

1 EASTERN INTERIOR FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME II

7
8
9 Pike's Landing
10 Fairbanks, Alaska
11 March 1, 2012
12 8:30 a.m.

13
14
15
16 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

17
18 Sue Entsminger, Chair
19 Andrew Bassich
20 Lester Erhart
21 Andrew Firmin
22 William Glanz
23 Isaac A. Juneby
24 Joseph Matesi
25 Virgil Umphenour
26 Larry Williams
27
28 Regional Council Coordinator, Carl Johnson

29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41

42 Recorded and transcribed by:
43
44 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
45 135 Christensen Drive
46 Anchorage, AK 99501
47 907-243-0668/sahile@gci.net

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Fairbanks, Alaska - 3/1/2012)

(On record)

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's see if this thing works, call the meeting to order. Isn't that nice. Maybe we need to make our horn and antler thing a little more liberal. I forgot to push my button, okay.

(Pause)

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. Now, I wanted to make sure that David James from Ft. Yukon, are you in the audience, did you want to -- I have this in front of me that you wanted to comment on the Yukon River Salmon Management Plan.

MR. JAMES: Yes.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, you had put this in yesterday so we'll call on you after we establish who's on line that might want to testify. Anyone that wants to testify, you have to fill out one of these blue cards and then hand them to the coordinator.

All right.

So you just have to fill out a blue card and give it to the coordinator.

We put a time certain this morning to take up the plan that BLM has, the Eastern Interior planning thing. They've all got so many titles I can't remember them all. So we had an extensive question and answer with BLM people that could not be here today, yesterday, and it was very informative.

And I'm going to ask if anyone on line that wants to testify at this time.

(No comments)

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What does it say?

MR. JOHNSON: It's just Amy on the line.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, we have

1 just Amy from Denali on line and she would be reporting
2 on the Denali later. She's probably going to just give
3 the report and listen in for a little bit this morning.
4 She has to leave by lunch and we were just talking on the
5 phone before we came on line and she said that her report
6 would be good enough and we could call her, she might be
7 off line, if we have any questions.

8

9 So I'm not hearing anyone on line.

10

11 MS. CRAVER: I'm just going to listen in
12 so if there's any questions this morning, I'll be on line
13 until noon.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, well,
16 then we might end up having you give that report anyway.
17 Sounds good.

18

19 All right, well, then Carl.

20

21 MR. JOHNSON: Madame Chair. I do have a
22 written comment that was submitted from a member of the
23 public to be read into the record on the black bear issue
24 at your convenience.

25

26 Madame Chair.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So Board
29 members do you have any more questions or anything on
30 this, whatever they were calling the plan, on those four
31 areas in Eastern Interior, at this time.

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we're going
36 to go into public testimony and we do have one person
37 here and then we can read the one that is here. So are
38 you ready David, David James.

39

40 Good morning.

41

42 MR. JAMES: Good morning, Madame Chair.
43 Board. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak
44 and voice my opinion and views and hope that some of the
45 views that I present that you guys will put that into
46 your decisionmaking process.

47

48 My name is David James. I'm a resident
49 -- I'm from Ft. Yukon and I'm personally living here in
50 Fairbanks now. But I've been a previous Board members,

1 I've been on Advisory -- I've been on this Board here for
2 four years and been on the fishery boards there and the
3 Chairman of the Yukon Flats for about 10 years.

4
5 I'm going to speak about the -- I support
6 Alternative B on the BLM Black River Management Plan. My
7 parents came from -- lived and raised on the Black River,
8 on the Salmon River, right in the heart of the Black
9 River we're talking about. And my uncle, first chief,
10 traditional chief David Salmon always remind us during
11 meetings and work shop that we have to continue
12 protecting this area. This area is very important in
13 protection for our traditional, for our moose. This is
14 a traditional calving and cultural area for our moose, it
15 comes down from the Black River and into the Yukon Flats
16 and to this day it's still doing that.

17
18 We know we need some developments to get
19 into material, and minerals and resources, but all that
20 can wait because we have so much resources yet around
21 Fairbanks and we still haven't even tapped into that yet.
22 And we still need to protect other resources for our
23 future users, for our grandchildren, their
24 grandchildren.

25
26 So that's -- I remember a story my mom
27 telling me when I was little that it was very, very nice
28 up there in the Black River, in the head water there,
29 they had a village called Salmon Village and she said it
30 was a very beautiful place. There was quite a few
31 families in the Yukon Flats area that went up there and
32 there's nobody up there now, but I remember one time that
33 she had told me a story there, her auntie, my auntie took
34 off for two days with six dogs and came back and she
35 asked, where did you go sis, she says, oh -- she brought
36 back a moose, hung it up in the cache there, oh, I went
37 across the border up there and they had a dance up there
38 for two days and came back, 60 mile trip one way, so that
39 was the good old days there.

40
41 And our people are still supporting
42 keeping this area the way it is. And there's some areas
43 in Alaska that we need to just keep and there's other --
44 we still got a long ways for development around here in
45 Fairbanks that we need to tap into yet, they got the
46 roads and transportation close by there.

47
48 So Alternative B, I hope the Board will
49 accept that proposal there.
50

1 Madame Chair. At this time I can ask to
2 speak for comments on the salmon management plan.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.

5

6 MR. JAMES: Okay. Well, Virgil was
7 there, and Lester was there during the Yukon River Salmon
8 Management negotiation and I was there, I was an
9 alternate, I was new to the Board there. And one of my
10 biggest issues on this Yukon River salmon management plan
11 is it pass by the Yukon River Drainage Association and 99
12 percent of those people, I bet you if they understand
13 what they were passing, they were getting people off of
14 the village and off the fish camp and trapline and
15 sending them into board meetings, I mean we had technical
16 people giving us papers and numbers there, and I was
17 really disappointed that it got passed but I was hoping
18 that it went to a lawyer there and our tribal leaders
19 would took on to it and see if this is really what we
20 want. And there's a few items in there that really
21 disappoint me, allocations, and how this subsection was
22 set up by the State and how we had the voting power --
23 voting authority with the Yukon River Drainage
24 Association, it was by the people. Well, of course we
25 got voted out. And one of the things -- I got voted out
26 -- disappointed, the Yukon River salmon management plan,
27 they have a sonar in there Mountain Village and that's
28 about 160 miles from the mouth of the river, but before
29 the fish hit the sonar the fish has to go past five
30 villages and between those five villages you're talking
31 about 4,000 people, so those 4,000 people can get
32 whatever they want down there before the fish -- the
33 State start managing the fish that are on the first
34 pulse, across, coming up. So that's where we have some
35 of the problems right there. And I was hoping the Board
36 will make a recommendation to bring this salmon
37 management plan, when it come up for review, bring it up
38 for renegotiation because on the Canadian side, where my
39 friend, the chief of -- Isaac (Indiscernible) from Eagle
40 just around the corner is the Canadian border, I don't
41 know how they do their fishing up there but they got a
42 very small village compared to Ft. Yukon, they got over
43 800 people there plus people that comes in from the
44 surrounding villages to fish too. So making decision
45 here and locking up the process that you guys just did
46 yesterday, without going back to these people there first
47 and getting their opinion there, and then locking that
48 thing up for the next -- until the next fishing cycle,
49 that's three years from now, I don't think that was the
50 right process to go about. Because some of you guys --

1 after listening and watching you guys, you guys need to
2 get some more feedback from who you guys represent.

3
4 The first pulse coming up, that was the
5 main problem Yukon Flats was having. And you have the
6 second fishery sonar at Rampart, at the Rapids, all
7 right, that's one river, and fishwheel is only probably
8 12 feet wide, but you still got a quarter of mile wide
9 over there. But Canadians and the fisheries -- the
10 technical JTC are using that to stop fishing in the Yukon
11 Flats but you still got three or four, three streams
12 above the rapids that the fish turns off on and the
13 Canadians still are getting enough fish. Because four
14 years ago, this happened, four or five years ago, where
15 we stopped fishing in the Yukon Flats, the only one that
16 stopped, we got shut off, and the fish crossed Eagle
17 Sonar and they had more than surplus enough and the
18 Canadians went ahead and opened up their commercial
19 fishing. That's something you guys need to chew on for
20 a little while. And the commercial -- the Canadians have
21 a community harvest, so Dawson gets a certain amount,
22 (Indiscernible) Crossing gets certain amount and it goes
23 on up and I don't know how much amount they got.

24
25 And the community harvest is another
26 issue that we've been talking about. And maybe that's
27 the way that we need to go on. And also when you shut
28 down fisheries, especially subsistence, you know, I mean
29 we, Yukon Flats, we don't take very much, very, very
30 small amount, we're never going to hurt that harvest,
31 never. You guys are just fulfilling, making the
32 Canadians happy, and you already make the lower river
33 people happy because we're getting stonewalled. And when
34 you guys do your factor into deciding -- these people
35 back here -- when you're deciding what's going to be
36 closed, you also have to put in your factor, as I said
37 before, 2011 -- '99 that you have to put in your high
38 water -- when you got high water coming around you're
39 going to have problems, you're going to be moving around
40 your fishwheels. By the time you finally find a spot,
41 we're already closed, we're shut down, the fish already
42 went by, you know, and then you got drift, drift up --
43 you know all about -- so that's -- and then you got three
44 channels in the Yukon Flats and then you got hundreds and
45 hundreds of islands, you know, we're talking about four
46 or five mile wide, we're not talking about one mile wide,
47 one island every other bend, so all those need to be put
48 into the factor. And this 36 hours, I disagree with
49 that. You totally shut us out, no, maybe six hour on,
50 maybe 12 hours on, and I would have never voted for this

1 first pulse without these kind of -- bringing out these
2 other options on the table.

3
4 And I was hoping that more of you Board
5 members would have brought this out. And these would
6 have come out if we -- it's hard -- I've sat on that side
7 before, you know, you guys are volunteering your time,
8 you guys are doing real good, but when you go back to the
9 village, how do the information go back to the people and
10 what does the people really want before you hop the
11 airplanes or boat or snowmobile or whatever to come over
12 here to make the decisions here. And that is what I told
13 the fishery board in 1999 when they were taking over the
14 fishery management. What's going to happen with that \$10
15 million, the State didn't want it, it's mostly Anchorage
16 that didn't want it, the State didn't want it so what's
17 going to happen, all that money is just going to go in
18 for studies, studies, studies; it's going to be going in
19 to Anchorage. You need communication. You need to put
20 money back into this program to communicate back out to
21 the people and hit these villages before you guys come
22 over. So that's -- and in 1998 we put in -- the tribal
23 government of Ft. Yukon, I was a director of the natural
24 resource department, we submitted a proposal to shut down
25 fisheries. But I got a call from all the Feds, managers,
26 State, they were all why are we wanting to shut this
27 down, we did what we did there and if we stuck to our
28 guns here at that time we never would have been -- I
29 don't think we would have never been in this situation.
30 Now, we're -- now, our first pulse king salmon is a prize
31 king salmon. Now, we got the chum salmons. Well, I want
32 to ask for you guys support there's no commercial fishing
33 on the chum salmon now. That's all we got left. The
34 rest is all, you know, the fish ain't that good, it's all
35 mostly dog mushers, all the dog mushers get the fall
36 chums -- I mean the fall dog salmon.

37
38 But the chums is all we got left yet. No
39 commercial. The State Fisheries Board needs to hear
40 that. You can't fool with commercial -- like Virgil, you
41 sat -- East Coast, West Coast, how come we're not
42 learning nothing. This is the last great river that
43 we're managing and we still never learned nothing after
44 200 years of fishing. Just stop that -- that's the way
45 it is, when you give them the commercial fishing, you
46 need to put a little item in there, this is not a
47 guaranteed thing. We're going to have to -- in order to
48 supply everybody it's the first thing that needs to be
49 shut down.

50

1 So I was hoping that -- so that's my
2 opinion on this.

3
4 The other one is the moose management
5 plan, Ma'am. When this started up with the Feds, and
6 Yukon Flats, State there, Buffalo Bob was there, Bison
7 Bob, and it was a good plan. Every -- but one of the
8 things I was disappointed, too, with the fisheries, is
9 with the surveys, well, how long are we going to do
10 surveys, you know, before we really implement this plan.

11
12 Well, I talked to the Feds and the State,
13 where's your moose management -- your bear management
14 plan or your wolf management plan, we got no plan. What
15 -- I mean you guys are management and you guys have no
16 bear or moose management plan or wolf management plan.
17 That's just like me going to the -- going to take my car
18 to the shop, I told them. I take my car to the shop and
19 they ask me do you have metric wrench, no, I have no
20 metric wrench, I suppose -- you're the one that's
21 supposed to have all that, all those tools ready to
22 implement them. That's the same way with the Feds and
23 the State, they ain't got no -- they refuse to implement
24 with these tools that they have. And now they're finally
25 doing it -- 1978 we only had seven wolf pack in the whole
26 Yukon Flats, now we have 48. And just a few years ago
27 one of our oldest elderly finally said, you got to do
28 something about these bears around here. If you go out
29 in the woods with a 30.30, they're going to ask you what
30 are you going to shoot with that, you ain't going to
31 shoot those bears with a 20.30 -- you're looking at bear
32 track that went this wide to this wide here. There's
33 enormous bear tracks up there, big ones, and their
34 population has exploded already. Now, they got to go
35 back there and manage that.

36
37 We used to be a manager. When I was
38 growing up out in the woods, I ran a 100 trap line, me
39 and my brother, we build it and stuff like that. But
40 when I was growing up as a little kid sitting in the
41 cabin with my dad, there was about seven of us in there,
42 and I remember them talking, we're going to leave this
43 certain area out and this area out for the next three
44 years but we're going to go out there and get some
45 wolves, you know, in dens there so you guys will hunt in
46 -- we invited them to hunt in that area for them there.
47 So that's the management plan that they were going -- I
48 mean I was little too, I was so -- get up at 5:00 in the
49 morning, cutting out brushes around creeks, why are we
50 doing this, taking beaver dams out. If you don't do this

1 the beavers and all this brush will pile up there and
2 there'll be no fish and the animals will move on. So we
3 were managing the land ourselves too.

4
5 So when it comes down to it, when you --
6 the Canadians have a pretty good philosophy over there,
7 have two views, one eye, where you got the scientific
8 view and traditional view moving and crossing each other,
9 and has good data too, you can use that, use both of them
10 there.

11
12 So this management plan now, it's just
13 been sitting on the table and I was disappointed with the
14 State and the Feds because it seemed like the Feds just
15 want to study mice and birds, you know, which they are,
16 and the State at that time there, they told us they have
17 no money for moose management plan, okay, we need to find
18 the money. Well, two years later they found a million
19 dollars for bison, oh, we got a good plan for you,
20 bison, they left for a reason but we're -- our body's
21 used to our food, nutrition, you want moose, let's build
22 this moose population up first and then we'll talk about
23 bison but how is it that the State can find -- went
24 around the priorities of what they want compared to what
25 -- because the moose is a win/win situation for
26 everybody. Everybody. I'm living here now and I got
27 friends that want to go hunt, it's free, this country,
28 the Lord give us that.

29
30 So that moose management it's just
31 sitting on the table now, let's revise that and get
32 people working on that there like you guys did on the
33 Fortymile Herd, you know, you guys did a lot of good work
34 on the Fortymile Herd.

35
36 And in order to get our fish back now,
37 Virgil, you will still be around when the fish will come
38 back because we're going to give praise to our Lord and
39 have the Lord bring these fish back for us. With the
40 Lord giving us the authority to manage the resources. So
41 we can't forget about him when we do our management.

42
43 So, thank you.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
46 David.

47
48 MR. JAMES: Yeah.

49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I know you took

1 up three subjects and have lots of nice ways of putting
2 things, I appreciate it.

3

4 I do want to apologize, though, for one
5 thing. Being a Chair, you don't always do a good job,
6 and I think I did a poor job yesterday not having you
7 testify prior to the -- when we took up that salmon
8 management stuff. I didn't even think about it then and
9 I apologize for that.

10

11 I have two hands. Isaac and then Larry.

12

13 MR. JUNEBY: I want to thank.....

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Your mic.
16 Isaac will get used to the mic.

17

18 (Laughter)

19

20 MR. JUNEBY: Thank you, David, for your
21 comments. I just want to elaborate on the Canadian that
22 you just touched base on. I don't think -- I mean for
23 reason maybe, you know, you said that maybe we should
24 even see how they do it -- up in Canada, the salmon
25 fishing is done -- the First Nation who are the Native
26 people up there, they can hunt, fish and trap any time on
27 their land, but the salmon fishing in the Yukon, it's
28 done by -- I guess it's between the government and the
29 Natives there who picks people and say, well, you could
30 fish for us like so many of them. And sometimes they got
31 about maybe in Dawson -- Andy, do you know how many
32 people fish sometimes, that pick, to say -- do you know
33 what I mean, in the summertime they got like -- they pick
34 the fishermen and then these people distribute the fish
35 to the people.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Like a
38 community harvest.

39

40 MR. JUNEBY: Yeah.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

43

44 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, they do that, they
45 have an aboriginal fishery, which is equivalent to our
46 subsistence fisheries but you have to understand that
47 they voluntarily have not fished for about the last five
48 years. It's only been in the last year or two that
49 they've caught any, or a very small amount, I think the
50 total numbers have been less than 4,000 fish or right

1 around 4,000 for the entire Yukon territory for their
2 aboriginal fisheries. And up in Tezlin they haven't
3 fished, voluntarily they haven't fished, for over four
4 years. So those people are not harvesting great numbers
5 of fish.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Isaac, did you
8 have something else.

9
10 MR. JUNEBY: No, I just wanted to touch
11 on that one, you know, because that's the way they do it
12 up there and like he said they forgo a lot of seasons
13 too. But one of the things was, is that I saw, is that,
14 anybody can -- I mean any First Nation can think but it's
15 usually the government, and I don't know what -- what,
16 the First Nation people, they pick the people that are
17 going to fish for them. And in Dawson, I think five to
18 six, maybe up to 10 people fish for them and then they
19 bring them in and they distribute them.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Larry.

22
23 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
24 I'd like to thank David James for his strong words, for
25 speaking on behalf of his people in his village.

26
27 If you remember yesterday we were
28 discussing the fisheries and I, for one, opposed the plan
29 that was written down in its entirety. The reason I did
30 that is because I'm the chairman of the Yukon Flats
31 Advisory Committee and we went to Ft. Yukon and those
32 people there used the same strong words that you did on
33 not being -- that allocation not being fair to the
34 people, especially in Ft. Yukon, the people that lives
35 there year-round and the people that come there
36 temporarily for fishing season, they're not getting their
37 fair share and that's how come I opposed this plan in its
38 entirety.

39
40 So, you know, we're going to have to work
41 something out. And wishing this Council would look at it
42 more in-depth, which I'm not disrespecting anybody but
43 it's just something that I feel very strongly about.

44
45 And also I'd like to comment on the Black
46 River. I have family and cultural ties to the Black
47 River. My grandfather, Paul Henry went shopping up on
48 the Bull River (ph), and my Uncle Steven is from
49 Chalkytsik and my mom was born and raised in the Salmon
50 River, in Salmon Village, so I have very strong ties and

1 anything that was said about the Black River country, I
2 would be listening very intently to each and every -- to
3 one of the speakers to make sure that everything is going
4 just right the way it's supposed to be going. Because
5 our job -- our primary job here is to protect the
6 subsistence lifestyle of the predominately Athabascan
7 people that lives in that area.

8
9 And also the moose plan, I'd like to make
10 a short comment on that. I was in on the ground floor,
11 so to speak, I was invited to sit on the committee
12 because of the shortage of moose on the Yukon Flats, and
13 we've been talking and talking but it seems like nothing
14 has been happening. And we have a lot of wolves and
15 predators that's just overrunning the country and a very
16 dire shortage of moose especially around the Western and
17 Eastern Interior along the Yukon River corridor. So that
18 needs to be addressed and moved forward, at this time, at
19 breakneck speed so we can provide moose that is needed to
20 feed the families in the villages.

21
22 So you just have to remember that I
23 oppose this plan in its entirety when it was first
24 brought up.

25
26 Thank you, very much.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
29 questions.

30
31 (No comments)

32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
34 David.

35
36 MR. JAMES: Thank you, Ma'am.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I want to tell
39 you that I think everyone here shares your frustration,
40 especially the thing about a 15 year plan and nothing
41 really is getting done.

42
43 MR. JAMES: Uh-huh.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I think
46 some of our problem is the tools that they need in their
47 tool box they might not have and that makes us all
48 extremely frustrated because a lot of things are driven
49 from Washington, D.C., on Federal lands.

50

1 And I really appreciate, deeply, your
2 frustration.
3
4 MR. JAMES: Thank you, Ma'am.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you're a
7 good speaker, too, thank you.
8
9 MR. GLANZ: David, if I may, one more
10 question. David, it's me over here.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.
13
14 MR. GLANZ: David, you say there was two
15 packs and it went to 17, what was the detriment to the
16 wolves fortunately in those years when there was only two
17 packs running around.
18
19 MR. JAMES: Well, it was seven packs.
20
21 MR. GLANZ: Seven.
22
23 MR. JAMES: Yeah, there was seven packs
24 in the Yukon Flats there. Not very much, you know, it's
25 very hard to -- those days the Sno-Gos just started
26 coming out and so we don't really get that much wolves,
27 not unless you're following the caribou. You know, most
28 of those wolves in those days were coming in from the
29 Koyukuk, coming over the range and following the caribou,
30 that northern part of the Yukon there and then up to
31 Sheenjek there and then they branch off.
32
33 MR. GLANZ: Okay. I didn't know if you
34 guys were really pressing them in those areas or if they
35 were aerial wolf hunting or what they were doing, that's
36 why I couldn't understand -- you know, how did the
37 growth of them come in.
38
39 MR. JAMES: Yeah.
40
41 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, thanks, David.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
44 First I need to check, is anyone on line that wants to
45 testify this morning.
46
47 MS. SALMON: Yes, this is Patricia Salmon
48 from Chalkytsik.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anyone

1 else.
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm sorry,
6 anyone else.
7
8 MS. SALMON: Could you hear me okay?
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I heard you
11 just fine, yes, thank you.
12
13 Anyone else on line besides Patricia
14 Salmon.
15
16 (No comments)
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do you
19 guys want to take the person on line first.
20
21 (Council nods affirmatively)
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And we have
24 three others here, so Patricia, are you ready to testify?
25
26 MS. SALMON: Yes.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead, we
29 can hear you.
30
31 (PHONE DISTORTION)
32
33 MS. SALMON: I'm Patricia Salmon from
34 Chalkytsik. I have lived in Chalkytsik most of my life
35 except for the 12 years to attend high school and
36 University of Alaska and for summer employment. I have
37 two children and a granddaughter with one on the way. I
38 have raised and proud of my heritage. I'm a student of
39 the University of Alaska taking a course in technology.
40
41 First of all I feel that I'm speaking for
42 number of people, including my family. They are so
43 dependent on subsistence, it's the very core of our life.
44
45 Secondly, I believe that we have lost
46 ownership of the Black River and all lands (indiscernible
47 - phone distortion) the English language. A generation
48 back our people spoke very little English. And the fact
49 that we are so isolated, telephone were installed around
50 1983 and then satellite television a little later.

1 Thirdly, and most importantly what many
2 people have used our land as long as our tribe has been
3 in existence. Your family in Salmon River are one of the
4 few places I would like to see (indiscernible) so we can
5 maintain nature without development. The Black River and
6 Salmon River and subsistence resources are an important
7 part of my survival. Subsistence subsidizes my income,
8 freight is 53 (ph) pounds per -- 53 cents per pound from
9 Fairbanks. Gasoline are at (indiscernible) per gallon and
10 propane bottles cost 163 (ph) at the local store. My
11 family transports supplies and building material in the
12 spring and fall by river boat. (Indiscernible) one of my
13 main diet and fish. Black River water is used for
14 consumption and survival of my culture and heritage are
15 hinged on this land and river.

16
17 And for the rest of the residents of
18 Chalkytsik, (indiscernible) trapping and fishing are
19 important to them. The area that we are talking about
20 developing is the trapping and hunting area. The Upper
21 Black River is a spawning area for sheefish and salmon.
22 I find it (indiscernible) the Federal government would
23 not allocate funds to the tribes to protect resources and
24 lands, our people have established trails and cabins. It
25 is obvious that we were here and will continue to live on
26 the Black River.

27
28 I'm requesting of the Subsistence
29 Advisory Council to choose Alternative (phone cuts out)
30 of the Eastern Management Plan because it would provide
31 protection to the headwater of the Black River. I
32 oppose mining, roads, oil drilling and in general
33 development that would put a cap on my lifestyle.

34
35 Thank you.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.
38 Stay on the line Patricia. Do you have a question, Joe.

39
40 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair.
41 Because of the breaks in the transmission I actually
42 missed what was that Patricia, the alternative.....

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

45
46 MR. MATESI:and then there was a
47 break in the transmission.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Patricia,
50 I think when you said alternative it broke up and we

1 didn't hear which one.
2
3 MS. SALMON: B, like in Boy.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And
6 that's it.
7
8 Any other questions.
9
10 (No comments)
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
13 Patricia.
14
15 MS. SALMON: Okay, thank you.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're welcome.
18 Okay, where's my list. Jesse Thomas.
19
20 MR. THOMAS: Hi, my name is Jesse Thomas
21 and thanks for letting me speak here today. My family is
22 from the Black River and we have a homestead on the mouth
23 of the Grayling River so we've been living there since
24 about 1925, that house there.
25
26 I oppose the mining in the upper Black
27 River and the oil and drilling. I am for Proposition B.
28
29 One of the things I'd like to talk about
30 is, you know, the Black River and the Salmon River is,
31 you know, the people from Ft. Yukon can't, you know, they
32 hardly get any fish anymore. And the Black River and the
33 Grayling River and the Salmon River, Bull River, Wood
34 River it provides about 50 to 80 percent of the moose
35 that gets brought into Ft. Yukon and that's one of the
36 last things that we have to hunt. And that needs to be
37 protected.
38
39 I'd just like to say that I oppose the
40 mining and for Proposition B.
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
43 questions.
44
45 (No comments)
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
48 thank you, Jesse.
49
50 MR. THOMAS: Thank you.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I just wanted
2 to make an announcement to all of you that are
3 testifying. When I talked to the BLM people yesterday,
4 and when they left they said -- they reminded me to let
5 everybody know that you are testifying in front of a body
6 that's just making a recommendation to BLM, that they'll
7 be coming to the villages and they want you to
8 participate in that level also. So please be advised
9 that it doesn't stop here.

10

11 Okay.

12

13 Helen Edwardson.

14

15 MR. JOHNSON: She just wants to talk
16 about customary trade.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, I'm sorry.
19 And then there was.....

20

21 MR. JOHNSON: He might have something to
22 say.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Earnest Eric,
25 did you have something to say on the Black River.

26

27 MR. ERIC: Hey, good morning Board of
28 Directors.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You have to
31 push the button.

32

33 MR. ERIC: Oh, push it, good morning.
34 Hey, my name is Earnest D. Eric. I'm from Native Village
35 of Venetie Tribal Governments. I'm with the tribe. One
36 thing the state of Alaska doesn't recognize the tribe
37 within the state of Alaska. And when we talk about
38 protection of number of years now, over the 162 caribou,
39 over all the fish that's coming into the Yukon River, all
40 the protection that needs to be done on the five year
41 plan that we have in the Chandlar River, Porcupine River,
42 Black River, Bull River, Grayling area, Venetie owns part
43 of the water rights within the Chandlar and also the
44 Christian River and also the Moncreek (ph), and these
45 rivers come in from the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
46 and it goes into the Yukon River. Black River, Yukon,
47 Chandlar all knead together, so I care about the water
48 rights because we own part of the water, the Chandlar
49 water. And I worry about the people down in the -- and
50 also the future generation for our people, down in the

1 lower mouth of the Yukon River because those need to be
2 protected.

3
4 A number of years BLM has served and
5 burned and they have policy, let it burn policy, out on
6 the land. So those are the number of things that we have
7 as Federal Advisory Committee we need to go out there and
8 get the word to the Federal and State because this tribe
9 here doesn't want to utilize their source of their
10 resources that's available for them. So we need to
11 continue protecting the lands, the Black River, the upper
12 drainage from development. I mean we have the west, and
13 the east and the north and the south that we have to
14 protect ourself. A number of years we done it back when
15 we were a territory tribe. That territory tribe went a
16 long way until we've been divided by the Federal and
17 State and now that it's getting to our generation and we
18 have to protect our generation, that's why Native people
19 are coming up towards the committee and advisories and
20 whoever push the paperwork on the other side of the
21 river. So this side of the river, I use it, I utilize
22 it, I walk the land, I feed from there, I drink from
23 there, I breath through it. Those are the things that's
24 for my grandchildren. We all have a heart to speak from.
25 We all care, it's time that we put a limit on things that
26 the Federal and the State are doing.

27
28 You know, I'm not a Democrat, I'm not a
29 Republican, I'm not a -- I'm a Native person that lives
30 on the land as a tribe, you know, and I've been taught
31 the values of the tribe for the last 30, 40, 50, 60, 100,
32 200 years. I have friends around this -- some of these
33 people here is my friend and I love them and we do drink
34 the same water as we have, but there need to be a
35 protection, the land, the water, the resources out there,
36 the generation. My people said look into the future,
37 protect that future. That's where I'm coming from as
38 descendants.

39
40 So let's be in mind with one another.

41
42 Today disasters are coming our way. We
43 have seen so many times within the year 1900s of time
44 consuming, we seen it so many times. Each one of us have
45 a family that we have to protect and we need to protect
46 that area because some person that puts a piece of paper
47 in front of them and sign it over my way of life or your
48 way, you know, we have to wake up a little. Listen to
49 the Episcopal Preacher, Dana Salmon, listen to the old --
50 the old education, the dictionary that we ruled once upon

1 a time. We have God's laws. We have natural laws. We
2 have the people's law. We have the land laws that we
3 have to protect.

4
5 I'm not here because of anybody. I'm
6 here because my grandfather gave me this wisdom to
7 protect the land, the resources, the subsurface tidal
8 rights that there should be have a say so in themself,
9 that they should have the say so themself, the only words
10 that they have is the human being's words to protect --
11 Native people has protect number of years and now, today,
12 there's a pipeline between us. There's a lot of fresh
13 land out there in the northern part, we don't need them
14 digging through the Mother Earth any more, we need to
15 protect that Mother Earth because it's most important for
16 the value for our future generation, for everybody.

17
18 And if you guys, each one of you guys got
19 a heart to read the Bible, it tells you the story of it.
20 And it's been written for the needs for the people
21 throughout the world and we're here today.

22
23 I don't want to fight anymore. The Red
24 (indiscernible) said he don't want to fight no more and
25 we need to listen to that words, the wisdom of our
26 ancestor because we're running out of water, we're
27 running out of air, we're running out of everything today
28 and we're trying to spoil the atmosphere, you know, and
29 we talk about the change of atmosphere. Grandma talk
30 about the end, you know, and I don't want it to come to
31 the end, it's so beautiful out there in the Last Frontier
32 and we have someone over there on the other side of the
33 world speaking to your people with a piece of paper, I
34 ain't going to go that direction because that is not for
35 me at all. I'd rather see this beautiful area the way it
36 is. The way those Native people have protected it for a
37 number of years.

38
39 Thank you.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.

42
43 MR. ERIC: Any questions.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

48 Thank you.

49
50 MR. ERIC: So I'd like to do our part as

1 being advisory.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
4
5 MR. ERIC: I mean we cannot be advisory
6 the rest of our life, we have to finalize stuff here in
7 a good way for the Native people.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
10 Earnest. Okay, so now we have -- that's it right?
11
12 MR. JOHNSON: Just the written statement.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and we
15 have one written statement.
16
17 MR. JOHNSON: Okay, Carl Johnson. I have
18 a written statement dated February 28, 2012 and it states
19 as follows:
20
21 To Whom it May Concern:
22
23 My name is Paul Herbert. I was raised
24 on the Black River at around Chalkytsik.
25 Hunting, fishing and trapping is my way
26 of living.
27
28 I am concerned about any mining on the
29 headwaters of the Black River, Grayling
30 Fork or the Salmon Fork. Any mining on
31 these rivers would have impacts on
32 fishing and hunting. I'm not for any
33 mining.
34
35 Thank you for your time.
36
37 Paul Herbert.
38
39 Ft. Yukon, Alaska.
40
41 End of statement.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank
44 you. All right. So do you guys want to continue on with
45 our action on these BLM lands in the Eastern Interior.
46
47 Joe.
48
49 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair. I
50 move that the Council draft a letter to BLM expressing

1 our support for Alternative B in their draft management
2 plan for the Upper Black River subunit and if there's a
3 second then I will speak to that.

4

5 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that for you Joe.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

8

9 MR. MATESI: Thank you.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, speak to
12 the motion.

13

14 MR. MATESI: I remember listening in to
15 the Federal Subsistence Board meeting in January, Madame
16 Chair you were there, the Chair of the Board, Mr.
17 Towarak, spoke very eloquently in summing up one of the
18 issues, the Red Sheep Creek issue, and I was impressed
19 with what he said.

20

21 He talked about how the Secretary of the
22 State doing his Secretarial Review of subsistence
23 challenged the Board, the Secretary had heard over and
24 over again from AFN and from Native organizations and
25 from users that "subsistence is broken" and the Secretary
26 challenged the Board and by extension through the Board,
27 us, as Regional Advisory Councils, to fix it. And Mr.
28 Towarak said, I think this is one example where we have
29 an opportunity to fix a problem to the needs of the
30 subsistence users and that's our main charge, the use of
31 subsistence resources with putting subsistence as a
32 priority.

33

34 I see this similar here, this is our
35 opportunity to do the same, step forward, step up to the
36 plate. What subsistence really sort of depends on, in my
37 mind, in my interpretation is, it functions best as an
38 integral part of a healthy functioning ecosystem. I mean
39 see we were talking about the Yukon River and that's a
40 problem with the Yukon River and the fisheries there,
41 it's not a healthy functioning ecosystem right now, it's
42 sick. You know, we're trying to fix it by putting little
43 band-aids on it. But this isn't about the Yukon River,
44 this is about Black River. And Black River, it's still
45 a healthy functioning ecosystem. You hear people talking
46 about all the fish, all the berries, boats go up from Ft.
47 Yukon and they come back down river and they all have two
48 moose in the boat.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That should be

1 a secret.

2

3 MR. MATESI: Yeah, I shouldn't be --
4 could we strike that from the record, please.

5

6 (Laughter)

7

8 MR. GLANZ: How many had the moose.

9

10 (Laughter)

11

12 MR. MATESI: Well, but, you know, it's no
13 surprise as a healthy functioning complete ecosystem it
14 supports a subsistence, you know, subsistence economy
15 that's productive and valid and working in its
16 traditional way. It doesn't have a pile of regulations
17 imposed upon it, and jump through hoops and fill out this
18 permit, but it's what Title VIII of ANILCA really
19 intended just the traditional people living on the land
20 and utilizing the resources and in their own way they're
21 taking really good care of it.

22

23 So that's why I have put forth this
24 motion. I would like to see this Council support these
25 people and I want them to be able to go back to the
26 community and say, well, we talked to the Council and
27 they actually listened to us because I think that's what
28 we're here for. I mean I'm not here for me, I'm here for
29 them.

30

31 Madame Chair.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
34 members, any others. Virgil.

35

36 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you, Madame Chair.
37 I can remember 1977, I went up over toward Mile Summit
38 and then I went up over Eagle Summit and I was ptarmigan
39 hunting, it was in August. Mastodon Creek (ph), which is
40 the big creek on the north side of Eagle Summit was a
41 nice clearwater creek, that was in 1977. I moved to Nome
42 for a year, and while I was up at Nome, the value of gold
43 was devalued, it had been maybe either 32 or \$35 an ounce
44 for years and years, so the devalued the price of gold
45 and the price ran all the way up to \$600 an ounce.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is this the
48 long version?

49

50 MR. UMPHENOUR: It's short, I'm making my

1 point.

2

3

(Laughter)

4

5 MR. UMPHENOUR: So, anyway, the price of
6 gold went from either 32 or \$35 an ounce to about \$600 an
7 ounce. I went back up to Mastodon Creek to go ptarmigan
8 hunting after that happened. Instead of a nice pristine
9 clearwater creek, you had an absolute mud hole, great big
10 backhoes, tractor backhoes and equipment running all over
11 the place and the creek was just unbelievable what they
12 had done. And the one place that I liked to ptarmigan
13 hunt they had stripped all the brush, there was no more
14 rows left, they had shoved everything off down into the
15 creek, just totally destroyed it.

16

17 So I'm going to be opposed to Alternative
18 C and in favor of Alternative B, no mining.

19

20

Madame Chair.

21

22

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy then Bill.

23

24

25 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.
26 Yeah, I certainly haven't had the time to look through
27 the 13 pound document but looking at this brief
28 description of the alternatives, I am a little concerned
29 about Alternative B in one aspect and, that is, as far as
30 the subsistence use goes, many people use off-road
31 vehicles at various times and one of the concerns that I
32 have here is that they may be forcing people to stay on
33 designated trails at certain times of the year is the
34 description I see in this. And I'm curious for those and
35 maybe, Joe, you could speak to this, is why you would not
36 support Alternative A, which would be basically status
37 quo as it is right now, over B.

37

38

39 The other thing, I'd like to make a
40 suggestion, I am in favor of writing a letter as the
41 motion states, but I also think that we should request
42 that the Federal Subsistence Board review this and draft
43 a letter in support of protection as well, because I
44 think it's going to have a lot more impact. It's a large
45 government agency -- Federal government agency dealing
46 with another large Federal agency. And as I tried to
47 allude to yesterday, I'm a little bit concerned about the
48 entire process. Although we're given public input into
49 this when all decisions are finally made, InterAgency,
50 when there's no real ability for the public to weigh in
on the final decision, I think it really dilutes the

1 process as far as how the final impact is on subsistence
2 or people who live out in these areas that these
3 regulations affect.

4
5 I hate to say it but I'm a little bit
6 cynical about the end results because of the process.

7
8 But, maybe, Joe, if you could speak for
9 a minute why you wouldn't prefer A instead of B, because
10 I am really concerned about that. I have seen situations
11 where that can be a real problem and I think in the past
12 the Council has addressed quite a bit of time down in
13 Wrangell-St.Elias over similar issues of access, access
14 to the land is really critical for subsistence use,
15 whether it be by boat or by fourwheeler or whatever.

16
17 That's all, thank you.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill, do you
20 want to speak and then you can answer that, or do you
21 want to answer it now to Andy.

22
23 MR. MATESEI: You can come back. Bill, go
24 ahead.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Answer it.

27
28 MR. MATESEI: Through the Chair. There's
29 -- you know they put in the book Alternative A as an
30 alternative, but it's not really an alternative, there's
31 simply no way that they're going to do no action, they've
32 told us that. That's the formula that these things are
33 done, as I've had it explained to me. Because, you know,
34 I talk with people and they say why don't we just leave
35 it like it is, what about Alternative A, it keeps D1
36 withdrawals in place, there wouldn't be any mining, but
37 it doesn't have the active protection that Alternative B
38 does, so that's kind of a good thing for Alternative B
39 over A. And the fact that bureaucratically A is just
40 really not an option. I would be Alternative A myself.

41
42 On this.....

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But I would
45 like to say is if that goes forward as Alternative A,
46 other people are going to come clearly on the other side
47 so, I don't know, it's not that it isn't an option, it
48 is, I would say.

49
50 MR. MATESEI: Well, the meeting materials,

1 this folder, in there, it has -- and this is what you
2 were looking at.....

3

4 MR. BASSICH: Yeah.

5

6 MR. MATESI:.....sort of the summary on
7 Page 3. Okay. This is -- in your meeting materials,
8 issues raised concerning alternatives for Black River,
9 and on the third page is the actual details of the
10 summary and I could go through these but Sue would shoot
11 me in the head, and I would welcome it.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I could try to
14 use this thing.

15

16 MR. MATESI: But it's under tribal
17 management and what Alternative B does do on this, and I
18 don't, myself, particularly agree to this, but under
19 Alternative B, it limits the use I guess of fourwheelers
20 in the Salmon River area only in the summertime,
21 motorboats are okay, snowmachines are okay, but the big
22 limitation, the big difference is in B, only in B there's
23 the limit of fourwheelers in the Salmon River drainage.

24

25 I don't have a fourwheeler so it doesn't
26 bother me. I know that people who hunt on Salmon River
27 and I can guarantee you they don't haul a fourwheeler all
28 the way up there to Salmon River and then hunt with it.
29 There's no trails. It's really brushy country, you can
30 hardly walk through the brush. I think Andrew would love
31 to haul his fourwheeler up there and go running around
32 but I think you'd have a hard time with the brush.

33

34 (Laughter)

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Some young buck
37 will try it.

38

39 MR. MATESI: And my understanding is if
40 this really sticks in our craw, our recommendation to BLM
41 could read, and I guess this would have to be an
42 amendment to the motion, could read we support
43 Alternative B, with this change in Alternative B. That
44 there would be no acres limited by season of use in
45 travel management. That's just something that we could
46 do if we really felt that strongly about it.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I just
49 want to remind everyone that, something we probably even
50 failed to think about when we did the EA for the shed

1 antlers, we are not stuck to the alternative as it's
2 written, you can pick and choose, remember, I'm saying
3 you can pick and choose, so that's open for a suggestion.

4

5 I guess I have a question but I'd like to
6 ask it after Bill's done here, and you can keep that as
7 a thought.

8

9 MR. GLANZ: My statement, the only thing
10 is is that we are only talking the Salmon Fork for B,
11 correct?

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Correct.

14

15 MR. GLANZ: Okay. And also I want to
16 tell you being in a gold mining area a long, long time,
17 if there was gold up there on that river it'd look like
18 Dawson, it'd look like Chicken, it'd look like Eagle
19 Summit, there is no gold there otherwise they would have
20 been mining 100 years ago. They'd have got the easy
21 stuff like they did in Dawson and the Klondike. And like
22 what Virgil was talking about, when they was running mud
23 in the creeks well the DEC got on them and Dawson says,
24 by God, the Yukon Territory's wide open, come on up guys.
25 They were using D9s in the Dawson area and pushing right
26 -- sluice boxes right in the creek for like 20 years.
27 You can walk around Central right now and the biggest
28 gold mines and the BLM people will tell you, they've got
29 three to four settling ponds and it's clear water coming
30 out, there's no more water circulating out of the gold
31 mines, it's self contained gold mining, three ponds, and
32 I'm not a gold mining advocate, I could care less. But
33 I'm just telling you that they ain't never going to mine
34 the Black River even if we -- even if nobody even
35 endorsed this plan. But I'm for Plan B and to keep it
36 like it is, a wild and scenic river. I'm kind of against
37 that but that'd be okay too because I don't live there
38 and it ain't going to bother me. Because I know the wild
39 and scenic river, being in Central we have the wild and
40 scenic, there's more people down there with their
41 fourwheelers getting cited and they say, oh, you can't go
42 up river with a powerboat, you can't -- well, we called
43 the State Director in Anchorage and we could go up the
44 river with powerboats because that's not part of the
45 plan, you can use a powerboat. So the wild and scenic
46 rivers are a good deal if you just want to -- be careful
47 and don't get within that mile corridor on either side
48 because you're in the wild and scenic river, which is
49 good for us in Central because we go down and shoot the
50 heck out of caribou because that's wild and scenic river.

1 So, anyway, it's a good deal for
2 everybody up there in that area. I would hate to go to
3 Central and have to be hung because they found out I
4 wanted to make it a wild and scenic area instead of a
5 gold mine area.

6
7 Thank you guys.

8
9 (Laughter)

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, we're
12 supposed to take care of the whole region.

13
14 I would like Carl to reiterate a
15 suggestion he had yesterday. Because I'm concerned, as
16 you, that, you know, I hear what you're saying we should
17 come out -- that would be something we could come out
18 with, that we talked about at this meeting, so we have
19 standing with BLM and have ability to talk to it in the
20 future, but not commenting on the rest of it is -- and we
21 don't have time to do that today so I think that we
22 should try to comment on the rest of it, myself. So --
23 or we can come up with something extremely general to
24 have our standing, but I guess that doesn't help them
25 out. From what I was hearing, technically what they
26 wanted to hear is what information they never got in
27 their document, so I don't know how you'd figure that out
28 without reading the 12 pounds, or whatever it is.

29
30 But go ahead, Carl, with that suggestion
31 and see what you guys think.

32
33 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, Madame Chair. Again,
34 my suggestion was that the Council could form a working
35 group with members of the Council, at least depending on
36 residency of where the Council members reside, that as
37 much as possible one Council member per district that is
38 reflected in the resource management plan that is under
39 revision, and they could form a working group and then
40 come up with a recommendation for which alternative to
41 support or alternatives with modification for each
42 district that's covered by the resource management plan,
43 then they would come up with that recommendation which
44 would then be shared with Office of Subsistence
45 Management where we could then draft a letter for all of
46 the Council members then to review and approve at some
47 time prior to the filing deadline of July 23rd for public
48 comments. And, of course, OSM could facilitate the
49 meeting of the working group members by arranging for
50 telephonic conference and anything else that is needed to

1 facilitate the process.

2

3 Thank you, Madame Chair.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So what do you
6 guys think, we have a motion on the floor for just the
7 Black River, and you suggested.....

8

9 MR. GLANZ: On the Black River and then
10 we go into the other stuff?

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We can do that.
13 Did you want to make that change with an amendment?

14

15 MR. MATESI: I'm not prepared to put a
16 motion on the floor for an amendment.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So you
19 wouldn't agree with Andy's access concern that he brought
20 up?

21

22 MR. MATESI: Andrew might want to make an
23 amendment.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does anyone
26 want to make an amendment to the motion.

27

28 Andy.

29

30 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, the reason I was
31 bringing that up is I'm kind of deferring to people who
32 live in the area and I wanted more information on access
33 and all that, but if they don't feel that it's a real
34 issue then I don't think we need the amendment. I really
35 do agree with the recommendation that a working group be
36 formed as described. I think it's our responsibility to
37 cover the entire region not just a particular area so I
38 would be in favor of that.

39

40 So I guess I would recommend let's take
41 care of the motion on the floor, whether we table it or
42 vote on it and then a motion to make a working group up
43 and take that route, is more prudent for this Council.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Carl.

46

47 MR. JOHNSON: And, Madame Chair, we
48 probably should, before the Council votes on the motion
49 that's on the table -- that's on the floor, that we have
50 one additional bit of testimony on this particular issue

1 that you've received.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I didn't
4 have time to read that.

5

6 MR. JOHNSON: Somebody submitted a public
7 testimony form but also written statement and if Stanley
8 Edwin is still in the room, you could take the
9 opportunity to present your oral testimony and then we
10 could still put your written testimony in the record,
11 sir.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Push the button
14 there.

15

16 MR. EDWIN: Okay.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, push it
19 again.

20

21 MR. EDWIN: Okay. I'll be holding it
22 down for awhile.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You don't have
25 to hold it.

26

27 MR. EDWIN: Cool. My name is Stanley
28 Gene Edwin. I'm (Indiscernible) Gwich'in, originally
29 from Chalkytsik, I live in Ft. Yukon, and I'm a student
30 at UAF-Fairbanks, I study mathematics and physics. And
31 the plan is to go all down the road and become one of
32 those weird people.

33

34 What I'd like to do is explain why --
35 well, I did that -- my lineage and my concern on
36 regulation changes. So if you'll bear with me, I'll more
37 or less read -- because when I first heard about this
38 yesterday, I originally wrote this in anger and disgust.
39 This morning I sat down a little more calm after sleeping
40 I rewrote it.

41

42 Allow me to introduce myself and my
43 lineage. Within and on this land in the upper Black
44 River and Salmon River. I'm a mathematics and physics
45 student at the University of Alaska. The reason I am
46 here are many but the most prevalent is for my people
47 Gwich'in. I am content as an Indian. I'm just as easily
48 at home in the forest on the Black River and Salmon as
49 being in the physics laboratory calculating equations
50 that the majority of the world would never know. I have

1 served in the Armed Forces of this country at a tenacious
2 time when Warsaw Wall was still standing. I am the
3 youngest son of Paul Ben Thomas, a Dranjik Gwich'in and
4 Busy Bessy Elizabeth Biederman Gwichyaa Gwich'in. My
5 grandparents from my father's side are Ben Thomas and
6 Julia Thomas who both sleep now beside my father and
7 brother, Johnny, in Chalkytsik. My grandparents on my
8 mother's side are Esa Williams and Margaret Williams.
9 They both sleep in Gwichyaa Zhee Ft. Yukon beside my
10 mother, only sister, and youngest nephew Steven Joseph
11 Flitt. My grandparents from my father's side come from
12 Salmon River and the upper Black. My great-grandparents
13 on my mother's side come from the other side of the
14 mountain from above the upper Black, they come from Bull
15 River. My grandfather, Paul Henry, lived all his life at
16 Bull River and now my cousins trap there. On the Salmon
17 River my cousin, Julie Mahler, and her family lives and
18 subsistence there. And I was just told on my walk here
19 that she couldn't be here as well because of an
20 emergency.

21
22 This past fall we had to search for my
23 youngest nephew Steven without any help from either the
24 State or the Federal government. The State did send
25 their troopers to make sure it wasn't a homicide, that it
26 was a hunting an accident, but they were there less than
27 a day and when they left they said you're on your own, as
28 it always has been and more than likely always will be.

29
30 After two weeks in searching for his body
31 with the freezing cold and winter just a breath away, on
32 returning to Chalkytsik with my nephew Steven, the
33 troopers came to retrieve the body and tensions and anger
34 were prevalent, and to prevent this the troopers informed
35 my oldest brother, and only living brother, to quell the
36 anger and distress we felt and their disregard for the
37 search that they will only document his death, and that
38 was good.

39
40 My nephew Steven lived the way we have
41 always lived, off the land in conjunction to it and with
42 it. He lived a life we are all meant to live everybody
43 and I am very proud of him and he died doing it.

44
45 In talking to my brother, Paul, he
46 mentioned the river, Salmon, mentioned that the upper
47 Salmon River and upper Black and Bull River are calving
48 grounds for moose and that's because people don't go
49 there during the summer -- I mean they don't literally go
50 there until moose season opens so the animals are allowed

1 to birth. My people are Gwich'in, that's Ft. Yukon,
2 Chalkytsik, Venetie, Circle, the whole gist of the Yukon
3 Flats, hunt every year up at the river. We can still
4 drink straight from the river without being concerned
5 that some self-centered fool was polluting it. We can
6 still eat the fish as well. Every winter many of our
7 people go up those two rivers and trap and hunt. We do
8 not believe that digging up the land for some rocks that
9 we cannot take with us when we die is more important than
10 the interconnectedness of the land, us and the animals.

11
12 So why are we here, we don't think
13 risking our way of life for some rocks, our way of life
14 would be more important. Why should we let someone else
15 dig up the ground when we ourselves are not willing to do
16 it.

17
18 My grandfather, Ben Thomas; great-
19 grandfather Paul Henry, brothers, cousins, family have
20 lived hunted, subsistence and died at the headwaters of
21 the Black River and Salmon River. With BLM looking to
22 open up -- or the State looking to open up to those who
23 have no respect or reverence with land, animals, waters
24 and forest reminds me of histories past. A reminder of
25 the Black Hills and the subjection of the Dakota so few
26 non-Natives can dig holes in the ground. I have just
27 heard about these regulation changes and of this meeting
28 yesterday morning.

29
30 The Eastern Interior Regional Advisory --
31 excuse me, I'm still not fully aware of all the gist of
32 this meeting.

33
34 What this Council should consider is the
35 long-term consequences of these changes. What it entails
36 not only to my people and the land, water and animals and
37 the forest but also the kinds of people you will be
38 allowing access and free run to the land of my fathers.
39 Granted I am not fully aware of the changes and what is
40 being proposed as to the regulation changes but I do know
41 what the future will entail because these changes are not
42 done on a whim for the benefit of a few.

43
44 As for fishing regulations, we all know
45 the management under the State does not work and one
46 reason is being that those who manage the river have no
47 say of the management of the ocean. The
48 interconnectedness of all of Alaska must be considered,
49 who would be the best people for the land of the upper
50 Black. Those who have lived there all their lives from

1 hundreds of generations or more or open up to those who
2 wish for a small benefit only within their lifespan. We
3 know and history has shown us, when people hear the word,
4 gold, or some other precious metal is found, total
5 disregard for the land and animals, not to mention the
6 people who subsist and live on it and off the land.
7 Opening it up to recreational uses is also a mistake.
8 All you need to do is look at the White Mountains and all
9 the fourwheeler trails there.

10
11 True, your regulations may, indeed, quell
12 such destruction and callousness of a few and for a time,
13 however, a time -- however, in time larger corporations
14 as well as to individuals would seek out loopholes within
15 the unforeseen portions of your regulations and exploit
16 it. The future could and well hold and allow possible
17 for stripmining and some larger recreational resorts.
18 We, as a people, not only the Gwich'in but all our
19 brothers across this great country have to stand and
20 justify for our way of life and be asked to compromise.
21 Compromise we have always done but it is not enough.
22 When will it be enough. You, who sit on this Board, I
23 know the task before you is difficult, but as a child of
24 the earth, I ask you to place the lives of not only my
25 people and our history and interconnectedness of this
26 land, but weigh carefully the consequences of your
27 actions for a few and what it could entail for the
28 future.

29
30 Thank you.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

33
34 MR. GLANZ: No, but it was very well put,
35 it was very well put.

36
37 MR. EDWIN: Thank you.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
40 Thank you for your testimony.

41
42 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Stanley.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now, did
45 I miss anyone else.

46
47 (No comments)

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does anyone
50 else want to testify on this. Come on forward and then

1 give him a blue card after.

2

3 Oh, you have it. Oh, sorry.

4

5 MR. DRUCK: My name is Vinson Druck, I'm
6 from Chalkytsik, and I lived in Chalkytsik all of my
7 life. I hunt, fish, whatever, do berry picking there.

8

9 And from learning from our elders there,
10 David Salmon, is -- he was one of the powerful leaders of
11 the land and things he said needs to stay untouched and
12 Chalkytsik is one of the places, the Black River, where he
13 was born and raised needs to stay untouched because
14 that's our way of life and it feeds us, that's our
15 grocery store. People travel there to hunt and it's
16 beautiful land and I love it. It needs to stay
17 untouched.

18

19 So I was just aware of this yesterday so
20 I'm really not -- don't know what's going on yet but I
21 would like to learn more.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.

26

27 MR. GLANZ: One thing, we didn't know
28 anything about it until yesterday either.

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 MR. DRUCK: Yeah.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, some of
35 us learned of it maybe a day earlier.

36

37 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

38

39 MR. DRUCK: Thank you.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

42

43 MR. UMPHENOUR: You hunt up there in
44 September so let me ask you this question. Have you seen
45 -- you know what coho salmon is?

46

47 MR. DRUCK: Yes.

48

49 MR. UMPHENOUR: Have you seen any up
50 there?

1 MR. DRUCK: No.
2
3 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You can give
6 the blue card to Carl.
7
8 MR. DRUCK: All right.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
11 thank you. I guess Joe has one.
12
13 MR. MATESI: No, I don't have a question.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh.
16
17 MR. MATESI: But I'd like to say to
18 Virgil that there's a fairly significant spawning
19 population of coho salmon in the Salmon Fork. So it has
20 three species of salmon that spawn there. There is a
21 famous, famous and traditional ecological knowledge,
22 famous salmon hole called (In Native) and it provides
23 salmon which sustains the subsistence fishery for 900
24 miles of the Yukon drainage. It originates from that
25 stream.
26
27 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.
30
31 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. Do we have
32 any more public testimony on this?
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't think
35 so.
36
37 MR. BASSICH: Okay, I'll.....
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to
40 ask the public again, is there anyone in the audience
41 that hasn't testified that wants to testify?
42
43 (No comments)
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And is there
46 anyone on line?
47
48 (No comments)
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. He knows

1 because he has a computer that lists it.
2
3 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. We have a
4 motion on the floor and I'd like to call question on the
5 motion.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Everyone ready
8 for the question.
9
10 (Council nods affirmatively)
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
13 Question's been called for, all in favor say aye.
14
15 IN UNISON: Aye.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
18
19 MR. UMPHENOUR: We need clarification on
20 the motion.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're voting on
23 the Black River only.
24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. But the motion
26 was to.....
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Black River, B.
29
30 MR. UMPHENOUR: No. Maybe my ears
31 are.....
32
33 MR. GLANZ: I withdraw my second if we're
34 going to play games here.
35
36 MR. UMPHENOUR: I think he said move to
37 adopt proposal -- or Alternative C, I think is what I
38 heard him say.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He said B.
41
42 MR. GLANZ: Salmon Fork only, B.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we're going
45 to clarify the motion.
46
47 MR. GLANZ: I seconded the motion to put
48 Plan B in effect for Salmon Fork only.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Salmon Fork.

1 MR. GLANZ: Not the rest of the
2 Eastern.....
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The Black
5 River.
6
7 MR. GLANZ: The Salmon Fork, Black River,
8 you know what I'm saying.
9
10 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair. I can repeat
11 the motion if the Chair desires.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He was going to
14 clarify it but I think you had it written, didn't you --
15 are you like me and can't find it?
16
17 MR. MATESI: No.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wow, good for
20 you.
21
22 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair. Let me repeat
23 the motion.
24
25 I move that the Council drafts a letter
26 for submission to the BLM supporting Alternative B for
27 the upper Black River subunit in their draft management
28 plan.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Which is one of
31 the four that they're.....
32
33 MR. GLANZ: Yes, and I seconded that
34 motion there.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is everyone
37 clear?
38
39 (Council nods affirmatively)
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Got it Virgil.
42 Why do you look confused?
43
44 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'm clear.
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All in
47 favor say aye.
48
49 IN UNISON: Aye.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
2
3 (No opposing votes)
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Unanimous.
6 Andy.
7
8 MR. BASSICH: I make a motion that a --
9 and I don't know if we need a motion for this but I think
10 it makes it a little more official.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
13
14 MR. BASSICH: I'd make a motion that we
15 form a working group to draft a letter to the Federal
16 Subsistence Board and BLM regarding the BLM plan changes
17 in all areas affecting the Eastern RAC region.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you only
20 addressing the Federal Board letter and not a working
21 group for the Council for the rest of the region?
22
23 MR. BASSICH: My understanding is the
24 working group would be assigned the task of drafting a
25 letter, that letter would go to BLM and also a letter to
26 the Federal Subsistence Board on our position here and I
27 would hope that we would have a request for them to also
28 support our letters.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do I hear a
31 second.
32
33 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Part of
36 your motion was discussion. Is there any other
37 discussion on the motion.
38
39 (No comments)
40
41 MR. MATESE: Question.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question's been
44 called for, all in favor say aye.
45
46 IN UNISON: Aye.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
49
50 (No opposing votes)

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Passes
2 unanimous.
3
4 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.
7
8 MR. BASSICH: I think it'd be appropriate
9 to assign people to that working group at this time so
10 it's clear who's going to be working on the letters from
11 the regions.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So I
14 think you would be the one for Fortymile?
15
16 MR. BASSICH: Actually I would like to
17 nominate Mr. Isaac Juneby for that. I think he has
18 worked in that area and his affiliation with the Eagle
19 Tribal Council would probably merit a much better,
20 stronger position that represents Eagle more than me.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Isaac,
23 are you willing to be on that group?
24
25 MR. JUNEBY: I would.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So Isaac
28 will be for that region. And then down river, is that --
29 what's the name of that White Mountains or Steese -- oh,
30 yeah, Steese Mountains; do I hear a volunteer?
31
32 MR. GLANZ: I'll volunteer to go on the
33 Steese.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. What is
36 mine called?
37
38 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
41
42 MR. MATESI: I nominate Andrew Firmin to
43 represent the White Mountains.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They're
46 nominating now instead of volunteering.
47
48 Andrew, I'm sure you can handle that.
49
50 MR. FIRMIN: I'll be there if there's

1 need be, and if not I'm sure Joe can handle the rest.
2
3 (Laughter)
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
6 right, I think that's it, right. The Fortymile actually
7 includes that little chunk of real estate below us, so,
8 yeah.
9
10 All right, I think that's clear.
11
12 Yes.
13
14 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, it's my
15 understanding, too, that during that process the Chair
16 would always be able to sit in on that so you would be
17 aware -- also represent the Fortymile region as well.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. And see
20 the letter so, yeah, all right. Anything else.
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do we need
25 a.....
26
27 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, let's take a five
28 minute break.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Five minutes
31 turns to 10, so back at 10:10.
32
33 (Off record)
34
35 (On record)
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: People started
38 moving when I pounded on the table, that's pretty good.
39 Oh, I hope we can get through this today.
40
41 (Pause)
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Call for
44 proposals, do you have proposals?
45
46 MR. UMPHENOUR: Hum.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you have
49 proposals?
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: Uh-huh.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do you
4 think you can make it happen -- all right, let's try.
5
6 Okay, let's call the meeting back to
7 order, one, two, three, four, five, six, I see six of us
8 here. Oh, Bill's back there. Sometimes I wonder if we
9 don't get more done at break.
10
11 (Pause)
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Take our
14 seats. Call for proposals. The deadline is whenever --
15 oh, March 30th.
16
17 All right. Don, did you have something
18 to add to this, it says Don Rivard here.
19
20 MR. JOHNSON: Madame Chair. Mr. Rivard
21 covered the general gist of this yesterday afternoon.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
24 right, thank you. See, I can't remember stuff.
25
26 MR. JOHNSON: That's part of the reason
27 I'm here.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're going to
30 have to tell me how you have the ability to remember.
31
32 Virgil, you said you had some proposals?
33
34 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's correct.
35
36 My first proposal, this is to the Board
37 of Fish for the call for proposals for the Board of Fish.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, the first
40 one was the Federal, do we have any Federal proposals?
41
42 MR. UMPHENOUR: Let me ask a question
43 first. When is the Federal Board going to meet to
44 address fish?
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Next January
47 probably because it's a year, or less?
48
49 MR. JOHNSON: That would be correct,
50 Madame Chair. Any proposals that are submitted now, this

1 summer, OSM Staff will conduct their analysis, and then
2 this fall the Council members will vote either to support
3 or oppose various proposals for the region. And then the
4 Federal Board would meet then next January to vote on any
5 action on those proposals.

6
7 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay, that's good. The
8 Board of Fish will probably meet on AYK in November or
9 December more than likely, maybe January.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So they meet
12 first, before the Federal Board on fisheries, is what
13 you're saying?

14
15 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I don't know who's
16 going to meet first. It sounds like they're going to
17 meet at about the same time.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Tom.

20
21 MR. KRON: Yeah, Madame Chair. Virgil.
22 Again, I think kind of following up on what Carl said, I
23 think they're going to meet about the same time. I don't
24 know who will meet first. But I know that in the past
25 the Board of -- the Federal Subsistence Board has tried
26 to coordinate closely with the State Board on issues that
27 they have a common concern over. So I think there'll be
28 an effort to coordinate.

29
30 Thank you, Madame Chair.

31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, keeping that in
33 mind then the same proposal would be for both Boards.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.

36
37 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. The first one
38 addresses equity.

39
40 So I move that we submit a proposal for
41 the king -- well, for a subsistence proposal that in
42 Districts 1, 2 and 3, that two 36-hour periods a week
43 would be changed to two 18-hour periods per week for the
44 subsistence fishery schedule in Districts 1, 2 and 3 of
45 the Yukon River.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: State that
48 again for him to understand.

49
50 MR. UMPHENOUR: The subsistence fishing

1 schedule for District 1, 2 and 3 of the Yukon River would
2 be two 18-hour periods per week.

3
4
5 second.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is there a

6
7 MR. GLANZ: I'll second it.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Speak to
10 the motion.

11
12 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay, I'll speak to the
13 motion.

14
15 We've had lots of discussion, testimony,
16 and et cetera about a lack of equity or lack of
17 opportunity in the up river districts, especially in
18 District 5D, Ft. Yukon, that region. The catch per unit
19 -- this addresses per unit effort. Currently the people
20 in the lower river districts get 100 percent of their
21 subsistence needs met if they go fishing. There's been
22 people that have said they didn't get their subsistence
23 needs met but that's because they didn't go fishing.
24 Anyway so what we have here is inequity. Because the up
25 river districts have not been getting their subsistence
26 needs met in recent time, and so what this would do is
27 give the up river people a better chance to get their
28 subsistence needs met in times of shortages and share the
29 burden of conservation when we actually -- the goal is to
30 reduce the subsistence harvest. Because if the goal is
31 to reduce the subsistence harvest then it needs to be
32 reduced throughout the drainage, not just in the up river
33 part.

34
35 Madame Chair.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm
38 going to remind the Board this is a proposal and you're
39 voting to put the proposal forth or not. We don't really
40 have to have a long debate about it because that would
41 come up later.

42
43 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we have a
46 second. Other discussion.

47
48 Andy.

49
50 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I understand what

1 you're trying to do, Virgil. I'm wondering if the issue
2 of equity can be addressed in a different manner, though,
3 and that would be to ask managers to have less
4 restriction in the upper river. Because I see the way
5 the fisheries is going to end up operating over the next
6 however many years with these low abundance runs, is
7 they're going to be pulling periods so effectively if
8 they pull periods in the lower river they'll be giving
9 them one 36-hour period a week, rather than two 36-hour
10 periods. And so that -- when you start getting much
11 lower than that I would envision myself, if I lived in
12 the lower river, as being pretty uncomfortable with that.
13 And so I wonder if it wouldn't be more prudent to try and
14 put a proposal in that would ask or force managers to
15 keep fishing times open more in the upper regions, you
16 know, say Stevens Village through Ft. Yukon to Circle or
17 something like that.

18

19 And the reason I say that is because, you
20 know, we have a long history of a lot of tension between
21 various users up and down the river and I think we've
22 made a lot of progress in that, over the last couple
23 years, and I really don't like throwing stones at people,
24 and I think if the equity issue could be addressed
25 through what I just described we'd be far better off as
26 far as everyone working together on the river to address
27 an issue rather than trying to take away from somebody
28 else. Just try and allow a little bit more time for
29 those that need it.

30

31 Madame Chair.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So, while
34 speaking to the motion, this would be -- I hear what
35 you're saying, Andy, you think that there might be a
36 better proposal than this proposal.

37

38 MR. BASSICH: Yes.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So that's what
41 we all have to keep in mind, do we want to put this
42 proposal forward or do we want to put something else
43 forward.

44

45 Anyone else before Virgil gets his peace.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I disagree with
2 Andy. The first thing we have here on this sheet we went
3 over yesterday was protection of early fish, this would
4 protect the early fish. Because what happens is the
5 people fish to beat hell and really hammer those early
6 fish and that's why you never saw any females in the
7 first part of the run until last year and in 2009 because
8 they get caught down river. If they get caught down
9 river, and if the run comes in poor than anticipated or
10 projected then it's too late, the fish are caught. The
11 people up river are going to get restricted and they're
12 not going to get their subsistence needs met while the
13 people in the lower river have already got their
14 subsistence needs met. It'll just be more, oops
15 management, oops, not as many fish came in as we
16 anticipated so you guys up river don't get to fish, you
17 can have your relatives send you some fish from Fred
18 Meyers or Safeway. That's why I think we need to do it.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

21
22 MR. UMPHENOUR: It addresses the
23 precautionary approach in a sustainable salmon
24 regulation. That's what it does.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But I will
27 remind us when we voted on this protecting, I could hear
28 discussion where they -- yes, for one, remember that
29 part, the first, there was two abstentions and six -- I
30 think there was one against or three, but at any rate we
31 weren't clearly, you know, unanimous on that decision.

32
33 So what do the rest of you feel about
34 putting that proposal forward.

35
36 MR. BASSICH: You mean the one on the
37 table?

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, the one on
40 the table, that's what the motion is.

41
42 Bill.

43
44 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, Andy's talking about
45 the Tri-RAC salmon council we've been going through the
46 last year or so and the people down river, they say,
47 well, Andy's been whining about the fish going this, and
48 Virgil up there and you know what we finally found out
49 it's true down here, the salmon are going away.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The people said
2 that.

3
4 MR. GLANZ: Down river, yes, they did.
5 They finally came around to Virgil and Andy's way of
6 thinking and our way of thinking. And I agree there has
7 to be something done to keep the 600 feet of net drifting
8 down river versus my 100 footer up there in one little
9 bluff above Circle. So I really -- I'm caught between
10 the two because I agree with Andy and I agree with
11 Virgil. So I'll just have to let it sit there.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

14
15 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you, Madame
16 Chair. I'm not going to support the proposal. I think --
17 I understand what Virgil's trying to do and I agree in
18 principle with what he's trying to do, I don't think the
19 methodology is conducive to us working together riverwide
20 and I think there might be some other alternatives which
21 might result in some of the same kinds of savings and
22 those might be starting windows earlier in the lower
23 river by managers. They have the authority to do that.
24 Maybe raising driftnets up or shortening driftnets to 150
25 feet instead of 300 feet. I think there's some other
26 things. But at this point in time I can't go along with
27 this so I'm not going to support it.

28
29 I would love to have an alternative right
30 now and I think what I just spoke to, asking managers to
31 open up more time is, I think, a lot better option.....

32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

34
35 MR. BASSICH:at this point in time
36 given the kinds of issues we need to work through
37 riverwide.

38
39 The other problem that I see with cutting
40 times is that it -- because of the methodology of fishing
41 and the limited fishing spots in the lower river for
42 drifts, it really throws people on top of other people.
43 If you're only 18 hours as opposed to 36 hours, the
44 methodology of fishing and the sheer lack of time would
45 create a lot of problems for the people in the lower
46 river using the same drift areas, which I think right now
47 they testified in the past that it is pretty congested to
48 begin with. So I'm not going to support it.

49
50 Thank you, Madame Chair.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let me ask you
2 guys, this exercise we went through with Jill and YRDFA
3 yesterday, is that going to generate a proposal?

4
5 Do we have to bring something out? Is
6 there going to be more work done with the Tri-RAC or the
7 YRDFA to bring out a proposal from all of this work?

8
9 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. My
10 understanding is right now we put out a preliminary
11 suggestions for changes to the management plan to get
12 public feedback. What we saw is public feedback. And
13 we're trying to vet what some of that public feedback is
14 and then the Council, or that group will be meeting again
15 to try and come up with a modified version of what we saw
16 yesterday as far as the language goes. You know we have
17 that language out there, what the changes would be, we're
18 getting public input on that. And then.....

19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So are they
21 just working on the management plan or are they also
22 working on a proposal?

23
24 MR. BASSICH: Well, I think the
25 management plan is the proposal.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I see.

28
29 MR. BASSICH: And correct me if I'm
30 wrong, if anybody in the audience -- but I think that's
31 correct.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So I'm
34 asking you guys how -- I mean, Virgil, I kind of clearly
35 hear if someone's looking at a proposal that we put
36 forward as salt in a wound, I don't know that that's a
37 good approach.

38
39 I don't know, am I hearing anyone else
40 that would agree with Andy? You're kind of -- you don't
41 understand.....

42
43 MR. MATESI: Well, put it to a vote.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, okay.

46
47 MR. GLANZ: I also don't want to disrupt
48 the working relationship that we three guys have
49 established with the other six down river. Because we're
50 the only ones that voted against any of the amendments

1 and all the other ones down river and the Western both --
2 all agreed upon, we -- I can't remember which one we
3 threw out but -- so, maybe I have to support Andy's view
4 there until we get all the -- David James is going to be
5 later today to talk -- not David James, what the -- who
6 is it?

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jenkins.

9
10 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. Yeah. Anyway.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

13
14 MR. GLANZ: I'll withdraw my second here
15 and then let Virgil talk a minute.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You withdraw
18 your second?

19
20 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That would take
23 care of it.

24
25 (Laughter)

26
27 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, I love to do that.

28
29 (Laughter)

30
31 MR. GLANZ: No, not really.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're going to
34 look at Robert's Rules for a second but I think.....

35
36 MR. MATESI: Then I'll go ahead and
37 second it.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:after
40 there's discussion you might not be able to do that.

41
42 MR. GLANZ: I'm just teasing.

43
44 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Were you just
47 teasing.

48
49 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

50

1 (Laughter)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay,
4 you're.....
5
6 MR. GLANZ: Let's just go ahead and.....
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:not
9 withdrawing your motion [sic].
10
11 MR. GLANZ: Let's get everybody's feeling
12 and let's move it along.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
15 Larry.
16
17 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
18 Yeah, I strongly agree with Virgil on what he said on his
19 proposal but we've always tried to build a working
20 relationship with the people from down river so they can
21 work together kind of mesh together so we can come up
22 with some sort of agreement that will be doable and agree
23 with everybody up and down the river, and I don't think
24 this proposal would do any -- you know would improve that
25 working relationship that they've built up.
26
27 And I know something -- and I kind of
28 agree with him that something drastic has to be done to
29 improve the fish runs on the Yukon River. So I kind of
30 -- I'm kind of down with it both ways and I kind of agree
31 with Andy that there's some other ways that it can be
32 done to try to address that problem of lack of fish. So,
33 you know, I'm just kind of on a balancing act here.
34
35 Thank you, very much.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.
38
39 MR. UMPHENOUR: There's only two things
40 that put more fish up the river. One of them is don't
41 fish as much. The second one is make the fishermen less
42 efficient. So if you're going to let them keep fishing,
43 then you have to make them less efficient, and there's
44 only a couple of ways to make them less efficient. And
45 something that you have to bear in mind is that there's
46 700 commercial fishermen in the first 150 miles of that
47 river. They all have commercial gear. They've got 300
48 foot long drift gillnets, 45 meshes deep. Most of them
49 have over a 100 horsepower outboard on their boat.
50 Salmon swims about 30 miles a day. That takes them less

1 than an hour to travel as far as the salmon swims in a
2 day. So when you have windows, you have to make the
3 windows so that the fishermen can't just -- because they
4 have drift gillnets, so they can't just zip up the river
5 for 45 minutes or an hour, get in front of the unfished
6 fish and throw their net out in front of them and they
7 have to swim through it.

8
9 So you have to bear that in mind and you
10 have to bear in mind that the Department, until about
11 the quarter point of the run is not going to know or have
12 any earthly idea, for sure, how many fish are coming into
13 the river. So if it's a very poor run like we've had in
14 the recent past, and they got to fish seven days a week
15 on the early fish and then they get to fish two 36-hour
16 periods on the other fish, they will have their
17 subsistence needs met. And then there may be severe
18 restrictions up river and they'll restrict them down
19 river but they've already got their fish, they don't need
20 to fish anymore anyway and so the people up river will
21 bear the brunt of conservation.

22
23 But I just.....

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.....

26
27 MR. UMPHENOUR:want to make sure
28 people understand how it works.

29
30 The Department will still have emergency
31 order authority to increase fishing time if they want to,
32 they can decrease it or increase it, either one, by
33 emergency order. However, if you don't start out in a
34 conservative manner -- they can always let them fish more
35 later, if you don't -- if they're bitching that they
36 don't have their subsistence needs met, but once those
37 fish are caught it's too late. And so that's why the
38 Board, whenever they wrote the sustainable salmon.....

39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

41
42 MR. UMPHENOUR:policy, which is in
43 regulation, they put in what they call the precautionary
44 principle, I was one of the guys that wrote that, and
45 that's why it's in there.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR: To err on the side of
50 conservation and at the same time.....

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're just
2 asking.....
3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR:no, about 30 more
5 seconds, Sue.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:debating
8 whether we're going to put the proposal forward.
9
10 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, you drag it out
11 longer when you try to interrupt me.
12
13 (Laughter)
14
15 MR. UMPHENOUR: We discussed equity
16 yesterday. I believe in the 14th Amendment to our United
17 States Constitution, which is fair and equal treatment
18 under the law. It's not fair for the people up river to
19 have to sit on the beach and not fish because it was
20 impossible for the Department to know for sure how many
21 fish were going to enter the river, not enough entered
22 the river, the people down river got to fish two 36-hour
23 periods per week, they caught thousands of king salmon
24 with their gillnets.....
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We know this.
27
28 MR. UMPHENOUR:and then the people
29 up river don't even get to fish, that's not equal.....
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
32
33 MR. UMPHENOUR:fair and equal
34 treatment under the law.
35
36 That's why.....
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
39
40 MR. UMPHENOUR:I put the proposal
41 forward. If you guys don't want it, that's fine with me.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Isaac.
44
45 MR. JUNEBY: Thank you, Madame Chair. At
46 this moment I think I support Andy as to how he put that
47 thing. During the last couple of years that I've been
48 fishing up in the Eagle area, I noticed that the short
49 closing. I think that was more of a complaint on that
50 type than anything. I fished with somebody last year, I

1 didn't have to go that far. But usually I go down about
2 20 miles down below Eagle, that's where I fish, and last
3 year it was like -- it was not much time so I didn't
4 even, you know, but at the moment I think I would like to
5 support that 36 hours or whatever Andy had stated in his
6 opening.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone else.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I have one
15 question. That 36 hour, one opening can be done by the
16 Department now, right, the way it's set up?

17

18 MR. BASSICH: Right now it's set up for
19 two 36-hours a week and all I was trying to demonstrate
20 is that with pulse closures, which is probably inevitable
21 for the foreseeable future, that would cut down to one
22 36-hour period.....

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So it'll
25 probably.....

26

27 MR. BASSICH:a week or may even
28 shut down the whole fisheries for a whole week. And so
29 if they shut down both 36-hour periods for the week then
30 you've got to play catch up in the following weeks or
31 whatever. So it just depends on how managers do it,
32 whether they close down one 36-hour or whether they feel
33 they need to close down two of them. Unfortunately Steve
34 Hayes isn't here that could speak to that but.....

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It looks like
37 Fred can.

38

39 MR. BASSICH: Oh, sorry, Fred, go ahead.

40

41 MR. BUE: Yeah, thank you. I'm not sure
42 what the specific question is but, yes, we do have
43 emergency order authority essentially to mirror the
44 State's and that's what we do. Their schedule in the
45 lower river, as everybody knows, it's two 36-hour
46 periods, we can pull a period, extend a period, reduce
47 fishing time to 18 hours, whatever, as we try to -- we're
48 looking towards spreading harvest out throughout the
49 river and we would like to spread it out over the run as
50 much as we can. And so -- but if we get behind, then we

1 take bigger lumps off and it's not always equitable, but
2 that's how the fish enter the river, you know, our
3 information is better the further up river the fish go,
4 and sometimes we go either way.

5
6 In 2010, nobody really talks about it
7 much, but it was me, that took a lot of brunt of the
8 blame when we went to Canada for not meeting the goals
9 there. 2010 we had three flood events. I didn't close
10 fishing thinking that the fishing was going to be
11 curtailed or to some extent because of those high water
12 events, we all know that, a lot of fishing gear was
13 actually lost in the process. When we went to Canada and
14 people said you guys didn't do anything to reduce the
15 harvest, well, that was because I thought the weather was
16 taking care of that. And the lower river got the fish,
17 up river they had problems and so we let them fish. We
18 asked people to take only what they needed to reduce
19 their harvest. Some did. But we can't control what
20 everybody does. In an ideal world everybody'd cooperate
21 and take what they want and that's kind of how it is.

22
23 We've been working at that. We've been
24 making some progress. But the bottom line is the fish in
25 the end. And so, as managers, we have to do what we have
26 to do to get those fish on the spawning grounds. If
27 everybody could agree and come up with a solution, like
28 in the management plan that people are trying to work on,
29 but it's a slow process. It takes buying in and
30 compromise all along the way, and so it's a race, which
31 we need now to, you know, save the fish right now or to
32 work through this process as a group of people. In over
33 20 years I've seen quite a bit of compromise and
34 progression but.....

35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But this tool
37 box, it's in your tool box?

38
39 MR. BUE: We have this authority, ma'am.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I guess
42 that's what I was getting at. You have this authority.
43 And what I heard yesterday was people are saying that you
44 guys are doing a way better job than in the past that's
45 protecting the fish and so that plays heavy on my mind.

46
47 MR. BASSICH: I call question.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question's been
50 called for. In favor of putting forth this.....

1 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. Can we do a
2 roll call vote because I think there'll be some -- it
3 won't be.....
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, we can.
6
7 MR. BASSICH:unanimous vote.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm trying to
10 restate the motion and that is to put forth a proposal,
11 a joint proposal to the Boards for two 18-hour openings
12 instead of two 36 in 1, 2 and 3 -- Districts 1, 2 and 3,
13 two 18-hour openings.
14
15 Okay, roll call vote, Andrew.
16
17 MR. FIRMIN: Roll call vote to the motion
18 on the floor. Sue Entsminger.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No.
21
22 MR. FIRMIN: Andrew Firmin, yes. Larry
23 Williams, Sr.
24
25 MR. WILLIAMS: No.
26
27 MR. FIRMIN: Lester Erhart.
28
29 MR. ERHART: Yes.
30
31 MR. FIRMIN: Bill Glanz.
32
33 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
34
35 MR. FIRMIN: Andy Bassich.
36
37 MR. BASSICH: No.
38
39 MR. FIRMIN: Isaac Juneby.
40
41 MR. JUNEBY: No.
42
43 MR. FIRMIN: Joseph Matesi.
44
45 MR. MATESI: No.
46
47 MR. FIRMIN: Virgil Umphenour.
48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes.
50

1 MR. FIRMIN: The motion carries 5/4.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 5/4.
4
5 MR. UMPHENOUR: 5/4 what?
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes. You won
8 by one, Virgil. Very convincing he can be.
9
10 MR. GLANZ: (Not on microphone)
11
12 (Laughter)
13
14 MR. BASSICH: I think Virgil's using the
15 Force.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is he looking
18 in the window, or is it a mirror.
19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR: Close only counts in hand
21 grenades and horseshoes.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
24
25 (Laughter)
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
28
29 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay, I have another
30 proposal.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Does
33 anyone else have proposals besides Virgil?
34
35 MR. UMPHENOUR: What I'm doing, Madame
36 Chair, is going through this.....
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm just giving
39 you a hard time.
40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR:list that we went
42 through yesterday for.....
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Good job, go.
45
46 MR. UMPHENOUR:potential changes to
47 the management plan.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're next.
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. The next one would
2 be on this sheet of paper we went through yesterday, is
3 Item 5, concurrent subsistence and commercial periods.
4 We, you know, discussed that quite a bit yesterday.

5
6 So I move that we do number 5, concurrent
7 subsistence and commercial periods in District 1, 2 and
8 3, it's already that way in District 4, 5 and 6. So that
9 the whole river's managed in the same manner.

10
11 MR. BASSICH: Is there a second.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do I hear a
14 second.

15
16 MR. FIRMIN: Second.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I'll speak to the
21 motion. Like I said a while ago, there's only two things
22 that are going to put more fish up the river and what we
23 want is we want quality escapement on the spawning
24 grounds. We have better quality now than what we've had,
25 you know, in the past, in the last couple years, however,
26 you need unmolested fish on the spawning grounds.

27
28 Whenever you have concurrent subsistence
29 and commercial periods, like we have in the upper river,
30 the subsistence fishermen and the commercial fishermen
31 fish at the same time and so the fish are only exploited
32 during that period of time. If you don't do that, the
33 way it is right now in District 1, 2 and 3, and this
34 started in 1993 or '94 is when it started, what ends up
35 happening, the way the regulation is now, is the
36 subsistence fishermen are penalized so commercial
37 fishermen can fish, basically is what it is. And to me
38 that's ridiculous when subsistence fishermen are supposed
39 to have the priority over commercial, is to not let the
40 subsistence fishermen fish because the commercial
41 fishermen want to fish. And so they are not allowed to
42 fish for 18 hours prior to the commercial fishery period,
43 during the commercial period and then 12 hours after the
44 commercial period. And so what that causes to happen is
45 then as soon as that 12 hours is over, after the
46 commercial period is over, then they can start
47 subsistence fishing. A lot of the people that
48 subsistence fish are actually fishermen as well, and so
49 what ends up happening is you basically have no windows
50 then. Once they start the commercial fishery there are

1 no more windows, they lock the shortest window there is,
2 the 18 hour window before the commercial period. But
3 like I said awhile ago the fish can only swim 30 miles a
4 day and so that's only 18 hours. It takes a half hour to
5 45 minutes for that guy with his boat, with his
6 commercial net to get in front of those fish. So if we
7 want unmolested fish on the spawning ground, this is what
8 we need to do and the Department, by emergency order has
9 done -- did do this last year, maybe the year before, I'm
10 not sure but I know they did this past year. That
11 is.....

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We can.....

14

15 MR. UMPHENOUR:what they did.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil, this is
18 a motion to put this proposal forward. It's been
19 seconded. Virgil took the long version to explain why it
20 should be there and when we took this up, support/oppose
21 we had seven favor and two abstentions. So has anything
22 changed, would you like to put this forward?

23

24 MR. BASSICH: No, Madame Chair. But I do
25 want to get on the record in the appropriate manner why
26 I support this, if you will.

27

28 It says is there a conservation concern.

29

30 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right.

31

32 MR. BASSICH: Yes, there is a
33 conservation concern of chinook salmon on the Yukon River
34 and we've been talking about it throughout this whole
35 meeting so I'll reference all the testimony given to us
36 on the lack of king salmon on the Yukon River and the
37 difficulty of subsistence users to meet their needs in
38 their upper river.

39

40 Is this recommendation for supporting
41 this supported by substantial evidence, and.....

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: This is a
44 proposal, we can do this later, I think, Andy.

45

46 MR. BASSICH: Well, I think it's very
47 important to get it on the record right now why we
48 support it if we're going to move this forward. Am I
49 correct, Carl, is this the proper time to do this or
50 should I just be quiet and pass it on and deal with it

1 later?

2

3 MR. JOHNSON: Well, the standards that
4 you're referring to, Andy, would be in the final decision
5 on.....

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

8

9 MR. JOHNSON:actually either voting
10 in support of or against the proposal as it will be
11 submitted to the Federal Board. All you're voting on
12 right now is whether or not to put forward a proposal
13 that would then go through analysis and then this fall
14 the Council would make its final vote as to whether or
15 not to make this recommendation to the Board. And that
16 would be the time that would be more appropriate for
17 setting forth that three point standard so that the
18 statement of the Council is on the record for the Board
19 as to why the Board should accept the Council's
20 recommendation.

21

22 MR. BASSICH: Very good, thank you, I'll
23 be quiet.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
26 Thank you, Carl.

27

28 All right, the motion is to put this
29 forward. Any other discussion on putting the proposal
30 forward.

31

32 MR. JOHNSON: Point of clarification.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

35

36 MR. JOHNSON: Point of clarification,
37 though, this proposal as it is stated is a proposal to
38 the State Board of Fish, not the Federal Subsistence
39 Board. Since it is designated to specifically modify one
40 component of the Alaska Administrative Code, so it would
41 be a State proposal, not a Federal proposal.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's why we
44 have you next to us.

45

46 MR. JUNEBY: Madame Chair. Would you
47 just clarify what's on the.....

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What the motion
50 is?

1 MR. JUNEBY: Yes.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The motion is
4 to put forth a proposal to the State Board of Fish,
5 because this is a.....
6
7 (Cell phone ringing)
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Ahhh, five
10 bucks, I've been writing this down, that's Virgil -- I
11 got 20 bucks coming.
12
13 Now, that we were interrupted, sorry, to
14 put forth a proposal to delete the requiring waiting
15 period between subsistence and commercial periods in
16 Districts 1, 2 and 3.
17
18 I don't think I made that clear, did I --
19 okay, all right, I did.
20
21 MR. JOHNSON: Madame Chair.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
24
25 MR. JOHNSON: And another thing, too, I
26 did look this up on the Board of Fish website, they do,
27 however, have specific things that they call for when
28 making proposals to the Board of Fish and this may go to
29 what Andy was -- this may give you some guidance, Andy,
30 as to what you might want to say on the record.
31
32 The things that the Board of Fish require
33 are:
34
35 Writing a short explanation about the
36 problem the proposal addresses, or why
37 you're making the proposal.
38
39 State why the regulation should be
40 adopted, and an explanation about what
41 will happen if it is not changed.
42
43 And the other things just deal with
44 specifying which regulation you're seeking to modify, and
45 so we already have that on the record.
46
47 So those would be the two main points
48 that should be on the record for this particular
49 proposal.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
2
3 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. Call
4 question.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
7 been called for. All in favor of putting the proposal
8 forward, say aye.
9
10 IN UNISON: Aye.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
13
14 (No opposing votes)
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, the
17 proposal will go forward.
18
19 Any other proposals.
20
21 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.
24
25 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I have some proposals
26 on the customary trade issue but I'd like to hold those
27 off until we bring that up on the agenda and have full
28 discussion on them.
29
30 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair.
31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: I didn't quite.....
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe.
35
36 MR. UMPHENOUR:hear what he had
37 proposals on.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Customary
40 trade.
41
42 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I would like to
43 just.....
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wait, do you
46 have something Joe?
47
48 MR. MATESI: (Nods affirmatively)
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I called

1 on Joe, I'm sorry Virgil.

2

3 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair. Please
4 forgive me, my lack of understanding on the agenda, at
5 what point do we also discuss proposals strictly for the
6 State Board of Fisheries; is this.....

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's right now.

9

10 MR. MATESI:the appropriate time?

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.

13

14 MR. MATESI: Okay. It's not a proposal.
15 Let me explain a little bit before I put a motion. A
16 year ago this Council submitted an agenda change request
17 to the State Board of Fisheries, which the BOF looked at
18 and denied because it was not considered emergent enough
19 and follow up to that the Yukon Flats Advisory Council,
20 under Larry's leadership submitted an actual proposal in
21 this cycle to the State Board of Fish. So we don't
22 really necessarily have to submit -- resubmit that as a
23 proposal now but I would like the Council to consider,
24 what, a letter of support for that proposal.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think we're
27 going to have time to do that later because of the way
28 the cycle works. It's a proposal going forward to the
29 Board of Fish.

30

31 MR. MATESI: Well, I was just trying to
32 find when is the deadline? I think it is quite awhile
33 but it might be closing before October. When is the
34 deadline, maybe Carl would know for submitting.....

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Our comments to
37 the Board of Fish, I think we have -- I mean we're
38 submitting two ourselves right now so -- and that was
39 submitted so I'm sure that we have time at our next
40 meeting to take it up.

41

42 Tom.

43

44 MR. KRON: The proposal deadline for
45 Federal Subsistence Board proposals for fisheries is.....

46

47 MR. MATESI: No.

48

49 MR. KRON: Let me finish. Mr. Chair. Or
50 Madame Chair.

1 The proposal deadline on the Federal side
2 is March 30th, on the State side it's April 10th. The
3 State takes up Yukon proposals, Yukon or Kuskokwim
4 proposals, but Yukon proposals every three years, they
5 will be taking them up again this next winter. We're
6 guessing probably in January but we don't know the exact
7 date. But, again, as discussed earlier, both the Federal
8 Subsistence Board and the State Board of Fish will be
9 taking up Yukon issues this coming winter for fisheries.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But the
12 deadline for our comments is what?

13

14 MR. KRON: Deadline for proposals. So if
15 you want to submit a proposal on the State side, to the
16 State Board of Fish, it's.....

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I know.

19

20 MR. KRON:April 10th, on the.....

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

23

24 MR. KRON:Federal side it's March
25 30th.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But his
28 question isn't that. His question is when is our public
29 comments due for the Board of Fish.

30

31 MS. BROWN: This is Caroline Brown from
32 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

33

34 The January meeting for the Board of Fish
35 is January 15th through the 20th. In terms of a deadline
36 for comments, we're checking.....

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm sure it's
39 after our October meeting.

40

41 MR. JOHNSON: I'm looking it up right
42 now.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Everyone's
45 looking it up on their Smartphones and.....

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:and
50 actually -- I guess Joe says he's looking it up and he

1 couldn't find it. We're having a pow-wow in the audience
2 here. You can find out.
3
4 MS. BROWN: They're looking.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jennifer do you
7 have it -- do you have it?
8
9 MS. YUHAS: Madame Chair. Jennifer
10 Yuhas, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.
11
12 MR. JOHNSON: Two weeks prior to the
13 meeting.
14
15 MS. YUHAS: Two weeks prior to the
16 meeting would be an official closure for written comment,
17 however.....
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I was
20 sure that.....
21
22 MS. YUHAS:comments on the
23 proposals.....
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.
26
27 MS. YUHAS:would be accepted all
28 the way up and to the meeting. If you -- you have plenty
29 of time to meet in the fall to.....
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But our stuff
32 would get in the.....
33
34 MS. YUHAS:produce th.....
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:board book
37 two weeks prior?
38
39 MS. YUHAS: Correct.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we got
42 plenty of time.
43
44 MS. YUHAS: Correct.
45
46 MR. MATESI: And.....
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
49
50 MR. MATESI: Thank you. Madame Chair.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that's when
2 we would go and take up all those proposals.
3
4 MR. MATESI: And my sense is that we
5 don't need to resubmit that as a proposal because the
6 Yukon Flats AC already has done so, would the.....
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
9
10 MR. MATESI:rest of the Council
11 agree to that, just informally?
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I would
14 say so unless somebody wants to see two proposals go
15 forward. But you have a chance to take it up when they
16 come out. So, Virgil.
17
18 MR. UMPHENOUR: Could we ask what the
19 proposal is?
20
21 MR. MATESI: That was the ACR we
22 submitted concerning closing -- it was the spawning
23 closure, Salmon Fork or Black River closed to
24 sportfishing for king salmon during the spawning season.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And
27 we're okay there. Anything else. Any other Board of
28 Fish or Federal fisheries proposals?
29
30 (No comments)
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, let's
33 move on.
34
35 Fred.
36
37 MR. BUE: I don't want to belabor this
38 and it doesn't affect you very much at all but just for
39 your awareness, Fish and Wildlife Service, myself, we're
40 trying to, through these processes we always try to clean
41 up old regs. A couple years ago the State did marking
42 requirement on subsistence caught fish where they
43 previously needed to mark the dorsal fin and they changed
44 the regulation for caudle fin, tail marking. And so the
45 Federal -- to bring this back in line I plan to submit a
46 proposal to that effect.
47
48 Madame Chair.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So

1 there's another one that'll be out there that we'll take
2 up at our October meeting, our fall meeting.

3

4 All right. We're moving into old
5 business. I have a question of the Council. Any Craver
6 the Denali SRC person is on line and has a report, do you
7 want to hear her give the report before noon, she
8 requested, do you want to hear that now and then move on
9 into the agenda.

10

11 (Council nods affirmatively)

12

13 MR. FIRMIN: Yes, go for it.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Amy, are you
16 still on board?

17

18 MS. CRAVER: I am.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. This is
21 your chance.

22

23 MS. CRAVER: So, Barbara, were you able
24 to pass out our update to the.....

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We have the
27 handout.

28

29 MS. CRAVER:Council members?

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, the
32 handout is here.

33

34 MS. CRAVER: Okay, excellent. Okay.
35 Good morning, Madame Chair, and Members of the Council.
36 For the record my name is Amy Craver and I'm the program
37 manager for cultural resources and subsistence for Denali
38 National Park and Preserve.

39

40 Barbara has given each of you a copy of
41 Denali's wildlife and subsistence project updates for
42 your review. If anyone has any questions about this
43 report, feel free to contact me about SRC related
44 activities or I can put you in contact with our wildlife
45 biologist, Tom, about wildlife issues.

46

47 And some of the highlights I just wanted
48 to bring up, and I won't go into details with the
49 wildlife update because you can read that for yourselves.
50 But (indiscernible) been able to fill our RAC vacancy on

1 our Subsistence Resource Commission, we received four
2 applications for the Department of Interior vacancy; the
3 National Park Service recommended James Roberts from
4 Tanana for the Secretary of Interior appointment, which
5 the Secretary approved. Mr. Roberts is an environmental
6 specialist for Tanana IRA Tribal Council. Mr. Roberts'
7 family has multi-generational dependence on moose, sheep
8 and lynx within the boundaries of Denali. Mr. Roberts'
9 great-grandmother, Belinda Starr, and her siblings
10 originated from (indiscernible - phone disruption) on the
11 East Fork of the Kuskokwim River within the boundary of
12 Denali.

13

14 The other three appointments for the
15 Department of Interior were from Fairbanks, Nenana and
16 Healy.

17

18 And just to sort of update the Council,
19 currently the SRC is made up of three local subsistence
20 users from Cantwell, one from Healy, one from McGrath,
21 two from Minchumina, one from Nikolai and one from
22 Tanana. And just for your information I'll remind you
23 that Kevin Mayo from Healy is the Eastern Interior
24 Regional Advisory Council appointment to the Denali
25 Subsistence Resource Commission, and you may remember
26 that last year Mr. Mayo received a .1344 permit,
27 subsistence permit and he does have individual C&T for
28 moose and caribou in GMU 13E (ph) (phone disruption).

29

30 And I'll give you a head's up, our next
31 Subsistence Resource Commission meeting will be held the
32 first week of July in Nikolai, and our plans are to have
33 sort of a community potluck and then have our meeting
34 there in Nikolai and then bring Park Service Staff and
35 SRC members up the Swiftfork to the Kuskokwim River to
36 Dan (Indiscernible) parents, Philip and Dora
37 (Indiscernible) fish camp, and we'll probably overnight
38 there and just give people an opportunity to sort of
39 observe a fish camp there in Nikolai.

40

41 And then just for your information two
42 weeks ago the Park Staff was invited to attend the
43 monthly tribal council meeting in Tanana and our wildlife
44 biologist Pat Owen was asked to give a presentation on
45 the methodology that we borrowed from the State for doing
46 moose surveys, and they're very interested in conducting
47 their own moose survey and maybe seeking some assistance
48 from Denali National Park.

49

50 And then Jean Gamache, our Park Service

1 Native liaison was able to give an overview on local hire
2 and then NPS policy on tribal consultation. And then I,
3 as a subsistence manager, I was just updating them on
4 some upcoming subsistence and cultural related projects.

5
6 And then also this summer I'll be working
7 with the Nikolai Tribal Council on their -- they're going
8 to be hosting the Youth and Elder's Conference and that's
9 through the Denakagan Elder and Youth Program and I think
10 what we're going to be doing is helping the tribal
11 council do an oral history project of some of the elders
12 there in Nikolai. And I think the Park Service is going
13 to try to help with the publication cost for the booklet
14 that they produce for the conference.

15
16 And that's just some of the updates,
17 highlights. Are there any questions?

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
20 members, any questions.

21
22 MR. JUNEBY: I got one.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Isaac. Isaac
25 Juneby has one.

26
27 MR. JUNEBY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
28 Amy, this is Isaac Juneby from Eagle.

29
30 MS. CRAVER: Yes.

31
32 MR. JUNEBY: And I just have a comment on
33 tribal consultation. I've been dealing with tribal
34 consultation on the Federal government EPA programs, and
35 I don't want to be too critical but I think in time we
36 have to be critical in order to explore and put forward
37 some of the languages that tribal consultation means.
38 Tribal consultation is a proclamation that is actually
39 has through the trust responsibility of the Federal
40 government to say anything we do, anything they do, we
41 have to consult with tribes; I guess in areas that tribes
42 that are closest to anything we're addressing.

43
44 My comment is, is that, because it's a
45 word of the government that states that, we will go
46 through tribal consultation, that just putting it in a
47 language where you can say tribal consultation will be
48 put forward, that doesn't fulfill your tribal
49 consultation obligation. You actually have to go to the
50 tribes and if it takes 10, 12, 15 meetings and within

1 that one of the point that I want to touch on is to say
2 that the documentation of traditional knowledge is one of
3 the things that they have to look for and unfortunately
4 I've been to a lot of meetings with the Feds and even to
5 that extent, State, and to fulfill that obligation it's
6 written, but there's no action.

7

8 And I would like to say that within this
9 tribal consultation that you went to in Tanana, that is
10 good that you go out there, that is good that you touch
11 bases with your constituents but has there any form of a
12 -- the way you do consultation put into effect?

13

14 MS. CRAVER: Well, Isaac, I guess I can
15 respond two ways.

16

17 First of all our tribal consultation --
18 we have been consulting sort of government to government
19 sort of as a, you know, official capacity, when we're
20 doing projects we always send letters to the tribal
21 councils that are in our surrounding area, Denali, but
22 what we're trying to do right now is really develop up
23 sort of the informal type so that they know who we are
24 and basically we were invited by Tanana to come to their
25 meeting and just try to talk about future projects that
26 we could work on. And, more, that invitation was more of
27 an informal meeting just to get to know each other
28 because we haven't had a lot of one on one interaction
29 with the Tanana Tribal Council and most of our
30 interactions with Tanana were with Paul Starr who was on
31 our -- before he passed away, who was on our Subsistence
32 Resource Commission. So we're trying to really further
33 those ties to Tanana more informally. But, yes, that's
34 one of the things, why we had Jean Gamache, our Native
35 liaison, at the Tanana meeting, so that she could fully
36 explain what our obligation for the Federal government,
37 to have that government to government relationship with
38 the Tanana Council. So we're kind of trying to do two
39 things, sort of informal consultation, just letting
40 people know what we're doing, how we can establish more
41 partnership and then also the formal consultation where
42 we are informing them what we're doing, we're asking them
43 for their input on just general activities that we're
44 working on in the Park.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
47 questions.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
2 thank you, Amy.
3
4 MS. CRAVER: Okay, thank you. And I'm
5 sorry I wasn't able to make it.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Have a
8 safe trip.
9
10 Boy, this is the hard part about being
11 Chair, I have another person that says they wanted to be
12 here before lunch. We ought to talk about how we can
13 make this all work better because it's hard to
14 coordinate. That's Gates of the Arctic and that would be
15 Mia.
16
17 MS. OKADA: Thank you, Madame Chair. My
18 name is Marcia Okada with the National Park Service,
19 Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, Yukon-
20 Charley National Preserve. If you go to Page 42 of your
21 meeting materials booklet I'll be covering a letter
22 written by our Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource
23 Commission.
24
25 And, Madame Chair, I believe you covered
26 this topic at your last SRC meeting so you're.....
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
29
30 MS. OKADA:quite aware of this
31 letter.
32
33 At this time in the form of a hunting
34 plan recommendation, Hunting Plan Recommendation 1101,
35 the Gates of the Arctic National Park Subsistence
36 Resource Commission is requesting an increase in the per
37 diem rate for both Federal Regional Advisory Council and
38 Subsistence Resource Commissions. And the reasons for
39 this increase are stated within this letter, and at this
40 time we're just basically asking for comments, any
41 questions, a vote of.....
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do you
44 want to take care of that right now?
45
46 MS. OKADA:any type. Sure.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Does
49 anyone have any questions regarding this 1101, this is to
50 increase per diem for SRCs?

1 MR. BASSICH: And RACs.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, I missed
4 that, and RACs?
5
6 MR. BASSICH: And RACs.
7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: You didn't read it Sue.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh. We have so
11 much material to read, Virgil has not had time to read
12 this one. That's on Page 42. Andy.
13
14 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I'd just like to say
15 I'd be in support of that and I'm going to run for
16 Congress so I can support it further.
17
18 (Laughter)
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Very well
21 stated. Yeah, I don't think people realize how much this
22 takes out of our lives, per diem rates are great.
23
24 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But I.....
27
28 MR. BASSICH: One more quick comment.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.
31
32 MR. BASSICH: Not only does coming to a
33 meeting require a lot of time, as you well know, and I'm
34 sure Sue will certainly testify to, the amount of
35 material put before us to read requires an awful lot of
36 time and so that's my justification for a slight increase
37 of any amount. Because I know I spend many, many hours
38 during the winter reading through this and trying to
39 digest it and unfortunately a lot of times we don't have
40 access to the people that can explain it to us so I'm a
41 little bit slow but it does take a long time to figure
42 some of this stuff out.
43
44 I just wanted to put that on the record,
45 we spend a lot of time reading.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I'm feeling
48 slower as I get older. I used to be the young one on the
49 block and I'm finding that it's not true anymore.
50

1 But -- did you have something, Joe, did
2 I hear you raise your hand -- or see you raise your hand?

3

4 MR. MATESI: (Shakes head negatively)

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I do want to
7 say that we brought this up at the SRC meeting in
8 Wrangells and one of the younger people than myself who
9 probably has a lot more information about government per
10 diems brought up an issue that I don't think people think
11 about, that there's a certain rate that you can have and
12 after that it goes into, you're making money and then you
13 have to pay to taxes on it and you have to be careful of
14 that. And I don't know, did you guys address that?

15

16 MS. OKADA: At this time this letter is
17 still in draft form so your comments or questions that
18 are submitted will eventually be answered, but, no, it
19 wasn't a topic of discussion.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I might
22 just ask Barbara to help me on that particular one, that
23 we talked about. I don't even remember our action,
24 that's pretty sad. What did we do.

25

26 MS. CELLARIUS: Sue. Someone did bring
27 up the concern about what changing the per diem rate from
28 what is sort of the IRS, the rate that fits in with sort
29 of the IRS regulations would result in some tax
30 liability. And what the SRC did was they decided not to
31 take a vote on.....

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

34

35 MS. CELLARIUS:the recommendation.
36 The letter that was sent to the Gates SRC does share the
37 discussion that -- about the important -- or the value of
38 what the SRC provides to the Park Service, so there's a
39 reference to that. But it says that they declined to
40 take a vote on the recommendation.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Because of that
43 uncertainty. Yeah, uh-huh. So, now, what do we want to
44 do.

45

46 MR. GLANZ: Madame Chair. I used to work
47 for the Feds, each little area they'd send me to
48 sometimes had a higher per diem or a lower per diem, and
49 I never paid a penny tax on all the per diem, I'd rather
50 have per diem sometimes rather than a two or three hour

1 overtime per day because the pay was a lot better and
2 there was no taxes on it. I've never heard of a tax on
3 a per diem. Unless somebody's a tax expert in here, I've
4 never heard of it.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

7
8 MR. FIRMIN: As a borderline professional
9 meeting attendee.....

10
11 (Laughter)

12
13 MR. FIRMIN:I've never heard of
14 being taxed on per diem from any source, and a lot of
15 times a lot of my money and income goes to taking care of
16 my family so I've sometimes flown over two mountain
17 ranges with \$10 in my pocket, so anything more that they
18 can give us because we volunteer our time to these
19 meetings would be welcomed.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, that was
22 my first instinct until I heard that. And I think the
23 way I understood it is, there are rates that -- and if it
24 exceeds a rate that's for that area or whatever then it
25 goes to where you got to pay taxes on it. And I see
26 someone nodding their head in the back and I kind of
27 believe that government probably works that way.

28
29 So what's your wishes.

30
31 MR. GLANZ: I make a motion we adopt this
32 and push it forward.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 1101. Okay.
35 Do I hear a second.

36
37 MR. JUNEBY: Second.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: More
40 discussion.

41
42 MR. BASSICH: Question.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
45 been called for. All in favor.....

46
47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:vote
50 yourself a raise -- no, joking. I'm going to abstain

1 because I don't like seeing our government spend all this
2 money but.....
3
4 MR. MATESI: Opposed?
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Opposed.
7
8 MR. MATESI: Yes, I'm opposing.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, one
11 opposed, one abstention.
12
13 Did you have more?
14
15 MS. OKADA: That's it, thank you.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But didn't you
18 guys do something else, you sent out a hunting plan, or
19 was it just material towards it?
20
21 MS. OKADA: We did submit a Park update
22 or Preserve update.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that in
25 here?
26
27 MS. OKADA: It's not in your meeting
28 materials, but it was handed to Carl.....
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
31
32 MS. OKADA:to be passed out.
33
34 MR. JOHNSON: You got it yesterday.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So does anyone
37 have any questions on the update that she handed out that
38 we had yesterday?
39
40 (No comments)
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So she's --
43 you're the subsistence -- you're the person for both
44 Yukon-Charley and Gates of the Arctic?
45
46 MS. OKADA: That's correct.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So this
49 Yukon-Charley, you would have brought forth to the
50 Council, just a report?

1 MS. OKADA: Yes.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
4
5 MS. OKADA: And that's what he's handing
6 out now.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And are
9 you taking off or are you going to be here?
10
11 MS. OKADA: I have to Chair another
12 meeting, so once you break for lunch I won't be coming
13 back.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So the
16 Council is getting a copy of the Yukon-Charley report, if
17 there's any questions we'll call you back. Because I
18 think it takes more than a second to read.
19
20 MS. OKADA: Okay. And my name -- or my
21 phone number is also on that sheet.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
24
25 MS. OKADA: Thank you.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
28 thank you. Okay, let me see where we're at.
29
30 Old business. Finalize the 2011 annual
31 report. And how we've done this in the past is we try to
32 go through the meeting and highlight things that we want
33 in our annual report. So does anyone have anything they
34 want to put in that annual report at this time -- or do
35 we have a draft in here?
36
37 MR. JOHNSON: Madame Chair. For
38 convenience, based on the original comments of the
39 Council members at the start of yesterday's meeting and
40 going through I've highlighted three items so far and
41 I'll look for input from the Council members for what
42 else to add.
43
44 First, the issue of the impact of salmon
45 hatcheries on wild salmon stocks and a request for OSM to
46 do whatever's necessary to conduct research and to the
47 extent of that impact.
48
49 Second, the importance of tribal
50 consultation and that OSM needs to make hiring a Native

1 liaison a priority. And you'll hear from Mr. Kron on the
2 OSM briefing on the status of that.

3

4 And, finally, that there needs to be
5 equity and access to resources between upper and lower
6 Yukon subsistence users.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So, Council
9 members, do you hear anything that is missing? Do we
10 have any carryover from the last annual report, or these
11 are.....

12

13 MR. JOHNSON: I'll bring up the last
14 annual report.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:because
17 one of the things I think that we always will put in
18 there is predator management.

19

20 MR. JOHNSON: Madame Chair. Just quickly
21 the topics from the last annual report, customary trade,
22 incidental harvest of Yukon origin salmon, potential
23 effects of verbot predation on salmon fry; anadromous
24 waterway study; over production of hatchery fish; North
25 Pacific Fishery Management Council, specifically
26 preparing -- that the Council was preparing a letter to
27 the Governor, and request that he consider rural users;
28 and let's see; intensive wildlife management, so that
29 covers the predator control issue; impacts of non-rural
30 users; potential effects of climate change on seasons and
31 bag limits; dog lice; and the Chisana Caribou.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We got
34 a response on the dog lice and the Chisana Caribou is
35 done because that was to create a subcommittee.

36

37 Andy. I know those two aren't -- but I
38 know predator control is a big one for this group.

39

40 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, Madame Chair. I'd
41 really like to see some action and some reports put out
42 there on effects -- or potential effects of hatchery
43 production in the marine environment, and not just in
44 Alaska but throughout the Pacific Rim. I know there's
45 been work done over on the Asian side of the Pacific Rim,
46 and I think it'd be really beneficial for some of that
47 information to come out to, not only this RAC, but to
48 other RACs and to the public. And, you know, we've been
49 requesting this for close to 10 years and I'd like to
50 have some emphasis put on that, if possible.

1 Thank you.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think we'd
4 all agree on that. Any opposition to Andy's suggestion.
5
6 (No objection)
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That fall chum,
9 didn't I hear someone say no commercial or was that
10 public?
11
12 MR. BASSICH: That was public comment.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, okay.
15 It's a very interesting concept, maybe you guys ought to
16 consider a proposal on that -- yeah. Something to think
17 about.
18
19 Is anyone remembering -- to do this right
20 I think we'd almost want to see the last one and then we
21 just heard what you've got so far.
22
23 MR. JOHNSON: What I can do then, Madame
24 Chair, is I'll print out copies of the last annual report
25 submitted and make that available over the lunch break so
26 that.....
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
29
30 MR. JOHNSON:Council members can
31 have a chance to review it and we can still continue this
32 discussion throughout the day before the end.....
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.
35
36 MR. JOHNSON:the meeting.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Unless
39 someone has something right now glaring, we'll move on.
40 But we've got to finish this at the end of the meeting.
41 Okay, would you guys put that in there so we don't
42 forget, but you're doing a great job, Carl. Great.
43
44 (Laughter)
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He can look
47 that up so quickly I wish I had that ability.
48
49 Next on the agenda the Fortymile Caribou
50 Plan. I don't see Rita. So we're not having an update

1 on that?
2
3 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.
4
5 MR. GLANZ: Madame Chair.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Or.....
8
9 MR. GLANZ: Well, I think we could update
10 it probably.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, the one
13 that's been on it forever.
14
15 MR. SHARP: Ruth just stepped out to go
16 back to the office to get the CDs for the BLM plan and I
17 think she was going to speak to it and be able to address
18 any questions. But I don't know if there's any
19 controversy that's associated with it, but if you wanted
20 to defer that to.....
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, I doubt
23 there's any controversy.
24
25 MR. SHARP: That's sort of what the
26 expectation was.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Andy,
29 and then Bill.
30
31 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. I believe at
32 our last meeting we had a motion and supported the plan
33 as presented to us and it's come to my attention there's
34 just been one small change, or addition to it, and
35 through the email trails that I've been following on it,
36 nobody in the coalition has any objections to it.
37 So.....
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So from our
40 last meeting there's only one small change?
41
42 MR. BASSICH: Yes, ma'am.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Amazing.
45
46 MR. GLANZ: We are efficient.
47
48 (Laughter)
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's awesome.

1 Okay. So given we have, what, three
2 people from this Council that's on that?
3
4 MR. GLANZ: Actually we have four,
5 because Don and Andy were swapping back and forth, when
6 couldn't make it the other one would.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Who's the other
9 one?
10
11 MR. GLANZ: I'm having a senior moment.
12
13 (Laughter)
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I had been on
16 it at times but then I just can't go to all these
17 meetings. I haven't gone to the last couple.
18
19 MR. GLANZ: Don Woodruff, and.....
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Don, Bill
22 and Andy.
23
24 MR. GLANZ:Andy, yeah, yeah.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So there isn't
27 a fourth one.
28
29 MR. GLANZ: Who was.....
30
31 MR. BASSICH: Mike (indiscernible) comes
32 in from Eagle AC.
33
34 MR. GLANZ: That's right, yeah, from
35 Eagle.....
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But it's not
38 from the Council.
39
40 MR. GLANZ:Mike -- he's not from
41 this but he's the fourth, that's what I was trying to
42 think, okay.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
45 gotcha. Okay. So unless Ruth has something to add and
46 then there's any questions I think we can move on.
47
48 (No comments)
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Except Jennifer

1 has something to add?

2

3

MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.

4 Rita was here yesterday and like Mr. Bassich said, you
5 know, this group has participated in the development.

6

7 One outstanding order of business is that
8 I know, Roy Nowlin, the area biologist was looking for a
9 member who had participated to also possibly present at
10 the Federal Subsistence Board meeting. The Federal
11 Subsistence Board had intended to take this up in January
12 but tabled it to their March meeting in Southeast and
13 that the plan is to present the plan to the Federal
14 Subsistence Board with a member of the RAC, the State and
15 the Federal biologist, and I don't think it's been
16 decided who's going to assist the Department with that
17 but those are ongoing discussions.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know, I
20 think that's awesome that somebody could go there for
21 this RAC but I'm looking at the travel that's involved
22 for somebody to go there to take that.

23

24 MR. BASSICH: What are the dates for that
25 meeting?

26

27 MS. YUHAS: The Federal Subsistence Board
28 will be meeting in Juneau the week of the 19th of March,
29 I believe Carl Johnson will have more specific dates.
30 The RACs meeting and the Board is meeting that week
31 and.....

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Like they did
34 in January.

35

36 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, that is correct. The
37 meeting dates are March 20th through the 23rd and so it's
38 going to be kind of a combination of a Southeast Council
39 meeting and Federal Subsistence Board meeting. They're
40 going to be actually meeting in the same room, they'll
41 just break and change hats and conduct the meeting.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So does that
44 help you to want to go to Juneau, Andy.

45

46 MR. BASSICH: Well, I have obligations to
47 go to the Yukon River Panel in Anchorage meeting the same
48 week unless we.....

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, so.....

1 MR. BASSICH:knew exactly what day
2 and what time we were going to be able to be before the
3 Federal Subsistence Board.....
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So I would ask
6 our coordinator to coordinate with our three people and
7 see who could call in on a teleconference because it
8 worked really well for you, didn't it Andrew.....
9
10 MR. FIRMIN: (Nods affirmatively)
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:that
13 teleconference -- and if -- like for myself, I wanted to
14 be on line and Melinda called me and got me on line and
15 you call in and they know you're there and they call on
16 you so it works out pretty slick.
17
18 MR. BASSICH: I nominate Don Woodruff.
19
20 (Laughter)
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, he's --
23 four days of travel he missed there, so he can travel to
24 this one.
25
26 MR. BASSICH: Actually, Madame Chair, I
27 think he did a really good job going to Juneau last year
28 on the bycatch issues and he may be interested in this
29 and unfortunately I haven't had any contact with him
30 because he's been out on his trapline all winter. But my
31 guess is he might be interested.....
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sure.
34
35 MR. BASSICH:in attending.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well, we
38 have to count on Staff to help us put that together.
39
40 MR. GLANZ: If Don don't go, I'll be an
41 alternate but, you know, that's my highlight I want to do
42 but I will go down there and talk to them.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. You guys
45 amaze me going to all the Yukon fish meetings and then
46 all of this.
47
48 Okay, moving on.
49
50 Review of the draft tribal consultation

1 policy, and then hopefully lunch.

2

3 MR. KRON: Madame Chair. I'll just first
4 touch on an issue that Carl mentioned earlier.

5

6 On Page 46 there's a list of Staffing
7 changes at OSM. The Native liaison position which was
8 formerly held by Carl Jack, he has since retired, is
9 being actively recruited for, we're working to finalize
10 the recruitment at the present time but I do not have a
11 name for you.

12

13 But in any case that position is moving
14 forward.

15

16 On the tribal consultation issue,
17 basically it begins on Page 22 in your book and extends
18 through Page 37. There's some questions on Page 24 that
19 I want to go through with you, see if you have comments,
20 and also note that on Page 32, beginning on Page 32, it's
21 noted that this is a draft for editing. So there's
22 several opportunities for Council input and definitely we
23 are requesting Council input on the tribal consultation
24 policy. The policy is labeled as a draft at the present
25 time. The Federal Subsistence Board has been taking
26 tribal comments at the past two meetings, the past two
27 Januarys and has been working to formalize a policy and,
28 again, I'm going to turn to Page 24, and I'll just read
29 through the questions one at a time and ask if you have
30 a response, if the Council has a response.

31

32 Do you feel this policy is going in the
33 right direction, if not, why not?

34

35 And, again, it's referring to the
36 preceding pages. There's a list of people that have
37 participated in this. It starts with Della Trumble;
38 Crystal Leonetti from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
39 is the co-Chair along with Della. And there's a list of
40 the people that have participated. Also the steps in the
41 development of the policy are listed there on Page 22 and
42 23. General concepts, theme, steps and timeline.

43

44 But, again, we've been directed to
45 develop a policy. We want to get, you know, input and,
46 in addition, consult with tribal entities and we're
47 looking for additional input.

48

49 Thank you, Madame Chair.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
2 members.
3
4 Joe.
5
6 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair.
7 Can I go back to this issue on the Native liaison
8 position and get a little more information from you.
9
10 MR. KRON: (Nods affirmatively)
11
12 MR. MATESI: Because I tried to find that
13 position announcement opening on line and was
14 unsuccessful. So is it still open? Is the recruitment
15 still open?
16
17 MR. KRON: Madame Chair. Joe. Go ahead.
18
19 MR. JOHNSON: I can answer that. Through
20 the Chair. The position was open, it's closed. The
21 Human Resources Department for Department of Interior has
22 gathered all of the applicants and they're right now in
23 the process of ranking the applicants, level of
24 qualification, and we expect to be seeing a list of those
25 successful applicants soon so we can begin the
26 interviewing process.
27
28 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Carl.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
31 other questions. Andrew.
32
33 MR. FIRMIN: I just have a comment and I
34 see that it's coming between tribes and ANCSA
35 Corporations. I see there's kind of getting a larger
36 line drawn between them and I know that like consulting
37 with land owners is a good thing, but inviting, you know,
38 like tribal -- ANCSA Corporations to the table to talk on
39 subsistence issues is kind of like asking BP what do they
40 think about the caribou herd on the North Slope and
41 bringing them to the table because it's just -- there's
42 -- I'd like to see more, you know, more of a defining
43 line between the two because I know a lot of other people
44 get burned up when they see tribes and ANCSA
45 Corporations, that's like another whole ball game between
46 the two of them because all the ANCSA Corporations are
47 all for profit, they're all out there to make a buck and
48 most of the way they can make a buck is mineral rights
49 and everything that's under the ground and whether it be
50 logging or selling gravel or drilling for oil, that's

1 what they're there for and that's what they're all about.
2 And like I said that's like inviting an oil company to
3 the table to ask them how they feel on subsistence
4 issues, and I think that's kind of -- I don't know if
5 this kind of got out of hand on that but I'd like to just
6 -- good job as far as keeping them separate and I'd like
7 to see more separation there between the two, you know,
8 when they're talking about them -- like even both off the
9 same page kind of thing because they are two totally
10 different entities and they're driving in two totally
11 different directions.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead, Tom.

14

15 MR. KRON: Yeah, Madame Chair. Andrew.

16 Again, they are being addressed through separate
17 documents.

18

19 The Federal government is required to
20 address the corporations as well as the tribes.
21 Essentially we're proceeding along those lines as
22 directed by Federal law. But, again, they are being kept
23 separate.

24

25 Thank you, Madame Chair.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you have
28 your hand up, Larry -- yeah.

29

30 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
31 Like I said, maybe I'm kind of dense here but can
32 somebody give me an update on what this tribal
33 consultation is really all about because when I first
34 heard about it, I thought that each village or each
35 region would send a representative representing their
36 tribe to speak to us or to the Federal Subsistence Board
37 on how the tribe feels, the actual people that lives out
38 there. And so far I, for one, have been going around in
39 my village, where I live, and asking if anybody knows
40 anything about it and all they do is shrug their
41 shoulders so, you know, I, for one, feel that we're not
42 getting any place. We haven't heard anything about it,
43 nobody's come up to us, to my face, granted it's pretty
44 far out, you know, but we do have airplanes going in and
45 out everyday, saying, you know, my name is so and so and
46 I'm from this particular agency and we're going to talk
47 about this tribal consultation and see what you have to
48 say about it. And in my view it's just something that's
49 just flying over the heads of most of us.

50

1 Thank you, very much.

2

3 Please somebody give me an explanation,
4 a short version if you don't mind.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Tom.

7

8 MR. KRON: Madame Chair. Larry.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're
11 challenged.

12

13 MR. KRON: I will try to keep this as
14 short as I can.

15

16 Since receiving the direction to develop
17 -- to be in tribal consultation and to implement policies
18 to do so in the future, our office, the Office of
19 Subsistence Management, has been distributing a lot of
20 the materials much more broadly. They are, you know, in
21 addition going to the Regional Advisory Council members,
22 they're also going to -- you know, proposals, for
23 example, are going out to the tribes across the state.
24 So we are working harder to get information out.
25 Basically the intent is to be communicating more with the
26 tribes, there's been more participation at both of the
27 last two Board meetings in January from the tribes that
28 we've -- than I've ever seen before, so there is more.
29 But, again, a mailing that goes to Venetie, for example,
30 I don't know how broadly that information would be
31 distributed once it reaches the tribal office there. We
32 send things to the tribes, we seek input. One of the
33 places to receive the input is here at the Regional
34 Council meeting or at the Federal Board meeting or in
35 writing, however people want to send it in, or if
36 additional communications, discussions are needed.

37

38 But, again, I think it's a healthy
39 process. The tribes are very involved in subsistence
40 uses and to communicate with them, to listen to their
41 input is very important.

42

43 Thank you, Madame Chair.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry, does
46 that answer your question -- go ahead.

47

48 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
49 The reason I asked that question is that I was looking at
50 this list of workgroup members, and correct me if I'm

1 wrong but I do not see one member from the north of the
2 Yukon River or any up that way and that just brought that
3 question to my mind, how involved we are to an area that
4 I represent.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

7

8 MR. FIRMIN: I just have one more quick
9 thing on perhaps the corporation policy there on
10 communications, is to keep all the information open and
11 public because I know it's a two-way communication, like
12 it's written in here, but I know when they originally
13 split this consultation process into two separate
14 documents, then everybody turned around and said, look,
15 now they're meeting behind closed doors. It's like
16 nobody was invited to see what, you know, Doyon, and the
17 Federal Board was talking about or, you know, CIRI and
18 the other corporations. So they kind of making that a
19 little bit more public information would be a good thing
20 also so nobody's thinking more -- or wondering what's
21 really going on, kind of thing, so their decisions and
22 influences are -- you know, their comments are made known
23 publicly.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Isaac.

26

27 MR. JUNEBY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
28 I'd like to just address this again a little bit.

29

30 The tribal consultation to me is when
31 something is proposed to change or alter some course of
32 action on a feature of a ground or feature of something,
33 the way I understood it, even within the last 20 years
34 now, that tribal consultation has been foremost up front
35 since Mr. Clinton, yeah. And I would say that the way
36 that I understood it is that you, as a Federal
37 government, if you propose, State or whomever, have
38 proposed something within an area that will affect a
39 tribe or a few of the tribes, that consultation has to
40 got to start from you to fulfill that to meet those
41 people out there. And I don't know if this has been
42 done, this is being done, and that's how come I said that
43 I've been on a lot of committees, one of the working
44 group that I have worked with was the Garrison, United
45 States Army Alaska, and we were very fortunate, very
46 fortunate that we got to go to the two Bases, Wainwright
47 and Richardson, I think, is the two Military Army Bases,
48 and we had the Colonel's ear. And out of that came some
49 pretty -- very good papers that -- to make it short, is
50 that, that was the guiding light in some of the things

1 that we have done with the Military, and that was just
2 for about five or six groups from Upper Tanana, which
3 Eagle was part of in that area. And I was very fortunate
4 to have been a member of that to have some of my
5 statement read into the Act that it will be used to
6 fulfill some things that the tribes wanted.

7
8 I have to go back with the thing and I'm
9 very critical, is the fact that sometimes we put
10 something into effect in word or meaning because it has
11 to specifically address issues within a component. By
12 that I mean if it says you're going to do tribal
13 consultation, let's not just explain it up here, I think
14 we have to have actions as to how you do these certain
15 things to get to that, and that's my thing.

16
17 Too many times I read papers where it
18 touches on it and that fulfills the meaning of that
19 component and criteria, and I just -- sometimes I cringe
20 at that.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Tom, go ahead.

23
24 MR. KRON: Yeah, Madame Chair. Isaac.
25 Larry. I think we've touched on some of the items I
26 read, the first question, but I think we've touched.....

27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

29
30 MR. KRON:on some of the items
31 related to the second and third item. I heard -- we
32 heard that you want representation, or more
33 representation north of the Yukon. I see George Yaska is
34 on the list of people that have participated in the
35 development of this, but, surely there's not much
36 representation north so you're asking for more
37 representation north. And you want to make sure that
38 this is really meaningful tribal consultation, back and
39 forth.

40
41 My understanding, again, is the Federal
42 agencies involved in the Federal Program, Department of
43 Agriculture, the Department of Interior, they have
44 overarching policies but our program, the Federal
45 Subsistence Management Program, has been specifically
46 asked to develop a tribal consultation policy as well.
47 Again, as I mentioned the Federal Board, at their past
48 two January meetings has been gathering tribal input.
49 There have been more tribal people there than I've ever
50 seen in the Federal Program, which is good. There are a

1 lot of people that don't come though. So I think there's
2 opportunity to get even more input into the process.

3
4 The hope is to also get process here at
5 the Regional Council meetings and throughout the year.
6 So, yeah, I guess what I'm hearing from Isaac is, is
7 that, the better it can be defined, how this process will
8 work, the better off we're going to be.

9
10 Thank you, Madame Chair.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe.

13
14 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair.
15 Tom, I'd like to add my name to those who have a voice of
16 concern in this process.

17
18 I very much commend the Secretarial
19 Review. I think it got started out really well. Within
20 the Federal government, from agency to agency there's
21 incredible variation to exactly how issues like
22 government to government relationships are implemented.
23 There's no -- it's my understanding that there's no real
24 uniform policy throughout the Federal government,
25 unfortunately.

26
27 I think it got started out really with a
28 good intent and what it seems to be devolving into, it
29 might not be too late here, but it seems to be devolving
30 into, well, we'll just give tribes more opportunity to
31 talk to us but still the decisionmaking process is held
32 back. And I think that it will be more meaningful when
33 we see tribe -- not just tribal consultation, like, okay,
34 well, we'll come out to the village and listen to what
35 you have to say and then we're going to fly back to
36 Anchorage and do whatever we want to do. When the tribes
37 are actually involved in the decisionmaking process, then
38 I think we'll actually be meeting the intent of what the
39 Secretarial Review is all about.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead, Tom.

42
43 MR. KRON: Yeah, just very quickly.
44 ANILCA specifically lays out the foundation for the
45 program that we're all involved in, the Federal
46 Subsistence Management Program. .805 identifies the
47 process for the establishment of the Regional Councils,
48 it identifies in .805(c) the deference that you will
49 receive on your recommendations to the Federal Board.
50 It's unique in the -- you know, it's unique in fish and

1 wildlife management, you guys carry a lot of weight with
2 your recommendations on fish and wildlife matters,
3 regulatory matters.

4

5 But, again, thank you for your comments.
6 If there are any other comments from Regional Advisory
7 Council members we'd welcome them.

8

9 Thank you, Madame Chair.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone else.

12

13 (No comments)

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I've been going
16 to these meetings and dealing with this from the
17 beginning on the tribal consultation, and I think I share
18 Larry's feelings, it's like, what's -- you know on a
19 local level, in the tribes, I think that everybody that
20 actually goes out and works on something, like Andrew
21 here or anybody that's on an AC or anybody that's
22 involved in things, they end up getting used up because
23 they end up being a volunteer for everything because
24 these communities are so small.

25

26 And I have to -- if I look at this first
27 one, do you feel this policy is going in the right
28 direction, if not, why not. I want to ask you guys, you
29 know, are you feeling like you're getting used up and
30 maybe that -- I mean we have -- this is for the -- the
31 tribal consultation for the Federal Subsistence Board and
32 the Subsistence Program, and here we are in the
33 beginning, we -- this -- the RACs had in our program,
34 constantly at these meetings, tribal input to the RAC,
35 and then when we -- when they implemented this the last
36 couple meetings, all I heard was when they had their
37 consultation, poor Andrew was on another meeting and
38 reporting another thing and so I would have to say, is
39 that working. What would you guys say to that.

40

41 Isaac.

42

43 MR. JUNEBY: Thank you. I believe you
44 are right. When I look into the tribal consultation,
45 it's a long word. But I have to say that you use
46 everything within your disposal and -- give you an
47 example. There are some scholarly people within both,
48 you know, Natives and non-Natives, that has touched basis
49 on a lot of the issues that we talk about. But -- well,
50 the example is that I was up in Canada for a number or

1 years working with the First Nation and I know that they
2 have different forms of government, and I know that, you
3 know, the Natives, the First Nations have much more
4 higher authority than even the Queen, that the -- the
5 Queen, Crown, or whatever you want to call it, but it's
6 the fact that I know that everything that they went into
7 a -- that, (indiscernible) for example, people go in
8 there and spend some time with the people and then they
9 write up all the traditional knowledge that is part of
10 that consultation process because it's addressing their
11 -- and they spend a lot of time in there and out of that
12 they get a big book out of there to say this is the way
13 you apply traditional knowledge into your scope of what
14 you're doing and it's kind of laid out. And I know that
15 -- I have a good friend in Anchorage that I have worked
16 with, that wrote on that ecological traditional
17 knowledge, a very, very good -- but what I'm saying is
18 that we need to listen more, and you are correct because
19 there's -- there's not very many people in the villages.
20 I think Andy can verify with what my people, I think
21 there's about 10 people at the most in Eagle all the
22 time, so I am actively involved with a lot of things that
23 happen in Eagle, but I think the effort has got to be
24 made that we need to touch bases with them out there.

25

26 And one of the earlier -- how many of you
27 remember the Berger (ph) inquiries back in Canada years
28 ago, the best thing about Berger was that he went back
29 out to the people to get these things, and not once but
30 sometimes twice and that's a process I would love to see.

31

32 I thank you.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry, and then
35 Andy.

36

37 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
38 I hate to keep harping on one subject but, you know, when
39 this subject of tribal consultation came up, I envisioned
40 maybe at least two people from every region, like from
41 the upper region, Eagle region, Circle area, and maybe
42 another person from the Yukon Flats area and so forth,
43 and the middle Yukon and down river, they're all tribes
44 up and down the river to -- you know, to -- they have a
45 meeting among themselves and they send up a
46 representative to represent them in these kind of
47 meetings here, that's what I envisioned. But so far we
48 haven't heard nothing, just a bunch of people that, with
49 all due respect, I'm sure they're very smart, but, you
50 know, I just don't feel like my tribe anyway is part of

1 the -- you know, part of the group, I just feel we're
2 outside listening in, maybe.

3
4 So that's the way I feel.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

7
8 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you very much for
9 your time.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Tom.

12
13 MR. KRON: Yeah, Madame Chair. Larry.
14 I was looking at the list again, you know, I looked
15 through it quickly earlier, and see that Rosemary, she's
16 on the North Slope Regional Advisory Council, but, again,
17 I think you got Rosemary and then George -- where George
18 Yaska is from, he, I know has spent a lot of time here in
19 Fairbanks but he's from Huslia, so there are at least two
20 people north of the Yukon River.

21
22 But, again, these people were working to
23 draft up the document for this group and others to look
24 at for your comments.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

27
28 MR. KRON: Thank you, Madame Chair.

29
30 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, I appreciate those
31 people being on there, you know, but they're a long ways
32 from where I'm living, living on the North Slope and way
33 down river down in Huslia.

34
35 What I'm trying to get at is we have an
36 organization known as CATG, that's based in Ft. Yukon,
37 they can send one that represents the people up in the
38 Yukon Flats, so maybe they can send one person to these
39 tribal consultations with the approval of the Yukon Flats
40 people. That's what I'm trying to get at. So we'd have
41 at least one person living in the Yukon Flats
42 representing us at these meetings.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And would that
45 be Andrew again.

46
47 (Laughter)

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm -- I
50 understand what you're saying. I would have to ask the

1 Council, again, do you feel the policy is going in the
2 right direction.

3

4 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

5

6 MR. JUNEBY: No.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: How would you
9 -- how do you feel.

10

11 MR. WILLIAMS: I think I made my feelings
12 pretty clear on how I feel, you know, about it's not
13 going in the right direction. It's going in a direction,
14 but not the right one.

15

16 Thank you.

17

18 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

21

22 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I'd like to try and
23 attempt to summarize this.

24

25 What I'm hearing from people is they want
26 more grassroots consultation, not large agency to agency
27 type consultation is what I'm hearing from most of the
28 Council members. So more at the grassroots level,
29 communication and dialogue rather than a bunch of
30 bureaucrats from tribal entities talking to a bunch of
31 bureaucrats at a Federal level or State level, or
32 whatever.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Who are you
35 calling bureaucrats?

36

37 (Laughter)

38

39 MR. BASSICH: To a lesser extent we are.

40

41 (Laughter)

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't
44 consider myself a bureaucrat.

45

46 MR. BASSICH: Do you understand what I'm
47 saying, there are larger organizations and I think Andrew
48 summed it up pretty well, there's kind of a difference
49 between types of organizations that are out there, but at
50 some point in time if there's something happening in a

1 local region, we want local input and I think that goes
2 back to what we were discussing, a lot, earlier in the
3 day and yesterday with regards to the BLM issues. People
4 want to feel like they're a part of it in their
5 community.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

8

9 MR. BASSICH: Just trying to summarize.

10 Just trying.....

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, just

13 looking at this.....

14

15 MR. BASSICH: Just trying to summarize.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Just looking at

18 this real quick, when I see that however many is there,

19 the majority of them are government, Fish and Wildlife

20 Service; Forest Service; National Park Service, two of

21 those; OSM; Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of

22 Indian Affairs; and it seems like that working group

23 should have been just the tribes for tribal council and

24 then somebody be a moderator; it seems to me like.

25 Doesn't that make sense, it seems kind of like common

26 sense to me.

27

28 Andrew.

29

30 MR. FIRMIN: Just to briefly go over what

31 Andy said, with Larry and everyone else so we can move

32 along here. I think a lot of it.....

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

35

36 MR. FIRMIN:is they have this huge

37 mailing list and they said it started out, we need more

38 people, more government to government relationship so

39 they started getting, hey look here's this in the mail,

40 here's this in the mail, who do we give it to, I don't

41 know, give it to that guy, give it to that guy, and it

42 just kind of slowly got passed around and like you said,

43 there was no real one on one, this is a phone call, I

44 think it -- there was a lot of effort that put this

45 there, and that's another reason I was thinking the other

46 day, I almost feel kind of bad that we pushed for this

47 government to government relationship and, you know, out

48 of the 200-some odd tribes, you know, how many of them

49 really actually replied or have time or people to

50 actually address some of this stuff or.....

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
2
3 MR. FIRMIN:let alone who's going
4 to read it because there's literally, you know, some
5 people's tribal office, you know, you walk into some
6 villages and there's one person there part-time or.....
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.
9
10 MR. FIRMIN:three in a larger
11 village, and, you know, there's an exception of a few but
12 most of them it just goes in the pile and they just get
13 stacks of faxes and who's going to spend the time two
14 weeks earlier to go through it and, hey, look at this, I
15 should have seen this awhile ago, and that's another
16 thing that people are getting overlooked, or they don't
17 know anything about it because like he said there's --
18 like Larry said, what's this all about anyway.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
21
22 MR. FIRMIN: And if people aren't on the
23 topic from the start there, they're kind of falling by
24 the way side.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we're
27 leaving it to the bureaucrat to summarize what we're
28 thinking.
29
30 (Laughter)
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's scary
33 but that's where we're at. And I mean that in jest, I
34 don't mean it badly. But it's hard, I think you're
35 hearing what's happening to -- it's happening to the
36 people I'm close to in Mentasta, there's a few people
37 that do all the work and then myself, I'm a volunteer and
38 I got -- I went through all the Board of Game stuff I had
39 when I was three years on the Board of Game, 10 years
40 later and started throwing it all away and it was like,
41 you know, a half a mile long, and you don't know what to
42 keep and, you know, here we are just getting thrown paper
43 all the time.
44
45 MR. UMPHENOUR: Lots of trees are dying.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, lots of
48 trees are dying and then they try to send you an email
49 and make you print it, and it takes forever.
50

1 But, okay, thanks, Tom, and I hope that
2 helps.
3
4 It must be time for lunch.
5
6 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah, it is time for
7 lunch.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 1:15 we'll come
10 back.
11
12 (Off record)
13
14 (On record)
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The next thing
17 on the agenda is, did we have any Board of Game proposals
18 that we wanted to take up, I remember at the last
19 meeting, out of a three day meeting we only had about 5
20 minutes to support the proposals that we had put in. Did
21 anyone think about anything else they wanted to take up.
22
23 Virgil. I knew there would be.
24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Well, there was
26 one we had, I don't know if it was -- I don't even know
27 if it was our proposal, I have to find it, but it was the
28 meat on the bone, but we did have a lot of public
29 testimony on that. I don't know if you remember.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: See if that's
32 the one in 25, Unit 25, is that the one?
33
34 MR. UMPHENOUR: Unit 25.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That was our
37 proposal and we did support it at our last meeting.
38
39 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I brought some
40 strips I just took out of the smoker when we broke for
41 lunch caught over in Lester's area, last August. There's
42 regular strips and honey strips over there.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So are these
45 strips of king salmon?
46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, chum salmon. We have
48 no commercial king salmon fishery anymore. That's fall
49 chum from the Rapids.
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. And this is an
2 example that they're good to eat and you do a good job.
3
4 Thank you, Virgil.
5
6 Andrew.
7
8 MR. FIRMIN: Just the meat on the bone
9 proposals in Unit 25.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
12
13 MR. FIRMIN: I just wanted to add caribou
14 to those.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now, is
17 that one that's in the book, do you know the number?
18
19 MR. FIRMIN: It's in there.
20
21 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah, I'll find it.
22
23 MR. JOHNSON: I'm pulling up the Board of
24 Game proposals.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, man, you
27 are good. I have a hard time finding the website.
28
29 (Laughter)
30
31 MR. JOHNSON: So I've got the
32 Interior.....
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then I
35 forgot what I went there for when I find it. You can
36 relate to that, it's so frustrating.
37
38 (Laughter)
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well, as
41 he's looking up.....
42
43 MR. MATESI: 171.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 171. Boy,
46 you're as fast as everyone.
47
48 But, again, that's our proposal.
49
50 Andrew.

1 MR. FIRMIN: Hum.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's our
4 proposal.
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you want to
9 do what?
10
11 MR. FIRMIN: I wanted to modify it to
12 read caribou and moose.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh. So there
15 isn't a proposal in there to add caribou, you have to
16 modify this one.
17
18 MR. JOHNSON: What proposal number?
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Proposal 171.
21
22 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And it reads,
25 salvage meat on bone, meat, fur and hides, require meat
26 on the bone, salvage for 25A.
27
28 MR. MATESE: 172, and 173.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. I'm
31 going to hand this to you, Andrew, and you're going to
32 tell me where you want to make that motion, which one
33 you're taking up. And while he's doing that, has anyone
34 else looked at any other Board of Game proposals that
35 they wanted to address at this meeting.
36
37 MR. ERHART: Board of Game.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Lester has one
40 and I'm going to take that up while you look that up and
41 get your motion ready, Andrew. Lester, which one.
42
43 MR. ERHART: It's 20F. They opened the
44 season on the Yukon on moose on September 1st and they
45 closed it on the 20th. And due to this, you know, the
46 global warming and all this warm, I'd rather have them
47 have it open on the 10th and go to the 30th. I talked to
48 quite a few people in the village there and this is what
49 they wanted, in 20F.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. You
2 don't happen to know the number of that proposal?
3
4 MR. ERHART: No.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's actually
7 on the books, right, this proposal?
8
9 MR. ERHART: Well, I hope it is.
10
11 (Laughter)
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Now, somebody
14 that's really fast on the computer is going to do a
15 search and find a number.
16
17 MR. JOHNSON: Perhaps it might be in
18 reference to Proposal 204.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Which is?
21
22 MR. JOHNSON: That's the only one that
23 explicitly identifies Unit 20F.
24
25 MR. ERHART: What is he saying, excuse
26 me, no microphone?
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That was that
29 C&T though, wasn't it. Yeah, I don't know what that is.
30 Man, that's a big proposal.
31
32 MR. JOHNSON: 192. So there's 192 and
33 then 204 that explicitly mention 20F.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's caribou,
36 he wants to talk about moose, so go to 205. Modify the
37 intensive management findings for moose.
38
39 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, Proposal 204.....
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's 20A, you
42 got to go to 20F.
43
44 MR. JOHNSON: Well, it also mentions 20F.
45 So.....
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There we go,
48 keep going, go down some more.
49
50 MR. JOHNSON: It doesn't mention it

1 again.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, but see
4 this, these are the proposals under 20F, you need to go
5 down the line more.
6
7 (Pause)
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sorry, guys.
10
11 MR. JOHNSON: So.....
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: How are you,
14 Andrew, are you ready for the -- we're looking yours up,
15 Lester.
16
17 MR. FIRMIN: I'm pretty sure it's in
18 there.
19
20 MR. ERHART: You think it's in there?
21
22 MR. FIRMIN: (Nods affirmatively)
23
24 MR. JOHNSON: Well, the key word search
25 doesn't find 20F again.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, but it --
28 I'm trying to explain to you is that tells you all the
29 proposals under 20F, that key word thing.
30
31 MR. JOHNSON: Right. But -- so
32 that's.....
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew, are you
35 ready for making your motion.
36
37 MR. FIRMIN: I make a motion to amend
38 Board of Game proposals 234, 171, 173.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 234, 171.....
41
42 MR. FIRMIN: 172 and 173.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And 173. Okay.
45
46 MR. FIRMIN: And those are the
47 requirement to leave the meat on the bone while
48 harvesting moose in Units 25A, B, C and D, and I'd just
49 like to amend it to include caribou also.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 25A, B.....
2
3 MR. FIRMIN: C and D.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:okay, C
6 and D. Amend to add caribou.
7
8 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do I hear a
11 second.
12
13 MR. GLANZ: I'll second.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
16 Discussion. Andrew.
17
18 MR. FIRMIN: I know there was a letter I
19 received, I don't know if it's in our packet, from the
20 Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge that was in support
21 of leaving the meat on the bone requirement in Unit 25 so
22 wanton waste issue. We've all gone over it before and
23 know if you debone out a moose and got a big bag of
24 mystery meat it's going to spoil in the bottom of your
25 rubber raft a lot quicker than it will if you leave the
26 quarters in the whole until you get back to a village or
27 a place to process the meat. And this amendment would
28 just add caribou to it.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
31 other discussion.
32
33 (No comments)
34
35 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All in favor.
38
39 IN UNISON: Aye.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
42
43 (No opposing votes)
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Passes
46 unanimously.
47
48 All right, we might have to have you
49 search out 20F, moose.
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: 20F.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He didn't find
4 it, so we can take that up. And while Virgil's doing
5 that, did anyone else have any other game proposals that
6 they wanted to take up at this meeting.

7

8 This is a prime example of I didn't even
9 have enough time to open the book before I came here.
10 But I'm sure there's a bunch of stuff that's very
11 important to all of us that we might be overlooking.

12

13 While Virgil's looking that up, I'm going
14 to ask for review of the Council charter. Oh, did you
15 have something Jen.

16

17 MS. YUHAS: Just for your discussion,
18 Madame Chair, I wanted to add that since the last meeting
19 and we heard all of the testimony on the Red Sheep Creek
20 issue, this RAC is aware that the Department, two weeks
21 after that submitted an agenda change request to the
22 Board of Game and submitted a proposal that will come up,
23 we expect the same time, as the one that this RAC
24 submitted, which is the parallel proposal for the closure
25 for the Red Sheep Creek area, the Department had
26 submitted a bit of a compromise with the idea of an
27 orientation and ethics class to eliminate trespass and
28 some of the other issues, I won't take up too much time
29 explaining it because I know that you and Mr. Firmin are
30 very familiar with what that was, we had intended to
31 withdraw that because the Federal Subsistence Board
32 passed the closure so what would the point be if the
33 area's not open. I was asked by the Chair of the Board
34 of Game not to withdraw that because they wish to discuss
35 the issue. And so since there's a general perception
36 that our agenda change request would not be coming up,
37 because we would have automatically withdrawn it, I
38 wanted to be clear to the RAC that they asked us not to
39 withdraw it, they intend to discuss it at the same time
40 they discuss the closure.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
43 Jennifer, that's good information. I think what you did
44 there is important statewide. And that was a lot of work
45 and I, for one, and I'm sure Andrew, too, appreciate what
46 you put into that.

47

48 MS. YUHAS: I really appreciate Mr.
49 Firmin's availability to discuss that and walk through it
50 and be able to discuss concerns and he was always very up

1 front that the choice number 1 was the closure, but it
2 was grateful for testimony at the Board meeting that
3 indicated that we had at least made a big effort on the
4 State side in a short period of time, and that it would
5 be an acceptable alternative if the closure wasn't made,
6 but he was always up front that the closure was priority
7 number 1.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well,
10 thanks, Jennifer, I appreciate you bringing that.

11
12 Did you find it?

13
14 MR. UMPHENOUR: There's nothing in 20F
15 moose, no proposal.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you guys
18 really look at a proposal, Lester, at your meeting? You
19 saw a proposal, you don't remember the number?

20
21 MR. ERHART: No.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're not
24 finding it.

25
26 MR. ERHART: That's all right.

27
28 (Laughter)

29
30 MR. ERHART: We put it in though.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Maybe you
33 pulled a proposal from another subject and added 20.....

34
35 MR. ERHART: No, we put it in on the
36 Advisory.....

37
38 REPORTER: Turn your mic on Lester.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Put your
41 microphone on, please.

42
43 MR. ERHART: We put it on with the
44 Advisory Committee, like it was Rampart, Manley and
45 Tanana.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is it a new
48 proposal?

49
50 MR. ERHART: Yeah, we just put it in this

1 fall.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And when you
4 put it in, did you use it as an agenda change request?
5
6 MR. ERHART: No.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Since there's
9 not a proposal before the Board.
10
11 MR. ERHART: No. I'll have to see, I'll
12 check on it.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Yeah,
15 okay.
16
17 MR. ERHART: Okay.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we don't
20 want to let that.....
21
22 MR. ERHART: Stan Zuray wrote it up so
23 I'll have to check with him.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Just remind me
26 and we'll look into this. Okay. All right. And if
27 anybody from the State can help us out there. Who's your
28 coordinator, were they at the meeting?
29
30 MR. ERHART: Stan Zuray.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He's your
33 Chair.
34
35 MR. ERHART: (Nods affirmatively)
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, who's the
38 coordinator for the State, is it Neesa, Neesa Pilcher?
39
40 MR. ERHART: Yeah, I think so.
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Was she at the
43 meeting?
44
45 MR. ERHART: Yeah.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: She was at the
48 meeting, she would know what you did.
49
50 MR. ERHART: Okay.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We need to give
2 her a holler. If anybody at the State could research
3 that for me, what they did at that meeting, so we can
4 handle it for him. Could you do that and then bring it
5 to us at a break.

6
7 MR. EDWARDSON: I'm on that same
8 committee and.....

9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, come up.
11

12 MR. EDWARDSON: My name is Helium
13 Edwardson, I'm on that TRM Advisory Committee also and we
14 didn't -- I think we still have until the 30th to submit
15 it, we didn't submit it I don't think, for the new Board
16 -- for the new -- I think the 30th is the deadline to
17 submit new proposals for the Board of Game.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It sounds to me
20 like it wouldn't come up at this meeting.

21
22 MR. EDWARDSON: Yeah. I don't think we
23 did it -- we didn't turn the right paperwork in yet.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I see. Okay,
26 thank you.

27
28 MR. UMPHENOUR: See this was the first
29 year they did like the Board of Fish has always done, the
30 Board of Game, so their deadline for proposals, I think,
31 was sometime in May and so if they -- unless they -- if
32 they didn't do it before last May, or April, then it
33 wouldn't be in the book. But it's not in the book
34 because I just looked in the book. There's nothing
35 for.....

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, so it
38 wouldn't come up at this Board of Game meeting.

39
40 MR. UMPHENOUR: No.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It would have
43 to come up at the next cycle.

44
45 MR. UMPHENOUR: At the next one.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Andrew,
48 did you have something.

49
50 MR. FIRMIN: I believe there was a

1 similar proposal that went through the Federal
2 Subsistence Board recently.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: On this date
5 change?
6
7 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you wanted
10 to see a parallel on the State.
11
12 MR. ERHART: (Nods affirmatively)
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, because
15 there's a bunch of State land there.
16
17 MR. ERHART: (Nods affirmatively)
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I
20 understand where we're at but it doesn't -- so you want,
21 at least a letter from this RAC to support that, Lester
22 -- a letter from this RAC to support that, Lester, even
23 though it might not.....
24
25 MR. ERHART: Please.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Can you
28 make a motion.
29
30 MR. ERHART: I make the motion.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
33
34 (Laughter)
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do I hear a
37 second.
38
39 MR. UMPHENOUR: Second.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
42
43 Do you want to speak to it a little more.
44
45 MR. ERHART: Nope.
46
47 (Laughter)
48
49 MR. ERHART: I just -- well, I could.....
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Short for
2 words, you better understand.
3
4 MR. ERHART: It's too warm in the first
5 of September and the moose don't really move at home
6 until after the 20th, so why not delete the front end of
7 it and have the back end -- put it on the back.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So
10 hearing your motion for 20F, you support September 10
11 through 30 season for moose.
12
13 MR. ERHART: Right.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any more
16 discussion.
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're just
21 going to send that support to the Board of Game and then
22 whatever they do with it is all we can do.
23
24 MR. MATESI: When do we need that letter
25 going to the Board of Game?
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He can write it
28 and we can send it at this Board of Game, and they'll
29 have it and they'll respond to it.
30
31 MR. MATESI: Okay.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Even if it's
34 out of line, I mean why not, they always get them.
35
36 MR. JOHNSON: You mean the one that
37 starts meeting tomorrow?
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's right.
40 You're good you have letters done before they're -- we'll
41 have it out there.
42
43 MR. JOHNSON: Letters take awhile.....
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: This one's
46 short and sweet. Oh, why, because we have to have
47 them.....
48
49 MR. JOHNSON: They have to be all
50 approved and surnamed and all that kind of stuff.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you guys
2 hear that, our letters don't get immediately written, so
3 it might not make it. But it could make it until the end
4 of the Board meeting because it's 15 days.
5
6 MR. JOHNSON: 10.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we'll work
9 for that, oh, it's 10 I'm sorry, I remember having three
10 week board meetings when I was on it. Talk about brain
11 dead.
12
13 All right, so any other discussion.
14
15 MR. GLANZ: I have a quick one here, Sue.
16 Just going back I noticed this wasn't in our Board book,
17 but.....
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is this on this
20 motion.
21
22 MR. FIRMIN: Oh, sorry.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
25 Let's.....
26
27 MR. FIRMIN: Also, though, on that we did
28 support the warming trend of.....
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.
31
32 MR. FIRMIN:that in the past.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
35
36 MR. FIRMIN: And it makes perfect sense
37 though to.....
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
40
41 MR. FIRMIN:take five days and move
42 it to the end.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So that sounds
45 like you're calling for the question.
46
47 MR. GLANZ: I'll call the question.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All in
50 favor.

1 IN UNISON: Aye.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
4
5 (No opposing votes)
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Passes
8 unanimously.
9
10 Now, you want to go on to what you were
11 mentioning.
12
13 MR. FIRMIN: Oh, I just wanted to -- I
14 didn't see it in our Board books, our Council packets,
15 but there is a letter from the Division of Refuge Law
16 Enforcement supporting those other meat on the bone
17 proposals, and wanting to include caribou in it also.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
20
21 MR. FIRMIN: So that might add some clout
22 to our original proposals.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we could add
25 that to our justification.
26
27 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right, Carl.
30
31 MR. JOHNSON: (Nods affirmatively)
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. So
34 I'm not missing anything, I think we're finished with
35 Board of Game. Oh, a public member, we will relax the
36 rules and bring you forward.
37
38 MR. EDWARDSON: I have a question, like
39 our AC wanted to support a couple of proposals, is this
40 not the time?
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you're on
43 Lester's?
44
45 MR. EDWARDSON: Yeah, same AC as Lester.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, go ahead,
48 let's see which ones you were supporting and then we'll
49 see if we want to support also.
50

1 MR. EDWARDSON: Okay. Our board wanted
2 to testify on proposals 227 to 230 on intensive
3 management and wolf and bear control in 20C.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Two proposals,
6 227 and 230.
7
8 MR. EDWARDSON: No, 227, 228, 229 and
9 230.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, there's
12 four proposals, okay. Can you help Lester out and tell
13 us what each one of them are.
14
15 MR. EDWARDSON: I don't have all of the
16 language of each proposal in front of me but.....
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Just in brief.
19
20 MR. EDWARDSON:22.....
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 227.
23
24 MR. EDWARDSON: 227, 228, 229, 230.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And they all
27 relate to wolf control?
28
29 MR. EDWARDSON: They all relate to
30 intensive management of Unit 20C.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. You guys
33 probably spent some time discussing that, Lester.
34
35 MR. ERHART: Yeah.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So are you
38 going to make a motion for us.
39
40 MR. ERHART: Yeah. We don't have very
41 much, you know, wolf control in our area, and it's mostly
42 our own people that go out and get rid of the wolves and
43 here and there we get one or two. And they seem to be
44 getting more and more so that's why we did this.
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So is that a
47 motion to support those four proposals.
48
49 MR. ERHART: Yeah, I make the motion.
50

1 MR. GLANZ: I'll second for him.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Virgil.
4
5 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I speak in favor of
6 them and we may as well throw in 231 as well. All these
7 proposals that you're supporting, they're either
8 Fairbanks Advisory Committee proposals or made by one of
9 our members.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that you?
12
13 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'm the vice-Chair.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hum.
16
17 MR. UMPHENOUR: But, anyway, 231 wants to
18 establish a black bear trapping season in Unit 20C as
19 well. But the Department, for the first time, ever, just
20 did a moose survey in Unit 20C this past November and
21 they have very low densities of moose over there.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So is
24 that a motion to amend the motion to add 231?
25
26 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes, it is.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do I hear a
29 second.
30
31 MR. ERHART: Second.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All in
34 favor of the amendment to add 231 say aye.
35
36 IN UNISON: Aye.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So now
39 the -- anyone opposed.
40
41 MR. MATESE: Yes.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: One. Okay.
44 Now, in speaking to the main motion, amended, 227 -- did
45 you get that -- I was just going to briefly say what each
46 one was.
47
48 MR. JOHNSON: Madame Chair. The motion
49 as amended would support the following proposals.
50

1 227 to establish an intensive management
2 area for Unit 20C.
3
4 228 adopt a wolf control program for
5 Unit 20C
6
7 229 adopt an intensive management plan
8 for Unit 20C
9
10 230 adopt a bear control program for
11 Unit 20C
12
13 231 establish a black bear trapping
14 season in parts of Unit 20C
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I got a
17 head's up that you supported 231 also, uh-huh, all right.
18
19 Discussion.
20
21 (No comments)
22
23 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question's been
26 called for. All in favor.
27
28 IN UNISON: Aye.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
31
32 MR. MATESI: Yes.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: One. Okay.
35 And we are sending you to support us to the Board of
36 Game.
37
38 (Laughter)
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You have to say
41 that.
42
43 (Laughter)
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 8/1. Okay. So
46 I don't think I'm hearing any more Board of Game
47 proposals.
48
49 (No comments)
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I might have to
2 look at that book before we close today. I like the way
3 we handled that, quickly.

4
5 Next on the agenda, review Council
6 charter.

7
8 MR. JOHNSON: And I can take that up,
9 Madame Chair.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There were just
12 -- as Council members know, there is a two year review
13 process every two years, the Charters are renewed by the
14 Secretary of Interior under the Federal Advisory
15 Committee Act, and we do our own internal review and then
16 we submit those changes to the Secretary's office and
17 sometimes, as the case may be this last time, they
18 decided to make a few changes here and there without
19 consulting with us, and I just wanted to bring those to
20 your attention.

21
22 If the Council members will go to their
23 Council materials for this meeting, the Charter begins on
24 Page 38, and I'll just highlight, and I have a handout of
25 this, too, that I can give to Council members later, I'll
26 just highlight four particular changes that were made.

27
28 One, in Section 4A. The words -- the
29 Council -- the charters originally said, initiate
30 proposals for regulation and policies, now the words,
31 recommend the initiation of have been inserted to replace
32 what was formerly stated as initiate proposals for
33 regulations.

34
35 We felt that that might perhaps diminish
36 the power of the Councils themselves to initiate
37 proposals, but the response from D.C., was essentially
38 that this does not prevent the Council from bringing its
39 own proposals to the Federal Subsistence Board.

40
41 The second change that we noticed is in
42 Section 9 regarding ability of calling special meetings
43 outside of our normal Council meeting cycle, we noted
44 that the ability of a Council or the Council Chair to
45 call a meeting of the RAC other than at the regular times
46 has been removed. Now, only the Federal Subsistence
47 Board Chair, or the designated Federal officer, which is
48 your Council coordinator are the ones who can call such
49 a meeting. But obviously if any Council members or the
50 Council Chair at any time felt that they needed to call

1 a meeting, they could certainly just request the Council
2 coordinator to initiate that then the process could still
3 move forward.

4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you say
6 number 9?

7
8 MR. JOHNSON: Uh.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What number was
11 that?

12
13 MR. JOHNSON: Oh, well, I thought it was
14 Section 9, or paragraph nine. But -- yes, that's it. It
15 used to state -- yeah, that section used to state that
16 the Council Chair could call those meetings but now it
17 just states that the Federal Subsistence Board Chair or
18 the DFO will call the meetings. So it removed language
19 that previously existed that suggested that the Council
20 Chair or the Council members themselves could call a
21 special meeting outside of the regular meeting cycle.

22
23 Yeah.

24
25 MR. BASSICH: Does that also include
26 working groups and subcommittee or on what authority is
27 all of that type of meetings based?

28
29 MR. JOHNSON: Well, that would be a
30 separate process. That would be -- this just refers to
31 meetings of the Council, so certainly once the Council
32 establishes such working groups, then the working groups
33 then can independently meet to accomplish their mission
34 as directed by the Council.

35
36 MR. BASSICH: But who has the authority
37 to approve or disapprove those?

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: When they meet?

40
41 MR. JOHNSON: There is no limitation as
42 to -- or statement as to who approves or disapproves of
43 meetings of the working groups, it's just a matter of
44 whether or not they can be established and how they
45 function. So that part should be able to proceed as you
46 have already done, as far as you conduct those types of
47 meetings.

48
49 The next highlight was in Section 12,
50 there's currently a statement in Section 12 that says a

1 vacancy on the Council will be filled in the same manner
2 in which the original appointment was made. Now, there
3 used to be language in that section providing a lot more
4 detail and flexibility as to how to fill emergency
5 vacancies, whether by death, or illness or a Council
6 member has been removed, and the way the language states
7 now, the vacancy can only be filled by the regular
8 process, which means the nearly year long process that is
9 currently involved in submitting applications, those
10 being reviewed, being nominated to the Board, the Board
11 then making nominations to the Secretary and then the
12 Secretary at the end of the year appointing those
13 members.

14

15 But one of the things that we started
16 doing last year to accommodate emergency vacancies is to
17 designate alternates. So hopefully that will allow the
18 Council to still have a faster process available for
19 filling vacancies -- unexpected vacancies and that is to
20 have alternates. In fact, we've already used one such
21 alternate to fill a vacancy created on the Southcentral
22 Council by a resignation.

23

24 And the last change was previously in
25 Section 12 there was a lot of verbiage in there about
26 different processes used to remove members for misconduct
27 or for other things, and that's all been replaced with a
28 simple statement of members serve at the discretion of
29 the Secretary. And we felt that having that sort of
30 vague language to replace the previous very explicit
31 language on the process for removing members was
32 problematic but the response from D.C., was simply, well,
33 you can provide that greater detail in your operating --
34 your bylaws, which Councils don't have bylaws, but we do
35 have is the Regional Advisory Council operations manual,
36 which essentially serves as a guidance for what normally
37 bylaws would provide guidance for Council members, and
38 we're in the process of finalizing a new revision to that
39 operations manual now, so we'll just make sure that that
40 language about removal of Council members now appears
41 there, where it used to appear in the charter.

42

43 And those are the main changes that we
44 noticed from the previous charter to the current charter.

45

46 Madame Chair.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
49 Carl. Can you give us a brief, what input do we have in
50 this?

1 MR. JOHNSON: Well, the input that you
2 have in this is similar to what was done before and that
3 is we would want to -- so this will be -- we'll do this
4 again next year, receive input from the Council members
5 at a Council meeting about what changes you would like to
6 see made to your charter, and then we would go through an
7 internal process at OSM to make our own suggested
8 revisions and then it goes to D.C., but unfortunately
9 once it gets to D.C., we really don't have any input
10 about what they accept or reject in those Council
11 charters.

12
13 And one of the things that is a
14 limitation is, of course, what the Federal Advisory
15 Committee Act, and its regulations provide with regard to
16 what type of authority and conduct and activities that
17 the Councils can engage in. And, unfortunately the folks
18 in D.C., like to see uniformity among all of the
19 charters, they pretty much want them all to say exactly
20 the same thing. It actually became such a problem that
21 for the three 13 member Councils, were changed to 10
22 member Councils because somebody in D.C., thought they
23 should all be uniformed, and when we brought that to
24 their attention that that was not a good idea, they at
25 least fixed that part of it.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So actually
28 this is just information to us, we really don't have a
29 lot of input to this?

30
31 MR. JOHNSON: Correct, Madame Chair. At
32 this point in time this is a done deal, this is the new
33 charter that has been approved by the Secretary as of
34 December 2011, but, again, it's a two year cycle so
35 there'll be a new charter review process again next year.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But we don't
38 get to review it, our Staff does, right?

39
40 MR. JOHNSON: Well, if you're talking
41 about reviewing what changes were made or what changes
42 you would like to see made in the next review.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Like to see
45 changed.

46
47 MR. JOHNSON: We certainly -- I believe
48 that the last time, we did receive -- since I wasn't here
49 yet, but I do believe that the Council members did
50 provide input on to what changes they wanted to see in

1 their charter.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
4 questions.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. I
9 guess it's time for me to turn the Chair over to -- for
10 this years of service recognition, to Carl.

11

12 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, Madame Chair, at this
13 time I'd like to recognize two members of the Eastern
14 Interior Regional Advisory Council for 10 years of
15 service and hold on, I will go get those materials,
16 they're right behind me.

17

18 (Pause)

19

20 MR. JOHNSON: And actually next year
21 it'll be a banner year, too, because I think we have, at
22 least, seven members of the various Councils who will
23 have 20 years of service as of next year. But, first,
24 for her 10 years of service, and I'm going to read the
25 statement on the certificate here.

26

27 In recognition of her years of service
28 to the Federal Subsistence Management
29 Program as a member of the Eastern
30 Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional
31 Advisory Council, Tim Towarak, Chair,
32 Federal Subsistence Board thanks Susan
33 Entsminger, for her service.

34

35 Not only with a fine certificate
36 identifying her years of service from 201 to 2011, but a
37 handy-dandy Leatherman.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
40 that's the best part.

41

42 (Laughter)

43

44 MR. JOHNSON: And the second recognition
45 also for 10 years of service from 2001 to 2011, and sorry
46 I'm going to probably mangle your last name here, Virgil.

47

48 Virgil Umphenour.

49

50 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes, pretty close.

1 (Laughter)
2
3 MR. JOHNSON: All right, pretty close.
4
5 In recognition for his years of service
6 to the Federal Subsistence Management
7 Program as a member of the Eastern
8 Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional
9 Advisory Council, Tim Towarak, Chair,
10 Federal Subsistence Board.
11
12 Again, a fine certificate and something
13 handy for any subsistence user, a good Leatherman tool.
14
15 (Applause)
16
17 MR. JOHNSON: And, thank you, Madame
18 Chair.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
21 That's really nice. And it's strong, I had a hard time
22 closing it. So I might have to take this home and paint
23 it pink.
24
25 (Laughter)
26
27 MR. BASSICH: What do you get for 20
28 years a wheelchair?
29
30 (Laughter)
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I might not be
33 alive.
34
35 (Laughter)
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, go ahead.
38
39 MR. KRON: Yeah, Madame Chair. I think
40 David Jenkins is on the teleconference phone and if we
41 can confirm, but, again, the hope was to be able to cover
42 the customary trade issue with him, so if that would be
43 possible that would be wonderful.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. We
46 were basking in our glory.
47
48 (Laughter)
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.

1 MR. KRON: David, are you on the phone.
2
3 DR. JENKINS: Absolutely.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, David.
6 We got a mic and we can hear you.
7
8 DR. JENKINS: Can you hear me now.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yep.
11
12 DR. JENKINS: Okay, Madame Chair.
13 Council members. David Jenkins, Office of Subsistence
14 Management. I'm going to give you a brief update on the
15 Tri-RAC customary trade subcommittee and their
16 recommendations for the Yukon River king salmon.
17
18 I'm not sure this made it into your
19 Council books or if you have a handout in front of you.
20
21 But if you remember the first
22 recommendation, which is what the Tri-RAC Council
23 strongly recommended, it reads as follows:
24
25 The customary trade of Yukon River
26 chinook salmon may only occur between
27 Federally-qualified rural residents with
28 a current customary and traditional use
29 determination.
30
31 And this recommendation, the Eastern
32 Interior voted on, and voted in favor of on a split vote
33 at your fall meeting. At this point the steps would be
34 for the RACs to consider submitting a proposal to change
35 customary trade regulations for Yukon River king salmon.
36 It could be this same recommendation from the Tri-RAC, or
37 it could be a modified recommendation or it could be an
38 entirely recommendation, that's all up to the Council in
39 the normal course of things.
40
41 If you do submit a proposal, it will be
42 analyzed at OSM and then the Regional Advisory Council
43 provide their recommendations on the proposals during the
44 2012 fall meetings. And then finally the Federal
45 Subsistence Board would take action on the proposed rule
46 in January of 2013.
47
48 So that's the sequence. That's the
49 recommendation from the Tri-RAC subcommittee. And if you
50 would like, Madame Chair, I could give you a briefing on

1 what the YKRAC did on this issue and also what the
2 Western Interior RAC did. I just returned from McGrath
3 and that meeting this morning.

4
5 So, Madame Chair, let me know how you'd
6 like me to proceed.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that
9 would be good to hear from that.

10
11 DR. JENKINS: Okay. At the Western
12 Interior, they voted for recommendation number 1, and
13 just use the same language as the Tri-RAC subcommittee:

14
15 Customary trade of Yukon River chinook
16 salmon may only occur between Federally-
17 qualified rural residents with a current
18 customary and traditional use
19 determination.

20
21 So they recommended proposing that as a
22 proposed rule change on customary trade.

23
24 The YKRAC also supported that number 1
25 recommendation but they modified it with the clause,
26 which specifies that this limitation would only occur in
27 times of shortage, when there is no chinook salmon
28 commercial fishery and there are restrictions on
29 subsistence fishing.

30
31 So that is the first recommendation from
32 the YKRAC but they also made two other separate
33 proposals.

34
35 One of these proposals was that Yukon
36 River chinook salmon should primarily be for subsistence
37 use, for human food and personal family consumption, so
38 they wanted a proposed rule indicating that.

39
40 And they proposed a third rule defining
41 significant commercial enterprise and they wished Yukon
42 River significant commercial enterprise be defined by
43 establishing a \$750 per calendar year per qualified
44 household.

45
46 So, again, the YK adopted the first
47 recommendation with the qualification that I read to you,
48 only in times of shortage, and then these two other
49 separate proposals. And the Western Interior promoted
50 the first subcommittee recommendation as I read.

1 Madame Chair, thank you.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.
4
5 Andy.
6
7 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I'd just like to ask
8 direction from the Chair. I'd like to make a motion for
9 a proposal that mirrors YK-Delta's motion, and I don't
10 know if you want to go through all the discussion first
11 and then hit all the motions at the end or if you want to
12 take them up one at a time.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I guess I would
15 ask the Council. I don't mind if you make one motion
16 unless you think there's going to be a bunch of
17 opposition and then we'd have to take it up one at a
18 time.
19
20 MR. BASSICH: Well, I think each one
21 needs to be a separate motion of the -- I have multiple
22 motions that.....
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, let's do
25 it that way then Andy, one motion at a time.
26
27 MR. BASSICH:I'd like to make.
28 Okay. Do you want me to move forward?
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yep.
31
32 MR. BASSICH: Okay. Then I'd like to
33 make a motion that we put forth a proposal for customary
34 trade. It would read:
35
36 Customary trade of Yukon chinook salmon
37 may only occur between Federally-
38 qualified rural residents with current
39 customary and traditional use
40 determinations and that this will only
41 be in times of shortages of when there
42 is no chinook salmon commercial fishery
43 and when restrictions on subsistence is
44 in place.
45
46 This basically is what we passed, exact
47 same wording as what we had voted to support in the fall
48 meeting.
49
50 Madame Chair.

1 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that, Andy.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

4 Discussion.

5

6 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, speaking to the
7 motion. I mean we've been talking about this for quite
8 awhile and our letter from Mr. Towarak, the Chair,
9 identifies this as a real issue as far as conservation
10 concern on the Yukon River. We've formed a committee to
11 discuss this, a Tri-RAC committee, it's been discussed
12 and agreed upon by those committee members throughout the
13 river, so there's good representation. And as was just
14 read to us from Mr. Jenkins, the other two RACs also
15 supported this and so I'm using -- I'd like to reference
16 that as far as why I'm making this motion. And I believe
17 it will -- if passed, this will give a much better chance
18 for subsistence fishermen to obtain what they need in the
19 river, there won't be the need for managers to worry
20 about overharvest or additional harvest, I should say, of
21 chinook salmon, which hopefully will make periods a
22 little bit more friendly towards people who are just
23 trying to put food on the table. And the recommendation
24 from the Tri-RAC committee was that in times of shortages
25 chinook salmon should stay in the villages on the Yukon
26 River as a primary use of that fish to feed the people on
27 the river.

28

29 I believe that's all I have right now,
30 Madame Chair.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I was
33 just handed two testimony -- people that want to testify
34 and that would be better to do before we vote.

35

36 So we have a motion on the floor but I
37 would ask if we can take this testimony. Go ahead, speak
38 in the mic, what did you say, follow this?

39

40 MR. FIRMIN: Oh, I was just wondering if
41 we were going to follow this or just go ahead and let
42 them speak now, it's up to you, Madame Chair.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What is the
45 procedure on this, Carl, this is not a proposal like a
46 regular one.

47

48 MR. JOHNSON: Well, we've already had,
49 according to our guideline, you've already had the
50 introduction of the proposal, which will be in the form

1 of a motion, the analysis was presented by Mr. Jenkins,
2 telephonically, so next, if you wanted to follow this
3 proposal would be first to receive comments from any
4 State or Federal agencies who have input, and then any
5 Advisory Group Committees, Park Service SRCs and then
6 public testimony.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we handle
9 stuff like customary trade the same as we did a -- okay.
10 Yeah, I'm sorry. I think I'm suffering from what Virgil
11 said to me on the phone the other day, brain and I won't
12 go into the word you used but -- gone.

13

14 (Laughter)

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. So
17 the agency comments, ADF&G, do you have comments on this
18 or did I lose Jennifer -- oh, there's Jennifer.

19

20 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Madame Chair. The
21 question is, does the Department have comments on the
22 recommendations by the Tri-RAC subcommittee that's before
23 you that you're voting on.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

26

27 MS. YUHAS: What Dr. Jenkins just
28 reported on?

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But I guess I
31 look at it on just the customary trade and what was
32 found, what's before us, not how we do it.

33

34 MS. YUHAS: Right. Right.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
37 Yeah, okay.

38

39 MS. YUHAS: We do not have official
40 comments to add to the report of the Tri-RAC
41 subcommittee.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

44

45 MS. YUHAS: I have a wonderful new white
46 paper that was just published by our office that Mr.
47 Bassich referred to but that's about it.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
50 right, thank you. Unless anyone has any questions, she

1 is gone -- okay, Federal agencies. One, Tom.

2

3 MR. KRON: Yeah, I'll start and then I'm
4 going to ask, you, David, if you could provide some
5 clarification here. The second part of that, the
6 discussion that this would only occur when there's no
7 commercial fishery and restrictions are in place for
8 subsistence, this was something that Andrew and Lester
9 can back me up on, but this was something that was
10 unanimously agreed to at the YR DFA meeting two weeks ago
11 and my understanding it was in the original justification
12 for Item 1 in the task force, the riverwide task force
13 process that David was involved with with Andrew and
14 Lester.

15

16 So, I guess, David, if you could talk
17 about that issue a little bit.

18

19 DR. JENKINS: Sure. Madame Chair.
20 Council members. Tom, is right, and the subcommittee
21 recommended that these limitations on customary trade
22 only occur during times of shortage, when there's a
23 commercial restriction or when there are restrictions on
24 the subsistence fishery and this was, in fact, what the
25 Tri-RAC subcommittee recommended.

26

27 Now, the Western Interior didn't adopt
28 that language but the Western Interior did put on the
29 record that they understood the recommendation of the
30 Tri-RAC committee was for in times of shortage and this
31 is a conservation effort but they didn't add that as part
32 of their proposal for rulemaking.

33

34 But, Tom, is right that is the case.

35

36 Madame Chair.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions
39 of the Federal agencies.

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any more
44 Federal agencies.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Native, tribal,
49 village or other. Any comments to the customary trade.
50 I don't think we need blue cards for this, do we?

1 MR. JOHNSON: Not for tribal just public.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

4

5 MR. EDWARDSON: My name is Helium
6 Edwardson. I'm here on behalf of the Tanana Tribe and
7 the Tanana/Manley/Rampart Advisory Committee and also on
8 behalf of myself.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You have some
11 handouts, Carl will take them for you.

12

13 MR. EDWARDSON: Thank you.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You might need
16 one, uh.

17

18 MR. EDWARDSON: So our
19 Tanana/Manley/Rampart State Advisory Committee, we agreed
20 with what you guys have said about, I think, from the
21 YRDFA meeting.

22

23 And we think that Tanana/Manley/Rampart
24 Advisory Committee recommend the full protection of all
25 major pulse peaks each year until the run shows
26 significant improvement over periods of years. King
27 fishing would be open only in the beginning before the
28 first major management declared pulse and then in the end
29 after the last major management pulse and for a period
30 between between each major pulse, duration of these three
31 periods possibly would be determined by run assessments
32 made by each management -- by management each season.
33 The objective is to improve returns and not yet kill
34 subsistence.

35

36 And that Tanana Native Council also
37 supports this paper.

38

39 And on behalf of myself, the customary
40 trade restriction that the Federal Subsistence Board has
41 proposed for Native people of Alaska will dramatically
42 harm our way of life. This proposal is one of the last
43 things the United States government has to do to get what
44 they set out to do 150 years ago, that is to assimilate
45 our people to be like non-Native people. Unlike most
46 non-Native people, we are a people of the land. We have
47 been trading and bartering fish and other resources
48 harvested from the land for thousands of years. Our
49 hunting and fishing and trading rights do not derive from
50 the written word but are inherited within ourselves. Our

1 Creator has provided with us land, water, weather,
2 animals and birds plentiful to harvest, appropriate to
3 season and a desire for the longevity of our people. The
4 Native people of Alaska hunted, fished and trading rights
5 do not derive from the United States Constitution nor the
6 United States Treaty. We were taught to have big dreams,
7 reach for the stars when we were growing up. You are
8 taking my dreams away and the dreams of many other Alaska
9 Natives across the state. Since I was a kid I dreamed of
10 having my own fish camp, cutting salmon strips, half dry,
11 dry fish and salmon bellies. How would you feel if the
12 Federal government came and took your children's dreams
13 away, come in and told them you can no longer go to
14 college to get an education to be anything you want to
15 be, like a doctor, lawyer or astronaut. Let me tell you
16 how it feels. First I was angry because of the loss of
17 culture for my people and for future generations. This
18 is our culture. We are one with the land. The waterways
19 are our bloodstream, the culture is our heart. At the
20 age of 28 I finally had the means to build a fish camp,
21 it cost me a lot of money to do this. And I've spent
22 thousands of dollars on my boat, motor, fishnets, lumber
23 and everything else to build a fishcamp. Now the
24 government is telling me I can only sell \$750 worth of
25 fish, or they're proposing that I can only sell \$750
26 worth of fish. It cost \$750 just to buy one of my
27 fishnets. I still need gas, oil and day to day things to
28 operate a fishcamp.

29
30 The White people cannot fathom this.
31 What if the Federal government set a law that you can
32 only go to church two times a year, this law will be
33 taking your culture away like the proposal is going to
34 take my culture away. Your people will start a
35 revolution against the government if they made a law to
36 take your culture away. Buying and selling and bartering
37 fish is a norm in my culture.

38
39 I am pleading with you today, please do
40 not take our culture from us.

41
42 Our people are in despair. We have the
43 highest suicide rate in the nation. Our unemployment
44 rate in Tanana is 80 percent. And our young people need
45 to learn how to live off the land. Without being able to
46 sell the little bit of fish we catch our fishcamps will
47 surely close down and our culture will die. For the
48 survival of the Native people of Alaska, I urge you to
49 withdraw this proposal.

50

1 Thank you.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you. Go
4 ahead and stay, there's a few questions.
5
6 Andy.
7
8 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you for your
9 testimony. This is a really difficult topic for all
10 people involved.
11
12 You do realize that with this proposal
13 this is only going to be put in place, if passed, as
14 proposed during the times of low abundance?
15
16 MR. EDWARDSON: Yes, I do realize that.
17 And in the paper I just handed you, that's one of our
18 recommendations is just use the pulse protection and --
19 hold on, let me just read this real quick.
20
21 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, Madame Chair, I'm
22 familiar with that paper. I've looked it over quite
23 closely and it's something that I've seen from Stan
24 Zuray's research and I understand it fully. If I could,
25 I'd like to continue the questioning.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go ahead.
28
29 MR. BASSICH: Thank you. I'm curious,
30 how is it that you justify the sales of subsistence
31 caught fish in your region when no other region on the
32 river is doing that, when there's no commercial fishing,
33 no one's making any money on chinook salmon, yet, you
34 feel the need or the right to do that, so I'd really like
35 to hear your justification for that.
36
37 MR. EDWARDSON: My people have been doing
38 this for thousands of years. We traded. We traded with
39 Eskimos, the seal skins, whatever they had to trade with.
40 Today we're not trading with the Eskimos and seals, we
41 need money so we can have the fishcamps, to buy our gas,
42 to buy the fishnet to operate a fishcamp, to live how
43 we've been living for tens of thousands of years.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
46 question.
47
48 MR. BASSICH: And one last question,
49 yeah, I think people all up and down the river run
50 fishcamps, people all up and down the river have

1 subsistence fishcamps and they all bear the cost of
2 traveling to those fishcamps and operating in them but
3 for some reason they seem to be able to operate those
4 camps without selling fish and so I guess my
5 recommendation would be, reach out and talk to those
6 people and see how, maybe they have a method of doing it
7 that you're not -- is not available to you. I just find
8 it very difficult to believe that you have to sell fish
9 just to go out and fish because there's the vast majority
10 of subsistence users on the Yukon River that do not do
11 that, especially during times of low abundance.

12
13 MR. EDWARDSON: I'm sure the vast
14 majority of people on the Yukon have jobs. Like I said
15 where I come from the unemployment rate is 80 percent and
16 like I said my people have been doing this for thousands
17 of years. The people who live on the lower river, they
18 get commercial fishing, they make money off of that and
19 we don't get any commercial fishing. Like ask Lester
20 when's the last time he got to use his commercial fishing
21 license to make any kind of money.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry.

24
25 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
26 I'd like to thank you for your strong testimony there.
27

28 I know exactly how you feel because I
29 grew up in a culture where my mom and dad used to barter
30 and use that customary trade to get our food on the
31 table, like sugar, flour some things that we can manage
32 actually ourselves. But when I first heard of this,
33 customary trade, thing, with all due respect to all the
34 people that participated in this and the Tri-RAC
35 committees, I'm sure they put a lot of time and effort
36 into it, my personal feeling is that I think we're trying
37 to fix something that's not broken in the first place,
38 you know. And I feel exactly the same way you do, that
39 we've been doing this for thousands and thousands of
40 years without the -- we're a paperless society. But with
41 all -- when we trade with somebody we do it with respect
42 for the other people's culture and their language and
43 their way of life, and that's just not something that
44 we're doing for our own monetary gain. It was just
45 something that was established way back when. And I
46 think that it still follows, that we're not doing it for
47 big money in the bank, it's just something that's in us,
48 inherent in our culture.

49
50 Thank you.

1 MR. EDWARDSON: Yeah, I agree with you
2 Larry, 100 percent. Because I'd like my kids and my
3 grandkids, and their grandkids to be able to live the way
4 that -- we don't live the way like the elders like Lester
5 and them lived, but we still have our Native cultures and
6 our Native values and I'd like my kids and their
7 grandchildren and their grandchildren to still have the
8 cultural values that we have today without this -- this
9 would be killing the culture for the future generations
10 in my opinion.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Isaac.

13
14 MR. JUNEBY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
15 I'd like to just comment on this.

16
17 I would love to go down on record as
18 saying that the customary trade of salmon, fish, has been
19 going on for a long, long time. ANILCA in the section
20 and the provision with subsistence is telling you that
21 they will protect the subsistence lifestyle of those
22 rural areas and, yet, at the same time, in time of
23 shortage, that's the catch. So I mean the Federal
24 authorities, whoever is in charge of those areas has that
25 tendency to close in times of those needs.

26
27 I have a lot of problem with this, trying
28 to put a monetary value on a resource that has -- was --
29 when subsistence came in during the -- I believe in 1980
30 when it first started showing up, different people had
31 different meanings of subsistence and vice versa. But at
32 that time subsistence was we had the tendency to say what
33 subsistence really was and it's those people that are out
34 there, like I really have to cherish those people that I
35 know that got up -- like say up in the Fort Yukon area,
36 those people that has 200 mile traplines, those people
37 that live off the land, I had the tendency while growing
38 up to do all these things on the Yukon, from Eagle to
39 Circle, but I have not kept those things up, but I do
40 know about those values. I cannot put a \$750 value on a
41 fish that has sustained us for thousands of years. We
42 need to say that isn't value, that was the thing that got
43 us through here, the survival of the people.

44
45 And in leaving this subject I would then
46 like to say that I'm all for what you have just
47 mentioned, because it's a hard choice right now, and I
48 realize that the fish are down, I realize what is
49 happening, but I think, too, you know, is that how can we
50 take the rights of people who had already instilled those

1 rights within themselves, through doing these things, and
2 then yet take those rights back away from them, and
3 that's how I feel.

4
5 I thank you for that.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

8
9 MR. GLANZ: Also, by reading this and
10 reading that, they've never stopped you from trading fish
11 for gas, or trading a horse for a boat, I mean they've
12 never said you can't do that. What they're trying to do,
13 it looks like, is to prevent people from selling more
14 than \$750 in the round of salmon to somebody else,
15 because that's all you legally can do in Alaska, and this
16 subsistence fishing is selling fish in the round. They
17 don't recognize selling strips because the State of
18 Alaska requires to sell the strips you have to have --
19 like Virgil has, a smokehouse, a commercial one, you
20 know.

21
22 MR. EDWARDSON: Yeah.

23
24 MR. GLANZ: So I mean they've never said
25 you can't trade and barter. I trade and barter all the
26 time, I'll give you all the gas you want for how many
27 salmon you want to get me, you know, stuff like that.
28 But they're just talking about making money off this
29 system is what they're -- because like somebody explained
30 to me in one of the villages, subsistence really is not
31 a way of earned income, it's a way to live.....

32
33 MR. EDWARDSON: Yeah, it's a way to live.

34
35 MR. GLANZ:like you guys have done
36 for millions of years.

37
38 MR. EDWARDSON: Exactly.

39
40 MR. GLANZ: You know, so anyway thanks
41 for your testimony, you know, we take it to heart.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I really
44 appreciate it coming from the heart, yeah.

45
46 MR. EDWARDSON: Well, thank you.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I
49 understand exactly where you're from and I hope you
50 understand the difficult things that we have to deal with

1 here. When people like you come before us and, you know,
2 we -- I understand that when you grow up and you know a
3 certain way of life and you feel that threatened that
4 that does make you angry, and it does frustrate you, but
5 in these times of shortages we are given -- we're tasked
6 with this hard decision to make and it's tough.

7

8 MR. EDWARDSON: Yeah, like in this paper
9 it's in times of shortage, we -- the
10 Tanana/Manley/Rampart Advisory Committee said to do the
11 pulse protection instead of doing the customary trade,
12 we're for pulse protection.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. But if
15 I'm understanding it correctly, we have to deal with
16 customary trade separately so we have two issues here.

17

18 MR. EDWARDSON: Okay. That's just.....

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

21

22 MR. EDWARDSON:that's just our
23 recommendation that you see on the paper.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, all
26 right.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 MR. EDWARDSON: Thank you.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. All
33 right, Herbert Edwin, I have here and then if anyone else
34 wants to testify raise your hand after this.

35

36 MR. EDWIN: Hello, my name is.....

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Could you turn
39 the mic on please, the button, yeah.

40

41 MR. EDWIN: Hi, my name is Herbert Lee
42 Edwin. I'm from the village of Tanana. I speak strongly
43 against the Federal Subsistence Board proposal of our
44 customary trade subsistence rights.

45

46 Any time you try to change subsistence
47 rule, you're opening a door, Federally opening a door
48 towards subsistence rights against Alaska Native people.
49 And when you leave a door open like that, the chances of
50 losing our subsistence rights are very strong because of

1 ANILCA. So in that manner, I speak against that Section
2 VIII in ANILCA.

3

4 And to give you an overall view of
5 customary trade, I probably wouldn't be here if it wasn't
6 for customary trade. My father fortunately raised the
7 whole family, my brothers and sisters, on customary
8 trade. They had grubstakes from Northern Commercial
9 Company. During the winter they got a grubstake, in the
10 summer they got a grubstake from Northern Commercial
11 Company. I'll give you an overall view of some of the
12 traders that did this all through the Interior. There
13 was Vashon, Mayo, (Indiscernible) and Coghill, they were
14 all traders. They gave the grubstake to the Interior
15 Natives to go out and do their subsistence hunting and
16 fishing and in this manner they raised all their
17 children, the Native people had an opportunity to develop
18 an economic way to feed their family.

19

20 So when you think about restrictions on
21 customary trade, this customary trade has been going on
22 for many years with the European people. And like I say,
23 when you start making restrictions on customary trade and
24 putting a monetary value on how much you might be able to
25 make off of, like fish for instance, \$750 that's not very
26 much money. I mean the amount of money that these
27 traders traded year after year after year to raise me,
28 for instance, it took a good many years. And I speak
29 this way from my heart, from my historical background and
30 the knowledge that I have.

31

32 Madame Chair and Council members, when
33 you -- when Alaska Natives see proposals like this, it
34 kind of makes you wonder how can you trust the
35 government. You can't trust -- I, certainly, as an
36 Alaska Native wouldn't trust the Federal government
37 regulating something that has raised Alaska Native people
38 all over Alaska for many years.

39

40 I agree with the Tanana/Manley/Rampart
41 proposal, and I speak highly and strongly against the
42 proposal by the Federal Subsistence Board. And as far as
43 the man's comment over here about trying to make money
44 off of this, it's -- basically to live in the village is
45 very expensive. Any village you go, you don't live in a
46 village, I live in a village, I grew up in a village, I
47 know the cost of living out there. That Yukon River,
48 that's our supermarket. You got a supermarket over here.
49 You can go there by your food and pay for it, we don't
50 have that opportunity, we don't have the employment

1 opportunity that's here in the urban areas. So when you
2 start saying, issue like that, bringing issues up like
3 that that's a very rudimentary issue in my concern. I
4 speak strongly against this.

5
6 Madame Chair. I thank you for your time.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
9 Herbert. Hang on. Is there any questions of Herbert.

10
11 Herbert, I don't know if you're referring
12 to Andy but he lives in Eagle and he doesn't live in
13 Fairbanks, if that's what you were.....

14
15 MR. EDWIN: Well, I just -- I didn't like
16 the comment he made and I have the right.....

17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

19
20 MR. EDWIN:I have the right to
21 speak my mind.

22
23 Thank you, Madame Chair.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
26 thank you.

27
28 Andrew.

29
30 MR. FIRMIN: I just have a quick thing to
31 say, not to really Herbie or anyone in particular, but I
32 just, you know, this is only going to be in times of
33 shortage and where Andy and I are from, we don't even --
34 where I'm from I don't even get enough fish to even sell
35 \$750 worth of fish. And this is just something that's
36 slowly trickling down river, it started in Canada, it's
37 hitting -- it's went by Eagle, it's hit Fort Yukon, it's
38 going through the Flats, and I hope the people of Tanana
39 realize that you guys are next on the river to feel this
40 effect of the fish going by. And this is only something
41 that, you know, you guys think of -- like Mr. Edwardson
42 was talking about taking away our children's dreams, well
43 if we keep fishing the way we're fishing and don't do
44 something about it, there ain't going to be any dream of
45 a fishcamp left because there ain't going to be any king
46 salmon left to go down to catch. And the only thing
47 we're trying to do is, I mean when the fish is running
48 this low, just everybody do their part to cutback and
49 this just gives law enforcement some way to get the
50 people that are actually going out there and doing

1 drastic amounts of stripping and selling and drying fish.
2 We're not trying to take anything away from the
3 individual and.....

4
5 MR. EDWIN: You know, in answer to that
6 being an Athabaskan Native, I was taught at a young age
7 to conserve and respect the land and animals to be
8 conservative as to how much you take. I was taught this
9 at a young age and I still carry it with me today. I
10 agree with being -- trying to conserve what Mother Nature
11 has given us but what I strongly don't agree with is when
12 a Federal Subsistence Board starts to mess with the
13 subsistence rights that are established by my great-
14 great-great-grandfather; I strongly agree with that --
15 don't -- I strongly disagree with that issue.

16
17 So with all respect to where you were
18 raised and everything, one must look at proposals and
19 have an open mind, yes, I agree with that but when it
20 starts to -- when it starts to regulate a cultural people
21 that was passed on for thousands of years, a person like
22 me would come out and say, this is what I think, this is
23 what I know and this is what I want to pass on to my
24 people.

25
26 Thank you.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Tom, did you
29 have something -- you know I'm a little bit cumbersome
30 here with my process because I was asked to follow these
31 procedures and then we wouldn't make a motion until the
32 end and we made a motion and now we're.....

33
34 MR. BASSICH: We can put a motion on the
35 table and then you can go through the process.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I must be
38 sleeping.

39
40 MR. JOHNSON: Madame Chair. This layout
41 here would be if someone from the outside brought a
42 proposal and then we were being asked -- the Council was
43 being asked to either adopt or reject that proposal, make
44 a recommendation about it but since there's already a
45 motion that came from the Council itself, that kind of
46 takes it outside of the process as.....

47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's what I
49 thought.

50

1 MR. JOHNSON:described on your
2 card.

3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But then we
5 started following it so and then we got all wrapped
6 around the axle here but we'll continue where we're at,
7 I think we're okay.

8
9 If there's anyone else out there that
10 needs to testify on all of these things, like InterAgency
11 Staff and neighboring Regional Advisory Councils or local
12 Fish and Game Advisory Committees or SRCs they need to
13 raise their hand. So, Tom.

14
15 MR. KRON: Yeah, Madame Chair. I just
16 want to -- I guess would refer you, I think you all got
17 this book, the fisheries regs book.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, was
20 handed that earlier.

21
22 MR. KRON: If you look on Page 27 it
23 shows where the Federal conservation system units are,
24 you'll see them in yellow and pink, basically Refuges and
25 Parks, and again, those are the only places where you
26 have jurisdictions, where your regulations -- our
27 regulations would apply. And I would just point out the
28 discussion we just heard relates to Tanana/Rampart and
29 Manley, those are not within your jurisdiction. Those
30 are State jurisdiction issues. So your regulations would
31 not apply in those areas and I just wanted to share that
32 with you.

33
34 Thank you, Madame Chair.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you, Tom,
37 for bringing that out. And I don't know, the people in
38 the public should really look at the map. How difficult
39 this process is with two different systems. One system
40 is the Federal land, the other system is the State land,
41 and the State land is handled differently than what we
42 are looking at, and that's the Federal land.

43
44 And then continuing on, is there any
45 other public testimony or any other -- one, regarding
46 this issue, just this issue -- okay.

47
48 MR. JAMES: Thank you, Madame Chairman.
49 This is a pretty interesting issue all right, and I
50 didn't know this was coming on until I was reading your

1 agenda there.

2

3 We brought this issue up a few years back
4 but we never did tackle it there. And the customary
5 trade issue, you know, we're going to trade either if
6 there's fish or no fish, moose, or no moose, you know,
7 we're still going to trade because we got to survive, you
8 know. And putting on a monetary value as Chief Isaac
9 mentioned over there, it's not part of our way of
10 teaching. We managed fish way before you guys came into
11 our territories and we still probably have -- you know,
12 three-fourths populations as we do now and we still have
13 that management -- we still have the fish coming back.

14

15 And I really -- I really never researched
16 this issue here, what position came out of the RAC, but
17 in my opinion I hope this Council don't set no monetary
18 value until you get more feedback from the people that
19 you guys represent. As I said before, there's a large
20 group of people that never even knew that this issue was
21 coming up and I'm sure they would like to get their
22 opinion in. Is there a deadline that we have to submit
23 comments, a position on this?

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that a
26 question?

27

28 MR. JAMES: Yes.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes. I'll let
31 one of these answer it, my brain was somewhere else, I'm
32 sorry -- how would I handle all this.

33

34 MR. JAMES: I'd like to ask one question,
35 since Andrew is representing our people in Ft. Yukon
36 there, how did you come up with this \$700 [sic] value?

37

38 MR. FIRMIN: I believe part of that was
39 -- was that a hand me down from a few other places that
40 have the similar values and we decided not to make it any
41 higher because if we made it one, two, 10,000 bucks then
42 heck everybody in the city is going to flock to the river
43 to go catch \$10,000 and make money on fish, we just left
44 it low because there still is the opening option of
45 bartering. You know you can just trade, let somebody buy
46 you gas, or buy you what you need at the store and we
47 came up with that limit as a low limit so people wouldn't
48 say, hey, I can go make money fishing this summer, and
49 look at it as a commercial prospect and run to the river,
50 like they were going goldmining because they could make

1 an easy thousand bucks. That was part of the reasoning
2 why we left it low.

3
4 I think some of it stemmed from Bristol
5 Bay and Copper River, and that's their limit and Norton
6 Sound, they have similar limits for -- price cash limits
7 for their customary trade.

8
9 MR. JAMES: So kind of straighten me out
10 here, if the fish population was low or is no opportunity
11 to fish, this will kick in?

12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I want them to
14 explain it because they worked on it very extensively.

15
16 Andrew.

17
18 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. I don't know
19 that it's appropriate.....

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you
22 deferring to Andy.

23
24 MR. BASSICH:the public actually
25 questioning us at this point in time but in an effort to
26 explain it them.

27
28 This is only happening.....

29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But I want to
31 say, Andy, I think when people don't understand something
32 it's really important that we do it, so, thank you.

33
34 MR. BASSICH: I realize that, and we've
35 been talking about this for well over a year in all the
36 communities as well, Madame Chair.

37
38 But to assist you here, basically these
39 regulations would only go into place, if adopted by the
40 Federal Subsistence Board, as the motion states, when
41 there's restrictions to subsistence.

42
43 So the premise and the idea behind this
44 is that when there are not very many fish in the river,
45 the primary use of chinook salmon should go to feed
46 people, in their homes, on the Yukon River, not to be
47 sold to other people.

48
49 We've got less than half the fish that we
50 used to have coming in the Yukon River. You have to get

1 escapement so that you have future spawning, that leaves
2 very little left anymore, so we're trying to insure
3 through this that people do not catch fish and sell them,
4 taking more fish out of there, that the fish that are
5 caught on the Yukon River go into people's freezers, into
6 their bellies on the Yukon River.

7

8 That's what we're trying to do.

9

10 MR. JAMES: So I thought that was the
11 intent of this Board, this group here, to do regulations,
12 set bags, set time limits, now you guys are going about
13 setting enforcement laws.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, we
16 shouldn't get into.....

17

18 MR. JAMES: It seems like to me like it's
19 enforcement on.....

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: David, if you
22 could.....

23

24 MR. JAMES:the stakeholders to.....

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I apologize
27 for.....

28

29 MR. JAMES: But that was my opinion
30 and.....

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No. No. Tom
33 Kron can probably answer that on the side there because
34 other things come before the Federal Subsistence Board
35 and then they come down to us to make recommendations,
36 that's all we are, is an advisory council to the Federal
37 Board.

38

39 MR. JAMES: I just want to make one quick
40 comment there. I do agree with Isaac about setting a
41 monetary value on there. I'd like to advise the Board to
42 rethink that.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now,
47 Gene, did you have.....

48

49 MR. SANDONE: A really quick comment.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. This
2 would be the public comment.

3
4 MR. SANDONE: Gene Sandone representing
5 Kwik-Pak Fisheries.

6
7 I just want to impress upon the severity
8 of the situation possibly next year, we're looking at a
9 run that has a low end of 104,000 total, that means
10 approximately 52,000 Canadian fish. Our commitment to
11 Canada with the escapement and their share of the harvest
12 is approximately 45,000 fish. Our normal subsistence
13 fishery takes about 30,000 Canadian fish. We don't have
14 a lot of fish to play with. We've got about maybe 7,000
15 Canadian fish instead of the 30,000 if the run comes in
16 at the low end of the projection for next year. So just
17 a little clarification on how severe it could be next
18 year.

19
20 Thank you, Madame Chair.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you have a
23 question -- no. So we're back to the proposal, or not
24 the proposal the motion before us. And I would like you
25 to reread that motion because I got the part -- there was
26 just a little thing on the end -- did you get that from
27 Andy?

28
29 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes. Andy, do
32 you want to read it or do you want him to.

33
34 MR. BASSICH: I'd be happy to reread the
35 proposal, it's.....

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The motion on
38 the floor.

39
40 MR. BASSICH: The motion on the floor is:

41
42 Customary trade of Yukon chinook salmon
43 may only occur between Federally-
44 qualified rural residents with current
45 customary and traditional use
46 determinations and that this will only
47 be in times of shortages when there is
48 no chinook salmon commercial fisheries
49 and restrictions on subsistence is in
50 place.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank
2 you. Virgil.

3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. A lot of the
5 public doesn't understand the difference between the
6 Federal definition of customary trade and barter. Barter
7 is what most people have spoken to. Trading fish for
8 moose meat, or for groceries at the trading post like the
9 Coghills used to do, or other necessities that you need
10 to support your family. That's barter.

11
12 Customary trade. This is hard for people
13 to understand, I don't know why they even call it trade,
14 it's not trading nothing, it's selling something. It
15 should be calling customary selling maybe instead of
16 customary trade. This only addresses selling fish for
17 the greenback dollar, it doesn't have anything to do with
18 trading a salmon for some moose burger or caribou leg or
19 something or even some gas. It has nothing to do with
20 that. It's only selling fish for cash money. That's
21 what this -- that's what customary trade is. They should
22 change the name of it so they'd quit getting people
23 confused, but that's what this is addressing.

24
25 And, like, Mr. Kron, brought up, that
26 only applies on Federal waters. Almost the whole lower
27 Yukon is Federal waters, from Piamiut down river, and
28 then from about six miles above the bridge on the Yukon,
29 almost to the Canadian border is Federal waters, and then
30 in between there there's not much, across from Nulato and
31 Kaltag and then a little bit on the -- well, next to the
32 Nowitna National Wildlife Refuge but there's no town even
33 close to there, the closest one is Ruby and people don't
34 go way up there to fish, they fish closer to Ruby, so it
35 doesn't apply to a lot of areas.

36
37 But, anyway, I just wanted to try to help
38 people understand that customary trade has nothing to do
39 with trading anything, it's selling fish and what's
40 exacerbated and caused this whole problem to begin with
41 is the fact that the Federal government nor the State,
42 either one, especially the Federal government, prior to
43 statehood, unless a fish got put in a can and shipped to
44 the Lower 48, they didn't count it as a commercial fish.
45 All these fish that were caught and bartered or sold in
46 the upper Yukon and even the ones that went to Dawson or
47 Whitehorse, none of them counted as commercial fish,
48 we're only talking about fish in the round, head, guts
49 and all, that's what we're talking about in this proposal
50 that we're addressing.

1 So because of that whenever the State
2 decided, the Board of Fisheries decided, how they were
3 going to allocate the commercial harvest.....
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
6
7 MR. UMPHENOUR:and salmon on the
8 Yukon they did not count any of those fish and so that's
9 why the majority of the commercial fishery are allocated
10 to the lower Yukon, because the big processors.....
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay,
13 Virgil.....
14
15 MR. UMPHENOUR:back then would
16 bribe the Board of Fish and Game.
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to
19 shut you off.
20
21 MR. UMPHENOUR: 10 seconds.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No.
24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: They bribed them at the
26 meetings and no one from the up river showed up and
27 beings they didn't show up they didn't.....
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.
30
31 MR. UMPHENOUR:show up, they didn't
32 get no fish. I'm done.
33
34 MR. FIRMIN: Question.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Persistent too.
37
38 The question has been called for.
39
40 MR. MATESEI: Madame Chair.
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, did you
43 have something else, objecting to the question being
44 called.
45
46 MR. MATESEI: Yes.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Go.
49
50 MR. MATESEI: Thank you, Madame Chair.

1 This is deja vu all over again, at least for me, because
2 I remember we sat here six months ago and we all went
3 through the exact same mental processes only it took
4 hours and hours and hours and it was torture for me
5 because there was just such a complex matrix of
6 considerations involved here. I mean we're talking about
7 cultural issues and social issues, economic issues,
8 conservation issues all boiled up and part of this
9 matrix, I had to paw through -- thank goodness I had my
10 notes from last meeting because, you know, what it all
11 boils down to in the end is all these considerations and
12 they're fighting each other and things that might make a
13 difference this way, but that way, in the end it boils
14 down you got to make a choice, is it yes or is it no.
15 And I guess I'm going to have to go ahead and vote the
16 same way I did six months.

17

18 At that time I really felt that just
19 adding another layer of regulation on top of this whole
20 process is not really going to reverse this powerful
21 biologic trend that we have where we're seeing the Yukon
22 kings decreasing in numbers. I mean we're up against
23 things like ocean warmings and acidification, there's
24 increased fishing pressure, habitat loss, introduction of
25 new diseases and, yeah, we really do have a problem on
26 the Yukon River with king salmon, but this is almost like
27 a solution that's going around looking for a problem.
28 Well, there's a problem out there but I don't think this
29 is the right solution for it.

30

31 I definitely appreciate the information
32 -- the position that we're getting from the
33 Tanana/Rampart AC, I think it's a more holistic approach
34 and I'm willing to do anything, even a little scotch tape
35 and rubberband methods to help the king salmon out, but
36 not at the expense of the users themselves. I'm opposed
37 to unnecessary regulations. So I'm going to vote no.

38

39 Thank you, Madame Chair.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anyone
42 else before we call for the question.

43

44 Andrew.

45

46 MR. FIRMIN: Question.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question is
49 still called for. Okay, do you want a roll call.

50

1 MR. MATESI: Please.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Roll call vote.
4 And I'm going to reiterate, this is customary trade on
5 the Yukon River chinook salmon may only occur between
6 Federally-qualified rural residents with a current C&T
7 use determination only in times of shortages, and this is
8 only, to my understanding, correct me if I'm wrong, fish
9 in the round. Correct?
10
11 MR. UMPHENOUR: Correct.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right, roll
14 call vote.
15
16 MR. FIRMIN: Okay, roll call vote for the
17 motion on the floor.
18
19 Sue Entsminger.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You always put
22 me first.
23
24 MR. FIRMIN: You're at the top of the
25 list.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're supposed
28 to, you know, rotate, but that's okay. I'm voting yes.
29
30 MR. FIRMIN: Andrew Firmin. Yes. Larry
31 Williams, Sr.
32
33 MR. WILLIAMS: I vote no.
34
35 MR. FIRMIN: Lester Erhart.
36
37 MR. ERHART: I vote no.
38
39 MR. FIRMIN: Bill Glanz.
40
41 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
42
43 MR. FIRMIN: Andy Bassich.
44
45 MR. BASSICH: Yes.
46
47 MR. FIRMIN: Isaac Juneby.
48
49 MR. JUNEBY: I vote no.
50

1 MR. FIRMIN: Joe Matesi.
2
3 MR. MATESI: I vote no.
4
5 MR. FIRMIN: Donald Woodruff is absent.
6 And Virgil Umphenour.
7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes.
9
10 MR. FIRMIN: Motion carries, 5/4.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Makes life
13 interesting. Okay, I've been requested for a 10 minute
14 break.
15
16 (Off record)
17
18 (On record)
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We have a lot
21 left on the agenda and I hope we get through it. The
22 meeting is back in session. Do you want that question on
23 the record, when this timeline is on this customary trade
24 proposal.
25
26 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. I was just
27 asking Carl, that these proposals that I'm making right
28 now they'll come before us one more time, I believe,
29 before being voted on by the Federal Subsistence Board;
30 is that correct, or is this our last time to comment on
31 them?
32
33 MR. JOHNSON: I'll defer answering that
34 question to our leadership team representative from OSM.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Tom, go ahead.
37
38 MR. KRON: Madame Chair. Andy. This
39 will come back before you with an analysis from Staff,
40 essentially people can comment on it, there'll be a
41 comment period this summer for public comment and they
42 can comment on it any time between now and the Board
43 meeting. They can come to the Board meeting to give
44 testimony there. So essentially this proposal would
45 actually not be discussed for action by the Federal
46 Subsistence Program until the Board meeting next January.
47 So about, what's that, 10 and a half months, and people
48 are welcome -- you know, I think public input is
49 wonderful. People are welcome to comment on this issue
50 all the way between now and then.

1 Thank you, Madame Chair.

2

3 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. Yeah, I
4 guess the reason I was asking that question is hopefully
5 we can streamline the process on the next couple of
6 proposals that I have and keep the discussion to the
7 Council here to move along a little quicker because this
8 will come before us again and there will be time for
9 public comment.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right, go
12 ahead.

13

14 MR. BASSICH: Thank you. If I have the
15 floor, I'd like to make a second proposal to go before
16 the Federal Subsistence Board. This also mirrors the YK-
17 Delta's proposal. And that would state:

18

19 Yukon chinook salmon are primarily for
20 subsistence use, for human food, and
21 personal family consumption.

22

23 MR. UMPHENOUR: Second.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

26

27 MR. BASSICH: Speaking to the motion,
28 this was recently passed as a resolution at the YRDFA
29 meeting, I believe. There's been quite a bit of
30 discussion in the past at the RAC about this. The reason
31 why I'm making this proposal is that it will hopefully
32 allow the Federal Subsistence Board to have the authority
33 or feel more comfortable in granting a special action
34 request if ever, due to low abundance, a need to
35 prioritize the use of chinook salmon. And if you recall
36 in the past we have put -- this RAC has voted unanimously
37 to put forth special action requests regarding chinook
38 salmon use and the answer from the Federal Subsistence
39 Board back to us was that they were not permitted to
40 prioritize use of customary trade or any other use of
41 subsistence resources. This would allow them to
42 prioritize the use of chinook salmon on the Yukon River.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
45 discussion. Joe.

46

47 MR. MATESI: Andy, could I have that --
48 Madame Chair. Could I have that motion repeated, I don't
49 think I caught the whole thing.

50

1 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. This is what the YK-
2 Delta basically passed.
3
4 Yukon chinook salmon are primarily for
5 subsistence use, for human food, and
6 personal family consumption.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you reading
9 from something in front of us?
10
11 MR. BASSICH: No. This is something that
12 was.....
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
15
16 MR. BASSICH:given to me with
17 actions taken during the.....
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
20
21 MR. BASSICH:YK-Delta meeting.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you get it,
24 Joe?
25
26 MR. MATESI: Yes, thank you.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
29 discussion on this.
30
31 (No comments)
32
33 MR. GLANZ: Then I'll call the question.
34
35 MR. JOHNSON: Was it seconded?
36
37 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, it was
40 seconded by Virgil.
41
42 MR. JOHNSON: Oh, I'm sorry.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
45 Everybody ready for the vote.
46
47 (Council nods affirmatively)
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do we need a
50 roll call.

1 (Council nods affirmatively)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew's going
4 to try a new technique, rotating.
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: Roll call vote for the
7 motion on the floor starting.....
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
10
11 MR. FIRMIN:with Andrew Firmin.
12 Yes. Larry Williams, Sr.
13
14 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.
15
16 MR. FIRMIN: Lester Erhart.
17
18 MR. ERHART: Yes.
19
20 MR. FIRMIN: Bill Glanz.
21
22 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
23
24 MR. FIRMIN: Andrew Bassich.
25
26 MR. BASSICH: Yes.
27
28 MR. FIRMIN: Isaac Juneby.
29
30 MR. JUNEBY: Yes.
31
32 MR. FIRMIN: Joe Matesi.
33
34 MR. MATESI: Yes.
35
36 MR. FIRMIN: Virgil Umphenour.
37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes.
39
40 MR. FIRMIN: And Sue Entsminger.
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
43
44 MR. FIRMIN: Motion carries unanimously.
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I
47 believe there's another motion here, go ahead, Andy.
48
49 MR. BASSICH: Yes, Madame Chair. I'd
50 like to make a motion that:

1 Yukon significant commercial enterprise
2 be defined as establishing a \$750 limit
3 per calendar year per qualified
4 household.

5
6 I'll repeat that.

7
8 Yukon significant commercial enterprise
9 be defined as establishing a \$750 limit
10 per calendar year per qualified
11 household.

12
13 MR. FIRMIN: Second.

14
15 MR. BASSICH: Speaking to the motion.
16 I'd like to reference this book prepared by George
17 Pappas. It's basically a history of customary trade on
18 the Yukon River, and all of the different discussions and
19 different actions that were taken by the both the Board
20 of Fish and the Federal Subsistence Board, mainly the
21 Board of Fish in here, and I would like to draw your
22 attention to Page 21, the very final paragraph and it's
23 under the section of 2003:

24
25 January 14th, Federal Board adopts final
26 regulations defining customary trade;
27 Federal enforcement officials were
28 particular concerned about recordkeeping
29 of customary trade exchanges in a letter
30 to the Federal Board.

31
32 The Federal Division of Law Enforcement
33 said minimum requirements should include
34 names, addresses of fishermen, fish
35 receipts, origins of fish and the
36 amounts of fish and species; failure to
37 require such documentation and
38 accountability would prevent effective
39 enforcement, invite abuse and jeopardize
40 legitimate subsistence use of fishery
41 resources.

42
43 That was on Page 21.

44
45 Also on Page 44 on the second paragraph,
46 it says:

47
48 A specific monetary limit for customary
49 trade of subsistence harvest fish for
50 cash does not exist in Federal law.

1 Definitions under 50 CFR, so on and so
2 forth, states:

3
4 Customary trade does not include trade
5 which constitutes a significant
6 commercial enterprise. Lack of a
7 definition of what constitutes a
8 significant commercial enterprise, in
9 theory, allows nearly unrestricted sales
10 of subsistence harvested fish for cash
11 in regions without defined monetary
12 limits in Federal regulation. Federal
13 regulations allows definition of
14 monetary limits by region be placed on
15 customary trade of subsistence caught
16 fish for cash when requested by a
17 Regional Advisory Council through 50 CFR
18 so on and so forth.

19
20 What this basically is saying is that
21 they feel the need is there if you want to be able to
22 enforce this regulation, that there be some kind of a
23 dollar amount and if the Chair would invite Mr. Neely up
24 to the table here maybe he could make a few more comments
25 being that he is directly affected by this proposal.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You mean if I
28 would invite him. This is the only chance I get to say
29 I'm boss to the government.

30
31 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair. I have a
32 question for the coordinator. Are there any other copies
33 available of that for Council members?

34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You didn't get
36 it in your packet?

37
38 MR. MATESI: No. Are there any other
39 copies available?

40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You don't have
42 one?

43
44 MR. MATESI: Correct.

45
46 MR. JOHNSON: We should have some on the
47 table.

48
49 MR. MATESI: Neither does Mr. Juneby.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's in the
2 brown folder, did you guys look in your brown folder.
3
4 MR. JOHNSON: No, I think it was mailed.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It was mailed
7 to us, it came with your.....
8
9 MR. MATESI: I don't have one.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you didn't
12 bring it?
13
14 MR. MATESI: I didn't get my mail. Thank
15 you.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. All
18 right, go ahead.
19
20 MR. NEELY: Madame Chair. Jim Neely,
21 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Refuge law
22 enforcement.
23
24 It's an interesting -- I've been before
25 the group before, as you know, and have made some
26 commentary about enforcement relative to customary trade
27 and had the good fortune of participating with the Tri-
28 RAC committee that was assembled to look at this issue.
29
30 As Mr. Bassich speaks of, one of the
31 things that perplexes law enforcement, and we have been
32 requested to examine this issue of customary trade and
33 where folks have come to us, both management and user
34 groups alike and asked us to enter into this issue and
35 investigate this issue, and if need be prosecute where we
36 saw abuses, but our problem being and remains that we
37 have no, what I refer to often as a bright line, and in
38 discussing with the U.S. Attorney where I would take a
39 prosecution, in order to move forward in the courts we
40 have to have a bright line, we have to have some monetary
41 value established that if sales transcend that bright
42 line, then that would define what a significant
43 commercial enterprise is again, and, again, as Mr. Pappas
44 has in his paper, that there is no such definition
45 currently and that has -- it's been perplexing to the
46 courts. And I've stated before that we are probably fast
47 approaching, if not already approaching, a point where we
48 can take a test case forward. The problem with the test
49 case is, past experiences, then you're asking the courts
50 to establish that bright line and the courts may not have

1 the knowledge that this group and the user groups, et
2 cetera, have about this issue, so that's when I've worked
3 with the Tri-RAC group, I've encouraged them, as the
4 experts, to move forward on this and to actually
5 establish that bright line.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions.
8 Joe.

9

10 MR. MATESI: Mr. Neely, has your office
11 been able to move forward with cases, which were
12 egregious and obvious, you know, like tens of thousands
13 of dollars, something like that. I get the impression
14 that when you're looking for a bright line that's because
15 one dollar less or one dollar more it's just kind of a
16 nebulous area.

17

18 MR. NEELY: I can tell you -- I can't --
19 we currently have open cases and there's several
20 investigations that are working their way through the
21 system, I can't speak of those obviously for obvious
22 reasons but I can give you some general comments that I
23 think would answer your question, Joe.

24

25 I can tell you in as recently as 2010 I
26 had two different reports and I believe that they
27 certainly met the test of credibility of having -- two
28 different cases at that time, over a current market value
29 and these were strip sales, these weren't whole fish
30 sales, but were strip sales, in Fairbanks, two different
31 occasions of having in excess of \$30,000 of product per
32 instance here. Again, in discussion at that time,
33 discussion with U.S. Attorney's office was reluctant to
34 move forward until such time that there was a bright line
35 established.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
38 questions.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hearing none.
43 We'll move on to the motion.

44

45 MR. BASSICH: Sue.

46

47 MR. UMPHENOUR: Andy's got a question.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Andy.

50

1 MR. BASSICH: I don't have a question, I
2 just wanted to offer one more bit of information here to
3 make you understand why it may be necessary to put such
4 a low dollar amount on some of this.

5
6 Part of the reason for the low dollar
7 amount is that when we looked around the state, all of
8 the dollar amounts that are set right now are down in
9 this range between \$500 and \$750 and at our Tri-RAC
10 council meeting we spent a lot of time talking about
11 numbers and we talked about, you know, a thousand, 2,000
12 or whatever, but I did some quick computations on the
13 impacts of setting dollar amounts at different levels and
14 I just wanted to kind of -- this is kind of a rough draft
15 of what it is, I just received some more information
16 today on some of the households. But if a person was to
17 catch a 20 pound king salmon, and I'm using this as a
18 basically average in the lower river, 20 pound for a king
19 salmon, that equates to about 10 pounds of human
20 consumption flesh, so whenever you catch a whole king
21 salmon basically 50 percent of that is about what you get
22 for human consumption, the rest is all heads.....

23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Unless you're
25 eating the head and all that.

26
27 MR. BASSICH:tails, whatever.
28 Yeah.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Some people do.

31
32 MR. BASSICH: Okay. That's flesh, I
33 qualified that as flesh. Then if you take that flesh
34 and let's say you want to turn it into strips, and I know
35 we're talking about whole fish here but the reality is
36 there's a lot of strips sold on the river as customary
37 trade too, so I just want to make you understand what
38 potentially could happen here, 70 percent of that 10
39 pounds is water, so that gives you out of a 20 pound
40 fish, about three pounds of dried strips, each pound of
41 dried strips right now is equivalent to about \$25 to \$30
42 of commercial value. Therefore, to reach -- a 20 pound
43 fish, if you were catching average 20 pound kings, each
44 fish was equivalent to about 75 to \$90 depending on the
45 market value, that means that it takes about -- for \$750
46 it takes about 8.3 fish to equal that, so that means that
47 every person who's a Federally-qualified person or is
48 going to engage in customary trade would be limited to
49 selling about 8.3 fish. Now, that doesn't sound like
50 very much but throughout the entire drainage there's

1 about 1,600 households in the drainage and I just got the
2 numbers on what the actual fishing households are, but
3 there's about 1,600 households. If every single person
4 was to go out from those households and catch their
5 allowed 8.3 fish, that would be 13,320 fish. 13,200.
6 Subsistence -- total subsistence is estimated at between
7 50 and 60,000 fish, okay, so we're looking at a little
8 less than a third more fish would be caught in the
9 fisheries, okay, so does that make sense. Is everybody
10 kind of following me here. Now if you carry that one
11 step further, a fish that size basically carries about
12 5,000 eggs in it, and if the total run of the --
13 construction of the run is about 40 percent females, then
14 you're looking at about 7,200 females would be taken out
15 of the run. If you take those 5,000 fish per female and
16 multiply that up you get 36,110,000 eggs that wouldn't
17 make it to the spawning ground.

18

19 Now, these are really kind of rough
20 estimates but the point I'm trying to make is, what seems
21 like a really small amount of fish, 8.3 fish per
22 household, when you start multiplying that by the
23 potential, what could be caught, harvested on the Yukon
24 River it has a very dramatic effect at the spawning
25 grounds.

26

27 So that's another reason why we have to
28 keep this number down fairly low. If you raise this up
29 to four or \$5,000 and you start multiplying those numbers
30 by that amount, that's going to exceed, potentially, what
31 the entire subsistence harvest is right now. And we now
32 know that there's no more commercial fisheries and
33 probably will not be commercial fisheries on the Yukon
34 for chinook salmon for the foreseeable future, more and
35 more people are going to want to turn towards and
36 economic gain over chinook salmon. So I just wanted to
37 pass these numbers to you to help explain why we are
38 trying to keep it at such a low number here.

39

40 That's all I have. Thank you, Madame
41 Chair, for indulging me.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

44

45 MR. UMPHENOUR: Just one quick thing. A
46 chum salmon has 3,000 eggs in it, a king salmon, if it's
47 a 20 pound female, she's going to probably have more like
48 12,000 eggs, about two and a half times what you just
49 said.

50

1 MR. BASSICH: That's correct. I took the
2 most conservative numbers I could. And I also worked out
3 the numbers for a 10 pound fish average in the upper
4 river, which means that people would be allowed to catch
5 even more fish. So Virgil's correct, but I was trying to
6 give you the most conservative numbers as I could instead
7 of.....
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Andy.....
10
11 MR. BASSICH:shocking as they are.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:at the
14 risk of sounding dense, I'm like you Larry sometimes I
15 don't get it.
16
17 Earlier we were talking about this
18 customary trade only applying to fish in the round and
19 now you're talking about strips, why?
20
21 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. I'm not
22 talking -- all I'm trying to do.....
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: For selling.
25
26 MR. BASSICH:is demonstrate -- I'm
27 trying to demonstrate to you that the reality is the
28 regulation is one use, but the reality on the river, what
29 most people think of customary trade in their minds,
30 irregardless of whether it's legal or illegal, is a
31 different use. So I'm not -- all I'm trying to do is say
32 what the potential is, if people in their minds think
33 that this is an acceptable thing to do. Do you
34 understand what I'm saying?
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you're just
37 making a point on this side of things.
38
39 MR. BASSICH: That's right.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
42
43 MR. BASSICH: We're still talking about
44 whole uncut fish but.....
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
47
48 MR. BASSICH:the reality on the
49 Yukon River is customary trade in most people's minds
50 means strips.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, that's
2 why you get the testimony you do, I think, where I failed
3 you as a Council today is to explain that from the
4 beginning. And, Tom, you know, you guys are going to
5 have to help me out when I don't do a good job of that.

6
7 MR. GLANZ: I think you're doing okay.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think I'm
10 doing horrible today.

11
12 Okay. So does everyone understand this
13 motion before us and any other discussion -- I see the
14 coordinator would like to.

15
16 MR. JOHNSON: I do want to make one point
17 to the Council and this is from my background, I want to
18 make sure that the motion, as phrased by Mr. Bassich,
19 reflects the intent because the motion as it currently
20 stands is mixing two different issues.

21
22 And that is defining the term significant
23 commercial enterprise, which currently exists in
24 regulations but it's undefined, and mixing it with a
25 desire to limit personal use of chinook salmon for -- no.
26 Because as this is phrased right now, \$750 would be the
27 limit of allowable significant commercial enterprise
28 sales of chinook salmon. It sets a limit of \$750.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Per year per
31 household.

32
33 MR. JOHNSON: Per year per household. I
34 think perhaps the intent would be; shall be defined as
35 sales exceeding \$750 per calendar year per qualified
36 household, if you want to set a floor of \$750 as
37 establishing what constitutes a significant commercial
38 enterprise. Is that your intention?

39
40 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes.

41
42 MR. BASSICH: Yes, it is. Thank you for
43 that clarification.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Everybody
46 understand.

47
48 (No comments)

49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any more

1 discussion.

2

3

(No comments)

4

5

MR. GLANZ: I'll call the question.

6

7

8

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question's been called for, roll call vote again.

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MR. JOHNSON: However, if you want that to be the language of your motion it needs to be changed because as it currently stands right now, it's significant commercial enterprise shall be defined as a \$750 limit per calendar year per qualified household, and that's what the Council would be voting on right now.

MR. BASSICH: So to be clear it would have to be amended to say anything over \$750 would constitute a commercial enterprise.....

MR. FIRMIN: Significant.....

MR. JOHNSON: And if that is the desire then I would suggest the language should say:

Sales exceeding \$750 is what is defined as a significant commercial enterprise.

MR. BASSICH: As the maker of the motion I would like to amend the motion to that wording, Madame Chair.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Maybe we could make it simple and have the second concur to this language and that was you, Andrew, do you concur?

MR. FIRMIN: I concur.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now, does everybody clearly understand.

(Council nods affirmatively)

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right, go ahead with the roll call vote, Andrew.

MR. FIRMIN: Roll call vote for the motion on the floor as amended.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, it wasn't

1 amended, it was just you guys agreed.
2
3 MR. FIRMIN: To reword it.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
6
7 MR. FIRMIN: As reworded.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Through your
10 second, he clearly stated the wording and then you
11 seconded it again.
12
13 MR. FIRMIN: Okay.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
16
17 MR. FIRMIN: Larry Williams, Sr.
18
19 MR. WILLIAMS: I would have to vote no.
20
21 MR. FIRMIN: Lester.
22
23 MR. ERHART: No.
24
25 MR. FIRMIN: William Glanz.
26
27 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
28
29 MR. FIRMIN: Andrew Bassich.
30
31 MR. BASSICH: Yes.
32
33 MR. FIRMIN: Isaac Juneby.
34
35 MR. JUNEBY: No.
36
37 MR. FIRMIN: Joe Matesi.
38
39 MR. MATESI: No.
40
41 MR. FIRMIN: Don Woodruff is absent.
42 Virgil Umphenour.
43
44 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes.
45
46 MR. FIRMIN: Sue Entsminger.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No.
49
50 MR. FIRMIN: The motion fails.

1 MR. GLANZ: Motion fails.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Next one.
4
5 MR. BASSICH: One more, Madame Chair,
6 thank you for bearing with me.
7
8 Throughout a lot of the discussion
9 through the Tri-RAC committee we also talked a great deal
10 about harvest reporting and I'd like to make a motion
11 that harvest reporting -- and actually I'm not really
12 sure, I'm going to need some guidance on this, this is
13 also a proposal that I think needs to go to the Board of
14 Fish, so it would go both to the Federal Subsistence
15 Board and the Board of Fish, so, Tom, I might need your
16 help what's -- if I can make one motion, does it go to
17 both of them as worded, or how do we do this?
18
19 MR. KRON: Madame Chair. Andy. I guess
20 my recommendation would be for you to make your motion
21 and then we can respond once we know a little better
22 exactly what you're talking about.
23
24 Thank you, Madame Chair.
25
26 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. The motion
27 would be to require mandatory harvest reporting of
28 subsistence caught fish on the Yukon River drainage.
29
30 MR. UMPHENOUR: Second. I want to say
31 something.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you want him
34 to go first.
35
36 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, I want to say
37 something first.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.
40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay, let me ask you this
42 Andy, the easiest way would be to just have the same
43 requirements that the State imposes on the citizens of
44 Eagle, do you think so?
45
46 MR. BASSICH: Absolutely.
47
48 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, then why don't you
49 change your motion to that then.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you're
2 talking about withdrawing your motion.
3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'll withdraw my second
5 if you want to do that.
6
7 MR. BASSICH: I'm not really sure what
8 kind of wording you would do, is it basically saying that
9 you would require the same reporting requirements as the
10 road system, I think I would need a little bit of help
11 with that. Maybe Fred Bue can help us.
12
13 MR. BUE: I'm sorry, I was going to
14 whisper in Tom's ear.
15
16 (Laughter)
17
18 MR. BUE: Could you rephrase it please.
19
20 MR. BASSICH: Well, what we're trying to
21 do, Fred, is what Virgil is reminding me of, is that, we
22 currently have reporting requirements along the Yukon
23 River for people who live along the road systems and so
24 if we were to ask the Federal Subsistence Board and the
25 Board of Fish to make that a riverwide requirement, is
26 what we're trying to determine the best method for doing
27 that.
28
29 MR. BUE: I think, of course.....
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
32
33 MR. BUE:our jurisdiction is
34 adjacent Federal management units, riverwide would be to
35 the Board of Fish initially, and then if you did it to
36 them you could do it simultaneously but often the Federal
37 Subsistence Board would look to actions at the State
38 level first and then they may follow suit or they may do
39 something else, but I think they defer to the State to
40 act on this type of proposal first. But it's up to the
41 RAC to decide that.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But Andy you
44 were looking for wording.
45
46 MR. BASSICH: Okay. Well, then if it's
47 -- boy, I'm going to have to wing this one.
48
49 The proposal would be to require uniform
50 reporting of subsistence caught fish riverwide, similar

1 to the reporting required along the road system by the
2 State of Alaska currently in place.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's good.

5

6 MR. UMPHENOUR: Second.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you have a
9 problem with that?

10

11 MR. JOHNSON: I just thought it might be
12 useful if there was anybody -- any agency representative
13 attending who might know the citation to the existing
14 regulation, then that would be the easiest way to cite to
15 the particular language that you want to have supported
16 in your motion.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I see
19 that, we're going to get it here in a second.

20

21 Joe.

22

23 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair. I
24 just have a question. The way the motion has been
25 worded, twice, reporting of subsistence caught fish on
26 the Yukon River, and I just want to clarify. Is it the
27 intent of this motion to include all fish, including
28 whitefish and grayling and -- well, I'll leave it with
29 that.

30

31 MR. BASSICH: Currently, Joe, yes, the
32 calendar is mainly used for chinook and fall chum or
33 summer chum, basically fall chum fisheries but there are
34 places on the calendar to record pike, whitefish and
35 other species as well, however, my main intent is chinook
36 salmon for this proposal, but, as the reporting
37 requirements are right now they're asking for all species
38 of fish.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Which really
41 isn't that hard to put on a piece of paper, I mean we do
42 it on the Copper.

43

44 I see that we might have an answer or we
45 still need a minute.

46

47 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Just a little bit
48 longer.

49

50 (Laughter)

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It doesn't look
2 like it's 12 pounds anyway. Are you finding it Fred.

3
4 MR. BUE: I can quote the cite, it's 5
5 AAC 01.230 and you're talking about for the Yukon River
6 drainage from the upstream mouth of 22 Mile Slough to the
7 United States border, so that'd be (b)(3).

8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: (b)(3), okay.
10 Carl's on it.

11
12 All right, do we need any more discussion
13 on the motion.

14
15 MR. BASSICH: I guess maybe just speaking
16 to the motion, we've heard a lot of talk over the last
17 couple of times we've met about Yukon River chinook and
18 its demise, it also, as I read out of the white book here
19 earlier, it states very clearly in here that without good
20 reporting, that's the most sound foundation to a good
21 management program, you have to have reporting of what
22 the harvest is, without that reporting it's impossible to
23 build a reliable management plan and I'll reference the
24 quotes that I gave in this book right here.

25
26 That's all I have, Madame Chair.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Others.
29 Virgil.

30
31 MR. UMPHENOUR: Me.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil. Oh,
34 yeah, he's getting hard of hearing.

35
36 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right, without that you
37 can't even do the basic biology things like what's the
38 exploitation rate of the stocks or what is the total
39 population of the stocks; you can't even figure that out
40 if you don't know how many fish are caught. It's just
41 basic biology to manage the fishery. But it is a big --
42 as far as trying to figure out all the things that need
43 figured out, that's the biggest -- one of the biggest
44 holes in the bucket is not knowing, really, for sure,
45 what the harvest is.

46
47 MR. ERHART: In our area we have a
48 representative come around every fall and they go to each
49 household and see what their fish take was and then they
50 write it down, plus we have the calendar. And I think

1 that's pretty sufficient. If you're going to go this way
2 this is going to cost the government extra money to get
3 all this stuff out, I'm quite sure nobody's going to do
4 it for nothing.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But it works,
7 right, Lester, or are you against it?

8
9 MR. ERHART: Well, I'm not for it this
10 way because they're already getting the count by sending
11 this representative into our village and I'm pretty sure
12 they did a pretty accurate count.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So, I guess I'm
15 understanding this maybe a little differently. I'm
16 thinking that this is a -- that person that comes and
17 does the count, they could make sure that your stuff is
18 recorded properly.

19
20 MR. ERHART: Yeah, they do.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They're doing
23 it now?

24
25 MR. ERHART: Yes, they are.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's just that
28 this would make it mandatory.

29
30 MR. ERHART: I don't know, why fix
31 something when it's not broken.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I think
34 I'm hearing it's broken.

35
36 MR. ERHART: I mean they even ask you how
37 many dogs you got and all kinds of stuff, you know.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry.

40
41 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, just going a little
42 further about what Lester was saying, we already have
43 that in place up in Venetie also, we have a couple of
44 people that comes after fishing season and asks us how
45 many fall chum we caught and chinook and stuff like that
46 and they also send a calendar out. They mail it to our
47 box number that -- on that one it's a voluntary thing.
48 But like I was saying yesterday, if people in the office
49 take the time and effort to try to find out what the
50 subsistence fishermen are doing out on the river, when we

1 get through fishing, the way I feel, is that we should
2 take the time and effort to answer questions and mail it
3 back on a voluntary basis. This proposal here would make
4 it mandatory. I think we already have enough government
5 interference in our daily lives, you know, without adding
6 another layer, you know, with all due respect to all the
7 people that's involved, trying to rebuild stocks that's
8 already way down, where it's almost out of our control
9 now, I realize that. But I, for one, when I do go
10 fishing, I just mail it back as accurate as possible
11 because I have respect for those people who take the time
12 and effort to mail those things.

13

14 So that's the way I feel.

15

16 Thank you, very much.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

19 Questions are coming up and I think we have some answers
20 here.

21

22 So, could you go ahead, Caroline.

23

24 MS. BROWN: Thank you, Madame Chair.

25 Again, my name is Caroline Brown. I work for the
26 Subsistence Division at Fish and Game. I just wanted to
27 provide some clarification for Council members about what
28 -- about the nature of current reporting on the Yukon
29 River.

30

31 Currently there's a combination, Jim
32 Simon -- Dr. Simon did refer to some of this yesterday,
33 currently we have a two-prong system, really, three-
34 pronged if you include calendars. Every year there's a
35 post-season salmon survey and that's what Lester was
36 referring to. Somebody travels to -- a stratified sample
37 of surveys -- or a stratified sample of all households in
38 a community and they travel the length of the Yukon
39 River, usually between September and October after the
40 fishing season and they collect that data by household.
41 There's also, in the areas where there is a permit system
42 in place, the harvest from those permits are added to
43 that total, subsistence harvest estimate. The reason
44 it's an estimate, as Dr. Simon mentioned yesterday, is
45 because, in the communities where we do household survey
46 because a census or 100 percent of all households, is not
47 usually contacted, it's usually a stratified sample based
48 on fishing levels by households, the total harvest is
49 expanded to those unsurveyed households so it creates an
50 estimate. And then, of course, there's the calendar as

1 folks have mentioned, although the calendar has a very
2 low reporting -- or very low return rate.

3
4 That's currently the harvest reporting
5 that is in place on the Yukon River right now.

6
7 And the current methods have been used
8 since about 1988, I believe, but there are harvest
9 estimates using another, an alternate method earlier than
10 that. So Andy Bassich made the comment yesterday in his
11 comments that those numbers provide good sort of trend
12 information or long-term data, but what they don't
13 provide is in-season information for managers and that is
14 correct, these are post-season surveys, or post-season
15 reporting. We don't currently have a comprehensive in-
16 season reporting. So yesterday a lot of the conversation
17 that was going back and forth on that YRDFA questionnaire
18 there was a -- it seemed to me a bit of confusion between
19 permits versus calendars and in-season versus post-
20 season. So there isn't -- the only in-season reporting
21 that we really have, and I think Mr. Firmin referred to
22 it the other day is there's an OSM funded project that is
23 linked to YRDFA and it takes place in a select group of
24 communities where there is weekly reporting on the YRDFA
25 teleconference by people who are living in those
26 communities and talking to a select group of fishermen
27 but it's not a comprehensive effort by village and it's
28 certainly not a comprehensive collection of all
29 communities. But that's the only -- it's really used
30 more of an index because it's not a comprehensive count
31 the way the post-season survey is.

32
33 So I just wanted to provide that
34 clarification of what reporting does exist, where it
35 comes from and the difference between post-season survey
36 and an in-season harvest estimate.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil. Andy.
39 Joe. Virgil's first.

40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. What I'm going to
42 address is the one percent. That's the one percent that
43 don't care. I know.....

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well.....

46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR:for a fact that one
48 of these people still sold in the neighborhood of 800
49 king salmon last year, I know that for a fact. Now,
50 there's a small percent of people that do that. What

1 this would do is give enforcement the tool to prosecute
2 those people. Because if you did not, the way I would
3 like to see this work, and I know it's a great
4 inconvenience on the honest people, but it's just like my
5 income tax, I pay for the deadbeats that are too damn
6 lazy to work.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Be nice. Be
9 nice.

10
11 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, it's the same thing.
12 Society has to.....

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Be.....

15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR:establish rules and
17 we have to establish those rules because of a very small
18 percentage of the people that don't care about anything
19 except their own selfish self.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you have a
22 question for her?

23
24 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I don't have a
25 question. I want to make my point for.....

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Before it
28 leaves your mind.

29
30 MR. UMPHENOUR:I want to put my
31 opinion forward of what I know as facts.

32
33 Enforcement cannot prosecute individuals
34 like the person that I know harvested over 800 king
35 salmon last year when we had subsistence restrictions and
36 processed them and sold them, they did do that. If we
37 have this catch calendar and it's required to be updated
38 daily just like yours is when you go to the Copper River,
39 then enforcement comes by, here's this person with a
40 whole damn smokehouse full of king salmon and a whole
41 bunch of king salmon they're catching, maybe 50, 80 king
42 salmon in a day drift gillnetting say at Holy Cross, for
43 instance, then if they're not on that calendar, and
44 they're not accounted for then they can prosecute that
45 person. No family is going to eat that many king salmon,
46 period, they can't be used for family consumption. They,
47 I know hauled.....

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR:one boat load to the
2 bridge on the Yukon, and I actually observed the boat
3 load with two chest freezers in it in Nenana when he
4 pulled in.....
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Virgil,
7 we understand.
8
9 MR. UMPHENOUR:this last summer.
10 No. That's who this would address.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And the.....
13
14 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's the only way we're
15 going to stop these type of people.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:sad thing
18 bout something like that.....
19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'm done.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The sad thing
23 about it is it doesn't matter what regulation you make
24 they're probably still going to break the law.
25
26 MR. UMPHENOUR: It'll make it harder.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But we have
29 questions of the State and you were next, uh-huh.
30
31 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, very much for
32 that clarification. I think you're right on and that is
33 my concern, is that, we don't have good in-season
34 reporting. I would like you to maybe inform or educate
35 the Council here a little bit about if continued resource
36 decline happens and we're forced to go to Tier II, what's
37 the process for that and how would that be accomplished
38 if you did not have some sort of reporting of what your
39 subsistence needs are?
40
41 MS. BROWN: Through the Chair. That's a
42 really hard question.
43
44 MR. BASSICH: Sorry to put you on the
45 spot for that but this is.....
46
47 MS. BROWN: It's okay.
48
49 MR. BASSICH:very, very important.
50

1 MS. BROWN: Uh-huh.

2

3 MR. BASSICH: Because this may very well
4 be the road we're headed down and many of the Council
5 members here need to hear this because in five years from
6 now we may be going through this and you think it's
7 contentious now, when it comes time to deciding who's
8 going to get what fish, it's really going to get ugly.

9

10 MS. BROWN: So I'm going to take a crack
11 at this and I'm going to rely on my supervisor, Dr.
12 Simon, here to correct me or fill in my holes.

13

14 There's been discussion of an ANS, an
15 amount necessary for subsistence, among Council members
16 over the last two days and since 2008 the subsistence
17 harvest on the Yukon River has not fallen within the ANS
18 range, they've fallen below the ANS range. That is one,
19 only one, but that is one indicator to the Board of Fish,
20 if that continues to happen, that potentially reasonable
21 opportunity is not being provided. So if there's
22 significant restrictions on a subsistence fishery or a
23 subsistence hunt or anything, it may come to -- those
24 restrictions may cause a situation where reasonable
25 opportunity for subsistence is not being provided, and if
26 that's the case then that's the Board, and I'm speaking
27 very generally, not with specific reference to the Yukon
28 salmon fisheries, but if that's the case, then the Board
29 -- one of the few tools the Board has to deal with a
30 situation where you have more demand for a resource than
31 you have supply of that resource, is a Tier II, and a
32 Tier II, as most of you know, is a situation in which
33 essentially we select between subsistence users. So all
34 subsistence uses can be provided for so we select between
35 subsistence users.

36

37 My sense -- my understanding of the
38 subsistence law is that the Board, with multiple years of
39 significant subsistence restrictions, in addition to
40 subsistence harvest not falling within the ANS ranges and
41 other factors, would compel the Board to consider a Tier
42 II or some other limiting -- some other limiting ability
43 -- some other way to limit harvest, so that -- for the
44 purposes of conservation. A Tier II, and this is
45 especially where I might need help, a Tier II, one of the
46 things -- one of the things that a Tier II applicant
47 usually has to establish the length of time that they've
48 used a resource, that they've relied on this resource.
49 And most of the Tier II's we have usually have to do with
50 land mammals, so, moose or whatever and there's usually

1 a green harvest ticket or there's some other kind of
2 harvest ticket or registration ticket or whatever, that
3 demonstrates that use. With Yukon chinook salmon,
4 because there's no mandatory permit, the use would have
5 to be -- well, I don't know if the use would just be on
6 an honor system or if they could somehow use the post-
7 season survey to know when they've surveyed a household,
8 but that would be challenging because households change
9 composition, some households come into the system, some
10 households leave the system, and because we don't do a
11 comprehensive or a census, households that fished in any
12 given year might not be interviewed, so honestly I don't
13 know how the Board would deal with that, how they would
14 determine -- how they might implement a Tier II fisher or
15 how they would -- what kinds of information they would
16 require to demonstrate that length of use.

17

18 There's been one Tier II fishery in the
19 state, in Nome, I don't know if you can respond to how
20 the Board dealt with it there.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's only
23 been one in the state, right? Virgil's sending me notes
24 here.

25

26 MR. UMPHENOUR: I drove the train on that
27 in Nome. It's the only Tier II fishery, salmon fishery
28 in the state of Alaska, extremely divisive, the town got
29 divided, the whole damn town -- we spent about four days
30 in Nome doing this. And.....

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So it was a
33 tough one.

34

35 MR. UMPHENOUR: It was a tough one. What
36 we ended up doing, if you weren't 60 years old, you did
37 not get a permit, and then we set a limit of how many
38 fish per permit and I think it was 100, I can't remember
39 for sure. Do you remember Fred?

40

41 MR. BUE: I don't remember.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I don't
44 think that number.....

45

46 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. But anyway.....

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We know it's
49 divisive, okay.

50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: It's extremely divisive
2 and the Board would almost have to do like we did in
3 Nome, when I was on the Board, if you weren't 60 years
4 old you didn't get a damn permit, period.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: A permit.

7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's how it worked.
9 And that is what could happen to the Yukon.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right, I
12 think you made your point, both of you. So I understand
13 that you're looking ahead and how divisive it can be and
14 it's probably going to be worse, this is a tough job.

15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR: Caroline wants to say
17 something.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

20
21 MS. BROWN: Thank you, Madame Chair.
22 This may be a little beside the point but just bringing
23 this back full circle to the discussion you were having
24 before I came to the table, that survey, the post-season
25 survey system we do have is a voluntary system.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you said
28 that -- earlier, I think I heard that it's 10 percent
29 return?

30
31 MS. BROWN: No, ma'am, that's the
32 calendar returns. The survey program has a very good
33 participation level, but participation in answering the
34 questions when somebody comes to your house and asks you
35 how many salmon you caught and various other questions,
36 like dogs and stuff that Lester brought up, that is a
37 voluntary system. That is a voluntary system. So you
38 guys were talking about whether or not to make that
39 mandatory. I just want to make clear in my clarification
40 that currently the surveying effort on the Yukon River,
41 which is fairly comprehensive and does produce very solid
42 data for us, is voluntary.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And the people
45 that you survey, how many will not take the survey,
46 what's the percentage -- estimate?

47
48 MS. BROWN: I, myself, don't know because
49 I don't run the program. I can find that information out
50 for you but I think in general they have very good

1 returns or they had very good willingness by community
2 members to participate and to answer the questions.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So it's
5 probably a low percentage.
6
7 MS. BROWN: I would assume so. The
8 Subsistence Division does conduct baseline surveys,
9 comprehensive surveys.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Lester's over
12 there shaking his head no.
13
14 MR. ERHART: No, they get very good
15 percentage.
16
17 MS. BROWN: Yeah.
18
19 MR. ERHART: Everybody volunteers
20 and.....
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I meant
23 low that.....
24
25 MR. ERHART:tells.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:wouldn't
28 take the survey. There's very few people that wouldn't
29 take the survey, most people take the survey.
30
31 MR. ERHART: Most people do, yes.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, uh-huh.
34 Uh-huh.
35
36 MS. BROWN: And just to give you a
37 context, the Subsistence Division does do comprehensive
38 surveys for all subsistence resources in communities and
39 so it's the same -- it's exactly the same methods of
40 going house to house and doing, however our surveys are
41 much, much, much longer and even there we usually have --
42 and we try to do a census, we get participation rates
43 that are usually in the 80 or 90 percent for a much.....
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I went
46 through.....
47
48 MS. BROWN:longer survey.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:that

1 survey, yeah.

2

3 Andy.

4

5 MR. BASSICH: Thank you. I just wanted
6 to build on what Caroline just said. I spoke with Jeff
7 Estensen yesterday and he found the answer to our
8 questions about the percentages of people who turn in the
9 mandatory calendars, which is the motion on the table and
10 it's 98 to 99 percent return rate on that. And the thing
11 I want to emphasize here is that's 99 percent, so you're
12 getting extremely accurate, pretty much right after the
13 season data and the information that's coming out through
14 their surveys oftentimes doesn't come out for an entire
15 year after the survey is conducted. Okay. So that's the
16 difference. We're getting very good data through these
17 harvest reports, very.....

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Huh.

20

21 MR. BASSICH:quickly, you know,
22 pretty much turned in by October, they're into the State
23 and then it's a matter of how long it takes them, but by
24 springtime they usually have the results of that whereas
25 these surveys are oftentimes a year out before the final
26 draft is done. And the difference, the main difference
27 which Caroline explained to us is the difference between
28 in-season reporting and numbers and a long-term data set
29 which is equally important but doesn't serve managers on
30 a yearly basis as effectively.

31

32 Thank you, Madame Chair.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew, I'd
35 like to hear your comments. You always put a lot of time
36 and effort into this.

37

38 MR. FIRMIN: We're only talking about a
39 catch calendar here, a better version of one like -- I'd
40 really like to not to stay wrapped around the axle
41 because we're going to be moving on and revisiting this
42 at our fall meeting.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Does
45 that help anyone to help make a decision there.

46

47 MR. MATESI: Question.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question is
50 called for, anyone.....

1 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair. I've been
2 waiting to ask a question for 30 minutes.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm very sorry
5 you could have done that. Why are you so shy, you just
6 need to raise your hand.
7
8 MR. MATESI: Because I'm trying to follow
9 Robert's Rules and be called on.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, did I miss
12 your hand.
13
14 MR. MATESI: No, you acknowledged me
15 earlier.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, and we
18 didn't get to it, I'm so sorry.
19
20 MR. FIRMIN: The sun was in her eyes.
21
22 (Laughter)
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, I remember
25 he was the next one and we just got wrapped around the
26 axle, I apologize, Joe, I'm sorry. The question's been
27 called for, do we need another roll call, I believe we
28 do.
29
30 MR. BASSICH: But doesn't Joe have a
31 question, though.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He -- you had
34 -- the question was called for, right.
35
36 MR. BASSICH: No, no, no.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm sorry.
39
40 MR. BASSICH: He has a question to ask,
41 I believe.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I
44 misunderstood, I'm sorry. The question you have.
45
46 MR. MATESI: She's gone.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, she's right
49 there.
50

1 MR. MATESI: Thank you. You need some
2 exercise walking back and forth anyway.

3
4 (Laughter)

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I thought you
7 meant to ask the question.

8
9 MR. BASSICH: No.

10
11 MR. GLANZ: No.

12
13 MR. MATESI: I wrote it down so I'd
14 remember what it is.

15
16 But you were talking about the three-fold
17 process for collecting the information that you get, and
18 then sort of off to the side of that I understood that
19 the in-season monitoring which is an OSM funded thing.

20
21 MS. BROWN: (Nods affirmatively)

22
23 MR. MATESI: Okay. So what was my
24 question. Okay, the process that's in place on the road
25 system, which is what I think we're talking about in this
26 motion, does that provide in-season monitoring, and I
27 guess building on that, does -- as I understand this
28 proposal, which would implement road system process
29 riverwide, would that provide river system wide, in-
30 season monitoring?

31
32 MR. BUE: I apologize, Fred Bue, with
33 Fish and Wildlife Service. Part of my -- for 10 years I
34 implemented a permit system in the subsistence harvest
35 survey for the State of Alaska in my previous life and so
36 I guess I kind of have some idea how it worked. But
37 speaking as a Federal manager, no, it does not provide
38 in-season for the current season, but what the calendar
39 does do is it gives us a picture pattern of harvest, are
40 people fishing early in the season, late in the season,
41 which pulse of fish they may be harvesting. When we call
42 up people in-season for -- frequently as a manager
43 informally we talk to communities, we ask them how
44 they're doing, people -- spokespeople, and sometimes we
45 may call Lester, how's fishing going, we ask people
46 specifically and if they have their calendar they refer
47 to it and tell us that, but right now the calendar isn't
48 for that season, but what it does do, to give us over --
49 the gist, the post-season survey, it gives us harvest by
50 date information throughout the run and so we can go back

1 and match it with patterns of harvest, which is a pretty
2 interesting thing for managing a fishery.

3

4 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Fred. Probably
5 more than I wanted to know. I'm just looking to see is
6 if the road system process were implemented riverwide,
7 would that change the rate of information in-flow for you
8 guys, in terms of in-season monitoring decisionmaking,
9 the answer is.....

10

11 MS. BROWN: No. As I mentioned before the
12 only in-season monitoring we have is the limited data
13 supplied by the OSM project. But if the Council wants
14 in-season information you would need to specify that
15 because surveys, calendars, permits can all be used for
16 post-season and in-season, it's just that they're not --
17 they can be used for both versions, but right now our
18 accounting is post-season.

19

20 MR. MATESI: Thank you.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anyone
23 else.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question
28 was called for earlier, are we ready to vote.

29

30 MR. FIRMIN: Could we restate the motion
31 that's on the floor again.

32

33 MR. JOHNSON: I can do that, Madame
34 Chair.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, you can do
37 that.

38

39 MR. JOHNSON: The motion as stands is:

40

41 Submit a proposal to the Board of Fish
42 and the Federal Subsistence Board -- I believe it was for
43 both, correct?

44

45 MR. BASSICH: Yes.

46

47 MR. JOHNSON: And the Federal Subsistence
48 Board that states:

49

50 Require uniform reporting of subsistence

1 caught fish on the entire reach of the
2 Yukon River as currently required in 5
3 AAC 01.230 (b)(3).
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew, go
6 ahead.
7
8 MR. FIRMIN: Okay. Roll call vote of the
9 motion on the floor. Starting with Lester Erhart.
10
11 MR. ERHART: No.
12
13 MR. FIRMIN: William Glanz.
14
15 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
16
17 MR. FIRMIN: Andy Bassich.
18
19 MR. BASSICH: Yes.
20
21 MR. FIRMIN: Isaac Juneby.
22
23 MR. JUNEBY: Yes.
24
25 MR. FIRMIN: Joe Matesi.
26
27 MR. MATESI: No.
28
29 MR. FIRMIN: Donald Woodruff, absent.
30 Virgil Umphenour.
31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes.
33
34 MR. FIRMIN: Sue Entsminger.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
37
38 MR. FIRMIN: Andrew Firmin, yes. Larry
39 Williams.
40
41 MR. WILLIAMS: No.
42
43 MR. FIRMIN: Motion carries, 6/3.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 6/3 motion
46 carries, and one absent.
47
48 Do we have anything else here?
49
50 MR. BASSICH: No, Madame Chair, thank you

1 very much.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, moving
4 on. Okay, Gene, it looks like you sent in a request that
5 you needed to get yours done now so we're going to go
6 into that and hopefully you can keep the short version
7 for us, please.
8
9 MR. SANDONE: I'll do my best.
10
11 MR. FIRMIN: Gene, you dropped your.....
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're stepping
14 on your glasses.
15
16 MR. FIRMIN:glasses.
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Two of them.
19 And while he's setting up, whoever's left in the public
20 they can look at the agenda and see that we have U.S.
21 Fish and Wildlife Service, Park Service.....
22
23 MR. FIRMIN: I thought we already did
24 both the Parks.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We didn't do
27 Wrangells and I think she had something else, but I'm not
28 sure. Fish and Game and Native organizations. And then
29 setting up our calendar. So I don't see anyone from
30 Arctic, no.
31
32 MR. FIRMIN: Mark was here earlier.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm just
35 looking at this.
36
37 MR. FIRMIN: Mark was here earlier
38 for.....
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, he was and
41 he left.
42
43 MR. FIRMIN: I don't see him here now.
44
45 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, he had to leave.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Every time we
48 talk about fish it goes forever.
49
50 MR. JOHNSON: Well, it's a big deal.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
2
3 MR. FIRMIN: Tetlin gave us there.....
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Tetlin left a
6 report here.
7
8 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, they dropped us off
9 one.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then
12 Barbara did you have something else that you're going to
13 report too.
14
15 MS. CELLARIUS: I had Park agency report.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: One more report
18 there. And we did BLM and Yukon-Charley.
19
20 MR. SHARP: I have something.
21
22 MR. JOHNSON: Actually I'll hand out
23 Barb's report.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you ready,
26 all right.
27
28 MR. SANDONE: Madame Chair. Members of
29 the RAC. My name is Gene Sandone. I'm here representing
30 Yukon River -- Yukon Delta Fisheries Development
31 Association and Kwik-Pak Fisheries. Just a little bit
32 about myself. I've been -- I'm retired from the State
33 service, I served 26 years with the State, most of that
34 was on the Yukon and in AYK. I've been the chinook
35 salmon, summer chum salmon research biologist, the
36 regional research biologist and also the regional
37 supervisor. The last position I held for eight years
38 from 2001 through 2008. Currently I'm a private
39 consultant.
40
41 This presentation is entitled
42 observations on the 2011 Yukon River chinook salmon on
43 reference to the impact of the 7.5 inch maximum mesh size
44 restrictions and the quality of the chinook salmon run
45 passing into Canada.
46
47 A little bit of background, historically
48 there was no mesh size restrictions on gillnets used in
49 the Yukon. In 2010 the Alaska Board of Fisheries enacted
50 a regulation to limit the maximum mesh size of gillnets

1 used in the Yukon River to 7.5 inches, effective 2011
2 season, that was last year. It was a direct response to
3 concerns over the quality of escapement and decreases in
4 size at age of the chinook salmon. This decision by the
5 Board of Fish was based upon the mesh size study
6 conducted over three years by ADF&G. The objective of
7 this action was to increase the number and proportion of
8 large and older chinook salmon particularly the largest
9 and oldest female salmon on the spawning grounds by
10 targeting the younger, smaller male salmon in the
11 harvest.

12
13 The observations that I'll include is
14 chinook salmon length frequency distribution, and I'll
15 look at the lower Yukon set and drift gillnet fisheries,
16 the Mountain Village test fishery, the Pilot Station test
17 fishery, the Kaltag subsistence fishery; the Rapids
18 subsistence fisheries, the Eagle Sonar test fishery and
19 Little Salmon River and escapement project. Just for
20 your information I run the Mountain Village test fishery
21 and I also conduct the Little Salmon River escapement
22 project. Other observations, I'll look at the chinook
23 salmon run passing into Canada, particularly I'll look at
24 the proportion of old age chinook salmon, those that are
25 greater or equal to age six, the larger chinook salmon,
26 those that are equal to 900 millimeters or in English,
27 plain English, about 39.5 inches, and also I'll look at
28 the proportion of age seven salmon.

29
30 For female salmon I'll also look at the
31 same criteria.

32
33 But I mentioned the length frequency
34 distribution. Let me explain that before I go on because
35 it's kind of the basis for the presentation.

36
37 Length frequency distribution just means
38 if you measure a fish and it falls within a certain size
39 category, you put it into a bin. And on the left-hand
40 side here, if I can get my pointer to work, yeah, length
41 bins are from less than 650 millimeters through greater
42 or equal to thousand millimeters or a meter. These are
43 inches which correspond to the length bins, so in other
44 words here, the length between 700 and 750 millimeters
45 relates to a fish size of about 27.6 to 29.5 inches. And
46 so in this fishery, the lower Yukon test net fishery, it
47 uses 8.5 inch mesh, and they measured all the fish and
48 then we put them into bins and the bins include the total
49 number caught and also are segregated by sex, male and
50 female and these here are the percentages that relate to

1 these numbers and this total number. So take for
2 instance, the 700 to 750 millimeter length bin, we had 85
3 fish that were that size caught in this fishery, 83 were
4 male and two were female.

5
6 Now, this is graphically displayed.

7
8 The red line is the 8.5 inch, and the
9 blue line is the 8 and quarter half inch and they're
10 pretty much the same, they peak about the same at 800 to
11 850 with an extending into the 851 and 899 length bin.

12
13 Now for those like me who are metrically
14 challenged, I also put the inches on the bottom of this
15 graph but I won't have them for future graphs but if you
16 need to know let me know because I've got this little
17 cheatsheet with me.

18
19 The test net fishery was both 51 percent
20 female down at the mouth of the river. Now, this
21 probably corresponds to the harvest that would have
22 occurred if people were allowed to use unrestricted mesh
23 since most people use between 8 and 8.5 in the lower
24 river to harvest their chinook salmon with a driftnet.

25
26 The Mountain Village test fishery, the
27 one I operate here uses 7.5 inch mesh and you can see
28 that there's a dramatic difference. The peak now occurs
29 between 700 and 750 millimeters, which is 27.6 to 29.5
30 inches and most of them are comprised of age one/three
31 male fish. One/three is an indication of the age of the
32 fish. One means that it spends one year in fresh water
33 nursery, three years in saltwater and one year in the
34 gravel. So one/three, you think it would equal four, but
35 it's a five year old fish because of the one year in the
36 gravel that's not explained by the notation. The red
37 bars and the near red bars are all the females and the
38 black bars and the light colored bars are males. You
39 could see that this fishery caught basically 32 percent
40 female, very low percentage of female. If you remember
41 the YRDFA teleconferences, most of the people were
42 commenting that they were catching a vast majority of
43 males, 70, 80 and in some cases 90 percent males with the
44 new 7.5 inch. They said it was killing fish. They were
45 catching a lot of fish, but mostly male and mostly
46 smaller males.

47
48 Now, this is the Pilot Station test
49 fishery. It's 30 percent female. As you can see that it
50 catches a large difference of fish size and males and

1 females. It's probably the best indicator of the run
2 size -- or the run characteristics coming into the Yukon
3 River. So in my opinion, probably not shared by
4 everyone, we have a lot of one/three males coming in in
5 these two length categories and really not too many age
6 six females.

7
8 Putting it all together, you've got the
9 8.5 inch mesh here, the 7.5 inch Mountain Village and
10 then the Pilot Station, so you could see basically these
11 are selected. This 7.5 inch, I haven't -- I don't have
12 the data from Fish and Game yet so I can't really comment
13 on the harvest in the lower river, but the 8.5 -- or the
14 7.5 probably gives you a good idea of what the harvest
15 was in the lower river using this mesh size. I think
16 it's pretty consistent, it's very selective.

17
18 Now, we move up river to the Kaltag
19 fishery, I got these data from Richard Burnam. You can
20 see that it's a little different. They're using 7.5
21 again but it's a little different than Mountain Village.
22 And I approached Richard, I said what's up with this
23 Richard, it looks different than Mountain Village, it
24 caught more females but, you know, the peak, the peak in
25 the Mountain Village test fishery was here so we have
26 larger fish being caught but not too many of the really
27 largest fish being caught, and he said it's basically the
28 way they were fishing. They were pulling the nets in
29 very slowly and if they saw a big fish in there they got
30 it. So that was his explanation. Again, more males than
31 females.

32
33 This is the Rapid area gillnet fishery,
34 the harvest sample from Stan Zuray. And it goes in 2004,
35 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010, sample sizes are small but I
36 talked with Stan about it and he thinks that it might be
37 pretty representative of what is caught in the rapids and
38 note that this fishery really caught a lot of the largest
39 fish in the river, historically. I don't know why, maybe
40 because of sexual dimorphism, they get toothier up there,
41 and they're easier to catch, the largest fish anyway. In
42 2011 we saw a dramatic shift, they were using 7.5 inch,
43 seven and a quarter inch mesh in the Rapids and it
44 shifted from the largest fish in the river to the fish
45 that were caught basically by the Mountain Village test
46 fishery also. So, again, the selectivity of the nets,
47 it's catching smaller fish and note the percentage of
48 female, 13 percent, and the range previously was 38 to 67
49 percent. Again, sample sizes are small but, boy, this is
50 really an encouraging trend.

1 Now, this is a graph of the catch in the
2 fishwheels. And you can see that fishwheels catch a lot
3 of small fish that are basically less than 750
4 millimeters. Fishwheels don't represent the run, they
5 catch basically smaller fish. And you can see by this
6 dark red line here that it really didn't affect the
7 fishwheel fishery, it basically was the same. 2009 Stan
8 reported a lot of large fish being caught, a lot of the
9 900 millimeters, we also have a fairly high number this
10 past year. And the female proportion this year fell in
11 line with what he normally sees at the Rapids fishwheel,
12 maybe a little on the high end but not too bad.

13

14 Now, this is what was at Eagle Sonar and
15 note that the big peak, the 700 to 750 is not there and
16 there is more female, the red bars, and there is more
17 fish that are greater than 800 millimeters. So what --
18 and it's 49 percent female, too. So it appears that what
19 we're passing into Canada looks like this and that's
20 encouraging.

21

22 Okay, let's review. Here we have the
23 lower Yukon test fish samples, which probably correspond
24 very well with what would have occurred in the lower
25 river if the fishery used unrestricted mesh. We have the
26 Mountain Village test fishery, the 7.5, which probably
27 indicates what they did catch in the lower Yukon. Then
28 we have Yukon sonar which spreads across basically all
29 length categories, and, again, noting the selectivity of
30 these nets. Then we have the Kaltag fishery, which has
31 a broader, kind of a broader peak between the 7.5 and 8.5
32 maybe because of fishing technique. Then we have the
33 Rapids, which is, I think, unbelievably similar to the
34 Mountain Village test fishery, as far as length
35 frequency. The Mountain Village is the black and the
36 Rapids gillnet is the brown. So I think they're very
37 similar. And then we have the Eagle Sonar, which is kind
38 of skewed towards the larger fish.

39

40 And this is just for your information,
41 this is Eagle Sonar passage because I'm going to be
42 talking about quartiles a little bit. And you see that
43 first pulse that passed Eagle Sonar was in the first
44 quartile. The first quartile extends from the very first
45 fish to the cue and includes the cue and then the second
46 quartile to the median and then the third quartile to the
47 next cue, and then the final quartile going from there.

48

49 Now, this is an interesting graph I
50 constructed from all years data at the sonar and what

1 jumps out at me is that this black line to 2011 is kind
2 of in the middle or maybe even towards the lower end as
3 far as mean length of fish per quartile but that's --
4 that's at Pilot Station, then at Eagle Sonar, you see it
5 jumps up to being basically ranked one in all the
6 quartiles, the mean length of fish.

7
8 For females it's a little bit different.
9 At Pilot Station we did have some of the largest fish
10 come in in the second quartile but it didn't maintain the
11 first ranking all the way through. At Eagle Sonar it was
12 fairly high in the first two quartiles and jumped up to
13 be the highest in the third and fourth quartile.

14
15 Over here this table we have years from
16 2005 to 2011, border passage, the fish that are going
17 into Canada, proportion of age six was the highest, last
18 year, the age six year old and greater was highest on
19 record. Note that the passage in 2011, the border
20 passage was kind of mediocre, in fact, it probably was
21 the median, it was ranked fourth out of seven years, so
22 right in the middle. The numbers of age six was
23 greatest in 2009, where we had severe subsistence
24 restrictions. The fish equal to or greater than 900
25 millimeters was highest last year. Numbers of fish
26 passing into Canada was highest last year. Age seven
27 fish also was highest last year. And the number was
28 highest last year. But I want to point out, age seven
29 comes in two flavors, one/fives, fish that spends one
30 year in fresh water and then five years in the ocean and
31 then two/fours, fish that spend two years in fresh water
32 and four years in the ocean. And for some reason we had
33 a very high number of two/fours which are more like the
34 age six year old fish.

35
36 If you look at numbers of females and
37 percentages, 2011 had the highest percentage of females
38 going into Canada. 2009 had the highest number. As far
39 as older aged female salmon, 2011 had the highest
40 percentage going into Canada with 2009 having the highest
41 number. But the largest females, the ones that were
42 greater than 900 millimeters, 39.5 inches were highest in
43 2011, had the highest number actually passing into Canada
44 since 2005 and had the highest number and percentage of
45 age seven fish.

46
47 Okay, we've seen this graph before, I
48 just want to impose it now because we're going to shift
49 a little gears, looking at the escapement into the Little
50 Salmon. Now, remember I said that there weren't -- there

1 wasn't really a peak down here, we had some one/threes
2 come in but it really wasn't a peak, most of the fish and
3 most of the females were in the larger fish categories.
4 Little Salmon, the Little Salmon I noticed that there was
5 a peak in the 700 to 750 millimeters, and the one/fives,
6 but there was also a fairly large component of females
7 that were older and larger. Female percentages 30
8 percent, remember at Eagle Sonar it was 48 percent. So
9 it seems to be there's a decrease here and that can be
10 explained by a number of things. It could be that Eagle
11 Sonar's missing the small fish as Andy indicates they
12 might be doing. It also might indicate that Little
13 Salmon is kind of a small tributary, it is -- the
14 spawning escapement consists of more smaller fish just
15 because it's a smaller tributary and so -- and there's
16 other things too. You know, I don't think that the
17 Little Salmon escapement is biased towards small fish
18 because I'm using sportfish gear and snagging the fish
19 off the spawning grounds and it would make sense that, if
20 anything, it would be bias towards the females.

21
22 Comparison between the Eagle Sonar and
23 the Little Salmon escapement, all salmon, both sexes, the
24 fish at Eagle Sonar were larger, highly significant, had
25 a higher proportion of the very largest fish, highly
26 significant, had a higher proportion of the older age
27 fish, and had a higher proportion of females. If you
28 look at it, females to males, however, the females
29 component was basically the same. They were the same
30 size at length, there was about the same proportion of
31 fish greater than 900 millimeters and about the same
32 proportion, or not significantly different anyway, of the
33 older aged fish. The difference came in the males. The
34 Eagle Sonar had larger males, a greater proportion of the
35 largest males and a greatest proportion of the older aged
36 fish.

37
38 This is just the 2011 Eagle Sonar which
39 is the dashed line with the Little Salmon imposed on it,
40 and you could see that, you know, this looks similar. If
41 we looked at the female component they would be very
42 similar as far as size, proportion of older aged fish and
43 proportion of the largest fish. It's the males that made
44 this different.

45
46 Okay. If you look at -- again, this is
47 the 2011 Little Salmon escapement, we had females of 30
48 percent and I want to superimpose the 2010 escapement on
49 it and you could see that both of them peaked about the
50 same, with the 700 to 750 millimeter sized fish were

1 mostly males, I mean like about 85 percent of these fish
2 were males, we had a larger component of the smallest
3 fish and these were probably age four here, with some age
4 five in here. But what's interesting is that the larger
5 fish here, the larger females were basically absent in
6 the 2010 but did have a high percentage in 2011 so we
7 know these fish are getting onto the spawning grounds.

8
9 The comparisons, the mean length of all
10 salmon was greater in 2011 than in 2010 and they had a
11 greater proportion of the older aged fish. Females were
12 basically the same. There's no significant difference.

13
14 What is perplexing is that even though
15 you have a larger mean length and a higher proportion of
16 the oldest aged fish, the proportion of the largest fish
17 was not significantly different. But if you look at the
18 females here, they show up that you had larger fish,
19 females, on the grounds, and, again, the proportion of
20 the older aged fish in the 2011 fishery were present.
21 Again, the largest fish, the females, not significantly
22 different here. Males, they were basically the same,
23 through mean length and the largest fish with older age
24 fish having a higher proportion.

25
26 If you look at the graphs side by side of
27 the males, according to length bins, you could see that
28 there appears to be some larger fish starting with the
29 850 millimeter size range in males and it is really
30 apparent in the females. So if you look -- instead of
31 looking at the 900 millimeters, let's drop down and do
32 the 850 millimeter, and in every case, there were more
33 fish greater than 850 millimeters in the 2011 escapement
34 than in the 2010 escapement in the Little Salmon. That's
35 encouraging.

36
37 Okay. Summary.

38
39 The lower Yukon test fish really target
40 salmon between 31.5 and 34.5 inches. Mountain Village
41 test fishery targets fish between 27.6 and 29.5 inches,
42 mainly age male, mainly age five -- I'm sorry, mainly
43 male age five. Pilot Station uses a suite of nets, which
44 probably represents the best estimates of length and age
45 distribution of the run. The Kaltag subsistence gillnet
46 harvest targets fish between 27.6 and 33.5, the larger
47 peak, the wider peak. The Rapids subsistence gillnet
48 fishery now targets fish between 27.6 and 29.5, very
49 similar to the Mountain Village. Prior to last year it
50 was targeting the largest fish in the river, the 35.5 to

1 39.3 inch ones. Female percentages last year dropped
2 dramatically to 13 percent. The Rapids fishwheel showed
3 little difference in catch characteristics. The Eagle
4 Sonar test fishery uses a suite of drift gillnets and
5 probably represents the best estimate of length and age
6 distribution of the chinook salmon run passing into
7 Canada. Between the -- in comparisons with the Eagle
8 Sonar test fishery, the 2011 chinook salmon run passing
9 into Canada had a mediocre run passage, median which fell
10 right in the middle of the four year -- or of the seven
11 years, it had the highest percentage of the oldest aged
12 fish, the highest percentage in number of the largest
13 chinook salmon, the highest percentage in number of age
14 seven salmon, the highest percentage of female chinook
15 salmon, the highest percentage and number of older aged
16 female chinook salmon and the highest percentage in
17 number of aged seven female salmon. Between the 2010 and
18 2011 -- between the 2011 Eagle Sonar test fishery and the
19 2011 Little Salmon River escapement comparisons they had
20 similar female characteristics, so whatever got through
21 the river in the fisheries in the river showed up at
22 Eagle Sonar and also showed up on the spawning grounds,
23 however, they had dissimilar male salmon characteristics.
24 The Eagle Sonar test fishery salmon males were larger,
25 they had a higher proportion of the largest fish, and had
26 a high proportion of the oldest fish.

27
28 If you're looking at the summary of
29 2010/2011 Little Salmon River escapement comparison, if
30 you look at all fish, the 2011 escapement had -- was
31 larger in length and contained a higher proportion of the
32 oldest fish. If you look at the female component of 2011
33 escapement was larger in length, and contained a higher
34 proportion of older aged fish and the males, the 2011
35 escapement contained a higher proportion of the older
36 aged fish.

37
38 Although the proportions in all cases of
39 the largest fish were similar between years, the
40 proportion of chinook salmon that were 850 millimeters,
41 which were about 33.5 inches, so they're fairly good
42 sized fish too was higher in 2011 than in 2010.

43
44 Okay. Conclusions.

45
46 I call it observations because you really
47 can't say one year of data, it's the panacea, this is
48 going to work. 2011 was unique in that we had pulse
49 protections throughout the run which let all the fish go
50 by from the three year olds to the eight year olds and

1 arrive at Eagle Sonar. We had some six inch mesh in the
2 lower Yukon, but that did not start until probably the
3 third pulse, and by the time that started, most of the
4 subsistence harvest was finished in the lower river.
5 However, the age, sex and length information from the
6 harvests, the 2011 Eagle test fishery, Eagle Sonar test
7 fishery and from the Little Salmon escapement is very
8 encouraging.

9

10 And that's the end of my presentation.

11

12 If we have time for questions I can
13 entertain them.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions,
16 Council members.

17

18 MR. BASSICH: Actually, I had just a
19 quick comment and then actually.....

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

22

23 MR. BASSICH:I have to leave Sue.
24 I want to thank Gene for coming and giving that
25 presentation. I think it's encouraging. I will look
26 forward to seeing further years of data. I think any
27 change we make towards conservation and certainly going
28 from unrestricted to 7.5 is helping, however, my personal
29 opinion is that pulse protection is probably doing far
30 more than nets but I do think that the net change that we
31 did is helping as demonstrated there, certainly in the
32 size of the fish, as far as magnitude or numbers of fish
33 I would attribute that toward pulse protection.

34

35 With that being said, thank you, Gene.

36

37 I have to take off, I have some doctors
38 appointments I have to go to and so I just wanted to say
39 thank you to all the Council members. And I also wanted
40 to offer an apology to anybody if I offended them through
41 this meeting because I had no intent to ever offend
42 anybody but I do get very passionate about, especially
43 the fisheries topics because it's something I've been
44 studying very hard for 10 years and I want to make
45 everybody know, or at least let you know that my intent
46 is not to restrict people, my intent behind all of what
47 I'm doing, is trying to make sure that there are fish
48 here for people to put on the table in the future, and
49 I'm really scared about what's happening right now and
50 I'm trying to get people to understand that they need to

1 restrict themselves some or they're going to be shut
2 down. That's my intention, it's not to take away fish
3 for people. I have always been a strong advocate of the
4 subsistence use and always will be, that's my role here,
5 and I'm very passionate about it. But this fishery is in
6 trouble and we all have to take that message home to the
7 people in our communities and do what's necessary to
8 correct that, and that starts with the individual, that's
9 the point I'm trying to make.

10

11 But thank you all, very much, I enjoyed
12 the meeting. And thank all of you in the audience for
13 your.....

14

15 MR. GLANZ: Andy, he's got a question.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You have a
18 question of Andy?

19

20 MR. SANDONE: No, just a response. Andy
21 and I disagree on the role of pulse protection.....

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

24

25 MR. SANDONE:and the role of the
26 maximum mesh size restriction. I believe -- since we
27 manage in numbers, pulse protection is used by the
28 managers to get numbers to Canada, it does also get the
29 suite of ages and the suite of lengths across the border,
30 but the main objective of the mesh size restriction is to
31 get the older and largest fish across the border, and to
32 me it is very encouraging that it is harvesting the small
33 males, apparently harvesting the small males and allowing
34 the rest of the fish to go through.

35

36 MR. BASSICH: Right.

37

38 MR. SANDONE: So we agree to disagree.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

41

42 MR. BASSICH: On a very friendly basis.
43 I respect Gene's knowledge and his experience and we have
44 a lot of very heated debates but we still walk away
45 friends. And that's.....

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. And we
48 all should do that.

49

50 MR. BASSICH:what I hope I can do

1 with all my Council members here, too.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We
4 should all do that.
5
6 And thank you for that wonderful gift, I
7 appreciate it very much.
8
9 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, my pleasure.....
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
12
13 MR. BASSICH:see you later. I hope
14 it's here for a long time too.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Some days I
17 wonder how crazy are we for doing this.
18
19 Okay, did you have a question Virgil.
20
21 MR. UMPHENOUR: I had a question, yeah.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: Gene, that was a good
26 presentation.
27
28 MR. SANDONE: Thanks, Virgil.
29
30 MR. UMPHENOUR: Appreciate you doing all
31 that work.
32
33 MR. SANDONE: Thank you, very much.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe.
36
37 MR. MATEESI: You're kidding.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He surprises us
40 sometimes.
41
42 MR. MATEESI: Would you mind, Gene, going
43 quickly back to the slide on Kaltag, you know, where we
44 were looking at the 49 percent females. The explanation
45 of why, because that was really an outlier on your data
46 there.
47
48 MR. SANDONE: It's 42 percent female.
49
50 MR. MATEESI: 42.

1 MR. SANDONE: And when I saw this I
2 immediately went up to Richard and I asked him, are you
3 guys using 7.5 inch and he said yes, you know, to address
4 this question we really have to look at the harvest data
5 and I've requested the harvest data from Fish and Game
6 for the lower river and for the TCC area, and once I get
7 that data and compare it to the Kaltag and compare it to
8 the Mountain Village and the Rapids, I think it might
9 make more sense. But they're drifting here in District
10 4A, and Richard assures me that they're using 7.5 inch
11 and that it's just their technique of bringing the net in
12 to make sure that they don't have any fish escape.

13
14 MR. MATESE: That kind of scares me, that
15 explanation. That may suggest that they're catching
16 what, in another technique would end up falling to the
17 bottom of the river, would be fall outs, which would kind
18 of shoot some holes across the board on the
19 interpretation of all the data so I hope that his
20 explanation is really not the correct explanation.

21
22 MR. SANDONE: I can't vouch for his
23 explanation. I can tell you that in the Mountain Village
24 test fishery, which I run, we count all the fish that
25 appear to drop out that we can see, and we -- in the
26 catch of over 500 fish in the Mountain Village test
27 fishery, we only observed eight fish that dropped out and
28 swam away and these are in test -- in drift fisheries and
29 we're doing maybe about a 17 minute drift. I just am not
30 too concerned about the drop outs, especially when you
31 have the fish going across the border in the proportions
32 and the -- in the proportions we do.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anything else.

35
36 MR. FIRMIN: I have a quick question.....

37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

39
40 MR. FIRMIN:Gene, just kind of for
41 my own knowledge, I was just curious of what you think
42 out of all the test fisheries on the lower Yukon, how
43 much fish do they catch altogether like between ADF&G and
44 Mountain Village and I know there's several of them on
45 the lower Yukon?

46
47 MR. SANDONE: I think the lower Yukon, I
48 think, you know, I have the data here and I can get it to
49 you, I want to say 500, but 1,000 comes back too. I know
50 in Mountain Village we catch 500 and they go right into

1 the subsistence fishery -- subsistence in Mountain
2 Village, the same thing with the lower Yukon. Pilot
3 Station, they caught about 500, again, it goes into the
4 subsistence and at Eagle, I think they catch similarly,
5 about 500 and they go -- the ones that are killed go into
6 the subsistence so it's all accounted for in the
7 subsistence numbers.

8

9 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, I figured they all get
10 accounted for like that and I know that they all go into
11 the community I was just curious to actual numbers. Like
12 the whole, do they do the same at the Rapids also?

13

14 MR. SANDONE: At the Rapids I think it's
15 a fishwheel fishery that allows the fish to go back, it's
16 a video. So the only ones that he samples are dead fish
17 that he uses during subsistence openings.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
20 questions, Virgil and then Isaac.

21

22 MR. UMPHENOUR: A second clarification.
23 He also samples -- he only samples if he samples every
24 fish in the catch and so he does sample other subsistence
25 catches besides his own fishwheel, but only if he samples
26 every fish that's in it.

27

28 MR. SANDONE: That's right. And that's
29 what he does with the gillnet fishery also.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Isaac.

32

33 MR. JUNEBY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
34 Just for clarification there, Gene, I realize that there
35 was some of the First Nation in Canada bypass subsistence
36 or something, is -- how would I put it, are there any
37 commercial going on up there?

38

39 MR. SANDONE: According to the agreement,
40 well, I guess the short answer is no. They manage their
41 fish independent of what happens in the United States.
42 However, it's been pretty much the same, when we have
43 subsistence restrictions, they have aboriginal fishery
44 subsistence. They had an opportunity in 2009 to harvest
45 commercially and they decided not to do it. I think we
46 put across the border 70,000 fish, our escapement goal in
47 Canada is 42.5 so they did have the amount of fish to go
48 ahead and harvest but I believe that probably because the
49 U.S. didn't harvest, the Canadians also didn't harvest
50 commercially. But it's basically a run coming into

1 Canada, they base it on their management plan, and they
2 will act accordingly to the numbers that go across the
3 border.

4

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

5

6

MR. SANDONE: Madame Chair.

7

8

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone else.

9

10

(No comments)

11

12

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

13

14

(No comments)

15

16

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,

17

18

19

20

21

MR. SANDONE: Thank you.

22

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MR. SANDONE: And I just want to say
thank you for the invitation and I appreciate you trying
to get me in time, I appreciate that.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

MR. MATESI: Thank you, Gene.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're at Fish
and Wildlife Service. Is there anyone from Arctic that
wanted to speak today.

(No comments)

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yukon Flats.

Caroline.

MS. W. BROWN: For the record, Wenonna

Brown.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I said

Caroline, I'm sorry.

MS. W. BROWN: Just a couple of things I
just kind of wanted to bring up to the Council. We have
had some personnel changes, our Refuge manager, Rob Jess,
has headed south to become the manager of the South Texas

1 Complex. That position is currently being advertised and
2 we hope to get it filled soon.

3

4 From last fall we really haven't had any
5 new information to report other than just some personnel
6 changes that I wanted to make the Council aware of.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil, do you
9 have a question?

10

11 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

14

15 MR. UMPHENOUR: Are they still moving
16 forward with the inventorying, et cetera, on the wolves
17 so that they might be able to do some management of the
18 wolves, you know, with the radio collared moose and radio
19 collared wolves and all that other stuff?

20

21 MS. W. BROWN: Virgil. Through the
22 Chair. We have concluded the wolf kill rate study and
23 that report is -- there has been a report prepared and
24 we're in the process of trying to get it published so
25 that data is available and I believe it was reported last
26 fall. We had been looking at doing a moose collaring
27 study and at the present time we're looking at starting
28 that hopefully this coming fall, as far as actually
29 getting the moose collared and getting that underway.

30

31 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. When you get
32 that report, when it's published, could you see that it
33 gets mailed out to the RAC members, please.

34

35 MS. W. BROWN: Yes, we do have a report
36 available so I will go ahead and get that mailed out.

37

38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. Madame Chair.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
41 questions.

42

43 MR. MATESI: Yes.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe.

46

47 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair. Do
48 you have a CCP coming up in the near future?

49

50 MS. W. BROWN: To Joe, through the Chair.

1 Yes, we anticipate our CCP revision starting sometime in
2 the fall, probably in the fiscal year '13, I'm guessing
3 probably late October, November timeframe, you know,
4 getting that underway.

5
6 MR. MATESI: Thank you. A lot of us felt
7 like we got caught late with some of these reports coming
8 out and I guess I would just ask the agency to make a
9 special effort to make sure that RAC members are kept up
10 to date as things go along in that, somewhat proactively.

11
12 MS. W. BROWN: Yes, thank you. I've made
13 a note here to make sure that you're all on the mailing
14 list for any announcements and things as they come out.

15
16 MR. MATESI: Thank you.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anyone
19 else, questions.

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you have
24 anything else, Wenonna.

25
26 MS. W. BROWN: Yes, just one slight
27 comment, that in the effort, last fall when the search
28 was going on for Steven in Chalkyitsik, the Refuge did
29 provide some support, you know, I sent my pilot up a
30 couple times flying, you know, searching for the body and
31 we sent fuel to the village and, you know, did try to
32 provide some assistance in that effort.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
35 Okay.

36
37 I have one question before you go. The
38 Yukon Moose Management Plan, the last time you guys met,
39 the government was not involved, is this going to
40 continue with government involvement?

41
42 MS. W. BROWN: It has been a joint effort
43 and, you know, it is continuing, and, there, again, we
44 have been working with CATG on that as being kind of the
45 liaison role, so that is an ongoing effort.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I just
48 have to mention the gentleman that said it started 15
49 years ago and there's been no real change of getting more
50 moose out there, how frustrating that feels to the

1 public. This thing was started 15 years ago I think he
2 said. Because I think I remember that when I went out
3 there, that that was being spoke, that -- so I guess what
4 Virgil brought out is really important to know, because
5 it's the assessment to maybe ever see something happen up
6 there, with the involvement of the government. So you
7 know how we feel. All right, thank you.

8

9 I understand there's some people that
10 might have to catch a plane here and they had a report
11 that might need to come before others.

12

13 Jennifer.

14

15 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
16 Because of the reordering.....

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

19

20 MS. YUHAS:the Department report in
21 general would be very concise and one of our short
22 reports from Sara Hazel, one of our Subsistence Division
23 employees, she's the one that needs to catch the plane,
24 if it would please the committee if the Department could
25 have the next time slot.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sure, no
28 problem.

29

30 MS. YUHAS: Most of our report will be
31 very short, thank you very much.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

34

35 MS. YUHAS: I've already discussed the
36 white paper that's been referred to. We're quite proud
37 that the liaison office has released that and Mr. George
38 Pappas is the author, and we're hoping that that will
39 help facilitate some of the discussions on customary
40 trade. It's generally a chronology of what's happened.
41 Due to the attrition at the committees and really even in
42 State residency and some of our employees, we forget some
43 of the history and we end up having these recycled
44 discussions, so we're glad that that's been able to be
45 helpful.

46

47 I've already let you know about the
48 change to the Board of Game meeting regarding the Red
49 Sheep Creek issue.

50

1 And, Sarah -- Sarah Hazel, from our
2 Subsistence Division, she's been working with us about
3 six months and she's going to go ahead and give us a
4 short report on one of our latest studies and then we'll
5 have two other employees, real quick.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That
8 need to catch planes, uh?

9
10 MS. HAZEL: Madame Chair. Thank you for
11 letting me speak now.

12
13 I think that you're all familiar with the
14 Division's mandate in terms of subsistence and
15 quantifying the amount necessary, so I'm going to kind of
16 give an abridged version because I think that you all
17 have been talking about that in the past 48 hours. So
18 the purpose of the project, I'm not sure if you have it
19 before you, this is the Eastern Alaska Interior project,
20 is to document the subsistence harvest of wild resources
21 by residents of the Eastern Interior of Alaska.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can you hold it
24 up so we can see what the front looks like?

25
26 MS. HAZEL: I don't have it. I just have
27 my notes.

28
29 (Pause)

30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you have
32 nice notes there but not a copy of the.....

33
34 MS. HAZEL: No, there was a copy made,
35 did everybody.....

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It looks like
38 that, yeah, was that handed out?

39
40 MS. HAZEL: It has a map on the back of
41 it.

42
43 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, everybody does have
44 it.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, it's the
47 one with -- ours in color.

48
49 MS. HAZEL: Yeah.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Or mine is.
2 Okay.

3
4 MS. HAZEL: So this research is funded by
5 the Alaska Pipeline Project and it will allow the
6 Division to fill major gaps in our database by producing
7 up to date harvest estimates for Interior Alaska
8 communities. This information may also be used as part
9 of the National Environmental Policy Act, a required
10 review of the proposed pipeline and by the Federal Energy
11 Regulatory Commission. However, for the Division, this
12 is an opportunity to update information in these
13 communities, which is why we're conducting a
14 comprehensive survey including all wild resources that
15 people are using in these communities.

16
17 So in terms of the communities themselves
18 and when they've been more -- or the most recent updates
19 that they have, for over 40 percent of the communities
20 the data is a generation out of date or over 20 years
21 old. And for other areas, like Wiseman, Coldfoot and
22 Nolan, the Division has never done a study in that area.
23 So while the study is being done in part because of the
24 proposed pipeline, for the Division, it represents an
25 incredible opportunity to go into these communities and
26 conduct research and this document -- or the information
27 that we collect is available publicly and we bring it
28 back to the different communities, and they're also -- we
29 go through a review process where they can comment on and
30 make revisions as required.

31
32 28 communities were selected based on
33 their proximity to the proposed pipeline, and the
34 stipulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
35 that subsistence cannot be more than three years old.

36
37 15 communities have been selected for
38 year one. We began the surveys in early January and
39 currently nine of the 15 are completed. The remaining
40 communities are in progress or scheduled for March. We
41 will be returning, as I mentioned, to the participating
42 communities in June for the community review of our
43 findings before final revisions are made and the document
44 and technical report is distributed.

45
46 Yeah, so that's the update.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
49 members, any questions.
50

1 (No comments)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What's your
4 name again?
5
6 MS. HAZEL: Sara Hazel.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hazel.
9
10 MS. HAZEL: Yeah.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
13
14 MS. HAZEL: It's actually, I believe, on
15 the back of the paper.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is it on here?
18
19 MS. HAZEL: My contact information.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: When you need
22 these type of things, you don't see everything very well.
23
24 MS. HAZEL: I think it's been a long day.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That, to.
27
28 MR. FIRMIN: One question.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.
31
32 MR. FIRMIN: Will you be utilizing this
33 all like ADF&G personnel to conduct all this or will you
34 be branching off and like calling each village and say,
35 here, get this done kind of thing, are you.....
36
37 MS. HAZEL: No, we.....
38
39 MR. FIRMIN:subcontracting out your
40 work or utilizing TCC or CATG or some of those other
41 corporations.
42
43 MS. HAZEL: Some of the communities we're
44 working on cooperative agreements, which means that they
45 hire the local research assistants that help us to
46 collect the information and they charge an overhead, but
47 in larger communities they don't want to be involved in
48 that because it requires extra administration and so we
49 pay local researchers directly. But the, Division, in
50 every single community hires local researchers to work

1 with us.
2
3 I'm not sure if that.....
4
5 MR. FIRMIN: Okay.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you're using
8 the same process that happened in our region?
9
10 MS. HAZEL: In Tok?
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Tok and
13 down -- on the Wrangell-St.Elias?
14
15 MS. HAZEL: Yes.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
18
19 MS. HAZEL: Yes. The Division always
20 uses the same exact same process unless, you know, it's
21 either a cooperative agreement or we pay local
22 researchers directly but we always engage local people to
23 work with us.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I was
26 hired in my region to help in my little area and so you
27 learn a lot.
28
29 And one of the suggestions I would give
30 Subsistence Division is something that came up as I went
31 around and did the households, that you're only asking
32 for last year's data.....
33
34 MS. HAZEL: Uh-huh.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:and how
37 does that quantify long-term?
38
39 MS. HAZEL: We actually have a different
40 -- but what we do is we do look specifically at a single
41 year, but to get long-term data we have what we call key
42 respondent interviews, so through our local researchers
43 we identify people in the community that are using a lot
44 of different subsistence resources and have been doing so
45 over a long period of time and then we sit with the
46 selected people and we pay them an honorarium to collect
47 this information to give like a much broader historical
48 picture.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So that

1 process mustn't have been done in our.....
2
3 MS. HAZEL: It's typically done. I think
4 it's fairly typical.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's a step by
7 step, isn't it?
8
9 MS. HAZEL: Step by step?
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that done at
12 the same time or is it done.....
13
14 MS. HAZEL: Yes.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:in the
17 next step?
18
19 MS. HAZEL: No, that is usually done at
20 the same time. But maybe it was something that maybe
21 they -- they could have asked other local people for
22 recommendations, I'm not exactly sure, I wasn't in the
23 communi -- but from what I understand it's generally we
24 get -- we collect also historical information about the
25 area, and then in some cases -- in a lot of the
26 communities that we were surveying there hasn't been a
27 comprehensive study, only in a couple of them, so this
28 will be -- there's -- this is why it's such a great
29 opportunity is that we will be able to get comprehensive
30 information from areas that we haven't been able to
31 before but then in the ones that we do, we can compare
32 them and do it historically as well, which we will be
33 putting into the final technical report as well.
34
35 So it will be.....
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
38 questions.
39
40 (No comments)
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
43 you.
44
45 MS. HAZEL: Okay, well, thank you very
46 much.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
49
50 MS. YUHAS: And the committee is very

1 familiar with Dr. Jim Simon and Caroline Brown, with our
2 Subsistence Division here in town and they had a few
3 concise clarifications from some of the discussion that's
4 taken place over the course of the committee today.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
7 you, Jennifer.

8
9 DR. SIMON: Thank you, Madame Chair. It
10 seems that we failed to communicate with Jennifer that
11 Caroline was able to provide those clarifications during
12 some of the last discussions about ANS and where Virgil
13 was talking about the Nome Subdistrict Tier II, et
14 cetera, so we don't really have any additional
15 clarifications to provide at this time.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 MR. MATESI: That was concise.

20
21 MR. GLANZ: I like that.

22
23 (Laughter)

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, thank
26 you.

27
28 All right, well, thank you guys. You
29 have some reports in your folder already and Barbara had
30 one more thing, I think she wanted to cover, for the
31 Wrangells.

32
33 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
34 Barbara Cellarius, subsistence coordinator for Wrangell-
35 St. Elias National Park and Preserve.

36
37 I have actually a couple of different
38 things on my list but I will talk very briefly and if
39 there's things that you have questions about we can go
40 into more detail but I'll just mention a few things.

41
42 I'll start with the discussion about the
43 Copper Basin community harvest assessment and we ended up
44 going into the communities and doing the more in-depth
45 interviews after the survey round. So the timing was a
46 little bit different.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: In joint effort
49 with the State.

50

1 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah. That was a project
2 that we did in cooperation with Fish and Game. We've
3 surveyed four communities and have several more planned.
4 And we can certainly -- if folks are interested we
5 surveyed the area around where Sue lives, that's the one
6 community that we did that was in Unit 12, well, actually
7 Nabesna Road as well.

8
9 We do have a new superintendent and he
10 arrived in December and we're trying to get him up to
11 speed on subsistence. He hasn't worked in Alaska before.

12
13 The ORV, the off road vehicle
14 environmental impact statement for the Nabesna Road area
15 was mentioned earlier, the record of decision on that EIS
16 has been signed. The main change for subsistence users
17 initially is going to be the designation of trails in
18 designated wilderness. There are more changes for
19 recreational users. And we do plan to start work on some
20 trail repairs this summer.

21
22 We had a good SRC meeting on Monday. The
23 Commission had no fisheries proposals to submit. Things
24 seem to be working fairly well on the Copper River.

25
26 I'm doing some interviews in the upper
27 Tanana communities in association with the oral history
28 program at the University of Alaska at Fairbanks, and the
29 idea is they will be put on to a web-based interface that
30 people can go and look at and at least some of those, we
31 hope, will address some subsistence issues.

32
33 And then the last thing is that you
34 should have a handout that has a map on the bottom and
35 I'll just mention two quick projects -- mention quickly
36 two projects. One is the Nabesna moose project, which
37 was done. We were able to get some funding in a fairly
38 short period of time for -- our funding sources to do a
39 moose survey along the Nabesna Road portion -- well,
40 basically in Units 11 and 12 along the Nabesna Road. And
41 that information has been very helpful in both State and
42 Federal proposals for moose hunting in that area.

43
44 And these are a couple of -- just a
45 little bit of information about that survey. As a result
46 of the survey there have actually been some modifications
47 to the proposal to the Board of Game for that area,
48 basically liberalizing what was originally proposed
49 because it -- they felt that the population could sustain
50 a similar, more liberal season.

1 And then we do finally have the results
2 of our Parkwide moose population -- or dall sheep
3 population census. And so we have an estimate -- we did
4 that over two years, we have an estimate of just below
5 13,000 sheep in the Park and Preserve, and there's some
6 information there about the age distribution of the
7 sheep.

8

9 And so I'll just stop there unless
10 there's any questions.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I do want to
17 say that when they finally surveyed the Nabesna Road
18 moose they found out Fish and Game has more than they
19 thought was there so that's kind of a positive thing.

20

21 Yeah, anything else.

22

23 MS. CELLARIUS: Well, I was just going to
24 say that was another cooperative project between the Park
25 and Fish and Game and it worked really well to work
26 together on that.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes. And that
29 came up at the SRC, that that whole project, there's a
30 lot of things going on with the ADF&G and Park Service
31 that they're working together on. It's been coming
32 together like the Fortymile. A lot of good people
33 working together.

34

35 Okay. I assume there's no more
36 questions.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm looking at
41 the agenda, we've covered Yukon-Charley, BLM, ADF&G and
42 last but not least is Native organizations.

43

44 MR. SHARP: BLM.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: BLM. See, I
47 forgot the hat you were wearing, sorry. We'll hand them
48 out for you.

49

50 MR. SHARP: Madame Chair. Members of the

1 Council. My name is Dan Sharp. I serve as the statewide
2 subsistence coordinator for Bureau of Land Management and
3 also serve on the ISC as the liaison between OSM and BLM.

4

5 The maps I'm passing out are produced by
6 Department of Natural Resources. These are for the guide
7 concession areas. What I'm providing you is just
8 information, there's no action needed on your part, but
9 I just wanted to give you an update as to where BLM is
10 with respect to guide concessions.

11

12 We are forming a team to do a statewide
13 capacity analysis for BLM lands for guide concessions.
14 BLM is the only Federal agency in the state that has not
15 gone through this process. The maps you have in front of
16 you are draft maps, I'll warn you ahead of time that
17 these are produced by DNR, the numbers in the small
18 paragraphs are the -- or in the small paranthesis, the
19 guides, those are below the guide concession areas, the
20 State land is the blue land, these numbers are only for
21 State lands, so BLM is going to go through a capacity
22 analysis to come up with a BLM number for BLM managed
23 lands. We're going to do this through an EA process,
24 come up with a range of alternatives, but in essence we
25 want to have a matching number for BLM managed lands.

26

27 The reasons -- a little bit of a
28 background. The exclusive use area was found
29 unconstitutional, I believe, in 1988, for a number of
30 reasons, and since then the Board of Game has had
31 numerous proposals to reduce or eliminate harvest by
32 guided hunters because of in the field crowding,
33 competition for food in rural areas, stewardship of land
34 and water issues and poor enforcement. So we're simply
35 starting this process. I anticipate coming before you
36 again to update as to where things are going. Right now
37 there aren't too many BLM lands that are having serious
38 controversies. The Dalton Highway and the Squirrel River
39 are the two that come to mind. But I guess we want to be
40 ahead of the curve, once these concession areas are
41 sorted out from the State, I believe there's going to be
42 about 300 full unlimited guiding opportunities, the
43 anticipation is folks are going to look -- folks that
44 didn't get concessions are going to be looking for areas
45 where they can guide and we want to have that capacity
46 analysis done ahead of time so we're not getting
47 everybody who's looking for someplace they can have
48 operations. This particular assessment won't identify
49 which persons will get a guide concession, it's just a
50 capacity analysis. We're not going to cover -- currently

1 the plan is to not cover transporters, those will be
2 handled under a different permitting system. But the
3 hope is that this won't weigh 12 pounds and we'll have it
4 done within a year.

5

6 (Laughter)

7

8 MR. SHARP: And I'll leave it at that, if
9 there's questions.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

12

13 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. So they think
14 they're going to have it done within a year, and is it
15 going to be a competitive process like the one that just
16 ended yesterday with Fish and Wildlife Service?

17

18 MR. SHARP: Well, this is -- the filter,
19 so to speak, as to who would be able to win that
20 concession and stuff is sort of the next step, this is
21 purely a capacity, how many guides would be allowed to
22 operate in that area, and it may be melded with the State
23 concession program. I have no doubt that they will have
24 to be licensed and meet all the State criteria. As to
25 what other additional filters the BLM might have for
26 operating on BLM lands, that won't be part of this
27 analysis, this is simply a number of how many guides will
28 be -- how many concessions will be granted to operate.

29

30 That'll be the next step, though, is to
31 -- the competitive process, all of those things that are
32 part of both the Fish and Wildlife's program, the Forest
33 Service and such.

34

35 MR. UMPHENOUR: Will the boundaries be
36 the same, such as indicated on this map that you handed
37 out?

38

39 MR. SHARP: Yeah, we're going to use the
40 same boundaries. As came up earlier in the meeting, BLM
41 lands are not very contiguous, there's checkerboarded
42 patterns everywhere. So it's a little more complicated
43 than dealing with the Refuge, or the Kodiak Refuge or so,
44 but we're going to work within the State system, within
45 their boundaries, and it may be that we will only -- like
46 I say, we'll develop a range of alternatives but in some
47 areas there's a lot of BLM lands, some areas there's only
48 a little, and we just want to avoid that guide that's
49 going to operate on a three by five mile area or ask for
50 a concession. We need to have that capacity set up and

1 then we can set up those sorts of filters as to how we
2 award concessions.

3

4 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. Madame Chair.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
7 questions.

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I have one,
12 maybe more.

13

14 I guess I thought, and I'm going to so
15 many meetings I think I am getting -- what did you call
16 it, mind small, but I want one of those. I thought that
17 there was talk of BLM and the State coming up with one
18 system and not having this incredible checkerboarded
19 crazy, I mean where my son is there's one little chunk
20 that's BLM and it's all State around it. It just doesn't
21 equate that someone could have a guide concession area in
22 someplace like that.

23

24 MR. SHARP: You're correct. And I don't
25 think we would go there. But we are, by mandate,
26 required to go through a NEPA process and an .810
27 analysis and stuff for managing on Federal lands.
28 Whether or not this blends seamlessly with the State
29 program is uncertain at this point. We've been attending
30 the same Big Game Commercial Services Board meetings and
31 such and I think there's hope from the State that we'll
32 adopt their process. Their concession program just came
33 out on the 15th, we're still sort of working through some
34 of their criteria. I don't know with respect to BLM, but
35 may be controversial in other areas, I think one of their
36 scoring criteria is if you've participated in an
37 intensive management program you would score higher for
38 a guide concession, that may blend with some Federal
39 programs, it may not blend well with others. So, again,
40 their concession program was just put out on the street.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I'm aware
43 of that.

44

45 MR. SHARP: And so we're just starting
46 that process to sort of see.....

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But there is an
49 effort in.....

50

1 MR. SHARP: Oh, yeah.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:BLM to try
4 to work together and making it not so complicated.
5
6 MR. SHARP: Absolutely.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
9
10 MR. SHARP: Absolutely.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
13
14 MR. SHARP: We don't have the Staff to
15 run a concession program like that, we're just not
16 organized in that fashion.
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I see.
19
20 MR. SHARP: So we're going to try to.....
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So your effort
23 is to work with the State.
24
25 MR. SHARP: Absolutely.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, uh-huh.
28 Yeah, I can definitely see that. I got two little maps
29 when you dropped them.
30
31 MR. SHARP: Yeah, these are -- I just
32 printed these off of the DNR website.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
35
36 MR. SHARP: I'll also say that DNR went
37 ahead and put in some BLM numbers on a few of these maps
38 and on some of their charts there, and we didn't -- those
39 are numbers that we had permitted back in 2009, that
40 doesn't necessarily mean that's what would be permitted
41 in the future, more or less, but the -- we haven't
42 determined a capacity for any of these areas. And we've
43 asked DNR to put a disclaimer on there, again, these are
44 draft maps.
45
46 And I tried to get bigger prints and I
47 could have burned up 12 pounds of paper, I guess, to try
48 to make this readable.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

1 MR. SHARP: This is much better used on
2 a -- or viewed on a computer.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. But
5 are you saying that these numbers here.....
6
7 MR. UMPHENOUR: Those are State numbers.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Those are
10 proposed State numbers.....
11
12 MR. SHARP: Yeah.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:not what's
15 currently in place, yes.
16
17 MR. SHARP: That's what the State is
18 proposing for guide concessions on State lands
19 within.....
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Because it's
22 way more.....
23
24 MR. SHARP:those areas.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:than
27 what's there. That's -- that are in there right now.
28
29 MR. SHARP: And some of those areas have
30 very little bit of State land but they still proposed a
31 number and, again, there are things to look at and to
32 ponder.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. And this
35 -- and I'm already aware that there's serious problems
36 with the amount of money they're asking for on this
37 program that just people are adamantly opposed to. So
38 it's going to -- it's a work in progress. And I think
39 the comment period is in April for this date.
40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR: Uh-huh, the deadline's in
42 April.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, uh-huh.
45
46 MR. SHARP: Yeah, you're correct.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
49
50 MR. SHARP: I think April 23rd or.....

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And it might
2 not pertain to the rest of you but it kind of does
3 because it reflects the competition that's in your area
4 and this doesn't reflect what's currently going on.
5 There's way more people on the blue land than what you're
6 seeing there, on this little number underneath.

7

8 Yeah, so we talked long enough that you
9 forgot?

10

11 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well.....

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I just heard
14 him say what was I going to ask.

15

16 MR. UMPHENOUR:no, I -- I kind of
17 forgot what I was going to ask, was -- this aggravates me
18 because I forgot exactly what I was going to ask him but
19 it was something about timeline -- oh, no -- yeah, it's
20 timeline.

21

22 Okay, I have guide area 22-01 over here
23 by Norton Bay, anyway a whole bunch of that land is State
24 selected, is there any idea if that's going to get
25 transferred to the State or not? It's BLM land, State
26 selected, so I have a BLM permit for it but I'm wondering
27 if the -- because there's no State land around there,
28 it's all BLM.

29

30 MR. SHARP: I wouldn't even begin to try
31 to answer the conveyance questions and how those
32 priorities are set. The State drives a lot of this, too,
33 as to where their priorities lay. They have most of
34 their lands conveyed now and they're sort of hydrating,
35 and we're interested in what they want because there's a
36 lot of lands that are going to be coming back to BLM once
37 they've had their full State selections are satisfied.
38 They're focused on what they want to keep, not what's
39 going to be leftover, so it's up in the air as to where
40 those particular lands fall in their priority.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, anything
43 else.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you. I
48 got to put the right BLM to the right person. All right,
49 the last thing on reports, is there any Native
50 organization reports.

1 (No comments)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We used to get
4 a lot from TCC when I started here, but.....
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: They were here like
7 yesterday and the day before, I think, for a little bit,
8 but I haven't seen them yet today.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'll be darned.
11 Yeah, I'm wondering why we're losing them.
12
13 Okay. The last thing I have is the
14 annual report, is there -- and we'll -- you have in front
15 of you last year's annual report, can you find that in
16 that stack of paper, and do we have anything to add. WE
17 currently have, I believe it's four items.
18
19 MR. JOHNSON: That is correct, Madame
20 Chair.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. And
23 would you tell us those four items again.
24
25 MR. JOHNSON: A quick overview.
26
27 First, a request for research by OSM to
28 investigate the impact of salmon
29 hatcheries on wild salmon stocks.
30
31 Second, an emphasis on tribal
32 consultation as a priority.
33
34 Third, means of promoting equity in
35 access to resources between upper and
36 lower Yukon subsistence users.
37
38 And, four, reiterate prior concerns
39 about predator control management.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil, do you
42 have something.
43
44 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. It's what I asked
45 Wenonna, I know that Yukon Flats Refuge was involved in,
46 you know, doing the prepatory work so that it would be
47 possible to get an EIS done, and manage -- potentially
48 manage predators in the Yukon Flats, and so maybe we
49 should mention that, that we would like them to -- that
50 Refuge manager's gone now, I guess, and we don't know

1 what the new one's priority is going to be, but to
2 emphasize that that's important for our RAC and
3 especially the people that live in the Yukon Flats Refuge
4 region.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that's
7 right, we -- we need a report back on -- they said that
8 they were going to work on that.

9
10 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. And she's going
11 to send us a report back -- or send a report out when it
12 gets published to all the members of the RAC, but we need
13 to -- what we're supposed to be doing is expressing our
14 concerns and things that we want to prioritize, correct.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. Right.

17
18 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I think we should
19 -- that should be a priority.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, we got
22 it.

23
24 MR. UMPHENOUR: So we can grow some moose
25 out there.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, it's been
28 15 years.

29
30 All right, I'm looking for other things
31 to go in the annual report. Anyone have anything else.

32
33 MR. FIRMIN: Madame Chair.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm sorry,
36 Andrew.

37
38 MR. FIRMIN: I have one that might be of
39 a little bit of significance, is that, we have all this
40 wonderful fish data in front of us from all different
41 sources and escapement and, you know, what's coming in
42 the river and what's caught but I'd also like to see
43 something like with our natural disasters, you know, like
44 we have -- all you'd have to do is gather past data and
45 say, like, look, this year was a big fire, this year was
46 a big -- had large flooding events up and down the river,
47 this year had something and stick it on there and see
48 what affects it has on our salmon fisheries. One year
49 they had big floods, you know, look at the next life
50 cycle of those smelt going out or, you know, did they

1 come back good, did they come back worse, or didn't it
2 affect them. Same with the big fire year, we had, what,
3 three million acres burn up the other year.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
6
7 MR. FIRMIN: I mean what did that.....
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Had an impact.
10
11 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, what kind of impact
12 did that have.
13
14 I'd kind of like to see a lot of that
15 data just kind of clumped into one graph to show, you
16 know, five years later, did it -- how did it affect them,
17 positively or negatively. I don't know there's a few
18 other things that somebody else might be able to think
19 of, like, I don't know, some other natural things,
20 natural occurrences.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
23
24 MR. FIRMIN: Did we have a big predator
25 year or who knows, but I know that floods and fires would
26 be two that I'd like to see on one page with the fish
27 returns.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's very
30 good.
31
32 UNIDENTIFIED VOICES: Earthquakes.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah,
35 earthquakes.
36
37 MR. JOHNSON: So noted.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
40
41 MR. FIRMIN: But they should have data
42 going back 50 years on all of that so.....
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: At least, yeah.
45
46 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh, Joe.
49
50 MR. MATESI: That sounds like a good Ph.d

1 project for a graduate student, somebody who's already at
2 the University of Alaska.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

5

6 MR. MATESI: Like one of our members.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that
9 young lady that was here.

10

11 MR. MATESI: Like one of our Council
12 members.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Who is that?
15 Remember that young lady, what was she working on, oh,
16 she was working on, oh it was another fish -- Isaac.

17

18 MR. JUNEBY: Madame Chair. I'd like to
19 elaborate on that, too.

20

21 2004, 2005, Eagle was pretty well burned
22 over, I mean, and then 2009 we had the flood and we all
23 know what it did. And then 2010 we had the roads giving
24 out and we were sort of locked in. And I think those
25 contributed -- like those are contributing factors as to
26 a lot of the downfall that like Andrew was talking about.
27 Had it not been for those, I think, you know, you
28 probably could have -- but with what was going on already
29 as a disaster it complicated.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

32

33 MR. JUNEBY: Thank you.

34

35 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, Sue, I guess like he
36 said like a direct correlation between them, if there is
37 one.....

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

40

41 MR. FIRMIN:maybe Eagle harvested
42 less fish because the roads were out so not as many
43 people were able to come up the road or maybe they ate
44 more because they couldn't get out to buy food or, you
45 know, anything like that.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh, yeah,
48 very well put.

49

50 Okay, do we have anything else to add to

1 our annual report.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And if you
6 look, I don't know we had -- I don't know, I don't think
7 -- do we need to mention customary trade like we had last
8 year or do you feel like we're okay without mentioning it
9 in our annual report.

10

11 MR. FIRMIN: Could we help write the job
12 description for the new Refuge manager.

13

14 (Laughter)

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you want it
17 in there.

18

19 (Laughter)

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So looking at
22 least years is there anything else that you want to add.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anything about
27 the North Pacific Management Council. We did hatchery
28 fish. And they answered that, is the answer in our
29 packet, this gets answered every time, you guys have seen
30 it -- okay.

31

32 All right, I don't have any, I don't
33 think. Probably when I go home I'll think of one,
34 but.....

35

36 MR. JOHNSON: Madame Chair.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go ahead.

39

40 MR. JOHNSON: I know that several Council
41 members have raised the issue of the moose management
42 plan for Yukon Flats, is that the sort of thing that you
43 think warrants mentioning in the annual report, something
44 that particular or just a question.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, we could,
47 because it kind of relates to that report from the
48 Refuge, so, yeah.

49

50 MR. FIRMIN: I think that could probably

1 go under with our management -- intensive wildlife
2 management.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, because
5 it relates directly to it.
6
7 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah.
8
9 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.
10
11 MR. FIRMIN: That, and did we want to
12 mention like with the equity of fishing, like the CPUE of
13 fishing on one end of the river to the other.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you have
16 that already, the equity.
17
18 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.
19
20 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh.
23
24 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, I think it was in
25 there.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
28
29 MR. FIRMIN: Just make sure you put the
30 CPUE part of it in.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
33
34 Anything else.
35
36 (No comments)
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
39 Next thing is confirm the date for our fall meeting. In
40 your packet you should have the calendar -- well,
41 actually it's on the next to the last page here on our
42 book. Currently we have Eastern Interior scheduled to be
43 in Central on the 16th and 17th of October. I don't
44 think we're worried about hubs anymore, do we.
45
46 MR. FIRMIN: The road system.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Tom.
49
50 MR. KRON: I'll just share some

1 information with you. I think this Council has a fair
2 amount of latitude on the road system and Ft. Yukon on
3 the river, but basically, and I'm sure you see it on the
4 evening news, you know, a lot of challenges to the
5 Federal budget issue. The first things that they
6 normally -- bureaucrats normally go after include travel.
7 And we're looking at a significant travel reduction next
8 year. We've argued that because we provide support for
9 all the Councils, all 10 Councils to travel, that OSM
10 shouldn't have the same travel reductions that the rest
11 of the Service is going to have, and they said, no, no,
12 you will. OSM is responding by sending fewer to people
13 to meetings, you're going to see more of that as these
14 travel reductions come down. But, again, you know,
15 meeting in places like Central, it's going to involve
16 more travel time, but, again, it's still on the road
17 system. I think this Council's got some flexibility that
18 some of the other Councils don't because you've got a lot
19 of communities on the road system. But, anyway, keep
20 that in mind. Essentially we're going to have to make
21 the whole thing work, and the only flexibility we've got
22 in the office is to send fewer people. You know, for
23 example at this meeting you've got me and Carl, there may
24 come the day when you've got Carl and the rest of us are
25 on teleconference.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's Skype so
28 we can see you.

29

30 MR. KRON: I just share -- I like to come
31 to Fairbanks, I went to college up here, but anyway I
32 just share that with you for future reference. And,
33 again, I think all you got to do is watch the evening
34 news to get a flavor for what's coming and we don't know
35 for sure but they look at travel reductions.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

42

43 MR. MATESI: I think that this Council
44 has done this regularly anyway but I just want to
45 reiterate that the other thing that we should consider as
46 we're setting these dates are the topics that will be
47 covered in these meetings. We know that some topics are
48 more likely to pull in large numbers of people from the
49 community who want to testify, and so we need to be able
50 to accommodate that. We've run into that problem in the

1 past.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So what's your
4 suggestion, Central on the 16th and 17th, everyone's
5 happy.
6
7 (Council nods affirmatively)
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then did we
10 have another place as our alternative.
11
12 MR. GLANZ: I thought Tanana, we voted
13 for last time.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: As the
16 alternative.
17
18 MR. GLANZ: The alternative, yes.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So Tanana's the
21 alternative.
22
23 Is there any changes to that.
24
25 MR. FIRMIN: They didn't let us go to
26 Tanana because of places to stay and places to cash
27 checks.....
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, yeah.
30
31 MR. FIRMIN:they didn't have enough
32 room for everybody there and the cost of if other people
33 wanted to go to Tanana they would have to like fly from
34 Ft. Yukon and then fly to Tanana and so I think that was
35 why we ended up here and, I think Fairbanks is always a
36 good fallback point. And, actually as much as I hate to
37 say it, because I like going to the villages, that I
38 think Fairbanks is going to end up being our hub because
39 it's cheaper for everybody to fly here than it is
40 for.....
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, like to
43 come here and go back.
44
45 MR. FIRMIN:everybody to come here
46 and then fly to Birch Creek or something, you know, or
47 even.....
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
50

1 MR. FIRMIN:if we had it in Ft.
2 Yukon or something.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: But I like Central, we could
7 try for that in our spring meeting, I think Tok would be
8 another one, we haven't been there in a few years.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
11
12 MR. FIRMIN: Down in that neck of the
13 woods.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Well,
16 this is a fisheries one and I can tell you, being on the
17 Yukon is probably the bang for the buck for.....
18
19 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
22
23 MR. FIRMIN: But also at the same time
24 you got a whole lot of people on the Yukon that could
25 flock to Fairbanks or Nenana, or drive to Central just as
26 easy, too from wherever.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. So
29 Central, is that -- are you saying that you would say
30 Tanana.....
31
32 MR. FIRMIN: For a fallback.....
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:
35shouldn't.....
36
37 MR. FIRMIN: Well, I just don't think --
38 I'd like to have a meeting in Tanana but didn't we try
39 having it there like twice already.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, but the
42 last time, I think, I was told that there was so many
43 people that wanted to come to our meeting.....
44
45 MR. ERHART: Testify.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:and
48 testify and.....
49
50 MR. ERHART: Customary trade.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And it was
2 going to cost them so much money so they didn't -- it was
3 quick -- it was less money to come here.
4
5 MR. ERHART: They asked me about it and
6 I said, yeah, it'd be better in Fairbanks because more
7 people could come to testify.
8
9 MR. FIRMIN: Well, that's what we're
10 going to be going over again in the fall meeting, aren't
11 we.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Probably.
14
15 MR. FIRMIN: Because that's what we just
16 -- we just piecemealed that whole Tri-RAC thing into four
17 separate proposals.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
20
21 MR. FIRMIN: Plus, whatever YRDFA comes
22 up with with another eight.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So Fairbanks is
25 likely as an alternate.
26
27 MR. FIRMIN: I think so. With Central,
28 we should be able to -- I don't know why we keep getting
29 away from Central in the first place.
30
31 MR. GLANZ: Well, we didn't go to Central
32 due to the fact we knew we'd have all that testifying at
33 the last meeting, yeah. Yeah.
34
35 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, that's it.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are we going to
38 run into that next time.
39
40 MR. FIRMIN: That's kind of what I'm.....
41
42 MR. GLANZ: I'm worried about it, too,
43 this coming fall.
44
45 MR. FIRMIN: That's kind of what I'm
46 saying, is let's not plan on being out in the sticks and
47 the toolies because.....
48
49 MR. GLANZ: After seeing the response we
50 had to that last meeting, I'm talking about, you know, in

1 the fall, I'm glad we didn't have it in Central, there
2 would have been no lodging for all that magnitude of
3 folks coming in there, that would have been a real
4 cramped up deal even if everybody took four people into
5 their house it'd have been crowded.

6

7 (Laughter)

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

10 Virgil.

11

12 MR. UMPHENOUR: I can remember going to
13 Beaver and taking my sleeping bag and sleeping on the gym
14 floor.

15

16 MR. GLANZ: We did in Arctic Village,
17 too, yeah.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Many villages
20 did we sleep on a gym floor or a school room, yeah.

21

22 MR. UMPHENOUR: And I was the cook, I had
23 to cook.

24

25 (Laughter)

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think you and
28 I were both cooking, as I remember, I was your assistant.

29

30 Yeah, so what am I hearing, what's the
31 consensus, Central, then Fairbanks, or Fairbanks first.

32

33 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Fairbanks first.

34

35 MR. ERHART: Fairbanks first.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The consensus
38 is Fairbanks first.

39

40 REPORTER: Could you guys.....

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, we aren't
43 turning on our mic.

44

45 MR. MATESI: I would defer to Bill,
46 Madame Chairman.

47

48 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah.

49

50 MR. GLANZ: I'm just worried about being

1 overwhelmed with folks if we have all like we had that
2 showed up last fall.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

5

6 MR. GLANZ: Because this is going to be
7 the final chance we'll have on the fishing issue and the
8 people in Central wanted you and the people in Circle
9 wanted you to come on up there but, you know, it's not in
10 stone, we could -- and the reason we didn't have the
11 meeting there this time of year, because as I put up with
12 the road, I had to wait for a snowblower to come up and
13 I snuck in behind him and he took me over the hill and
14 then he went to the other end and he waited for awhile
15 and he took the next crew over, but, anyways.

16

17 MR. FIRMIN: Falltime's a good time for
18 Central.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The sacrifices
21 we make.

22

23 MR. GLANZ: So I mean I.....

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So am I hearing
26 a consensus then Fairbanks.

27

28 (Council nods affirmatively)

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
31 Fairbanks, Eastern Interior 16th and 17th.

32

33 MR. GLANZ: All right.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I'm going
36 to -- of October.

37

38 MR. GLANZ: October 16th, Fairbanks,
39 okay.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right, 16 and
42 17.

43

44 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's a
47 possibility.....

48

49 MR. MATESI: That constitutes a change
50 then, correct.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes. Change
2 out Central to Fairbanks. I don't see that changing for
3 any reason. I just will let you know there's a
4 possibility I might not be at that meeting. I'm just
5 going to give you a head's up that I might have a
6 conflict.
7
8 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
11
12 MR. MATESI: This would be an appropriate
13 time to recognize the chance of rescheduling it.
14
15 MR. FIRMIN: The only other option would
16 be the last week of September.
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that's out.
19
20 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah.
21
22 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, that's not going to go.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We have a vice-
25 Chair, and he can Chair the meeting.
26
27 MR. FIRMIN: Spring meeting in Tok.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I might not be
30 in Alaska is the problem.
31
32 MR. FIRMIN: I meant the spring
33 meeting.....
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, the spring
36 meeting, I'm sorry.
37
38 MR. FIRMIN:in Tok.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Spring meeting
41 in Tok.
42
43 MR. JOHNSON: If I may, Madame Chair.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
46
47 MR. JOHNSON: And just to inform members
48 of the Council the following dates have already been
49 taken.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.
2
3 MR. JOHNSON: February 12th through 13th
4 has been claimed by the Seward Peninsula RAC. February
5 26th through 27th has been claimed by the North Slope
6 RAC. February 27th through 28th Yukon-Kuskokwim RAC.
7 And then finally Western Interior has taken March 5th
8 through 6th.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And we share
11 the coordinator, is that still the case.
12
13 MR. JOHNSON: That will -- I think you
14 can assume that will be the case, even though we're
15 hiring two new Council coordinators now, I think the idea
16 is to keep the same person coordinating both Councils.
17
18 (Teleconference interruption)
19
20 MR. FIRMIN: So we're stuck with the 19th
21 through the 21st.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I missed one.
24 I got the Seward Penn, North Slope and Western Interior,
25 what was the other one?
26
27 MR. JOHNSON: YK.
28
29 MR. FIRMIN: YK is the 27th and 28th.
30
31 MR. JOHNSON: The 27th through 28th.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
34
35 MR. FIRMIN: So we're stuck with 19th
36 through 22nd or the first week of March.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And -- oh,
39 yeah.
40
41 MR. FIRMIN: I'd prefer the 19th to the
42 22nd.
43
44 MR. JOHNSON: Four days.
45
46 MR. FIRMIN: Well, just in that week,
47 anywhere, or the week before with Seward Penn. I don't
48 know that first week of February is still a cold one
49 though, second week, whatever it is.
50

1 MR. GLANZ: It'd probably be better to
2 put it somewhere in the middle of the weeks so the Eagle
3 folks can come and get home the same week.
4
5 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah. 20, 21st of February
6 looks good to me, unless anybody else says anything else.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think we need
9 to pick an alternative date, I'll put that in there for
10 Eastern Interior, but -- and then Western Interior, we
11 can't -- we share a coordinator so we would have to go
12 clean into March 12th. I end up traveling,
13 unfortunately.
14
15 MR. FIRMIN: I end up traveling this
16 whole month of March regardless of where anything's at.
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I end up
19 traveling a big portion of February.
20
21 MR. FIRMIN: Just let me know.
22
23 (Laughter)
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Just let you
26 know. So you have something scheduled already in the
27 11th through the 15th.
28
29 MR. FIRMIN: No, it's just a cold week.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, of March.
32
33 MR. FIRMIN: Seward Penn.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: March.
36
37 MR. FIRMIN: Oh, March.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
40
41 MR. FIRMIN: That's usually TCCs annual
42 convention, North American Dog Races, FNA, what else is
43 going on this week, and next week.
44
45 MR. JUNEBY: Doyon.
46
47 MR. FIRMIN: Doyon's annual meeting. So
48 in other words, it might be helpful, you might have a big
49 crowd in here too at the same time because there'll be a
50 lot of people here already, other commitments.

1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Tok.
2
3 MR. FIRMIN: But I don't know about going
4 to Tok, they'll all be in Fairbanks.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, we can
7 discuss that.....
8
9 MR. FIRMIN: Back to Fairbanks as an
10 alternate place.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
13
14 MR. GLANZ: That seems to work better in
15 one sense because people in the village want to fly to
16 the meeting instead of going to a hub like -- say they
17 come out of -- not Galena, but Chalkytsik, they got to
18 fly here, get on a commuter flight to get into Central or
19 get into any place else, of course, then, again, if they
20 come from Chalkytsik to here, we go to Tok, they still
21 have to get an alternate flight or a ride or rent a
22 vehicle.
23
24 MR. FIRMIN: If we go with an alternate
25 meeting date in March, possibly we could alternate it so
26 it's here in town, but if it's in February keep it in
27 Tok.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, I see, uh-
30 huh.
31
32 MR. FIRMIN: Because if we go back -- if
33 we go into March everybody's going to be here in town,
34 half of Tok will be here in town.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, or the
37 people around Tok.
38
39 MR. MATESI: So what is the problem then
40 with March, listening to all this, March 7th and 8th, is
41 it.....
42
43 MR. FIRMIN: Western Interior and Eastern
44 Interior share a coordinator.
45
46 MR. MATESI: There's still.....
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, 7th and
49 8th.....
50

1 MR. MATESI:only one day -- there's
2 a day travel in between.
3
4 MR. JOHNSON: Unh-unh.
5
6 MR. MATESI: Not good enough, okay.
7
8 MR. JOHNSON: There's no travel in
9 between.
10
11 MR. MATESI: Wait a minute, didn't you
12 say they're March 4 and 5.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, 5 and 6 he
15 said.
16
17 MR. JOHNSON: 5 and 6.
18
19 MR. MATESI: 5 and 6, my mistake.
20
21 MR. GLANZ: See, there'd be no travel on
22 some of the villages on March 4 because they have to come
23 in on March 3, and most of these villages don't have any
24 air service on the 3rd, they don't have it on a Saturday
25 or Sunday.
26
27 MR. FIRMIN: Weekend, no service.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So back to
30 that, on the 7th and 8th.
31
32 MR. FIRMIN: Well, then Andy and Isaac
33 will have to.....
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: With only two
36 of you coming.....
37
38 MR. FIRMIN:sit here, one, two,
39 three days.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: With only two
42 of you showing up.
43
44 MR. MATESI: Where is Western Interior
45 having their meeting.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, where is
48 it?
49
50 MR. JOHNSON: I just got the location, I

1 don't know.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You just said
4 location.
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: Time.
7
8 MR. JOHNSON: Or, excuse me, a date. I
9 just got a date, I don't have the location.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, if you
12 guys are okay, let the coordinator work with the Chair,
13 or with all of us by sending us out a quick email if this
14 doesn't work on the 20th and 21st.
15
16 MR. FIRMIN: 20th and 21st in Tok, if it
17 don't work out.....
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But it'll be
20 talked about again at the.....
21
22 MR. FIRMIN: Next meeting.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:next
25 meeting. So, tentatively Eastern Interior Tok, 20, 21
26 with Fairbanks alternate at another date. Okay.
27
28 I don't see anything else on the agenda,
29 what did I forget -- closing comments.
30
31 Do we have any closing comments, Council
32 members.
33
34 (No comments)
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you want to
37 go around the table or anybody want to raise their hand.
38
39 Andrew.
40
41 MR. FIRMIN: Thank you. This is always
42 a great busy month. Thanks to all the Staff that showed
43 up and gave us their wonderful reports, and actually
44 stayed until 5:30, 5:40, pushing 6:00 o'clock to listen
45 to us, and some for two days now. I enjoy and learn
46 every meeting I attend. When I stop doing that I'll
47 probably stop showing up.
48
49 (Laughter)
50

1 MR. FIRMIN: Other than that it's great
2 to see everybody again and we all made it through another
3 winter.

4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Anyone
6 else.

7
8 MR. GLANZ: I've got one. I know we was
9 in Ft. Yukon a few years ago and the people there were
10 complaining about the folks that grew up there and they
11 moved to Anchorage and come spring hunting they come back
12 to shoot the geese and all that. Well, in Central, we
13 got something even worse than that, we've got six or
14 eight people right after moose season and they go to
15 Arizona and live the whole winter, come back just in time
16 to put their Permanent Fund in and then they go out and
17 use a Federal subsistence hunt, and some proxies even on
18 Federal subsistence hunts, and I don't know how we're
19 going to be able to nip something like that in the bud
20 but it's sure got the community all riled up. And it's
21 got everybo -- I mean it's not -- it's just totally
22 asinine to me, you know, and I don't know what they do
23 with the moose and the caribou and they harvest it in
24 September and they head to Arizona on September 24th, or
25 fifth, I don't know what they do with their meat, but
26 maybe -- maybe Virgil's been butchering for them, I don't
27 know.

28
29 (Laughter)

30
31 MR. GLANZ: But, anyway, I don't think
32 there's any way around that that I know of. But it's not
33 right. Anyway, what else was I.....

34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Whenever people
36 can abuse the law they will.

37
38 MR. GLANZ: Oh, I'll guarantee you that,
39 yeah, you can bet your money on that; anything and
40 everything, and they do it.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Like the way
43 your train of thought, it sounded like you had something
44 else.

45
46 MR. GLANZ: Well, my train of thought was
47 how do we go around -- jumping around these people,
48 getting them -- get -- I didn't mind it so bad that they
49 went hunting with an Alaska license, but when they got
50 their Federal subsistence and they were hunting September

1 5th and 6th up on -- you know, first -- you know, areas
2 where it didn't open until later in the month, and.....

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Where's their
5 permanent place of abode?

6

7 MR. GLANZ: It's -- they live in -- they
8 have a homes -- they have homes in Central, they've had
9 them there for a lot of years, but, now when they hit 65
10 and the government made them move to Arizona and Florida,
11 they.....

12

13 (Laughter)

14

15 MR. GLANZ:no, but.....

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 MR. GLANZ: So it's just a thorn in the
20 sides of everybody around the neighborhoods there. I
21 don't think there's any general way they can eliminate
22 that problem. But, anyway.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Lester, do you
25 have anything.

26

27 MR. ERHART: (Shakes head negatively)

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No closing
30 comments.

31

32 Anyone else.

33

34 MR. FIRMIN: Possibly.....

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Isaac.

37

38 MR. FIRMIN: Possibly we could -- oh,
39 excuse me.

40

41 MR. JUNEBY: Yes, thank you, Madame
42 Chair. And I'd just like to -- being this is my first
43 meeting, I'd just like to thank everybody for their
44 involvement with the whole process and, although I'm
45 going to be learning quite a bit of stuff from this RAC
46 there, I could see that I'm going to be busy. But I just
47 want to say thank you and thanks for having me.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
50 Isaac. It's a pleasure to have you.

1 Joe, did you have anything.
2
3 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair. I
4 thought this was a good meeting. I thought we got some
5 things accomplished and I'm very pleased with that.
6
7 I really appreciate the opportunity to
8 meet Mr. Juneby and I'm looking forward to working with
9 him. And I thought our coordinator exhibited some really
10 cool moves when he walked across the room to shut these
11 shades over here.
12
13 (Laughter)
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you have
16 anything Virgil.
17
18 MR. UMPHENOUR: The only thing I -- the
19 Board of Game meeting starts tomorrow, and we have the
20 guide board meeting immediately after that, a couple day
21 break, and the same intriguing meetings, so I'll see some
22 of you at some of the other meetings.
23
24 (Laughter)
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's a good
27 thing you have people working for you, I don't.
28
29 (Laughter)
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But getting to
32 that, and, Larry, did you have.....
33
34 MR. WILLIAMS: No, I didn't.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No. Yes.
37
38 MR. FIRMIN: I had one quick thing to
39 add, maybe we could some of Bill's concerns to our annual
40 letter -- annual report. If it's not too late, or if
41 it's not already in there.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, it's not
44 too late.
45
46 MR. FIRMIN: I think it was in our last
47 letter. I believe the.....
48
49 MR. JOHNSON: The issue he just raised.
50

1 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, about the.....
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: About people's
4 residency.
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: Well, residency and
7 people's.....
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Qualified.....
10
11 MR. FIRMIN:outside pressure from,
12 you know, non-resident hunters, I believe there was an
13 issue of that in our last report.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you talking
16 about non-resident hunters or are you talking about
17 residents?
18
19 MR. GLANZ: No, he's talking about the
20 same issue I have with somebody that move.....
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Residents that
23 are -- there are residents of Alaska who now leave in the
24 winter and they come back.....
25
26 MR. GLANZ: Or even go to the cities and
27 work for 11 months a year.
28
29 MR. FIRMIN: They hunt under the guise as
30 a Federally-qualified user when in actuality they live
31 somewhere else most of the year.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right, that's
34 a concern, that's okay to bring up, is how do they deal
35 with that.
36
37 Okay.
38
39 MR. GLANZ: My feelings was if you're
40 gone from Alaska more than -- well, let's make it 90
41 days, you should lose all residency statuses for hunting,
42 even if it's a local, to me, you know, but for
43 subsistence certainly.
44
45 MR. FIRMIN: Unless you're military or
46 working on the Slope, two on and two off, or something
47 like that.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, it's
50 something to bring up but I think they're going to have

1 an answer for you.

2

3 MR. FIRMIN: Call the cops they're going
4 to say.

5

6 (Laughter)

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I, too,
9 want to thank you guys. If Andy -- I would thank Andy
10 again for this awesome gavel he gave me and I'll cherish
11 it the rest of my life and it's always a pleasure to work
12 with you guys, even though I pick on you a little bit,
13 Virgil, it's good that we can disagree and get a little
14 laugh once in awhile so you can smile and not always be
15 angry because some of this stuff does drag your spirits
16 down. But it's really a pleasure to work with this
17 group. I think we have a very great group and I really
18 appreciate all of you and your support as Chair. It is
19 becoming a little more challenging for me as the Chair,
20 it seems like it takes so much time out of your life and
21 you wonder how much more you want to give to it. But I
22 do really enjoy working with you guys very much. And in
23 the future and I want you to know that while I'm
24 Chairing, if you see something that I'm not doing a good
25 job on, you can say Madame Chair can we have a short
26 break and we don't have to embarrass anybody, just step
27 back and talk about it for a minute and we'll pull
28 ourselves back together real quick afterwards, I think it
29 would work a little smoother for all of us so we don't
30 get frustrated.

31

32 I try to do a good job but there are days
33 I don't think I'm doing that great for you.

34

35 MR. GLANZ: I think you're under-
36 evaluating yourself, I think you're doing a good job.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, thank
39 you, Bill. But I mean there is some issues that it would
40 be better not to belabor over and over again like we're
41 doing and if someone feels real passionate about
42 something that it's over the edge, that you can remind me
43 that maybe we can take a short break and step back and
44 talk about it for a second and then come back. Because
45 there was a couple of things that came up here today that
46 I could have done better.

47

48 So, Isaac.

49

50 MR. JUNEBY: Thank you, Madame Chair.

1 I'd just like to say, too, you know, is that there are a
2 lot of Federal managers coming and doing their
3 presentation and sometimes I think that people use harsh
4 words and other ways to express themselves. Like Andy
5 said, you know, I hope that personally, you know, you
6 don't take it personally because at the time a lot of
7 these are being presented and questions answered there
8 are feeling within it and, you know, you're called
9 everything from bureaucrat to other things, too, you
10 know, so I think that, you know, we know what you do and
11 we will work with you, whether -- we have to. So I just
12 want to thank them for being there.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
15 Isaac. Very good.

16

17 MR. JUNEBY: We know where you live too.

18

19 (Laughter)

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Very good.
22 Anything else.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We want to
27 thank you. This has been great.

28

29 MR. GLANZ: There you go, good job, Carl.

30

31 (Applause)

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He has provided
34 me -- good job, good job. That attorney must really
35 help.

36

37 (Laughter)

38

39 MR. GLANZ: Say, did Chuck get promoted
40 down there, Carl, while we're -- Chuck, I can't remember
41 his last name.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Ardizzone.

44

45 MR. GLANZ: What's he -- did he take.....

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He's our
48 liaison.

49

50 MR. JOHNSON: He is preparing for a nice

1 10 day stretch of fun with the Board of Game right now.
2 But he's -- currently he's acting Deputy Area Regional
3 Director but we have hired a permanent person in that
4 position who actually will start in April.

5
6 MR. GLANZ: So he will start or somebody
7 else is taking it.

8
9 MR. JOHNSON: Someone else is taking that
10 position in a permanent capacity in April.

11
12 MR. GLANZ: Okay. I was hoping he'd
13 gotten it.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The liaison
16 between State and Federal.

17
18 MR. JOHNSON: No, the position that Chuck
19 is currently holding, which is the Deputy Area Regional
20 Director.

21
22 MR. GLANZ: He's been acting, that's what
23 he's.....

24
25 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Which
28 was Polly's position, right.

29
30 MR. GLANZ: He took Polly's job.

31
32 MR. JOHNSON: Right.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, this was
35 Polly's position.

36
37 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, he took Polly's
38 temporarily, right, isn't that what he did.

39
40 MR. JOHNSON: That is correct. It's
41 something we do a lot there at OSM, and that is have
42 acting, people take positions and hold them for six
43 months, nine months or a year or so until a regular
44 permanent position is filled.

45
46 MR. GLANZ: Thank you, Carl.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anything
49 else.

50

1 (No comments)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do I hear a
4 motion to adjourn.
5
6 MR. ERHART: I make the motion.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Lester made the
9 motion.
10
11 MR. GLANZ: I'll second.
12
13 MR. FIRMIN: Second.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Two seconds.
16 All in favor.
17
18 IN UNISON: Aye.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
21 Thank you guys, have a good rest of the year.
22
23 (Off record)
24
25 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

I, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public, State of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 211 through 442 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the EASTERN INTERIOR FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME II taken electronically by Computer Matrix Court Reporters on the 1st day of March 2012, at Fairbanks, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed 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 13th day of March 2012.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 9/16/14