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1 NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3

4

VOLUME I

5

6 Kotzebue, Alaska

7 February 26, 2003

8 8:30 o'clock a.m.

9

10 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

11

12 Raymond Stoney, Chairman

13 Percy C. Ballot

14 Lance Kramer

15 Calvin Moto

16 Walter Sampson

17 Attamuk - Enoch Shiedt

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19 Regional Coordinator, Michelle Chivers

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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(Kotzebue, Alaska - 2/26/2003)

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5

(On record)

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CHAIRMAN STONEY: Good morning. Is everybody pretty wide-eyed this morning. There's a lot of coffee over there. Okay, the time now is almost 20 to 9:00. I'll call the Northwest Arctic Regional Advisory Council to order. Roll call please, Michelle.

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13

MS. CHIVERS: Walter Sampson.

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MR. SAMPSON: Here.

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MS. CHIVERS: Raymond Stoney.

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19

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Here.

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MS. CHIVERS: Lance Kramer.

22

23

MR. KRAMER: Here.

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25

MS. CHIVERS: Percy Ballot.

26

27

MR. BALLOT: Here.

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29

MS. CHIVERS: Lillian Johnson. Enoch.

30

31

ATTAMUK: Attamuk, here.

32

33

MS. CHIVERS: Attamuk. And Calvin Moto.

34

35

MR. MOTO: Here.

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37

MS. CHIVERS: Okay, we have a quorum.

38

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CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, thank you. For Lillian Johnson, would you give, you know, for absence, otherwise we have to give an excuse, she's not coming?

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CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, so she'll be excused then for the record.

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1 MS. CHIVERS: Yes.

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3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Okay, we'll
4 go to the next item on the agenda, I certainly want to
5 welcome the new members of the RAC, and welcome the
6 public for the committee, it's been a long process to
7 meet again this winter. Welcome you all. So hope we'll
8 get the business done today.

9

10 So introductory, we'll start from down
11 the row and then say who you are and from where and go
12 down the line.

13

14 MR. KRAMER: Yeah, I'm Lance Kramer. I
15 teach fourth grade at the June Allison Elementary School.
16 I've lived here all my life. I hunt and trap and fish
17 quite a bit, almost too much my wife says.

18

19 MR. MOTO: I'm Calvin Moto from Deering,
20 Alaska. I was Mayor for the last four or five years and
21 I also had a small business for awhile which I did for
22 about four or five years. I also have another business
23 in Deering called SeaCal Bed and Breakfast, so remember
24 that if you ever go to Deering.

25

26 ATTAMUK: Enoch Shiedt. Raised in Noatak
27 moved here to Kotzebue.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I'm Raymond Stoney.
30 I'm from Kiana. I've been with this group since it's
31 began, I believe, since '93. So a lot of work but it's
32 fun work. Percy.

33

34 MR. BALLOT: Percy Ballot. I'm from
35 Buckland. I've been here for awhile, too, I guess.

36

37 MR. SAMPSON: Walter Sampson with NANA
38 Regional Corporation. I also sat right from the
39 beginning of this organization until I got on the State
40 Game Board where there was a perception in regards to me
41 sitting on this Advisory Council and sitting on the State
42 Game Board, people felt that I had a conflict so I
43 resigned and after I got out of the Game Board, I
44 certainly had an interest in coming back to this very
45 committee which I'm very interesting in dealing with.
46 There are issues that pertain to this issue, and I think
47 by allowing all of us to participate, for those of us
48 that are in this Council, certainly is an opportunity and
49 a privilege to stay on it.

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1 So I look forward to working with the
2 Department, the agencies as well as this Council.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MS. CHIVERS: Michelle Chivers, Council
7 Coordinator for the Northwest Arctic.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The public, starting
10 from the front there.

11

12 MR. JENNINGS: Good morning. I'm Tim
13 Jennings. I'm with the Office of Subsistence Management
14 in Anchorage. I'm a division chief in the office.

15

16 MR. UBERAUGA: I'm Rich Uberauga. I'm
17 with the Subsistence Division also in Anchorage. I'm a
18 fisheries biologist.

19

20 MR. SHULTS: Good morning. Brad Shults
21 with the Park Service.

22

23 MR. BROWN: I'm Randy Brown. I'm a
24 fisheries biologist with the Fish and Wildlife Service
25 out of Fairbanks.

26

27 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson. National
28 Park Service, Subsistence Management Program for Western
29 Arctic National Park Lands.

30

31 MR. LEAN: Charlie Lean. National Park
32 Service, Subsistence Division working mostly with fish.

33

34 MR. GOODWIN: Everybody knows me. Willie
35 Goodwin. I work for the National Park Service also, a
36 special assistant to the superintendent.

37

38 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA,
39 Staff Committee Member.

40

41 MR. ARDIZZONE: Chuck Ardizzone, wildlife
42 biologist with the Office of Subsistence Management.

43

44 MR. KLEIN: Steve Klein with the Office
45 of Subsistence in Anchorage. I'm the Chief of Fisheries
46 Information Services, Fisheries Resource Monitoring
47 Program.

48

49 MS. COLE: Jeanie Cole. I'm with the BLM
50 in Fairbanks, wildlife biologist.

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1 MS. AYRES: Lee Anne Ayres with the Fish
2 and Wildlife Service here in Kotzebue, Selawik Refuge.

3
4 MR. HILE: I'm Nathan Hile with Computer
5 Matrix and I do the recording for the meeting.

6
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, everybody.
8 Once again, welcome aboard, Lance and Calvin and Walter
9 to this RAC. Welcome aboard.

10
11 MR. KRAMER: Thanks.

12
13 MR. MOTO: Thanks.

14
15 MR. SAMPSON: Thanks.

16
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Review of
18 agenda. Take a few minutes and go through your agenda.
19 Review and adoption of the minutes of September 18th,
20 election of officers. Council reports. Wildlife proposal
21 review and Regional Council recommendations on Proposals
22 WP03-01, Proposal WP03-02, just go through that, also 41.
23 Call for proposals to change Federal Subsistence fishing
24 regulations, proposals will be accepted from January 6th
25 to March 28. Fisheries Information Services Program.
26 Agency reports. Additional to other new business. And
27 decide where we'll meet next.

28
29 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair.

30
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

32
33 MR. JENNINGS: If you would note on your
34 agenda, Helen Armstrong is not here. She would normally
35 give the presentations as noted under Wildlife Proposals
36 01, 02 and 41, she is your Staff anthropologist from our
37 office. Her daughter just had surgery so she's unable to
38 be here.

39
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

41
42 MR. JENNINGS: And I will give those
43 presentations.

44
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

46
47 MR. JENNINGS: So if you'd make that note
48 on your agenda.

49
50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Great.

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1 MR. JENNINGS: Tim Jennings.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

4

5 MR. JENNINGS: Okay.

6

7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

8

9 MR. KLEIN: Mr. Chair, likewise under

10 agenda item 10, Polly Wheeler is listed there, she's the

11 anthropologist for the monitoring program.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

14

15 MR. KLEIN: She's unable to be here and

16 I'll be presenting those under Item 10.

17

18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: And you're Steve.

19

20 MR. KLEIN: Steve Klein.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Do we need a table for

23 these testifiers on a mike, so, you know, for the record?

24

25 MS. CHIVERS: We have it set up right

26 here.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

29

30 MS. CHIVERS: Is that fine?

31

32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, that'd be fine.

33 Anything else on the agenda?

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If not is there an

38 approval, motion from the floor for.....

39

40 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I move for

41 the adoption of the agenda as amended.

42

43 MR. BALLOT: Second.

44

45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Moved by Walter.

46 Second by Percy. Any further discussion.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If not, all in favor of

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1 adopting the agenda, please signify by saying aye.

2

3 IN UNISON: Aye.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any objection.

6

7 (No opposing votes)

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We've got an

10 agenda today. Now, Item No. 5, review and adopt the

11 minutes of September 18, 2002. I'll give you a few

12 minutes on that, it's about 15 pages. We can go through

13 that. One thing, before I forget, I got a note here that

14 says, meal tickets, it's \$8, now, if you want to have

15 lunch here it's \$8, all you have to do is sign your name

16 here.

17

18 MS. CHIVERS: They'll serve lunch from

19 12:00 to 12:30, and they just need a count by 10:00

20 o'clock to know how many people will be having lunch

21 here. So either let me know or let the people upstairs

22 know.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: And then while you're

25 going through the minutes, there's another announcement,

26 we got the testifier forms right here, over here, just

27 fill that out and then we have -- from the public.

28

29 So there's about 15 pages of the

30 September 18th minutes, which occurred in the fall. One

31 thing, on the minutes, of course these minutes are draft,

32 way down on the bottom it says I called the meeting to

33 order at 8:45 a.m., and it should have been way up on

34 top. You know, up here it says members present and then

35 without -- I notice it doesn't say the meeting come to

36 order -- it should have been at the top.

37

38 So I'll give you a few minutes on that to

39 go through those minutes.

40

41 (Pause)

42

43 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

44

45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

46

47 MR. BALLOT: I move to approve the

48 minutes of September 18th, 2002.

49

50 ATTAMUK: I'll second.

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1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay a motion's been
2 made by Percy to adopt the minutes of September 18,
3 second by Enoch. Anything else on the minutes,
4 discussion.

5
6 MR. SAMPSON: Over here.

7
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

9
10 MR. SAMPSON: Raymond, just a question in
11 regards to customary trade, maybe somebody can sort of
12 refresh my memory a little bit.

13
14 The Federal Board had adopted the
15 customary trade definition, is that any different than
16 what the Kobuk Valley and Cape Krusenstern commissions
17 defined or is that the same definition as the two came
18 out with?

19
20 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson, National
21 Park Service. Walter, you might have to refresh me on
22 what you see is what the Kobuk Valley and Cape
23 Krusenstern, any recommendations they made but currently
24 the only customary trade provisions that we have for like
25 Kobuk Valley, Cape Krusenstern, and Noatak that are in
26 Park Service regulations are fairly limited and are found
27 in special regulations for Kobuk Valley. I don't have
28 them at hand but they're pretty restrictive. And across
29 the whole state there have been discussions by the SRC's
30 of trying to better define and generally enlarge the
31 scope of customary trade provisions. And the Park
32 Service started down that path but basically decided to
33 wait until the customary trade provisions in the Federal
34 system went through and then take a look at those rather
35 than, you know, come up with a set of regulations that
36 were different from the Fish and Wildlife Service and OSM
37 and the Board adopted, that sort of thing, so we'll
38 probably be looking at that again down the road and the
39 SRCs will be actively involved in it, I'm sure.

40
41 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, the reason
42 why I ask is, you know, the SRCs went through its process
43 of making or putting together a hunting plan early on
44 which at one point was sent into the regional office and
45 of course the Secretary of Interior had to approve the
46 hunting plan. I'm just trying to refresh my memory as to
47 where that is and if there's any difference between what
48 is being written and what the hunting plans say. Maybe I
49 do need to do a little bit of research to get that back
50 -- or clarify it in my mind anyways.

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1 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Sampson, like I said,
2 I think the issue of customary trade has been brought to
3 the Subsistence Resource Commissions and the Park Service
4 started down that path, as I say, backed off and decided
5 to wait until we saw what came out of the Federal system
6 process.

7

8 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

9

10 MR. ADKISSON: And with regard to the
11 hunting plan recommendations, Mr. Goodwin will have a
12 couple of things to say about that. But in short, most
13 of the Park Service effort in the recent years has been
14 focused on the directions from the Secretary of the
15 Interior to address the question of establishing the
16 whole NANA region as a single resident zone. And the
17 environmental analysis for that has just recently been
18 released to the public.

19

20 MR. SAMPSON: So the definitions that are
21 out then reflects all Federal lands, whether it's BLM,
22 whether it's Fish and Wildlife or the Park Service?

23

24 MR. ADKISSON: The Fish and Wildlife
25 Service regulations and those will appear like in 50 CFR.

26

27 The Park Service has its own regulations
28 which are found in 36 CFR.

29

30 MR. SAMPSON: So they're different
31 regulations than what Fish and Wildlife has?

32

33 MR. ADKISSON: Right. And then in the
34 case of Kobuk Valley and Cape Krusenstern, especially, I
35 would suspect that the Park Service regulations would
36 prevail.

37

38 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Ken, one more question
41 now for that Kobuk Valley Monument and Cape Krusenstern,
42 my question would be resident zone, like say if we have
43 people that want to come from Nome or Anchorage or
44 Fairbanks come to Game Unit 23, and of course, you know,
45 my question would be would they be able to hunt in the
46 Cape Krusenstern and Kobuk Valley National Monument?

47

48 MR. ADKISSON: Right now the only --
49 first of all, in National Preserves like Noatak and
50 Bering Land Bridge.....

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1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

2

3 MR. ADKISSON:there's both
4 sporthunting allowed.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

7

8 MR. ADKISSON:as well as
9 subsistence activities and the sporthunting is regulated
10 under the State system. The subsistence activities are
11 largely regulated under the Federal system. In Parks and
12 Monuments like Cape Krusenstern and Kobuk Valley, the
13 only harvesting that's allowed, really is allowed for
14 subsistence uses.

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Subsistence.

17

18 MR. ADKISSON: And that's basically
19 managed under the Federal subsistence program.

20

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

22

23 MR. ADKISSON: There are further
24 restrictions as to residency requirements for the Parks
25 and Monuments that you have to be a resident of a
26 resident zone community. And that's where some of the
27 issue was because in the case of like Cape Krusenstern it
28 was limited to like three communities and maybe five to
29 six communities for Kobuk Valley. And what the
30 Subsistence Resource Commissions requested was to
31 establish the NANA region as a single resident zone for
32 both those Park units.

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

35

36 MR. ADKISSON: And that's what the
37 environmental analysis will address and once the comment
38 period closes and the Park Service analyzed the comments
39 and presented that information to the Subsistence
40 Resource Commissions, if the Commission, you know, wants
41 to continue the process, the next step would be formal
42 rulemaking to implement that information.

43

44 There's a couple other developments,
45 recently the Federal program, in its entirety, has
46 adopted a State residency requirement that parallels the
47 State so you'd have to -- you have to have lived in the
48 State of Alaska for a year and have a resident license.
49 There currently is a move by the National Park Service to
50 examine length of residency for its resident zone

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1 communities and that's just now beginning to work its way
2 out of the Alaska regional office and begin its traveling
3 up to the Interior Department. And if that goes through
4 there will be a Park Service, and the regulations, where
5 it will be found in 36 CFR, it will establish a one year
6 residency period for all resident zone communities. So
7 what that means, if you were to come from Nome and move
8 to Kotzebue to hunt in either Cape Krusenstern or Kobuk
9 Valley, you would have had to physically resided at or
10 been able to demonstrate permanent residency for, at
11 least, a year in Kotzebue.

12
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

14
15 MR. ADKISSON: The way it is now.....

16
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you.

18
19 MR. ADKISSON:the way it is now, if
20 you had lived in Alaska for a year, got an Alaska
21 resident license and moved to Kotzebue you would be
22 immediately eligible.....

23
24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

25
26 MR. ADKISSON:say to hunt in Kobuk
27 Valley or Cape Krusenstern.

28
29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Walter.

30
31 MR. SAMPSON: I guess I need
32 clarification on what the statement you just made. Cape
33 Krusenstern and Kobuk Valley came out with their hunting
34 plans and submitted that several years ago. Are you
35 telling us now that the regional office is coming out
36 with something different than what the SRCs recommends?

37
38 MR. ADKISSON: Well, the key point -- the
39 hunting plan recommendations had actually several items
40 in it. And those went to the Secretary of the Interior
41 and the Secretary of the Interior sent a letter back to
42 the Commissions addressing those. The key and probably
43 the most fundamental point was the establishment of the
44 resident zone. There was another question that said that
45 will do for now, but if we encounter shortages we'd like
46 to have like a length of residency requirement or some
47 other form of restriction but we'll cross that bridge
48 when we get there. And the Secretary basically, I think,
49 in his response back to the SRCs said, that's what
50 Section .804 in ANILCA is all about. So that, you know,

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1 we're not going to really address that right now.

2

3 So there were other things going on in
4 the Park Service that some of the SRC Commissions were
5 recommending the establishment of a roster system of
6 eligibility. Others have been pursuing length of
7 residency. The Denali Subsistence Resource Commission
8 wanted a three year residency length in one of their
9 resident zone communities. And that, too, is going forth
10 but I suspect it's going to have a harder time in
11 Interior than the one year residency. So I think where
12 we're at now, and it was sort of a decision by the
13 regional director to include all of the resident zone
14 communities in the blanket one year.

15

16 So I think what's going to happen, if
17 that succeeds and becomes adopted, you know, if it works
18 for the SRCs, great, if it doesn't work, you know, we'll
19 take additional recommendations from them and go from
20 there.

21

22 MR. SAMPSON: The reason why I asked it
23 that way is because the statement you made in regards to
24 just starting to work its way up. The message that I'm
25 getting is that the regional office is making its own
26 recommendation based on what the Park Service is doing.

27

28 MR. ADKISSON: And what it -- that's
29 right, yeah. And that's coming directly coming from the
30 SRCs. They -- for many years now the Denali SRC has been
31 pushing the three year residency for Cantwell, I believe.
32 The Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence Resource Commission
33 has been advocating one year residency in its resident
34 zone communities. And there have been other SRCs that
35 have expressed some level of interest including the Cape
36 Krusenstern and the Kobuk Valley ones. And also the
37 Gates of the Arctic SRC has been very interested in some
38 length of residency requirement. And so what was
39 happening was there's a lot of internal discussion in the
40 Park Service as to whether we should have length of
41 residency regulations and the special regulations for
42 each individual Park or whether we should have a blanket
43 regulation. And, frankly, the blanket regulation outcome
44 was a surprise to me, I thought we were going down the
45 path of individual Park special regulations.

46

47 But that's where it's at, that's where's
48 happened. It's finally -- you know, the Park Service has
49 finally taken those SRC recommendations and is going to
50 kick them back up the chain of command so to speak.

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1 MR. SAMPSON: When you say, finally going
2 to make a recommendation, I thought those were submitted
3 some time back, are they just going through the regional
4 office now?

5
6 MR. ADKISSON: Well, most of them have
7 had, with the length of residency issue, Walter, most of
8 them have had unfavorable responses. You'll recall that
9 I said the Secretary -- and in addressing the Kobuk
10 Valley and Krusenstern recommendations, the Secretary
11 said basically that's what the .804 is all about. So
12 we've already got provisions for that, we don't need to
13 deal with it. That was essentially the response that the
14 Gates of the Arctic SRC got too. But some of the other,
15 Denali's and Wrangell's were more persistent and kept at
16 it. And so it's been sort of a thorn and it's been sort
17 of a festering issue which sometimes happens and it's
18 unfortunate but it's taken a long time really to work
19 those issues through, and, you know, I think we're
20 finally to the point where something's going to happen
21 with them.

22
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin.

24
25 MR. MOTO: Since you're here Ken, my
26 concern, this is the National Park Service -- with the
27 hunting muskox, hunting permits that have been not -- the
28 nine permits that our region is supposed to have, I noted
29 that they just got -- in this September meeting, but I
30 wasn't here, but I would like to have it clarified with
31 the fact that when they say that when we get a Federal
32 permit, that we have to only hunt on the Park land, and --
33 but the problem that we've been having the last two
34 years or three years anyway, is we get a lot of wolf
35 there all of a sudden and they've been chasing the muskox
36 out of that Land Bridge, and so the people who have the
37 Federal permits can't get the muskox on the land unless
38 they shoot it on the State and drag it over to the
39 Federal and take pictures and say this is where we shot
40 it, you know. But I noticed that the last -- especially
41 this year that we only got three permits for our region.
42 I remember it was September of 1985 [sic] when you had a
43 meeting in Nome with Kawerak and all those people down in
44 the Norton Sound area trying to allocate the permits to
45 our region when we had no one from Buckland, Deering,
46 Shishmaref and Wales at that time and now we see it again
47 that the permits are being taken out of our area.

48
49 We would like to have had some kind of
50 notice or some kind of meeting on that because people are

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1 really concerned. Because it's not that we -- you know,
2 it's kind of new to us but still this is something that
3 they're starting to get used to because we used to rely a
4 lot on reindeer, now, all of a sudden we have to rely on
5 caribou and muskox and moose, you know. So this taking
6 away of some of our permits is kind of, I've noticed that
7 the muskox are expanding all over the NANA region but
8 wouldn't there be another option of having other permits
9 for the Kotzebue area or would you have to go through
10 another process.

11

12 MR. ADKISSON: Yes, Calvin, I'll try to
13 be very brief and especially since you're new to the
14 Council I'll try to give you a real thumbnail sketch and
15 overview and then I'll be glad, perhaps outside the
16 meeting, to spend more time talking with you on it if you
17 want to get further -- because it's very complex and Mr.
18 Sampson will appreciate this because he was with the
19 Regional Advisory Council back in '95 when the muskoxen
20 hunting started.

21

22 The short story of it is there was a
23 major rift between the Federal system and the State
24 system in 1995. And the Federal hunt that was created
25 limited Federally eligible users to hunt only on Federal
26 land, which, in many cases was not satisfactory, did not
27 serve the best interest of the users as they had to
28 travel long distances with little assurance that they
29 would be successful after making the trip, so it was not
30 efficient. It was contrary to subsistence practices.

31

32 The only answer that we could see to that
33 in the Federal program was to work with the State and
34 develop a joint hunt that would allow Federal eligible
35 users to hunt on State lands.

36

37 The outcome of that was a jointly-managed
38 hunt with the muskoxen cooperators making recommendations
39 to both the Federal Subsistence Board and the State Board
40 of Game regarding the allocation of permits and numbers,
41 overall harvest numbers.

42

43 In short, like for 23 southwest, the
44 Buckland and Deering area, the total number of permits is
45 based on a percentage of the animals counted in that hunt
46 area and that's what determines the overall number of
47 animals that can be taken. And then the allocation of
48 permits between the State and Federal is worked out on a
49 yearly basis. It would be nice if the State recognized
50 the Federal permits but they won't and say they can't.

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1 We've been a little more liberal in that if you have a
2 State Tier II permit and are Federally eligible we
3 recognize that permit on Federal lands.

4

5 So in all reality, if you're a Federally
6 eligible user, the best thing you can have is a State
7 Tier II permit because then you can hunt anywhere.

8

9 If you are a State Tier II permit hunter
10 in 23 southwest and you come from Kotzebue or you come
11 from somewhere else, you cannot use that State Tier II
12 Permit on Federal public lands, you can only use it on
13 State and private lands.

14

15 Part of the problem with the cooperators
16 was that it really didn't have the level of
17 participation, as you mentioned in 1995, and one of the
18 things that the cooperators actively did since then was
19 try to expand the representation from the villages and we
20 have had representation over the last several years from
21 Buckland and Deering and will continue to do so.

22

23 MR. MOTO: Another question about the
24 permit. Are they simplifying it now for a lay person,
25 like somebody that doesn't know too much in these could
26 understand the form. Because some of the forms that we
27 get they're real wordy and they have long words that our
28 people are not used to to read it and when they answer
29 them they inadvertently will answer wrong sometimes. Are
30 they changing that application form?

31

32 MR. ADKISSON: Well, they're not going to
33 change the application forms.

34

35 MR. MOTO: Or the words.

36

37 MR. ADKISSON: What we're going to try to
38 do is -- we had a real problem, I think, this last go
39 around up in 23 southwest with Buckland and Deering and
40 what was decided, again, with input from the communities
41 and we talked to Percy at length of this, for example was
42 is that the Park Service is willing to work with ADF&G
43 and, for example, hold clinics in Buckland and Deering on
44 filling out the State Tier II application permits. And
45 we've got an agreement essentially from the State to
46 allow the IRAs to distribute the applications. They
47 can't permit, the Tier II permits are totally a scoring
48 system thing. You send in your application to the
49 State, the State scores the permits and the high scores
50 get the permits. So all we can do is try to up your

00016

1 ability to fill out your experience and your ability to
2 fill out the form and score as high as you can score, and
3 there have been problems in that area. And like I said,
4 in the past, the State has only made the applications
5 available to the licensed vendors in the communities.
6 This next go around, we're going to try to use the IRAs
7 and work with the IRAs to, you know, train somebody on
8 the IRA Council or in the IRA government there in the
9 office to be able to fill out these permits and give
10 people an additional source to go to and hopefully better
11 instructions.

12
13 And what we're really trying to
14 accomplish in this is increase the number of applicants
15 in the community who apply to the State Tier II program
16 because my analysis of the situation is if you know what
17 you're doing and you answer the questionnaires correctly,
18 there is almost no reason you should not score very high
19 if you're from Buckland and Deering. And what happened
20 this last go around was, out of like a total of nine
21 permits I think there were only two or three that wound
22 up in the villages and the rest wound up in Kotzebue and
23 somewhere else.

24
25 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chair.

26
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Just a minute. Calvin,
28 you know, we're.....

29
30 MR. MOTO: No, I'm done. I just -- I'm
31 done.

32
33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We're making
34 discussion on the form of the minutes.

35
36 MR. MOTO: Yeah. I was just reading
37 these minutes.....

38
39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If we want more
40 discussions on it.....

41
42 MR. MOTO:and I just wanted to
43 bring it up.

44
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If you want more
46 discussion on the muskox, we'll go down to the agency
47 reports.

48
49 MR. MOTO: Yeah, go ahead.

50

00017

1 MR. ADKISSON: But the issue is being
2 addressed. And like I said, I'll be glad to talk more
3 about it outside the meeting.

4
5 MR. MOTO: All right.

6
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

8
9 MR. MOTO: I'll see you later then.

10
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter, you got
12 something.

13
14 MR. SAMPSON: Yes. You got that
15 addressed. I was going to say under Proposal 03-41
16 discussion can continue, I think -- muskox can be
17 addressed then.

18
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, we can do that.
20 Okay, any further discussion on September 18 meeting
21 minutes?

22
23 MR. BALLOT: Question.

24
25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been called
26 for. All in favor of adopting the September 18 minutes
27 signify by saying aye.

28
29 IN UNISON: Aye.

30
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.

32
33 (No opposing votes)

34
35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. The minutes have
36 passed. Okay, we're down to Item No. 6., selection of
37 officers. Michelle will Chair that. In a number of
38 meetings now we were always, well, barely a quorum, and
39 now we're still missing one person. It's up to the RAC
40 now whether you want to table this or you want to elect
41 officers officially. I won't say do it because it would
42 be up to you guys, we're still missing one person Lillian
43 Johnson.

44
45 MS. CHIVERS: Okay. If everybody wants
46 to go ahead and do it by ballot vote, I passed out little
47 yellow stickies and if you want to go ahead and nominate
48 who you want to nominate and then I'll do a tally vote
49 for who you nominate as Chair. Do you want to go ahead
50 and go through with this.

00018

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Well, we're making a
2 little discussion. It's up to the Council here to decide
3 what they want to do, if they want to elect officers
4 today or wait until the next meeting.

5
6 MS. CHIVERS: Okay.

7
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

9
10 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, we've been
11 waiting for awhile and so I think we need to. Lillian's
12 had her opportunity to be here and I think we should just
13 go on with the elections.

14
15 ATTAMUK: I'd like to see it go forward.
16 We need a Chairman, you know.

17
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Because it's been a
19 year and a half now since we officially elected officers.
20 We've tabled this before, right?

21
22 MR. BALLOT: Right.

23
24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So if you guys want to
25 elect officers that'd be great.

26
27 MS. CHIVERS: Okay. We'll go ahead and
28 open the floors for nominations.

29
30 ATTAMUK: I'd like to nominate Raymond
31 Stoney.

32
33 MR. MOTO: Second.

34
35 MS. CHIVERS: Any other votes for Chair
36 or does everybody want to vote for Raymond.

37
38 MR. JENNINGS: Nominations aren't closed.

39
40 MR. SAMPSON: Nominations.....

41
42 MS. CHIVERS: You make a motion.

43
44 MR. SAMPSON: Nominations are open for
45 Chair is what we're doing right now, right?

46
47 MR. KRAMER: Right.

48
49 MR. SAMPSON: So there's a nomination for
50 Raymond, so I guess the question is is there anybody else

00019

1 that wants to nominate -- I move that we close the
2 nominations at this time.

3

4 MR. BALLOT: Second.

5

6 MS. CHIVERS: Everybody agrees with
7 Raymond.

8

9 MR. SAMPSON: Go ahead.

10

11 MS. CHIVERS: All right. Hearing no
12 other nominations for seat of the Chair, Raymond Stoney
13 will be Chair and I'll let you take over for the
14 secretary.

15

16 MR. JENNINGS: Vice chair.

17

18 MR. SAMPSON: Vice chair.

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Vice chair.

21

22 MS. CHIVERS: Vice chair, sorry.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. Okay.

25

26 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, I move for
27 Walter Sampson and ask for unanimous consent.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter's been
30 nominated.

31

32 ATTAMUK: I'll second it.

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second. Yes.

35

36 MS. CHIVERS: Walter. Hearing no other
37 nominations, Walter is now the Vice chair.

38

39 MR. MOTO: Nominate Enoch, Attamuk.

40

41 ATTAMUK: For?

42

43 MS. CHIVERS: For Vice chair or....

44

45 MR. MOTO: Oh, it's closed already?

46

47 MR. KRAMER: Yeah.

48

49 MR. MOTO: Okay. I didn't hear that.

50 You have to talk louder.

00020

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy asked for
2 unanimous consent.

3

4 MS. CHIVERS: So it is Walter?

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

7

8 MS. CHIVERS: Okay, and then for
9 Secretary.

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Now, Walter, you're
12 Vice chair. Now, we're down to -- I'll give you an
13 example about like 11 years ago -- nine years ago, on or
14 off, it's election the Chairman, vice and all of them,
15 secretary, and now I'm sitting on the Chair, but it's a
16 long way up but I got there.

17

18 Now, we'll go down to secretary, somebody
19 want to take the.....

20

21 MR. KRAMER: Lillian's not here.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Nominations are open
26 for secretary.

27

28 MR. MOTO: I nominate Attamuk.

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk's been
31 nominated for secretary.

32

33 ATTAMUK: You ever seen my writing
34 Calvin?

35

36 MR. MOTO: No.

37

38 ATTAMUK: I can't even understand it.

39

40 MR. MOTO: I know you do a lot of writing
41 at the subsistence office.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You're declining?

44

45 ATTAMUK: No, I'm not declining.

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Attamuk's been
48 nominated for secretary. Any further nominations.

49

50 MR. SAMPSON: I move to close

00021

1 nominations.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Nominations been
4 closed. Attamuk is the secretary. Is that it?

5

6 MS. CHIVERS: Yes.

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Again, I thank
9 you for appointing me for another Chair -- officially now
10 I'm the Chair for one year, right?

11

12 MS. CHIVERS: Uh-huh.

13

14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I've been on this for
15 so long now it's time to step down, probably next -- a
16 year from now, because I have to finish my term, two more
17 years. I'll do the best to my ability and try to get
18 something done for our people up here. It's very
19 important to the RAC, not only for the Staff but it's for
20 our people up here in Unit 23, but there's been a lot of
21 issues, a lot of regulations floating everywhere, so we
22 just need to watch and make sure that our people have
23 been benefitted by these regulations.

24

25 That's why I've been interested in the
26 RAC for quite some time now. Like I said I'll do the
27 best of my ability to represent our people.

28

29 Walter.

30

31 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
32 also thank the Council for the opportunity and privilege
33 to serve as the vice chair. With changing environment
34 throughout the state this certainly is a Council that
35 certainly needs to work closely with all the Federal
36 agencies because of the fact that we now have a Federal
37 Board. The voices of our constituents out there, they
38 work through us and we to the Board. So I think that
39 connection is certainly something that we need to work on
40 and better it so that way the voices of all people in
41 this region can be heard through this process.

42

43 And I'm happy to say that I certainly
44 will work with Raymond in regards to dealing with the
45 various issues that are before us.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You know, once in
50 awhile, Walter, once in a while Mitch called me, the

00022

1 president of the Federal Board, you know, which he
2 strongly listens to the RAC committees throughout Alaska,
3 you know, for their recommendations on these hunting and
4 fishing regulations, especially customary and trade so
5 the Federal Board they're really looking at the RAC
6 committees throughout Alaska for recommendations.

7

8 Enoch.

9

10 ATTAMUK: I don't have very much to say.
11 I'll just do my best as I could as secretary. I would
12 have been happier if I was the treasurer, though, because
13 then there would be more things done in our area on
14 subsistence studies.

15

16 Okay. Thank you.

17

18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, thanks a lot.
19 Now, we'll go down to Item No. 7. Village concerns from
20 all members.

21

22 First of all, I'll say, give us a few
23 minutes to go through this. My concern is about caribou.
24 I don't know what's happening in the last 10,000 years
25 but we get caribou within 200 yards from every house in
26 Kiana. If you've been up to Kiana, if you know where the
27 windsock is, right under it there's -- like 50 caribou
28 they've been there for two months. A week ago it snowed
29 about four feet, the snow hasn't packed and got real
30 deep, I went up the hill and then watched those caribou,
31 they take one hop and they were stuck like a car being
32 high-centered in the snow. They just can't move.

33

34 One interesting happened, which I was
35 very concerned of, these young guys here, they seen this
36 caribou, they go around them, they got real nice
37 snowmachines, they break trail north, next thing I know,
38 the caribou followed that track, they went to the clear
39 country. It's a real good job by the young kids.

40

41 My concern is that what's going to happen
42 in the next five years about caribou, why they're right
43 in Kiana within just 100, 200 feet from the houses,
44 they're just that tame. I wish I could find an answer
45 but the caribous have to give me their own answer, I
46 imagine. The caribou has been real tame and nobody
47 bothers them.

48

49 Now, I'll go to you and see about your
50 concerns, anything concerning the Council, caribous or --

00023

1 Lance.

2

3 MR. KRAMER: Well, no, I guess since I'm
4 new on the RAC and I was looking at the minutes from last
5 September's meeting and it seems like the migration
6 routes of the caribou changing is a very important topic.
7 Also it looks like airplane traffic was a very important
8 topic. It looks like sporthunters, traffic was a very
9 important topic.

10

11 And it's interesting you got two sides to
12 weigh the information on. You got the public input from
13 the Regional Advisory Council and the scientific data
14 from the biologists but you know the core of the problem
15 is, is what changes caribou migration? I don't know if
16 there are studies on that. I know that there are certain
17 corridors and now that I was thinking about it, there is
18 certain corridors that the caribou can choose one way or
19 the other, very important corridors like the North Fork
20 and the Aggie, Nakaluk Pass. It's a real important
21 corridor for a lot of caribou, and if there's any kind of
22 action going on there it could be swayed quite a bit one
23 way or the other.

24

25 And now that's one question I might ask,
26 one thing I should look for anyway, is what changes
27 caribou migration and what can we do about the traffic
28 during those few precious weeks?

29

30 But in terms of any other influence or
31 advice that anybody's given me, maybe questions that
32 people have from the public, haven't had enough time to
33 get information from people yet as far as their concerns
34 in the area. But my concern, too, is -- one of my
35 concerns also is to look -- you know, I saw in the
36 newspaper about the PCB contaminants, St. Lawrence
37 Island. And I wonder if that might be something that can
38 be watched and checked. You know we eat trout liver, a
39 lot of the livers are eaten, seal liver, and it's a
40 little filter, you know, where those could be collected
41 and I was wondering if there is any kind of system right
42 now that's being watched as far as that's concerned.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Calvin.

45

46 MR. MOTO: Me?

47

48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes. Go ahead, Calvin.

49

50 MR. MOTO: Well, we've had a lot of

00024

1 concern with the subsistence use of our sea mammals. The
2 last three or four years we've found a significant drop
3 in our take of oogruk because one of the things that we
4 rely on, we had for generations and generations, but
5 three or four years ago, our villages used to get about
6 30 or 31 and all of a sudden we only got four oogruks one
7 year, seven next time, last year we got 11 but ice
8 conditions, is that because of global warming or what,
9 that's what people are concerned about.

10

11 Another concern is we've got a lot of
12 caribou now. And it brings up a lot of predators, you
13 know, wolves. And it's been kind of warm and some of the
14 bear might be coming out early this year. We don't know.
15 We're concerned with our wolf problem because they're
16 killing off a lot of muskox in our area. They killed,
17 just this past summer, I think they counted about 10 or
18 12 muskox that they had killed. What they do is --
19 sometimes, even the bear, they just hamstring the back of
20 their legs and just watch them die and they don't eat
21 them, you know, and then they go back and get another.

22

23 That's one of the big problems we're
24 having is predators and hunting guides, and out of region
25 hunters. But we don't mind up there, Inupiat, you know,
26 because they need that for subsistence but this is some
27 of the things that we're really concerned about.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin, like you said
30 the wolves and the bears that normally kill the muskox,
31 has this been reported to the law enforcement people?

32

33 MR. MOTO: Yeah, they went up there, not
34 -- last year, I think a couple years ago and they gave
35 the people permission to go ahead and shoot off a few
36 wolves, but they had to report how many wolves they got
37 and -- but there's -- this year there are a lot of wolf
38 up there, I tell you. It's the most wolf I ever seen.
39 And one of the other things that's happening now, where
40 we used to have about almost two or 300 moose, all of a
41 sudden they disappeared, most of them. They disappeared.
42 Where did they go? Did they go further north or did they
43 go back to the Interior because we don't know where they
44 went because we haven't been able to get a moose maybe
45 two or three moose this year, where we used to get a
46 little more than that.

47

48 The predators are a real concern with us,
49 you know, and I know there are some people that are
50 against us killing some of those but what do we do?

00025

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, Calvin, for like
2 the moose, maybe we'll come down to the comments and
3 we'll have somebody from State, you know, about the moose
4 declining in your area.

5
6 MR. MOTO: Yeah.

7
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Because I know they put
9 emergency closure on moose for Deering and Buckland, and
10 so we'll come up with something, you know, concerning
11 moose.

12
13 MR. MOTO: Well, one of the things we are
14 concerned with also is the way that the Federal
15 guidelines and Federal regulations are set up. They're a
16 little different than State regulations and sometimes
17 they're kind of hard to understand because I remember
18 when they first started out with this Federal
19 regulations, if you wanted to hunt on Federal lands you
20 had to either walk or drag your sled, you couldn't use
21 any machine or anything. So I don't know, that's all I
22 have to say.

23
24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, thank you,
25 Calvin. Attamuk.

26
27 ATTAMUK: Okay. What I'm hearing from my
28 villages, I work for Maniilaq and I represent all the
29 villages. They're pretty much happy with the caribou,
30 but like Raymond, they're getting worried, snow is now
31 coming down but it's not blowing like before and one of
32 their main concerns is why so much of our caribou are
33 going south and the elders are saying different. What I
34 do hear is that probably feed is down. And that's what
35 I'm hearing from the villages on the caribou.

36
37 For moose, from Buckland and Deering,
38 like Calvin stated, I'm getting calls that they're not
39 seeing any moose in their drainages and I had Jim fly --
40 we talked about it and he went over and fly, and he
41 didn't hardly see any -- Jim Dau is who I'm talking
42 about, didn't see hardly any moose in those drainages
43 towards Buckland and Deering. And I think as a Federal
44 Board, we need -- or the Federal agencies need to start
45 being more involved in studies like these. This is our
46 land and this is their moose, too, as much as the State
47 because our people rely on them. I think we shouldn't
48 have to rely on the State so much. I mean I didn't call
49 anyone on the State -- on the Federal side, I just went
50 directly to Jim because he's here and he did it and he

00026

1 saw another one toward Noatak that was increasing
2 calving.

3

4 I know there's briefing later, but these
5 are my village concerns I'm hearing from the villages.
6 They're seeing pop -- the young ones, this year, high in
7 numbers, the calves, in moose.

8

9 On the fish they're having, they're
10 seeing more and more different sickness on fish. I did
11 send quite a few out this year to different pathologists
12 and different labs. And so far, there's no real problems
13 with our fish, it's just due to birth or vitamin
14 deficiencies.

15

16 And on the meat we have no problem of
17 mercury levels and we have no problems with the liver --
18 there's no real problems with our fish here for now, yet.
19 But what I'm trying to do is I'm trying to do is I'm
20 trying to get data of all I could from Maniilaq that way
21 if we do have a change in the future, I'm trying to keep
22 on top of it. And I'm trying to get an analyzer if the
23 lab will explain to me what kind of building I need,
24 Maniilaq is willing to give me what I want. Mercury
25 analyzer analyzes plants, water, fish and we don't even
26 have to kill the animals. And I saw this and I went --
27 at Vermont, I found this down there. I looked at it and
28 it might be good, I still have questions on it and the
29 health board, and Alaska Native Science, and different
30 places are now looking into it, they got interest in it.

31

32 The EPA and DEC said they'd buy one, they
33 said we could use it but there's a problem. If I do send
34 out samples, I won't hear from them for about a year.
35 With this new analyzer that's coming out, I could have
36 the results in five minutes and we could always follow up
37 to a lab.

38

39 That's what I'm working on.

40

41 Also what I'm hearing -- I get different
42 calls from the villages on our representation for the RAC
43 board here, and they're getting concerned that they need
44 to have more representation from the village, that we
45 should be more like the State. Because here in our
46 region we break it down to different regions. I know the
47 Federal don't -- they got no preference of representation
48 from our region but our region is so large and we have
49 different interests that we should have representation
50 from each village because Noatak and Kivalina, if you

00027

1 just look at the fish they got more interest in trout
2 than the people from Selawik and Kobuk, they got interest
3 in sheefish and whitefish. See, there's a big difference
4 right here and I think that's what we should look into as
5 a Board and the RAC Board we need to. Because Noatak
6 now, Joe's gone, I don't know what happened and Kivalina
7 has no represent -- we have to watch Noatak and Kivalina
8 heavily due to what's happening at Red Dog. And that's
9 the problem that's going to probably happen, is Red Dog,
10 they're trying to clean up and they're doing a good job
11 and they're trying their best to clean it up but we need
12 to keep on top of it. Because we're being impacted,
13 mainly from the outside western world.

14

15 But these are the calls I'm getting from
16 the villages, heavily, you know, and that's what they're
17 saying, you know, we need to start working together and
18 have this -- this Board needs to be better represented.

19

20 And also I saw earlier, we need to get
21 together with all different agencies and find out and
22 work on our regulations, as a team, that way everybody
23 could hear it and maybe just have -- instead of having
24 how many different books on our regulations, Wildlife
25 Service and State of Alaska, I think we need to come out
26 with one and combine them together. Because earlier
27 proposals -- because Walter come up on the customary
28 trade and other stuff is being addressed by different
29 agencies, AITC, Federal, Caribou, the marine and
30 RuralCAP, the definition of who's going to hunt from
31 different areas. I think we need to have a special
32 meeting on these -- not just on regulations on the
33 proposal of the rulebooks we're working on.

34

35 Okay.

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

38

39 MR. BALLOT: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I'm just
40 going to go with something Calvin said earlier about the
41 concerns for the low moose counts they've been a problem.
42 We had an emergency closure working with Jim and are
43 really glad we're doing that but down the line we're
44 going to have to do something more harder this summer.

45

46 And also the need to regulate
47 transporters. We heard there's a lot of going out over
48 to the Candle area and stuff and I don't know if
49 anything's ever been done about that, too. That's
50 something we need to discuss sometime.

00028

1 And also again I echo again the words of
2 the distribution of the permits. I know we're doing
3 something now but I want to keep that in the forefront of
4 our concern with the muskox permits, and working with
5 Park Service in trying to get those permit systems out
6 more so our hunters get more chance to hunt versus other
7 people.

8

9 Thank you.

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

12

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

14 It's really a privilege for me, I guess to get to know
15 how the Federal and the State system works and operates
16 in regards to the very critters that we're dealing with
17 today.

18

19 The Northwest Arctic Caribou Herd, we all
20 know that the numbers are such, they're quite high at
21 some point in time, that herd is going to crash. We all
22 know that any time you start utilizing one area with
23 large numbers of critters, certainly you're going to get
24 the food source to a point where it will no longer grow
25 and I think that's been part of the problem in regards to
26 the caribou migrated in large numbers to one area.

27

28 It's just like you and I having a
29 woodcutting area. The wood area can only sustain so
30 much. We cut so much, we know we're done with pretty
31 much what we want to cut so we move to another area.
32 Same concept with the caribou herd. They move as the
33 migrate on an annual basis.

34

35 In regards to the issue in Kiana, I think
36 Raymond you also need to think that with the caribous
37 have been doing to the Seward Peninsula, reindeer herd,
38 maybe you're dealing with reinbous and so, you know,
39 where if they're getting to the point where they're not
40 scared then that's reindeer herd probably from the Seward
41 Peninsula. So I think that's something that might have
42 occurred there.

43

44 In regards to what's happening, as far as
45 caribou is concerned, predation is certainly -- is also a
46 problem in some areas. In some areas, you might have
47 more wolves, you might have other predators in other
48 areas, these are some of the things that the agency needs
49 to work on as far as science is concerned. Their charge
50 is to make sure that the resources are out there.

00029

1 I know from the State's side, the State
2 of Alaska is always looking at those very issues and I'm
3 sure that the Federal agencies are also looking at those
4 very issues that are before us.

5
6 The Federal side, being new, and just
7 getting their feet wet into the protection of resource
8 and it's something that they're going to have to get a
9 handle on down the road.

10
11 As far as the issues in regards to PCBs
12 and stuff, I'm glad you raised that. I listened to a
13 report that was given in regards to caribou, lead and
14 zinc, in the caribou. In 1992, there was some caribou
15 that was shot, analysis taken to look at what type of
16 contents there are within the muscles as well as liver
17 and stuff within the caribou. In 2002, there was another
18 kill with a bunch of caribou, analysis were done again
19 within the areas that I mentioned. Within that period of
20 time, from 1992 to 2002, there was no change in regards
21 to the contents of lead, zinc and other things within the
22 caribou. You know, we also need to recognize and
23 understand as far as caribou is concerned, they're
24 migratory. They can pick up a lot of things elsewhere.

25
26 Fish is the same thing, they're
27 migratory, they could pick up those rare things elsewhere
28 as well.

29
30 As far as fisheries are concerned, we
31 know that at least the ones up at Wulik and Kivalina,
32 those go over to the Siberian side, they migrate over to
33 the Siberian, they migrate down to the Norton Sound side.
34 They migrate up at the Kobuk. So on an annual basis, as
35 far as fish numbers are concerned, going into these two
36 rivers, sometimes they're high, sometimes they're low.
37 So not all fish go back into the same areas that they go
38 to on an annual basis.

39
40 I think in regards to doing studies,
41 scientific certainly is a mechanism that the western
42 system has introduced and that is what is used today. I
43 think along with that, though, is we also need to look at
44 the local knowledge and incorporate that into the
45 scientific study in one way or another. I think it's a
46 very important thing that we all need to look at because
47 those very people that utilize that resource for a long
48 period of time know what occurs and how things occur.
49 You and I can say, from the studies last year, that
50 fisheries don't look too good. When you talk to an

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1 individual that's lived in that general area for a long
2 period of time, they'll tell you, they've been eating the
3 fish and they never really see no different from years
4 past to date. To me, that's science, too. I think even
5 though it's been tagged as local knowledge, then it's
6 something that we need to take a look at and incorporate
7 it into the studies that we do, scientific. So I think
8 these are some of the things that we need to look at.
9

10 As far as protection of resources is
11 concerned, then that's our charge as an advisory Council.
12 If we see that there's some issues that needs to be taken
13 forward to the agency, then this is the Council that
14 deals with those things, to make the recommendation to
15 the Federal Board and the Federal Board then will give
16 direction to the agencies in regards to dealing with the
17 things that we are looking at.
18

19 Thank you.

20
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Walter.
22 Okay, we'll go down the line, on the Chair's report, I'll
23 make my report real brief. It's on Tab B, I was unable
24 to attend December 17, 18 meeting in Anchorage. Enoch,
25 you went right?
26

27 ATTAMUK: I went there, I was late for
28 the meeting, I went in the morning. After I got there,
29 they gave us a -- it's what I heard, they gave us what we
30 wanted, right, from you -- anyhow, toward the end for our
31 region they had a problem with trout like Walter stated.
32 And I always say, trout is going to be harder one to
33 regulate and they were trying to -- they got in a hot
34 issue. And when we broke up they asked me if I know
35 anything about the trout, we all know this ourself, never
36 go back to the same rivers and these, compared to the
37 other places -- and they never even mentioned this and
38 they didn't even ask for the outside input from other
39 representatives that have any problems, and they didn't
40 want us to -- I think what the agencies don't want to do,
41 is get together as a team, and they hate to see us -- if
42 the RAC Boards do get together as a team we will get, you
43 know, one powerful Natives together. But I think that's
44 what we need to do, it needs to be changed.
45

46 That's what I saw the first time I went
47 there, and I said that. You know, I got nothing against
48 the Federal agencies and still due to our hunting they're
49 trying to still regulate us and trying to guide us as how
50 we should go. Like I always stated, animals will do what

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1 they want, it's the people we have to regulate better to
2 make it understand that animals are going to do what they
3 want to do. They will increase and decline at their own
4 terms. No matter how much we try to do they will like --
5 we always say that, that's why we Natives do understand
6 how to hunt, we don't take no more than what we need.
7 And that's what I said at the meeting and there was a big
8 difference. Because the Federal Board is made up of
9 different agencies, Park Service, Forestry and there was
10 only one Native in there on the end so they need to be
11 educated better out there.

12

13 Thank, Raymond.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Any questions on
16 what Enoch reported.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: None. I'll go down the
21 line to customary trade update, briefing. I attended
22 that one. There's a lot of discussion on sales of fish
23 on customary trade. Customary trade has been happening
24 up here almost like for 200 or more years, the only time
25 we ever get our -- was just to trade fish for money
26 otherwise there was a big discussion and then after about
27 three hours of discussion they closed the whole thing.

28

29 Now, on your packet for the Council,
30 customary trade, everything -- I did not attend this
31 Board meeting because they let us go, they read on Page
32 24 on the top, it says, the Board may recognize regional
33 differences on customary trade, differently in separate
34 regions of the state. So then what's going to happen,
35 maybe the agency will report about that meeting they had
36 after they let us go on January 14.

37

38 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair, Tim Jennings,
39 Office of Subsistence Management. I'm not sure the
40 reference to a meeting that occurred after they let the
41 RAC Chairs go, I'm not aware of any meeting. I could
42 address the customary trade issue in your book if you'd
43 like me to.

44

45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, just very
46 briefly, yes.

47

48 MR. JENNINGS: Very briefly.

49

50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

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1 MR. JENNINGS: As the written material
2 indicates on Page 23 and 24. The Federal Board did meet
3 on January 14th to discuss customary trade. Customary
4 trade in the Federal regulations means exchanging, in
5 this case, fish -- exchanging fish for cash. We make a
6 distinction between trading fish for cash under customary
7 trade versus barter which is the trade of one resource
8 for another resource. And so barter is allowed and was
9 not limited.

10
11 The Board strictly took up customary
12 trade where you're exchanging, in this case fish for
13 cash.

14
15 And the regulations that they adopted are
16 on Page 24 in the bold language. You can see the
17 paragraphs numbered 11, 12 and 13. And I'll summarize
18 those briefly for you.

19
20 Basically under paragraph 11, the Board
21 recognized that customary trade has been important for
22 rural residents and when there is an exchange between
23 rural residents, the Board did not place any limitations
24 at this time on those exchanges.

25
26 Under paragraph 12, where a transaction
27 occurs from a rural resident to an urban resident or a
28 non-rural resident, the Board allowed that as long as the
29 person buying the fish uses it for personal or family
30 consumption. In other words, so they don't turn it into
31 a commercial enterprise.

32
33 And then paragraph 13 is a paragraph that
34 just restates the no commercial transaction prohibition.
35 So that, the Board was concerned, based upon the input
36 from the Council and the public that customary trade,
37 exchanging fish for cash not be used in a manner to
38 commercialize fisheries. And so under paragraph 13, no
39 subsistence harvested fish could be sold to a
40 commercially-licensed processor or a fisheries business.

41
42 And Mr. Chair, that summarizes the Board
43 action.

44
45 And in response, maybe to Mr. Sampson's
46 question earlier, these Board regulations apply on all
47 Federal lands, including Park Preserve lands, as I
48 understand it, however, and Ken could confirm this, I
49 believe that it does not apply on Monument or Park land;
50 is that correct Ken? I know you had a question earlier

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1 about the differences.

2

3 And so these Federal regulations, the
4 Board regulations that were passed, apply with some
5 exceptions on all Federal lands, and the exceptions deal
6 with Park lands.

7

8 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah, I need to do some
9 checking on that but I've been thinking about it since
10 our earlier remarks and I think I might have to change
11 somewhat and suggest that Park Service rules and
12 regulations would apply perhaps on Preserves, especially
13 if there was a special regulation provision for it but,
14 in generally speaking, they're a lot tighter, and that's
15 one of the things that has caused an issue with the SRCs
16 and Preserves don't have SRC, Subsistence Resource
17 Commissions, so we've been trying to work through that.
18 But generally the Park Service regulations, as they exist
19 now, and they have existed before there was ever a
20 Federal Subsistence Program and before there was ever
21 regulations promulgated by the Board and put into 50 CFR,
22 and there is a provision in 50 CFR, that, you know,
23 basically allows individual agency regulations to be more
24 restrictive or prevail.

25

26 So, you know, for us the customary trade
27 is a real issue and it's ongoing and like I say, the Park
28 Service basically held back to see what came out of the
29 whole Interagency process so that we can better, perhaps
30 adapt our regulations or decide whether we need them or
31 just to adopt the regulations promulgated by the Federal
32 Board or what. So I think the Park Service will be
33 addressing customary trade perhaps very soon down the
34 road. But right now, I think, it's probably you would
35 find for the Park Service, as far as I know, only, some
36 of the regulations are more restrictive and I really
37 don't have an absolute answer yet as to whether they
38 would, you know, not apply on Preserves or not.

39

40 It's probably a jurisdictional issue,
41 too.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Enoch, you had
44 something.

45

46 ATTAMUK: Yeah. I just wanted to clarify
47 to the rest of the Board, now, when you're talking about
48 fish, you're just talking about salmon now. I thought
49 that's what customary trade was being issued by the
50 Federal just on salmon, not the sheefish or the whitefish

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1 or the trout, right?

2

3 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair, and Enoch,
4 Attamuk, at one point in the evolution or as we discuss
5 the regulations, there was a provision regarding salmon
6 and it had to do with the cash sales and at one point
7 there was some proposed regulatory language that dealt
8 with a dollar limitation dealing with salmon and
9 exchange. That part of the regulation did not go
10 forward. So there's no special restriction for salmon,
11 and the regulation before you on Page 24 addresses, as
12 you'll see, subsistence harvested fish. So it's broad to
13 all fish that are caught under subsistence regulations.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So the amendment, the
16 rule right here won't be effective -- within a year or
17 two years from now?

18

19 MR. JENNINGS: The regulation in your
20 book on Page 24 becomes effective this coming summer.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

23

24 MR. JENNINGS: This coming fishing
25 season.

26

27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

28

29 MR. JENNINGS: And I would also want to
30 mention that the Board recognized that these regulations
31 are reviewed annually. And there's an opportunity to
32 fine-tune these regulations as we gain more information
33 about how it's working in the different regions. And the
34 language at the top states that the Board may recognize
35 regional differences.....

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

38

39 MR. JENNINGS:the Board still will
40 look at that.....

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

43

44 MR. JENNINGS:as input comes from
45 the public and from the Councils asking for changes on a
46 region specific basis, the Board will entertain those
47 regulatory changes.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Like with the
50 differences, you know, there were 10 different

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1 differences on this issue. My recommendation was what
2 the RAC gave me, recommend -- or what you introduced to
3 me, a \$1,000 per person for a year. It was delivered to
4 the Board. But now I could see the Board recognized the
5 regional differences, I certainly hope that that comes
6 out, you know.

7

8 MR. JENNINGS: Yeah, the Councils had
9 made, as you recall, specific regional recommendations,
10 some of them involved dollar limitations, other Councils
11 offered some other limitations about 50 percent of the
12 catch had to be used for personal consumption.

13

14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

15

16 MR. JENNINGS: And the Board deliberated
17 and tried to sort through the various Council
18 recommendations and decided for the starting point that
19 they would go with the language in front of you as a
20 statewide basis for the first year and then they would
21 entertain, again, as appropriate, in future years, the
22 regional differences.

23

24 So the proposed changes that you
25 mentioned, Enoch, were deliberated but the Board chose
26 not to adopt those at this time.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Walter.

29

30 MR. SAMPSON: I looked at some other
31 regulatory history and the clarification so I'm okay with
32 regards to methods and means and taken and allocation.
33 So rather than bring it up, I got clarity.

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Anything else on
36 -- you want a break?

37

38 (Council nods affirmatively)

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Let's take a 15
41 minute break.

42

43 (Off record)

44

45 (On record)

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I'll call the meeting
48 back to order. We're still at my report, customary
49 trade. Anything else?

50

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1 MR. JENNINGS: Okay, Mr. Chair. Tim
2 Jennings, again, from the Office of Subsistence
3 Management. That concluded my briefing on customary
4 trade unless there's other questions. And then if you'd
5 like me to I can give you a brief overview of the next
6 item, statewide rural when you're ready for that.

7
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions on
9 customary trade?

10
11 (No comments)

12
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: There's no questions.
14 We'll go down to the next item, number 3, statewide rural
15 determinations. So it's on your packet right there. I
16 was not in that committee, January 15, and there's some
17 language that's in there which is very difficult to
18 understand. So I imagine that you're going to give us an
19 update on what happened on rural determination, who is
20 the rural and who is non-rural. You may proceed.

21
22 MR. JENNINGS: Okay, Mr. Chair. The
23 briefing in your book is on Page 25.

24
25 The background on this is that every 10
26 years in the Federal regulations, the Federal Board is to
27 review the rural/non-rural determinations on a statewide
28 basis. And the Board, a couple of years ago decided
29 before they would make those new rural/non-rural
30 determinations, that they wanted to have a third-party
31 review and recommendations on the methodology that the
32 Board has been using.

33
34 So the Board, through our office,
35 contracted with the Institute of Social and Economic
36 Research and Bob Wolfe & Associates, ISER is out of
37 Anchorage, part of the University of Alaska-Anchorage,
38 and they have -- ISER has undergone a review of the
39 methodology. They now have a final report to us. And
40 the Board was originally was going to take up a review of
41 the report and the methodology at a January 15th meeting.
42 However, because a peer review or an outside review of
43 this report of methodology had not been completed prior
44 to the January 15th scheduled meeting, the Board decided
45 to postpone or cancel that meeting until after a more
46 thorough peer review of the methodology could be done.

47
48 So that's the current status of where we
49 are in the process. We're undergoing additional peer
50 review, outside review of this report of methodology. We

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1 expect that to be completed sometime this spring. And
2 then at some future time, yet to be determined, the Board
3 will take up the methodology part of it and we will come
4 to the Councils for input in terms of the methodology.

5
6 And at this time I don't have the -- the
7 Board has not revised its scheduled because they're
8 waiting to see how long this peer review takes and then
9 we will put together a schedule. Ultimately after the
10 methodology is set then the Board, through the Councils,
11 with input, will make the rural/non-rural determinations.
12 So at your next meeting in the fall I would expect that
13 we will have a revised schedule to put back before the
14 Councils. We may be back to the Councils with some
15 methodology information. The actual rural/non-rural
16 determinations are probably at least a year or 18 months
17 away. So there will be no change in the present
18 rural/non-rural determinations until probably a year,
19 year and a half from now. And the Councils will be
20 involved along the way.

21
22 So that concludes my briefing, Mr. Chair.
23 And if there's questions I'll be happy to address them.

24
25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from the
26 Council. Cal.

27
28 MR. MOTO: I have one. On rural, when you
29 talk about rural, are you -- do they determine the fact
30 that most of our villages in the state of Alaska are
31 second-class cities, do they take into effect like if
32 they're a first class city or a second-class city,
33 whether they're rural or non-rural or do they just say,
34 kind of population wise, whether a city or village
35 qualifies for considered rural. That's something I
36 always wondered because I never really got a clear
37 picture of how they define rural.

38
39 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair. Mr. Moto, let
40 me start with one other statement first. The rural/non-
41 rural determinations, I think you all aware are important
42 because that's what establishes eligibility for the
43 Federal program. It's a rural priority.

44
45 In terms of how the rural determinations
46 have been made, the primary, at least, initial starting
47 point has been population. For a community, in the
48 present regulation in the Board process, if a community
49 has less than 2,500 people it is presumed to be rural.
50 IF a community has greater than 7,000 it is presumed to

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1 be non-rural. And then in between 2,500 and 7,000,
2 there's no presumption and it's reviewed on a case by
3 case basis.

4
5 In addition to population there are other
6 factors, though, that the Board considers under the
7 current methodology when making a rural or non-rural
8 finding. And it's such things as utilization of fish and
9 wildlife resources for subsistence purposes. One measure
10 of that is consumption pounds per household or pounds per
11 person consumed of subsistence resources by a community.
12 Another factor has been the amount of infrastructure,
13 transportation, such as is it connected to the road
14 system, or is it in a rural area not connected to the
15 road system, educational institutions. There's other
16 factors that the Board can use and does use in addition
17 to population. But the population is the first
18 screening.

19
20 The Board has not used the designation of
21 second-class or first class city. It's not anything that
22 I'm aware that they've used in their current methodology.

23
24
25 MR. MOTO: While we're on rural/non-
26 rural. Is it like even if you had 7,000 and more
27 residents and they were non-rural but you say maybe 75 to
28 80 percent of the people in this rural town would have
29 the subsistence users, would that -- would they consider
30 that rural or would they change it because more
31 subsistence users in that community or what?

32
33 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Moto, that is a
34 possibility. The Board, in a couple of instances, the
35 presumption is over 7,000 would be non-rural, however the
36 Board can take other factors into consideration when a
37 community has greater than 7,000 population and make a
38 determination based upon the other information. Such as
39 you mentioned, use of subsistence resources, that the
40 community is really more rural in character.

41
42 A couple of examples that are currently
43 in place in the State where communities have over 7,000
44 but are still considered to be rural would be Sitka,
45 which is right around 7,000 and Kodiak, city of Kodiak,
46 which, again, is right around 7,000, maybe a little bit
47 greater. The Board, in those instances, determined that
48 those communities had enough other characteristics of
49 rural that they kept those communities as rural. So they
50 look at the entire set of information on a community

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1 basis.

2

3 MR. KRAMER: I have a question. I don't
4 know how this pertains to the subject, but there was a
5 particular instance that happened a few years ago, my
6 father who lived here for 20 or so years moved back to --
7 moved to Kenai and he came up to hunt up on the Kobuk
8 River, near Hunt River, and some Park Service guys got a
9 hold of him later on and found out that he was with my
10 brother and I, who are from here, and they asked him,
11 were you hunting on that land and he says, no, I was with
12 my two boys and they were hunting, and they said well,
13 were you looking around for a caribou and he says, oh,
14 yeah, we were watching for the caribou to cross, and they
15 made a big point of my father, looking, pointing at
16 caribou, they considered that hunting, the Park Service
17 did, because he wasn't rural because he lived in Kenai.
18 And so they gave him a hard time. And in particular one
19 guy -- some guy from the Park Service, I forget what his
20 name is, gave us a very hard time about that, about him
21 coming up to hunt there.

22

23 And he told me just recently now, that
24 Kenai is considered rural or he is considered rural now,
25 and -- which is nice because he can come up and hunt but
26 how does that work? Is that true, can anybody from a
27 rural, Kenai, can they hunt with a rural Kotzebue
28 resident in that land, in that Federal land?

29

30 MR. SAMPSON: I think, Mr. Chair, maybe
31 Willie can probably better explain what that might mean.

32

33 MR. GOODWIN: Thank you. That brings up
34 the issue that Ken was bringing up with the Monuments,
35 you have to be a resident, however, there's a process
36 that under 1344, Section 1344 of ANILCA you can get a
37 permit. If the process goes through and your father is
38 eligible for a permit, then certainly he can come up and
39 hunt. But the Monuments have resident villages, and only
40 residents in those villages can hunt in them.

41

42 MR. KRAMER: Yeah, okay, thank you. I
43 was curious because I thought -- I was wondering it would
44 be kind of strange if rurals can just -- you know, we can
45 go to Kenai and do what we want to do on the Kenai River,
46 they probably wouldn't like that too much. But
47 interesting.

48

49 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair, if I could
50 follow-up and answer the question. And then I think --

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1 one thing we wanted to offer is since we do have some new
2 Council members is to consider a training session for the
3 next meeting to go over some of these questions, it might
4 be beneficial but it's up to you as a Council, if you'd
5 like that training for your Council members.

6
7 But there's a set of what are called
8 customary and traditional use determinations in addition
9 to -- if we set aside the Park situation where you have
10 to be a resident zone community member or you have an
11 individual 1344 permit then you can hunt within the
12 Parks. The rest of the Federal lands for your region,
13 people who are eligible to hunt under the Federal
14 regulations must be part of the customary and traditional
15 use determinations that are in the regulations. You'll
16 see how the book is separated out by species. It will
17 have a customary and traditional use finding to the left
18 and you can see which communities are eligible, and in
19 some cases it's fairly limited for a specie in a region
20 and for some, other wildlife, it's very broad and the
21 eligibility could be your region and several other nearby
22 regions could come and utilize that resource.

23
24 So it's specific by species and in the
25 regulation booklet you'll see the customary and
26 traditional use findings spelled out.

27
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.
29

30 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman. I think this
31 is certainly a critical issue that we need to consider
32 discussing and making sure that we get clarity in regards
33 to the definition of what it really means.

34
35 If you look at the existing system and
36 the way the state of Alaska dealt with after the lawsuit
37 that changed the subsistence issue, subsistence at the
38 sight of people became dirty and basically the folks that
39 traditionally use the resource were impacted -- I mean
40 our way of life from the State perspective was no longer
41 in place. If we take a look at what the definition that
42 people are looking at under Title VIII the provisions
43 that require a priority for subsistence in regards to
44 fish and wildlife by rural Alaskans is in place. By
45 trying to redefine or define what rural is based on
46 numbers is working against what the customary and
47 traditional use patterns were in the past. And
48 eventually rural is going to become like subsistence, it
49 will be determined by somebody else somewhere.
50

00041

1 I say that because you know what
2 subsistence is all about today, and the same concept is
3 going to occur down the road. And I think it's vitally
4 important that as far as follow-through in regards to
5 working the definition out of rural is important to you
6 and I. Especially for people who are trying to put food
7 on their table for their family and I think that
8 certainly is a very important thing that we need to
9 consider.

10

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Further questions.

11

(No comments)

12

13

CHAIRMAN STONEY: No questions. Thank

14 you.

15

MR. JENNINGS: Thank you.

16

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Going on to Item Number

17 8. Wildlife Proposal review and Regional Council

18 recommendations.

19

20 Now, it says presentation, procedures of
21 the proposals, there's seven items there. Introduction of
22 proposal, analysis who will handle that, you? Okay.

23

24 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, Mr. Chair. Tim
25 Jennings with the Office of Subsistence Management. I
26 will handle the introduction of the proposal and the
27 analysis for each of the three that we'll deal with
28 today. The first one is this proposal, WP03-01, it's a
29 statewide proposal.

30

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

31

32 MR. JENNINGS: It's under Tab C on Page
33 29 in your book. And then the analysis, the Staff
34 analysis starts on Page 34. This proposal, WP03-01 is a
35 statewide proposal and so it will be going before all of
36 the Councils statewide. And it was submitted by the
37 Office of Subsistence Management.

38

39 And what this proposal would do is that
40 it would have the Federal Subsistence Board establish a
41 statewide regulation allowing for the taking of wildlife
42 for religious and ceremonial potlatches purposes. And it
43 would allow for the taking of wildlife for these purposes
44 outside of proposed seasons or out of existing seasons
45 and so in some cases around the state there's fairly

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1 limited seasons and harvest limits, and this would allow
2 for special circumstances to go outside those limits.

3

4 And adoption of this proposal would
5 standardize and simplify the existing Federal regulations
6 and extend an opportunity all Federally-qualified
7 subsistence users to harvest wildlife for the use in
8 traditional religious ceremonial potlatches.

9

10 The proposed regulation also would
11 require that the harvesting does not violate recognized
12 principles of fish and wildlife conservation, and that
13 prior notice must be given to the delegated local Federal
14 land manager.

15

16 The existing regulations that we have in
17 the Federal regulations are varied around the state
18 presently and they can be found under Appendix A on Page
19 41 and I won't go over them specifically here unless you
20 have questions at the end of my presentation. I would
21 note that presently there are no specific special
22 circumstances for Unit 23 for your area.

23

24 The actual proposed regulation is on Page
25 35 in the book, at the top of the page, proposed
26 regulation statewide wildlife. Again, the main points
27 are to allow the taking of wildlife outside of a season
28 or a harvest limit for traditional or religious
29 ceremonies for funerals or mortuary ceremonies. It
30 requires the person organizing the ceremony to contact
31 the Federal land management agency with information about
32 the species and the location where they intend to take
33 the animal. There needs to be no violation of the
34 principles of fish and wildlife conservation. A report
35 would be filed to the Federal land management agency 15
36 days after the harvest. And no permit or harvest ticket
37 is required, but the harvester must be an Alaska rural
38 resident that has a customary and traditional use finding
39 for the resource in that area.

40

41 And you may recall, those Council members
42 who were on the Council within the last year, we had a
43 similar parallel proposal for fish during the last cycle.
44 And this was FP03-27, and the Board did adopt a statewide
45 ceremonial harvest for fish when taken in conjunction for
46 a funerary or mortuary cycle.

47

48 With regards to State regulations, the
49 State regulations allow for the taking of big game, so
50 there's a difference in State regulations where they say

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1 big game and there's -- in our regulation, that we're
2 proposing we're extending it to all wildlife.

3

4 Under the State regs a written permit is
5 not needed but prior notification through a tribal chief
6 or a village council is required and a written report
7 after the harvest is also required.

8

9 On an annual basis the State will list
10 areas where specific large mammals can be taken -- or
11 could not be taken for ceremonial purposes because of
12 shortages of that resource.

13

14 A little bit about regulatory history
15 from the Federal side. Since 1991, the Federal
16 Subsistence regulations have contained provisions that
17 the Board has authorized the taking of fish and wildlife
18 outside of prescribed seasons and harvest limits for
19 special purposes including ceremonies and potlatches.
20 And those are the existing regulations I referenced under
21 Appendix A. Currently, there aren't any specific to your
22 region.

23

24 Also the Federal Subsistence Board has,
25 on a case by case basis, implemented unit-specific
26 provisions allowing for the taking of wildlife for
27 cultural, educational and religious programs and
28 ceremonies.

29

30 So at the present, we currently have such
31 provisions exist in 13 of the 26 wildlife management
32 units around the state. So about half of the wildlife
33 units have these special provisions. And while there is
34 variation between the unit-specific regulations that the
35 Board has required, generally there are some themes,
36 there's some constant items that the Board has
37 authorized. For instance, in all of these cases the
38 Board has required that the harvesting of the resource
39 does not violate recognized principles of fish and
40 wildlife conservation and that information be provided to
41 the appropriate land manager agency, such as information
42 about the activity and in the case of funerary or
43 mortuary ceremonies, the name or names of the decedents.
44 A reporting of the species, the sex, the number and
45 location and timing of the harvest. And the name and the
46 address of the harvester. Furthermore, the Board has
47 required that the harvester be a qualified rural
48 subsistence user for that species in the area in which
49 the harvest occurs.

50

00044

1 So the Staff analysis of the effect of
2 this proposal would be that if this proposal was adopted
3 by the Board, that it should have minimal affects on
4 wildlife populations because it's a limited special
5 circumstance that's being proposed for funerary and
6 mortuary events.

7
8 Adoption of the proposal would
9 standardize and simplify the existing subsistence
10 regulations pertaining to the taking of wildlife for use
11 in traditional religious ceremonies. And it would afford
12 all Federally-qualified subsistence users an opportunity
13 to take wildlife which are part of a funerary or mortuary
14 cycle including memorial potlatches.

15
16 So the preliminary Staff conclusion is on
17 Page 38 and 39. And the preliminary conclusion by Staff
18 would be to adopt this proposal. You can see the
19 language again there on Page 38 under statewide wildlife.
20 I won't read all the text into the record since the book
21 is already part of the record, but you can see that it
22 requires the person to contact the appropriate Federal
23 land management agency and identify where they're going
24 to harvest and in paragraph two, the taking does not
25 violate the principles of wildlife conservation, and in
26 appropriate circumstances, the Federal land management
27 agency may set some limitations for conservation
28 purposes, and then a follow-up report 15 days after the
29 harvest.

30
31 Two Councils have already taken this up
32 because they met previous to your meeting. On February
33 11th in Unalakleet, the Seward Peninsula Council voted
34 unanimously to support this proposal with a modification.
35 And I'd like to point out the modification to you, it's
36 on Page 38 under paragraph three. The very last sentence
37 there, the last phrase, and the name, names -- names is
38 misspelled, there should be an e there in your book, they
39 struck the language, and the names of the decedents for
40 whom the ceremony was held. They struck that language
41 because they felt it would be intrusive to have the name
42 of the person be reported.

43
44 On February 19th in Barrow, the North
45 Slope Regional Advisory also voted unanimously to support
46 this proposal with the modification like the Seward
47 Peninsula Council, to delete the name of the decedent.

48
49 So, Mr. Chair, that concludes my
50 presentation.

00045

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Item No. 2,
2 Alaska Department of Fish and Game comments.

3

4 MR. SAMPSON: Question.

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh, excuse me. A
7 question.

8

9 MR. SAMPSON: A question in regards to,
10 sort of not confusing, but under 39 you got the
11 provisions where it says revoke the following regs, by
12 revoking these and adopting this regulation would include
13 then Unit 23?

14

15 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair. Mr. Sampson,
16 if adopted, some of the regulations would be revoked and
17 then superseded by the proposed regulation that would be
18 adopted.

19

20 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

21

22 MR. JENNINGS: And it would apply
23 statewide.

24

25 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah, good.

26

27 MR. JENNINGS: And then you can see on
28 Page 39, retain the following regulations.....

29

30 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

31

32 MR. JENNINGS:where there are
33 specific activities.

34

35 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

36

37 MR. JENNINGS: Those are related to what
38 Staff is proposing would remain.

39

40 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

41

42 MR. JENNINGS: And there aren't any, as I
43 mentioned, presently in Unit 23.

44

45 MR. SAMPSON: But by adopting this then
46 we'd include 23?

47

48 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, sir.

49

50 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah. Yeah, good.

00046

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Item No. 2,
2 Alaska Department of Fish and Game comments on this
3 proposal.

4
5 MS. GEORGETTE: Good morning. My name is
6 Susan Georgette. I work with the Alaska Department of
7 Fish and Game here in Kotzebue, and I can just present
8 the State's comments on this.

9
10 As Tim mentioned, the State Board of Game
11 passed a similar ceremonial harvest regulation in
12 November. And the State supports this proposal with
13 modification. And what the State would like to see is
14 that the Federal and the State proposals are as similar
15 as possible. I think Tim might know more about it than I
16 do because the State regulatory language is still being
17 worked out. One of the points that he mentioned was that
18 the State regulation applies to big game only while the
19 Federal one applies to all wildlife.

20
21 But I think some of the issues might be
22 technical things that can be worked out as the language
23 goes along and so the State, basically, supports this
24 proposal.

25
26 Thank you.

27
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Susan.

29
30 ATTAMUK: I do.

31
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Enoch, do you have
33 something?

34
35 ATTAMUK: Yeah, I got a question on this
36 one here. Are we going to adopt the proposals as one or
37 are we go individually and talk about each proposal.
38 Because he's moving on to the next one without us
39 questioning on this proposal here for customary -- you
40 know, I mean for funeral purposes. I think we should do
41 it one by one.

42
43 MR. JENNINGS: No, Mr. Chairman, we would
44 do it one by one and we're still on Proposal 1, statewide
45 Proposal 1. And what we're doing is we're following the
46 procedure under the agenda on Item 8, the presentation
47 procedure. So I gave Item 1, the introduction and
48 proposal and the analysis and then Susan just gave the
49 Alaska Department of Fish and Game comments.

50

00047

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

2

3 MR. JENNINGS: And we'll continue on down
4 so that under Item 7.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Right.

7

8 MR. JENNINGS:you'd have Regional
9 Council.....

10

11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Right.

12

13 MR. JENNINGS:deliberations.

14

15 ATTAMUK: Okay.

16

17 MR. JENNINGS: And then after that's
18 concluded and you make your recommendation.....

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Right.

21

22 MR. JENNINGS:then you would go on
23 to the next proposal.

24

25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Right. Walter.

26

27 MR. SAMPSON: The issue in regards to the
28 State's view, maybe I need clarity, Susan, you said the
29 State supports the proposal with a modification. And
30 that modification, again, is to change wildlife to big
31 game, or am I confusing myself?

32

33 MS. GEORGETTE: No. Walter, the State's
34 comments weren't even that specific. They were
35 interested in having the Federal proposal mirror the
36 State's proposal so, yes, I think they would like to have
37 it be big game rather than just wildlife. But there may
38 be other specific things in the State regulation that was
39 passed that you mentioned and I when I got this from our
40 Staff they were still working on the language.

41

42 So I don't feel like I'm being that
43 helpful on it but I didn't have as much information as I
44 think Tim has on it.

45

46 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair, that's the
47 extent of my knowledge, too, that the Board of Game
48 passed this last November. They have not yet finalized
49 the exact language. I do know that the main difference
50 in terms of what was passed by the Board of Game is they

00048

1 used the term big game which is more restrictive, you
2 know, the large mammals verses the Federal proposal would
3 include all the wildlife resources under the subsistence
4 regulations.

5
6 The only other distinction I'm aware of
7 at this time involves Unit 21 and 24, where the Board of
8 Game did not require prior notification in those two game
9 management units. Other than that, my understanding is
10 they're parallel except for those differences.

11
12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks Susan.

13
14 MS. GEORGETTE: Thank you.

15
16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, other agencies on
17 this proposal. Any other agency report.

18
19 (No comments)

20
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: AC, Advisory
22 Committees.

23
24 (No comments)

25
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Summary of written
27 comments.

28
29 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'll
30 go ahead and read the summary of written comments. We
31 had two comments, both in support of this proposal.
32 Alfred McKinley, Sr., on behalf of the Alaska Native
33 Brotherhood wrote that all Native residents should be
34 included when making regulations for the taking of fish
35 and game as part of the funerary and mortuary cycle,
36 including the 40 day party and the payoff potlatch.

37
38 The other item in support was Mike Moses
39 on behalf of Asa'carsarmiut Tribe of Alaska wrote that
40 this regulation should be reserved only for Alaska
41 Natives, if possible, since Alaska Natives are the ones
42 that have been doing this for generations.

43
44 And that concludes the summary of written
45 public comments.

46
47 Thank you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Public testimony.

50

00049

1 MS. CHIVERS: There was no request for
2 public testimony.

3
4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Item No. 7, Regional
5 Council deliberation, recommendation and justifications.
6 That's where you come in Enoch.

7
8 ATTAMUK: On this proposal here, I
9 already stated before that here in our region we don't
10 take any game for funeral purposes. And I respect the --
11 I will support this proposal out of respect for the other
12 regions. You know, but here in our region we got more
13 respect for our animals, we don't take animals just for
14 funeral purposes. This is just for clarification for
15 you.

16
17 I could respect the outside regions like
18 I stated, but still it bothers me that we should take
19 animals for funeral purposes but we never did -- it's not
20 our custom here in our region, unless they do it in the
21 villages, I don't know, in the outside villages, not in
22 Noatak and Kotzebue that I know of. You know, we never
23 did take any kind of animals. Because out of the respect
24 that they might not be in season at the time.

25
26 I will support this with -- under the
27 statewide wildlife, under number 3, that they take the
28 name off, too, you know they shouldn't have that. If I'm
29 going to support this I wouldn't have it say for who, I
30 wouldn't have that.

31
32 Okay.

33
34 MR. MOTO: Is that a motion?

35
36 MR. KRAMER: Yeah.

37
38 ATTAMUK: I make a motion to adopt this.

39
40 MR. BALLOT: Second.

41
42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion by Enoch, second
43 by Percy -- I'll say that Proposal WP03-01, motion by
44 Enoch and a second by Percy, any further discussions.
45 Walter.

46
47 MR. SAMPSON: I certainly support the
48 proposal as written. In regards to the provisions that
49 the State of Alaska wants to replace, to take the word
50 wildlife off and to include big game, I think that is

00050

1 going to put a restrictive on there. So I think the way
2 it's written, I certainly support that.

3

4 In regards to the take of resource for
5 potlatches and other things, I think, Enoch, one of the
6 things that occur in the villages is that whatever
7 resource that the community can utilize during the
8 process of death within the community, certainly the
9 community utilize whatever they can. In some cases,
10 people will go out and take something to bring back for
11 the community use as a means to celebrate. I mean that's
12 -- I think that's within this region, too.

13

14 So even though we don't say it's for
15 funerary or mortuary, it's a traditional thing that
16 occurs within this region. So even though it's not
17 worded that way we still utilize the resource. But the
18 way it's worded in the proposal, I certainly support
19 that, and not changing the wildlife to big game. I would
20 object to the word changing from wildlife to big game,
21 because big game, all you're doing is placing a
22 restriction on that.

23

24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Still on discussion,
25 one thing I say, when we say big game, now, if we say big
26 game, let's mention Shishmaref or Deering and Buckland,
27 how about muskox, would that be used for that purpose?

28

29 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I think when
30 you're talking wildlife, you're talking wildlife. And as
31 far as taking of wildlife, you're talking muskox, too.
32 So if muskox was taken for those purposes, then that's
33 what -- that should be covered under wildlife. I don't
34 think we should differentiate between wildlife and saying
35 big game. By saying big game, under the State
36 definition, what is it, larger animals and by saying that
37 you're putting a restriction just to those specific
38 animals. So by saying wildlife, under that definition, I
39 certainly would consider muskox as a wildlife, so that's
40 my argument and justification to support the proposal.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's justification.

43

44 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, Mr. Chair. The term
45 wildlife applies to all the Federal regulations dealing
46 with species.....

47

48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

49

50 MR. JENNINGS:that are in this

00051

1 booklet as identified as wildlife, and it includes
2 muskox.

3

4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

5

6 MR. JENNINGS: It's a more expansive term
7 than big game.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Any further
10 discussion.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 MR. SAMPSON: Question.

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been called
17 for. All in favor of Proposal WP03-01 signify by saying
18 aye.

19

20 IN UNISON: Aye.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.

23

24 (No opposing votes)

25

26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That proposal passes.

27 Good, we can get muskox now. The next item is Proposal
28 WP03-02, statewide proposal to provide for a designated
29 hunter provision on most species and hunt.

30

31 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair, for
32 clarification, the last item, the motion by Enoch was to
33 support with the modification to strike the decedent's
34 name.....

35

36 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

37

38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

39

40 MR. JENNINGS:correct?

41

42 ATTAMUK: Yes.

43

44 MR. JENNINGS: Okay. I just wanted to
45 make sure that was clearly on the record.

46

47 Okay. The next proposal that we'll
48 discuss is also a statewide proposal, it's 03-02, to
49 provide for a designated hunter provision for most
50 species and hunts. And this can be found under Tab C on

00052

1 Page 47.

2

3 And the Staff analysis begins on Page 52.

4 This statewide proposal was submitted by the Office of
5 Subsistence Management as a proposed change to the
6 general provisions for all units to standardize the
7 designated hunter regulations. This standardization
8 would provide a uniform opportunity for subsistence users
9 to harvest or benefit from the harvest of ungulates in
10 all areas of the state using designated hunters.

11

12 Currently designated hunter provisions
13 are allowed on a unit-specific basis causing to some
14 degree of inconsistency on how the regulations are
15 addressed.

16

17 Currently there are unit-specific
18 provisions for 21 hunts in Federal regulations involving
19 17 different units. In some cases certain hunts have
20 been overlooked for this provision creating a possible
21 hardship on subsistence users.

22

23 Under existing regulations there are
24 unit-specific provisions as I mentioned, and these can be
25 found under Appendix A on Page 62. And I would note that
26 for your area there is presently a designated hunter
27 provision for sheep in Unit 23.

28

29 Under the proposed regulations, back on
30 Page 52, designated hunting for ungulates would be
31 recognized for all units and the proposed Federal
32 designated hunter program would have the following
33 provisions.

34

35 Any Federally-qualified subsistence user
36 or recipient may designate another
37 Federally-qualified subsistence user to
38 take wildlife on his or her behalf.

39

40 The designated hunter must obtain a
41 designated hunter permit.

42

43 The designated hunter may hunt for any
44 number of recipients but may not have
45 more than two harvest limits in his or
46 her possession at any one time.

47

48 The designated hunter may not charge the
49 recipient for his or her services in
50 taking the wildlife or for the meat or

00053

1 any part of the harvested wildlife.

2

3 This proposal would allow designated
4 hunting of all ungulates on a statewide
5 basis and would allow for options for --
6 exceptions on a unit-specific basis, if
7 needed.

8

9 And in the Federal Subsistence Management

10 Program, the term ungulate means any species of hoofed

11 animals. So we're talking about deer, elk, caribou,

12 moose, mountain goat, dall sheep and muskoxen.

13

14 A little bit about the history of

15 designated hunter provisions under the Federal system.

16 In 1995, the Federal Board adopted the current designated

17 hunter system with the following provisions, that it

18 would provide a standardized approach allowing qualified

19 subsistence users to designate someone to hunt on his or

20 her behalf, establishes a separate Federal permitting

21 system for the benefit of a hunter who would need a valid

22 permit that would allow possession of more than one

23 harvest limit and also provide harvest information.

24

25 And as I mentioned, since then harvest

26 designated hunter provisions have been established in

27 several areas around the state for moose hunts in four

28 units, for caribou in seven units, and sheep hunts in two

29 units.

30

31 Regarding the State regulations on this

32 topic. The state of Alaska provides for the transfer of

33 harvest limits from one person to another through its

34 proxy hunting program. It differs from the Federal

35 designated hunter provisions in the following ways.

36 Currently it's a statewide application under the State

37 regulation. It only applies to caribou, deer and moose.

38 And in terms of eligibility it only applies to a resident

39 that is blind or 70 percent disabled or 65 years or

40 older. So much more limited qualifications to

41 participate. Either the recipient or the hunter may

42 apply for the authorization under the State provisions.

43 And no person may be a proxy hunter for more than one

44 recipient at a time.

45

46 In your book there is a mistake in terms

47 of -- on Page 54 where it says in the middle the State

48 program differs from the Federal designated hunter

49 provisions in the following ways, the last bullet, the

50 recipient is responsible for harvest and permit

00054

1 reporting, that's a mistake and that should be crossed
2 out. Because both State and Federal systems require the
3 responsibility of reporting to the recipient for the
4 harvest. So if you would just cross out that bullet on
5 Page 54, the last one in the middle of the text there
6 under Alaska Department of Fish and Game because that's
7 not a difference.

8

9 I want to give you briefly a summary of
10 the kind of use that we've had in the Federal for
11 designated hunter provisions.

12

13 Table 2 on Page 56 shows the history of
14 the number of permits that have been authorized over the
15 years and the harvest. And under the Federal system 387
16 designated hunter have harvested in the season 2000/2001;
17 387 designated hunter harvested 408 animals.

18

19 And you can see the harvest figures under
20 Table 3. And you'll note that the largest harvest for a
21 particular hunt is in deer in Southeast Alaska, Units 1
22 through 5, where 322 animals were harvested representing
23 3.1 percent of the total harvest by all hunters of 10,500
24 deer.

25

26 The second area where designated hunters
27 have been utilized quite a bit is in Unit 8, again, for
28 deer. That's the second highest utilization of 53 deer
29 being harvested. And, again, represents a very low
30 percentage of the overall harvest, about 2.1 percent of
31 the total harvest.

32

33 I can summarize for you, generally under
34 the Federal system most of the designated hunter
35 utilization has been in Units 1 through 5 for deer and
36 Unit 8. And in all other cases around the state where
37 present designated hunter provisions are authorized,
38 generally the rest of those hunts have had less than 50
39 animals taken by designated hunters and in most cases
40 less than 25 animals have been harvested.

41

42 Regarding the customary and traditional
43 utilization of designated hunter, we would note that on a
44 statewide basis there's finding regarding household
45 harvest in a community that it's documented that it's not
46 uncommon for about 30 percent of the households in a
47 community to produce about 70 percent or more of the
48 communities wild food harvest.

49

50 Regarding the effect of the proposal.

00055

1 Currently there are 66 Federally-regulated ungulate hunts
2 throughout the state. Designated hunter provisions are
3 available in 21 of those hunts and that's summarized in
4 Table 4 on Page 58. You can see where all the hunts
5 occur and those units that currently have designated
6 hunter provisions.

7

8 The designated hunter program, we don't
9 believe would be expected to cause any significant
10 increase in participation or in delay of reporting of
11 harvest.

12

13 One thing I'd like to note for you, as a
14 result of requests from tribal organizations in Southeast
15 Alaska, a review of the administration of the designated
16 hunter permits has been made by the Federal Board and
17 changes in the permit distribution were made in September
18 of last year, allowing the tribes in Southeast to help
19 administer the designated hunter permits. So a hunter
20 could go into a tribal office to pick up their designated
21 hunter permit. And these changes are going to be
22 evaluated and the Board may choose to adopt a broader
23 administration of this on a statewide basis. Because one
24 of the issues facing the Board is if this is adopted on a
25 statewide basis, how would we make the designated hunter
26 permits readily available to the hunters out in the local
27 villages.

28

29 One other item I wanted to bring to your
30 attention is that since Staff wrote this initial
31 analysis, there's been some concerns that have been
32 raised about the potential impact of designated hunter
33 provisions on small populations that might be more
34 vulnerable. The State has raised some of these concerns.
35 And, for instance, it's been pointed out that they
36 believe that it could particularly impact goat, muskox
37 and sheep. So I wanted to make you aware of those
38 concerns.

39

40 The harvest by hunters using the present
41 designated hunter provisions under the Federal system is
42 fairly low. It represents about 2.6 percent of the
43 harvest by all hunters. Extending the designated hunter
44 provisions to the remaining ungulate hunts in the Federal
45 regulations should not have a significant impact upon the
46 resources is the preliminary Staff assessment. And also
47 we believe that this regulation would provide a uniform
48 opportunity to subsistence users across the state and
49 would facilitate the customary and traditional use of
50 wildlife resources.

00056

1 So on Page 60 you'll see the preliminary
2 Staff conclusion is to support this proposal. The
3 proposed regulation, if adopted, would be there on Page
4 60 under the bold language, all units, wildlife and I
5 won't read the specific language but it would adopt the
6 designated hunter provision.

7
8 Two other things to note, Mr. Chair, is
9 that on February 11th at Unalakleet, the Seward Peninsula
10 Council voted unanimously to support this proposal as
11 written, as submitted.

12
13 And last week in Barrow, the North Slope
14 Council voted to support this with five in support and
15 one opposing.

16
17 And Mr. Chair, that concludes the Staff
18 presentation on this proposal.

19
20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any discussion before
21 we go to the Council on Proposal WP03-02.

22
23 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, do we need to
24 adopt that prior to anyone making comments on the
25 proposal?

26
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yep.

28
29 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I move for
30 adoption of Proposal WP03-02.

31
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Moved by Walter.
33 And Second?

34
35 ATTAMUK: Second.

36
37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further discussion
38 on Proposal WP03-02.

39
40 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair, if we could,
41 even though there's a motion on the table, it would be
42 good to go through the other steps in the procedure, to
43 hear from the Department and any of the other items there
44 on the procedure.

45
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: On discussions?

47
48 MR. JENNINGS: So for the State.....

49
50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Does the State want

00057

1 to.....

2

3 MS. GEORGETTE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
4 The State's comments are on Page 50. But I'll just
5 summarize them if you don't mind rather than reading it
6 all.

7

8 The Alaska Department of Fish and Game's
9 position is to defer this proposal for the time being.
10 And the Department believes that it is premature to
11 implement this regulation at this point until the Federal
12 Staff Committee holds a workshop that they had talked
13 about having. The workshop, I guess, is supposed to
14 improve permit administration and compliance reporting.

15

16 Some of the questions the State has, Tim
17 mentioned already, such things as how would it be
18 implemented in rural areas? Should all ungulate
19 populations be included in this proposal? What about
20 hunts that are limited by harvest quotas or registration
21 permits? The State has concerns that this regulation
22 could have an impact in areas that are limited, that have
23 a limited resource, where hunting is restricted or there
24 are conservation concerns.

25

26 And, in particular, the State's main
27 concern is that some species could be susceptible to
28 overharvest in particular the goats, sheep and muskoxen
29 that were mentioned. And these animals congregate at
30 certain times of year and you could get -- if you could
31 be a hunter that can get more than the bag limit in some
32 of the areas of the state, then the State's concern this
33 could lead to an overharvest.

34

35 Thank you.

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks, Susan. Fish
38 and Game Advisory Committee.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Written comments.

43

44 MS. CHIVERS: There were no written
45 comments at this time.

46

47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Uh?

48

49 MS. CHIVERS: No written comments.

50

00058

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Public
2 testimony.

3
4 MS. CHIVERS: There is no public
5 testimony.

6
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Regional Council
8 deliberation, recommendation and justifications.

9
10 MR. MOTO: Are we going to comment on
11 this.

12
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We're on discussion.
14

15 MR. MOTO: I noticed that in the Federal
16 regulations that they had said that the designated could
17 hunt all hoofed animals, whereas in the State's
18 regulations it only applies to caribou, deer and moose.
19 How come they didn't include the muskoxen that -- because
20 we have some people that are over 65 or disabled, been
21 getting permits but they can't hunt the muskox anyway.
22 And I see that the State only applies to caribou deer and
23 moose and not the muskox or all hoofed animals. I
24 thought maybe they'd be covered in all.

25
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.
27

28 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I certainly
29 support the proposed regulation in regards to WP03-02
30 even though the State of Alaska might have some concerns
31 and regards to the proxy issue. The way the regulations
32 are written under the State system, it only provides for
33 a number of species, here we're talking all species.
34

35 If the State has concerns in regards to
36 the limited number of resources within that area, we have
37 a process that's in place called emergency order to close
38 that, so that can occur. I think if there's going to be
39 an impact on that resource then emergency closures can
40 occur. I certainly support the way this regulation is
41 written. I think it's statewide so I support the
42 regulation, Mr. Chairman.

43
44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Lance.
45

46 MR. KRAMER: I actually share the concern
47 with the State, because the sheep population is very
48 vulnerable. It's basically on the tip of an ulu blade,
49 if you will, it could go one way or the other.

50

00059

1 In here it says the designated hunter may
2 hunt for any number of recipients but any have no more
3 than two harvest limits. Now, does that mean that I can
4 go out and get two sheep and come back and get two sheep
5 and come back and just keep going until I get as many as
6 needs to be in town; how does that work?

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Ida.

9

10 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
11 Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member. I just
12 wanted to respond to that. On the designated hunter you
13 still have to stay within the limits of the established
14 population.

15

16 So if you could only take 10 sheep,
17 regardless of how many designated hunter permits you have
18 you cannot exceed that 10 sheep, so it's still limited.

19

20 MR. KRAMER: Okay. But one person,
21 though, could still close the season out.

22

23 MS. HILDEBRAND: I think technically on a
24 cognitive basis you could say that but I don't think that
25 the people who issue permits will give you all the
26 permits for everybody.

27

28 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair, if I could
29 follow-up on that. In the instance of sheep, in this
30 area there's a quota system where they look at the winter
31 survival and do an assessment of how many sheep could be
32 harvested and then that quota is set by the Park
33 Superintendent in consultation with ADF&G and other
34 agencies. And then the permits are then distributed.

35

36 A designated hunter would have to --
37 could only hunt for somebody that had a permit. So it
38 wouldn't allow a designated hunter to overharvest beyond
39 the quota that's been set for sheep. And a similar
40 analogy could be used for muskox. Where counts are done
41 on an annual basis, quotas are set and in different
42 areas, depending on how many animals are there and then
43 permits are distributed. Again, someone using designated
44 hunter for muskox could not exceed the quota. So from a
45 resource conservation perspective in those circumstances,
46 we couldn't have an overharvest under the designated
47 hunter provisions.

48

49 And the designated hunter obviously would
50 have to have the concurrence of whoever got the permit in

00060

1 order to hunt for them. If the person who got the permit
2 didn't want somebody else to hunt for them they would
3 just retain the permit and hunt for themselves.

4
5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We're still on
6 discussion. Walter.

7
8 MR. SAMPSON: One other area that didn't
9 mean to leave out in regards to the State's concern and
10 in regards to the action being premature, I don't think
11 it's being premature, it's something that we need to act
12 on and I think it's only fair to everybody that we
13 certainly act on this issue and adopt the proposed
14 regulation.

15
16 So with that, I call for the question.

17
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You call for question?

19
20 MR. SAMPSON: (Nods affirmatively)

21
22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been called
23 for. Any objection to the question.

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, in favor of
28 adopting Proposal WP03-02 signify by saying aye.

29
30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.

33
34 (No opposing votes)

35
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: As it's written. You
37 guys want to break for lunch or just one more proposal,

38 41, I don't know how long it's going to be.

39
40 MR. SAMPSON: Let's do 41.

41
42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What?

43
44 MR. SAMPSON: Let's do 41.

45
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Let's continue
47 on. Proposal WP-03-41. How long's that going to take, a

48 long time?

49
50 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair, I think this

00061

1 will go fairly quickly. At least my presentation will go
2 quickly.

3

4 This can be found under Tab C, Page 71,
5 and then the analysis begins on Page 77.

6

7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

8

9 MR. JENNINGS: This proposal, WP03-41 is
10 a crossover proposal with the home region being the
11 Seward Peninsula Region. It was proposed by Thomas
12 Sparks of Nome. And the proposed regulatory changes
13 would open Federal lands to hunting muskox in Units 22(B)
14 and 22(D) to all Alaska residents.

15

16 You can see the existing and proposed
17 regulations on Pages 77 through 79, and you would note
18 that under the proposed regulations on 78 and 79, what
19 Mr. Sparks is proposing is to delete the wording, Federal
20 public lands are closed to the taking of muskox except by
21 Federally-qualified subsistence users.

22

23 If adopted this would result in opening
24 these muskox hunts up to, on Federal lands, to all Alaska
25 residents.

26

27 In this region the Bureau of Land
28 Management in Units 22, the BLM administers 19 percent of
29 the lands in Unit 22(B) and five percent of the lands in
30 Unit 22(D). National Park Service administers two
31 percent of the lands in 22(B) and 11 percent of the lands
32 in 22(D). While these lands overall are relatively a
33 small proportion they're laid out in somewhat of a
34 checkerboard pattern in the case of BLM lands, but they
35 are important to subsistence users of the region.
36 Seventy-nine percent of lands in Unit 22(B) are
37 administered by the State and Native corporations.
38 Eighty-four percent of lands in Unit 22(D) are under
39 State jurisdiction.

40

41 In terms of regulatory history under
42 Appendix to this proposal analysis on Page 91, you can
43 see there's a table that provides the history of the
44 development of the customary and traditional use
45 determinations, seasons and harvest limits for both State
46 and Federal regulations since 1994 regarding muskox.

47

48 These regulations were developed in close
49 collaboration among the State and Federal agencies, the
50 regional corporations and subsistence users and it

00062

1 involved a group that you know well called the Muskox
2 Cooperators Group. Currently the State and Federal
3 agencies are carrying out a jointly managed hunt, both on
4 Federal and State lands. And all partners work together
5 through the Muskox Cooperators Group to provide guidance
6 on harvest levels and how to allocate permits within
7 State and
8 Federal systems. A Cooperative Muskox Management plan is
9 in place and is actively used.

10

11 However, the Muskox Cooperator's Group
12 did not have an opportunity to review, to discuss or to
13 comment on this proposal prior to this Seward Peninsula
14 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council meeting or this
15 meeting.

16

17 With regard to biological considerations,
18 this proposal, muskoxen are recently reintroduced and
19 subsequently the hunts in Units 22(B) and 22(D) are
20 relatively recent beginning in 1995 and therefore there's
21 a relatively short harvest and hunt history. In fact,
22 the Federal season and harvest limit for Unit 22(B) were
23 only established last year. And while the herds, for
24 most part, have shown growth, that growth now appears to
25 have slowed and may have even leveled off.

26

27 Mr. Sparks, the proponent, has sent a
28 follow-up letter to us in which he attempted to clarify
29 his intend and he is very concerned that the subsistence
30 hunters in Unit 22 villages and those that have C&T from
31 Unit 23 not be adversely affected by this proposal.

32

33 We have received comments from several
34 agencies, Park Service and BLM Field staff and from the
35 Chair of the Seward Peninsula Council, Grace Cross,
36 expressing concern about the short turnaround for this
37 particular proposal and the fact that there was a lack of
38 opportunity for all interested parties to make comment
39 timely and especially the fact that the Muskox
40 Cooperators Group did not have time to meet and consider
41 this proposal.

42

43

44 So therefore, on the basis of this the
45 preliminary Staff recommendation is to defer the proposal
46 to allow this proposal to be considered fully through the
47 Muskox Cooperators Group and full public comment.

48

49 A couple of final notes, Mr. Chair, on
50 February 11th in Unalakleet, the Seward Peninsula Council

00063

1 voted unanimously to defer this proposal for the same
2 reason that Staff recommended, to allow the Muskox
3 Cooperators Group to first take a look at this proposal
4 and to consider it.

5
6 And Mr. Chair, that concludes the Staff
7 presentation.

8
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Alaska
10 Department of Fish and Game comments.

11
12 MS. GEORGETTE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
13 The Department agrees with the Staff recommendation to
14 defer action on this proposal until the Seward Peninsula
15 Muskox Cooperators Group can meet to discuss it.

16
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Other
18 agencies.

19
20 (No comments)

21
22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: AC.

23
24 (No comments)

25
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Written comments.

27
28 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
29 There were no written comments at this time.

30
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Public testimony.

32
33 MS. CHIVERS: There was is request for
34 public testimony.

35
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: RAC. Walter.

37
38 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, Proposal
39 WP03-41, I move that we defer that to the Seward Penn RAC
40 Committee to give their input before we act on this.

41
42 MR. BALLOT: Second.

43
44 MR. MOTO: Question.

45
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Second by Percy.

47
48 MR. SAMPSON: Is that the right wording,
49 to defer to.....

50

00064

1 MR. JENNINGS: Yeah, to defer, actually
2 to the Muskox Cooperators Group, yeah, that's fine.

3

4 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

7

8 MR. JENNINGS: And so just for
9 clarification in terms of process, if the Board concurs
10 with deferral, which is very likely given that both
11 Regional Councils would support deferral and the State,
12 what this means is this proposal would go back through
13 the public process and through the Muskox Cooperators
14 Group sometime during the next year and you would see
15 this proposal back before you a year from now at your
16 winter meeting.

17

18 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

19

20 MR. JENNINGS: So that would be the
21 process.

22

23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further discussion.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 MR. BALLOT: Questions.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been called.

30 All in favor of deferring Proposal WPO3-41 signify by
31 saying aye.

32

33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.

36

37 (No opposing votes)

38

39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Passes. We got a half
40 an hour, do you guys want to break for lunch or continue
41 on?

42

43 MR. SAMPSON: If we got a half hour, I
44 think, Mr. Chairman, we probably can get some work done.

45

46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Is it all right
47 with the Council?

48

49 (Council nods affirmatively)

50

00065

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, we go down to
2 Item No. 9, call for proposals to change Federal
3 Subsistence Fishing Regulations. Proposals will be
4 accepted from January 6th to March 28th. Okay, from the
5 public.

6
7 (No comments)

8
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Agency proposals.

10
11 (No comments)

12
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Regional Council
14 proposals. Walter.

15
16 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, in regards to
17 proposals to change Federal Subsistence Fishing
18 Regulations. Just strictly subsistence, uh, no other
19 regs in regards to -- I'm talking about rod and reeling
20 and stuff like this for fish.

21
22 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, Mr. Chair, and
23 Walter. This would be a call for proposals to change the
24 Federal Fisheries Regulations.

25
26 You have a copy of the present year,
27 well, it's about to expire, February 28th, but it will be
28 superseded, you'll get a new book. For these regulations
29 that involve Federal Fisheries Subsistence Regulations,
30 that's the call for proposals.

31
32 MR. SAMPSON: Okay, thanks.

33
34 MR. JENNINGS: Okay.

35
36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that it?

37
38 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

39
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Item No. 10, Fisheries
41 Information Service Program, who's Polly Wheeler.

42
43 ATTAMUK: Steve Klein.

44
45 MR. BALLOT: Go ahead, Polly.

46
47 (Laughter)

48
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Item No. 11, Tab D.

50

00066

1 ATTAMUK: Steve Klein.

2

3 MR. JENNINGS: Steve Klein is going to
4 handle that part.

5

6 MR. SAMPSON: Introduce yourself
7 properly, please.

8

9 MR. KLEIN: Steve Klein with the Office
10 of Subsistence Management. I'm the Chief of Fisheries
11 Information Services located in Anchorage.

12

13 My division is responsible for developing
14 and implementing the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
15 Program. To date there was three things I wanted to
16 cover. First I wanted to -- or actually four things.

17

18 First, I wanted to do a brief overview of
19 the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program. It will
20 probably be a refresher for some of you but for the new
21 members I think it would be very good, and that'd be like
22 five minutes. Secondly, I wanted to cover the issues and
23 information needs that we use to guide our monitoring
24 program and what projects we consider for funding. And
25 that's probably an action item issue that I would like to
26 reserve for after lunch. And thirdly, provide you a
27 brief summary of some of the projects that we got ongoing
28 this year. Susan is operating a whitefish project and we
29 could fit her in, that would probably take 10 minutes for
30 me and 10 minutes for Susan I'm told. So I could provide
31 the overview of the Monitoring Program. Kind of a brief
32 project summary, some of the projects operating in the
33 Kotzebue region, and then we could have Susan do a
34 presentation on her whitefish project.

35

36 And that would probably take up the 30
37 minutes, and then I propose that we take up issues and
38 information needs after lunch. Would that work?

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: All right.

41

42 MR. KLEIN: Okay. I got to stay on task
43 here then. For the Monitoring Program, and this is
44 primarily for the benefit of the new members here, but
45 when the Federal government moved into managing fisheries
46 for subsistence it was a big step and one of the items
47 the people realized is there really isn't enough
48 information to manage the fisheries. And at the highest
49 levels of the Departments of Interior and Agriculture,
50 they delivered \$7 million so we could start getting some

00067

1 of this information so they created this Fisheries
2 Resource Monitoring Program, it's a \$7 million program to
3 get information so that we could manage fisheries better,
4 and that applies whether it's a Federal manager or a
5 State manager, we need more information.

6
7 And with that information, hopefully the
8 decisions we make are science based and we're making the
9 right decisions and also that we're providing the
10 priority to rural residents.

11
12 For your region -- for this Monitoring
13 Program, we've lumped, we've made a Northern Alaska
14 region that includes the Seward Peninsula, Kotzebue Sound
15 and then the North Slope Council. So we've got three
16 Councils that provide us information for Northern Alaska
17 and there's about \$700,000 available for projects to help
18 us implement this Fisheries Monitor Program. And over
19 the past three years, we started this program in 2000,
20 we've probably spent over \$2 million to get better
21 information to manage subsistence fisheries.

22
23 For the Monitoring Program, it's not just
24 a biological program, we're looking at three types of
25 information. And one I've heard repeatedly this morning,
26 local knowledge, and one of our information type is
27 traditional knowledge, we specifically ask for studies
28 that gather traditional knowledge so that we use that
29 information in decision-making.

30
31 Secondly, we look at the fishery
32 resources themselves, and we call that category stock,
33 status and trends. And Walter, as you mentioned, we want
34 to know whether the stocks are up and down and we got
35 several projects where we're trying to access the
36 abundance, life history of the fishery resources.

37
38 And the third data type is harvest.
39 Harvest information, it's very important to know how many
40 fish are harvested so that you can insure those harvests
41 can be sustained.

42
43 So we got three information types, local
44 knowledge; stock status and trends and harvest assessment
45 and monitoring.

46
47 So that's kind of an overview of the
48 Monitoring Program. If there's any questions on that, I
49 could take those now or field those -- yeah, I'd love to
50 field those now.

00068

1 MR. SAMPSON: \$7 million, that's
2 statewide, uh?

3
4 MR. KLEIN: That's statewide.

5
6 MR. SAMPSON: Okay. And \$700,000
7 available for fisheries study, now, as far as the process
8 is concerned, what process do you go through to initiate
9 some of these studies?

10
11 MR. KLEIN: okay. The first step in the
12 process is to get issues and information needs from you
13 all and that's driven by the Councils. We put together a
14 list, and this is what we're going to do after lunch, is
15 go over that list, but you have the local knowledge, you
16 know what's most important to meet subsistence needs. We
17 have to tailor to Federal conservation units, but the
18 start of the process is to identify your priorities, what
19 work should we be doing.

20
21 And the next step is to go out for a call
22 for proposals, and we do that in November, we go out and
23 we ask people all across the state to submit proposals on
24 these issues that the Councils have identified. And we
25 include those issues in that call. The next step is they
26 submit, investigators, researchers across the state
27 submit proposals, we review those in the Office of
28 Subsistence Management and actually have a technical team
29 that has experts from the five Federal agencies and also
30 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, their Subsistence,
31 Sportfish and Commercial Fish Division, this technical
32 team reviews those. These are just like two-page
33 proposals that we review. We decide which of those are
34 the best and ask them to tell us more, tell us how you're
35 going to conduct this study, tell us how much it costs,
36 give us your methods. We review those to make sure
37 they're technically sound and cost efficient and then we
38 put together a draft plan based upon the best studies.
39 And we bring those back out to the Councils in the fall
40 and ask for your review. We go over what our
41 recommendations are. There's a public comment period as
42 well. We take your recommendations, the technical
43 recommendations and the Staff Committee looks at that and
44 then the Board makes a decision the following December.

45
46 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

47
48 MR. KLEIN: So it's heavily dependent
49 upon your knowledge, both at the front end to get the
50 significant issues identified and then once we've

00069

1 developed kind of a draft plan we get your comments and a
2 lot of times what we recommend is, you say, yeah, that
3 you're on target, sometimes they say what about this
4 study and they'll -- the Council's recommend a higher
5 priority study that they believe should be funded and
6 take that to the Board and the Board makes a decision.

7

8 We do fund the studies in three year
9 increments. They can request funding up to three years
10 so that we're not burdening you or the investigators too
11 often there.

12

13 Questions on the Monitoring Plan.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 MR. KLEIN: Okay. As I said, I'm the
18 Chief of Fisheries Information Services. I have one
19 biologist who is Steve Fried. Many of you have met
20 Steve, and then Polly Wheeler is my anthropologist and
21 they're really my -- they're really the ones that look at
22 the proposals, the investigation plans and work with the
23 Monitoring Program.

24

25 Okay. So next, we can cover some of the
26 projects that are occurring in the region. There is a
27 handout, it's called status of 2000/2003 Fisheries
28 Resource Monitoring Program Studies for the
29 Arctic/Kotzebue/Norton Sound Region. It's an eight page
30 document. Does everybody have that?

31

32 This provides a summary of all the
33 studies that we've funded in Northern Alaska. And of
34 course, there's a lot of other studies outside but I
35 thought you'd be most interested in the studies in your
36 region. On the first page it identifies -- and I'm not
37 going to go through this in -- I would encourage you to
38 do so and to become familiar, I'm going to go through
39 this in like seven minutes to just give you an overview
40 of some of the studies we've funded in the past.

41

42 In the last three years, or actually four
43 years, counting 2003, we've funded 21 studies. And at
44 the bottom of Page 1 is a listing of the ones that have
45 been completed, and of those 21 that we've funded seven
46 of them have been completed. We have final reports on
47 those if you're interested in of those we can provide
48 those reports to you.

49

50 On Page 2, there's a summary of the

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1 remaining studies that are ongoing. And the first six
2 there on Page 2, those are studies that were begun in
3 2001, remember I said we fund these in three year
4 increments so some of these were actually started in
5 2001, six of them, four of them are in the Kotzebue
6 region, and I'm going to summarize those. Those are
7 numbers 2, 4, 5 and 6. And then in the middle of the
8 page it identifies the studies that were started in 2002.
9 And studies 9, 10, and 11 were studies in the Kotzebue
10 region that were started last year. Number 10 is Susan's
11 whitefish study that she'll go over here in about five
12 minutes. And then finally numbers 14, 15, 16, those are
13 the three studies that were approved last year and your
14 Council provided recommendations on those. The last one,
15 number 16, harvest identification during the spring and
16 fall subsistence fisheries in the Selawik River, that
17 will be a new study that starts this summer.

18

19 So at the top of the page, the studies
20 that are ongoing right now in 2000/2002, I just wanted to
21 provide you a brief summary of the status of those
22 studies, those are your studies to get better information
23 to conserve and manage the subsistence resources.

24

25 I'm just going to talk about the six in
26 the Kotzebue region that are continuing.

27

28 So on Page 3, Study 01-107, this is
29 actually a statewide study but it has -- part of this
30 study is based in Kotzebue. This is -- really with this
31 Fisheries Monitoring Program, I think one of the best
32 things we've done is try to get better harvest
33 information and this study has been a key component of
34 that. What they're doing, this is the Alaska Department
35 of Fish and Game and Alaska InterTribal Council together,
36 working together to host workshops throughout Alaska.
37 They're having 12 workshops. They just had one in
38 Kotzebue in November, maybe some of you participated in
39 on that. They're sitting down with local users to look
40 at the information the harvest information that's
41 available, what should be collected, what could be
42 collected, how can we make the information more reliable,
43 what are the gaps.

44

45 So they're having these workshops to try
46 to improve the collection of subsistence harvest
47 information. They also compile an annual report that
48 documents all the subsistence harvest for wherever that
49 is documented and that would have information from the
50 Kotzebue region as well. They're also trying to develop

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1 a web site that makes that information available.

2

3 So this is a statewide proposal to try to
4 get better subsistence information, not only from surveys
5 but make it more accessible.

6

7 So that's one of your six ongoing
8 studies.

9

10 A second one is on Page 4. And it's
11 Study 01-136, it's called Northwest Alaska Dolly Varden
12 Stock Identification. And this is looking at genetics of
13 dolly varden and genetics can be very useful in
14 management. In fact, we probably don't use genetics
15 enough.

16

17 But this is a study where they're looking
18 throughout Northwest Alaska, and in some cases in many of
19 your rivers, to collect genetic samples and get
20 information on how we can discriminate among the
21 different stocks with DNA techniques.

22

23 So that's one of your ongoing studies.

24

25 Then on the next page, Page 5, Study 01-
26 137, there's another dolly varden project. This, again,
27 is in your region. And here they're looking at spawning
28 areas, they're trying to estimate escapements, and
29 they're looking at movements via radio tags. And of
30 course, dolly varden are very important subsistence
31 resources. And in this study, the Alaska Department of
32 Fish and Game is operating it and trying to get better
33 information on spawning areas and movements and
34 escapements so that we can better manage those. And that
35 includes the Wulik and Kivalina and Noatak Rivers.

36

37 I know I'm going into too much detail
38 here so I'm going to move it a little faster.

39

40 The next one, number 6, which is 01-154,
41 it's called Project Information and Access System, and
42 this is a project to get all the information we collect
43 into databases and making it accessible. Biologists are
44 really good about collecting lots of information but
45 we're not very good about aggregating it and getting it
46 into databases, so that's what this study is doing. And
47 getting it together in one place and making it more
48 accessible.

49

50 On the next page is Study 8, which is

00072

1 Study 02-023, and this is called Fish That We Eat. This
2 is a traditional knowledge study in this area. Ms. Jones
3 was the principal investigator on this and she's
4 collecting traditional knowledge from -- well, she's been
5 doing it for the last 40 years, and assimilating it into
6 a manual. She's got a draft of this available and that's
7 under review and we hope to have that out this summer.

8

9 Number 9 is Susan's study which she'll
10 cover here in a minute.

11

12 And the final one I wanted to cover was
13 number 10, it's Study 02-043. And this is another
14 statewide database study, and again it's aggregating, in
15 this case, subsistence harvest data with a geographic
16 information systems to make -- to aggregate the harvest
17 information and make it available in maps and displays.

18

19 So that's kind of a brief summary of six
20 of the seven studies and Susan can summarize the seventh
21 study which started in 2002 looking at whitefish.

22

23 MS. GEORGETTE: Do you want to do that
24 now, Mr. Chairman?

25

26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, yep, very
27 briefly. We still got 10 minutes.

28

29 MS. GEORGETTE: Thank you. Some of you
30 have seen these but these are some photos we have of
31 whitefish related to activities in Selawik and Shungnak.
32 And I think some of you saw them last year. I have a few
33 new ones but you could look at those while we talk.

34

35 First, I'd like to point out that this
36 project, traditional knowledge of whitefish in Kotzebue
37 Sound is a joint project between Enoch Shiedt and me.
38 It's Maniilaq and Department of Fish and Game. It's been
39 funded mostly by Steve's program, the Fisheries
40 Information Services but it's also received funding from
41 the Selawik Wildlife Refuge and Gates of the Arctic
42 National Park for certain portions of it.

43

44 I gave you an update last fall and I'll
45 just really quickly go over it for the benefit of new
46 people and give you an update on what we've done since
47 the fall.

48

49 Last winter I worked with Clyde Ramoth in
50 Selawik and we interviewed elders and fishermen there. I

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1 think we interviewed about a dozen people, mostly on
2 topics related to what species people catch, their
3 Inupiat names, their seasonal movements, the abundance,
4 what they eat, things about what people know about, the
5 natural history of whitefish.

6

7 Charlie Lean and I hired Walter Berry
8 last June and he drove us around for a couple of days to
9 fish camps to look at catches and talk to people in their
10 camps. And in November, I had the good fortune to spend
11 a day out in Selawik with the Ramoth family checking
12 their net under the ice. And one of the things we
13 learned in Selawik is that there's more species
14 recognized by Inupiat people there than science
15 recognizes. And so Lee Anne might talk for a minute
16 before I go on about what their going to.....

17

18 MS. AYRES: The next.....

19

20 MS. GEORGETTE:well, what the next
21 stage is how we take this knowledge and then apply it to
22 additional research questions that science can be
23 involved in, too.

24

25 MS. AYRES: Lee Anne Ayres with the
26 Selawik Refuge. I think Susan mentioned that they
27 identified a number of issues like the numbers of species
28 that people were finding. The next project that's being
29 funded is going to be basically taking those questions
30 and trying to help find answers. And we were really
31 fortunate to have Randy Brown, who's sitting next to me
32 here who's from the Fisheries Research Office in
33 Fairbanks, just finishing up some of his work on
34 whitefish on the Yukon, to be able to come down and help
35 with that.

36

37 So I'd like to just introduce Randy and
38 he'll be going out to Selawik and working with people
39 there to answer that question plus some additional ones
40 on helping locate the spawning areas for whitefish.

41

42 So Randy.

43

44 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chairman. Members of the
45 Council. Randy Brown, with the US Fish and Wildlife
46 Service based out of Fairbanks. The Selawik Refuge is
47 one of the national conservation areas that we're
48 responsible for doing some fisheries work on.

49

50 My own specialty has been whitefish

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1 issues in the Yukon, dealing with the different species
2 and their migrations to and from spawning areas
3 identifying winter habitat feeding areas. I will be
4 coming up and working out in the Selawik area this next
5 summer and then for another couple of years if some of
6 our projects are funded identifying species trying to put
7 the scientific name with the local names of these species
8 so we're understanding which fish we're looking at and
9 then actually putting radio transmitters in a number of
10 fish and tracking them to these -- their special areas,
11 their important habitat spawning areas, overwinter areas,
12 migration corridors.

13
14 One of the things that they discovered
15 with the sheefish tagging in the Kobuk and the Selawik
16 Rivers is that they do, in fact, mix out here in Hotham
17 Inlet or Kobuk Lake and are being caught, both stocks are
18 being caught in the fisheries. The other whitefish
19 species, we don't know very much at all about where they
20 migrate and mix and maybe caught by different user
21 groups. So that's one of the things we're going to be
22 trying to identify.

23
24 Unless there's any questions I'm going to
25 hand this back to Susan. Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you.

28
29 MS. GEORGETTE: Just to finish up what
30 we've done since last fall, Jim Magdanz and I spent a
31 week at Vera Douglas' fish camp on the Upper Kobuk
32 talking to her about whitefish and participating in
33 fishing activities there.

34
35 In January I went back to Shungnak and
36 interviewed maybe six or eight elders and fishermen
37 there. And it is really interesting to document a lot of
38 this because there is one kind of whitefish that science
39 calls round whitefish and people in Shungnak could tell
40 you exactly how far up river you can find this, more or
41 less. And I would imagine that's probably not in the
42 scientific literature, though, maybe somewhere, but they
43 know that so far up above Kobuk you can find this fish
44 and beyond that you don't.

45
46 Last week I was in Noatak and interviewed
47 maybe 10 people there. And, you know, in Noatak people
48 could talk about real specific creeks on Sivilsuk Slough
49 or particular lakes up above the canyons that have a lot
50 of whitefish in them. And those are the kinds of things

00075

1 I think, that communities hold as information that
2 science, I'm sure doesn't know really.

3

4 We've also talked about what people know
5 about spawning grounds and spawning areas, and about how
6 abundance of fish has changed over their lifetimes. And
7 with whitefish in the villages I've worked, people cannot
8 recall a time when they weren't abundant. People don't
9 say, well, back in 1930, whatever, there were no
10 whitefish for a few years like you will hear about
11 caribou or about other resources, so that's been worth
12 documenting. And I guess that's pretty much it.

13

14 Oh, and the other part is this is the
15 second year of this project and -- or the beginning of
16 the second year and we're hoping to also do some work in
17 Noorvik and Kotzebue, sort of kind of have a range of
18 different communities and ecosystems. Because the coast
19 is a whole different whitefish world, really. And
20 really, every village is different. It is interesting.

21

22 One thing, that I know you all know but
23 -- and I kind of knew but hadn't really thought through
24 was that, you know, in Noatak seining fish is a man's
25 activity whereas on the Kobuk River, that's something
26 women really do a lot. So there are really a lot of
27 differences in each village how they process their fish
28 and what times of year they might really fish.

29

30 So that summarizes this project.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

35

36 MS. GEORGETTE: And, I don't know, Enoch,
37 if you have something you want to add. Enoch's always
38 quite knowledgeable.

39

40 ATTAMUK: No, you did fine Susan. You
41 covered all the basis of what happened.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions.

44

45 Percy, (In Native)

46

47 MR. BALLOT: (In Native)

48

49 MS. GEORGETTE: Thank you.

50

00076

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. We'll break
2 off for lunch and be back at 1:00 o'clock.

3

4 (Off record)

5

6 (On record)

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Well, I'll call the
9 meeting back to order, it's six minutes after 1:00.

10

11 Fisheries Information Services Program.
12 You may proceed.

13

14 MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For
15 the record I'm Steve Klein with Fisheries Information
16 Services in the Office of Subsistence Management.

17

18 So before lunch we covered Items 10B and
19 10C, and now we're coming back to 10A. We're at a fork
20 in the road, we can either -- I'm going to present the
21 issues and information needs, and we can stay with what
22 we can or we can modify those. And it's really at the
23 wishes of the Council. But first let me kind of describe
24 the issues and information needs.

25

26 The issues and information needs, that's
27 really what drives the Monitoring Program. This is what
28 tells people, researchers, what information we're looking
29 for. It's a very important step in the process. And the
30 way we've designed this Monitoring Program, the Councils
31 develop those issues and information needs. And for any
32 studies that we fund, they definitely are a higher
33 priority if they're on your list.

34

35 There's two handouts that we have, one is
36 this one that says issues and information needs, and
37 that's available on the front desk, it's not in your
38 book. And then the second one is just a one-pager that
39 Michelle recently passed out and that's just called --
40 it's a one page handout that has issues and information
41 needs on the top.

42

43 For the larger document, I'll go through
44 that first because this is your current issues and
45 information needs. And there's some introductory
46 material at the beginning, which, actually that's already
47 been presented to you. Pages 4 and 5, kind of some
48 strategic planning description of how we're trying to be
49 strategic with this program. And then it gets into the
50 actual issues for each of the Councils. For the northern

00077

1 portion of Alaska, again, there's three Councils, and
2 we'll just look at the Kotzebue/Northwest-Arctic portion
3 of the document, and that's on Page 6, actually Pages 6
4 and 7.

5
6 On Page 6 is the stock status and trends.
7 And remember I said, there's really three information
8 types that we use for the Monitoring Program, the first
9 is stock status and trends. And this is what goes out
10 with the -- when we request proposals. And for stock
11 status and trends you've identified four issues with some
12 sub-groups under that. The first one is distribution,
13 abundance and life history of fish species. And under
14 the sub-bullets, you have bullets you got bullets for
15 char; for Selawik River whitefish, which actually you
16 added at your last Council meeting. You added that as an
17 issue that you would like addressed with the Monitoring
18 Program. And then fish species that occur near Deering
19 and Buckland.

20
21 And then secondly there's an issue you've
22 identified effects of sportfishing activities on
23 subsistence fisheries resources. And that's aimed at
24 looking at hooking mortality of sheefish, char and other
25 freshwater species.

26
27 Thirdly, the effects of tagging on
28 sheefish.

29
30 And, fourthly, water quality and fish
31 contamination is an issue that you'd like addressed.

32
33 So those are the stock status and trends
34 issues. And then at the bottom of Page 6 you'll see
35 Norton Sound covered, I'm not going to go over that. On
36 Page 7 is the other two data types. One is subsistence
37 harvest monitoring. And there's harvest monitoring
38 design is listed under that, where we're trying to get
39 accurate and valid data on subsistence harvest so that we
40 can sustain those. And in the third data type,
41 traditional ecological knowledge or local knowledge and
42 there's several sub-bullets under there where mostly from
43 elders. There's a wealth of information that we can get
44 and use for our decision-making and that includes long-
45 term sources, a variation in trends, fish life history,
46 subsistence use and practices, where people fish, when.
47 And then comments about subsistence knowledge -- comments
48 about subsistence management. So we've touched on that,
49 where we really should be using local knowledge for this
50 Monitoring Program.

00078

1 So that's our current issues and
2 information needs that the Council has identified, that's
3 where we ask for studies to be submitted for fisheries
4 monitoring.

5
6 The other sheet, the other handout, this
7 was prepared by Steve Fried and Polly Wheeler, the Staff
8 that serve your area. And this was presented at your
9 last Council meeting and at your last Council meeting you
10 asked for new information that could be added to your
11 issues and information needs, and I can't stress how
12 important that list is. This would be changes that the
13 biologists and anthropologists would recommend, and
14 mostly it's additions.

15
16 For example, last fall you added Selawik
17 whitefish, that wasn't on there before. And Randy Brown
18 actually submitted a project for Selawik whitefish for
19 2004 that we'll be looking at this fall. That will be
20 one of the projects that will be.....

21
22 MR. SAMPSON: Who's Randy Brown?

23
24 MR. KLEIN: Randy Brown is the -- he
25 presented.....

26
27 MR. SAMPSON: Oh, okay. Okay.

28
29 MR. KLEIN: He's Mr. Whitefish.

30
31 (Laughter)

32
33 MR. KLEIN: Anything you want to know
34 about whitefish, if you don't talk to an elder, talk to
35 Randy. But you listed Selawik whitefish as an issue and
36 he actually prepared a proposal that estimates.....

37
38 MR. SAMPSON: Is that a sharp-nosed
39 whitefish or a stub-nosed whitefish?

40
41 MR. KLEIN: He's stub-nosed.

42
43 MR. SAMPSON: No, I'm just kidding.

44
45 (Laughter)

46
47 MR. KLEIN: Randy's working on the TEK
48 and then he submitted a proposal to look at whitefish
49 going up the Selawik River. So the list that you put
50 together is very important and these changes that we're

00079

1 identifying, for example, on -- I mean looking at a map,
2 we have to focus on Federal lands, but the Noatak River,
3 that's important for subsistence. Within stock status
4 and trends, if you look on Page 6, really we don't see
5 anything on the Noatak and similarly for the Kobuk River,
6 we know the Kobuk is important for sheefish and salmon,
7 that's currently not on your list. So when we ask the
8 investigators to prepare proposals they're not seeing, as
9 an example, Noatak River chum salmon as a need for this
10 Council. So I would recommend that you highly consider
11 what's on this second list and if you want to make those
12 changes we can make those changes. I can have my Staff
13 make the changes, we can discuss those. And we really
14 should try to update your issues and information needs
15 before the next call goes out and that will be November
16 of next year. So we can do it now or we can do it at
17 your fall Council meeting. But I really think we should
18 add these. I would say they're gaps and there's gaps on
19 stock status and trends, there's gaps in harvest
20 monitoring, and TEK as well, that we could to the list so
21 that we could get more studies dedicated to your area.

22

23 And the next step, and I think that would
24 be down the road, we could prioritize and say this is
25 what's most important to this Council and we'll receive
26 projects from researchers that want to do research on
27 that topic.

28

29 So I will leave it up to the Council of
30 how you wish to proceed, whether you want to go through
31 this now or whether you want to update it at your next
32 meeting or set up a separate meeting, but by next
33 November, I would strongly encourage you to update the
34 issues and information needs.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: On these fisheries,
37 just mention, monitoring, when you monitor these fish, do
38 you take any samples of the health of that type of fish
39 of any kind, like for whitefish, sheefish or salmon? You
40 know, the health of them, do you also do that?

41

42 MR. KLEIN: Most of the information is
43 looking at abundance, how many there are. You do look at
44 the age and the sex and you can -- and the length and you
45 can get some measure of health by the condition of the
46 fish, by looking at the length. But, yeah, in this
47 region, no, we really haven't specifically -- that I'm
48 aware of, Randy, gotten samples that you would look at
49 health, disease of the samples.

50

00080

1 That could be something that you
2 could.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

5
6 MR. KLEIN:if that's of interest,
7 that could very well be added to the list.

8
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions. When
10 you do all the monitoring of sheefish in the Selawik
11 River, do they go all the way up to the headwaters of
12 Selawik, way up?

13
14 MR. KLEIN: I believe they migrate quite
15 a ways up within the Selawik, but I think I would defer
16 to Randy to address that question if he would.

17
18 MR. BROWN: Yeah, this is Randy. The
19 work that was done by Tevus Underwood back in the mid-90s
20 defined the spawning area and I can't tell you how many
21 miles it was but they definitely went way up river and
22 were confined to about a 12-kilometer, about a nine mile
23 long stretch of the Selawik River where they spawned and
24 then in late September, early October, and then they went
25 back down river and out into Selawik Lake and beyond. So
26 it's considerably farther up river than boating traffic
27 normally goes.

28
29 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Excuse me, Randy, it
30 was from Ingusuguk Creek on up to about Shorvee's (ph)
31 cabin on the Selawik.

32
33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

34
35 MR. SAMPSON: I guess I want to thank
36 Steve for your presentation on the fisheries information
37 and the programs that are being established and places to
38 address the very issues that you talked about.

39
40 I think I would have a little different
41 perspective in regards to the process of making the
42 recommendation in regards to how these could be done. I
43 say that because when you're dealing with the very issues
44 that pertain to the very livelihood of the people and the
45 impacts on their -- on the food on the table is there.
46 But yet when you start dealing with the scientific side
47 and information that you start providing, you don't
48 really get down to the meat of the -- or down to the bone
49 of the meat. I say that because we need to change a
50 process in regards to people participating in the very

00081

1 discussions that we're having today.

2

3 I shouldn't be telling you what the
4 priorities ought to be. You ought to be going out to the
5 communities, making the introductions of these very
6 discussions, asking the communities what is it that they
7 would like to see studies, how would you like to see
8 these fisheries being studied. What I'm getting at is
9 that by going through that very process, you're dealing
10 with people that could have ownership of these things.
11 For too long we've been giving things. For too long
12 we've been studied. For too long we've been giving the
13 communities with what we thought were biological needs
14 that we, from our viewpoint, and as we understand it
15 provide information to the community. It's time that we
16 reversed that around to where the community is proactive
17 in designing and planning of these things.

18

19 And I think it is only fair to people
20 that somebody from your Department go out to these
21 communities and meet with the communities and first hand
22 ask the community, we would like to work with you, not
23 for you, but with you in gathering information in regards
24 to these species. If you would take that approach,
25 people will respond to you. People will support you on
26 those very things that you're trying to do. Now, if we
27 take the other approach to where we provide information
28 to them and ask for reaction, you're not going to get
29 very much. We're trying to turn that around to where
30 people are proactive in designing of what we're trying to
31 do for the region.

32

33 Now, as far as fisheries are concerned,
34 people might want you to take a look at whitefish or take
35 a look at spawning areas where it's important to them. A
36 prime example is on the Selawik, there are spawning areas
37 in some places that are being used for sportsfisheries,
38 which I think is wrong, and those got to be protected.
39 Something that needs to be handled and taken care of.

40

41 I think even though it's going to take
42 some time, rather than rushing through things, that we
43 ask the Department to go through a process of initiating
44 village meetings to talk about these very issues and get
45 their input into this. Once that's done then you can
46 come back to us with the information that you got and ask
47 us for some priorities. That way we can say these are
48 what were identified from the villages. In some cases
49 they might prioritize as to what needs to be done so that
50 way they would participate in that public process.

00082

1 And you know, as far as issues and needs,
2 I mean that's how I feel and that's how I view this as a
3 process. You're talking \$7 million, that's a lot of
4 money, \$700,000, that is a lot of money. And you
5 contract that out to somebody else, they're going to
6 bring the information to the community, they're going to
7 bring that information from somewhere else that was
8 gathered by somebody else as a way to take to the
9 community as information, then they're going to say this
10 is what the community said was okay, when it's not. So I
11 think we need to reverse that process to where the
12 villages become proactive in discussions, not reactive in
13 how things should be done.

14

15 That's my two cents.

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin.

18

19 MR. MOTO: I'd like to concur with Walter
20 but I was trying to figure out how I could get into this,
21 but when I saw distribution and abundance of fish species
22 in the Deering salmon, Buckland area, we've had like lots
23 of different studies by different groups on our salmon.
24 The last three or four years we have had -- we've
25 harvested salmon and I'd say about a third, sometimes to
26 half of them we have to throw away because there's
27 something wrong with their bodies and there's something
28 in their stomach, we cut them up and cook them and try to
29 feed them to the dogs, even the dogs dump their dog pot,
30 so there's something wrong with our salmon the last two
31 or three years.

32

33 Also you touched a little bit, but we
34 never seen in four or five years where a long time we
35 used to get whitefish, a lot of whitefish, me and my
36 daughters and relatives in Deering, we went seining for
37 whitefish last spring three times, all we got was 40
38 trout, no whitefish. And traditionally that's where we
39 used to seine for whitefish and we used to get a lot of
40 whitefish at one time. We used to also get a lot of
41 herring, we don't get those anymore. And it seems like
42 on the depletion of those two specific species, I think,
43 herring and the whitefish, most of our marine mammals
44 decline, too, maybe they don't come there to eat anymore
45 or spawn or whatever, they have their babies, but anyway,
46 I don't know if they're related and we ask a lot of
47 people and they come in, they do studies, and they don't
48 come back to us and tell us what they found. See that's
49 the problem we're having sometimes.

50

00083

1 So I just thought I'd bring that up about
2 our salmon, traditionally we get a lot of salmon. We
3 still get a lot of salmon but the salmon is bad. The
4 eggs, they're -- when you cut them open, the eggs are
5 brown and yellow, you know, instead of orange. So we
6 don't eat them, we just throw them away. I know it's
7 wasteful but even if the dogs won't eat them, you know,
8 what else could we do?
9

10 MR. KRAMER: When you do your stock
11 status and trends, that includes local input and -- how
12 does that work?
13

14 MR. KLEIN: You mean in conducting the
15 studies?
16

17 MR. KRAMER: Yes.
18

19 MR. KLEIN: This program, for any study
20 that's conducted they should be consulting with local
21 residents there on the project before they implement it.
22 And I think generally that is happening. They should be
23 trying to hire local residents as technicians, as
24 contractors to work on the projects. In some cases we
25 have the local organization actually running the project
26 or working with Fish and Game or the Refuge or the Park
27 Service as co-investigators to implement the study.
28

29 And then, Calvin, to touch on your point,
30 that information does need to come back that's why we had
31 Susan up here kind of sharing some of her information
32 and, yeah, often times that is overlooked. With this
33 Monitoring Program we're trying to make that information
34 available to you and bring some of those researchers to
35 you so you know the results of their findings.
36

37 And Mr. Kramer, on your point we're
38 working together to answer these questions.
39

40 MR. KRAMER: And what was it you wanted
41 -- or you seek from the RAC?
42

43 MR. KLEIN: Well, we want to hear from
44 you on what's important. And Walter proposed a process
45 where instead of trying to identify issues today, he's
46 telling me and my Staff to go establish a process where
47 we're going to the communities and listening to them and
48 putting their needs, what they think is priorities,
49 identifying those and bringing -- that's what he wants
50 coming back to this body here. And Calvin, I think you

00084

1 seconded that. Actually we've employed that in other
2 Councils, where, yeah, there is community meetings and
3 you hear from the people on the river first and then
4 refine these issues and information needs and if that's
5 the direction you want to go and that's probably the best
6 direction, and, from my opinion we can -- a motion by the
7 Council for us to do that would really help us in the
8 effort, and we'll work with you to do that.

9

10 So if the motion were to, for FIS, which
11 is our Division, to work with communities to identify
12 their issues and information needs so that the Council
13 can prioritize them, that would help all of us to move
14 forward, and that's what we're trying to do.

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

17

18 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, with that
19 then I move that we direct the Department or the
20 Division, what's the correct....

21

22 MR. KLEIN: Oh, Fisheries Information
23 Services, FIS.

24

25 MR. SAMPSON: Fisheries Information
26 Services to conduct village meetings to deal with
27 fisheries, I guess, make it broad as I can to provide
28 information to the communities and to receive information
29 from the communities in regards to planning of -- I don't
30 know what I want to call it now....

31

32 MR. KLEIN: To define the priority issues
33 in the Kotzebue region.

34

35 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

36

37 ATTAMUK: I'll second it, and I really
38 support the way Walter said it. Yeah, we have to go back
39 to the villages to see what you -- and you will get a lot
40 more if you just go back to the communities.

41

42 I'll give you an example of Kobuk area.
43 By catch and release, you know, when they call, they see
44 a lot of sheefish come down, during spawning time, just
45 from catch and release, fish coming down then just by
46 catch and release, and you will hear that if you go back
47 and you will probably feel a lot more and get a lot more
48 done. I'll support it, and I'll second it also.

49

50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion made by Walter

00085

1 and then a second by Enoch. Now, we'll go back to
2 discussion.

3

4 MR. KRAMER: I wonder if the effect of
5 beaver lodges in the Selawik River and Tag River on the
6 whitefish populations, so that might be one priority that
7 they might bring to tell you and then you would be able
8 to provide a study for that?

9

10 MR. KLEIN: Well, I think the process is
11 we would compile that listing of issues that are
12 important to the communities and bring that back to the
13 Council for deliberations and some of those might be very
14 high priority issues that you want to highlight and some
15 of them might be lower priorities but the next step would
16 be to bring it back to the Council for your
17 deliberations.

18

19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Like those communities
20 and the villages, they know a lot more than we do about
21 these species, could be pike, whitefish, anything. They
22 all know that. Like you said that would be a good point
23 to start in these communities, meet with them and get
24 some input and then come back to us and we'll direct you
25 which route to take which would benefit our people.

26

27 Anymore discussion, Lance.

28

29 MR. KRAMER: Yeah, how about the ones
30 that aren't on the previous list, the Noatak River chum,
31 Kobuk River chum, what would we do with those?

32

33 MR. SAMPSON: That's to include, that's
34 to include Kobuk and Noatak. I meant to put that into
35 the form of the motion because I don't think it's fair to
36 just do partial of the region. If we're going to do
37 fisheries of whitefish and sheefish, we ought to do that.
38 So we would include that, Noatak and Kobuk as well, too.

39

40 MR. MOTO: Call for the question.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been called
43 for. All in favor of adopting Walter's nomination,
44 whatever that is, signify by saying aye.

45

46 IN UNISON: Aye.

47

48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.

49

50 (No opposing votes)

00086

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You could do it now.

2

3 MR. KLEIN: Thank you very much. Mr.
4 Chair, that would conclude Item 10 but I would reiterate
5 that if anybody has questions on the Monitoring Program
6 or we can provide additional information -- you received
7 a lot of information on the Monitoring Program, get a
8 hold of Michelle or myself and we'll be glad to talk to
9 you or get you additional information.

10

11 Thank you for your time today.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Item No.

14 11. Agency reports. A, Office of Subsistence

15 Management.

16

17 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair, Tim Jennings
18 with the Office of Subsistence Management. I have one
19 briefing for you. It's in regards to the Draft
20 Regulatory Coordination Protocol and you can find this
21 briefing behind Tab D at Page 103 in your book.

22

23 Since we have some new Council members
24 I'd like to spend a couple of minutes to provide some
25 background for this protocol. When the Federal program
26 assumed subsistence fisheries management in 1999, there
27 was a recognized need to closely coordinate with ongoing
28 and existing programs with the Department of Fish and
29 Game with the State of Alaska. So in that regard, to
30 provide closer coordination, in April of 2000, an interim
31 memorandum of agreement was established between the
32 Federal agencies and the State Fish and Game, the Federal
33 Subsistence Board and the Board of Fisheries and the
34 Board of Game. And basically the MOA was established to
35 provide guidelines to coordinate managing subsistence
36 uses of fish and wildlife resources on Federal public
37 lands in Alaska.

38

39 So the MOA was put forth as an interim
40 memorandum of agreement in April of 2000 with the
41 understanding that there would be additional specific
42 work done to spell out how this coordination and
43 management would take place. And several additional
44 documents would be developed, and these documents were
45 termed protocols.

46

47 One of the protocols before you today is
48 in regards to regulatory coordination and this comes full
49 circle to a comment that Enoch made this morning about a
50 need to provide for closer coordination between the State

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1 and the Federal system, perhaps maybe even have one set
2 of joint regulations. This protocol has the purpose of,
3 to the extent possible, coordinating the Federal
4 processes and the State processes to minimize duplication
5 to make as effective as possible the joint/dual
6 management that is occurring.

7

8 If you look at Page 104, it summarizes
9 the current status of this regulatory coordination
10 protocol. You can see there in the first paragraph that
11 it's intended to improve the coordination between the
12 Federal and the State systems. Four areas have been
13 identified to improve the coordination. One is the State
14 and Federal Board coordination. Two, is the advisory
15 system interaction between State Advisory Committees and
16 Federal Subsistence Advisory Councils. Three addresses
17 the integration of regulatory cycles and processes. And
18 the fourth, and last area, is the Federal/State
19 Interagency Work Groups.

20

21 So there is a joint Federal/State team
22 that's working on this protocol that also includes some
23 Council members.

24

25 And at this point we have a first draft
26 of this protocol for you to review. You can see in the
27 schedule, the time frames on Page 104, that right now
28 we're about midway down where we have the draft protocol
29 has been either mailed out or included in Council books
30 like the one before you today for review. Once there's
31 input and any further revisions, you can see there'll be
32 a second draft that will be forthcoming that will come
33 back to you in the fall.

34

35 The actual protocol itself, the draft
36 language is on Page 106 through 108. I won't go through
37 this specifically except just to summarize, again, the
38 four key areas. There's an introduction section followed
39 by the area of State and Federal Board coordination. And
40 under the bullets you can see that there's broad
41 intention to, as much as possible, to coordinate fully
42 between the Boards of Fish, the Board of Game and the
43 Federal Subsistence Board. And were appropriate, to have
44 joint meetings or joint sessions for the coordination.

45

46 On Page 107, advisory system interaction
47 addresses interaction between the State Advisory
48 Committee system and the Federal Subsistence Regional
49 Advisory Councils. And basically what this section says
50 is to the extent possible that both of those systems will

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1 coordinate and facilitate common solutions to resource
2 issues. And you can see under the specific bullets some
3 of what's been laid out there to promote that.

4
5 The integration of regulatory cycles at
6 the bottom of Page 107 has not yet been drafted. So you
7 won't see a more complete spelling out underneath this
8 section until the fall.

9
10 And then the fourth section on Page 108
11 is the Federal/State Interagency Work Groups. Where
12 needed, we have joint Federal/State work groups
13 addressing particular issues that are in common to both
14 the Federal and the State system and so we have a section
15 here laid out.

16
17 So Mr. Chair, the reason why this is
18 before the Council today is to give you a status in terms
19 of where we are in the development of this draft
20 regulatory coordination protocol, to invite your review
21 and comment, either today or at a future time to send
22 comments back to Pete Probasco, who is the lead from our
23 office. He's in Anchorage in the Office of Subsistence
24 Management.

25
26 So Mr. Chair, that concludes my briefing.
27 I'll answer questions and it's up to the Council, your
28 wish in terms of if you'd like to discuss this in further
29 detail today and provide comments directly on the record
30 that we can take back or if you'd like to take this up at
31 a later time.

32
33 Mr. Chair.

34
35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

36
37 MR. SAMPSON: Mr. Chairman, as far as the
38 representation is concerned. Members from the RAC, Bill
39 Thomas, is he still on the.....

40
41 MR. JENNINGS: Bill Thomas is no longer a
42 member of the Southeast Council so there will be -- I've
43 been told that there will be a Council member that will
44 replace Mr. Thomas, and at this time I don't know who
45 that is. It hasn't been determined yet. So presently
46 you see Mr. John Hanson from the Yukon area is the
47 Council representative on this protocol.

48
49 MR. SAMPSON: Now, through the process of
50 discussion and creation of the protocol, at what point

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1 were these members -- did they participate from the very
2 beginning of the process or what?

3

4 MR. JENNINGS: You mean the members on
5 Page 105?

6

7 MR. SAMPSON: Yes, on 105.

8

9 MR. JENNINGS: It's my understanding, I
10 don't see Ida, you're not on this protocol are you, but
11 maybe you know something about it. Ida Hildebrand may be
12 able to address this and.....

13

14 MR. SAMPSON: Well, that's why I'm
15 asking.....

16

17 MR. JENNINGS: It could be.....

18

19 MR. SAMPSON:if you look at the
20 membership, it's basically agency representation there
21 without any membership from the RACs. There's no equity.
22 I mean at least there's got to be a say and through the
23 process of designing something that would have an impact
24 on the regional level.

25

26 MR. JENNINGS: Do you want to address
27 that.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Ida.

30

31 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
32 Walter. Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member.
33 When the MOA was signed and the MOA was presented to the
34 Councils, and the Councils made their comments and it was
35 given back to the Board and the Board approved it, and
36 the Board directed Staff that when they started the
37 protocol process there had to be Council representation.
38 So at that time the Chairs were all meeting with the
39 Federal Board and it was brought to the Chairs and they
40 elected to put two Council members on every protocol with
41 the exception of customary trade which had one
42 representative from all 10 Councils. But this is what
43 the Chairmans of all the Councils decided and that's --
44 then they put the names forward of who they thought
45 should serve and those names were accepted. And that's
46 how they have those two members on there. That's how the
47 process of having two members on there.

48

49 MR. SAMPSON: Who made the decision to
50 come out with the listing as to who would sit on as a

00090

1 member?

2

3 MS. HILDEBRAND: All the Council Chairs
4 together. All the Councils in their respective Council
5 meetings put names from their Councils of the people that
6 were interested in serving. And then that was brought to
7 the Council Chair meetings and the Council Chairs said
8 these are our representatives and these are the
9 protocols, these are the people who were interested in
10 serving on, so it came from the Councils.

11

12 MR. SAMPSON: Willie.

13

14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Willie.

15

16 MR. GOODWIN: Mr. Chairman, Willie
17 Goodman. Back when I was Chair of the RAC, when these
18 protocols were being brought forth to the Chairs of the
19 RAC relative to the State of Alaska, because of budgetary
20 reasons from OSM we were only allowed to pick one of
21 those protocols and then we voted on it, from the Chairs,
22 and then our region is represented by Enoch on one of the
23 regulatory protocols. And then we had Bert in the
24 customary trade group.

25

26 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

27

28 MR. GOODWIN: So that's the reason why
29 only two of the regions are in that protocol.

30

31 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

32

33 MR. GOODWIN: But they're not in the
34 other protocols, those two regions are not participating
35 in any of the other protocols that are in the system.

36

37 MR. SAMPSON: Okay, that clarifies it.

38 Thank you.

39

40 MR. JENNINGS: Anything else, Mr. Chair,
41 that concludes my briefing.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you.

44

45 MR. JENNINGS: Thank you. Well, I guess
46 I would conclude, if you have any specific comments to
47 provide, again, we would welcome your input in terms of
48 how to draft this protocol and we bring it back to you
49 with a second revised draft in the fall.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Selawik
2 National Wildlife Refuge.

3
4 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chairman. Council
5 members. Gene Peltola, Selawik Refuge. I'll give you a
6 brief rundown of transporting guides activity on the
7 Refuge this fall and then if you have any general
8 questions I can answer them, or be happy to try to
9 address those and Lee Anne will give you a quick run down
10 of our bio program for this year.

11
12 This past fall we had a total of six
13 transporters who were permitted to operate on the Selawik
14 Refuge. We're down from eight from the prior year, of
15 which of those six, four of them were active on the
16 Refuge. We had a total of 122 clients dropped off on the
17 Refuge this fall, which is down from our five year
18 previous running average of 126 individuals. Of those
19 122 people, they harvested 44 moose, 41 caribou, one
20 grizzly bear, five wolves. And as for our one permitted
21 guide on the Refuge, he had a total of seven clients of
22 which the seven clients took six moose, seven caribou,
23 five black bear and seven wolves.

24
25 And just by looking at those numbers, the
26 majority of the harvest on the Refuge, non-resident
27 harvest occurs by -- or non-local user harvest occurs
28 from the transporters.

29
30 One thing that we had for this fall
31 hunting season different from prior years, we had about a
32 90 square mile area, approximately 90 to 100 square mile
33 area on the mainstem of the Selawik River, we put that
34 area in to minimize the potential conflict between the
35 local subsistence and non-local -- non-subsistence users.
36 In previous years we had complaints about aircraft.
37 These -- personally, I didn't -- at the Refuge didn't
38 hear any complaints about aircraft this fall. I had one
39 complaint, somewhat could be related to the aircraft, the
40 person was checked to see if they had a license and tags
41 and they didn't so they like it so -- they didn't get a
42 ticket but they're lucky so -- and as for transporters
43 and -- and guides, we're about average for the last five
44 years. We're down about a total of 30, 35 clients from
45 the highest year which was three falls ago.

46
47 And we had one operator on the Refuge
48 this fall operating illegally, ongoing investigation with
49 that case and they'll be likely cited for this
50 significant penalty. So -- and that's a brief summary of

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1 this fall's activities on the Refuge.

2

3 Any questions you may have, I could try
4 my best.

5

6 MR. SAMPSON: Now, in regards to.....

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

9

10 MR. SAMPSON:the one permitted
11 guide, is that just a guide for the big game?

12

13 MR. PELTOLA: Right now he is permitted
14 for big game guiding activity on the Refuge.

15

16 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

17

18 MR. PELTOLA: And he has some clients
19 that incidently fish and that's just to keep themselves
20 busy. Typically they'll buy a seven or 10 day hunt and
21 if they catch their animals early on in the hunt, they're
22 still in the camp for three or four days and they'll fish
23 incidentally on the Refuge, you know, out by the base
24 camp.

25

26 MR. SAMPSON: Follow-up. In regards to
27 fisheries, I don't know if you're aware of the Coastal
28 Zone Plan that's in place that's identified on spawning
29 areas and certain areas within different rivers, I know
30 there's quite a few on the Kobuk up on Paw, up on the
31 Upper Kobuk and the Refuge, I think there's some spawning
32 areas that's been identified as sensitive use areas.

33

34 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah.

35

36 MR. SAMPSON: If there's areas that's
37 been identified as sensitive use areas.....

38

39 MR. PELTOLA: Uh-huh.

40

41 MR. SAMPSON:how are you allowing
42 that to occur when.....

43

44 MR. PELTOLA: Because it's incidental.
45 It's not for commercial purposes. And the guide is not
46 guiding the clients in the field, they're just fishing on
47 their own so, therefore, it's personal sportfishing
48 activity. And to date, the Refuge has not received a
49 request for a special use permit for guiding fish
50 activities. The advantage of Tevus' study, which was

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1 referred to early on was that we were able to identify
2 critical spawning habitat and so we know where those
3 areas are. And those have become important to the Refuge
4 in a sense that in -- for future -- further on the future
5 if there's any potential road development, there's some
6 areas that are close to these critical spawn areas.

7
8 I foresee in the next year or two we'll
9 probably get our first request for a special use permit
10 for guiding fishermen. And right now for the amount of
11 incidental people we have fishing on the Selawik it
12 probably is not enough to deny that type of activity. If
13 we're to have increase usage and the use of particular
14 critical areas, that may be enough justification to deny
15 such a request. But we'd have to have -- we'd have to
16 collect more data, public use data in those areas.
17 Because right now what we -- basically what we have is
18 when people who raft the Selawik coming down, they end up
19 harvesting their animal early on. They're, you know,
20 doing basically a recreational raft down the rest of the
21 river to their pick up point and they're stopping off
22 along the way fishing to keep themselves occupied to burn
23 up the next two or three or four days, or whatever, just
24 until they get picked up.

25
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Have you got any law
27 enforcement in the wildlife refuge, Selawik?

28
29 MR. PELTOLA: Right now, up until April --
30 July of last summer we had three Refuge officers on
31 staff, myself, Jimmy Fox our old deputy, and Joanne
32 Roberts, our old outdoor reach -- right now, I'm the only
33 Federal law enforcement officer on the Refuge. Although
34 we have Mike Wade, who's a special agent stationed in
35 Nome that comes up quite a bit to help us throughout the
36 year, and especially during the fall.....

37
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Uh-huh.

39
40 MR. PELTOLA:Mike and I flew a
41 total of 110 hours during the month of September working,
42 you know, sporthunters on the Refuge. During the fall we
43 have more of a presence than we do throughout the
44 remainder of the year.

45
46 We're in the process of advertising for
47 our deputy Refuge manager, assistant manager right now.
48 Part of the requirements of that position I wrote into is
49 to be a commissioned Federal law enforcement officer for
50 the Refuge.

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1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 MR. PELTOLA: Okay, if there's no other
6 questions for me I'll get my chair out of the way.

7

8 MS. AYRES: Lee Anne Ayres. I just wanted
9 to maybe just touch on a couple of the areas that we're
10 doing projects on and we'll be working on projects the
11 next year. Those have been primarily white-fronted
12 geese, caribou, moose and whitefish. And those are kind
13 of the areas that our projects are focused right now.

14

15 And if you have any specific questions
16 about any of those or want to know exactly what projects,
17 I'll be glad to answer them, but otherwise I'll let you
18 get on with your meeting.

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walt.

21

22 MR. SAMPSON: I think with Steve's
23 presentation, certainly, something that Steve can work
24 with you in regards to the studies that would be.....

25

26 MS. AYRES: Yeah, and that's kind of one
27 of our roles with the whitefish work, is mainly to help
28 facilitate the Fairbanks research folks.

29

30 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

31

32 MS. AYRES: And Susan's project and
33 working with the IRA to make sure that everybody's
34 involved and on track there.

35

36 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

37

38 MR. KRAMER: I have a question, Mr.
39 Chair.

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Lance.

42

43 MR. KRAMER: So the moose population is
44 healthy?

45

46 MS. AYRES: We're planning on -- we're
47 going to try and do another census in the Tag this spring
48 and if we aren't able to do it this spring we'll do it
49 next year. But most of the indicators that we see
50 actually this year look like a really good year for calf

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1 recruitment, kind of better than the past few years. So
2 from the data that we have -- the current data we have it
3 looks like it's pretty much stable and the harvest has
4 been pretty much stable in that area, too. So of all the
5 areas it's probably doing a little better than the
6 Noatak, but it still has a lower recruitment than a lot
7 of other areas in the state. We'll need to stay on top
8 of it especially with all the other restrictions that are
9 going on in Unit 23.

10

11 MR. KRAMER: Is there any limit as to the
12 transporters coming in or can there be any amount? Can
13 they just float from the Noatak to the Squirrel to the
14 Tag to whichever one has the most and then they deplete
15 those and move to the next one?

16

17 MS. AYRES: Well, there's no restriction
18 on the number of transporters other than access and the
19 time period that's open for hunting. And that's
20 basically what kind of limits the number of folks that
21 are out there.

22

23 I think probably in the last three years
24 we've seen kind of all of the easily accessible areas are
25 being occupied, and that's probably the limiting factor
26 in that Tag area, is access to it. So it would be hard
27 to saturate it with many more folks than are out there.
28 However, never say never.

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walt.

31

32 MR. SAMPSON: As far as competition with
33 the Selawik folks, is there a problem with the folks
34 trying to compete with some of these -- I'm talking about
35 the local folks in Selawik trying to hunt moose and
36 caribou at the same time these other sporthunting is
37 occurring?

38

39 MS. AYRES: I'll let you -- I'll let Gene
40 talk to some of that, too.

41

42 MR. PELTOLA: With the typical hunter on
43 the Selawik and Tag River, they're dropped high off on
44 the drainage and they raft -- raft down. The majority of
45 the pull off locations where they're taken off the river
46 are further upstream than the majority of the bulk of the
47 local hunter out of Selawik. That's one of the reasons
48 why we end up putting in that little no authorized drop
49 off zone on the main stem of the Selawik, pretty much
50 from the second island on up to the mouth of the

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1 Kougarak.

2

3 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

4

5 MR. PELTOLA: From sitting down with the
6 current Staff, what we knew about use patterns and what
7 Jimmy Fox, our previous deputy did, about documenting
8 local hunting locations and talking with the employees we
9 have in the Selawik, we're confident the majority of the
10 residents of Selawik hunted prior to the mouth of the
11 Kougarak, people going to the Selawik and the Kougarak,
12 and so we ended up taking anywhere from one and a half to
13 two miles north and south of the river and didn't
14 authorize any drop off activity there to minimize
15 potential conflict between local subsistence users and
16 non-local users.

17

18 And as -- for last fall I haven't heard
19 any complaints about it. Actually when I met with the
20 Selawik IRA I heard one complaint, they said why don't
21 you do it with all the rivers, and I told them
22 unfortunately the way we're structured we can't do that.

23

24 MR. SAMPSON: So there's sort of an
25 identified use area then or -- not a use area but a
26 restriction zone.....

27

28 MR. PELTOLA: It's a.....

29

30 MR. SAMPSON:within a period of
31 time, is there a window for that or.....

32

33 MR. PELTOLA: Well, we issue special use
34 permits from, at least, the last -- last year, from June
35 1st until December 30th.

36

37 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

38

39 MR. PELTOLA: And we have a zoned river
40 where we ask people -- we told people the permit that we
41 give you does not authorize you to access Refuge
42 lands.....

43

44 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

45

46 MR. PELTOLA:in this region -- this
47 area.

48

49 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

50

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1 MS. AYRES: And, Walter, another thing
2 that happened, I guess it was two falls ago was that a
3 lot of the complaints we were getting were for activity
4 that was fairly close to the village of Selawik.....

5
6 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

7
8 MS. AYRES:and to the north there,
9 Fish River Flats area.

10
11 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

12
13 MS. AYRES: Most of the areas people were
14 going were on allotments that they didn't know so we
15 printed out.....

16
17 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

18
19 MS. AYRES:a lot of the maps and
20 made those available to the transporters and that seemed
21 to really eliminate a lot of the transporter activity in
22 that once they saw that basically that was all private
23 land.

24
25 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

26
27 MR. MOTO: You know, on your monitoring,
28 you know, we have noticed in the last two or three years
29 that when the caribou started migrating -- a very
30 significant amount of them are staying near Emruk Lake
31 behind Deering and did they ever -- one day they said
32 they had shortages going up the -- did they ever take the
33 numbers and the count or are they -- because we keep
34 telling the people about them that never move. I don't
35 know whether they're part reinbou or whatever, caribou or
36 what, but you know.....

37
38 MS. AYRES: Yeah, you've had a lot of
39 caribou or reindeer in your backyard.

40
41 MR. MOTO: And then I know that when they
42 say there's not very many going up to North Slope area,
43 that the caribou herd is not very good and they start
44 talking about cutting down the quotas and then all of a
45 sudden when they go back -- come back south there's a
46 significant amount and that.

47
48 MS. AYRES: Yeah.

49
50 MR. MOTO: Yeah.

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1 MS. AYRES: Well, I think you're
2 absolutely right that there's quite a few back behind
3 you. Most of the herd, I think is overwintering still on
4 the Seward Peninsula there again. Fish and Game is
5 planning on doing another photo census this spring.
6 They'll try and count all of the herd when they're up on
7 the North Slope there on the calving grounds. And we're
8 also putting on satellite transmitters on them to be able
9 to follow those migration paths there.

10
11 MR. MOTO: And just the last two or three
12 years we noticed also that the caribou that we get now
13 are a lot leaner than before. There's not much fat as
14 they used to have and we're wondering why. Most of the
15 caribou we get have no fat on them sometimes.

16
17 MS. AYRES: And this is in the fall when
18 they're coming through?

19
20 MR. MOTO: Yeah. Right about now.

21
22 MS. AYRES: Yeah.

23
24 MR. MOTO: Or even in the fall time when
25 they first come down. If they don't move how come they
26 didn't get fat, you know?

27
28 MS. AYRES: Yeah. Well, you have to ask
29 the BLM folks who are looking at what they eat, what
30 they're finding.

31
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Good report. Thank
33 you, very much. National Park Service. A good one Ken.

34
35 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson, National
36 Park Service and Willie Goodwin.

37
38 Mr. Chair. Council members. I'll make
39 my comments very brief and just update you on the status
40 of the Seward Peninsula muskoxen hunt and the Unit 23
41 sheep hunt.

42
43 To date we have had no reported Federal
44 harvest of muskoxen in the Seward Peninsula hunt.
45 However, there's been more limited success by some
46 Federally-eligible users hunting under the State Tier II
47 program who have been able to hunt closer to home.

48
49 With respect to the Unit 23 sheep hunt,
50 we only had three reported sheep taken in the fall and

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1 the remainder of that, and we did not find it necessary
2 to close the fall hunt and the remaining harvest,
3 allowable harvest carried over into the winter hunt and
4 to date we've had no reported additional harvest on the
5 sheep hunt.

6
7 I think travel conditions and the late
8 snowfall and stuff has played a major role in accessing
9 some of these areas. We're still trying to track the
10 hunts closely and we expect for the harvest to pick up
11 somewhat perhaps.

12
13 That's the information I had for you. If
14 you have questions on those two hunts I'll try and answer
15 them, otherwise Willie Goodwin's got a couple
16 informational items that hopefully you'll find of
17 interest.

18
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin, you had some
20 information that you wanted to put out on muskoxen, Unit
21 22(B) and (C).

22
23 MR. MOTO: Yeah. Like I said this
24 morning, one of our concerns was how many permits we've
25 been getting and how many -- how the people could go out
26 and hunt muskox, like myself, I got a permit and I
27 couldn't see for awhile, I had to get eye surgery and
28 then I tried to get somebody to get me -- to hunt for me
29 but at that time they told us that he couldn't do it, I
30 had to go get it myself, and my permit was supposed to be
31 on Federal lands and that would be Bering Land Bridge.
32 And I couldn't go out there. So the main reason is most
33 of our muskoxen are parked right behind Deering. You get
34 up in the morning, you look out the window, you could see
35 about two or three dozen muskoxen out there on that flat
36 there, between the landfill and the city. You know, the
37 landfill is one mile away. But this last two years we
38 haven't seen too many of them.

39
40 Are they being scattered or are they
41 being killed by predators like wolves in the winter and
42 bear in the summer? Because we know that the bear likes
43 to kill them because they're -- you know, because they
44 don't run away, and we're concerned with that. We would
45 like to keep them because a lot of times, even though
46 they don't hunt very much in the fall and in the winter,
47 before they close, March 15, some people go out and hunt
48 when it's kind of warmer, you know.

49
50 That's one of the concerns we had.

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1 And some of the concerns, they say, we
2 don't know how to fill out these forms we get, you know.

3
4 MR. ADKISSON: A couple of quick
5 comments.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Have you got the copy
8 of these forms, Ken?

9
10 MR. ADKISSON: I don't have the State
11 Tier II permits but.....

12
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I'd like to see them.

14
15 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah, I know what they're
16 like and we'll -- like you said, that's one of the things
17 we decided to do.....

18
19 MR. MOTO: I talked at length with them
20 before but.....

21
22 MR. ADKISSON:is work with the
23 State to try to -- we'll go do clinics on how to fill out
24 the permits and try to up the number of people who apply.

25
26 I mean our process -- we actually issue
27 permits out in the village, so we actually travel out to
28 the villages and issue.....

29
30 MR. MOTO: Uh-huh.

31
32 MR. ADKISSON:permits on the
33 Federal side. And I don't know, did you say you have a
34 Federal permit, Calvin?

35
36 MR. MOTO: Yeah.

37
38 MR. ADKISSON: Well, in the past we
39 haven't had a designated hunter provision for muskoxen.
40 So if this one proposal, statewide proposal is adopted in
41 May, that will kick that provision in. In the past what
42 we've done is, though, is work an informal system where
43 if somebody knew they couldn't use their permit we've
44 asked them to turn it back into us and then we went to an
45 alternate, the next person in line. And that sometimes
46 worked and a lot of times people were reluctant to turn
47 in their permit and allow the harvest to go somewhere
48 else in the community. So that was the best we could do
49 until, like, we get the designated hunter permit.

50

00102

1 still going to have our -- be able to get our permits or
2 will we have to compete with other users?

3

4 MR. ADKISSON: Well, the situation you
5 describe, I think, is pretty close to being exactly where
6 we started in 1995 and had all the problems. Since then
7 the cooperators group has been expanded. For example,
8 James Moto, Jr., from Deering actually went to the State
9 Board of Game, like in 1998, and testified before the
10 State Board of Game and I think his testimony carried a
11 fair amount of weight that helped result in the State
12 reversing itself and finding a positive C&T and setting
13 -- implementing the Tier II system that we're currently
14 under.

15

16 One of the questions, of course, is, is
17 how long will we stay in Tier II, and I think we're fast
18 on the verge of being forced out of the State Tier II
19 system. And that's going to be, I think, one of the
20 topics at our next cooperators meeting. And under the
21 State system, basically the State Board of Game
22 identifies a subsistence need level and if that's not
23 being met, it automatically triggers a State Tier II
24 system. Once the subsistence need level is met, anything
25 above that level, basically triggers a general hunt under
26 the State which can either be simply a State registration
27 hunt for residents only in the State or it can go to some
28 form, for example, and include non-residents under some
29 kind of a drawing system.

30

31 You may or may not be aware, for example,
32 the State Board of Game, last cycle, implemented a
33 drawing hunt for up to six permits for muskoxen bulls
34 only in 22(E). Whether that's going to carry over or
35 not, one thing about the count numbers in 23 southwest
36 for Buckland and Deering, they did decline somewhat in
37 the 2002 count over the 2000 number. So whether that's
38 simply a shifting of muskoxen groups to a different
39 location at the time of the count or whether it really
40 represents, you know, a downward trend in that area due
41 to wolf and bear predation, I don't think anyone knows
42 right now.

43

44 You know, normally we do the counts, it's
45 an Interagency effort and we do them every two years, but
46 I know that ADF&G is feeling some pressure in some other
47 areas and it is suggested that we delay the next muskoxen
48 count until 2005 and so we're hoping that there's not
49 much regulatory changes that take place until then, until
50 we get a new count number. But we do have a couple other

00103

1 issues before us and one that has been mentioned here is
2 the proposal from Mr. Sparks that you voted to support
3 deferring. So we've got that that we need to take back
4 to the cooperators and we've also got the issue of what
5 to do with the growing muskoxen population as it fast
6 approaches or may soon exceed the State determined
7 subsistence need level.

8

9 And there's no guarantee that what the
10 State Board of Game will do in October, if it receives
11 muskoxen proposals say from the Outdoor Council and
12 there's a big push to open up a lot of the Seward
13 Peninsula to just general sporthunting. Hopefully that's
14 not going to happen but there's no guarantees. So, you
15 know, come fall we may be back here, you know, sitting
16 down with you and dealing with some real thorny muskoxen
17 problems.

18

19 MR. MOTO: Thank you. That's all I have.

20

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Lance.

22

23 MR. KRAMER: How many people signed up
24 this year for a permit to hunt sheep?

25

26 MR. ADKISSON: Oh, boy, I don't have
27 those figures at hand, Lance, but I would say probably
28 50-plus, maybe, I don't know, just estimating.

29

30 MR. KRAMER: About the same amount as
31 last year, maybe?

32

33 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah. Probably.

34

35 MR. KRAMER: Yeah.

36

37 MR. ADKISSON: From looking at the
38 original -- the counts and what we had in the database is
39 a recollection. Many of the same people, of course,
40 reapplied.

41

42 MR. KRAMER: Yeah. Just for the future
43 matter maybe I was thinking of submitting a proposal for
44 the four-inch regulation, maybe to not even bring in your
45 horns if you don't want to, for the fall hunt anyways.
46 Because you know you go out hunting, up into the
47 mountains and you get a sheep and, you know, the sheep
48 meat is real precious and to have to take back the horns,
49 19 pounds of horns is kind of a waste. I'd rather take
50 19 pounds of meat instead of horn. I don't really care

00104

1 for the trophy value at all, but sometime maybe in the
2 future we can think about this and talk about this as a
3 Council. Because I hate hauling back 19 pounds of horns.

4
5 And I didn't happen to get a sheep this
6 year. We covered about 25 miles trying to get one. But
7 even then I would sure hate to have brought 19 pounds of
8 horns back and get the four inches cut -- I mean for -- I
9 mean really I'm not going to use it anyway, you know. I
10 just hate bringing them back when I could be hauling 19
11 pounds, but that's something that we'll have to consider.

12
13 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah, I think those kind
14 of issues really merit a lot of thought and discussion
15 and they're hard to deal with in, you know, like a
16 simple, one day meeting. All I can say is that, you
17 know, while you may have that set of values and concerns,
18 you know, it's very obvious from the harvest records,
19 too, that a lot of people in Kotzebue do go out and do
20 value the trophy and they may or may not be real
21 subsistence users, even though legally they're qualified.
22 And so that was one of the reasons that the Council
23 struggled with the horn defacement, destroy the trophy
24 value issue and why the Federal Board, la st May adopted
25 that, was to try to, you know, put the curbs on some of
26 that sporthunting under the guise of subsistence hunting
27 when you had a very limited allowable harvest.

28
29 So it's a tough question, Lance.

30
31 MR. GOODWIN: The other reason, Lance,
32 was to -- because it was only a full-curl ram that could
33 be harvested, we wanted to make sure that that's what
34 they were.....

35
36 MR. KRAMER: Harvesting.

37
38 MR. GOODWIN:that was the reason
39 for, bringing the horns back.

40
41 MR. KRAMER: Yeah.

42
43 MR. GOODWIN: Otherwise if it was seven-
44 eighths we wouldn't care.....

45
46 MR. KRAMER: Yeah.

47
48 MR. GOODWIN:if you brought the
49 horns back or not.

50

00105

1 MR. KRAMER: Yeah.

2

3 MR. GOODWIN: But in order to keep track,
4 the biologists dictated we could only get so many of the
5 rams, we needed to make sure that those were rams that
6 came back.

7

8 MR. KRAMER: Yeah.

9

10 MR. GOODWIN: That was the reason for the
11 horns coming back.

12

13 MR. KRAMER: Yeah. And then in a
14 proposal I was suggesting maybe to take out a Federally-
15 designated disposal camera or something, where there is
16 proof of legal size, you know. I'd rather carry out a
17 little tiny camera than 19 pounds of horn. It would
18 serve the same purpose.

19

20 But that's something that could be talked
21 about later.

22

23 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah. The other thing that
24 maybe, for your consideration also is that the study on
25 the sheep is just about done. And once that is done,
26 then, of course, a management plan is going to proposed
27 or start to be worked on by the Park Service, so at that
28 time we can take all of those into consideration.

29

30 MR. KRAMER: Uh-huh. Yeah, there was a
31 few other issues, like getting a ram in the spring, it
32 almost serves no purpose because they're pretty darn
33 skinny and kind of worthless, tough to chew. Whereas,
34 there's a lot of females, you know, it'd sure be nice to
35 get one female every once in awhile. But that's a whole
36 'nother deal.

37

38 MR. GOODWIN: We wrestled with that and
39 we -- and that's the reason why we split the season
40 because we knew.....

41

42 MR. KRAMER: Uh-huh.

43

44 MR. GOODWIN:that if we kept it
45 open only in the fall and those people that can't go out
46 and get sheep, for instance, from Noatak, would have a
47 difficult time because they can't fly out either, you
48 know.

49

50 MR. KRAMER: Yeah.

00106

1 MR. GOODWIN: And we wanted to give them
2 an opportunity to be able to harvest the sheep and that's
3 why we had the winter season.

4
5 MR. KRAMER: Yeah. But I'm sure they
6 would want to get maybe a female.....

7
8 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah.

9
10 MR. KRAMER:instead.

11
12 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah.

13
14 MR. KRAMER: Okay.

15
16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, thanks a lot Ken.
17 Willie.

18
19 MR. GOODWIN: Okay. The first handout
20 let me talk about is the environmental assessment to
21 establish the NANA regional boundary as the resident zone
22 boundary for the Cape Krusenstern National Monument and
23 the Kobuk Valley National Park.

24
25 These two issues were brought forth --
26 this issue was brought forth by the two SRCs for each
27 Park, gosh, how many years ago, Walter, a long time ago,
28 uh?

29
30 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah.

31
32 MR. GOODWIN: Thirteen years ago.

33
34 MR. SAMPSON: Thirteen years ago, uh-huh.

35
36 MR. GOODWIN: Thirteen, I think, yeah,
37 that it was first brought up because each Park has a
38 certain -- just a number of villages that are resident
39 villages that can subsistence hunt in these Parks.

40
41 The environmental assessment is done and
42 there's a comment period that ends March 25. I'm in the
43 process of trying to get a meeting together with the SRCs
44 to do the final review and if there's no substantial
45 comments or changes to the assessment then we'll go
46 forward with publishing the regulation to make it happen,
47 and hopefully the Secretary will sign it and then that's
48 what we'll have.

49
50 Any questions on that? Raymond.

00107

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Willie, I was going
2 through that draft all week last week, it's only Cape
3 Krusenstern and Kobuk Valley, right? Is that what it's
4 all about?

5
6 MR. GOODWIN: No, it's Kobuk Valley
7 National Park and Krusenstern National Monument.

8
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

10
11 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah.

12
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

14
15 MR. GOODWIN: But the Noatak Preserve and
16 the Bering Land Bridge Preserve were all eligible.

17
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

19
20 MR. ADKISSON: For the Preserves the
21 really determining factor there is your Federally
22 determined C&T as determined by the Federal Subsistence
23 Board.

24
25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Uh-huh.

26
27 MR. GOODWIN: I mentioned also earlier to
28 Lance with the incident he brought forth with his father,
29 was the possibility of a 1344 permit that can be issued
30 by the Park Service to people that have a history of
31 working -- living or using subsistence resources in the
32 Parks or have, their family has a history of using the
33 Parks -- there's some criteria that can be followed to
34 issue a permit for the person to be able to hunt in those
35 Parks.

36
37 Even a if -- a lot of -- because a lot of
38 our people are now living in Anchorage, or working in Red
39 Dog, you know, because they are residents of Anchorage
40 and not the region they can't go into those Parks and
41 hunt but they can get a permit because they have a
42 history through their family and such to get a permit.
43 And that can be used -- that can be utilized.

44
45 The commercial services -- we heard some
46 comments all morning regarding transporters, guides and
47 other commercial uses within the Park -- well, within the
48 Federal conservation units. The Park Service, this
49 newsletter outlines the process that we will be using to
50 develop a commercial services plan, in fact, which I will

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1 be taking the lead on and holding meetings in different
2 communities to discuss the various issues that you were
3 bringing up this morning regarding other uses that affect
4 m migration routes, other uses that -- other users that
5 are -- are in conflict with subsistence users. Now, I
6 certainly want to hear comments that you have or
7 suggestions that you might have during this process so
8 that when the draft plan is written, that the final
9 review will address some of those issues. And then
10 hopefully we don't have to do a full blown environmental
11 assessment and just do a FONSI (ph), and then have it
12 published and this is what -- how these uses will be
13 managed for the next 10 to 15 years.

14

15 The issues of transporters, where they
16 can drop off people, the issues of how many they can
17 bring, or how many permits should we issue or how many
18 guides should we have in the areas, those are issues that
19 we want to hear.

20

21 Now days we're seeing a lot of floaters
22 coming down the river, right during migration time. I
23 want to hear and see -- or hear from people on what they
24 think we should do about those -- the Park Service, I
25 mean, and hopefully we'll put it in a plan and it's
26 approved and we'll have it.

27

28 Certainly there was migration areas of
29 the caribou are of great interest to our people and we've
30 been talking about this issue for, gosh, I don't know how
31 long. I chaired the first meeting that the State -- co-
32 Chaired with Pete Schaeffer, the State put together on
33 user conflict shortly right after the incident up in the
34 Gates of the Arctic Park of the Kobuk River, young
35 people, Shungnak people, and we've been trying to get
36 something -- before I started working for the Park
37 Service, trying to get something in place like this and
38 Dave Spirtes, the superintendent agreed to do it and I
39 said let me do it, let me help you, so I'm working for
40 the Park Service to do this now.

41

42 And I feel kind of excited because I've
43 been on top of it for years trying to figure out what we
44 can do with it.

45

46 The flip side of it is that once we get
47 this in place I'm hoping that the other agencies will
48 have something in place also because if we are to limit
49 the user groups, they're going to go someplace else.
50 They're going to go to the other area. So hopefully we

00109

1 can all do this at the same time, we can figure something
2 out that will alleviate some of the problem that we have
3 out there with subsistence users.

4
5 I've listed in the newsletter Kotzebue,
6 Nome, Anchorage, Ambler, Kiana, Kivalina, Noatak and
7 Shishmaref as a start to hear comments from various
8 people, or from the communities from those people on this
9 plan. So I certainly welcome any written comments from
10 anybody. And it says February, I'm going to start in
11 March. The printing of this thing got a little late and,
12 of course, the planner that's going to help me has just
13 been -- will be on staff Friday so that's the reason for
14 the delay on holding the meetings.

15
16 Any questions.

17
18 ATTAMUK: It's not a question, Willie,
19 just to say it's a big step forward what you're doing and
20 we always hear the problems we had -- like I had a lot of
21 calls from Noatak last summer from floaters changing the
22 migration of the caribou. We need to get a handle on
23 this, it's very important. And I just want to say I want
24 to just encourage you to keep it up because it's being
25 impacted. When the Noatak people first time have to hunt
26 down river, like I say, the last time, and I'm still
27 hearing it today when they come to Kotzebue or they still
28 call me just to remind me on this.

29
30 I just say keep it up and I would like to
31 see it, because last summer my camp transporters going
32 through going toward Aggie and on to Squirrel River, I
33 went up that Aggie to see if they stopped in Aggie, they
34 just went all the way up to Squirrel River, flying
35 through Noatak to go to Kiana side. Every half an hour
36 for days. So I'm trying to get funding from Maniilaq
37 right now to hire someone during fall time just to see
38 how many planes they could see fly over in two weeks
39 time, just to give a -- get a handle how much is being --
40 actually happening besides the agencies. Hopefully they
41 go forward with it. I'm not done with the plan, how I
42 want it done, but I'm working hard on it to help back you
43 up in the future.

44
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walt.

46
47 MR. SAMPSON: I want to echo Enoch's
48 comments and thank Willie for starting a process which
49 certainly is needed because of the very conflicts that
50 occur within the region. So I'm glad to see that

00110

1 something is happening and hopefully going through this
2 process it will set a process for the other agencies to
3 hopefully follow through on addressing the very problems
4 that others are having as well, too.

5

6 So I want to thank you for your work,
7 Willie.

8

9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Willie, you know when
10 the people, I've noticed in other villages beside Kiana
11 they were real comfortable when you were hired by the
12 Park Service, you know, working directly with the Park
13 Service superintendent. I see they're real comfortable
14 now. Since this process began, you know, it's a good
15 point, a good start and all of are real comfortable with
16 you now including the entire Park Service.

17

18 Good job you're starting.

19

20 MR. GOODWIN: Thank you. You know, when I
21 was Chair of the RAC, Raymond and Percy and Enoch
22 remember, and Walter, what we've been -- we discussed
23 this many meetings and many meetings, this very issue.

24

25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

26

27 MR. GOODWIN: You know.

28

29 MR. SAMPSON: Year after year.

30

31 MR. GOODWIN: Year after year we.....

32

33 MR. SAMPSON: We never seemed to get out
34 of the box, I think.....

35

36 MR. GOODWIN:pressed on it.....

37

38 MR. SAMPSON:it's time.....

39

40 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah.

41

42 MR. SAMPSON:that we finally are
43 getting out.

44

45 MR. GOODWIN: So I feel excited about
46 doing this. I mean I want to do it.

47

48 MR. KRAMER: Is there going to be any
49 handle also on the local commuters, Hagelund and.....

50

00111

1 MR. GOODWIN: Yes. It will be everybody.

2

3 MR. KRAMER: DC Air.

4

5 MR. GOODWIN: Everybody.

6

7 MR. KRAMER: Everybody.

8

9 MR. GOODWIN: Every commercial user in
10 the area.

11

12 MR. KRAMER: Okay.

13

14 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah.

15

16 MR. KRAMER: Because I was reading in the
17 last years thing that it just talked about the
18 transporters and the guides.

19

20 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah. They have to get a
21 permit from the Park Service if they're going to be doing
22 business in the Park, and that's what this is all about.
23 Yeah.

24

25 MR. MOTO: You know, last winter we had a
26 lot of waste of caribou. Somebody either predators or
27 somebody killed a vast amount of caribou back behind --
28 between Emruk Lake and Serpentine. And I don't know if
29 you people passed it on -- they passed it on to you or
30 just kept it in one entity like State Fish and Game, when
31 we reported it, we never got any response for it. The
32 guys that found those they said they stacked them, three
33 stacks head high of caribou. And they were just killed
34 and some of them they just took the heads, you know, some
35 of them only had missing heads, some of them had only
36 missing hindquarters. But this was last year. Sometimes
37 -- when the snow started melting we found them, you know,
38 they found them, you know. And our people were very
39 concerned about that, you know, who -- who did it and
40 why, you know? We don't know whether other people from
41 other people just come and just killed and take the
42 hindquarters and the heads or whether -- because we hear
43 a lot of air traffic sometimes back there but we don't
44 know who's flying back there.

45

46 So this is one concern we have, we're
47 hoping we don't see that again this year, you know.

48

49 MR. GOODWIN: One other -- any questions
50 on the commercial services?

00112

1 MR. SAMPSON: It's going to be addressing
2 transporters, right?

3

4 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah.

5

6 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

7

8 MR. GOODWIN: And that's on the Federal
9 lands. The Bering Land Bridge, the Noatak Preserve,
10 Kobuk Valley and Krusenstern.

11

12 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

13

14 MR. GOODWIN: The last thing I want to
15 mention is that the Park Service has been heavily
16 involved in a caribou -- Western Arctic Caribou Herd
17 Cooperative Management Plan. Raymond's the Chair of
18 that. He knows the process we're going through. The
19 next meeting is in March, 25 and 26th in Nome where the
20 Caribou Working Group will review the final draft and
21 then the process will go forward where this will be
22 presented to the Federal Board and the State Board of
23 Fish and Game for their concurrence and implementation
24 will follow.

25

26 It outlines the process that's going to
27 be used for monitoring the herd and certain things to
28 happen when the population reaches a certain level. And
29 of course, the agencies met last week to determine how
30 this is being paid for and I haven't heard whether they
31 have agreement to that yet but we'll know in March.

32

33 It's been a long -- they've been working
34 on this for years, too, also. There's been several
35 drafts of this thing that we're -- some were thrown out
36 but now the Working Group which Raymond Chairs has put
37 together a good document.

38

39 That's all I have, thank you very much.

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions for the
42 Park Service.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 MR. GOODWIN: Okay.

47

48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thanks a lot.

49

50 MR. GOODWIN: Okay.

00113

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Well, we got a couple
2 more items, do you guys want to continue on?

3

4 MR. SAMPSON: Bunch of lazy men.

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, the Bureau of
7 Land management, BLM.

8

9 MR. SAMPSON: Bunch of lazy men.

10

11 (Laughter)

12

13 MS. COLE: Mr. Chair. Council. I'm
14 Jeanie Cole with the Bureau of Land Management in
15 Fairbanks and I'm going to give a short report on
16 Squirrel River hunting activity for the fall of 2002.
17 This report was prepared by Randy Meyers of our office
18 but she's out of town so I'm presenting it for her.

19

20 We have seven guiding permits in the
21 Squirrel River but only four of them were active in 2002.
22 Of those four guides who went out in 2002 they guided 29
23 hunters and they also took out 10 unguided hunters for a
24 total of 39 hunters. I should have said also, also you
25 all have a copy of this in the file that was passed out
26 this morning. It has the buffalo on top.

27

28 Approximately 35 caribou and 12 moose
29 were taken as well as one black bear and one brown bear.
30 In addition to the guided hunts there was at least three
31 air taxi operators working in the area, Mavrick Air,
32 Hagelund and Northwestern Aviation and we estimate that
33 they transported about 45 hunters into the Squirrel River
34 in September of 2002 and we don't have any information on
35 the number of animals that were harvested by those
36 hunters. This information on air taxi operators was just
37 obtained by an informal survey of the local air taxi
38 operators, BLM doesn't require a permit for the
39 transporters.

40

41 And then Randy also estimated that local
42 subsistence users that flew into the area by aircraft,
43 included about 16 hunters.

44

45 And the highest number of hunting camps
46 observed in the Squirrel River during September of 2002
47 is 16, and this is based on BLMs flights of the Squirrel
48 River and also information that the State Fish and
49 Wildlife protection officer gave us.

50

00115

1 census was a couple of years ago. It used to be one
2 census area -- the Squirrel River was one census area, in
3 the most recent census it was broken in up to where the
4 upper Squirrel River is included with the Noatak census
5 area because those moose move back and forth between the
6 Squirrel and the Noatak. And so we don't have any
7 specific numbers for the lower part of the Squirrel River
8 and the upper part of the Squirrel River is included in
9 the Noatak population.

10

11 MR. SAMPSON: I guess my concern is the
12 numbers on moose, and not that I disagree with your
13 presentation or anything, it's just it just don't sound
14 as a land owner, as a manager of public lands, not
15 knowing what the numbers are and if that resource is to
16 the point where it might be depleted, you wouldn't have
17 any idea what might occur. I don't know what.....

18

19 MS. COLE: Well, we have very little
20 control over the sporthunting in the Squirrel River
21 because the entire Squirrel River itself where all the
22 landing strips is State land so, you know, BLM has land
23 out there but the better moose habitat is managed by the
24 State and we also defer to the State to do the wildlife
25 inventories. And we participate by providing funding
26 when we can but we don't go out and do separate wildlife
27 censuses.

28

29 MR. SAMPSON: So what you're saying then
30 is prior to issuance of permits to guides and others,
31 there is some inventory that was done of numbers of moose
32 within the area?

33

34 MS. COLE: Well, we don't limit the
35 number of permits we give out either for guides. BLM's
36 regulations aren't as strict as the Park Service and the
37 Fish and Wildlife Service, we can't set a limit on the
38 number of guiding permits we're going to issue for a
39 specific area unless it's some kind of special management
40 area, and that is not the case in the Squirrel River.
41 You know, so.....

42

43 MR. SAMPSON: So basically what you're
44 saying.....

45

46 MS. COLE:if somebody comes in with
47 a guiding permit application and they're a licensed guide
48 with the State of Alaska, BLM doesn't really have any
49 mechanism for turning them down unless we can show
50 they've been in non-compliance with their permit in the

00116

1 past.

2

3 MR. SAMPSON: So whether -- you wouldn't
4 be too concerned about the depletion of resource then is
5 basically what you're telling us?

6

7 MS. COLE: No, we would be concerned with
8 the completion of resources but we would work with the
9 State of Alaska and Department of Fish and Game and
10 through the Federal Subsistence Board if it became an
11 issue on issues and information needs lands out there.

12

13 MR. SAMPSON: I think I would be
14 concerned as a land manager for the Squirrel River,
15 especially with the number of people that go up on the
16 Squirrel during fall months, and not only that, as far as
17 the meat and stuff is concerned, I've heard on an annual
18 basis that there's always some caribou, some moose meat
19 on the Squirrel. When they do bring it in they try to
20 give it to the Senior Center here and I don't think the
21 Senior Center folks are going to take green meat. And I
22 think it's something that somebody needs to get a hold of
23 and control that type of an activity within that area.

24

25 The problem with leaving the take is when
26 that is left on the Squirrel River, the villages close to
27 that get blamed for it, for wanton waste. When the
28 village of Kiana don't do -- doing the wanton waste, when
29 somebody else is doing it, the closest village, they get
30 the finger for wanton waste. I think BLM probably needs
31 to be a little more active in regards to resources and
32 perfection of resources within the Squirrel.

33

34 MS. COLE: Well, I'll pass.....

35

36 MR. SAMPSON: So I think you might want
37 to pass that message on to up higher, whoever that may
38 be.

39

40 MS. COLE: Okay.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: On this coming season,
43 do you plan to have law enforcement for Squirrel River?

44

45 MS. COLE: Not to my knowledge, no.

46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions
47 for the BLM.

48

49 (No comments)

50

00117

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

2

3 MS. COLE: Okay, thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Alaska
6 Department of Fish and Game - Susan.

7

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

9 I think I'm the only one here from my department and I
10 was only going to mention one quick thing, which is that
11 in addition to the whitefish work I talked about, and a
12 couple other projects we do, one project that just got
13 completed that Jim Magdanz worked on was a harvest survey
14 in Shungnak, a real complete one that's not just big game
15 but all the different kinds of fish and it took more than
16 an hour, or two hours to go through with people.

17

18 But they hired four local people. And I
19 think Eileen Devanny from Park Service and two Fish and
20 Game people worked on it and they interviewed, I think,
21 all but two households, and the data probably won't be
22 available until later this year but it has all sorts of
23 socio-economic data and who shares with who and how much
24 was caught. And that was funded by the National Park
25 Service here and so we always appreciate their support.

26

27 And that's all I wanted to add.

28

29 I probably can't answer your questions on
30 moose populations because Jim Dau would have to do that
31 and I know he's concerned in some areas of our unit about
32 the moose population. The Board of Game meets in
33 Kotzebue in November and so it's going to be a good
34 opportunity for our region in the next couple months to
35 think about any changes to State hunting regulations.
36 And it will give us all an opportunity to participate in
37 that this year.

38

39 Thanks, Mr. Chairman.

40

41 MR. SAMPSON: Do you have a current
42 listing of BLM -- not BLM, I'm sorry, I didn't mean to --
43 it sounds like that I picked on you, it's just that I
44 needed to get some info of the State Game Board as far as
45 who is sitting on the Game Board.

46

47 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah, I would have that
48 at my office.

49

50 MR. SAMPSON: What organizations or what

00118

1 entities or representatives with their.....

2

3 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah, we would have that
4 at our office, I could send you that.

5

6 MR. SAMPSON: Please.

7

8 MS. GEORGETTE: Okay. Calvin.

9

10 MR. MOTO: One comment I'd like to make
11 since you're from the State Fish and Game. You know each
12 one of our villages supposedly is supposed to have a guy
13 working for you, right, any kind of information that he
14 or she gets are supposed to pass it on to the people. We
15 have one that rarely passes on information to us when you
16 give it to him and we don't find out about it until after
17 something has been done. That's what happened, like,
18 with that moose closure. And we're concerned with that
19 because we feel that if the guy is working for the State
20 he should be working in a sense for us, too.

21

22 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah, you're talking
23 about the people that sell the licenses and tags?

24

25 MR. MOTO: Yeah.

26

27 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah, there's usually
28 someone in each community that sells the licenses and
29 tags, and some of them have done it a long time and
30 really are active in it and some of them are pretty
31 passive about it and some villages, they come and go all
32 the time. I think that the person who might be best for
33 passing information on is the Board's position, that
34 Susan Bucknell had recently. And she resigned earlier
35 this fall but they did interviews in our office just
36 earlier this week to hire that position. And that might
37 be someone who could really send out fliers to boxholders
38 or something or do radio spots to get the news out about
39 things like, I think Calvin's talking about the moose
40 closure that took place in the northern Seward Peninsula.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

43

44 MR. BALLOT: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. I just
45 wanted to mention a couple of things here. The State
46 changed the way the permits are rated for people to get
47 the muskox and stuff, and I think we'd appreciate some
48 consultation beforehand before something like that
49 happens.

50

00119

1 Buckland and Deering lost a lot of
2 permits. They've all gone to other villages because of
3 the changes in the way they rate the permits. And we're
4 working right now, as we speak with National Park Service
5 to try to get their information out and let the people
6 know through the IRAs, the correct way to fill out the
7 forms and all that.

8

9 MS. GEORGETTE: Uh-huh.

10

11 MR. BALLOT: But we'd appreciate any kind
12 of changes that are being -- beforehand, like you said
13 communicating is very important, that we could give some
14 input to whatever's going on to the State.

15

16 The other part is I was wondering when
17 are they going to be starting to look at the issue of
18 transporters. You've heard Walter speak about leaving
19 wanton waste and stuff like that and I think that's
20 something that's not being regulated and it's about time
21 that something is getting started towards that, steps
22 taken towards regulating transporters.

23

24 MS. GEORGETTE: Well, you know, the Staff
25 in our office all agree with you on that and we actually
26 met with Reggie Jewell earlier about that. He came by
27 our office to see what ideas people had because as I
28 understand it, the Legislature has to do something. It's
29 not really something the Department can do, it's under
30 the Commercial Services Board or Commercial Board and we
31 need to work through the Legislature to get that
32 controlled.

33

34 MR. SAMPSON: Well, I think just for
35 information, you know, we can continue to work in trying
36 to better how things operate by passing regulations, by
37 passing policy and this sort of thing. But if we can't
38 provide enforcement for these things or the dollars to
39 enforce these things, we might as well forget it. I mean
40 that's the problem with the State system is that we got a
41 lot of regulation in place but lack of enforcement. And
42 if you can't enforce your regulations, you might as well
43 forget what you're doing.

44

45 And I say that because it's -- you know,
46 you look at the enforcement side of the picture for
47 Kotzebue or for this region, we got one brown shirt that
48 covers the North Slope, Northwest region, Norton Sound
49 region, that's a heck of a lot of land. He tried to deal
50 with hundreds of hunters in the fall time within this

00120

1 region. If there's a problem up at the North Slope, it'd
2 probably take a week for him to get to the North Slope to
3 address the problem. If you have a problem within this
4 region, sometimes it takes four to five days for him to
5 respond to something because he's somewhere else. And I
6 think the State certainly needs to deal with that very
7 issue.

8

9 If we're going to continue to pass
10 regulations then we need to put the dollars out to
11 enforce these things.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is that it Susan?

14

15 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah, thank you Ray.

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Good
18 report. Number 12, additions to other new business. We
19 got any new business? I do. Well, it's a comment, a
20 request for proposal to regulation for 2003 Alaska Spring
21 Summer Migratory and Bird Subsistence Harvest, anybody
22 got information about migratory birds for this coming
23 spring. Do you, Enoch, have that information?

24

25 ATTAMUK: With the Native Working Group
26 on the migratory bird, it now made the Federal Register
27 that spring hunt is now legal.

28

29 MR. SAMPSON: I was just going to ask,
30 are we legal yet?

31

32 ATTAMUK: But I'll tell you one thing
33 it's going to be no more fun now. Because we're used to
34 being criminals.

35

36 (Laughter)

37

38 ATTAMUK: If we hunt caribou or anything,
39 you know, we always try to -- we don't like to have
40 license or anything like that but it is now legal. And
41 it's on the last -- close to the last page on the right
42 side, the back right side there and we are now legal.
43 Maybe there was two of them and this one here, egg
44 picking and molting birds. I know spring hunt is
45 important from April but these are the ones I really had
46 a problem with is picking eggs. We've been doing this
47 for years and we never did really hurt the birds as egg
48 pickers. Because mostly coastal people pick the eggs
49 that hardly -- unless they -- what I call accidental
50 purposes when they do see them they will pick them. And

00121

1 that molting birds was a problem because it's not -- it
2 was the time when they're rearing their young, it's about
3 the same time and they didn't want us to harvest birds
4 that are molting -- not molting but rearing their young,
5 and it's about the same time in July, that's when we
6 usually do it here and we don't do it for the whole month
7 like they wanted to do it, but I had no -- so I just
8 added on for a month anyhow in case there is some changes
9 in the future. And we hunt molting birds less than a
10 week time in the Northwest Arctic region and it got
11 passed.

12
13 But it was a big battle. But it was a
14 good one and it was worth it to me.

15
16 And I'll tell you one thing, in the
17 surveys we did here for migratory bird, we don't take as
18 much birds like we did 30/40 years ago, and there's a big
19 change and we are now legal. But as of the other day I
20 got a letter from the Fish and Wildlife Service saying
21 they got a question on certain birds that being
22 harvested, but these are mainly snipes where only the
23 elders used to have them and eat them long ago and I'm
24 trying to get a comment on that one. I want to put this
25 out for the public.

26
27 They got 23 birds on question we don't
28 even harvest at all. These are snipes, godwits, loons,
29 there's trumpeter swans, we don't hardly ever harvest --
30 they're birds, they're really hard to pluck, and then
31 seagulls. And the ones they got on the picture I told
32 them those are seagulls from the rocks, the cliffs,
33 because there is a difference in the birds they use and
34 they use the wrong picture, is what they told me.
35 Because there's a difference between seagulls from the
36 land and the cliffs. So I told them you go ahead and do
37 your homework better. And they're trying to blame the
38 whole state, I told them you can't blame the whole state
39 for one reason. Alaska's too large. If they need to
40 start blaming someone, they need to be specific on which
41 birds are they talking about, because there's like 23 for
42 each region.

43
44 But three and a half years ago I
45 testified when I went to Noatak time to pick eggs, bears
46 really destroyed the next twice and they -- the second
47 time they destroyed the next, they didn't even rebuild
48 their next, they just moved on. It's Mother Nature's way
49 of saying it's too late in the season for me to have
50 another one, another young one, you know, if you really

00122

1 go out and watch. And when they call me from the
2 villages, I went out there and checked and the bears did
3 a thing on the nest out there, not only the bears do,
4 yagers and foxes do the same thing. But the last few
5 years the bears have been at it really hard.

6
7 And I addressed this three and a half
8 years ago and they didn't want me to hear me, they were
9 going to decline, because I saw a lot of those little
10 nests being destroyed. Now, after three and a half years
11 they finally -- if they learn how to listen to us and
12 hear what we're saying ahead of time I think we wouldn't
13 have problems we're running into now.

14
15 And when people from the villages to
16 call, I do go out there. I get called from Noatak and
17 Kivalina and I get a couple of them from Buckland and I
18 went out there.

19
20 MR. MOTO: You know, we have that same
21 problem with our birds, too. Because we found, you know,
22 every summer when the crowbill and the seagulls lay their
23 first eggs, we usually get them and then they mount their
24 second set and we don't touch them, but in the last two
25 or three years we found the eggs that we got, some of
26 them have half a yolk and some of them are half empty and
27 they're no good.

28
29 And then so consequently I think since
30 the crowbill or the Arctic murre are starting to decline
31 and they're trying to blame us, you know, when we say
32 look the eggs, we try to tell them, look at the eggs,
33 look at the eggs now, the shells are real soft. When
34 they sit on them they break right away, why is that, you
35 know? Is it because of something in the food that they
36 eat or is it something that they pick up when they're
37 swimming in the ocean.

38
39 And I remember in the 1940s when we used
40 to -- our village, we used to get those young goslings
41 and raise them, you know, and raise them until about
42 December or November for the holidays, you know, but we
43 used to raise them. Us kids used to name all our geese,
44 you know, but when we had to kill them we cried a lot but
45 we killed them anyway to eat them, you know, but that's
46 what we raised them for. But now days if we tried to do
47 that they tell us they're going to arrest us. And I
48 don't know, but the traditional ways that we used to hunt
49 those things or gather those has been lost because of
50 regulations.

00123

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The reason why I
2 brought that up is because that question is being asked
3 from all the villages now and I'm glad you brought that
4 up.

5
6 I'd like to ask the agencies, like the
7 Federal or the State, you got any comments on the bird
8 migratory regulations that are -- are they going to come
9 up before us, does anybody know from the agencies what's
10 going to happen next?

11
12 Like you say, it's no more fun now.

13
14 ATTAMUK: Yeah, I got to finish
15 commenting this. I brought in two people from every
16 village, three different times, just to come out with the
17 dates that they come out with. I didn't come out with
18 these dates, the hunters themselves tried to fit it in
19 with their region.

20
21 But in there somewhere I put in a
22 stipulation that if there's a change due to warming that
23 we should revisit it and make some changes. Because it's
24 warming up now and we're being affected.

25
26 Also, this is not on migratory birds but
27 it's on one of the birds we take, I'm getting calls on
28 ptarmigan. This year they're not seeing them like they
29 used to in the villages. Even here. And I think it's
30 due to that snow we had last summer. Everybody's saying
31 that and they're blaming that snow we had in July, maybe
32 it froze the little young ones. I'm hearing it. They
33 got a lot of concerns on the ptarmigan, big time. And I
34 know there's an open season on ptarmigan and I think this
35 needs to be looked into and we need to find out what's
36 happening with the ptarmigan.

37
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Walter.

39
40 MR. SAMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
41 Maybe somebody can clarify for me this write up on 2003
42 Alaska Spring Summer Subsistence Bird Hunt, Northwest
43 Arctic Region, open season. The dates and everything,
44 closed season, what dates and everything. Is this for
45 all the birds within the region under the prohibited
46 methods and means, what's this swivels gun?

47
48 MR. UBERAUGA: A big gun that mounts
49 right on the front of a boat and swivels around and
50 shoots right along the water, like a canyon.

00124

1 MR. SAMPSON: People have swivel guns?

2

3 MR. UBERAUGA: Not really. But you can
4 make one.

5

6 MR. SAMPSON: Shotguns larger than 10
7 gage, which means that people cannot use 12 gage to hunt
8 with?

9

10 MR. UBERAUGA: Eight gage, you can't use
11 eight gage.

12

13 MR. SAMPSON: Oh.

14

15 MR. UBERAUGA: And there's very few of
16 those left in existence.

17

18 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

19

20 MR. GOODWIN: There's a pun gun right
21 here.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MR. SAMPSON: I was just going to say,
26 what's a pun gun.

27

28 (Laughter)

29

30 MR. SAMPSON: You can't use drugs.

31

32 (Laughter)

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You got anything.

35

36 MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Chair, Tim Jennings
37 from the Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence
38 Management.

39

40 I wanted to clarify in response to your
41 question that the agency that has the lead for this is
42 the Fish and Wildlife Service. It is not through the
43 Subsistence Office so I don't have personal knowledge
44 about the development of these regulations. It's through
45 another office within the Fish and Wildlife Service
46 called the Migratory Bird Comanagement Working Group.
47 And Fred Armstrong heads up that office for us. And what
48 we could do at the next meeting is we could ask Fred or
49 someone from his Staff to come out and give the Council a
50 briefing on the new regulations, including methods and

00125

1 means and somebody who works with these regulations and
2 has been through the process with Enoch could address
3 your questions a lot more than us who don't work with the
4 regulations. We hear about it similar to what you heard
5 about it here today but we don't have the specifics to
6 pass on.

7

8 So we would offer that for the next
9 meeting. And Michelle could make that contact for you
10 and get somebody here for the next meeting.

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you.

13

14 ATTAMUK: Hey, Walter, on these methods
15 and means, it's not here -- it's not for all the non-
16 profits, it's some of these areas the way they've been
17 hunted before, the birds, that's why it came up. I know
18 it sounded ridiculous, swivel guns and pun guns and I
19 gage, but these are things that one time that that's how
20 they harvested some birds.

21

22 MR. SAMPSON: Uh-huh.

23

24 MR. KRAMER: I would like to say on the
25 record, too, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to commend the US
26 Fish and Wildlife Service for their encouragement of the
27 use of steel-shot. You know, it's really important that
28 if we get on Red Dog's case for dumping some lead or
29 whatever, that we don't shoot our own leaded birds. And
30 they do, they have steel-shot clinics in Selawik, and I
31 don't know about any other places, if they've moved
32 around out of the Refuge, but I think it's something that
33 we should encourage them on, too.

34

35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. Anything else on
36 this? Anybody.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, we'll move on
41 to Item 13.

42

43 MS. CHIVERS: The last time is the time
44 and place of the next meeting. We just wanted to
45 reconfirm the dates that we have set. There's a little
46 calendar in the back of the book for September 17th and
47 18th.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh, yeah.

50

00126

1 MS. CHIVERS: The very last page in your
2 books.

3
4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We set that a year ago,
5 right, I think so?

6
7 MS. CHIVERS: Yeah.

8
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh, yeah, that's fall.

10
11
12 MS. CHIVERS: Yes. And then you and I
13 discussed the possibility of a training session for the
14 new Council members.

15
16 MR. SAMPSON: September, there's no way
17 we can change that meeting date?

18
19 ATTAMUK: For Kotzebue, you say?

20
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, I think Kotzebue,
22 September 17th, 18th.

23
24 MR. SAMPSON: I guess people are still
25 hunting then.

26
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: How do you guys feel
28 about the next meeting date?

29
30 MR. SAMPSON: Well, that's my problem
31 is.....

32
33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I mean we put that
34 thing out just for draft last September, you guys could
35 make some changes.

36
37 MR. SAMPSON: What about October 2,
38 rather than mid September?

39
40 ATTAMUK: That's when we're seining, some
41 of us, in Noatak River.

42
43 MR. SAMPSON: In October?

44
45 ATTAMUK: Yeah -- not -- it depends on
46 freeze-up. It has a lot to do with freeze-up Walter.

47
48 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.

49
50 ATTAMUK: That's why these windows was

00127

1 hard to pick because no -- I think people are --
2 including Michelle, I guess, got to be in the Nome area,
3 too, at the time.

4
5 MS. CHIVERS: Well, the only thing we
6 would have to consider is the possibility of overlap of
7 our team members. Some of the team members are also on
8 the Bristol Bay region and Bristol Bay meets earlier that
9 week. If we had it maybe half the day on October 2nd,
10 the training, and then a full day on October 3rd, that
11 may be a possibility. But that's also four meetings in
12 one week and we try to avoid that as well.

13
14 MR. JENNINGS: Nobody else on this team
15 is on Bristol Bay.

16
17 MS. CHIVERS: Oh, I'm looking -- okay.

18
19 MR. SAMPSON: What about the Yukon, St.
20 Mary's, any of you folks?

21
22 MR. JENNINGS: Steve Fried is.

23
24 MS. CHIVERS: I knew it was somebody,
25 there was an overlap with somebody. I'm sorry?

26
27 MR. SAMPSON: What about the Yukon/St.
28 Mary's, any of your group within the Yukon/St. Mary's?

29
30 MS. CHIVERS: Yeah, we don't have any
31 overlaps in terms of team members, we don't have any
32 overlaps with them.

33
34 MR. SAMPSON: What if we take a look at
35 October 3 and 4 or 2 and 3 -- 2 or 3?

36
37 MS. CHIVERS: What does the rest of the
38 Council think?

39
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: October 2 and 3 you're
41 looking at?

42
43 MR. SAMPSON: (In Native)

44
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin, (In Native)

46
47 MR. MOTO: (In Native)

48
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: October 2 and 3.

50

00128

1 MR. MOTO: (In Native)

2

3 MR. SAMPSON: I believe that should be
4 the other way.

5

6 MR. MOTO: This is Seward Peninsula
7 mostly. But I haven't been on the northern Seward
8 Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory for a long time. I
9 reapplied to get on again but they never responded yet.

10

11 MR. SAMPSON: No, what we're asking
12 is.....

13

14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The dates for the
15 meeting.

16

17 MR. SAMPSON:the dates.

18

19 MR. BALLOT: Meeting date.

20

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: October 2 and October
22 3.

23

24 MR. MOTO: October, because I know
25 September a lot of people are hunting caribou at that
26 time. I have a hard time hearing sometimes.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Lance, how about you,
29 what do you think?

30

31 MR. KRAMER: Yeah.

32

33 MR. MOTO: I see the window close on --
34 it says meeting window closes October 10.

35

36 MS. CHIVERS: If we're talking October 2
37 and 3, but that's four meetings in one week.

38

39 MR. SAMPSON: October 2 and 3.

40

41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: They are saying they
42 want October 2 and October 3 for our next meeting.

43

44 MR. MOTO: Yeah.

45

46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is it good for you?

47

48 MR. MOTO: Yeah, that sounds good.

49

50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, Enoch.

00129

1 ATTAMUK: I could always make an excuse
2 if I can't make it here.

3

4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Good with me.

5

6 MR. BALLOT: We got a president Chairman
7 now.

8

9 MS. CHIVERS: Okay. And then we also
10 need to set up our next meeting for the winter.

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, winter meeting.

13

14 MS. CHIVERS: If you turn the page over,
15 the meeting -- Seward Peninsula has selected February
16 19th and 20th and North Slope has selected March 5th and
17 6th, so that leaves three other weeks open, the week of
18 February 24th, March 10th and March 17th so we're trying
19 to select ahead of time meeting locations and meeting
20 dates. So if you guys have an idea of where you want to
21 meet during that meeting window.

22

23 MR. SAMPSON: Okay, who's what where?

24

25 MS. CHIVERS: Seward Peninsula is meeting
26 in Nome on February 19th and 20th.

27

28 MR. JENNINGS: A little louder so we can
29 hear back here.

30

31 MS. CHIVERS: Okay. And the North Slope
32 is meeting in Barrow on March 5th and 6th. So those two
33 meeting dates are now available because we have team
34 members that would overlap with those regions.

35

36 MR. KRAMER: So anywhere, you're saying
37 through the 24th to the 28th would be a good time, it's
38 clear in that week, uh?

39

40 MS. CHIVERS: Uh-huh. So the weeks that
41 we're looking at is February 24th, March 10th and March
42 17th.

43

44 MR. MOTO: Where at, Kotzebue?

45

46 MS. CHIVERS: You need to pick a meeting
47 date within one of those three weeks.

48

49 MR. SAMPSON: Let's look at Monday the
50 24th.

00130

1 MR. MOTO: Okay, Monday the 24th.
2
3 MS. CHIVERS: Make that the travel day
4 and then.....
5
6 MR. SAMPSON: Meeting.
7
8 MS. CHIVERS:meet on the 25th.
9
10 MR. SAMPSON: Meeting on the 24th. You
11 guys could travel the evening of the 23rd.
12
13 MS. CHIVERS: Well, if we have the
14 meeting on the 24th, we have to travel on a Sunday.
15
16 MR. SAMPSON: Yeah. Is there anything
17 wrong with that?
18
19 MS. CHIVERS: I don't know how the
20 Council feels about that. We generally try to shy away
21 from traveling on weekends. We try and make the
22 first.....
23
24 MR. SAMPSON: You guys want to
25 travel.....
26
27 ATTAMUK: We usually try to have our
28 meetings on week days Walter.
29
30 MR. SAMPSON: Okay.
31
32 ATTAMUK: And try to keep weekends open
33 so we could travel home.
34
35 MR. SAMPSON: Let's say 25th then. 25th.
36
37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What do you guys think,
38 Lance?
39
40 MR. KRAMER: Yeah, that's fine.
41
42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Good.
43
44 MR. MOTO: Yeah.
45
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.
47
48 MS. CHIVERS: February 25th here in
49 Kotzebue.
50

00131

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: 25th.
2
3 MS. CHIVERS: And are you wanting to.....
4
5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Where at?
6
7 MS. CHIVERS:do just one day?
8
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Where do you guys want
10 to meet?
11
12 MR. KRAMER: 25.
13
14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: 25 and 26, where do you
15 guys want to meet at?
16
17 MR. MOTO: Barrow.
18
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We have to know where
20 you guys want to meet.
21
22 MR. MOTO: Go up there while they have
23 (In Native)
24
25 MR. SAMPSON: We'll have it here in
26 Kotzebue, that's a good place.
27
28 ATTAMUK: Where's our options of having
29 it beside here?
30
31 MR. BALLOT: Buckland.
32
33 MR. MOTO: 26, 27 -- 25, oh.
34
35 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Kotzebue, Anchorage,
36 Nome, Fairbanks, you guys name it, Barrow.
37
38 MR. SAMPSON: October is here.
39
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay, good.
41
42 MS. CHIVERS: Here?
43
44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.
45
46 MR. SAMPSON: Yes.
47
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: October in Kotzebue.
49 Is that it, okay, we got the dates. We got the dates set
50 and our last item -- (In Native)

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1

The meeting is adjourned.

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ATTAMUK: No comments.

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CHAIRMAN STONEY: 3:11.

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7

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 132
contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the
NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY
COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically by Nathaniel Hile
on the 26th day of February 2003, beginning at the hour
of 8:30 o'clock a.m. at Kotzebue, Alaska;

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

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

 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 7th day of March
2003.

Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 04/17/04