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NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

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Alaska Technical Center

10

Kotzebue, Alaska

11

12

March 21, 2002

13

9:00 a.m.

14

15 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

16

17 Raymond Storey, Chair

18 Joe Arey

19 Percy C. Ballot, Sr.

20 Lillian Johnson

21 Enoch Shiedt, Sr.

22

23 Barbara Armstrong, Coordinator

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1 PROCEEDINGS

2

3 (On record)

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Good morning.

6

7 MULTIPLE VOICES: Good morning.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: At this time I'll call
10 the Northwest Arctic Subsistence Regional Advisory
11 Council to order. The is approximately 9:11 and I have a
12 short introduction from our coordinator Barbara.

13

14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Good morning. The
15 Northwest Arctic Council, Ray Stoney will be acting Chair
16 for the meeting today and we have four Council members
17 here and I can do the roll while I have the floor.
18 Raymond Stoney.

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Here.

21

22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Joe Arey.

23

24 MR. AREY: Here.

25

26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Percy Ballot.

27

28 (No audible responses)

29

30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Lillian Johnson.

31

32 MS. JOHNSON: Here.

33

34 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Enoch Schiedt.

35

36 MR. SCHIEDT: Here.

37

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

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Got a quorum. Thank
42 you, Barbara.

43

44 Welcome. I'm glad all agencies are here

45 and welcome to Kotzebue for this meeting. We'll start
46 our introductions, we'll start with Joe and then we'll go
47 down the line.

48

49 MR. AREY: I'm Joe Arey from Noatak.

50 I've been on this Council for about three years and I

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1 represent Noatak and Kivalina. Think I'll just go on to
2 the next.

3

4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Joe. I'm
5 Raymond Stoney, I'm from Kiana. I've been with the
6 Regional Council since it began, I've been with it since
7 early '90s, right?

8

9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: '93.

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: '93. It's been an
12 exciting situation for our communities throughout
13 Northwest Alaska, especially in Unit 23. And we'll
14 continue to try and benefit our people in subsistence way
15 of life. I want to thank all of the agencies that came
16 to meeting. Number 1, I want to thank our new member,
17 Lillian Johnson from Amber.

18

19 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Enoch.

22

23 MR. SCHIEDT: My name is Atumuk. I've
24 been doing this about three years now and I got interest
25 in preserving the hunting for the Natives the way we've
26 been traditionally doing it for the last thousands of
27 years, like we all say.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Lillian.

30

31 MS. JOHNSON: I'm Lillian Johnson from
32 Ambler and I've just been elected to this meeting, this
33 is my first meeting. I come here to listen, mostly, like
34 practice and how they do it.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Bill.

37

38 MR. KNAUER: I'm Bill Knauer, policy and
39 regulation specialist with the Office of Subsistence
40 Management in Anchorage.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. We'll start
43 from here and all the way down the line.

44

45 MR. JACK: My name is Carl Jack, Native
46 liaison, OSM.

47

48 MR. PUNGOWIYI: Caleb Pungowiyi, public
49 (indiscernible) trust, also a new member of the Board of
50 Game, not confirmed yet.

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1 (Laughter)

2

3 MS. COLE: Jeanie Cole, I'm with the
4 Bureau of Land Management.

5

6 MS. GEORGETTE: I'm Susan Georgette, I
7 work for the Subsistence Division, Department of Fish and
8 Game on the Kuskokwim.

9

10 MR. DeCICCO: I'm Fred DeCicco, I'm area
11 biologist for the Sportfish Division, Alaska Fish and
12 Game.

13

14 MR. UBERUAGA: Richard Uberuaga, fishery
15 biologist for Office of Subsistence in Anchorage.

16

17 MS. AYERS: Lee Ann Ayers for the Selawik
18 Refuge, wildlife biologist.

19

20 MS. MASSEY: Barbara Massey, Support
21 Division Office of Subsistence Management.

22

23 MR. FRIED: Steve Fried, fisheries
24 biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of
25 Subsistence Management in Anchorage.

26

27 MR. NELSON: Dave Nelson, I'm a fisheries
28 biologist for the National Park Service working out of
29 Anchorage.

30

31 MR. LEAN: Charlie Lean, based in Nome,
32 Office of Subsistence.

33

34 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson, management
35 work services Western Arctic National Parklands,
36 Subsistence Program.

37

38 MR. SCHNORR: Mike Schnorr, wildlife
39 biologist for the Western Arctic National Parklands.

40

41 MR. SHULTS: Brad Shults, wildlife
42 biologist for the National Park Service.

43

44 MR. PELTOLA: Gene Peltola, Jr., Refuge

45 Manager Selawik Refuge.

46

47 MS. FOX: Joanna Fox, Selawik National

48 Wildlife Refuge.

49

50 MR. FOX: Jimmy Fox, Assistant Refuge

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1 Manager, Selawik.

2

3 MR. HILE: I'm Nathan Hile, I represent
4 Computer Matrix Court Reporters.

5

6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm Helen Armstrong,
7 I'm the cultural anthropologist that serves to support
8 this Council.

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Ida.

11

12 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA
13 Staff Committee member to the Federal Board.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: All right. Now, we got
16 special guest. Would you introduce where you come from
17 and what you do?

18

19 MS. HAMILTON: D'Anne Hamilton, Native
20 Voice Communications, we working on a project for fish
21 and wildlife on the process of public participation in
22 the RACs.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Dee. Donna.

25

26 MS. DEWHURST: Donna Dewhurst, wildlife
27 biologist for the Regional Council.

28

29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I'm Barb Armstrong,
30 I'm the coordinator for the for Fish and Wildlife
31 Service.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you very much and
34 welcome to the Northwest Arctic Subsistence Advisory
35 Council meeting. Like I said, I'm glad everybody is here
36 and we'll continue through our meeting here. We're down
37 to Item number 4, review and adoption of agenda of
38 today's meeting. In your packet, I suppose all of you
39 got the agenda of today's meeting. Is there any
40 additions or changes?

41

42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Barbara.

45

46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: One thing that, I
47 think, you'll see on the agenda is the appointment of the
48 committee members for the Gates. That should be a topic
49 on your agenda for today. We can put that under 12,
50 appointment of a committee member to the Gates of the

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1 Arctic SRC.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Let's go through the
4 agenda and we'll take action on it.

5

6 MR. SCHIEDT: Move to adopt the agenda.

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: It's been moved by
9 Enoch to adopt the March 21, 2002 agenda. Is there a
10 second?

11

12 MR. AREY: Second.

13

14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Joe. Any
15 further discussions on agenda?

16

17 (No audible responses)

18

19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Call question.

20

21 MR. SCHIEDT: Question.

22

23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question be called by
24 Enoch, any objection to the question?

25

26 (No audible responses)

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, all in favor
29 of adopting the March 21 Northwest Arctic Subsistence
30 Regional Advisory Council meeting to order -- signify by
31 saying aye.

32

33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed?

36

37 (No opposing responses)

38

39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The agenda has been
40 approved, so we go along now. If something bothers you,
41 then please tell me about it. We got to the next item,
42 review and adoption of the minutes of October 5 meeting.
43 And I believe that there is new minutes which Barbara
44 gave us.

45

46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, when we were
47 putting the booklet together we made an error of not
48 putting all 11 pages of the minutes in that booklet, so
49 that's the whole 11 pages over here of the minutes that
50 are not in the booklet?

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1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Have the Council
2 members got the new minutes, too? Enoch?

3

4 MR. SCHIEDT: Yeah.

5

6 MR. AREY: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We'll take a few
9 minutes and go through the minutes and approval.

10

11 (Pause)

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Can we ask questions on
14 these minutes?

15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes, you can. This is
17 the time to ask question about the minutes.

18

19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. If you guys got
20 any questions on these minutes, don't hesitate. I
21 probably go one question here, this last fall I made a
22 commitment about the limit of these transporters. Are
23 they still working on it? Like the exporter guides, have
24 we still got still no limits? Like there's no limit for
25 sporthunters like in guides, huh?

26

27 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman, you may want
28 to ask the refuge about that.

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

31

32 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We're actually in
33 support of guides on the refuge, we do have a process in
34 place where we limit guides (indiscernible) on the
35 refuge, guides who use transporters. Right now there's
36 not an administrative procedure to limit the transporters
37 on refuge, but we do have limited access to guides like
38 (indiscernible - away from microphone)

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, thank you.

41 MR. SCHIEDT: I move to adopt the minutes
42 of October 5, 2001 meeting.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We have a motion from

45 Enoch to adopt the minutes of October 5 meeting. Is
46 there a second?

47

48 MS. JOHNSON: I second.

49

50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Lillian. Any

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1 further questions on the October 5 minutes?

2

3 (No audible responses)

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Ready for the question.

6

7 MS. JOHNSON: Question.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question been called by

10 Lillian. All in favor of adopting October 5 minutes say

11 aye.

12

13 IN UNISON: Aye.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed?

16

17 (No opposing responses)

18

19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The minutes of October

20 5 meeting have been adopted. Okay, as to Item number 6.

21

22 MR. SCHIEDT: No five.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Number 5?

25

26 MR. SCHIEDT: Yeah. No, let's see --

27 okay, yeah, you're right.

28

29 (PERCY BALLOT ARRIVES)

30

31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Item number 6,

32 elections of officers. For the record Percy came in.

33 So, I'll leave to Barbara about Item number 6, elections

34 of offices.

35

36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. On the election

37 of officers, I was asked by Ray to poll the Council

38 member to see what they thought of having elections at

39 this time, at this meeting. And then there was a

40 majority that the elections be delayed until they come to

41 have a full Board on this Council, so it was their wish

42 that it be delayed.

43

44 At this time we have five Council members

45 on board, we have two vacant seats. Bert Greist has
46 resigned also and so we have two vacant seats on the
47 Board and that is one of the reasons why they want to
48 wait until after they have a full Board in their winter
49 meeting.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I've got a question,
2 Barbara, as to how long will that take to recruit
3 the.....

4
5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: The new members?

6
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY:the new members.
8 How long will that take?

9
10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Well, at this time we
11 are under nomination process and that just closed not too
12 long ago and then there might be some questions that come
13 up at a later time, but for right now if we go through
14 the nomination period, there's a panel from each agency
15 that goes through the applicants. For instances, we have
16 five applicants for the Northwest Region and that process
17 goes through and then they do their selection and then
18 that packet is sent to the Secretary of the Interior and
19 by that time we -- before we used to do it -- try to get
20 it done before fall meetings, but then we've had problems
21 in getting the packet back from the Secretary, so they
22 changed it to delay until the winter meeting of the
23 Councils statewide and then that's when we would expect
24 the Council to be in full Board, would be in the winter
25 meeting of 2003.

26
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The process would be,
28 Barbara, is reopen to all the villages, right, including
29 Kotzebue?

30
31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: If that process should
32 come about where -- in the discussion state at this time
33 is that if they reopen the nomination process it would be
34 reopened to all the regions in state and then I would
35 refer that to Bill to see if what I am saying is correct.

36
37 MR. KNAUER: Everything you've said is
38 very accurate so far, Barbara.

39
40 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.

41
42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Now for
43 elections of officers, what is the wish of the present
44 officers like to do, in Enoch and Percy and Lillian, we

45 have to favor them in order to delay this to next cycle?

46

47 MR. SCHIEDT: We'd have to make it a
48 motion, right?

49

50 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: If you want.

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1 MR. SCHIEDT: Make a motion to delay then
2 we could vote on it?

3

4 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

5

6 MR. SCHIEDT: Okay.

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I think you're right,
9 Enoch, because, you know, if we elect officers right now,
10 there's just five of us, we've got two vacancies, it
11 would be a lot better if we just come to a full Board and
12 select our new officers. Standard procedure of
13 appointing the Council members.

14

15 What do you think, Joe?

16

17 MR. AREY: I got a question. It would be
18 better to wait 'til we get a full Board because that way
19 -- if we get a couple more members and then they just
20 come in and they won't know what's going on again. And
21 if we get a full Board, that would give them a chance who
22 they want for Chairman.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Joe. Enoch.

25

26 MR. SCHIEDT: I got a question. So if we
27 table it until the next meeting, it'll reopen then for
28 more names to come in?

29

30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Well, the reason why
31 I'm saying that it might be reopened, and that is being
32 discussed right now, is that we got that letter from
33 Griles and that's from the Secretary of Interior's office
34 and then they were asking that we be more opened to,
35 like, the transporters or guys to be involved in being
36 selected to these Boards, to the Councils, so we'd be
37 more, you know, and not just be subsistence users. So
38 that is the main reason why that I understand it to be.

39

40 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chair.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Bill, go ahead.

43

44 MR. KNAUER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Later on

45 your agenda you have a -- when it talks about Council
46 member balance. You're into that discussion now, if you
47 would like, I have a very, very short briefing that
48 explains a little about what's happening. If you'd like,
49 I could present now or I could wait, at your pleasure.
50

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1 (In Inupiat)

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, okay. That would
4 be on 12?

5

6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That would be 11(3).

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: 11 (3), okay.

9

10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We'll get there.

13 Okay, Enoch?

14

15 MR. SCHIEDT: Yeah.

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead.

18

19 MR. BALLOT: Which one?

20

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: 11 (3) on the back.

22

23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: On the back of the
24 agenda.

25

26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: On the agenda.

27

28 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Council member
29 balance.

30

31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: (Indiscernible) Enoch?

32

33 MR. SCHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead. I'd like
34 to him now.

35

36 MR. KNAUER: Okay, thank you. Mr. Chair,
37 good morning, my name is Bill Knauer, of course. This
38 brief, very short, is just for informational purposes and
39 does not require an action by your Council, but it may
40 help you understand a little bit about what Barbara is
41 talking about.

42

43 In Tab H there is a copy of the letter
44 from Deputy Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Steven Griles,

45 concerning membership balance on the Councils. And
46 there's also a letter forwarding his letter to the
47 Council. Mr. Griles requested that we review our
48 procedures for recommending Council members to ensure
49 that we're complying with the Federal Advisory Committee
50 Act, which requires membership balance and representation

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1 of affected user groups. In other words, subsistence,
2 sport, commercial, urban, rural, Native and non-Native
3 membership.

4

5 A copy of that letter, as I said, is in
6 your book and has been previously sent to all Council
7 members around the state. You should be aware that
8 nationwide there is an ongoing general review of advisory
9 committees and membership balance, it is not specific
10 just to this Subsistence Management Program. We realize
11 that that letter from Mr. Griles may raise some concerns
12 for you, however, we want to reassure you that we do
13 welcome this opportunity to review these administrative
14 procedures and processes for Council member appointments.
15 As Mr. Demientieff indicated in his transmittal letter to
16 you, we believe that we have a solid record and are
17 complying with the spirit and intent of both ANILCA and
18 the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

19

20 Mr. Demientieff established a committee
21 composed of Board members or their designees to undertake
22 a review of our nominations process and the selection
23 process. The guiding principles that he put forth for
24 this membership balance committee efforts include, number
25 1, keeping subsistence management and the goals of
26 ANILCA, Title VIII, as the primary focus in our
27 procedures to ensure membership balance on our Councils.

28

29 Two, to promote the selection of Council
30 members from among those who will work constructively to
31 uphold the Title VIII mandate.

32

33 And number 3, to recognize that there are
34 several interests that are directly affected by the
35 Federal Subsistence Management Program, and that these
36 interests should be provided an opportunity to be
37 directly involved in the subsistence management process.

38

39 The committee will be providing some
40 recommendations back to the full Board. And after review
41 by the Board, the recommendations will be forwarded to
42 Deputy Secretary Griles. We will keep the Councils
43 informed as this review process proceeds. One of the
44 recommendation may, in fact, be to reopen the application

45 period. In some of the regions there has been a very
46 limited response to our call for applications and so we
47 may be need to go out and, essentially, beat the bushes
48 to have additional people apply.

49

50 These Councils have traditionally been

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1 composed of folks in the regions that are both
2 knowledgeable and well-respected individuals who are able
3 to work together to foster the issue of conservation
4 management and subsistence opportunity. And we fully
5 support that.

6

7 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Bill.

10 Enoch.

11

12 MR. SCHIEDT: I got a question. So will
13 we be able to know ahead of time who is the names that
14 are submitted or no, we will be notified at the last
15 minute or whatever? I would like to know ahead of time,
16 you know, even months before the meeting or something
17 who's for our region here.

18

19 MR. KNAUER: We're not allowed to release
20 the names of the selectees until they have been appointed
21 by the Secretary. As soon as they're appointed your
22 coordinator's informed and the acting Chair, at that
23 time, is informed of who the new members are. We hope
24 that there will be a good pool from this region so that
25 the Board can make the recommendations to the Secretary.
26 There usually has been a very limited pool, but they have
27 been composed of very top-notch people. And so we hope
28 that will continue.

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Bill, maybe I shouldn't
31 ask the question, but I'm going to ask you anyway, but,
32 like you said you're not authorized to released any
33 names. What is the reason that that was under the
34 procedures by the Federal government?

35

36 MR. KNAUER: It's sort of like.....

37

38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Don't explain it in
39 detail, just give us an idea.

40

41 MR. KNAUER: Right. Let's say there are
42 10 individuals that have applied, part of the process is
43 a panelling whereby a group of individuals evaluate each
44 of the candidates, their applications, and they make a

45 recommendation to the Staff Committee and Board. We do
46 not want anything to unduly influence or raise hopes or
47 expectations. We'll say there are 10, all of them maybe
48 equally qualified and it would be unfair to put the names
49 out before the Secretary has actually made the selection.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Bill.
2 Enoch.

3
4 MR. SCHIEDT: So if the Secretary made
5 the selection and we don't approve still, how -- I'm back
6 to the question, could we go to the other names?

7
8 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Unh-unh. (Negative)

9
10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Because we can always
11 -- there's going to be a problem right there, who he's
12 selecting might be selecting someone completely who we
13 don't approve of here in our area.

14
15 MR. KNAUER: One of the parts of the
16 process is getting some references for each of the
17 applications during the review process. It's almost like
18 applying for a job where the employer, you know, might
19 talk to previous supervisors or somebody and say, okay,
20 is this person going to be able to do the job that I
21 want. The panel checks the application and the
22 references that the person puts forward, they may check
23 with the local Native organization to see who they might
24 recommend. So generally the members usually have pretty
25 good support throughout the region.

26
27 MR. SCHIEDT: The reason why I'm asking
28 that is these agencies might be picking one that's
29 already heavy loaded in different meetings already. So
30 he might have -- you know, he might involve himself
31 pretty thin. That's what I'm trying to get at, because I
32 know a couple of them that are out there, like myself,
33 whose getting pretty thin here.

34
35 MR. KNAUER: That has always been a
36 concern because -- especially in some of the smaller
37 communities, there are usually just a few people that
38 have both the skill, the ability and the support of a
39 community to serve on some of the various boards and
40 councils and advisory groups, whether it's school board
41 or whatever, maybe being the mayor. And some of those
42 folks are taxed. We hope that both they and their
43 community will recognize when they get to be overloaded.
44

45 MR. SCHIEDT: Thanks.

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Bill, when my term is
48 now, you know, on this cycle. If we reopen the procedure
49 for selecting Council people for this group, since my
50 term is up, will my requirement would be to reapply or,

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1 you know, for this cycle?

2

3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He already has an
4 application in, he's asking if he has to reapply?

5

6 MR. KNAUER: Oh, if your application is
7 already in, that's all that's necessary, you would not
8 have to reapply a second time.

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. That enough,
11 Enoch?

12

13 MR. SCHIEDT: Enough.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy, got any
16 comments?

17

18 MR. BALLOT: The only comment is I'm
19 pretty confident that we have people here in this group
20 that can chair these meetings. Just you guys want to
21 wait for the fall, I made it known that I like to hold
22 elections and just go on and continue, but it's not
23 unanimous, so if you guys want to wait until we have more
24 people, that's fine, but I'm confident that we have
25 people here that can take over, even if it's just for the
26 fall. You're going to be able to represent us, right,
27 for things that are going on in between? If that's what
28 you're going to be able to do, then I have not problem
29 just waiting. Otherwise, I said let's go on and elect
30 and have it done.

31

32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. Would you come
33 to the mike and give us your name and.....

34

35 MR. JACK: Yeah, my name is Carl Jack,
36 Native liaison. My role is to advise the Board and the
37 Councils on -- kind of like a Native advocate. Where we
38 are on this, as he said -- there was a following
39 letter/memo from Griles and that this, the balancing
40 question on the Region Council not only is going to be
41 applied to the Regional Council, but will apply to all of
42 the Federal Advisory Committees throughout the United
43 States. And they're going so far as reviewing -- they
44 will go so far as reviewing the qualifications of the

45 applicants.

46

47 Now, on the balancing question, there's
48 two things that stand out. One is the requirement to
49 have knowledge of the subsistence activities and uses
50 that Mr. Griles has pointed out. The other one, which

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1 will impact the Native community, is the user question,
2 whereby it is perceived that whoever apply not
3 necessarily have to be a user, and that in itself, I
4 feel, is going to have a strong impact on the Native
5 community.

6

7 Where we are on the committee, the
8 committee is going to meet, the one that was appointed by
9 the Chairman, is going to have a meeting on the 26th,
10 which is next week and on 29th the Special Assistant to
11 the Secretary in Alaska is going to be briefed on the
12 committee work, and some time down the road is when the
13 Board will advised of the work that has been done to
14 date. So I just wanted to point those couple of things
15 out.

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Lillian.

18

19 MS. JOHNSON: I have nothing to say right
20 now, I'm still listening.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Well, what we're
23 doing, you know, is down to election of officers. Since
24 we got two vacancies, that I think all of use are in
25 favor that we should wait until we get the full Board
26 before we elect officers for the Regional Council or RAC.

27

28 MS. JOHNSON: Yeah.

29

30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Inupiat)

31

32 MS. JOHNSON: I was thinking to see the
33 full Council, if they could elect or -- it's up to you.

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So the members of the
36 Council, you guys are in favor of wait until we get full
37 seven Council members before electing officers.

38

39 MR. SCHIEDT: Yeah.

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further discussions
42 on Item number 6, election of officers? We are on
43 discussion and then we have to go by the procedures of
44 motion for approval of this number 6, election process,

45 Barbara?

46

47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

50

00017

1 MR. SCHIEDT: Okay. I'd like to motion
2 that we table this to our next meeting when we get a full
3 Board. We'll table this until this fall meeting.

4
5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Actually it'll be the
6 winter meeting.

7
8 MR. SCHIEDT: What?

9
10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Winter meeting.

11
12 MR. SCHIEDT: Winter meeting. Okay. I
13 make a motion to table this until the winter meeting, the
14 election of officers.

15
16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion by Enoch to
17 postpone the election to the next winter meeting, is
18 there a second?

19
20 MR. AREY: I second it.

21
22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Joe. Any
23 further discussions on it?

24
25 (No audible responses)

26
27 MR. SCHIEDT: Question.

28
29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been called.
30 Any objection to the question?

31
32 (No audible responses)

33
34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, all in favor
35 of Item number 6, election of officers to delay until
36 next winter meeting, say aye.

37
38 IN UNISON: Aye.

39
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed?

41
42 (No opposing responses)

43
44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, Item number 6 has

45 been delayed until the next winter meeting, Barbara. If
46 I'm missing something, you know, just holler at me.

47

48 Okay, we're down to Item number 7,
49 Council reports. A. Village concerns from all members.
50 And then B. would be Acting Chair's report, so I'll leave

00018

1 that to Barbara. We'll start from Joe. What's your
2 village concern, Joe?

3

4 MR. AREY: Yeah, in my village they keep
5 seeing our fish are declining. Maybe they're not, I
6 don't know, but it seems like every fall before we used
7 to go out not for September, before freeze up, and now
8 nobody is getting any trout from these waters for their
9 winter catch. And we want to know where all the trout
10 are going, where all our pink are going. They come back
11 later in the wintertime and we'll get enough to keep us
12 going for subsistence, but they're not coming up like
13 they used before and they don't know where they're at.

14

15 And another one is the moose where we
16 hardly see any bull moose any more, lot of cows and
17 calves, but we don't know where all the moose are.

18

19 That's all I have right now, the main
20 ones.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Joe. Like
23 today, you know, I don't have very much concerns or
24 anything to explain, for one reason, because this year
25 caribou migration has been so easy, just about
26 everywhere. Within just a few miles of Kiana you can see
27 caribou everywhere. And everybody got what they want
28 early fall and they're not even hunting any more, so
29 otherwise it's been a good year and real mild weather.
30 So right now I just don't have any concerns, but we'll
31 just continue to watch the migration of caribou, so it's
32 been a good winter for everybody.

33

34 Enoch.

35

36 MR. SCHIEDT: Same thing as Joe, I'm
37 hearing from Noatak and Kotzebue about the fish coming up
38 late, even the whitefish, not only the trout. So they go
39 concerns of them going up river late to where they spend
40 the winter. Even they was in camp, so they're late going
41 up the Eli, and everything is late this year, I don't
42 know. They got concern of mainly the trout, see what's
43 going on with them, is what they're trying to say. Is
44 the river warming up or what? Maybe that's why their

45 coming up late, I don't know. You're the guy with the
46 answer, I guess.

47

48 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Unfortunately, Enoch,

49 I don't have an answer for this one. We'll try

50 (indiscernible -- away from microphone) I'll be happy to

00019

1 talk with you and Joe here before we adjourn.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead, Percy.

4

5 MR. BALLOT: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I
6 represent Deering and Buckland and lately, I guess, after
7 we open the State hunting permits for muskox, the muskox
8 finally got the idea that they shouldn't be around
9 Deering yet.

10

11 (Laughter)

12

13 MR. BALLOT: I guess they're moving out
14 of there, and there's not really any concerns from
15 Deering. But for Buckland we have just gotten our beluga
16 back last year and we're thinking that we're going to be
17 real careful on the activity. I know this is not really
18 much of a place to say it, but there were some hunters
19 that just wanted me to say that we want to be real
20 careful on travel activity and not offend nobody that --
21 we want them to give them another chance to come back.
22 And that we have more to share with the other villages
23 and stuff like that when they do come in. So that's the
24 message I was told to give here at this meeting. I know
25 there's other forums that we could give it to and just
26 talk about it at prayer meetings at the church and stuff
27 like that, so we're just trying to get the message out
28 there. We want to give the beluga another chance to come
29 back and to pay some respects and not do too much
30 activity stuff. We don't want to do a first hunt when we
31 know they're here.

32

33 That's all. Otherwise everything is
34 fine.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Thank you,
37 Percy. Lillian, I know this is your first meeting and I
38 know it's hard for you. What we're talking about, you
39 know, is -- I'll say it in Eskimo. (In Inupiat)

40

41 MS. JOHNSON: Yeah. Okay. About the
42 subsistence fishing, not too bad our fishing, but there's
43 some moose, mostly moose, this fall and no hardly caribou
44 by nearby, used to have lots before. This is the second

45 fall, everybody look for a caribou, they go way far out
46 and still today. Just if they ever pass through and
47 don't know where they go from there, even there. People
48 still looking more. This is really different year to see
49 around caribou, started from last year, and everybody is
50 hurting on caribou because we eating caribou ever since

00020

1 we -- ever since caribou come around and especially after
2 we moved to Ambler. So everything all right on fishing,
3 we don't usually have much trout. That's the one we like
4 to eat most, but hard time to get, you know, not many
5 February, enough to year round already with subsistence
6 'til this fall. I hope it's better this fall, coming
7 this fall.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, thank you,
10 Lillian. Okay. There's coffee and rolls up there, so
11 just go get it. So on this Council report to Item number
12 B, Acting Chair's report. So I guess I'll have to give
13 this to Barbara. I'm not too familiar what actually
14 happened in the last months. Barbara, I give it to you.
15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Thank you, Ray.
17 Every Board meeting that there is to happen, even for the
18 Fish Board or the Wildlife Board, it was started earlier
19 on where the Chairs statewide will meet together and have
20 an agenda, put out issues from each of their regions.
21 And then this happens twice a year, like there's one
22 coming up on May 12th, which Ray will be representing
23 Northwest and then they put out an agenda with the issues
24 from each region and then discuss these amongst
25 themselves. And then the next day they come forward,
26 they meet jointly with the Federal Board and then discuss
27 these issues again that are coming in from each region
28 statewide. And then the summary minutes are there under
29 Tab C, that they are self-explanatory.

30

31 And then after it is an 805 letter that
32 is sent out to all the Council members and the Chair
33 where it explains what the Federal Board did with the
34 proposals from each region. And that's what that Chair's
35 report entails. And this coming May 12th will be Ray's
36 first time representing Northwest and we'll be there for
37 him.

38

39 And then for the 2001 Annual Report
40 issues, I will be listening throughout meeting here for
41 any issues that will be coming from your regions or from
42 this Board and also be in contact with you at a later
43 time to see if you have any further issues or concerns or
44 problems from this regions before I draft the Annual

45 Report for you and send it out for your corrections,
46 inputs or deletions.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Barbara.

00021

1 Any questions on the Chair's report?

2

3 (No audible responses)

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anytime you feel like
6 having a break.

7

8 (In Inupiat)

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Take a 15-minute
11 break before we go to Item number 8. We've got a number
12 of items on there. You guys, want a break? Enoch?

13

14 MR. SCHIEDT: Yeah, let's take a break.

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Let's take a 15-
17 minutes break. Back here around 10:15.

18

19 (Off record)

20

21 (On record)

22

23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, I'll call the
24 meeting back to order. As we go along Barbara just told
25 me that for those of you who want to have lunch here, you
26 may have lunch, it costs \$8, so if you want to go to town
27 it's up to you.

28

29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I got the people
30 signed up and paid up and then there's seven people going
31 to lunch here.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Thank you,
34 Barbara. So we're down to Item number 8, wildlife
35 proposal review and Regional Council recommendations.
36 There's a number of proposals here. Where do we start on
37 proposals right away, Barbara?

38

39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: D. You can start with
40 Proposal 1.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Proposal number 1,
43 brown and black bear.

44

45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Who gives the report
46 on that one?

47

48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Donna.

49

50 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Donna.

00022

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Donna.

2

3 MS. DEWHURST: Good morning, Mr. Chair.

4 Proposal 1 is a statewide proposal. It came from Craig
5 Fleener out of Fort Yukon and it requests that brown
6 bears and black bears be classified as furbearers. Now,
7 what this means -- it's two parts. One part is that if
8 they were classified as furbearers they would be able to
9 be trapped and they would be part of the trapping. The
10 other aspect is that -- and the more controversial
11 aspect, is that it would also enable the sale of hides
12 and parts of both bear species on Federal public lands.
13 So that's what the proposal is.

14

15 Currently under Federal laws, all sales
16 of bear parts is illegal. Under State law, all sales are
17 illegal, except for articles of handicraft made by the
18 fur of black bears. So that's the only thing permitted
19 under State law. Brown bears have been -- any sale of
20 brown bear parts has been illegal since 1925, so quite a
21 long time ago. Black bears, originally you could sell
22 black bear parts up 'til about 1971, so that's been a
23 good 30 years ago they made that illegal, the State did.
24 So it's a long history.

25

26 The concern with it, in many part of the
27 state, is that it would set up a commercial market for
28 sale of bear parts and the aspect of that. For example,
29 probably many of you up here remember the time when polar
30 bear -- when people could routinely get polar bear and
31 all the influx of hunters it brought up in this area.
32 You know, that's the sort of concern a lot of people have
33 in the state with this sort of a thing, is setting up a
34 commercial market.

35

36 The other concern is there is a very
37 active black market in bear parts. And people aren't
38 sure how this would fit in or affect the black market.
39 The main black market is bear gallbladders. Gallbladders
40 in the black market go anywhere from 10 to \$20,000 each.
41 And it's not been, like, subsistence users doing it, it's
42 people going out shooting bears, just taking the
43 gallbladder and leaving the bear lay in the tundra is the
44 common sort of think that would happen. So there was

45 some concern that this might somehow promote that even
46 more.

47

48 Basically, given all the aspect and that
49 this would not match what the State's doing, the State's
50 very much against this, at this point. Given the legal

00023

1 aspects, the controversial commercial aspects of this, at
2 this time staff is recommending that the proponent work
3 with the Board of Game and instead of submitting this to
4 the Federal side that it should first be submitted to the
5 State Board of Game and that this would be better
6 addressed by the State. So what staff is recommending is
7 that we oppose the proposal, except for the aspect of
8 matching what is currently legal on the State's side,
9 which is the sale of handicrafts from black bear fur.
10 And right now that's illegal on Federal regulations. So
11 the one thing we are recommending is to make that legal
12 in Federal regulations like it is in State and then
13 oppose everything else.

14

15 This proposal has gone to, I guess it is
16 every other Council, except for this one, or darn close
17 to it.

18

19 MR. KNAUER: There's one other Council.

20

21 MS. DEWHURST: One more.

22

23 MR. KNAUER: Two other Councils.

24

25 MS. DEWHURST: One, two, three, four,
26 five, six Councils have opposed so far. They have
27 opposed the proposal. Two Councils have supported the
28 proposal and with Southcentral they supported it, but
29 they only supported it on the side of black bear and they
30 only supported the sale of hides, skulls, claws and
31 teeth. They deliberately avoided the whole gallbladder
32 issue and didn't want to make that legal. And they only
33 went with black bears, so that's where the Councils have
34 shaken out. Most have opposed, two have supported. So
35 there are a couple more Councils to go and then we'll
36 have the whole picture statewide.

37

38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Enoch.

39

40 MR. SCHIEDT: I got a question for you.

41 Did you say a motion from us to.....

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Not to support.

44

45 MR. SCHIEDT:accept or not?

46

47 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, basically, it would

48 be whether you feel this should be permissible --

49 basically there's kind of three options. Supporting the

50 sale of bear parts, opposing the sale of bear parts or

00024

1 what the staff's recommending is kind of a middle ground
2 is mostly opposing except for making that one little
3 aspect legal, which is already legal under State law. So
4 basically just matching State law with the Federal regs,
5 which is that sale of black bear fur handicrafts. So
6 that's, you know, kind of where most people -- like I
7 say, most of the Councils have opposed, either the whole
8 thing or opposed, but did go with the staff
9 recommendation.

10

11 MR. SCHIEDT: So there's still black
12 market going on concerning bladder, like the black bear
13 down there.

14

15 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, in different parts
16 of the state it has been a real big problem. I know
17 like, for example -- and it's mostly with brown bears.
18 There have been black bears taken, but it's a bigger
19 problem with the brown bears and the gallbladders and
20 it's not so much a sale, it's not -- because it isn't
21 legal right now, so it's just poaching, basically. It's
22 promoting poaching.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: How about in Unit 23,
25 there many violations of black marketing in Unit 23?

26

27 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, I do remember there
28 was a case, it's been a couple of years ago, but our
29 agents investigated a case where there were -- I think it
30 was more than three bears, I'm not sure the exact number,
31 somebody in the audience might remember the details, but
32 it was several bear carcasses found along the coast, up
33 around Cape Thompson, that they couldn't account for and
34 when they went to check them the only thing removed were
35 the bear gallbladders. So there has been a little bit of
36 this occurring even up in this area. But that's been a
37 few years ago.

38

39 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chair.

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

42

43 MR. BALLOT: I'm just going to go real
44 fast and vote. Motion to oppose this Proposal WP02-01,

45 the inclusion of brown bear and black bear in furbearer.

46 That's my motion.

47

48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further discussion

49 on the proposal?

50

00025

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You need a second for
2 the motion.

3

4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, okay. The motion
5 made.....

6

7 MR. SCHIEDT: Can I make clarification or
8 add on. Percy's proposal was to oppose this, but I would
9 like to made amendment that we oppose it, but with the
10 State regulations for artifacts [sic], all of it in place
11 by the State.

12

13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

16

17 MR. JACK: Yeah, I'm Carl Jack. I would
18 remind the Council to use the proposal review procedures
19 outlined on Page 1 before you.

20

21 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, you need to hear
22 Fish and Game.

23

24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Carl, could you
25 restate this.....

26

27 MS. DEWHURST: He's just reminding us
28 about that we haven't heard Fish and Game's comments and
29 public comments and all that stuff before a vote.

30

31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Wasn't there a motion
34 on the proposal?

35

36 MR. BALLOT: Correct.

37

38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, he made a motion
39 too soon before the discussion and then we need to hear
40 -- there's one support and one opposed.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Your motion was a

45 little premature.

46

47 MR. BALLOT: Okay. Mr. Chairman, I move
48 to withdraw my motion.

49

50 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, just hold your

00026

1 motion. Where is it?

2

3 MR. KNAUER: That box.

4

5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: In the box.

6

7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay. We're right
8 now on number 8, we just got done with number 2.

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

11

12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. So we're to
13 agency comments, number 3, agency comments and then
14 that's been done?

15

16 MR. KNAUER: You haven't asked the State
17 yet.

18

19 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. So we're up to
20 agency comments, now, if there's comments from the
21 agencies on this bear proposal. Anyone want to make a
22 comment on the bear proposal that we have? None? Okay,
23 we have one here.

24

25 MR. SCHNORR: Mike Schnorr, wildlife
26 biologist with National Park Service and we agree with
27 the staff analysis and oppose Proposal 1.

28

29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Open floor for
30 public comments on this proposal. Are there any public
31 comments on this proposal?

32

33 (No audible responses)

34

35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: There is none, then we
36 go down to summary of written public comments. I don't
37 see those.

38

39 MR. KNAUER: On Page 20.

40

41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: There was one in
42 support and one opposed.

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay. If you go

45 to Page 20 of that proposal, there's one to oppose by
46 ADF&G comments. Does Fish and Game want to come and give
47 their comments or is okay if we just read it off?

48

49 MS. GEORGETTE: I think just read it,

50 Barb.

00027

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. The State of
2 Alaska is saying that the Department does not support
3 including brown bear and black bear within the definition
4 of furbearer, nor do we support expanding the sale of
5 bear parts beyond the currently allowed in State
6 regulations. Careful management is required of bears and
7 allowing the sale of certain bear parts could promote
8 unsustainable harvest in some areas of the state.

9

10 At its March 2000 meeting, the Board of
11 Game assigned a committee to discuss the sale of bear
12 parts in response to a petition seeking to amend State
13 regulations to allow the sale of bear claws and fur from
14 brown bears. Committee members opposed to the sale of
15 bear parts cited a variety of concerns, including the
16 incentive for illegal hunting and conservation concerns
17 due to the low reproductive rate of brown bears.
18 Additionally, Alaska Native tradition surrounding the
19 care, treatment and handling of harvested bears remains
20 strong in many parts of Alaska. For individuals adhering
21 to these beliefs the sale of items that include bear
22 parts is inappropriate.

23

24 The committee did not support the sale of
25 bear parts and the Board of Game, subsequently, did not
26 implement the changes requested in the petition. The
27 Department recommends that the staff analysis for the
28 proposal fully evaluate the Subpart D, Section 25
29 regulations on utilization of wildlife that could be
30 affected by adopting this proposal.

31

32 And there's another opposed by Colonel
33 Joel L. Hard, Director State of Alaska, of Public Safety.
34 Because we believe that allowing the sale of bear part
35 will increase illegal take and waste of bears, will
36 exacerbate the black market issue, will go against North
37 American trends that is more restrictive concerning sale
38 and is not consistent with customary and traditional
39 practices. The department of Public safety is opposed to
40 Proposal number 1, which would reclassify brown bear and
41 black bear as furbearers and allow the sale of bear
42 parts.

43

44 And then there is one support from Glen

45 R. Alsworth, Sr. of Port Alsworth, Alaska. I am in favor
46 of adopting the new wording changing the regulation. My
47 belief is that any time that a subsistence user can
48 derive more benefits from a legally taken subsistence
49 resource the better.

50

00028

1 So those are written comments. We go to
2 Regional Council deliberation and recommendation and
3 justification. You can take over.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Any comments on
6 the proposal from the Council members?

7

8 (No audible responses)

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So do we have to go
11 through the motion procedure?

12

13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh (In Inupiat)

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

16

17 MR. BALLOT: Now are you ready,
18 Mr. Chair?

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

21

22 MR. BALLOT: I move to oppose Proposal
23 WP02-01.

24

25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion by Percy to
26 oppose the Proposal number 1. Is there a second.

27

28 MR. SCHIEDT: I'll second it.

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Enoch. Any
31 further discussion on Proposal 1.

32

33 (No audible responses)

34

35 MR. SCHIEDT: Question.

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question been called by
38 Enoch, all in favor of opposing proposal say aye.

39

40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed?

43

44 (No opposing responses)

45

46

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

47

48

MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman.

49

50

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

00029

1 MR. KNAUER: Just for clarification for
2 our records, did that include the previous support of the
3 black bear fur provision that was part of the staff
4 recommendation?

5

6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And that would include
7 what the State regs have now.

8

9 MR. BALLOT: Yeah.

10

11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He saying that they
12 can be sold as handicraft.

13

14 MR. BALLOT: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, okay.

17

18 MR. KNAUER: Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Is that it?

21

22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. Okay, go

23 to.....

24

25 MS. DEWHURST: Proposal 38 was withdrawn.

26

27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Proposal 38.

28

29 MS. DEWHURST: It was withdrawn from -- I
30 don't know if Helen wants to give any details on that

31 or.....

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Proposal 38, Helen.

34

35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair,
36 Office of Subsistence Management. Proposal 38 was
37 withdrawn by the Council by a poll that Barb and Bert --
38 or did Bert do all of that? No, you did it?

39

40 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Right.

41

42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right, Barb did it.

43 And the reason we did this a little bit, it's a little

44 bit differently than what normally gets done, is that the

45 North Slope Council had their meeting in February and
46 they had wanted to be on teleconference to discuss this
47 proposal. They deferred their vote until this meeting
48 and so we felt that it might get withdrawn, so instead we
49 had Barb poll the Council to see if it would be
50 withdrawn, so that we didn't have to set up the

00030

1 teleconference and bring in the North Slope Council. And
2 they've been informed of that and they were okay with it.
3 So I don't know if we -- Bill, do we need to have an
4 official vote here at the meeting?

5

6 MR. KNAUER: (Shakes head negatively)

7

8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No. Okay, we don't
9 need to have a vote. It's been withdrawn. And at
10 anytime -- it could be brought up again next year. Just
11 because it's withdrawn now doesn't mean -- if it's still
12 an issue later it can be presented again next year.

13

14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So since Proposal 38
15 has been withdrawn, we go to the next proposal, number
16 39, sheep. On Proposal 39, proposal review procedures.
17 Who will do that, Donna?

18

19 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

20

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

22

23 MS. DEWHURST: Proposal 39 was to revise
24 sheep seasons, quota, the announcement process.
25 Basically to give authority to the superintendent of the
26 Western Arctic Parklands to set the winter season,
27 announce harvest quotas each year and, if necessary,
28 close the season.

29

30 That's one aspect of the proposal The
31 other aspect of the proposal is to put in a stipulation
32 that the trophy of the sheep horns must be destroyed upon
33 return from the field by a Park Service employee or a
34 Park Service representative.

35

36 The idea behind this proposal when it was
37 originally conceived was there was some concern that
38 under the Federal hunt the harvest wasn't getting
39 distributed well throughout all the communities in the
40 region. For example, if you go to page 48, under Tab D,
41 there's.....

42

43 MR. KNAUER: Page 46.

44

45 MS. DEWHURST: Excuse me, Page 46, Table
46 2. You can see during the first year of the hunt, the
47 first couple years of the hunt we had fairly good
48 distribution, but then in 2001/2002 basically all the
49 successful hunters came from Kotzebue. And there was
50 some concern that the harvest wasn't getting spread out

00031

1 to include Noatak, to include Kivalina, include other
2 villages in the area that most likely would like to have
3 sheep. So there was some attempt to come up with some
4 stipulations that might help spread the harvest out, was
5 the idea when the original proposal came out. And one of
6 those was by requesting the trophy value be destroyed,
7 the idea would be to try to target more the meat hunters,
8 the people that are interested in meat and not just
9 interested in horns.

10

11 On the downside of the trophy value --
12 this proposal was discussed at the North Slope and the
13 North Slope Council was very concerned about destroying
14 the trophy value. They mentioned, pretty adamantly about
15 craft us of the horns and they were concerned that we
16 would actually be hurting subsistence users by requiring
17 the destruction value of horns, that it would prevent use
18 by crafts and they didn't feel that it would make that
19 much of a difference in the harvest distribution. That's
20 originally why they were very interested this proposal.

21

22 As far as the aspect of delegating to the
23 superintendent of Western National Parklands, they didn't
24 have any problem with that, they didn't see any issue
25 there. Their only issue was the trophy value aspect.

26

27 As far as the staff analysis goes, we're
28 basically supporting this, because it came from this
29 Council working with the National Park Service. So it's
30 up to this Council -- we did want to get a little more
31 information from this Council and maybe request some more
32 discussion about the trophy value aspect and if you think
33 that there is going to be any problems with people not
34 going to be able to crafts or if this really isn't an
35 issues and that you're more concerned about trying to
36 distribute the harvest.

37

38 But the whole issue here wasn't really a
39 biological one, it's a user allocation issue and trying
40 to make the hunt as fair as possible and get the sheep
41 out to as many different people as possible.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Donna, again, I would
44 like some clarification. You said that this horn would

45 be destroyed and, in detail, who would destroy,
46 especially, the horn, any agency?

47

48 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, the way the proposal
49 is written, it would have to be either a Park Service
50 employee or a Park Service representative, i.e., the Park

00032

1 Service could designate somebody in a village to be their
2 representative and that person would destroy -- and
3 usually the trophy value means cutting the thing in half
4 or something along that line. Usually it's cutting the
5 horns in half, taking at least half of the horn off.

6

7 And that concludes the staff analysis.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Anything
10 else from the Council about the....

11

12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Agency comments.

13

14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Agency comments on this
15 proposal. State.

16

17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, we have one from
18 the State, their comment is to support with modification.
19 And they're saying the proposed opening of the sheep
20 season in Unit 23 and 26(A) by announcement would make it
21 more difficult for the public to comply with regulations
22 and would eliminate consistent State and Federal
23 Subsistence hunting seasons. Eliminating the use of
24 aircraft for these hunts or delaying the season openings
25 until mid-October or early November would solve some of
26 the problems identified in this proposal and would make
27 the Federal regulations with the State subsistence
28 regulations. Although destroying the trophy value would
29 be consistent with the approach taken in subsistence
30 muskox and brown bear hunts, it might not discourage
31 highly motivated hunters unless the trophy is
32 substantially defaced and even then the effect of this
33 requirement would be uncertain. Taxidermists can
34 fabricate realistic horns and antlers with epoxy and
35 animals can be scored for record books prior to
36 devaluation.

37

38 And we don't have any -- there's -- after
39 that open.

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Uh-huh. Okay. Open
42 for public comment for this proposal.

43

44 (No audible responses)

45

46 MS. DEWHURST: Mr. Chair, I do have one
47 clarification. With the staff recommendation we did
48 recommend the clarify the language a little bit, that was
49 at the request of the National Park Service. They had
50 some input from some local people that they had read it.

00033

1 They said they could understand the language, so we tried
2 to rewrite the language at the end just to make it a
3 little clearer, so that was the only real change we made.

4

5 And I did look into the thing with Boone
6 and Crockett, there was some question that came up from
7 our office as to if somebody could still score their
8 horns with Boone and Crockett, you know, before the
9 trophy value was destroyed. And it depends on if there's
10 a Boone and Crockett representative available. If
11 somebody is available they can witness the horns and the
12 length, then they can be destroyed. There is a
13 possibility they could score them and still get their
14 trophy value and get on the record books prior to the
15 destruction of the horns, but it's unlikely.

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that it, Donna?

18

19 MS. DEWHURST: Yes.

20

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Five, summary of
22 written public comments. Barbara, got anything on it?

23

24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, we do not
25 have any written public comments at this time for this
26 proposal. Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Number 6.

29

30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh, number 6. (In
31 Inupiat)

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anything from the
34 Council? Oh, okay for the record why don't.....

35

36 MR. SAMPSON: Is it okay to comment? Is
37 the process in place?

38

39 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, public comments,
40 yeah.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: There's a mike there.

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You need to come up to

45 a mike, Walt.

46

47 MR. SAMPSON: My name is Walter Sampson
48 with NANA. I apologize for not being -- I was listening
49 to a State Finance Committee dealing with some the House
50 bills on taxation and trying to get some revenue from all

00034

1 of us, I guess, so I had some public testimony on that.
2 But regards to the proposal, based on what Barbara said
3 in regards to State's comments. They put under ADF&G
4 comments no recommendation, however, you heard the
5 comments that were made by the State of Alaska.

6

7 Now, in regards to destroying the trophy
8 value, it can actually work both ways for those people
9 that utilize the horns for crafts. It also can work
10 against them, as well, too. I say that because if crafts
11 are made from the horns then that also is destroying that
12 portion from their side. I think with the State of
13 Alaska saying that this regulation will be consistent
14 with State regulations, but there's no recommendation
15 from their side, then it's because it's a hot issue to
16 them. And I don't want to be sound negative, but we also
17 need to also to be reminded as public as most -- or I
18 should say, as you know that just recently the Federal
19 government had taken over subsistence resources. And, as
20 you know, there's been some influx of State employees
21 transferring over into the Federal side of the picture.
22 And remember the State of Alaska, for many years, have
23 objected to certain things in rural communities. That
24 mentality never changed, it just moved from the State
25 side to the Federal side of the picture. It's something
26 that we all need to consider and be aware of.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter.
31 Anything from the Council? There has to be a motion.

32

33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Council deliberation.

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What?

36

37 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Regional Council
38 deliberation (In Inupiat)

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We're down to
41 number 6, Regional Council deliberation, recommendations
42 and justifications.

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's up to the Council

45 to decide what they want to do with proposal.

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Uh-huh.

48

49 MR. SCHIEDT: Mr. Chairman.

50

00035

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Enoch.

2

3 MR. SCHIEDT: What page?

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Proposal number 39,
6 about from 35.

7

8 MR. BALLOT: And Page 49, that's where
9 you can understand it better.

10

11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Inupiat)

12

13 MR. SCHIEDT: Okay, the reason why this
14 proposal was put together like this last year because
15 some of the hunters were concerned about them not getting
16 a chance to hunt. And it was -- I mean, I supported last
17 fall when it was put together. I could say I still could
18 support this with the justification that's put in there.
19 So I don't know about the rest of the people, because the
20 trophy value has a lot to do with it, we need to keep it
21 for Federal subsistence users. So I support this as
22 written with the justification.

23

24 MR. AREY: As it is, huh?

25

26 MR. BALLOT: Uh-huh.

27

28 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: With the modification.

29

30 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, with the modification,
31 I mean. I'm sorry.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Bill.

34

35 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman, just a
36 clarification. No matter whether or not there is a
37 requirement to destroy the trophy value of horns, or not,
38 it would still be limited to the subsistence user only.

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The hunt?

41

42 MR. KNAUER: The hunt, yes.

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's for subsistence

45 users only.

46

47 MR. SCHIEDT: Well, if it's only for
48 subsistence users, then I got no -- I mean, it won't
49 really matter, right? Joe, you talk to anybody from
50 Noatak about this one?

00036

1 MR. AREY: No, but up here in my village
2 when we go out for subsistence, we get the sheep, we
3 don't go out for the trophy, you know, that part -- and
4 in here it's says 50 from Kotzebue. They don't -- so
5 much going sheep hunting, you can see right there where
6 it says 50 from Kotzebue, gee, that's going out for
7 trophy, they're not going out for subsistence. In our
8 village we go out, but they already got the limits and we
9 can't go out and get ours, so if we get what is says,
10 like, taking that trophy part off, we'll have more chance
11 to go out and subsist and get our meat. If I go out
12 hunting, I get a sheep, the first thing I do is go home
13 and I'll pass it to the elders. See, I don't go out and
14 get them for trophy. If somebody wants the horn, I'll
15 give them the horn. Because now that I'm -- they come to
16 me and they make crafts, like they make ulus and they use
17 it for handles. They come to me and say, you got a sheep
18 horn? Yeah. Let me buy it. No, you can just take it.
19 A lot of them did that to me. So we don't go out for
20 trophy. So if we stick to that part there where we cut
21 that horn off of the trophy, our people will have more
22 chance to go out and get their subsistence sheep.

23

24 Council the North Slope oppose that?

25

26 MS. DEWHURST: Well, they didn't vote the
27 proposal but they opposed the aspect of destroying the
28 trophy value.

29

30 MR. AREY: Yeah. You still have the
31 other part for craft, see. These guides take our -- they
32 come from all over the world, see, just to get what they
33 want. They get what they want. And then if we cut the
34 horn off, they're not come here for half a horn.

35

36 MR. SCHIEDT: Excuse me. I think the new
37 regulations state that winter hunt gives Kivalina and
38 Noatak a chance over there on the mountains over there, I
39 think that's -- I understand what you're saying, you want
40 to take the rattle down on horns is what you're saying,
41 right?

42

43 MR. AREY: Yeah.

44

45 MR. SCHIEDT: Okay. And that's why --
46 and here where they're referring to Kotzebue had 50
47 permits issued and none from Kivalina, Noatak and Kiana
48 and other villages and these are the permits that's
49 issued just 50, not they're taking the 50 sheep, they're
50 eight in '99 -- I mean 12 in '99 and eight in 2002.

00037

1 MR. AREY: And even with all those
2 permits the other villages they get less sheep, Kotzebue
3 had more permits, more people and then you take a little
4 village with 200 people.

5
6 MR. SCHIEDT: Yeah, I'm trying to make
7 you understand that they're breaking it up so Noatak will
8 have a chance. It's going to be different than this in
9 the future, see.

10
11 MR. AREY: The other people with the 50
12 permits, all those people, they can go out and get the
13 limit before we even get a chance to go out in the
14 villages, because there's so many people here in Kotzebue
15 and there's only 200 in another village and they don't
16 have a chance. And we know that country because you
17 can't just go out and I'm going to over to sheep. You
18 can't do that directly though.

19
20 MR. SCHIEDT: That's why there was a
21 proposal from one of the agent, I think, winter hunting.
22 Fall hunt. Am I right on that?

23
24 MS. DEWHURST: No, you're right. That
25 was part of why designating the authority to the
26 superintendent with the idea that the winter hunt would
27 not be open until there was adequate snow fall to use
28 snowmachines trying to prevent aircraft users from using
29 the winter hunt. Because in some years -- in the past we
30 had started October 1 and then some years there wasn't
31 enough snow to really get out and snowmachine by October
32 1, so the aircraft guys are still out there. So the idea
33 was to target snowmachine hunters with the winter hunt.

34
35 MR. SCHIEDT: Uh-huh. Now you
36 understand, Joe?

37
38 (No audible response)

39
40 MR. SCHIEDT: Okay. The motion I made
41 earlier, I will still stand by it, cut the horn to
42 devalue the trophy. I don't know, it's up to you guys
43 choice as to what you want to do.

44

45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Would you please
46 restate your motion then, Enoch?

47

48 MR. SCHIEDT: Make my motion to support
49 this proposal with the modification put in place by the
50 agency. Is that clear enough?

00038

1 MS. DEWHURST: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

2

3 MR. KNAUER: Very clear.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion from Enoch, is
6 there a second on this motion?

7

8 MR. AREY: I second it.

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Joe. Any
11 further discussions on Proposal number 39?

12

13 (No audible responses)

14

15 MR. BALLOT: Question.

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been called
18 for, any objection to the question?

19

20 (No audible responses)

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: All in favor of the
23 motion say aye on Proposal number 39.

24

25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26

27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed?

28

29 (No opposing responses)

30

31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Proposal number 39
32 passed, Barbara.

33

34 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Thank you.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So go to the next
37 proposal?

38

39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Proposal number 40.

42

43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, Proposal 40
44 was withdrawn by the Selawik IRA.

45

46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. So we don't need
47 no action on it.

48

49 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No.

50

00039

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. So we go down to
2 Proposal 41.

3

4 MS. DEWHURST: Proposal 41 is on lynx.
5 It was originally made to just affect the trapping
6 regulations to go from -- it's on Page 53.

7

8 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, thanks.

9

10 MS. DEWHURST: It was to go from the
11 trapping regulation to go from three lynx to a limit of
12 10 lynx. That was the original recommendation, it was
13 submitted by Mr. Roswell Schaeffer, Senior of Kotzebue.

14

15 Lynx are notoriously cyclic all over the
16 state, meaning the populations go up and down and right
17 now they're considered to be abundant in the Kobuk and
18 Selawik drainages. They're expected to increase in the
19 remainder of the unit. The State doesn't do extensive
20 lynx surveys in this unit and the furbearer sealing
21 records are of limited value. So the data they have
22 isn't really strong, but the indications are is that's
23 where we're at in the cycle.

24

25 When we looked at this proposal, the main
26 thing we looked at was recently the State Board of Game
27 dealt with this same issue for this unit. And they made
28 some changes liberalizing both hunting and trapping
29 regulations. Basically, if you go to Page 56, under the
30 preliminary conclusion, you can see what were
31 recommending is the staff was to match the changes the
32 State made last fall. And that was to go under trapping
33 regulations. Instead of going from three to 10, we
34 recommended to go to a no limit on the trapping and to
35 change the season to a more liberal season, from November
36 1 to April 15th. And also go with that same season under
37 the hunting regulations. These changes have already been
38 made by the State, so we would just be matching State
39 regulations, which are now more liberal than the Federal
40 regulations.

41

42 So that was our recommendation was to
43 just match the existing State regulations and go with a
44 no limit on trapping and the expanded seasons on hunting.

45 And this would also serve to match our adjacent units,
46 because some of the adjacent units already have this
47 season and the no trapping limits on lynx. So we'd be
48 matching the State and we'd also be match like Unit 26
49 and the units around us, Unit 26, Unit 22. So that was
50 the idea.

00040

1 And there's no strong evidence that this
2 would cause any conservation concern at this time. If we
3 got evidence of that, we could always change it in the
4 future. So at this time we recommend to go with the
5 State's changes.

6

7 And that concludes the staff analysis.
8 Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Like you said, Donna,
11 this proposal effecting today or the next cycle?

12

13 MS. DEWHURST: It would go into effect in
14 what, June?

15

16 MR. KNAUER: July 1.

17

18 MS. DEWHURST: July 1 for the next
19 hunting and fishing cycle.

20

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Agency comment
22 on Proposal 31.

23

24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We have one from the
25 Alaska Department of Fish and Game. And they're saying
26 to support with modification. The Department recommends
27 this proposal to be amended to establish hunting and
28 trapping season of November 1 through April 5 with a bag
29 limit of no limit. These modifications would take into
30 account actions taken by the Board of Game at its
31 November 2001 meeting and would align the State and
32 Federal regulations.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any public comments on
37 Proposal 41?

38

39 (No audible responses)

40

41 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I guess not.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Now on number 5,
44 summary of written public comments. Barbara.

45

46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, there are
47 no written public comment on this Proposal 41. Thank
48 you.

49

50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Regional Council

00041

1 deliberation, recommendations and justification now. Up
2 to the Council now.

3

4 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

7

8 MR. BALLOT: We're also noticing an
9 increase in lynx and rabbit population, so we're going to
10 support the proposal.

11

12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Are you making a
13 motion?

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Motion.....

16

17 MR. BALLOT: I'll move to support
18 Proposal 41.

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's a motion, Percy?

21

22 MR. BALLOT: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

25

26 MR. SCHIEDT: I'll second it.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Enoch. Any
29 further discussion on Proposal 41? Bill.

30

31 MR. KNAUER: Just a clarification. Is
32 that motion to support the proposal as original or as
33 modified?

34

35 MR. BALLOT: As modified, change of
36 season dates, yeah.

37

38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further discussion?

39

40 (No audible responses)

41

42 MR. SCHIEDT: Question.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been called.

45 Any objection to the question?

46

47 (No audible responses)

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, all in favor

50 of Proposal 41 for supporting say aye.

00042

1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed?

4

5 (No opposing responses)

6

7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Proposal 41 has passed,
8 Barbara.

9

10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go down to Proposal 37,
13 the Seward Peninsula muskox. It's on your Tab D.

14

15 MS. DEWHURST: Page 61 would be the best
16 place to look. Page 59 evidently has -- it's missing a
17 page, so go to Page 61.

18

19 Proposal 37 was made by the Seward
20 Peninsula Council, it's dealing with the Federal harvest
21 primarily on the Seward Pen, but it also includes
22 Buckland and Deering and that's why it's a crossover into
23 your region.

24

25 Similar to the sheep proposal, the idea
26 here was to delegate authority down to the superintendent
27 of Western Arctic Parklands, in consultation with ADF&G
28 and BLM, to be able to set the harvest quotas in each
29 subunit every year. And the idea there was we've made a
30 lot of changes in the muskox hunt over the years. We get
31 new information from surveys, we meet with the Seward
32 Peninsula muskox cooperators and they change quotas and
33 we've done a lot of tweaking, which in every case has had
34 to go clear back to the Federal Subsistence Board to
35 change the number. Sometimes they're very small changes.
36 And we wanted to try and simplify the process and allow
37 those small changes to be made the superintendent of the
38 park, instead of having to go clear up to the Federal
39 Subsistence Board.

40

41 And that also puts more authority
42 locally, so it allows the park and BLM and Fish and Game
43 to work on a local level more than having to go back to
44 Anchorage every time and have people from Anchorage

45 making the decisions. So we felt like overall it would
46 be a good thing to put more of the authority at a local
47 level, as long as it works. And if it doesn't work at
48 any time you can always request to pull it back. But at
49 this time we thought it would be worth giving it a try
50 and letting the superintendent having the authority to

00043

1 make harvest quotas and any needed closures directly
2 without having to go through that extra hoop of going
3 through the Federal Subsistence Board.

4

5 So that's the idea behind it. And Seward
6 Peninsula Council met and they supported with a staff
7 modification. And the staff modification was just some
8 changes in the language. We clarified the language a
9 little bit. So Seward Peninsula supported the proposal
10 as modified by staff.

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Enoch.

13

14 MR. SCHIEDT: Could I ask on the Tier II,
15 can you explain the word Tier II? I got an idea but I
16 want to hear.....

17

18 MS. DEWHURST: Well, Tier II -- we're
19 working jointly with the State, so the actual total
20 harvest is a joint number. When they say, let's say, 15
21 muskox can be taken in this subunit, it's both by Tier II
22 users and Federal users and when the 15 is met we'll shut
23 the whole hunt down, both the State and the Federal. On
24 the State side with Tier II then people have to apply,
25 there is an application process and they get scored. And
26 the State can jump in at any time, Lee Ann, if I mis-
27 speak on this. But they get scored based on a number of
28 factors that will allow the State to determine if -- like
29 history of use is one of the factors. Do they have a
30 history of hunting muskox in the past? Things like that
31 that are -- cost of living in the area. And that will
32 determine -- usually that means the local people will get
33 priority over, let's say, somebody from Anchorage or
34 Fairbanks, most of the time.

35

36 MR. SCHIEDT: Okay. Maybe -- okay. I
37 understand that Tier II, if you're qualified as a Tier II
38 hunter and your in the mid-age and there's another one
39 that could qualified for Tier II, but they're the young
40 ones, but they turn age. Is the one that was older going
41 to get qualified under grandfather rights automatically
42 or is just going to be put in a hat and everybody will
43 have an equal share on Tier II? But the way I understand
44 a Tier II, once you get grandfather rights, you

45 automatically get qualified; is that right? No?

46

47 MS. DEWHURST: Let me clarify, if I

48 misspeak. But I think it's the idea that the older

49 hunter would have more experience hunting so they should

50 score higher.

00044

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Susan.

2

3 MS. GEORGETTE: My name is Susan
4 Georgette, I was with the Fish and Game Department, and
5 it is true that people with a greater history of use get
6 more points and can get the permits. But with muskox,
7 because it's only a recent hunt and everyone's been
8 eligible, really, since it started about how many years
9 now? Ten years ago maybe or something?

10

11 MS. DEWHURST: Not even that long.

12

13 MS. GEORGETTE: But what happens is that
14 if you have hunted them -- if you did get a permit and
15 you got one then you tend to get more points than someone
16 that came along.

17

18 MR. SCHIEDT: But what I'm trying to say
19 is it's not fair for the younger ones to be able to
20 qualify. Once you get the grandfather right and you get
21 the muskoxen, it's not fair for the other ones to be able
22 to qualify, because if you pick 10 hunt -- or eight hunt
23 -- or whatever hunt it is, the eight that successfully
24 hunt will always be qualified versus the other way, I
25 mean it's not fair.

26

27 MS. GEORGETTE: One thing that happens is
28 that if you applied for a permit from the first year,
29 even if you didn't get on, you can get points for having
30 applied. But you're right, if you're 18 years old or 16
31 and you just suddenly came of age, you're going to be
32 behind the other people in your village that have been
33 applying for permit all along.

34

35 MR. SCHIEDT: Because it would be hard
36 for me to support this if a kid can qualify in the
37 future. And he's still qualified as subsistence hunter
38 due to his income. You know, it's just not fair.

39

40 MS. GEORGETTE: No, it's not income
41 related, it's -- I mean, people can start getting permits
42 as the permits expand, so as more muskox are available it
43 increases the pool. Or if some people don't apply, like,
44 if you had gotten a permit for the last few years and you

45 didn't apply this year, then there's room for other
46 people. But it is true that once you start getting those
47 Tier II permits you tend to get them, even though it's
48 not that you're really grandfathered in, but you tend to
49 get more points. And then a new person who came along
50 would be at the lower end of it.

00045

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Charlie.

2

3 MR. LEAN: My name is Charlie Lean and
4 I've been qualified as a Tier II hunter for muskoxen and
5 all. But the rules just changed and I think what Susan
6 neglected to say was that the State has changed the rules
7 so that the longevity thing has been waived for muskoxen
8 in 22 and 23. So if you're just almost qualified or just
9 -- it's now a lottery, in a sense, so if there's a bunch
10 of people, which has been the case in recent times, that
11 were right on the break, it's become a lottery, whereas
12 in the past five years it was based on the people that
13 had got a permit the year before had an advantage. This
14 year that will not be true.

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, thanks.

17

18 MS. DEWHURST: And under the Federal
19 regulation, you know, of course, we don't have any point
20 scoring system. If the number of people that apply is
21 less than the number of permits we'll issue then
22 everybody applies gets one. But if it's more then they
23 do it with a lottery to decide who gets the Federal
24 permits.

25

26 MR. SCHIEDT: Yeah, all I'm after is to
27 make everybody fair in this, that's subsistence user. I
28 just like to make it fair.

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

31

32 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
33 Walter Sampson again. I guess I need to remind myself
34 that what you see -- what I see on the regulation that's
35 being proposed is that the State regulation is being
36 proposed as well, too, because that's what the State
37 regulation say. Remember that the State of Alaska was
38 unable to manage its resources, as far as subsistence is
39 concerned, that's why the Federal government took over.
40 And we need to remind ourselves, periodically, what it
41 that we're trying to do as far as allocation of resource
42 is concerned. That's what is really the priority of the
43 Federal Board. Do you want to create a competition here
44 in regards to taking of resource? That Tier II system is

45 certainly set up in that direction, even though the
46 intent is good. Sure -- you know, it's a scoring system,
47 it's basically what that Tier II system is. If you score
48 the highest or if you score the lowest then it's
49 basically a system that the State of Alaska has put our
50 way. Now, do you want to apply that in Federal hunt?

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1 Something that you need to think about.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Ken.

4

5 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chairman, my name is
6 Ken Adkisson, Subsistence Coordinator for the Park
7 Service, Western Arctic Parklands. Donna touched on kind
8 of the process, but I think listening to some of the
9 discussion, I think, it's maybe important to have a
10 little more of an overview of how the whole process
11 works.

12

13 Some of you, like Percy, that have been
14 around for a long time will remember that we started the
15 muskoxen hunt on the Seward Peninsula in 1995. And the
16 hunt was entirely Federal, there was no State hunt. The
17 hunt had a number of major problems that did not work to
18 benefit village subsistence users. Primarily the
19 distribution and relationship of Federal and State and
20 private lands. Some villages were forced into having to
21 travel long distances under very tough weather and travel
22 conditions to get to public lands to harvest muskoxen.
23 Meanwhile, in the process of doing that, they could cross
24 State and private lands and sit there and pass muskoxen
25 that were, you know, to be found there.

26

27 But the answer to that, really, was to
28 work cooperatively with the State and the only tools that
29 the State had available was the Tier II permitting
30 system, imperfect as it was, but well meaning also as it
31 was. And the State Tier II system was, you know,
32 originally set up to benefit traditional users rather
33 than provide opportunity for everyone. And so, yes, the
34 point scoring system did favor people who had harvested
35 muskoxen in the past or developed a track record. And
36 for the most part that worked to keep permits in the
37 communities, but at the same time, under the State
38 system, it did favor people who had successfully
39 harvested.

40

41 And it took about three years of hunting
42 to get the State hunt in place. And since that time it's
43 been a joint process, working with the cooperator, which
44 involves village participation, an overall harvest quota

45 will be set by a subunit. For example, for Unit
46 23(Southwest), if you look at the current reg book,
47 you'll find that the combined State and Federal harvest
48 should not exceed 13 animals, eight of which can be cows.

49

50

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1 Now, the way it works is the cooperators
2 recommend to the State and Federal Board a harvest quota,
3 in this case for 23(Southwest) it was 13 animals. Then
4 what happens is working again with the communities and
5 through the cooperators and the agencies we arrive at a
6 distribution or allocation of that harvest between the
7 State and Federal programs. Because of problems and
8 fears about how the State hunt would work, or State
9 involvement at all -- the history in 23(Southwest) for
10 Deering and Buckland, it began by almost all Federal
11 permits and no State permits. When people found that the
12 State could work to their advantage that has shifted to
13 where predominantly the permits that are issued in
14 23(Southwest) are closer now to 50/50 or more in favor of
15 the State permits. And so that's kind of the way the
16 history of that's evolved. And it's continuing to
17 basically work pretty much in the favor of the villages.

18
19 The big change, I think, on the State's
20 side is, as Susan and Charlie have pointed out, is there
21 have been recent changes, very recent changes, in the
22 State muskoxen Tier II permits that will probably provide
23 an increased opportunity for first time harvesters or
24 hunters, the young people that Enoch is talking about.
25 It's not a perfect system, but it's kept the State
26 harvest in the communities, basically, and that's a plus.
27 You know, it's a continuing to evolving process, but it
28 requires the coordination.

29
30 And I think as Walther as pointed out
31 from his experience on the State Board of Game, this has
32 been a dual effort. And it starts from the grass roots
33 up and with the cooperator and then regulatory proposals,
34 kind of work their way up through both the State and
35 Federal sides of the system and, hopefully, when they
36 come out at the end of the regulatory cycle we have a
37 regulation that's fairly similar on both sides, the State
38 and Federal, and then we can work with the villagers and
39 the managing agencies to kind of implement those. And so
40 far, I think, it's been one of the big success programs
41 in the state.

42
43 And the regulation or proposal that
44 you're looking at now is kind of the last phase of this

45 cycle, similar regulations have already gone to the State
46 Board of Game and have been adopted. And so we're just
47 trying to, you know, clean it up and give us the
48 flexibility that we can, as Donna has pointed, make
49 harvest allocation adjustments and so forth without
50 having to go back to the Board of Game or the Federal

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1 Subsistence Board rather. And I shouldn't say harvest
2 allocation, more adjusting to harvest numbers. For
3 example, we're just now in the process of conducting the
4 muskoxen count for 2002. What we would have to do, then,
5 is apply the harvest thresholds that were established
6 through the cooperators, with both Boards, and adjust the
7 harvest quota for next year's hunt, based on that.

8

9 For example, it's -- for 23(E) it's, I
10 think, five percent, three percent bulls and two percent
11 cows. And what we do is then go out, count the muskoxen
12 and apply that five percent, three bulls, two cow ratio
13 to the harvest and come up with the allowable harvest and
14 then divide that between the State and Federal systems.

15

16 Part of what you're looking at here, too,
17 is a part of a process not that affects 23(Southwest),
18 but affects 22(E) where they asked for an eight percent
19 harvest level threshold, with four percent cows and four
20 percent bulls. And the State Board of Game adopted that
21 and passing this regulation or adopting this Federal
22 proposal will allow us to implement that next year in
23 22(E). We aren't expecting any changes in 23(Southwest)
24 until the cooperators meet again and make additional
25 recommendations in the change. So the big thing that
26 this regulation, if you pass it or adopt it, will do is
27 simply allow us to up the total harvest if the number of
28 animals increases without having to go back in May or by
29 Special Action to the Federal Board. Like I said, so
30 far, I think it's one big success stories in the state
31 and has been working very well and perfect as it is.

32

33 Thank you. If you have any questions
34 I'll try to answer them.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, Ken, I got a
37 question for you. You say on the Southwest, what is the
38 population really up to date now after -- were there
39 successful hunters this year or -- my question is what is
40 the population in Southwest?

41

42 MR. ADKISSON: You mean of the muskoxen?

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, muskox.

45

46 MR. ADKISSON: Oh, boy, I didn't bring
47 that with me.

48

49 MS. DEWHURST: It's on Page 69.

50

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1 MR. ADKISSON: What does it show the last
2 count for 23(Southwest)?

3

4 MS. DEWHURST: Just shy of 1,800.

5

6 MR. ADKISSON: Well, that's the whole
7 thing.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

10

11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: About 1,800.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

14

15 MR. ADKISSON: But that's for the whole
16 Seward Peninsula where they've counted. I'd actually
17 have to do backwards math, and I'm not really very good
18 at that. I could take that 18 and multiply that
19 backwards to get the total amount, but I would think it's
20 somewhere in the neighborhood of roughly 300 animals.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. How about north,
23 like Noatak, it's the same number as last year?

24

25 MR. ADKISSON: No, that's a whole
26 different ball game and, as far as I know, you know,
27 you'd have to ask ADF&G, by and large, but the animals
28 that you find north of Noatak and stuff are generally
29 dispersing outward from either the Seward Peninsula
30 population or perhaps, in some cases, even dispersing
31 outward from the Cape Krusenstern, Cape Thompson
32 population. So I think what's happening there is you're
33 largely encountering those one to several bulls,
34 basically, that often referred to as pioneering bulls
35 that go out and eventually, if the habitat is suitable,
36 will eventually draw in cows and establish breeding
37 populations. So I think you're really looking at area
38 north of the Noatak as kind of right now in that
39 transition stage where the animals are pioneering, but
40 they may coming from the south or they may be coming from
41 the west.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Thank you, Ken.

44

45 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

48

49 MR. BALLOT: It says there that the

50 quotas would be determined by the superintendent with

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1 Fish and Game involvement. Where will the cooperatives
2 fit in? Or recommendations?

3

4 MR. ADKISSON: Well, neither Fish and
5 Game or BLM or the Park Service really makes a move
6 currently without attempting to go through the
7 cooperators first. So what we'll probably do is if
8 anybody has any bright ideas or wants a change, we'll do
9 it through the cooperators first and then try to develop
10 a consensus on it and then run that up through the
11 process of the State and the Federal sides of the
12 regulatory processes.

13

14 For example, at the last cooperators
15 meeting that we held, the Buckland and Deering folks
16 basically wanted to see continued growth and expansion of
17 the population to provide additional hunting opportunity,
18 and so they wanted to keep a more conservative harvest
19 level than the folks over in 22(E), i.e., Shishmaref and
20 Wales, who felt that there were too many muskoxen and
21 wanted a higher harvest level. And you'll see some of
22 that reflected in the proposal this time around, which
23 allows us to raise the harvest level next year in 22(E),
24 but keeps it the same in 23(Southwest).

25

26 So what really needs to happen is someone
27 need -- if they're interested in changing 23(Southwest)
28 regulations, needs to bring that to the cooperators,
29 hopefully, first, but could take it through the State
30 process or through the Fish and Game Advisory Committees
31 or through your Regional Advisory Council here on the
32 Federal side. And what sometimes happen then is the
33 Federal process or the State process refers it back to
34 the cooperators. But the idea is if we can get ahead of
35 the ball game, develop the proposals or the ideas for
36 changes in the cooperators first, develop a broad
37 consensus on that, we have a better success of the
38 regulations passing and being effective.

39

40 So if Buckland and Deering wants some
41 changes, all they have to do, for example, is call up the
42 park staff and, you know, we could start the ball rolling
43 with the cooperators or whatever. Or the Buckland and
44 Deering representative will be invited to the next

45 cooperators meeting when we hold it.

46

47 MR. BALLOT: Is this going to increase
48 the cow harvest?

49

50 MR. ADKISSON: The State, initially, when

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1 it adopted some new regulation, a little over a year ago,
2 was very reluctant to raise cow harvest levels and that's
3 way you'll see -- and slow down the growth at all. And
4 that's why you'll see that back about two Novembers ago
5 now when they put some new regulations in place, the
6 22(E) regulation was -- the State harvest limit for cows
7 was two percent, the Federal harvest level, however, came
8 out at three percent. And then in this last November
9 cycle the Board of Game, you know, actually raised the
10 harvest level in 22(E) to eight percent and adopted the
11 four percent cows. So that was a major progress there.

12

13 So it's really up to -- you know, it's up
14 to a lot of what Buckland and Deering to do, if they want
15 to increase cow harvest opportunities, what we'd do is
16 begin with an idea and the cooperators and see how that
17 fits with the cooperative management plan and the goals
18 there and whether things need to be changed and develop a
19 regulatory proposal out of there. And the cooperators
20 will bring the regulatory proposals before the local Fish
21 and Game Advisory Committees and the Federal Subsistence
22 Regional Advisory Councils for input and comment and
23 support and then they'll go up through the process. So
24 the cooperators is a place to start, if you can, in
25 changing the muskox regs.

26

27 MR. BALLOT: I just mentioned this
28 because we wanted out population to increase and so
29 giving more cows is not going to be our advantage.

30

31 MR. ADKISSON: That's why they didn't
32 change either. And why there was some compromises made,
33 I think, with folks in 22(E), who would have probably
34 liked a much higher harvest level, including cows, but
35 were willing to settle for less than what they wanted to
36 allow that population to, perhaps, expand and some
37 animals move out of 22(E) into 23(Southwest), so, again,
38 the places for those adjustments, if you can do them, are
39 in the cooperators, so you can have a pretty well thought
40 out proposal that's probably going to go through and not
41 bog down and, you know, come apart at the seams because
42 it doesn't have the support of all the necessary parties.

43

44 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, we still want to have

45 it increased because we noticed that the caribou have
46 been going farther and farther now. They used to be just
47 out there, the whole winter we've been looking and we've
48 been having to go up to Shishmaref and up past Deering
49 and stuff like for hunting, so we have a need for muskox
50 to grow.

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1 MR. ADKISSON: We've also found that it's
2 kind of helpful to take some of the changes at a slower
3 pace and not make big sweeping changes, so if, for
4 example, you know, since the State just adopted a new
5 Tier II muskoxen regulation, or the way they handle their
6 permitting process and allocation, we'd like to see how
7 that works, and if it works, fine, if it doesn't work one
8 answer may be to come back through this group and look at
9 if we need to change the Federal regulation somehow to
10 work.

11

12 As an example of how this joint process
13 works, one of the fears that we had was that, like,
14 between Buckland and Deering, because of the way the Tier
15 II program worked, all of the State permits might
16 gravitate or move towards one of the communities and
17 leave the other community shut out of the State program.
18 And so one way we can compensate for that was by dividing
19 the permits up between the Federal and State systems, and
20 with the cooperation, again, of the villages. If one of
21 the villages got most of the State permits, we could move
22 most of the Federal permits to the other village and help
23 balance that out for a while. And if you were successful
24 at hunting on a Federal permit, you could actually, you
25 know, enhance your next year State application by
26 indicating, yes, you had been a successful muskoxen
27 hunter. So having success on the Federal side, you know,
28 helped build a track record for people that were, you
29 know, trying for the State permits. But there's no doubt
30 about it having the State permits for some of these
31 villages has been a real boom because it allows them to
32 have access to more animals and hunt closer to home.

33

34 MR. SCHIEDT: Could I ask you this then?
35 How many percent of muskoxen stay in the State lands
36 versus the Federal land? I mean, where the Federal might
37 be worried about the State, if you want to worry about
38 making equal to everyone. I mean, versus the Federal
39 lands, the State Tier II. Can we come up with our own or
40 -- I'm still back to that qualifying the young
41 subsistence -- when we had a meeting at the school here
42 and we had some people and we had that Native day here,
43 when they asked me about this, I said I don't know how do
44 you qualify, you know, and that's why I was asking.

45 Because when I was at the school the question earlier
46 would not qualify. I mean do we have to ask the Federal
47 or do we have to follow the State?

48

49 MR. ADKISSON: No, the Federal doesn't
50 have to follow the State at all, and we don't. The

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1 Federal -- the way the Federal permitting system has
2 worked is, is that we largely take our guidance from the
3 communities so, you know, if some community says, you
4 know, we would like the elders to help select or pick the
5 hunters, if that's been legal, then we've done that.
6 Other communities have said, we just want to put all the
7 names in a hat and draw from them. And as long as
8 that's, you know, legal within our regulations, then we
9 go ahead and do that. So we have a lot more flexibility
10 than the State.

11

12 The State's working with the best tools
13 they've got, you know, which are not perfect, but as
14 Charlie and Susan have pointed out, there have been some
15 changes which I think will, you know, help open up. One
16 of the things that I've always suggested to folks in the
17 villages, if you're a first time hunter try to get a
18 Federal permit because if you're successful hunting on
19 that, then you can use that next year when you apply for
20 a State permit. But that may no longer be necessary
21 under the current State regs. Just simply applying year
22 after year may help you under the State system.

23

24 MR. SCHIEDT: Okay, thanks. Because you
25 were referring to so much on State that's why I had to
26 ask.

27

28 MR. ADKISSON: Well, in some cases a lot
29 of the animals are on State and private lands.

30

31 MR. SCHIEDT: Uh-huh.

32

33 MR. ADKISSON: For example, Donna, I
34 don't know, may have the figures and she's got the
35 proposal booklet, and I don't even have that with me
36 right now. But, for example, in 22(E) it's predominantly
37 Federal land and the muskoxen are roughly distributed
38 50/50 across the State and Federal lands.

39

40 On the other hand, in 22(D) it's
41 something like 12 to 15 percent or something is Federal
42 land and awful lot of the animals are on State and
43 private lands. 23 is a little bit in, but Southwest is
44 kind of in between, except the Federal lands are

45 geographically more remote, for the most part, from the
46 communities.

47

48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Susan, you have
49 something?

50

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1 MS. GEORGETTE: Oh, I was just stay with
2 Ken, just that on Page 67 there's that map and some
3 communities have a lot of Federal land right near them
4 and the Federal permit system works pretty well. In
5 other communities, especially Brevig Mission and Teller
6 have to go, I forget how far, but a hundred miles, or
7 quite a ways to find a muskox on Federal land. That's
8 why the State system came along because there were muskox
9 closer to those villages, but on State lands.

10

11 MR. ADKISSON: And even Buckland and
12 Deering were having travel problems getting to access
13 some of the Federal lands and animals there.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any more questions for
16 Ken?

17

18 MR. SCHIEDT: Thanks, Ken.

19

20 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, I moved
21 to.....

22

23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We're not done yet,
24 Percy.

25

26 MR. BALLOT: Oh.

27

28 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We're down to number
29 5.

30

31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Ken.

32

33 MR. ADKISSON: You're welcome, thank you.

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Down to public comments
36 on Proposal 41. Barbara.

37

38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, we have on
39 from ADF&G. Do I have any volunteer from the Fish and
40 Game to give their comment?

41

42 MS. GEORGETTE: I could.

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, thanks.

45

46 MS. GEORGETTE: I don't need to read the
47 whole thing, do I, though?

48

49 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, you can just
50 summarize, and I couldn't do that, not knowing what's

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1 important, I would have to read the whole thing, but it
2 would be better if you did it. Thank you.

3

4 MS. GEORGETTE: Okay. I think the
5 essence of the Fish and Game comments are -- they kind of
6 speak to Percy's concerns, which is that the Department
7 would prefer that the quota or the seasons not be -- or
8 the quotas not be determined by the superintendent, but
9 that the regulations include the numbers that the Muskox
10 Cooperators Group has come up with. And so rather than
11 just having it be opened, determined by the
12 superintendent, there was concern that that would be
13 giving too much control to the superintendent when, in
14 fact, the Muskox Cooperators Group, which is a mix of
15 State, Federal and local users, reaches these
16 conclusions. And, as Ken said, that's probably what the
17 superintendent would do anyways, is defer to the
18 Cooperators Group, but the Department felt that we'd like
19 to actually have that in the regulations and not leave it
20 to the superintendent.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 MS. DEWHURST: Mr. Chair.

25

26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Donna.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Donna.

29

30 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, that's part of why
31 we changed the language. When you look at the staff
32 modification it says that the superintendent will be
33 guided by muskox management parameters set up by the
34 Seward Peninsula Muskox Cooperators Group. So we did put
35 it in regulation that the superintendent would go with
36 what the cooperators say. So it is in black and white in
37 the regulations now.

38

39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And, Mr. Chair, with
40 that there are no written public comments. Thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And then you're up to

45 number 6.

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, we're on number

48 6, Regional Council deliberations, and recommendations

49 and justification on Proposal number 37.

50

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1 MR. BALLOT: Okay, Mr. Chairman, I'll
2 move to support Proposal 37 with the modification.

3

4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Motion by Percy
5 to support Proposal number 27 with support for
6 modification. Is there a second?

7

8 MS. JOHNSON: I second it.

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Lillian. Any
11 further discussions on Proposal number 37?

12

13 (No audible responses)

14

15 MR. BALLOT: Question.

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been called.
18 Any objection to the question?

19

20 (No audible responses)

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, all in favor
23 of supporting and modification on Proposal number 37 say
24 aye.

25

26 IN UNISON: Aye.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed?

29

30 (No opposing responses)

31

32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: 37 has passed.

33

34 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, we're down over
37 on -- we're done with the proposals. Shall we break for
38 lunch now since it's 20 to 12.

39

40 MR. SCHIEDT: And come back when, 1:30?

41

42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You guys want to come

45 back 1:30? Is that too quick or.....

46

47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, that's fine.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Just right?

50

00057

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yep.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Let's break for
4 lunch and be back at 1:30. There's lunch in there if any
5 of you want to pay for it. So let's break for lunch.

6

7 (Off record)

8

9 (On record)

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I'll call the meeting
12 back to order. So we're on Item number 8. Item number 8
13 is open the floor on proposals to change fisheries
14 Federal regulations. Who will do that, Barbara?

15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's most likely an
17 informational where they're asking that proposal period
18 for this year is opened. I think it closes March 29th.
19 March 29 is the last day for any proposals that need to
20 be sent into -- the person you sent them to is Bill
21 Knauer.

22

23 MR. KNAUER: That's correct, Mr.
24 Chairman. As you know each year we have a proposal
25 period for wildlife and also for fisheries. The proposal
26 period for fisheries normally starts in early January,
27 and this year runs through March 29th. Any proposals
28 that we receive will be analyzed and brought back before
29 this Council in the fall meeting and then the
30 recommendations will go before the Board for their
31 deliberations next December and would become effective in
32 the year 2003.

33

34 So, you know, this is a time when you, as
35 a Council, can make proposals or, if you have none at
36 hand, but know of something in your communities or
37 personally, the opportunity and the form is there so that
38 you can make them later and submit them either through
39 your coordinator or directly to us.

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Any questions on
42 this Item number 8?

43

44 (No audible responses)

45

46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If no, we'll go down to
47 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program.

48

49 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: The person to give
50 that report is Steve Fried.

00058

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

2

3 MR. FRIED: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman,
4 Council members. This is really for information only, I
5 don't think -- there really isn't action the Council
6 needs to take on any of these items. There's some
7 materials under Tab F in your book and there's also two
8 handouts that I provided. And that will cover all the
9 material that I was going to over today.

10

11 The first topic concerns the issues and
12 information needs for the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
13 Program. And these are compiled and provided to the
14 people that are putting in for study proposals and
15 they're used by the reviewers as part as part of the
16 review process. And, basically, these are pretty
17 important ways that are need to focus the topic of the
18 studies that are funded through this program. In other
19 words, what we're trying to do are fund studies that are
20 going to deal with important issues and important
21 information needs within each region that are going to
22 help the fisheries resources management process.

23

24 In your book are actually the issues and
25 information needs for this region. It includes the
26 Seward Peninsula, as well as Northwest Arctic and the
27 North Slope. And in it, it shows the various -- on Page
28 1 and 2, the various criteria that are used to judge
29 proposals when they come in. And also on Pages 3 through
30 5, the issues that have been collected and identified by
31 the three Regional Councils for this geographic area.
32 And for 2003, this is one of the pieces of information
33 that, as I mentioned, is available to people who are
34 going to send in project proposals.

35

36 Something that a lot of the Councils have
37 been concerned with is that the money being used to fund
38 these studies actually is focused on the most important
39 issues and needs for each region. So there is a handout,
40 it's called Long-Term Planning for the Fisheries Use
41 Monitoring Planning for Arctic/Kotzebue/Norton Sound
42 region and it's got a little graph on the front. And,
43 basically, what this starts to do is to begin a long-term
44 planning process to make sure that the program is really

45 addressing the most important needs and issues for this
46 region.

47

48 And I'm not going to go through this
49 whole thing, it's for information. Hopefully, you could,
50 you know, read it at your leisure, but it will give you a

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1 background of the program, how much money has been
2 available, what it's being spent for. And something to
3 think about for the upcoming fall meeting would be to put
4 together a list and the items and make sure that they're
5 being prioritized. So this list is fine, and we've
6 actually gone through it to see, well, we have the list,
7 now we know what studies are being funded. In here
8 you'll find under Pages 3, 4, and 5 a listing of the
9 studies that actually had been funded under different
10 topics in the different areas.

11

12 So, in other words, if you look at Page
13 4, stock status and trends, if you look at Northwest
14 Arctic you can see that there have been three studies
15 funded so far and they've all been addressed to Dolly
16 Varden char. And you can go through that for the harvest
17 monitoring and the other issues.

18

19 And also take a look at some of the
20 issues that the Councils have mentioned that haven't been
21 addressed yet. And we've tried to group these together,
22 too. And on Page 5 there's a list of seven topics of
23 issues that Councils in the region have put forward, but
24 there haven't been any studies that have addressed these
25 yet. And some of these issues are fine, they fit the
26 program, it's just that nobody has put in a proposal to
27 do the studies yet. But some of the issues, actually,
28 don't fit the program that well. It's either an issue
29 that maybe the Federal Subsistence Board has decided is
30 better funded through another program or it might be an
31 issue for an area or resource that we really don't have
32 any Federal regulatory control over.

33

34 So, basically, I guess, the general
35 message is that we've been fairly successful in funding
36 the issues that the Councils have identified, but there's
37 some issues that haven't been identified and, really, we
38 need to work on the list some more and get rid of the
39 issues that we really can't spend money on solving, and
40 also to prioritize the list.

41

42 I guess another question would be is, are
43 these issues in the book, are these really the most
44 important issues in the region or are there some issues

45 that haven't been identified yet? And what we've tried
46 to do is make another list, which would be on Pages 6, 7,
47 and 8, of what appears to be the most important issues
48 and information needs for the region. And these aren't
49 in any priority order, they're just the issues that we
50 tried to come up with based on the various documents and

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1 talking to people in the agencies. And it shows that
2 there might be some things that maybe aren't on the list
3 that might be on a list. Things like maybe we should be
4 looking at doing salmon stock status studies for
5 Unalakleet, Noatak Rivers. Also take a look at some of
6 the things that have been identified that haven't been
7 studied yet and decide are they more important or less
8 important than some of the things that have been funded.
9 Things like Arctic grayling on the North Slope or some
10 other issues like that. This all just has to do with,
11 you know, fixing the list, making sure we're spending the
12 money on the most important things.

13

14 Another thing to keep in mind is some of
15 these issues and needs actually need data collected over
16 a very long time period. Right now what we do is say
17 that the maximum amount of funding we will provide to an
18 investigator is for a three-year study. Some datasets
19 need a lot more than three years. For example, if you're
20 going to look at salmon escapements and salmon harvests
21 and you really want to get an idea what the long-term
22 trends are and get a better idea what the production
23 should be, really you need 20 or 30 years of data, not
24 just three years of data. But the question is, is this
25 program supposed to fund studies for 20, 30 years or do
26 we fund them for three years and then stop. Or do we
27 fund it for three years trying to get somebody else to
28 pick up all or part of the funding.

29

30 But we're coming to a point now, though,
31 where a lot of these studies have been going on for three
32 years, they're probably studies that need to be going on
33 for a long time period and it's time to sit down and
34 start to think what we want to do, you know. Some of
35 this money should it be spent on operations rather than
36 new work? Or a mix? And just how that mix should look.
37 So there's some things you can read about in here.

38

39 Finally, are there any other sources of
40 funds, either matching or alternative funding source to
41 consider when we're looking at trying to fund studies for
42 this region. Because obviously there really isn't enough
43 money in our program to fund all the issues and needs
44 that come up. And so far I've been able to identify

45 maybe three sources, and they're on Page 10, I've listed
46 on them out. One is the Norton Sound Salmon Research and
47 Restoration Fund. And that's a fairly new program.
48 There's also the North Pacific Research Board, which will
49 be focused on marine fish issues in the North Pacific,
50 the Bering Sea and the Arctic Ocean. And the third one

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1 is a program that's being run by the North Pacific
2 Anadromous Fish Commission, which is actually an
3 international agency. And they're very interested in
4 conducting some high seas work on salmon.

5

6 So there is a possibility that there is
7 some other funding sources to look at for some of these
8 issues, but also it becomes pretty obvious that as far as
9 freshwater studies go, there might not be very many
10 alternatives, which is why it's even more important to
11 prioritize the list to make sure we're really hitting the
12 most important issues.

13

14 Hopefully by this fall, after people have
15 had a chance to look at this better and talk about it
16 some more, we can come up with a prioritized list of
17 issues for the 2004 studies. And actually a few of the
18 Councils, the Bristol Bay in particular, have been pretty
19 -- has placed a pretty high priority on long-term
20 planning. I'm actually going to meet with them April
21 1st, I believe, to discuss this some more. And,
22 evidently, the Kodiak Council is going to set up a
23 subgroup of the Council members to do the same thing. So
24 I'm not sure if this is the way this Council wants to
25 handle that or not, but I think this is a pretty
26 important, just to make sure that the Fisheries Research
27 Monitoring Program is being conducted correctly and is as
28 helpful as can be, you know, to all the regions and for
29 managing the subsistence resources.

30

31 So I'll guess I'll stop on that on right
32 here in case anybody's got questions before I go on to
33 the next topics.

34

35 (Pause)

36

37 MR. FRIED: Going once, going twice.

38

39 MR. SCHIEDT: I got one here.

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

42

43 MR. SCHIEDT: For here for the North --
44 for Kotzebue, you just going to worry about just the

45 salmon or are you going to do a study on Tom cod and
46 herring and smelt and the bullhead right here at the
47 Sound?

48

49 MR. FRIED: Well, that's good question.

50 That's why where coming back to the Councils and

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1 everybody else.

2

3 MR. SCHIEDT: I got a concern of what the
4 city's doing here. Because they're dumping raw sewage
5 right out in the Sound. And the other year we get fish
6 that die off by the thousands here. And I put a net
7 inshore and within 20 minutes I had over 30 fish that
8 coming up dead and we're always trying to figure why, but
9 they were too decomposed to have them analyzed and check.
10 And the city -- DEC just called me up, they did permit
11 for the city to dump again right here in our bay.

12

13 MR. FRIED: Okay. Now, that's a good
14 point to bring up. Now pollutants, contaminants, that
15 sort of thing, the Federal Subsistence Board actually
16 made a decision that they didn't want to see any funding
17 from this source being used to do studies for
18 contaminants and things. So, I mean, if we study Tom cod
19 or something and as long as it was a fishery that the
20 Federal government had ANILCA Title VIII authority on, we
21 could do some studies on it. But if you actually wanted
22 to do studies on the pollution aspects of it, then we
23 probably need to go through DEC, you know, the State or
24 maybe the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Ecological Services
25 Division, I think they handle pollutants and things like
26 that. But right now, you know, according to our
27 instructions from the Federal Subsistence Board that's
28 not something we would be spending money to study with
29 this particular program.

30

31 MR. SCHIEDT: Okay.

32

33 MR. FRIED: Not that it's not a very
34 important and critical issue, it's just that.....

35

36 MR. SCHIEDT: Well, I'm worried about
37 long-term effects it could have not only the fish, but on
38 the people, too, for health standards, you know.

39

40 MR. FRIED: Uh-huh, oh, yeah, it's.....

41

42 MR. SCHIEDT: I mean my people are
43 fishing right at the bay here and they're dumping right
44 at the bay and they're probably giving some to you or

45 other people, see?

46

47 MR. FRIED: It sounds like a really bad
48 situation and it sounds like it's something that you
49 really need to be following up on. I'm just saying that
50 it's just not anything that we need to study. It

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1 actually sounds more like a regulatory health issue than
2 something for this program. It doesn't mean that the
3 Council couldn't write, you know, letters and try to get
4 some action from the appropriate agencies to do something
5 about it or even discuss it with the Subsistence Board.
6 I don't know if Bill has anything else to add since he's
7 the regulation specialist, but.....

8

9 That same issue comes up in quite a few
10 of the regions, so you're not alone. It's just that it's
11 not a particular issue that we're going to be allowed to
12 spend money on to study.

13

14 MR. SCHIEDT: Okay, thanks.

15

16 MR. FRIED: Any more questions about
17 planning or should I move on to the next topic?

18

19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from
20 Council?

21

22 (No audible responses)

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from the
25 public?

26

27 MR. DeCICCO: I'm Fred DeCicco, Fish and
28 Game. Steve, regarding -- he asked questions about
29 public use and their effects on the subsistence
30 resources, it seems to me that that would be a very
31 legitimate way to spend funds from this program. And
32 couldn't this Council write a letter to the Federal
33 Subsistence Board asking that they change some of their
34 criteria and that they allow these kinds of studies
35 because they feel it's important to the region? They may
36 or may not get anywhere, but....

37

38 MR. FRIED: Well, they could, yeah, it's
39 a Board decision, so it's not anything that's even in a
40 law necessarily.

41

42 MR. DeCICCO: But I think it would help
43 the Council here to just know where they could and
44 couldn't go.

45

46 MR. FRIED: Yeah. I guess the question
47 would be, you know, is that particular fishery being
48 conducted in the area or on stock under which the Federal
49 government has any management authority, you know.

50

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1 MR. DeCICCO: Right.

2

3 MR. FRIED: I don't know.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Bill.

6

7 MR. KNAUER: Yes, that's the larger
8 question as far as the expenditure of money, as to
9 whether or not the fishery and/or the stock are being
10 harvested in areas of Federal jurisdiction.

11

12 MR. DeCICCO: Right.

13

14 MR. KNAUER: Norton Sound is not within
15 the jurisdiction of the Federal Subsistence Management
16 Program. Not to say that the issue or the stock are
17 unimportant, but it's just that the Board doesn't have
18 any authority in that area. So that would be the primary
19 reason that they would not be able to justify the
20 expenditure of the Federal dollars in that area.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Enoch, you got
23 something?

24

25 MR. SCHIEDT: Let me add to that, maybe a
26 little follow up. Through the food chain of smelt and
27 herring being eaten by sheefish and our local people that
28 fish under the ice here when they open the sheefish they
29 could smell the sewage in the sheefish, but they're
30 coming right from the smelt and herring. The herring,
31 the smelt and I did a lot of digging into the food chain
32 and when they see the sewage as food, so they're eating
33 and our sheefish are eating the smelt and the herring and
34 we regulate how much sheefish being taken, that be
35 hurting the sheefish. See? And they get the sheefish
36 right at the mouth of Noatak. Maybe we'd have an
37 interest in this one if we rephrase to where we should
38 have interest because it's the our fish, the sheefish
39 they're talking about. I don't know if it'll affect the
40 Upper Kobuck and Selawik, but -- I don't what pattern,
41 real pattern, on sheefish. I know they go all the way
42 up, but do they all go from the mouth here in Kotzebue
43 because we know they fishing in the Noatak River.

44

45 MR. FRIED: Yeah, it's things like that,
46 you know, that would connect, you know, that resource to
47 Federal subsistence authority. I mean we have conducted
48 studies on the sheefish fishery in Havinear Lake, so
49 that's obviously something that's, you know. But it
50 sounds to me, though, that this is probably a health

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1 problem, if not just a resource problem and it's
2 something that probably needs to be dealt with and maybe
3 it doesn't need to be just studied, I mean, maybe
4 something needs to be done.

5

6 MR. SCHIEDT: Right now they a goal of
7 three week of dumping 500,000 gallons raw sewage.

8

9 MR. AREY: That much?

10

11 MR. SCHIEDT: Yeah. Right here, right
12 now, I got the letter right in my office. I'm checking
13 on it to see if anything is happening, but nothing yet,
14 but.....

15

16 MR. AREY: Is that legal?

17

18 MR. SCHIEDT: It's right in the standards
19 of -- but I had (indiscernible) analyzed, right level,
20 they can't go any further up, they'll be out of State
21 standards.

22

23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: The other thing you
24 can do is put this down on your Annual Report as an
25 issue, it goes directly to the Federal Board.

26

27 MR. SCHIEDT: Okay. Maybe we should do
28 that right in there, because.....

29

30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

31

32 MR. FRIED: It's something that's going
33 to affect people's subsistence, you know, opportunities
34 and lifestyles, so, yeah.

35

36 MR. SCHIEDT: Our salmon fish right
37 through them summertime.

38

39 MR. FRIED: Yeah, that's -- I would think
40 it's important.

41

42 MR. SCHIEDT: To me it's important.

43

44 MR. FRIED: Right.

45

46 MR. SCHIEDT: So how would we go in the
47 process of putting into our Annual Report?

48

49 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I will. I will draft
50 your Annual Report for you and then get more information

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1 from you, Enoch, and we'll put it forward to the Federal
2 Board.

3

4 MR. SCHIEDT: Okay.

5

6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And your acting Chair
7 will be the one to put it forth at the Federal Board
8 meeting.

9

10 MR. SCHIEDT: Thanks, okay.

11

12 MR. FRIED: I'm going try to contact
13 somebody in Ecological Services, too, to see if they have
14 some ideas as to what could be done and just to get an
15 idea. I don't know if they take samples. I mean, is
16 that part of the permitting process when you dump sewage
17 like that, to have to take samples or does somebody -- I
18 don't know.

19

20 MR. SCHIEDT: No, we didn't take any
21 samples at the time, but right now I'm going to take
22 samples, like, maybe Monday I was going -- no, I can't be
23 here Monday. Maybe I'll have to do it Saturday. I'm
24 going to get samples and send them out, see if it's
25 affecting our bay out here.

26

27 MR. FRIED: Yeah. I don't who you send
28 them to, do you send them to the State's Department of
29 Environmental Conservation?

30

31 MR. SCHIEDT: I used the money left out
32 to do it, last year I did that, I send out how many
33 samples? Have to do that again this year, four more
34 times.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any more comments or
37 questions for Fred?

38

39 (No audible responses)

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, got any more,
42 Fred?

43

44 MR. BALLOT: Steve.

45

46

MR. DeCICCO: Steve.

47

48

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh, Steve, yeah.

49

50

MR. FRIED: On to the next topic?

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1 (No audible responses)

2

3 MR. FRIED: The next thing I wanted to
4 mention was the 2003 call for study proposals. And, of
5 course, that one has already gone out and we've actually
6 received the proposals, because that deadline is past.
7 And the proposal review process include a review within
8 the Office of Subsistence Management and then a review by
9 a team of experts from different agencies, which is
10 called the TRC or the Technical Review Committee. And
11 what they do is given the amount of money there is to
12 spend in a given year, and given the number of proposals
13 and how they fit within the program they make some
14 recommendations on which ones to pass forward for a more
15 detailed study plan, which basically just gives more
16 details on how the work would be done. A more detailed
17 look on the budgets and things like that.

18

19 And usually what's done, assuming there's
20 enough good proposals is you pass forward more proposals
21 than we really have funding for, for a study plan, so
22 that there's some selection. So when they come back the
23 Technical Review Committee and the Councils and the
24 public and also the Staff Committee and the Federal
25 Subsistence Board, you know, have a good selection of
26 studies to choose from to actually fund.

27

28 So right now we're in the review process,
29 we're actually a little behind where we should be.
30 Usually we'd be getting back to the people that sent the
31 proposals in by the end of March to tell them whether or
32 not we would like to see an investigation plan. It's
33 probably not going to be until the middle of April before
34 we get back to the people that sent the proposals in and
35 we tell them whether or not they've been successful at
36 this point.

37

38 There is really a lot of available funds
39 for 2003, there's only about 1.3 or 1.6 million dollars
40 to spend on studies. And part of this is because we've
41 got continuing costs for studies that were funded in 2002
42 and also 2001. And the other thing is that we've taken a
43 million dollars out of the program to fund partners,
44 which I'll mention later. But this year there's not a

45 lot of money, so there's going to be a lot of hard
46 decisions. I think we've got a total of about 56
47 proposals statewide that have come in and out of those, I
48 think, there's about maybe half a dozen or so that have
49 to do with Arctic/Kotzebue/Norton Sound.
50

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1 This fall the Council will actually be
2 giving their recommendations, like they do every fall, on
3 which ones they think should be funded. And information
4 on this will be provided to the Council, you know, well
5 in advance of the fall meeting so they have time to take
6 a look at it.

7

8 But that's about all I wanted to talk
9 about for the 2003 call, unless anybody has any questions
10 about that process.

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions?

13

14 (No audible responses)

15

16 MR. FRIED: Hearing none, I guess we can
17 get on to topic C, which is the status of the 2000 and
18 2001 continuing projects, the projects that were funded
19 in 2000 and 2001. And there's a handout, it's not in the
20 book, it's a separate handout called Status of 2000 and
21 2001 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program Studies for
22 this area. And what it does, it lists the 15 studies
23 that have been funded so far. And I've also included
24 some studies that were funded in 2002, although they
25 haven't really started yet because we're still working on
26 the funding agreements. And it also gives an idea which
27 ones were completed and the ones that are still going on,
28 what the status of those are.

29

30 And, basically, of the 15 studies, nine
31 were just directed specifically at this region. The
32 other six were either statewide or a broader geographic
33 scope than just the regions. As I mentioned, there are
34 quite a few studies on char, there's some sheefish
35 studies, there was a salmon study in Nome and some
36 harvest monitoring and a traditional ecological studies
37 that were funded. The inter-regional studies mostly had
38 to do with either improving the fish harvesting program
39 statewide and in specific regions or in making sure the
40 information we gather with these studies is available to
41 the people that need to use it.

42

43 All the studies that were funded in 2000
44 have been completed and they are actually final reports

45 that will be available for three of those and the other
46 two final reports are in the review process and they'll
47 be available, probably, within the next couple months.
48 And as far as the other 10 ongoing studies go, I mean, in
49 general they're being successful and meeting objectives.
50 Some of them we've had to change the scheduling a little

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1 bit, they might be a little bit behind schedule because
2 of either staffing problems or funding problems, but in
3 general they're going along pretty well and the
4 investigator's been pretty successful in meeting the
5 objectives of these different studies.

6

7 And there's a little paragraph on each of
8 those, so you that you can get an idea of where they are
9 and what's being done, so -- and if anybody had any
10 specific questions on some of these, I could either try
11 to answer them now or get back to you later, but -- and
12 similarly, if people would like, you know, to get ahold
13 of some of the reports that are out, we could make sure
14 that those are made available also.

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions of Steve,
17 Council? Any questions from the public of Steve?

18

19 MR. FRIED: Well, either I'm being real
20 clear or everybody's still digesting their lunch.

21

22 The last thing I was going to mention was
23 the partners for fisheries resource monitoring program.
24 And this is a program that will provide funds to local
25 organizations to hire professional staff, either a
26 fisheries biologist or a social scientist to actually
27 help people in the region with developing project
28 proposals, and helping maybe with issues and information
29 needs, and basically just in general helping with the
30 subsistence resource monitoring program. And the call
31 for proposals, and the proposals have already been in.
32 They've been reviewed for the most part, and we're a
33 little bit behind schedule because at this point I think
34 they're supposed to be getting letters out to the
35 applicants to let them know whether or not they were
36 successful. I don't really have a good idea. I think
37 they were going to fund anywhere from seven to 10
38 positions statewide. Well, not statewide, they weren't
39 going to fund any positions this year in Southeast or
40 Southcentral, but in all the other regions they were.

41

42 And I think what's holding the process up
43 now is they've gone back to one or more of the proposers
44 for some more information, and they're still waiting to

45 get that information, but basically what they've done
46 with the proposal was set up an evaluation panel to
47 review these and decide which ones should receive funding
48 this year. And as I mentioned there's about, I think
49 it's about \$1.1 million that is available to fund these
50 seven to 10 positions, and we were hoping that we would

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1 have the positions in place by this May, but it's real
2 possible since we're behind, we might not. But it's 2002
3 funding, and those positions will be in place sometime
4 either, you know, May or later. And it's a fairly
5 important part of the fisheries monitoring program, and a
6 lot of people have been working on this for several
7 years, so we're kind of excited to finally see it be put
8 into place. But I really can't tell you where the
9 positions, you know, would be or which ones have been
10 selected by the evaluation panel, because it's been under
11 lock and key. I haven't been part of the panel, so --
12 the process should soon be over though I would think in
13 another week or two, and then we should all know.

14

15 But that's about all I have on the
16 fisheries resource monitoring program, unless anybody's
17 got any further questions.

18

19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from
20 Council?

21

22 There isn't. Thank you, Steve.

23

24 MR. FRIED: You're certainly welcome.

25

26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any way, that gets us
27 all the way down to item number 10, customary trade.
28 Staff. Who's doing that, Barbara?

29

30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Bill Knauer.

31

32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Bill? We're down to
33 item number 10, customary trade. So, Bill?

34

35 MR. KNAUER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In
36 your tab -- in your council books at tab G are the
37 materials on customary trade. There is general
38 information, a briefing prepared. And I'd like to go
39 through and summarize that material for your input and we
40 will -- we are requesting the regional council's
41 recommendations this afternoon on the regulatory changes.
42 My presentation will cover five different areas: A
43 little bit of history and background of why the issue of
44 customary trade is before you. A summary of the Board's

45 actions during their December meeting. Mr. Carl Jack
46 will touch on the tribal consultation that has occurred
47 during this process. A -- There will be a schedule of
48 events that we're working for -- towards a final rule.
49 The importance of the regional council input. And then a
50 discussion on the proposed regulatory language.

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1 Title VIII of ANILCA specifically
2 identifies customary trade as a recognized part of
3 subsistence uses. The term customary trade is defined as
4 the cash sale of fish and wildlife resources to support
5 personal or family needs as long as it does not
6 constitute a significant commercial enterprise. The
7 distinction between the terms customary trade and barter,
8 which is also provided for in Title VIII, is that
9 customary trade is the exchange of the subsistence
10 resource for cash. Now, barter is defined as the
11 exchange of subsistence resources for something other
12 than cash.

13
14 While the exchange of subsistence
15 resources as customary trade might involve fish,
16 shellfish or wildlife resources, the proposed rule that
17 we're going to be discussing this afternoon only covers
18 the customary trade of fishery resources.

19
20 In late 2000, the Board established a
21 Customary Trade Task Force composed of representatives of
22 the 10 regional councils, fishery biologists, enforcement
23 personnel, anthropologists and others. Bert was your
24 council's representative to that task force.

25
26 The task force was charged with
27 developing draft regulatory language, defining the intent
28 of customary trade as identified in ANILCA. In
29 developing the draft language, the task force identified
30 three different types of customary trade: transactions
31 between rural residents; transactions between rural
32 residents and others where others was defined as all
33 commercial entities other than fishery business and
34 individuals other than rural residents; and, thirdly,
35 purchases by fishery businesses. The preliminary draft
36 language that was developed by the task force and then
37 circulated for review during your fall council meeting,
38 and then was put before the 229 recognized tribes, and
39 for general public review.

40
41 The task force met one more time after
42 the fall council meetings to consider all the comments
43 that were received, and developed draft language that was
44 presented to the Board on December 12th, 2001, as one

45 option of six for the Board's consideration. The six
46 options that the Board examined are summarized in tab G
47 at page two.

48

49 During the review of the task force
50 recommendations by the regional councils, seven of the 10

00072

1 councils made specific regional recommendations. Your
2 council's recommendation along with the others can be
3 found on page 10.

4

5 Included as part of the task force
6 language was a \$1,000 cap for the exchange of salmon for
7 cash between rural residents and others. The regional
8 council comments generally agreed with a monetary cap,
9 but also suggested regional needs and differences. Some
10 councils felt the \$1,000 cap too high, other thought it
11 too low. Several council members expressed concern about
12 allowing sales of subsistence-taken salmon in areas that
13 are currently experiencing subsistence shortages and
14 limited fishing opportunities. In recent years, areas
15 such as the Yukon and the Kuskokwim rivers have had very
16 poor salmon returns, requiring managers to reduce
17 subsistence fishing schedules, and in some instances even
18 close subsistence fishing.

19

20 During their December 2001 meeting, the
21 Federal Subsistence Board took action to start the
22 process of refining the federal regulations for customary
23 trade. The Board considered those six options for a
24 proposed rule regarding customary trade. After hearing a
25 report from the task force, the six options and comments
26 from the regional council chairs, the Alaska Department
27 of Fish and Game, the Alaska Department of Environmental
28 Conservation, and other members of the public, the Board
29 decided to implement option five, and to initiate a
30 formal rulemaking process.

31

32 Option five that the Board selected in
33 part supports the recommendation of the Customary Trade
34 Task Force and the regional councils by allowing
35 unlimited customary trade between rural residents, and by
36 prohibiting customary trade or barter with fishery
37 businesses. Because most customary trade among rural
38 subsistence users occurs between local users, and usually
39 involves only small amounts of fish, the Board does not
40 believe this rule will create an incentive for additional
41 harvest of the resources, nor would it result in
42 additional fish being sold in commercial markets.
43 Likewise, there's nothing in this proposed rule that
44 would displace, supersede or preempt state or federal

45 food, health and safety laws and regulations governing
46 the processing, handling, and sale of fish.

47

48 At this time I'd like to let Mr. Paul
49 Jack, native liaison tell you a little bit about the
50 tribal consultation process that has and is taking place

00073

1 during these -- the development of the customary trade
2 regulations.

3

4 MR. JACK: The Federal Subsistence Board
5 as it did before has initiated tribal consultation on the
6 proposed rule with the 229 federally-recognized tribes.
7 The proposed rule along with the transmittal letter was
8 sent out on about February 22nd. You will notice in the
9 Federal Register the comment period being from February 1
10 through March 29. Given the late publication of the
11 proposed rule in the Federal Register, that is now going
12 to be extended to April 30, which would be consistent
13 with the Administrative Procedures Act, a 60-day rule.

14

15 The tribal consultation is going to be as
16 before conducted consistent with the Department of the
17 Interior policy on the government-to-government relations
18 with the Alaska native tribes. And it is being initiated
19 in close cooperation with the statewide organization, the
20 Alaska Intertribal Council.

21

22 Now, we're doing this because the
23 proposed rule may have a direct and substantial effect on
24 the members of the federally-recognized tribes, and we
25 are encouraging the tribes to submit comments on the
26 proposed rule as is outlined in the Federal Register.

27

28 That concludes my presentation. Thank
29 you.

30

31 MR. KNAUER: Thank you, Carl. The Board,
32 as Carl mentioned, has extended the comment period both
33 for the tribes and the general public to April 30th, and
34 subsequently they hope to hold a board meeting to review
35 all of the comments that are received, including the
36 council recommendations at the end of June, with the
37 publication sometime -- occurring hopefully in July, and
38 the rule becoming effective in August of this year. The
39 proposed rule is now before the councils for further
40 input. The Board invites comments on this proposed rule
41 which you will specifically find listed on page five.
42 And any recommendations or comments also on regional
43 issues.

44

45 The other councils have found it very
46 efficient to address each of those sections, section 11,
47 section 12, and section 13 separately. You'll notice
48 section 11 relates to transactions between rural
49 residents; section 12, transactions between rural
50 residents and others; and section 12 is a transaction

00074

1 related to fishery businesses.

2

3 I do have information from you (sic), if
4 you would care to hear it, as to how other councils have
5 made their recommendations. If you would care for
6 me.....

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I'd like it, yeah. Go
9 ahead.

10

11 MR. KNAUER: A number of the councils
12 have -- in fact, most of the councils have agreed that
13 the exchange between rural residents should be unlimited.
14 In other words, between residents of we'll say Kotzebue
15 and Kiana, or Kotzebue and Kaktovik. One of the
16 councils, however, the Bristol Bay Council, thought that
17 there should be a limit of \$500 cap on the exchange
18 between rural residents. The Kodiak/Aleutians Council
19 also felt that that was appropriate. Those were the only
20 councils that really felt that a restriction between --
21 on exchanges between rural residents was appropriate.
22 The others did not feel that there was a need.

23

24 In the arena of section 13, which related
25 to a fishery business, all of the councils concur that
26 subsistence-harvested fish should not enter the market
27 into a fishery business.

28

29 The area of greatest difference was
30 related -- was in the coun -- the various council's
31 recommendations on section 11. A few of the councils
32 felt that the exchange between a rural resident and an
33 individual was acceptable as long as it was for that
34 individual's personal or family consumption. In other
35 words, eliminating the opportunity for the subsistence
36 resource to enter commerce in any form. In other words,
37 to a restaurant or something like that. A couple of
38 councils felt that it was appropriate to recommend that
39 there be a cash limit. One council recommended a cash
40 limit of \$500, and another council recommended a cash
41 limit of 400 for that. And one of the councils felt that
42 there should be a tracking or record keeping system in
43 place for that.

44

45 So in general, Mr. Chairman, those are
46 the -- how the other councils have voiced their opinions
47 thus far.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions for Bill,
50 Council?

00075

1 MR. SHIEDT: So this one here, you're
2 just -- where you're talking about when you trade with
3 rural, you just have to be with just fish, right?
4 Salmon? Specifically salmon?

5
6 MR. KNAUER: This rule would relate only
7 to fish, and.....

8
9 MR. SHIEDT: Fish by means?

10
11 MR. KNAUER: The fish that are under our
12 jurisdiction, so it wouldn't be like fish taken out in
13 Norton Sound, but it would be fishery resources taken on
14 federal lands.

15
16 MR. SHIEDT: Like fish, you mean, by
17 trout, white fish, sheefish, salmon?

18
19 MR. KNAUER: Right. And the dollar cap
20 that has been talked about has been the -- a dollar cap
21 placed only on the exchange of salmon. They have not
22 talked about a dollar cap on other types of fisheries
23 yet.

24
25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Susan?

26
27 MS. GEORGETTE: Mr. Chairman, the State
28 asked me to take a moment, if you wouldn't mind, to
29 present the State's comments on this issue.

30
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. Yeah.

32
33 MS. GEORGETTE: Would that be okay?

34
35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. Yeah.

36
37 MS. GEORGETTE: Okay. It won't take
38 long. My name is Susan Georgette, and I'm representing
39 the State of Alaska's comments on this issue today. We
40 thank you for the opportunity to comment.

41
42 The State includes customary trade in its
43 definition of subsistence uses, and the state boards act
44 on proposals from the public on this. And so far in the

45 past years, there's been very few customary trade
46 proposals that have come before the boards.

47

48 Most would agree that without appropriate
49 regulation there is a potential for subsistence harvest
50 to become quasi-commercial in some areas on some species.

00076

1 The State believes that it's particularly important that
2 the customary trade issues be addressed on a case-by-case
3 basis by different species and different regions. The
4 reason is simply that customary trade practices are as
5 different across Alaska as the cultures and geography are
6 different.

7

8 We applaud the efforts of the federal
9 Customary Trade Task Force in coming up with their
10 recommendations. We believe that the regulation should
11 be carefully worded regarding the potential for
12 significant cash sales, and for increased subsistence
13 harvest of salmon and possibly other fish. We believe
14 problems can be avoided and customary trade practices can
15 be protected, and we offer five recommendations.

16

17 The first is that the regulations should
18 accommodate customary trade as defined by region-specific
19 practices.

20

21 The second was that the allowable levels
22 of trade should be defined on a case-by-case basis
23 according to known patterns of trade of a particular
24 item. To protect vulnerable salmon stocks, for example,
25 a household cap on either the number or pounds of salmon
26 traded is appropriated.

27

28 Our third recommendation is that the
29 regulations should apply to the amount of harvested
30 resource and not to the value of it. So the State would
31 prefer to see a certain number of pounds, or numbers of
32 fish that can be traded as opposed to a dollar value.
33 And we believe that this focuses -- that focusing on the
34 amount of the resource emphasizes our interest in the
35 resource rather than the value end of it.

36

37 Number 4, we also believe that the
38 Department of Fish and Game and the Federal Subsistence
39 Program should know if these new regulations simply
40 accommodate on-going practices or actually provide an
41 incentive to increase subsistence harvest.

42

43 And, number 5, we recommend that every
44 effort should be made to achieve consistency between

45 state and federal approaches.

46

47 I guess in essence, the State's position
48 is that we recognize that customary trade is -- exists
49 and that it's an on-going part of subsistence uses, but
50 we would not like to see regulations that actually

00077

1 authorize new uses or increased uses as customary trade.
2 We'll prepare formal comments on the final proposal that
3 Bill is discussing, and we appreciate the opportunity to
4 testify. Thanks.

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any more, Bill?

7

8 MR. KNAUER: No, I think at this time it
9 would be appropriate for your council to both ask
10 questions, and to come up with a recommendation both on
11 each of these three sections, and if you believe a
12 regional -- a limit would be appropriate for your region.

13

14 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman?

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy?

17

18 MR. BALLOT: This proposal, it's just
19 taking up fish and wildlife, but you're saying this
20 customary trade is going to be defined only for fish?

21

22 MR. KNAUER: Right. There on page five
23 you say it says subpart (d)? Subpart (d) is the part of
24 our regulations that includes fish and wildlife. Section
25 27 where this regulation is placed, only relates to the
26 subsistence taking of fish.

27

28 MR. BALLOT: Okay.

29

30 MR. KNAUER: That's where all of the
31 other fishery regulations are also.

32

33 MR. BALLOT: Any mention -- two councils
34 have mentioned limits of 500 or 400? Is it two four, two
35 five, do you know, that voted for it?

36

37 MR. KNAUER: Right. Two of the
38 councils.....

39

40 MR. BALLOT: The regions, I was just
41 wondering where the.....

42

43 MR. KNAUER: Right.

44

45 MR. BALLOT:what regions were they?

46

47 MR. KNAUER: The Southcentral Council
48 recommended a -- for section 11, which is a transaction
49 between rural residents, the Southcentral Council
50 recommended in the Prince William Sound area that the

00078

1 customary trade in that case -- excuse me. Strike that.
2 It's the Bristol Bay in the Bristol Bay area recommended
3 a \$500 annual limit for the exchange between rural
4 residents. And then the Southcentral Council for both
5 Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound, the Kodiak/Aleutians
6 Council for both the Kodiak and the Aleutians area, and
7 the Bristol Bay Council in the Bristol Bay area all
8 recommended limits for transactions between rural
9 residents and others. In other words section 12 there.
10 Your neighboring council, the Seward Peninsula,
11 recommended adopting sections 11 and 13 as is, but they
12 also recommended adopting section 12 with the regional
13 limitation, and their -- for their area, which is the
14 Norton -- they agreed to the regional concept, but in
15 their area it would be unlimited. In other words, they
16 don't see a problem in the Norton Sound area for exchange
17 with others. And the -- your neighboring council to the
18 north, the North Slope, also recommended adopting
19 sections 11 and 13 as is, but they likewise did not see a
20 concern for limiting the exchange for cash to others.

21

22 MR. SHIEDT: And now ours is -- the way
23 Bert did it, it was -- I think it was a \$1,000 limit per
24 person up to 5,000 per family, was it, under trade of
25 fish?

26

27 MR. KNAUER: The recommendation that came
28 out the task force for the Kuskokwim area was just a --
29 for salmon, \$1,000 per household member annually. Oh,
30 I'm -- I'm looking.....

31

32 MR. SHIEDT: I'm

33

34 MR. KNAUER:at the wrong one.

35

36 MR. SHIEDT: I'm looking -- I'm asking
37 about the Northwest Alaska.

38

39 MR. KNAUER: Right.

40

41 MR. SHIEDT: And that \$1,000.....

42

43 MR. KNAUER: The Kotzebue area.

44

45 MR. SHIEDT:per individual, and
46 5,000 up to a family, just on salmon?

47

48 MR. KNAUER: It was just on salmon, but
49 it was not -- it did not have a per family limit. It was
50 just on a per household member limit.

00079

1 MR. SHIEDT: Oh, per.....

2

3 MR. KNAUER: It was just 1,000.

4

5 MR. SHIEDT:household limit?

6

7 MR. KNAUER: Right. Now, that's not to
8 say that that idea might not be real good. That's up to
9 you folks. Thank you for catching it. Luckily it's the
10 same.

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah?

13

14 MR. JACK: Mr. Chairman, during the
15 discussions of the Customary Trade Task Force, your
16 representative had consistently stated that the \$1,000
17 for this region was not enough, considering the high
18 price of, for example, gasoline at \$3 a gallon, all of
19 that. I just want to point that out.

20

21 MR. SHIEDT: So you're asking for a
22 recommendation of what we want to do with 11, 12, 13,
23 right?

24

25 MR. KNAUER: That's correct.

26

27 MR. SHIEDT: So me personally I would say
28 I would accept 11 and 12 as is, but no limit, because
29 that \$1,000, the way the fuel is right now, and Carl
30 referred to \$3, he's wrong, it's over \$4 now in the
31 villages for a gallon of gas, see.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Like some of the
34 places, at Kiana and others, yeah, people that operate at
35 night businesses, gasoline is 5.50 a gallon.

36

37 MR. SHIEDT: And we don't have -- I don't
38 think there's any concern here of people trading for cash
39 to make money anyhow, but they'd just do it just what
40 they needed, and I wouldn't see a cash value in it. I
41 would just keep it open, no limit. Just for -- I'm just
42 talking about the salmon now, the fish. So that's what I
43 think. I'll take 11 and 13 as is, and with no cash value
44 for just trading of salmon. They wouldn't know -- they

45 don't go over anyhow. They don't go that high, you know,
46 but I'd hate to see it -- put a limit and -- because I
47 don't want to see a limit on something that we've been
48 doing, because we have to stay away from Nome and other
49 people, that interior, that's -- they don't have any fish
50 -- we don't have that problem. I shouldn't see us being

00080

1 referred to as other parts of Alaska, if we don't have
2 these declining fish, or our fish being low. Our
3 returns, our fish returns. If we have fish return
4 problems, I would say let's put a limit on it.

5

6 MR. BALLOT: Is that a motion?

7

8 MR. SHIEDT: I don't know. For me,
9 that's my -- that's what I'm saying right now, still
10 thinking on it, but I would say from me, the way I see
11 it, I would take 11 and 13 as is, and then the bottom on
12 12, that should have no limit on the cash value.

13

14 MR. KNAUER: So in other words, you're
15 going along with something that's very similar to what
16 the Seward Peninsula Council recommended, which is
17 adopting sections 11 and 13, going with a regional
18 approach, which in the case of the Kotzebue area would be
19 no limit for your region.....

20

21 MR. SHIEDT: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

22

23 MR. KNAUER:for others. For the
24 section 12.

25

26 A.T. On our fish, because we don't have
27 any real fish problems here, you know, and they don't --
28 I know for a fact they don't trade that, you know, well
29 above that, they don't trade for to make money anyhow on
30 their subsistence foods. They might trade a little bit
31 for gas and other stuff, what they need, you know. So
32 it's.....

33

34 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Is that a motion?

35

36 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: For (indiscernible).

37

38 MR. SHIEDT: No, I was must more like a
39 comment. I could put it in a motion if you want me to do
40 it? I make a motion to adopt 11 and 13 as is, and 12, no
41 limit on cash value bartering for salmon -- or trading
42 for salmon.

43

44 MR. BALLOT: I'll second the motion, Mr.

45 Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. A motion by
48 Enoch and seconded by Percy. Any further questions on
49 proposed rule? Did you call question?

50

00081

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (Indiscernible)

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh, I thought. There's
4 a motion made by Enoch.....

5

6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY:on section 11 and
9 12 and 13.

10

11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Seconded by Percy. Any
14 further discussion?

15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Inupiat)

17

18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

19

20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Inupiat)

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anybody from the
23 public, any comments on these three sections?

24

25 MR. DECICCO: Mr. Chairman, just for my
26 own clarification, is the council then wanting to adopt
27 section 12 the way that it's written here with the last
28 sentences in it that says as long as customary trade does
29 not constitute a commercial enterprise, or striking that
30 whole thing together. Just for clarification.

31

32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that part of your
33 motion?

34

35 MR. SHIEDT: No.

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: No. You want to adopt
38 it as written?

39

40 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, it's as written, and I
41 wanted to just add on no limit on the cash, because I
42 think Bert was worried about \$1,000 limit, and up to per
43 household.

44

45 MR. DECICCO: Okay. But the way that's
46 it's written, there is no limit unless you define.....

47

48 MR. SHIEDT: Oh, there's no limit the way
49 it's written?

50

00082

1 MR. DECICCO:unless you define
2 significant commercial enterprise somewhere.

3

4 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, as long as they don't
5 do it for commercial uses, that's all I'm, you know,
6 worried about.

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Uh-huh.

9

10 MR. BALLOT: Or just take it as it is.

11

12 MR. SHIEDT: Fine. Okay. Okay. I'll
13 rewrite it just the way it is then.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: With a long discussion
16 that.....

17

18 MR. SHIEDT: Okay.

19

20 MR. RAMOTH: Just clarification just like
21 the gentleman here. My name is Clyde Ramoth, I work as a
22 refuge information technician for the Selawik Refuge, and
23 I'm just curious about the clarification on what -- I
24 know there's -- you guys had discussion on what
25 constitutes a commercial enterprise. Is that part of
26 that? This is all new to me, and I just need
27 clarification for our folks at home. Is that still
28 something open for public input or?

29

30 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes.

31

32 MR. KNAUER: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

33

34 MR. RAMOTH: Okay.

35

36 MR. KNAUER: It is. By definition a
37 commercial enterprise will be anything that would require
38 a business license, other than a.....

39

40 MR. RAMOTH: Other than.....

41

42 MR. KNAUER:fishery business.

43

44 MR. RAMOTH: Okay. That's clear.

45

46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further discussions
47 from the council or the public? The motion has been
48 made. It's been second. Now on discussion.

49

50 MR. BALLOT: So we're taking everything

00083

1 as it is then, is that the motion?

2

3 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's the motion,
6 yeah.

7

8 MR. BALLOT: Okay.

9

10 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, I'd have to change it
11 to strike the last part of what I add on about no limit
12 on that for the \$1,000. I'd have to take it as shouldn't
13 -- a commercial enterprise.

14

15 MR. BALLOT: Question.

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question's been
18 called for. Any objection to the question? If none, all
19 in favor of adopting section 11, 12, and 13, signify by
20 saying aye?

21

22 IN UNISON: Aye.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed?

25

26 (No opposing votes.)

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: All three pass. Thank
29 you, Bill.

30

31 MR. KNAUER: Thank you.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So we're -- where are
34 we now? You guys are all done with this? I'll continue
35 I think (indiscernible).

36

37 MR. BALLOT: (In Inupiat)

38

39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (Indiscernible)

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Do you guys want to
42 break or continue on?

43

44 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: At your discretion,

45 Mr. Chairman.

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Continue on? Agency
48 reports. Let's continue on. Okay. We'll go to next
49 item. Agency reports, on your book there, it's about
50 from tab H. Agency report. Who would that be, Barbara?

00084

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. For number one
2 on OSM organizational chart, as we speak, we have some
3 changes that are already happening at the OSM, and then
4 the one that we came out with, that North Slope is
5 already obsolete, so I will personally send out the new
6 one that will be updated soon to all -- to the council
7 members.

8

9 And should I just continue with.....

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, continue on.

12

13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. With the 2002
14 nomination process, we have discussed that earlier on, so
15 as far as I know right now, we just have five applicants
16 for the seats that are open for Northwest Arctic. And
17 the council membership was already discussed earlier.
18 And that we will go to number 4.

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Number 4?

21

22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We're down to
25 number 4, statewide rural determination technology,
26 staff. Who's going to do that? Okay, Bill?

27

28 MR. KNAUER: I'm on the hot seat for most
29 of these, but before I start, Mr. chairman, I would like
30 to go back on the organizational structure, and, Barb,
31 don't run off yet. Barb?

32

33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Oh, I'm sorry.

34

35 MR. KNAUER: Don't run off yet. Just a
36 couple seconds here.

37

38 I would like to provide the council with
39 a short update on recent staff reassignments.

40

41 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Good.

42

43 MR. KNAUER: Periodically we find it
44 necessary to make changes in assignments as workloads

45 change, people move or other circumstances warrant. I
46 myself have had a number of different assignments. As I
47 believe most of your are aware, one of these changes does
48 affect this council.

49 This is a transition meeting for Barb here as she passes
50 her duties as Northwest Arctic Coordinator to Helen. I

00085

1 hired Barb back in 1993, and she's been an outstanding
2 coordinator for this and other regions, but Barb will be
3 moving to Anchorage in the near future, and is now the
4 coordinator for the North Slope and will become the
5 coordinator for Seward Peninsula. I know she does leave
6 with mixed feelings because she's enjoyed working with
7 the folks on this council over the years, and I've
8 particularly enjoyed my relationship with her when I was
9 a supervisor back when we started now as a co-worker,
10 because I'm in a different assignment.

11

12 Helen is the new coordinator for the
13 Northwest Council, but she still remains the
14 anthropologist for both this region and the North Slope.
15 As a result of Barb becoming the coordinator for the
16 Seward Peninsula Council, Ann Wilkinson, who many of you
17 may know, will no longer serve in that role. Ann will
18 remain the coordinator for the Southcentral Region, and
19 will continue to have a number of increasing
20 responsibilities both on the Customary Trade Task Force,
21 and with other large projects that are currently
22 associated with reestablishing the subsistence fisheries
23 opportunities on the Kenai Peninsula.

24

25 This is going to be a transition period
26 for these individuals as they assume their new roles, and
27 I'm sure this council will help them in their new duties.
28 All of these folks are highly respected professionals,
29 and we are confident that the changes will not result in
30 any loss of support to this council or the other
31 councils.

32

33 So we definitely want to say thank you to
34 Barb for the service that she has shown this council, and
35 you can be assured that Helen and the rest of us will be
36 consulting with her, because she is a resource that has
37 great value to us.

38

39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Now, the transaction
40 would be immediately that Barbara will.....

41

42 MR. KNAUER: It will be a phase-in over
43 the next -- I'm not sure how long, a couple of months at
44 least.

45

46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

47

48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We will be waiting
49 until Barb moves to Anchorage, which with the government
50 could take a few weeks. I don't know.

00086

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

2

3 MR. BALLOT: Thank you, Barb.

4

5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You bet.

6

7 MR. BALLOT: I hope they give you a
8 raise.

9

10 MS. JOHNSON: I'm not thanking. I've
11 just started and you're going to leave.

12

13 MR. KNAUER: Maybe one of the first
14 things that Barb's going to have to do is teach Helen to
15 speak Inupiat.

16

17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah, I was going to
18 say.....

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, Barb, from my
21 point of view, you have been very, very active on this
22 organization being a coordinator, because you talk both
23 language to telephone to all us, you know, that we could
24 (indiscernible) and what they expect on incoming
25 meetings, you know, that -- like Percy said, you know, I
26 don't know how we're going to go along without you, but
27 we'll try and work on something out. (Indiscernible,
28 coughing) but you're not leaving us (indiscernible,
29 coughing), you'll still be with us one way or another,
30 and (indiscernible). And you've done very excellent work
31 in the last -- all the years I've been with the RAC.
32 Again, thank you very much, Barbara.

33

34 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Raymond.

35

36 MR. SHIEDT: Thanks, Barbara. You've
37 done a good job, and I hope Helen will call you a lot for
38 advice about how to handle the poor Eskimos, because we
39 will try to work with her as much as we could, so best of
40 luck, Barb.

41

42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Thanks.

43

44 MR. KNAUER: Now moving on to the more

45 mundane things, the statewide rural determination
46 methodology contract. A little background. The current
47 rural determination methodology was developed by the
48 Board with public input back in 1991 as we first assumed
49 some of our duties relative to the federal subsistence
50 management efforts. There were concerns raised regarding

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1 the methodology that was used, and continued with the
2 Board's out of cycle rural determination in 2000 and
3 subsequent reconsideration in 2001 for the Kenai
4 Peninsula.

5

6 As per our regulations, the Board does
7 review all rural and nonrural determinations every 10
8 years following receipt of the census data. In
9 anticipation of the 10-year statewide review following
10 the 2000 census data, and to evaluate the concerns that
11 were raised regarding the current methodology, the Office
12 of Subsistence Management initiated a contract to an
13 independent third party who does have familiarity with
14 Title VIII of ANILCA and the rural and socio-economic
15 issues in Alaska. In September of 2001 the office
16 awarded a competitively bid contract to the University of
17 Alaska Anchorage, Institute of Social and Economic
18 Research. And that organization is proceeding with the
19 development of the methodology, and their first report,
20 which was a comprehensive review of existing literature
21 relative to rural nature of communities has already been
22 completed.

23

24 Recently ISER conducted eight focus group
25 meetings to solicit and record the perceptions of
26 participants regarding what actually distinguishes rural
27 and nonrural communities. And up in this area there was
28 a meeting in Deering that some of you might have been
29 involved in. There was also one of these focus group
30 meetings here in Kotzebue again that some of the folks
31 might have been involved in. And also in those focus
32 groups, in addition to regional council members, there
33 have been other long-term Alaska residents, local
34 business people, tribal officials, and other individuals
35 representing some other interests.

36

37 As the ISER group proceeds to develop
38 their methodology, the regional councils will have an
39 opportunity to review the proposed methodology during
40 their fall meeting of this year, and the opportunity to
41 provide the Board your recommendations on it. The
42 Federal Board will consider the methodologies along with
43 your council recommendations, and two members of the
44 councils, Joe Nicolai and Dan O'Hara will sit in on those

45 Board deliberations to represent the interests of all of
46 the regional councils. The Board is expected to take
47 some action in late 2002, whether they adopt the proposed
48 methodologies or some variation, or to reaffirm what's
49 currently on the books. And the methodologies that the
50 Board does adopt will then be applied to the 2000 census

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1 data, and up for -- the determinations that the Board
2 makes will then be up for regional council recommendation
3 and decision-making under the federal rulemaking process.
4 So that's what's happening in the area of the rural
5 determination methodology, Mr. Chairman.

6

7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anything else?

8

9 MR. KNAUER: That's all on that subject.

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Thank you, Bill.

12 So we're at six, right, Barbara?

13

14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Number 5.

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Number 5.

17 Federal/State coordination. Staff. Again you, Bill?

18

19 MR. KNAUER: That's mine again, Mr.

20 Chairman. This briefing is for informational purposes

21 only. There's no action that is needed by the councils.

22 We would like to update you on the status of the working

23 relations between the federal and state agencies relative

24 to our program. For the benefit of the new councils, I'd

25 like to emphasize a couple of points.

26

27 There was an interim federal/state

28 memorandum of agreement agreed to in April of 2000 by the

29 Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game,

30 the chairman of the Alaska Board of Fisheries, the Chair

31 of the Alaska Board of Game, the regional directors of

32 the Fish and Wildlife Service, the associate regional

33 director of the Park Service, the Regional Forester, the

34 state director of the Bureau of Land Management, the

35 regional director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and

36 the chair of the Federal Subsistence Board. Those

37 individuals are sometimes referred to as the MOA

38 signatories. And the purpose of that MOA is to establish

39 guidelines for continued coordination between the federal

40 agencies and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in

41 managing subsistence use of fish and wildlife resources

42 on federal public lands in Alaska.

43

44 There is an MOA working group that

45 consists of representatives of the five federal agencies
46 and ADF&G divisions of Sport Fish, Com Fish, Subsistence,
47 Board Support and Wildlife Conservation that has been
48 meeting to develop specific protocols which describe how
49 the agencies will work together to accomplish their
50 common goals. The six protocols that have been

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1 identified as important for continuing coordination
2 include subsistence management information sharing, Yukon
3 River Drainage subsistence salmon fishery management,
4 regulatory coordination, fisheries regulatory management
5 planning, statewide in-season subsistence fishery
6 management, and subsistence use amounts. Among those
7 protocols, some are ready for signature, and some are
8 just now getting underway. For example, the subsistence
9 use amounts held their first meeting as a protocol group
10 on February 7th, last month. The Yukon River Drainage
11 subsistence salmon fishery management has the final draft
12 completed, and it's ready for signature.

13

14 Council members have been involved in all
15 of these protocol development, and council members
16 continue to sit on the various meetings. I personally am
17 involved in the regulatory coordination group, and on
18 that committee Bill Thomas and John Hanson have been
19 participating as members. Various council members sit on
20 each of them.

21

22 Mr. Chairman, the Office of Subsistence
23 Management has provided additional funds to the state in
24 2002 for liaison and staff support to enhance
25 coordination and cooperation, and we have found it to be
26 particularly useful and helpful as the state participates
27 in the review process, for the proposals that we have
28 examined, and also is able to send representatives to
29 each of the council meetings. We find it very helpful as
30 have the other councils. And we particularly thank the
31 state for their efforts.

32

33 And that concludes briefing on this top,
34 Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. Any questions
37 from the council to Bill? Okay. Thank you, Bill.
38 Moving on to item number 6, Selawik Refuge on agency
39 report. Selawik Refuge.

40

41 MR. PELTOLA: That's me, Mr. Chairman,
42 other members. I'm Gene Peltola, Jr., the refuge manager
43 of the Selawik National Wildlife Refuge. And you have a
44 handout we gave out I think to you early on this morning.

45 I gave a brief overview of that, and then basically I was
46 going to touch on some transporter and guide use
47 activities from the refuge here in the fall, and then the
48 staff, they came up with the brief summary of 2002
49 projects, so I was going to run through those, and then
50 Lee Ann can give us more specifics if you had any

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1 questions on those particular projects, and that would be
2 pretty much it, unless you had any other questions or
3 comments after we're done.

4

5 So first off, reporting on the
6 transporter and guide activities since the last staff --
7 I mean, since the last RAC meeting, we have one sport
8 hunting guide permitted to operate on the refuge. We
9 basically have two guide areas. One's the western half
10 of the refuge, the other is the eastern half, and the
11 western half is mainly corporation land, so it's never
12 really been active or utilized. So that leaves the
13 eastern half of the refuge where we have one big game
14 guide operating in there, and he had a total of four
15 hunters this fall where they took four moose and one
16 grizzly bear. And that is the fall of 2001.

17

18 And as for transporters on the refuge, we
19 had a total of 126 hunters last fall between August and
20 September which utilized the refuge. And that's only two
21 people more than the previous five-year average of 124,
22 and we had a total of six air taxis or transporters which
23 are permitted to operate on the refuge in the last year,
24 which is down one from the previous year. And between
25 those hunters which I mentioned, they took a little over
26 60 caribou, about 40 moose, and a total of two black bear.
27 So that's the harvest over -- for last -- reported to us
28 last fall.

29

30 And that's just a brief summary of what
31 we had for our permitted activities.

32

33 And also Jimmy Fox, our assistant refuge
34 manager was involved in a monitoring effort, you know,
35 along the river itself, and he's with Helen, Collin and a
36 couple of other staff members where they go out and
37 contacting people when they're hunting upriver, mainly by
38 boat traffic and observing aircraft. And between what
39 they observed and my conversations with a former council
40 member here earlier on this spring, we didn't have any
41 negative, at least from -- conveyed to me, negative
42 encounters between say local and nonlocal hunters this
43 past fall. So -- and that's just a quick rundown. If
44 you have any questions concerning what you may have seen

45 in the handout or any other questions concerning our
46 special use process, our special use permit process, I'll
47 be more than happy to address those.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from the
50 council for Gene? Yeah?

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1 MR. SHIEDT: This is for the transporters
2 that's hauling their clients.....

3

4 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah.

5

6 MR. SHIEDT:just for the floaters,
7 have you got an idea of how many?

8

9 MR. PELTOLA: In this -- in the reported
10 number here by the transporters, that includes people
11 that are dropped off, say, on the lake, and also those
12 that are dropped off on the -- say like the Upper Selawik
13 and float down, so as a group they're included in this
14 figure.

15

16 MR. SHIEDT: Okay. Have you heard from
17 anyone from Selawik saying there's been too many
18 transporters being -- or people just being dropped off
19 and being left, you know? That are complaining about it?
20 Because last fall there was -- I had, you know, when I
21 was in Selawik.....

22

23 MR. PELTOLA: Uh-huh.

24

25 MR. SHIEDT:they had concern
26 because these transporters, they're just dropping off
27 people and just leave them, pick them up later.

28

29 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah, I understand that
30 it's been -- there were some complaints in the past about
31 transporter activities. Me being the new refuge manager
32 here, being here just under three months, I have not got
33 to Selawik yet, but due -- between myself and employees,
34 we have other employees, we have new staff, and their
35 exposure to the village of Selawik, I know there have
36 been some complaints in here the last couple of years
37 about transporter activities. I did not hear of any
38 negative -- or negative comments or conflicts here the
39 last fall, but that does not mean that they don't occur.
40 So, I mean, there are a couple administrative procedures
41 that we're at the refuge trying to address with -- in the
42 way we issue special use permits for transporter
43 activities, and that's an evolving process, and it's --
44 and it will take -- so take us a while to get to the

45 point where we feel we're comfortable in the process in
46 which we issue those permits.

47

48 MR. SHIEDT: Okay. Do you know anywhere
49 that it's known how much have hurt.....

50

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1 MR. PELTOLA: Excuse me, I couldn't hear
2 you for the noise.

3

4 MR. SHIEDT: Do we know anywhere, or a
5 report of anywhere how much hurt -- people being dropped
6 off and hurt our river before they.....

7

8 MR. PELTOLA: Hurt the river?

9

10 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, hurt, it means -- what
11 I mean by that is peop -- the people, the transporters
12 they leave, and how much people could, you know, damage
13 the river?

14

15 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah. Overall -- let's
16 see, from when -- as far back as we could go through our
17 records and transporter activities, from '93 to present,
18 you know, that -- over that span, we've averaged about 88
19 people per year by transporters. And we have reduced the
20 potential for conflict by a product which the staff of
21 the Selawik Refuge generated, which it basically is a map
22 that highlighted private, native allotments, or areas,
23 you know, where there could be someone upset, or a
24 conflict for accessing of lands, and so on that point,
25 we're addressing it, but I -- right now I cannot tell you
26 of anything that I'm aware of where it says X amount of
27 people on a particular river will have a negative impact.
28 I think that that would vary based on what type of
29 resource you're looking at and different areas about the
30 state also.

31

32 MR. SHIEDT: The reason -- okay. The
33 reason why I asked that, asked that is the migration
34 route of caribou is being changed by planes and people
35 right at the migration route and the rivers, see, and I
36 just don't want to see change for anybody. I would just
37 want to leave it out there, because even me as a
38 subsistence hunter, I'm the one the invade the animals
39 out there when I go out in the country. I feel -- always
40 feel like that, I was always told like that as a
41 youngster, you know, that's their territory. You belong
42 in your yard, that's invading it. And I just want to see
43 it -- I mean, they keep changing and you could see it in
44 Noatak and Upper Kobuk that the migration route is being

45 changed just by floaters. And the first time in my life,
46 I'm from Noatak, last summer they had to hunt downriver,
47 see, and I was teasing them. I said, upriver --
48 downriver people hunt upriver. I said, you are from
49 Noatak, you go hunt upriver, you know, and they had no
50 choice, because the floaters is what we -- they think,

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1 but we couldn't prove it, that they changed the
2 migration, they came down way below Noatak. See, that's
3 why I have concern, and this could be happening in
4 Selawik, too.

5

6 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah, and I understand
7 there's concern by people. You know, at times -- and I
8 came up here -- before I transferred back up this spring,
9 I came up in the fall and -- to assist the refuge by
10 flying out in a law enforcement capacity, and I was here
11 in the end of August, and the caribou as I recall it from
12 being up there in certain areas from two to three years
13 prior when I was here as a biologist, they hadn't arrived
14 yet. Whether it's a particular, you know, annual
15 variation, whether -- where they were crossing further
16 upriver, past the Onion or if they came down the coast,
17 you know, by Krusenstern like they've done some years, I
18 can't tell you why or how they did that, because, you
19 know, that's caribou. But at the refuge I know that
20 there's been some concerns by local residents about
21 transporter activities. We did not observe any conflicts
22 the last fall when we were on the river. We're going to
23 continue with the monitoring effort this coming fall, and
24 there are a couple of administrative procedures that
25 we're trying to implement with this -- especially this
26 permit process which may address the concerns of local
27 individuals.

28

29 That's -- the one thing about a national
30 wildlife refuge is we do address, you know, and continue
31 to provide by -- for the continued subsistence use by
32 local residents, but also we have to -- because of the
33 system we're in and the way it was created, we have to be
34 concerned about, you know, the visitor from the Lower 48.
35 I'm not saying one is more important than the other, but
36 we have multiple user groups, and if there is -- if there
37 is a conflict, then the way we address it has to be
38 sensitive to both those -- the different user groups
39 concerned. And so, you know, I guess along those lines,
40 you know, we are -- we are aware of some concerns by
41 people. We're trying to address them, and we're going to
42 continue to monitor, you know, how -- monitor our
43 transporters which we permit on the refuge and local
44 residents' hunting patterns.

45

46 MR. SHIEDT: Okay. I was -- I hate to
47 see another incident happen like it did in Shungnak, you
48 know, in future. Young ones trying to get -- trying to
49 protect their subsistence way of life and people just out
50 there, sport hunters or transporters transporting people,

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1 just going out there and hunting and just leaving the
2 carcass out there.

3

4 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah, and if.....

5

6 MR. SHIEDT: That's what I hate to see,
7 and it's going to -- I'm scared it's going to happen in
8 there, you know, some place.

9

10 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah, this seems to be from
11 -- it's not always this way, but it seems to be like
12 there-- at least on the Selawik and the Tag River,
13 between the different user groups, there's a little
14 geographic variation by lower to middle boat access with
15 the upper aircraft access, and in years past, the
16 majority of that, the people have been spread apart. And
17 whether it's -- and the migration pattern, whatever, it
18 seems like in the last couple rivers there's been some
19 mixing there. And so I know there's been some, you know,
20 discontent between some residents and some -- even
21 actually before I left here two and a half years ago, it
22 was the first time I ever heard the complaint about a
23 hunting experience by a nonloc -- from a nonlocal hunter
24 complaining about other nonlocal hunters, so it is kind
25 of interesting.

26

27 But that's -- in summary, you know,
28 that's the overview of what we had on the fall last year,
29 and I don't mean to cut you short, Enoch, but do you have
30 any other questions?

31

32 MR. SHIEDT: None. Thanks.

33

34 MR. PELTOLA: Okay. Okay. And as for our
35 2002 projects biologically, Lee Ann and Tina Morand, our
36 other biologist on staff, came up with a brief overview
37 of what we plan on -- what we've initiated, what we plan
38 to continue with throughout the rest of the year. I'll
39 go over those really briefly, and then if you have any
40 specifics, Lee Ann can get into more detailed
41 descriptions of what the refuge envisions, or what we're
42 -- our objectives are.

43

44 First off, fisheries, you know, the Fish

45 and Wildlife Service has continued -- has provided
46 financial assistance to Susan Georgette's, to get
47 traditional knowledge of white fish in the south area,
48 that's one fish -- one of the fisheries projects. We're
49 doing a pilot or a scoping study this year about
50 characteristics of the white fish and pike in the

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1 Selawik River drainage. There's been some concern in the
2 past I know expressed at RAC meetings by Selawik
3 residence about white fish habitat and the possible
4 effect of fisheries and such, and there's been also some
5 interest in how recent changes in net length would affect
6 local fisheries, so we have a pilot study to address
7 that.

8

9 As for birds, we're going to continue
10 with the waterfowl coastal survey which has been done in
11 the past on the refuge, about three to four years ago we
12 started to initiate some greater white fronted goose
13 surveys on and adjacent to the refuge, try to assist in
14 some Western Interior efforts in monitoring Northwest
15 populations and Western Interior populations. Lee Ann
16 and Tina are going to be putting some satellite
17 transmitters on whitefish [sic] and in traditional --
18 (indiscernible) of not traditionally looked for white
19 front aggregations. We're going to be doing some
20 scroader work, and also doing some shorebird and small
21 song bird or line bird surveys.

22

23 And as for mammal end of things, continue
24 to cooperate with Alaska Department of Fish and Game and
25 other federal agencies in Northwest Alaska to monitor the
26 Western Arctic Caribou Herd. We have in Tag River a
27 moose project which we initiated on the refuge in 1994,
28 and that's being continued, and this is -- I think this
29 is the last year of the study. We propose pulling
30 collars off next year. And that's one thing that Lee Ann
31 had mentioned, we can make a more in-depth report on at
32 the fall meeting if you wish, is we'll summarizing that
33 project, which would be like the sixth or seventh year.
34 We'll have a lot more information we can provide to you
35 if you'd like at the next meeting, and we're going to
36 start looking at some vegetation and browse work on the
37 refuge. Continue to cooperate with the Park Service and
38 Fish and Game on musk ox surveys up the coast and also on
39 the Seward Peninsula.

40

41 And also the Selawik Refuge by means of,
42 you know, directly out of our budget has contributed
43 financially some other projects locally, mainly on -- in
44 the traditional scientific knowledge of large mammals

45 which is done -- being done by Alex Whiting at Kotzebue
46 IRA. WE contracted with the Village of Selawik to
47 monitor snow depth for us on the refuge, and marine
48 mammal tissue archival project, which is also done by
49 Alex at the Kotzebue IRA. And we've participated in the
50 Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group, and in the

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1 last year or two, we've don -- contributed monies for
2 travel to continue to have large attendance at the
3 Western Arctic Caribou Herd meetings.

4

5 And that's a brief summary of our
6 biological projects for the year. If you have any
7 questions on those, we could address those, and Lee Ann
8 could probably give a more in-detailed description of
9 what they have designed for those if you like.

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead.

12

13 MR. BALLOT: Well, you said you would
14 have a map on the movements of the caribou, when, in our
15 fall meeting?

16

17 MR. PELTOLA: Oh, no, what I was
18 referring to is that on the tagged moose project, we
19 initiated a project in 1994 on the Tag River drainage to
20 identify, you know, distribution in census areas, and
21 that -- and that -- and it -- being you -- targeting the
22 Selawik drainage, Selawik River drainage, also the Waring
23 Mountains, and, you know, so that's wrapping up, and
24 actually Lee Ann should be able to give you a better
25 description as to what.....

26

27 MS. AYRES: Lee Ann Ayres, Selawik
28 Refuge. Yeah, Percy, for the caribou movements, Peter
29 Bente and Jim Dowell have some excellent maps of the
30 results of the satellite collar data that they've been
31 collecting, and if you're interested, that might be
32 something to ask them for the fall meeting, but they have
33 a really nice package together to show the movements that
34 they've kept. They showed it to us at the Western Arctic
35 Working Herd Group. And as far as the moose data, that's
36 -- we do have a lot of movement data on moose that we've
37 been using to define census areas for long term
38 monitoring, so both of those. And actually, you know,
39 Raymond and the council, if you look through these, I'd
40 be really happy to kind of prepare something more in
41 depth on any of the ones here that you're interested in
42 if we could just talk about it during the summer as
43 issues come up in the fall that you'd like us to present
44 our information on.

45

46 MR. BALLOT: I'd like to see that,
47 because we've noticed that some of the caribou are
48 traveling later now or stuff like that, it's been
49 reported along the rivers.....

50

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1 MS. AYRES: Okay.

2

3 MR. BALLOT:from other villages,

4 and.....

5

6 MS. AYRES: Well, maybe, you know, Susan

7 can.....

8

9 MR. BALLOT:if we could find out

10 what's going on.

11

12 MS. AYRES:mention that to Jim, or
13 we can certainly talk to Jim Dowell about doing that.

14

15 MR. SHIEDT: Could I answer that part for

16 Percy?

17

18 MR. PELTOLA: Sure.

19

20 MR. SHIEDT: I get that weekly from Ted
21 and his crew, and I forward it to the people that's
22 supposed to give it the board, and it's the board of
23 Maniilaq, so it stops right there. I give him a chance
24 to present it to the board. The weekly whereabouts of
25 the caribou, the satellite tag, and I forward it to the
26 people and it stops right there.

27

28 But I've got a question on the -- for the
29 collaring they I know at Onion Portage, and the caribou,
30 the ones that go, they go -- I know they go toward
31 Buckland and Koyuk and other places, but is it possible
32 for you guys to try -- I know it's going to be a new
33 project if you do one in the Noatak River.....

34

35 MS. AYRES: Uh-huh.

36

37 MR. SHIEDT:because there -- I

38 think these are only that winter in our area here.

39

40 MS. AYRES: Uh-huh. Yeah, I think that's
41 a good point, and I think that was brought up at the last
42 Western Arctic Herd Working Group meeting. Two things I
43 can think of is one to, you know, bring that back up for
44 discussion at the, what's it, the April meeting in

45 Fairbanks, and there will be a lot of other caribou
46 biologists there as well as the state, and discuss it.

47

48 The other thing that might be interesting
49 to do would be to look at the satellite collar data on
50 the caribou that are collared there at Onion Portage that

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1 have been collared for over a year and see if they follow
2 that same route year after year, or if they go other
3 places. That might be something that would help answer
4 your question or kind of give you more information on the
5 effect of collaring in one location.

6

7 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, 'cause I know there's
8 one herd that goes to the coast, and that's completely
9 different than the one goes through the Noatak, and the
10 one that goes through the Kobuk, but Shungnak is getting
11 two years without, you know, caribou.

12

13 MS. AYRES: Uh-huh.

14

15 MR. SHIEDT: And so maybe we're just -- I
16 know it's going to be a project, and I know I'm going to
17 give you guys -- but maybe by asking is, but we need to
18 know if these are -- their migration route is completely
19 different.

20

21 MS. AYRES: Yeah. Oh, no, I think you
22 have an excellent point, and one of the reasons the
23 collaring's been kind of focused at Onion Portage is just
24 because of the ease on the animals for the capture work.
25 So that might be something like we did with the white
26 fronts, that we talk about, you know, other areas that we
27 might be able to do that where local people know that we
28 can get the same access that we do there at Onion
29 Portage, because I think some of the logistics is
30 probably one of the concerns that folks will have.

31

32 MR. SHIEDT: And I'm looking forward to
33 the migratory bird survey we're going to do this summer.
34 I just kind of wait for that, just to prove my point that
35 some of us Eskimos know something.....

36

37 MS. AYRES: Oh, but we really.....

38

39 MR. SHIEDT:you know, about some of
40 these animals we're talking about and trying to preserve,
41 because obviously you guys would listen, and traditional
42 knowledge is very important, you know.

43

44 MS. AYRES: Yeah. Well, I'm really

45 pleased with Susan's work with the white fish. I think
46 that's doing exactly what we had hoped, talking to people
47 in Selawik, they're really, really pleased and happy with
48 the work she's doing there, and doing a great job of
49 documenting some of the things that local folks know that
50 we don't, and I think we're off to a good start with

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1 white fronted geese of kind of doing the same things.
2 The areas that your group identified for banding work and
3 survey work this coming summer was really helpful, so
4 we'll try and keep on that course.

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Susan? Susan, you had
7 your hand up.

8

9 MS. GEORGETTE: Well, I just had a quick
10 question. I assume that you don't -- we can't count the
11 young geese very easily? I mean, there are so many
12 adults and so few young geese that you've reported here,
13 and is it just that they're hard to count, or there's --
14 that.....

15

16 MS. AYRES: Yeah. Actually when we do
17 the molting surveys on there, we're not -- they're just
18 focused on the -- actually on the adults that are in
19 those molting groups are the non-breeders and the males,
20 and some females, but they're not the -- there's -- it's
21 not like the brood survey (indiscernible) count.

22

23 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah, it's (indiscernible -
24 away from microphone) molting years.

25

26 MS. GEORGETTE: And I just -- I saw 45
27 young.

28

29 MS. AYRES: Yeah, hopefully there was
30 more than 45 young geese in that area, but, yeah, the
31 molting surveys are just kind of.....

32

33 MS. GEORGETTE: Oh, okay.

34

35 MS. AYRES:used for a trend.
36 That's one of the things that's -- we're kind of looking
37 at.

38

39 MS. GEORGETTE: Okay. Thanks.

40

41 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, I see you're
42 going to be fitting -- are you going to be doing that in
43 Buckland, too? Is that part of the banding for the
44 geese, the white front?

45

46 MS. AYRES: On the banding, the folks at
47 the meeting identified some areas around Good Hope Bay
48 where they thought there was a number of molt -- groups
49 of molting white fronts.

50

00100

1 MR. BALLOT: Uh-huh.

2

3 MS. AYRES: And Cheryl John with the
4 school there is part of a challenge grant involved in
5 that project. So if we can -- we'll go and look where
6 the hunters were telling us they saw a lot of geese, and
7 if there's some groups that are large enough, and that we
8 can get access to, we probably will be trying to put some
9 bands on down there, too.

10

11 MR. PELTOLA: In the past we've always
12 gone towards like Trikalonrak (ph), Inland Lake, down in
13 there, and we're trying to look at areas where we haven't
14 looked at in the past to do this, (indiscernible)
15 somewhere.

16

17 MR. BALLOT: And I noticed a guy wearing
18 a pin. Want to introduce him in his capacity or what he
19 does?

20

21 MR. PELTOLA: Clyde Ramoth, who's a
22 recently hired refuge information technician in the
23 Village of Selawik.

24

25 MR. SHIEDT: I've got another question
26 here on your marine mammal for tissue that they're doing,
27 Kotzebue IRA, what are they going to do on the marine
28 mammal? Where all are they going to test for?

29

30 MS. AYRES: You know, Enoch, you'd have
31 to ask Alex on that. I think a lot of the point of that
32 whole program is to gain a tissue bank so that when
33 issues come up about certain contaminants, that they can
34 go to a sample bank and actually test the tissues there.
35 So they're not testing anything right now per se.
36 They're just trying to collect enough samples so that if,
37 say, you were concerned about heavy metals in seals off
38 of the area here, you would be able to access samples to
39 test for those heavy metals. But to -- for more
40 information on exactly if Alex is able to do any sampling
41 himself, you'd have to check with him.

42

43 MR. SHIEDT: Because I'd like to put my
44 two cents in there and say we need to check for the fat

45 content, because when the sea -- we first come in our
46 seals, I notice for the last three years they're pretty
47 skinny and within about 10 days after they first come,
48 just about double up. And it might be to be declining in
49 food, because I know our ocean is being harvested from
50 the Russian and American side, and our dalywad (ph),

00101

1 these are bottom fish, they live off the bottom fish.
2 These seals, not only they -- and they -- also and they
3 live off other fish too, that's why, you know, it would
4 be nice, and if they're going to check for contaminants,
5 please ask them to do parts per million for safety
6 levels. They ought to get some of my -- I've got
7 contaminant level for safety for our native food. While
8 I know it's expensive, it's something like 325 for one
9 little sample to be done, because I checked on it
10 already.

11

12 MS. AYRES: Yeah. Oh, you're way ahead
13 of us on a lot of that, Enoch.

14

15 MR. SHIEDT: It's -- or an average study
16 is about \$74,000. They need about 20 bottles.

17

18 MS. AYRES: Yeah. Actually, you know,
19 Alex is doing -- a lot of his focus is trying to train
20 local hunters to collect the samples that you're talking
21 about. He's doing a wonderful job there. And next --
22 week after next I'll be down in Anchorage, and be talking
23 to some of the folks that work in contaminants in the
24 Service, and I'll ask them about that, or if there are
25 any other projects, or how to even get stuff -- work like
26 that going up here.

27

28 MR. SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any more questions?
31 Okay.

32

33 MR. PELTOLA: Thank you.

34

35 MS. AYRES: Thank you.

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Gene.
38 National Park Service. Got anybody from the Park
39 Service?

40

41 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair, Counsel
42 members, Ken Adkisson, National Park Service. I'll make
43 this very short, because I didn't submit any written
44 comments. Superintendent's Spurdies (ph) is

45 unfortunately not able to make it because of some other
46 commitments. We don't have a lot to add since the fall
47 meeting, except to say that cooperatively or individually
48 the Park's currently engaged in a number of projects,
49 including censusing and so forth related to moose, sheep,
50 musk oxen and wolverine, and we'll have more to be able I

00102

1 think to say about those projects at the next meeting, at
2 the fall meeting. And unless you have any other
3 questions, that's basically it.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions for Ken?

6 Thank you, Ken.

7

8 MR. ADKISSON: You're welcome.

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: BLM. Bureau of Land
11 Management. Anyone from BLM here?

12

13 MS. COLE: Mr. Chair, Council members,
14 Jeanie Cole, Bureau of Land Management. Randy Meyers of
15 our office was preparing a report for you to look at the
16 number of hunting guides that were out on the Squirrel
17 River over the past year, and the results of her going
18 out during hunting season and monitoring their camps.
19 However, she couldn't make it today, and I don't have a
20 copy of her report, so if you'd like, I could ask her to
21 give a copy of the report to Barbara and she could
22 forward it to all of you.

23

24 And last -- at the last meeting I also
25 mentioned that we were trying to hire a fisheries
26 biologist for this area, and we have hired someone. He's
27 stationed out of Fairbanks, but his area of
28 responsibility is the Seward Peninsula and the Kotzebue
29 Sound area, and his name is Dave Parker. And so
30 hopefully you all will be able to -- he's not at this
31 meeting today, but hopefully you'll be able to meet him
32 sometime in the near future. And that's all I have to
33 present, unless you have any questions.

34

35 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman?

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Do you plan to have any
38 law enforcement officials in the Squirrel this coming
39 season?

40

41 MS. COLE: I'd say it's doubtful that we
42 will be able to, because we only have four rangers
43 statewide, and right now I believe two of them are
44 serving as air marshals, and so we have basically one

45 ranger to monitor moose hunting in the Fairbanks area,
46 the Dalton Highway and the Squirrel River, and in the
47 past the Dalton Highway and the Fairbanks areas have been
48 higher priority than the Squirrel River, so I would say
49 it's unlikely.

50

00103

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

2

3 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, I was just
4 wondering what transporters for the Buckland area, too,
5 since I'm near their area. Do you have any numbers for
6 that? Does anybody have numbers for that?

7

8 MS. COLE: I don't have any numbers. We
9 don't regulate transporters. We only regulate hunting
10 guides.

11

12 MR. BALLOT: Who would have that? I
13 thought we were going to have them this meeting for
14 Buckland River, transporters and guides?

15

16 MS. COLE: Randy may have been working on
17 that. I thought it was just the Squirrel River, but she
18 may have been doing something for Buckland as well.

19

20 (Whispered conversation)

21

22 MR. BALLOT: But I'd appreciate it if we
23 could just get that sometime on the transporters of the
24 Buckland River area.

25

26 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah. Yeah. That's
27 managed.....

28

29 MR. BALLOT: And guides.

30

31 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE:by BLM isn't
32 it?

33

34 MR. BALLOT: Yeah.

35

36 MS. COLE: Okay. I'll work -- we'll work
37 on that for the next meeting then.

38

39 MR. BALLOT: Yeah.

40

41 MS. COLE: Is there any other questions?

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I guess not. Thank
44 you. Next item is Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

45 Susan? They've got numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4, and, of
46 course, they're all in.....

47

48 MS. GEORGETTE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

49 I was just going to give a brief update on one of the
50 projects we've been working on, the traditional Inupiat

00104

1 knowledge of white fish, and the refuge covered it pretty
2 well, and I guess I just wanted to say that I've had the
3 good fortune to work with Clyde Ramoth here. He's helped
4 me a lot in the field, and we've done interviews with
5 maybe 10 people out there, and it's gone really well, and
6 we've learned a lot of interesting things, and we also
7 received money from the Federal Subsistence Office to
8 expand the study to other communities in the region, and
9 that will be something that Atumuk at Maniilaq and I will
10 work on, so we're hoping to not only work in Selawik, but
11 also, you know, the upper Kobuk, maybe lower Kobuk,
12 somewhere on Noatak, Seward Peninsula. We haven't
13 decided exactly where, but it's really been a great
14 project and I appreciate your support of that. Thank
15 you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Thank you Susan.

18 So.....

19

20 MR. SHIEDT: I've got a question for Sue.

21 Could I ask.....

22

23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

24

25 MR. SHIEDT: I know we're going to do a
26 white fish project on the Selawik, Noorvik, Noatak area,
27 but I wanted to know the upper Kobuk, I think it was ARC
28 that's going to do one on blue fish, fin fish. How are
29 they going to compare together where you could compare
30 those together? I mean, because you're going to be very
31 close where you could -- on the white fish? I was trying
32 to find it here.

33

34 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah, you know what
35 happened on that was the National Park Service side, I
36 think the -- and Gates of the Arctic had funding for
37 that, and they actually had given our division part of
38 that to do white fish work in Shungnak, and so now not
39 only is there the project funding we got for lower Kobuk
40 and Noatak and all, but there's also some separate
41 funding to do the similar kind of work in Shungnak and
42 Kobuk and maybe Ambler. So we'll all end up being in the
43 same project, even those it's funded from different
44 sources. Does that make sense?

45

46 MR. SHIEDT: Okay. Thanks. Because I
47 want to see the report -- I mean, they're together in a
48 couple lines where we could compare, you know.

49

50 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah, I could send you

00105

1 what I have that revised that upper Kobuk one fish, two
2 fish one, and show you.....

3

4 MR. SHIEDT: I know you and I are going
5 to work on it. I was going to ask that in, but it's my
6 chance to.....

7

8 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah. Okay. Thanks.

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Susan. Anybody
11 from the fisheries?

12

13 MR. DECICCO: Mr. Chairman, Council, Fred
14 Decicco, Alaska Fish and Game, Sport Fish Division. I
15 just wanted to update the council on the status of the
16 projects that are funded through the Office of
17 Subsistence Management that our division is working on in
18 the area. And there are two ongoing projects, one -- both
19 deal with char, with dolly varden. One is a genetics
20 project which encompasses this area and the Seward
21 Peninsula, and this past year we completed almost all of
22 the sample collection. We have one more sample that we
23 want to get, and those include stock specific samples
24 from young of the year fish in the spawning areas, some
25 adult spawners, and the stock specific samples where --
26 in a number of locations on the Noatak, the Kugurorok,
27 and the Kelly and the Uktuk (ph) Rivers, and the Wulik
28 River, Kivalina River, and down on the Seward Peninsula,
29 we've got samples from the Solomon River and the Nome
30 River, Cobblestone, Cripple, Penny and the Ukluk (ph)
31 Rivers. So we have all those. We also have a mixed
32 stock sample that we collected at Kivalina last fall, and
33 we're going to try with the help of some local people in
34 Noatak to get a mixed stock sample from the Noatak River
35 this spring. If we're successful there, then it would
36 be the completion of the sample collection.

37

38 The Fish and Wildlife Service genetics
39 lab in Anchorage has started to run the samples. They're
40 in the process of doing that now. They'll probably be at
41 it most of the summer, and then they'll have to analyze
42 their data, and then we'll write a report.

43

44 The second project dealing with dolly

45 varden is a life history study on a spawning stream up in
46 the Noatak. Last year we had pretty poor luck. Because
47 of high water, we just got -- we washed right out of the
48 stream, and we weren't able to complete that year's work.
49 And what we did with the funding for last year that was
50 left over, because we weren't able to work, was to buy

00106

1 some materials to build a more substantial trap to put in
2 the river, something that hopefully stay in the high
3 water. And that material's been brought up to the site
4 in cooperation -- well, through some negotiation with the
5 Park Service, because it's a largest apparatus than we
6 originally planned. And that's on site and we'll be
7 installing that at the end of June, and hopefully it will
8 stay in operation all summer.

9

10 So those are the two projects.

11

12 The other thing I wanted to mention to
13 the council is the Commercial Fish Division, Jim Manard
14 and Wes Jones in Nome, sent up these materials which I've
15 already passed out. The larger pamphlet is a season
16 summary from the Kotzebue commercial salmon fishery from
17 last year, and then they've got just a one paragraph
18 outlook for 2002, and that's an outlook for the
19 commercial salmon fishery. And they expect that the run
20 will probably be in the ballpark of last year's, maybe a
21 bit less. That the fishery will start as normal on the
22 10th or 11th of July as normal for the last few years,
23 and probably run very similarly to the way it was run the
24 last two years, and that there will likely be daily
25 fishing periods dictated by the capacities of the buyer.

26

27

28 And that concludes my report. Does
29 anyone have any questions?

30

31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from the
32 Council? Percy?

33

34 MR. BALLOT: I know that you are not the
35 (indiscernible), but I haven't heard you say Buckland or
36 Deering on the trout or dolly varden?

37

38 MR. DECICCO: No, we haven't -- we didn't
39 include Buckland on the genetic study, and that wasn't to
40 slight Buckland, but the idea of this study is to get a
41 sample of populations south of the Bering Strait, and a
42 sample of populations north of the Bering Strait, and
43 then look at those and the relationships that they are to
44 each other, whether we can separate them genetically as

45 groups, and then possibly as stock by stock. And whether
46 we can do that or not remains to be seen, the results of
47 the analysis will tell us that. And then we plan to go
48 into the subsistence fisheries, the major ones in the
49 area are Noatak and Kivalina. And we did get our sample
50 in Kivalina of about 700 fin clips last year, and then if

00107

1 we can separate the groups north and south of the Bering
2 Strait, then we can estimate what proportion of the fish
3 that get caught in the fisheries up there are coming from
4 down south, and what proportion from up here. So the
5 fact that Buckland wasn't included is not really going to
6 affect the outcome of the study, although at some point I
7 would like to get samples from the other streams, and
8 when I get ready, I'll talk to you.

9

10 MR. BALLOT: Yeah. I'd appreciate it,
11 because we have mining up in our area and.....

12

13 MR. DECICCO: Right.

14

15 MR. BALLOT:stuff like that, and
16 dolly varden and arctic char are both in the river.

17

18 MR. DECICCO: Yeah. Enoch?

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Enoch?

21

22 MR. SHIEDT: Are you familiar with the
23 one that Al Ott is doing the sampling on juvenile trout
24 in.....

25

26 MR. DECICCO: Yes.

27

28 MR. SHIEDT:Kivalina, up in the
29 rural area?

30

31 MR. DECICCO: Yes, in fact he provided
32 some of the samples for this study when he was up there.
33 Any other.....

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from the
36 public for state?

37

38 MR. DECICCO: Perhaps you could fax me a
39 copy of that letter that you got, I'd be curious to read
40 it. I'll leave you my fax number

41

42 MR. SHIEDT: Which one do you want?

43

44 MR. DECICCO: The one from DEC permitting

45 the dumping.

46

47 MR. SHIEDT: I've got it, yeah, I just
48 got through looking at it.

49

50 MR. DECICCO: Yeah. I'll leave you my

00108

1 fax number before we're done.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's good.

4

5 MR. DECICCO: Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I don't know that we --

8 we're missing one, but -- Wildlife Conservation, so Jim

9 Dial is not here. Is anybody going to speak for him, or

10 -- I guess not.

11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Also advisory

14 committee, Susan Bucknell, I guess.....

15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: She's not here either.

17

18

19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We'll just go along.

20 Article number 12, is that.....

21

22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Number 12.....

25

26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Right.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY:other new

29 business. So if you'd.....

30

31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (Indiscernible - away

32 from microphone)

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. Barbara.

35

36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Inupiat)

37

38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: (In Inupiat)

39

40 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (In Inupiat)

41

42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Ee-ee.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We raise our right

45 hand. Okay. We've got Barbara for Gates.....

46

47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: For Gates, Gates
48 representative. (In Inupiat) Park Service wrote another
49 letter to Bert and told him that the seat was still open,
50 for you guys to fill it from the Upper Kobuk Advisory

00109

1 Committee. And Bert and I worked on it, and he gave me
2 the job to talk to the Upper Kobuk Advisory Committee,
3 but we have problems in reaching them, and in talking to
4 the chair for Upper Kobuk. He didn't seem too
5 interested, and said he didn't have anyone to recommend,
6 so Bert gave me the job to talk to the other committees
7 and I was able to talk to two elders that were on the
8 Upper Kobuk Advisory Committee, and they suggested
9 Fredrickson. And after talking to them, I called
10 Frederick. He's on one of the younger persons up there
11 from Upper Kobuk who knows and has hunted in that area
12 since he was a little boy. And he posed the question of
13 saying that what am I going to do, so I filled him in
14 what the representative does and stuff, and then he was
15 kind of not up to par on what the meeting contained, so I
16 filled him in on that information, and also put in that
17 Levi Kavin (ph) is on the Gates as the commissioner, and
18 then he said, okay, I'll have no problem being nominated
19 in for that seat then for the Upper Kobuk Advisory
20 Committee. And so that's where it is right now.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

23

24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Inupiat) This
25 will need -- this will be a motion item, so he's.....

26

27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

28

29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG:the one that's
30 interested for Upper Kobuk.

31

32 MR. BALLOT: I'll move to appoint Fritz
33 Zen?

34

35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Fredrickson.

36

37 MR. BALLOT: For the Upper Kobuk.

38

39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Fredrickson.

40

41 MR. BALLOT: Fredrickson.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. The motion from
44 Percy to nominate Fredrickson.

45

46 MR. SHIEDT: I'll second it.

47

48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Seconded by Enoch. No
49 more discussions then?

50

00110

1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Question.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question's been
4 called for. Any objection to the question? If none, all
5 in favor of this motion say aye.

6

7 IN UNISON: Aye.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed?

10

11 (No opposing votes.)

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: (In Inupiat)

14

15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Thanks.

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Barb.

18

19 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Ee-ee.

20

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: When I take over,
22 (indiscernible) long. I'll have to make these meetings
23 last until 6:00 o'clock, so -- people aren't leaving
24 until 6:00 o'clock anyway. Okay. Anything else under
25 new business? If none, time and place for the next
26 meeting.

27

28 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You guys have a window
29 on the back of your book, the back page (In Inupiat).
30 (indiscernible - away from microphone) on your papers.
31 (In Inupiat) You have to consider that Helen is with
32 Seward -- not Seward Pen.

33

34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: North Slope.

35

36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: She's with North
37 Slope. North Slope would go earlier, being September 4
38 and 5, before the window (In Inupiat). So they picked
39 the date September 4 and 5, so what you're looking at is
40 open.

41

42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And they can't overlap
43 with Seward Pen because of Donna and (whispered
44 conversation).

45

46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead. Between 10,
47 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, all the way down the line, right?

48

49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

50

00111

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, it goes
2 September 8 through 28.

3

4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: 27.

5

6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Open (In Inupiat)

7

8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And we've got
9 hunting season early September.

10

11 (Whispered conversation)

12

13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Conflict with Seward
14 Pen.

15

16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Right.

17

18 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Because of Donna
19 and.....

20

21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: September 13th? Of
22 is that in.....

23

24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Inupiat)

25

26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Are you planning that
27 meeting for one day or two days?

28

29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: One.

30

31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: One day? Okay.

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: There's.....

34

35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think if there's
36 (indiscernible - away from microphone) you guys are going
37 to be two days, it's two days, but if you guys want to
38 meet one, then it's one.

39

40 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't -- unless you
41 -- what we would be mostly addressing would be fisheries
42 proposals, and we didn't get any proposed today, so
43 that's usually what takes a lot of time is the proposals,
44 so unless we get a whole bunch from the public or later

45 on, there won't be -- I don't think we'll have fisheries
46 proposals, so.....

47

48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

49

50 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We haven't received

00112

1 any yet today.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No.

4

5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Right, Bill?

6

7 MR. KNAUER: Right. There are none for
8 this area that have been received thus far.

9

10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. (In Inupiat)

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: (In Inupiat), Enoch.

13

14 MR. SHIEDT: When do you say Slope was
15 again?

16

17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: North Slope is
18 September 4 and 5.

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: 4 and 5.

21

22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: But they requested to
23 have their meeting earlier, because of their whaling.

24

25 MR. SHIEDT: How about of our fall
26 seining here, too, don't we count? Right about that
27 time.

28

29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You can have a meeting
30 during the day and seine in the evening.

31

32 MR. SHIEDT: I have to go up -- way up
33 the Noatak River.

34

35 MR. BALLOT: I'm open.

36

37 MR. SHIEDT: September 10 and 11 I'd
38 recommend.

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: September 10 and 11?

41

42 MR. SHIEDT: A day of traveling, Monday,
43 if you have to.

44

45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, but you guys
46 don't have any fisheries proposal to discuss. There are
47 no fisheries proposal to this date, and then there won't
48 be any hard issues for you guys to discuss.....

49

50 MR. SHIEDT: Might be only.....

00113

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG:to warrant a two-
2 day meeting.

3

4 MR. SHIEDT: Most likely be one day.
5 We'll find out. Yeah. How long do we have to decide on
6 day or two-day meeting? I mean.....

7

8 MR. BALLOT: Just go for two days, and
9 then.....

10

11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You could put down two
12 days, and then, you know, sometime in July we could say,
13 well, we didn't get anything. We just need enough time
14 to make reservations and all that, so.....

15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, and then.....

17

18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. Okay.

19

20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:it doesn't
21 matter.

22

23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG:once the agenda
24 gets going, then you guys can figure out really what's
25 (indiscernible - simultaneous speech).

26

27 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I'd have it on
28 Friday.

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, set for two days,
31 you know, it's not -- yeah.

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If you -- did you want
34 to have it earlier? Is that -- because you don't have
35 any fisheries proposals, it could be earlier. It's the
36 fisheries -- it's the -- having time to do the fisheries
37 proposal analyses that makes us not be able to do it
38 earlier, and that's why the North Slope can do it
39 earlier, because they didn't have any either.

40

41 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, so.....

42

43 MR. SHIEDT: I'd rather have it the
44 middle of the week, that way everybody, all the agencies,

45 everybody have travel -- time to travel home. Because
46 when I'm out of town, I complain, I want to go home, so I
47 think they're in the same boat as I am, you know. I
48 would say let's have it on Wednesday, Thursday, on 11th
49 and 12th.
50

00114

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: 11, 12.

2

3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: 11 and 12.

4

5 MR. BALLOT: Isn't that going to be
6 Memorial Day? September 11th?

7

8 MS. JOHNSON: Is that September?

9

10 MR. BALLOT: September 11th?

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. That meeting is
13 on September.

14

15 MR. BALLOT: I'm saying isn't that going
16 to be Memorial Day?

17

18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: No, you mean Labor Day?

19

20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Labor Day. It's after
21 Labor Day weekend.

22

23 MR. BALLOT: Okay.

24

25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: It's after Labor Day.

26

27 MR. BALLOT: I was mentioning September
28 11th.

29

30 MR. SHIEDT: Oh, you mean -- oh.

31

32 MR. BALLOT: Yeah. And.....

33

34 MR. SHIEDT: Okay, 7, 9, 11.

35

36 MR. BALLOT: I think that is honoring
37 day, but.....

38

39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: September what?

42

43 MR. BALLOT: Yeah.

44

45 MR. SHIEDT: I see what you're saying,
46 the 9/11.

47

48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

49

50 MR. SHIEDT: Okay. I withdraw.

00115

1 MR. BALLOT: 18, 19? Okay.

2

3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: On the 8th?

6

7 MR. BALLOT: 18, 19.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Because you guys
10 are.....

11

12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Percy.

13

14 CHAIRMAN STONEY:satisfied with the
15 dates? Got the dates? Where.

16

17 MR. SHIEDT: Shaktoolik.

18

19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Where do you want the
20 meeting?

21

22 MR. BALLOT: Place?

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

25

26 MR. BALLOT: Here. I'd rather have it
27 here.

28

29 MR. SHIEDT: Our handbook says we've got
30 to have village meetings, and we haven't had one for a
31 long time. So.....

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's a busy month
34 for.....

35

36 MR. BALLOT: That's a busy month.

37

38 CHAIRMAN STONEY:the delegates. I
39 think that here (indiscernible).

40

41 MR. SHIEDT: Here?

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

44

45 MR. SHIEDT: Okay. You want the truth,
46 Raymond? I'd rather have it in Noatak Village. We
47 already went to Noatak, and Kiana, but we haven't.....

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: He's on the
50 (indiscernible - simultaneous speech).

00116

1 MR. SHIEDT:been to (indiscernible
2 - simultaneous speech).....

3

4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We have it here.

5

6 MR. SHIEDT:or Deering. Okay.
7 Here.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. So the meeting
10 will be -- give me the dates you want now? The day 18th
11 and 19th. Do you need an action on this? We don't need
12 action on this?

13

14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No.

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. The next
17 regional advisory meeting, RAC, will be at September 18
18 and 19 in Kotzebue. 9:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m. or 7:00 a.m.
19 or.....

20

21 MR. BALLOT: 9:00 a.m.

22

23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Nine.

24

25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: 9:00 a.m. 9:30.

26

27 MR. BALLOT: You come at 9:30.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Did -- and we've got
30 the date now for September 18, 19, Kotzebue. Have we
31 missed anything or anybody want to make comments or
32 anything before we go?

33

34 MR. BALLOT: Well, it will be a pleasure
35 to work with Helen, and wish Barb the best, and tell Bing
36 hello, give me a call.

37

38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Well, once again,
39 Barbara, you know, it's going to be a big loss to us.
40 You know, you're going to be 500 miles away, but we'll
41 still be in contact with you, if we come to the point
42 where we have to have you we'll probably call you back
43 and (indiscernible) and we'll get you back.

44

45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Thanks, Ray.

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you very much,
48 Barb, for doing all the hard work for these RAC meetings.

49

50 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

00117

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you very much.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chairman?

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

6

7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I just wanted to say
8 that it is going to be very hard for me to fill Barb's
9 shoes, and I know we'll work closely together. She's not
10 going to be far from me in the office, and I know I'll be
11 leaning on her very heavily, but I really look forward to
12 working with you. It's a new assignment for me. I've
13 never done this, but I've been working with this council
14 since the beginning and know (indiscernible, outside
15 conversations) people very well. So I look forward to
16 working with all of you. I really do.

17

18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Helen.

19

20 MR. BALLOT: And you'll do your own
21 translation.

22

23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That will be one
24 problem for me.

25

26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any other comments from
27 the council or the public.

28

29 MR. SHIEDT: I'd like to thank Barbara
30 for what she did so far. Good job. And I say welcome to
31 Helen, and thanks for the agencies being patient with us
32 when we're struggling through right now, so -- and it
33 will be nice working with you people, so I don't have
34 anything to say but thanks.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Again I want to thank
37 all the agencies that, you know, participated and
38 arriving in Kotzebue for this business meeting, you know,
39 for the rural (indiscernible) that there's a lot of
40 information, a lot of benefit to our people in the rural
41 villages in Unit 23, like the agencies when they get
42 here, that's the time to talk about it, and I'm glad we
43 accomplished something, you know, for -- it's just a
44 beginning, you know, and we don't intend to quit, we're

45 just getting on with all the agencies. And I thank you
46 for coming, being with us, and Ida from BLM, and, Bill,
47 he's done so much talking today, and I'll probably get a
48 mediator from the Arctic Native (indiscernible), I'm glad
49 you came with us. Thank you again.

50

00118

1 Anybody, any more comments before we
2 adjourn? If there's none, we'll hear again.....

3

4 MR. SHIEDT: Motion to adjourn.

5

6 MR. BALLOT: Thanks.

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The meeting has
9 adjourned at 3:46.

10

11 (Off record)

12

13 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

00119

1 CERTIFICATE

2

3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

4)ss.

5 STATE OF ALASKA)

6

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

10

11 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 118
12 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the
13 NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY
14 COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically by Nathaniel Hile
15 on the 21st day of March 2002, beginning at the hour of
16 9:00 o'clock a.m. at Kotzebue, Alaska;

17

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

22

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

25

26 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 29th day of
27 March 2001.

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 04/17/04