARMUN: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
46 Chairman. Is there any representatives from this region
47 on Gates of the Arctic do you know.

48

49 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yes, the short answer.
50 And in fact the second item that I'll work with you in a

1 moment deals with an appointment or reappointment from
2 this region to that Commission. The current -- so I'll
3 give you -- let me reach for my piece of paper that I
4 just dropped. The current member from this region is
5 Frederick Sun from Shungnak.

6
7 MR. KARMUN: I don't know myself. I
8 don't feel very comfortable making policy suggestions or
9 recommendations to the Gates of the Arctic if we have a
10 representative there already.

11
12 MR. RABINOWITCH: Well, let me double
13 check in the front page here. Well, I'm not seeing it.
14 I think on this sheet I think that it does say that the
15 Commission supported this unanimously, but my eyes are
16 getting tired, and I can't find it real quickly here, so
17 I'll just pause. Again, up to the Commission with what
18 you want to do. It's in the second page. Thank you for
19 the help.

20
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

22
23 ATTAMUK: Yeah, I've just got another
24 question for you here. How large of a scale -- what's
25 the limit on how large of a scale are we talking about
26 for the resources here in Page 2, the large scale sale of
27 these resources should not be allowed. Where is the
28 limit of a large scale and a small scale?

29
30 MR. RABINOWITCH: It's a very good
31 question. I do not have a clear-cut answer for you on
32 that. What I believe what would happen if this
33 recommendation is supported generally, and continues to
34 go forward, that one of the steps is that the Park
35 Service Staff to the Commission will turn this into
36 regulatory language, just like you're familiar with
37 seeing a moose hunting regulation or a wolf hunting
38 regulation. You know, you'll see the formal language.
39 And this would have to be crafted in that form. That's
40 why I attached for you the second page, the Xeroxed sheet
41 so you can see what the current regulation says, and just
42 how it's written. so it would have to be translated into
43 that kind of format. And hopefully then, Enoch, that
44 your question would be answer when it was written in that
45 form.

46
47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Reggie.

48
49 MR. CLEVELAND: Is there another -- I
50 mean, this is not conflicting with the other parks, like

1 the one near Ambler, or do they have the same stipulation
2 as far as horns and antlers?

3

4 MR. RABINOWITCH: I believe the answer to
5 the horn and antler part is no, but if anyone can correct
6 me, any of my colleagues from the Park Service, now is
7 the time to correct me. But I believe the answer is, no,
8 that it's not the same. I believe the portion about
9 plants is very similar actually, if not exactly the same.
10 But each commission can and does make its own
11 recommendations, and their can be individual regulations
12 for parks. One park may have a regulation, another park
13 may or may not have that same regulation, not unlike how
14 you have regulations in this region that aren't
15 necessarily shared to all other regions. So it's okay to
16 have differences, that's not by itself a problem. And
17 again this Commission has, you know, simply chosen to
18 bring this up. They actually brought it up about six
19 years ago, and are resurfacing it now. They want to, you
20 know, move their concerns along, and see where they can
21 take them.

22

23 ATTAMUK: The reason why I addressed my
24 concerns about the horn and the antler is a guy from
25 Wasilla has a plane and a 4-wheeler. He goes out and
26 picks a whole bunch of horns, and he make a real good
27 living, and he's -- I've seen his -- he invited me, he
28 made a mistake, I've seen his paperwork where he's
29 selling to Japan. He got that permission to sell
30 overseas. That's artifacts. And it's all caribou and
31 moose and sheep horns. He never deal with ivory, the way
32 it's written, but I've seen, and he's got a nice half a
33 million dollar home, he's got nice vehicles, and he just
34 makes his living selling horns and carving it, him and
35 his partner. That's why I brought up my concern is, is
36 it might eventually get out of hand, you know.

37

38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish of the
39 Council, to take action or no action on this
40 recommendation?

41

42 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

45

46 MR. BALLOT: Percy Ballot, Buckland. I
47 think they're just asking for comments. I don't know
48 that we really need to take comments. I mean, action.

49

50 MR. RABINOWITCH: I don't think it's

1 inaccurate to look at it that way. Your comments can be
2 in the form of a motion. They can simply be in the form
3 of the things you've already said, if you like. And, I
4 mean, it does even say right here, please submit comments
5 on the draft recommendation by April 20th. I'm just
6 reading from what I gave you.

7

8 MR. BALLOT: Yeah.

9

10 MR. RABINOWITCH: So how you do this is
11 up to you. Of course, the Commission's interested in
12 your support.

13

14 I wasn't at the Commission meeting in
15 November when this was done, so again I'm kind of a pinch
16 hitter here, you know, trying to fill in, but.....

17

18 MR. SWAN: I have a question or a
19 comment. This sentence Attamuk mentioned, the large
20 scale sale of these resources should not be allowed. I
21 take it to mean that large scale is abundant or bulk
22 supply, not handcrafted yet.

23

24 MR. RABINOWITCH: Again, I don't have an
25 absolutely clear answer for you, but what you just said,
26 I would agree with, that that's a very reasonable
27 interpretation of what the Commission does not want to
28 see happen, that they don't want large scale industrial,
29 commercial kind of operation. That's not what they want
30 to see happen. I think what they want to see happen is
31 that local people could collect bones, horn, or antlers,
32 turn them into handicrafts and sell them. I think of
33 that as more of an individual sort of thing, but we have
34 not written the formal language out yet.

35

36 MR. CLEVELAND: Mr. Chairman, my question
37 is as far as handicraft, there's hardly any person or
38 individual in my area that does this craft with caribou
39 or other antlers, but I've seen a person that came up to
40 my area, and told the people that if you cut a horn not
41 less than six inches, it's considered as somebody cut it,
42 and it's part of art. They buy it by pounds.

43

44 MR. RABINOWITCH: My response there is
45 that I believe that would not meet the current definition
46 of handicraft, which is actually in the Federal
47 Subsistence Board regulations, and I believe it's also in
48 the State regulations. I can't cite that definition from
49 memory, but I think that would not meet the definition of
50 a handicraft, or even be close.

1 MR. CLEVELAND: Okay. Thank you. But
2 this is occurring in our area anyway, and, you know, if
3 there's a means to stop it or to go by the regulations
4 then I'd go by regulations, but there's a lot of people
5 out there that don't and never heard of such regulations,
6 and they go by the buyer's regulations. You cut this
7 piece, and I'll buy it.

8
9 MR. LEAN: Mr. Chair, Charlie Lean with
10 the Park Service.

11
12 Mr. Cleveland, what you're referring to
13 is the difference between a trophy and an antler in the
14 State regs. And the State says that to cut the antlers
15 and separate them on a caribou rack, say, then they can
16 be sold as antler, but you're not supposed to sell
17 trophies. And so if you have the skull plate with the
18 two antlers still on it, that's a trophy. It might be
19 small or it might be big, but it's a trophy. And when
20 you break them apart and cut it like you said, then that
21 -- it can be sold as antlers under the State regs, but
22 the Park Service has different rules about what can be
23 done on Park lands.

24
25 MR. CLEVELAND: I guess maybe that's part
26 of my point, because that individual that came up to my
27 area said you can cut up a horn by six inches, a whole
28 horn, and sell it by pounds. That's the difference
29 between art and -- I believe that's the difference
30 between art, but they call it art.

31
32 MR. RABINOWITCH: Chuck Ardizzone just
33 handed me the Federal regulations here with the
34 handicraft, so I could quickly read that to you, if you
35 would like. It's just about that long. The definition
36 of handicraft under the Federal Regulations is, and I
37 quote, handicraft means a finished product in which the
38 shape and appearance of the natural material has been
39 substantially changed by the skillful use of hands, such
40 as sewing, carving, etching, scrimshawing, painting or
41 other means, and which has substantially greater monetary
42 and aesthetic value than the unaltered natural material
43 alone. That's kind of a mouthful, but that's what the
44 definition of handicraft is. So anything that would be
45 collected, plant or horn or bone or antler under the
46 SRC's proposal would then have to be -- rise up to this
47 definition of handicraft.

48
49 ATTAMUK: Yeah, I understand what you're
50 trying to say, but we're trying to tell you what's

1 happening in the villages and places like Anchorage and
2 Wasilla and Palmer. It's illegally happening, but
3 they're making it legal. And that's why I go second
4 thoughts of allowing any kind of horn or antler to be
5 made into artifacts. I've got nothing really against it,
6 because we -- for them to do it, but outside people are
7 translating it different, and they're making criminals
8 out of our people, because our people want a few bucks in
9 my pocket. Like I told you, this guy in Wasilla even
10 offered to come up and pick whatever bones I could get,
11 fresh or old, if I'm willing to sell it. That's why
12 we're questioning this here.

13

14 MR. RABINOWITCH: I think I understand,
15 and I'm not trying to convince you to do this. I'm
16 trying to convey my understanding of their desire to have
17 this as a lawful practice that they can do within
18 National -- you know, from National Park Service lands.
19 So, again, I'm just trying to convey their desire.

20

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: My comment, you know,
22 about these antlers, yearly up in my area, in Kiana, you
23 see these individual that come from Anchorage, some
24 place, go to Kiana and they lease the boats or something,
25 start picking up all these antlers from the park land.
26 Is that legal?

27

28 MR. RABINOWITCH: Let me make sure I
29 heard you right. You're saying, can you pick up antlers
30 from park land and then sell them?

31

32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

33

34 MR. RABINOWITCH: I believe, and I'm
35 going to say the answer is no. Am I correct on park
36 land, Ken?

37

38 MR. ADKISSON: That's correct. Ken
39 Adkisson, National Park Service.

40

41 I think part of the confusion comes in
42 that you can pick up shed antlers on State-managed lands
43 and sell those, but you cannot do that on National Park
44 Service-managed lands. And so there can be some
45 confusion on that. And by State-managed lands, unless
46 you've -- I'm including things like allotments, native
47 corporation lands, unless you have some kind of land use
48 restriction in place. Because that's part of the game
49 code, and you can under the State regulations collect
50 shed antlers and do whatever you want with them.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.

2

3 MR. KARMUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
4 can understand where Attamuk is coming from. Excuse me.
5 I still maintain and say I don't feel very comfortable
6 making any kind of suggestions or recommendations to
7 another region. And that's what they're asking for.
8 There's something here that I don't understand why
9 they're asking for this Council to reinforce their
10 activities. Thank you.

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further comments.
13 Percy.

14

15 MR. BALLOT: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I think
16 we have two, three villages, not only one. There's
17 Shungnak, Kobuk and Ambler that are under the Gates of
18 the National Park, Gates of the Arctic. So I think
19 they're just asking for comments, and I'd just, you know,
20 for the record, say that I have no problem with the first
21 part about the handicrafts with the wildlife material,
22 but I do have concern like Attamuk does about the large
23 scale, possible large scale use of antlers or collection
24 of antlers for whatever. So that's my concern there,
25 too, is that I don't mind it being arts and crafts stuff,
26 or handicraft stuff, but like we're mentioning to Sandy
27 is that we're concerned about the amount of people coming
28 in and buying antlers like Reggie mentioned. I know
29 about that, too, and I know it's probably, these are
30 probably people that got them off the land and stuff,
31 but, you know, at some point in time we're going to have
32 to worry about our caribou, if this keeps on and just
33 becomes a habit. We need to have this addressed as an
34 issue or something down the line about this.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further comments.

37

38 MR. RABINOWITCH: Mr. Chairman, I'll make
39 a suggestion if I might, partially just because of the
40 lateness of the hour in the day, but I think it would --
41 the Subsistence Resource Commission is interested to hear
42 from you. Although this is done infrequently, it is how
43 the business is normally done and has been done in years
44 past, so that's why their issue is brought before you. I
45 think it's quite sufficient if you've expressed what you
46 support generally and what your concerns are, if -- and
47 so my suggestion for you to consider would be if what
48 you've just said would be turned into a simple letter
49 that perhaps Michelle could write as your coordinator,
50 return it to your Chairman or your whole Commission if

1 you like for you to review a draft. And then when the
2 letter says what you would like, it could be signed and
3 sent to the Commission. And my summary, if I might be so
4 bold, is that you're all pretty comfortable with the part
5 about plants and bark and roots. When you come to horns,
6 antlers, et cetera, you have some concerns, and those
7 concerns revolve around any large scale activity, that
8 you're concerned about the sale of raw horn or bone, just
9 picked up and then sold. So those are the concerned that
10 I've had. And if I've missed something I apologize, but
11 that could be recorded into a letter. You review the
12 letter, and when it says it correctly, then you can sign
13 it. So that's just a suggestion.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish of the
16 Council. That's your suggestion?

17

18 MR. RABINOWITCH: It's just a suggestion.
19 I'm just -- I don't want to tie you up here for a long
20 time.

21

22 MR. KARMUN: Mr. Chairman, I have a
23 question. I'll direct it to Reggie. What would they
24 think, if we drafted up a memo from this Council. Would
25 we offend them in any way?

26

27 MR. CLEVELAND: Thank you, Vic. I'm
28 learning more and more as I go along here. And Fred's a
29 pretty good representative from my home town on the Gates
30 of the Arctic. What I guess the upper Kobuk people would
31 like to know is maybe hold a meeting within the three
32 villages or each village, which is Ambler, Shungnak, and
33 Kobuk, which are concerned about Gates of the Arctic and
34 let them go through this and maybe come back to use in
35 the form of a letter that they would like this to happen
36 from each of their IRAs or somebody in each down then. I
37 would consider it then from this Board.

38

39 MR. KARMUN: Mr. Chairman, I would make a
40 motion then that we defer this to the next meeting.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Defer it to next
43 meeting?

44

45 MR. KARMUN: Yes.

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. That's your
48 motion?

49

50 MR. KARMUN: That's my motion, sir.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. The motion has
2 been.....
3
4 MS. DOWNING: Your microphone, sir.
5
6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The motion is made to
7 defer this recommendation under until our next meeting.
8 Is there a second.
9
10 ATTAMUK: I'll second it.
11
12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Enoch. Any
13 further discussions.
14
15 MR. BALLOT: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I guess
16 I have no problem with that, even though they're asking
17 for comments by April 20. But when it becomes a
18 proposed rule, there will be opportunities to make our
19 comments?
20
21 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yes.
22
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further
24 discussions.
25
26 (No comments)
27
28 MR. SWAN: Question
29
30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question's been
31 called for. All in favor of deferring this
32 recommendation signify by saying aye.
33
34 IN UNISON: Aye.
35
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed?
37
38 (No opposing votes)
39
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Got it. So the letter
41 will be forwarded on this meeting.
42
43 The next one is on this -- still on the
44 other business is appoint member to the Gates of Arctic
45 Subsistence Resource Commission.
46
47 MR. RABINOWITCH: And on this item, Mr.
48 Chairman, I think this is a little more straight forward
49 than the first one. I passing around to you a list of
50 the current members of the Gates of the Arctic SRC.

1 Every few years an appointment comes up. One of your
2 responsibilities of this body is to appoint one member to
3 the Gates of the Arctic SRC. You see the current member,
4 Frederick Sun on the bottom of the first page there. His
5 appointment expired in November of '04, just this past
6 November. The way the charters for the subsistence
7 resource commissions work is that members continue to
8 serve until they are either reappointed or replaced. So
9 Frederick Sun continues to serve until either reappointed
10 or replaced by a different member. It's a little
11 different than this group's charter.

12
13 So the item before you is to either
14 reappoint Frederick Sun or appoint someone else, and that
15 option is yours. If you chose to reappoint someone else,
16 there are a couple of qualifications that have to be met,
17 and I could read those to you if you want to go down that
18 road. If you choose not to act today, which is up to
19 you, Frederick Sun will continue to serve in this
20 capacity, because only this body has the authority to
21 fill this seat. So I've tried to keep it real short, and
22 if I've been too short, please ask questions.

23
24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish of the
25 Council. Do you want to appoint one now or wait until
26 later. Victor.

27
28 MR. KARMUN: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. Mr.
29 Frederick Sun. I don't know if he has any knowledge of
30 us even considering reappointing him. Would it be more
31 appropriate we wait and see if he would elect to be
32 reappointed again or get a yeah or nay from him.

33
34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, you may.

35
36 MR. RABINOWITCH: I can tell you that I
37 understand that he is interested to be reappointed, that
38 that question's already been asked. And I could also
39 tell you, for what it's worth, that the Park Service
40 thinks very well of him, thinks he's done a good job, and
41 has been a very productive representative.

42
43 MR. SWAN: Question. And do we have a
44 time limit for a new appointment?

45
46 MR. RABINOWITCH: There is -- the short
47 answer is no, that you don't have to reappoint. You
48 could put this off until the next meeting if you wanted
49 to, and the result of if you didn't take any action is
50 he'll continue to serve, and then at the next meeting

1 I'll come back up here or -- it will probably be me, or
2 it could be someone else in Park Service and we'll put
3 this down in front of you again and ask if you'd like to
4 take action or not.

5
6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Reggie.

7
8 MR. CLEVELAND: Mr. Chairman, Frederick
9 Sun would be my tenure to appoint, but my question is
10 have they solicited any kind of letter to either Ambler
11 or Kobuk because out of this membership list, I see three
12 people that are from Shungnak.

13
14 MR. RABINOWITCH: I don't know the answer
15 to that. I do not know whether they have sent letters
16 out and solicited other names or not.

17
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish of the
19 Council.

20
21 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, I wouldn't
22 mind waiting. Like Reggie says, we should give Ambler
23 and Kobuk the opportunity to have their villages
24 represented, because we do have three from Shungnak on
25 there.

26
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that okay, Reggie?

28
29 MR. CLEVELAND: Fine with me. I'd table
30 this appointment until our next meeting. That's a
31 motion.

32
33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. A motion has
34 been made by Reggie to table this appointment until next
35 meeting. Second.

36
37 MR. KARMUN: I'll second it.

38
39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Victor. Any
40 further discussions on it.

41
42 ATTAMUK: Yeah. We're going to direct
43 Michelle to ask Kobuk -- I mean Shungnak or Kobuk, see if
44 they have anyone interested besides Sun for this seat
45 here, or how are we going to do about it since we tabled
46 it? I mean, we ought to think of that. We need to
47 address how we're going to approach the villages of
48 Ambler and Kobuk if they have interest in the seat.

49
50 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair. Attamuk. I'm

1 not familiar with this process. This is something that
2 I've never handled since I've been on this Council. I'm
3 going to defer to Sandy hopefully to answer that
4 question.

5
6 ATTAMUK: Yeah, I'll defer it to Sandy.

7
8 MR. RABINOWITCH: Okay. Thank you very
9 much. The Staff to the Subsistence Resource Commission
10 is the responsibility of the Park Service. And so I will
11 share that with the superintendent, Dave Mills, who some
12 of you probably know. And I'm quite certain that he'll
13 be happy to do that. I don't see any problem at all in
14 doing that.

15
16 The one other thing that I will quickly
17 mention to you is that anyone who you appoint has to meet
18 the following qualifications. One is that you can -- and
19 this was what I was referring to at the beginning that
20 I'd get to if we needed to. The person that you appoint
21 has to either be a member of this body, so you can
22 appoint one of your own, if you will, or a member of a
23 State advisory committee, State AC. Have to have one or
24 the other of those. And that person also has to engage
25 in subsistence uses within the park. So that sorts of
26 drives you towards they probably need to live fairly
27 close to Gates of the Arctic. It's not an absolute
28 requirement, you know but practically speaking it's kind
29 of the way the real world works. So those two
30 requirements have to be met, State AC member or a member
31 of this body.

32
33 And as I said, I'll convey your wishes to
34 the superintendent about communicating with those
35 communities, and seeing if any other names rise up, and
36 we'll bring that back at your next meeting and share it
37 with you.

38
39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Still on discussion.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 MR. KARMUN: Question.

44
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question's been
46 called for. All in favor of adopting this appointment of
47 member until our next meeting signify by saying aye.

48
49 IN UNISON: Aye.

50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.
2
3 (No opposing votes)
4
5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion carries.
6
7 MR. RABINOWITCH: Thank you, very much.
8
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Okay.
10 We're getting down to other business. B, Council
11 comments and recommendations regarding the Regional
12 Council Operations Manual content and format.
13
14 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, this is an
15 opportunity for the Council to make a comment or
16 recommendation on the operations manual content and
17 format, to see if it is suitable the way it is, or if you
18 want to make a recommendation on how it might be better
19 understood if it's not easily understood now. The FACA
20 coordinator has asked all the coordinators to check with
21 the Councils for comments if they have any.
22
23 Thank you.
24
25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So it one of the
26 Council has got any comments or recommendations, they
27 will directly contact you, is that correct?
28
29 MS. CHIVERS: You can sent your comments
30 to me, and I'll make sure to get those to Ann Wilkinson,
31 who is our FACA coordinator.
32
33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Anything from
34 the Council members.
35
36 MR. KARMUN: Mr. Chairman.
37
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor.
39
40 MR. KARMUN: I would have a question to
41 Michelle, maybe not in regards to this right now, but to
42 see if we could extend the privilege of this Council to
43 also make recommendations or nominations back to this
44 Council. If that would be possible.
45
46 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair. Victor. You
47 can make -- when there's a call for applicants to be on
48 this Council, we send out a nomination packet, and you
49 can either apply yourself or you can send an application
50 to someone else, or you can even -- what's the word I'm

1 looking for? You can actually nominate someone else.
2 And then what will happen, if you were to nominate
3 someone else, when we go through the process of the
4 applications, going through the applications, each person
5 who is nominated by someone else as opposed to nominating
6 themselves, the FACA coordinator will call to see, for
7 one, if they are interested, and then if they are
8 interested, we would need to have three references for
9 them to contact. But there is that -- also that
10 capability if you're looking to nominate someone else to
11 this Council.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 MR. KARMUN: Thank you. I didn't know
16 that privilege already existed. Thank you.

17

18 MS. CHIVERS: Yes. You're welcome.

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further comments.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If no comments, go down
25 to next item, 18, next meeting is scheduled for October
26 17, 2005 in Kotzebue. I think there was some comments or
27 suggestion for our next meeting in any other villages
28 besides Kotzebue, but there was some more information
29 you're going to give to us before we make a decision
30 where to have meeting next, is that correct?

31

32 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, before we go
33 on, can I say something about the meeting date.

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I don't know about the
36 meeting date, but our scheduling is for where we're going
37 to meet next, either in other villages or Kotzebue. I
38 know we had some -- I think somebody is going to explain
39 to us what to expect for our next scheduled meeting,
40 where at.

41

42 MR. BALLOT: The meeting date October 17.
43 Is it conflicting meeting for -- with AFN? I think
44 October 17, the week of, is going to be in Fairbanks this
45 year, so that might be a problem. I'll ask to be excused
46 if we can't change it.

47

48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy, I'll be dealing
49 probably with NANA Regional Corporation, to try to get
50 the exact dates for that AFN conventions. It's going to

1 be held in Anchorage, and I'll contact Michelle, see if
2 we can set up in a different meeting date in October, but
3 I don't know exactly what day it's going to be in
4 Fairbanks.

5
6 MR. BALLOT: October 17, the week of.

7
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Is that AFN
9 October 17?

10
11 MR. BALLOT: That's what I was told.

12
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

14
15 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, in terms of
16 meeting dates, the other thing you need to look at if
17 you're going to be changing the meeting date, we need to
18 make sure it's not overlapping with team members that
19 will be travelling to other regions, because you have a
20 lot of regional like biologists that overlap.

21
22 I don't know if the week of September is
23 too early. That is one week that might be a possibility
24 where you don't overlap with another region. Southeast,
25 we don't have any team members that overlap with this
26 region, but all the other weeks that you're looking at --
27 I mean, the meeting window does open as early as August,
28 and I don't know how you guys feel about meeting that
29 early, but the one -- the earliest meeting open date
30 would be probably the week of September 17th through the
31 29th, so that's something you might want to consider, or
32 earlier than that.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Before we set
37 the date, you know, I'd like to hear from the Council
38 members what date, you want to meet next, because you
39 know we're going to have to decide where, because I know
40 it was kind of very difficult to name. I know your
41 budget is not too -- you know, not to be -- besides
42 Kotzebue, I know you're running into that. So we'd like
43 to see from the Council what date would be beneficial to
44 all the Council members for next meeting.

45
46 ATTAMUK: The dates, Michelle, you
47 addressed September 17. Is that when you're open?
48 Because I know you coordinate more than one.

49
50 MS. CHIVERS: That is correct. The week

1 of September 19th would not be a good week for me,
2 because I'm the coord -- well, and there's several team
3 members here that are also on the Kodiak/Aleutians team.

4
5 ATTAMUK: September 19th is closed for
6 you. Like Percy, how ahead is that AFN. I'm requested
7 by Maniilaq to be there at the AFN, because I missed the
8 last two AFNs on purpose, and now they're asking me to be
9 there for subsistence issues that's coming up.

10
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Victor, you had your
12 hand up?

13
14 MR. KARMUN: Yeah, the latter part of
15 September, or around the middle part of September, how
16 many around here on the Council would be possibly engaged
17 in caribou activities, hunting.

18
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Name the date. Reggie.

20
21 MR. CLEVELAND: This KA, is that to be
22 announced or?

23
24 MS. CHIVERS: Actually it's the location
25 is to be announced. They have not selected a meeting
26 location. Those are the dates they picked for the
27 meeting.

28
29 MR. CLEVELAND: But their meeting dates
30 is September 20 and 21?

31
32 MS. CHIVERS: 20 and 21st, correct.

33
34 MR. CLEVELAND: Okay. Thank you.

35
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Pick a date so we'll be
37 there.

38
39 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.

40
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Michelle.

42
43 MS. CHIVERS: A possibility would be if
44 we started, depending on whether the meeting is a one-day
45 or a two-day meeting, we had selected a one-day meeting
46 on October 17th. There's a possibility that we could fly
47 in to wherever location it is you choose on September
48 20th (sic), and hold the meeting on September 23rd, with
49 the travel date returning home to be September 24th, if
50 that will work.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish of the
2 Council.
3
4 MR. BALLOT: Sounds good to me.
5 September 23rd.
6
7 MR. CLEVELAND: My recommendation would
8 be that week and call of the Chair on the date.
9
10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Are you guys happy with
11 this September 22/23.
12
13 MR. KARMUN: There would be no problem
14 with me. I'm pretty flexible.
15
16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So I guess that's it.
17 With that then -- I guess one more, okay.
18
19 MS. CHIVERS: Yes, one other agenda is we
20 need to select the location and date for the winter 2006
21 Council meeting, and if you flip to the very, very back
22 page in your book, the meeting window opens on February
23 20th and closes on March 24th. And I have a list of what
24 the other Councils that have previously met, the date
25 that they have selected. And these would be dates that
26 would be unable, because of overlapping with team
27 members. February 23rd and 24th dates have been
28 selected, as has February 28th and March 1st. So if you
29 want to select something -- maybe March 6th or later,
30 that would actually work, and then you can decide on
31 meeting date and location.
32
33 Thank you.
34
35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish of the
36 Council. You've got -- September 22, 23.
37
38 ATTAMUK: Say again? Are we talking
39 about the winter meeting?
40
41 MS. CHIVERS: Winter.
42
43 ATTAMUK: I could live with March 7 and
44 8.
45
46 MR. KARMUN: Mr. Chairman, I could live
47 with March 7 and 8. The latter part of March I'll be
48 with the Walrus and Polar Bear Commissions.
49
50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish, is

1 that March 7 and 8? Is that suitable to all here?

2

3 MR. CLEVELAND: If that's a motion, I
4 concur.

5

6 MR. BALLOT: I'll go with the wish of the
7 crowd.

8

9 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, did you select a
10 location, meeting location?

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's that?

13

14 MS. CHIVERS: Did you select a meeting
15 location? Would it be here in Kotzebue?

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. For March? I
18 suppose, but we're still -- that September meeting,
19 they're telling me that -- they talked about meeting
20 somewhere else besides Kotzebue, but they're telling me
21 that the funding is limited. If you guys want to talk
22 about that right now, we could do that, you know. If
23 you're comfortable with the dates, September 22, 23, and
24 March 7 and 8, now the meeting where? I mean, let's make
25 it clear about these dates. September 22, 23 and March 7
26 and 8.

27

28 MR. CLEVELAND: My suggestion again, just
29 a suggestion, that these dates are open, March 7 and 8,
30 that's definite. But the location, like the Kodiak area,
31 to be announced in our fall meeting.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Yeah.

34

35 MR. BERG: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I would just
36 like to let the Council know that as you've probably
37 heard in the news that, you know, the Federal Government
38 is having some budget shortfalls, and there's being cut-
39 backs. Well, our department is not any different, it's
40 the same. And it's trickling down to everybody, even in
41 us scheduling our meetings. In fact, we just had a
42 meeting about a month ago in our office with three other
43 Councils that asked to go out to remote villages for
44 their meetings, and we're asking them to try to hold
45 their meetings in more hub locations because it's cheaper
46 to do that at this time. Our office in general does
47 support holding meetings out in rural locals. We want to
48 involve the public, especially if there's an issue that
49 really affects one of the villages, we definitely think
50 it's very important to have the villages involved. But

1 at this time, it's just not a -- this next year at least,
2 there's going to be budget shortfalls, and so we've been
3 asked to ask all the councils to meet in the hub
4 communities for the next year at least if at all
5 possible. So I just want to relay that on to you. You
6 can still pick an outlying location if you want, but
7 we'll probably have to come back to you with another
8 request that -- just to let you know that we may end up
9 coming back to you asking that you just ahead and hold it
10 in Kotzebue if possible. So just to let you know.

11

12 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, I was going to
13 say what you could do is select a meeting location, and
14 that would be your preferred location, but you could set
15 up the hub, say Kotzebue, as your backup if that's
16 something that budget will not allow us to do. That way
17 you at least have a selected location, and then an
18 alternate location in case we cannot go to that location.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What's the wish of the
23 Council. Have it in Kotzebue or in -- we already met at
24 I believe Kiana once, and one at Noatak.

25

26 MR. SWAN: Mr. Chairman, do we know of
27 any village that will be affected by any decisions or
28 comments we make in the coming year.

29

30 ATTAMUK: Maybe we could decide in
31 Kotzebue, and if there's -- like Austin say, if there's
32 something going to really impact a village, maybe we
33 could think of that as another alternate. Cost
34 effective, you know, we could have one here in Kotzebue,
35 but if there's a proposal that might affect our people
36 one way or the other, I would like to have that meeting
37 in that village that's going to impact a village
38 completely, because this is their subsistence life like I
39 always sate. And if it's going to affect the people,
40 that's where it should be at, because I'm pretty -- most
41 places, if I go to my region, I'll tell you one thing,
42 you don't have to pay my hotel. I'll stay with one of my
43 relatives. Same -- you know, like here in Kotzebue, you
44 have to get a hotel. In the village I don't have to. I
45 don't know about you others, might have to stay at the
46 clinic or something.

47

48 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

49

50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

1 MR. BALLOT: If there's no binding
2 issues, I want to be able to acknowledge these folks
3 where these studies come from, up the river people, or
4 Selawik. I think what they did was very good, being
5 involved with their villages and doing the study, you
6 know, that kind of stuff could work out with me, too.

7
8 ATTAMUK: To answer yours, Susan
9 mentioned that every person that was contacted in that
10 one there is going to get a copy, a hard copy of this,
11 not a CD. A hard copy of this work. That way -- because
12 if we send it to the villages, and the IRA, they'll never
13 see it. So every person. What was it, \$9,000 in copies,
14 and one is only \$19.00. And she brought it up, I would
15 like to have more.

16
17 MR. BALLOT: I'm not talking about giving
18 these out. I'm talking about having a meeting there to
19 acknowledge the work the village did and the locals did
20 with your guys.

21
22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So are you going to
23 decide a meeting place. So are you going to decide where
24 we're going to have the meeting in September. September
25 22, 23, where at? Kotzebue?

26
27 MR. CLEVELAND: I think it's fair to say
28 that the September meeting have to be in the hub, because
29 there's subsistence activities in the villages. Now, the
30 March meeting can be in a village.

31
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I think you're right,
33 Reggie, because like if you want to have a meeting at
34 Kiana, that I probably won't be around. I'd be upriver
35 some place, because it's caribou time. So then if we
36 name a hub, sure, I'll be here. So you guys want to have
37 meeting in Kotzebue? There we go. Kotzebue

38
39 ATTAMUK: Fair enough.

40
41 MR. CLEVELAND: See how easy it is?

42
43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We have the same place
44 right here? Okay. Our next -- do you need action on
45 this or just.....

46
47 MS. CHIVERS: No.

48
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. The next meeting
50 will be here in Kotzebue September 22, 23. Okay.

1 Before we adjourn, any comments from the
2 Council members here about today's meeting.

3

4 (No comments)

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If not, I certainly
7 want to thank the Council members and, you know, we can
8 hope that all of us were here today, like Ralph and
9 everybody, but they're not. I want to thank all of you
10 that participated in this meeting today. I know it was a
11 long day, a lot of hard work for you guys, but you're
12 doing a very good job today. And, of course, the Staff
13 from the State, BLM, Park Service, plus you, Michelle,
14 you're doing a lot of hard work for us in order to
15 perform that sort of meeting. Again, I would thank all
16 of you, and have a good trip home.

17

18 Do I hear adjourn.

19

20 MR. CLEVELAND: Move to adjourn.

21

22 ATTAMUK: Okay.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The meeting has been
25 adjourn at exactly 6:00 p.m.

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27 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 180 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically by Meredith Downing on the 8th day of March 2005, beginning at the hour of 8:30 o'clock a.m. at Kotzebue, Alaska;

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 15th day of March 2005.

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