

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 4, 2011
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 Frank Gurtler
24 Joseph Matesi
25 Virgil Umphenour
26 Larry Williams
27 Donald Woodruff
28
29 Regional Council Coordinator, K.J. Mushovic

30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43 Recorded and transcribed by:

44
45 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
46 135 Christensen Drive
47 Anchorage, AK 99501
48 907-243-0668
49 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 - 3/4/2011)

(On record)

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can we get started here now that all my members have made it to the table. At least in the room. While you guys are getting seated, I just want to let you know that it's really good working with this group of people. I think that the Eastern Interior's been a great group of people to working together and those are the goals that I like to see us continue to work on, working together.

Good morning, Andrew.

MR. FIRMIN: Good morning.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew wanted to say something this morning.

MR. FIRMIN: I know Andy's well aware of this one, but at our Yukon River Panel meetings the Chair always says if your phone rings during the meeting, you've got to bring donuts or something after lunch.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And if you do business at the table, you've got to buy me lunch.

(Laughter)

MR. GURTLER: Let me call him.

(Laughter)

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Frank's got a motive behind it all. He's going to call him all on. Okay.

Getting started. Okay. I wanted to remind any of the public, you need to -- or everybody here should sign in that you're here, and then the people that would like to testify, there's blue cards in the back. Please sign one and hand it to K.J. K.J. to my right. And if you have a time certain, we're real sensitive to that, especially to the public. And just let us know.

1 And I did want to find out, there's was
2 a Julie Hyslop; is she here? Or Tremble Gilbert?
3 Okay. I'll call on them again. And if anyone sees
4 them here and knows them, if they would give me a
5 head's up, I'd appreciate it. Okay.

6
7 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I think she was
8 heading home today. She was only going to be here one
9 day. Maybe not.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Really?

12
13 MS. MUSHOVIC: Oh, no, she didn't say.

14
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: She tell us
17 in her sign-up thing. We might have to make sure
18 that's on here. As I look at these blue cards, it
19 doesn't say that there's a time certain on here, and I
20 think it should be on the bottom somewhere so people at
21 least can let us know that. I don't want to miss that.
22 I'm really sorry, if you could relay that. It's really
23 good to know.

24
25 MR. ERHART: She said she was going to
26 try to make it here.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Today?

29
30 MR. ERHART: Yes.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now
33 Lester's telling me she might make it here today. So
34 there might be hope. Okay. Good.

35
36 MR. ERHART: She wanted to testify
37 about some things.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. She
40 wanted to testify. The court recorder likes you to
41 turn your mic on over there, Lester.

42
43 MR. ERHART: Okay.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Even for
46 something like that. Okay.

47
48 (Laughter)

49
50 MR. ERHART: Okay.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Alrighty.
2 We'll get started then. Wildlife issues. We finished
3 last night all of our agenda on No. 14. And 15,
4 wildlife issues, is Chisana Caribou update. And we
5 have before us State Fish and Game and the Park
6 Service. Go ahead.

7
8 MR. GROSS: Thank you, Madame Chair. I
9 believe we have -- I think Judy Putera is on the line.

10 MS. PUTERA: Yeah.

11 MR. GROSS: Hopefully we hear that.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Push it.

14
15 MR. GROSS: I'm Jeff Gross with the
16 Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Tok, and Judy
17 Putera's on the line. She's the Wrangell-St. Elias
18 wildlife biologist.

19
20
21
22 And over the past few years we've been
23 working on a Chisana herd management plan in
24 cooperation with -- the State Fish and Game Department
25 and Wrangell-St. Elias have been working in cooperation
26 with the Yukon and Yukon First Nations to develop a
27 harvest management plan following some fairly intense
28 efforts to try to stabilize the herd.

29
30 In addition there's been a proposal
31 submitted to both the Federal and State regulatory
32 process to potentially open a hunt on the Chisana herd.
33 That occurred for the first time back in, I believe it
34 was 2008 and then was discussed again in 2010.

35
36 The main reason we're here today is to
37 give an update on the status of the plan. The plan has
38 been drafted. It's been sent out for public comments.
39 Comments have been compiled and addressed. And the
40 final edits on the plan are being completed at this
41 time, and we're expecting a draft of the plan to come
42 out, or a finalized draft of the plan to come out
43 hopefully in the next few weeks, but certainly in time
44 for the next various board cycles.

45
46 And I guess the only thing was we
47 wanted to give just a quick update on the herd. We did
48 conduct a census of the herd this last fall. And the
49 herd has been around 700 caribou now since at least
50 2003. Our census results this year indicated that the

1 herd is still at about 700 animals. It really hasn't
2 changed. Our confidence intervals are overlapping for
3 all the population estimates since 2003.

4
5 Actually, in addition this year we also
6 found 23 calves per 100, which is one of the highest
7 calf/cow ratios we've seen for quite a while, I think
8 about 20 years, except for during the captive rearing
9 period when 30 to 50 cows annually were captured and
10 pen-reared during the first five weeks following the
11 birth of their calves. In some of those years we had
12 over 20 calves per 100. So anyway that's I think a
13 fairly good indication. We've seen calf/cow ratios now
14 since the completion of that project in the mid teens
15 up to the lower 20s, which is significantly higher than
16 the single digits that we saw pretty much throughout
17 the 90s.

18
19 In addition we have 42 bulls per 100
20 cows.

21
22 Just a couple of key points for the
23 plan related to the potential harvest of the herd that
24 would affect whether or not a harvest could occur as
25 far as the recommendations in the plan. The plan calls
26 for a bull/cow ratio of 35 bulls per 100 or more, at
27 least 15 calves per 100 for the previous three-year
28 average, and then -- or I think it's 15 calves per 100
29 for at least -- how does it read. I think it's the
30 average of the last three years. And then a stable or
31 increasing population.

32
33 So we're currently meeting all three of
34 those objectives to recommend a potential harvest on
35 the herd.

36
37 Otherwise, Judy, did you have anything
38 else?

39
40 MS. PUTERA: I have completed then I
41 guess with regards to some of the comments received.

42
43 REPORTER: Point it down. Put the
44 microphone closer.

45
46 MS. PUTERA: The major things I think
47 we're going to change for the final draft are to have a
48 goal included for incorporating traditional ecological
49 knowledge into the plan, and providing more background
50 information and a few things like that. Can you guys

1 hear me?

2

3 MR. GROSS: Yeah, I think you came
4 through there good, Judy.

5

6 MS. PUTERA: I'm on a cell phone, so
7 I'm kind of wondering if it's working. I can hear you
8 really well, Jeff.

9

10 MR. GROSS: Okay. But otherwise, we'd
11 be happy to answer any questions that the RAC has.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So,
14 Jeff, right now before us you're telling us that the
15 draft management plan which we endorsed last meeting is
16 about to be signed?

17

18 MR. GROSS: (Nods affirmatively)

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
21 And then as far as seasons, that would be up to whoever
22 to put proposals in.

23

24 MR. GROSS: Right.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
27 Questions from the Council. Anyone have any questions
28 regarding this.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I've spent
33 I'd hate to tell you how many hours on the Chisana
34 Caribou Herd. It's incredible.

35

36 Virgil.

37

38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. So the herd's
39 basically remained stable then and so the low calf to
40 cow ratio I assume that's due to predation; is that
41 what it is?

42

43 MR. GROSS: Some of the research that's
44 been done in the past indicates that predation is a
45 major factor on the herd. Talking to Lane Adams, it's
46 not 100 percent clear what happened in the 90s when we
47 saw calf numbers in the single digits. There was some
48 question about nutrition, but predation is definitely a
49 major factor. And we get a lot of comments to that
50 effect from at least the guides in the area.

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah. How many years
2 did they take those calves and put -- or the cows and
3 put them in a pen and keep the calves there for a month
4 or whatever it was to see what the difference was.

5
6 MR. GROSS: I believe it was four
7 years.

8
9 MR. UMPHENOUR: And when they did that,
10 those calves, what was the survival rate on those
11 calves?

12
13 MR. GROSS: Survival rate once those
14 calves left the pen was I think probably fairly similar
15 to, probably slightly higher than the wild calves, but,
16 of course, to five weeks of age it was almost 100
17 percent which the calves that were born outside the
18 pen, likely their survival rate was considerably lower.
19 I actually don't have that number in front of me, but
20 they probably have a survival rate of, you know, maybe
21 30 percent or 40 percent to five weeks of age.

22
23 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Thank you.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I just
26 wanted to make a suggestion here. I have the February
27 2010 wildlife report from Judy Putera, and it goes back
28 to '77, and in most cases it probably would be good to
29 just have all that information, because this low calf
30 survival isn't reflected in this current report here of
31 2011. And it helps people to understand a longer
32 history of the herd.

33
34 If anyone here is interested in it, I
35 have the report that shows those low calf survival
36 years, and that was '91 through 2001, and being the
37 highest of 7 per 100 cows, and the lowest -- or no,
38 wait, it was 11, I'm sorry. So many of them are 1.3,
39 2.1. 1.3 was the lowest, and that's like a 10-year
40 span, 11-year span. And then it went from 13 in 2003
41 and -- uh-huh. Am I looking at this wrong? No. Yeah,
42 2002 and then the rest of it is what's in front of you,
43 2003 to 2010. It really helps give you a clearer
44 picture of the health of the herd.

45
46 MS. CELLARIUS: Madame Chair.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go
49 ahead, Barbara.
50

1 MS. CELLARIUS: This is Barbara
2 Cellarius. I'm the subsistence coordinator for
3 Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve.

4
5 And one of the things that we'll be
6 adding to the plan as a result of some of the public
7 comments is some additional historical information like
8 what Sue has been mentioning. So there was an interest
9 in having that added to the plan. So I believe that
10 there's a plan to do that.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

13
14 MR. UMPHENOUR: During the first six
15 weeks of their life, what land are they on? Who's the
16 land manager?

17
18 MR. GROSS: They're actually not
19 necessarily all in Canada or all in the U.S. It varies
20 from year to year. I would say the bulk of the calves
21 are -- I believe they're on the Yukon side. Well, I
22 don't know if that's necessarily true.

23
24 MS. CELLARIUS: I'm not sure that is
25 true.

26
27 MR. GROSS: Yeah. I think, you know,
28 during the years of the captures, I remember most of
29 the caribou that we were capturing were on the Yukon
30 side anyway.

31
32 MS. CELLARIUS: But those were pregnant
33 cows; those weren't.....

34
35 MR. GROSS: Those were pregnant cows,
36 shortly before birth. We'd have to probably look at
37 Lane Adams' report to find out, but I would say overall
38 they're distributive on both sides.

39
40 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, if they're on the
41 U.S. side, who's the land manager?

42
43 MR. GROSS: National Park Service.

44
45 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.

46
47 MS. PUTERA: Hi, this is Judy. I'm
48 having trouble hearing the questions, and I'm wondering
49 if maybe Jeff or Barbara could just summarize the
50 question a little bit for me.

1 MR. GROSS: Sure, Judy. The question
2 was from Virgil Umphenour. The question was when the
3 caribou calves are born, or during the first six weeks
4 of life, who is the land manager where the caribou are
5 located. And we discussed that they're partially
6 distributed in Yukon and partially in the U.S., but on
7 the U.S. side it's the National Park Service that's the
8 land manager.

9
10 MS. PUTERA: Yeah. And my
11 understanding is that a lot of the calving range does
12 occur in the U.S.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So most of it
15 is in the U.S. Yeah. Uh-huh. Okay. So for action
16 items for this group, what we're looking at is just an
17 update here today, unless you guys can tell me, the
18 Council about any forthcoming proposals or about
19 openings in the herd.

20
21 MS. CELLARIUS: Sue.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,
24 Barbara.

25
26 MS. CELLARIUS: In terms of the
27 planning process, I think what we're doing today is
28 just an update.

29
30 Something else that I would mention
31 that was an issue in sort of the comment process, was
32 additional involvement of tribes and other -- U.S.
33 tribes in the process. And we've added some language
34 to the plan that clarifies as the plan is reviewed and
35 updated that we're going to be involving the tribes as
36 well as the First Nations and the land management
37 agencies.

38
39 But in terms of the plan, at this point
40 we're really just working on getting the final version
41 finalized and getting it signed.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. And
44 once that's finalized, then if there's a proposal for a
45 hunt, then you go forward based on the plan, correct?

46
47 MS. CELLARIUS: (Nods affirmatively)

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
50 So can either of you tell me about proposals that might

1 be in the mill.

2

3 MS. CELLARIUS: This is Barbara again,
4 and I shared with the Subsistence Resource Commission
5 earlier this week that I have been working with the
6 Chisana Tribal Council on a proposal that they may be
7 submitting. The tribal administrator said that I could
8 share it with the SRC, so I've given Sue a copy.

9

10 I think one of the differences between
11 the proposal that I've been working on with them and
12 the current deferred proposal is that it more clearly
13 articulates protection of the Federal priority. It
14 would start with a Federal season and then when we had
15 a couple of years of harvest history, review whether
16 there were animals that could be made available through
17 a State season. It's all Federal public lands, and so
18 we have an obligation to meet the Federal priority. I
19 think that's the main difference.

20

21 But again that's a Chisana Tribal
22 Council proposal. I've been providing them technical
23 assistance. And it would be submitted by them.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Is it
26 coming from the State?

27

28 MR. GROSS: In discussions with the Tok
29 Advisory Committee here, the here, the Upper
30 Tanana/Fortymile Advisory Committee located in Tok,
31 yeah, I do believe that they're planning on
32 resubmitting a proposal similar to the last two
33 proposals that they've submitted in the last two
34 regulatory cycles.

35

36 I do think they're going to suggest
37 several alternatives to try to address the State and
38 Federal mandates, including the potential for perhaps
39 an early -- or a Federal season first, earlier in the
40 season, and then any left-over quota going to probably
41 a shorter State season in September. But I don't know
42 that they're suggesting having only a Federal season
43 for a few years. I think they're talking about a
44 proposal to start off right out of the chute.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Polly.

47

48 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
49 Just as a reminder, the proposal that was before the
50 Council the last wildlife cycle was deferred by the

1 Federal Subsistence Board, so it's still alive. So
2 that proposal will also be before the Council at the --
3 I mean, it will be before the Council at the fall
4 meeting.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So the
7 proposer of that proposal, if they would -- what would
8 their, you know, avenue be to -- would they take up
9 that old proposal or would they do a.....

10
11 DR. WHEELER: That was the proposal
12 submitted by the Tok AC or Fortymile AC?

13
14 MS. CELLARIUS: (Nods affirmatively)

15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The Tok
17 Fortymile, yeah.

18
19 DR. WHEELER: Yeah. I mean, what they
20 could do if they want to submit a new proposal is when
21 they submit that new proposal, ask that that proposal
22 replace the existing proposal or something like that.
23 And we can move accordingly. Or the Board can move
24 accordingly if the Board so chooses. But that proposal
25 is still alive, because it was deferred, it wasn't
26 opposed.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. Well,
29 that would be a good opportunity for them to keep a
30 proposal that was deferred alive, because I understand
31 a lot of times they're dead forever. So at any rate,
32 that's something to take back to the A.C., Jeff. Yeah.

33
34 And, Council members, any more
35 questions.

36
37 (No comments)

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know,
40 it's near and dear to me this one, so I would say that
41 I see proposals coming forward and we'll be seeing them
42 in our next wildlife cycle, so I don't really see any
43 need for us to worry about proposals, because we'll get
44 inundated with them when they come up.

45
46 Is there anything else on the Chisana.

47
48 (No comments)

49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It sounds

1 like not.

2

3 Let's go into the Fortymile caribou
4 update. Go ahead, Joe.

5

6 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair. I notice
7 that the public speaker from Tanana is in the room now.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
10 And her name? Was it Julie?

11

12 MR. MATESI: Yeah.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Julie
15 Hyslop. The lady that came in was -- Julie Hyslop?

16

17 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Oh, yes.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Would you
20 like to testify.

21

22 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yes.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sorry to put
25 you on the spot so quickly. If you're ready, we would
26 love to hear your testimony.

27

28 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Okay. Good
29 morning.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Good morning.
32 Just state your name.

33

34 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Julie Roberts
35 Hyslop, President for the Native Village of Tanana.
36 And it's a honor to be here today.

37

38 I'd like to recognize my elder, Lester
39 Erhart, from Tanana.

40

41 Well, our village sent me and Aaron
42 Kozevnikoff, you've got to come up, Aaron, up to the
43 meeting here today, because we had some concerns from
44 our village.

45

46 We really rely heavily upon the
47 resources in our area, and we know that things are
48 going to be getting harder for us, you know, to survive
49 out there in the rural areas. And so it's really
50 important for us to really pay attention to the rules

1 and regulations, you know, that the Federal Subsistence
2 Board makes for us.

3
4 And one of the things, you know, that
5 we really want to stress is the importance of
6 continuing to teach our children the cultural
7 traditions. We need to keep them going in hunting and
8 trapping and especially fishing. Fishing was the
9 resource that really brought our people to where they
10 are today. If it wasn't for the fish resource, it
11 would have been really hard for our people to survive
12 through the winters, and so that resource is very
13 important for us.

14
15 And we also support the recommendations
16 from the Secretary of Interior to include two more
17 seats to the Subsistence Council here.

18
19 One of the things that I notice with
20 the Subsistence Council is the outreach to the
21 community members. I think that we need to really do a
22 lot, you know, better job of making sure that our
23 residents know what the rules are for our area. It's
24 confusing with both State, you know, regulations and
25 Federal regulations, and so we need to make sure, you
26 know, that outreach is being made to them.

27
28 One of the things that I noticed was in
29 the customary trade discussions, if we make a
30 determination, it's going to make all species; is that
31 correct? I mean, we're making determinations on
32 customary and traditional trade, so isn't that across
33 the board with all species? It's not only for fish,
34 but also for the other species? I mean, if you make a
35 determination on that?

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you
38 asking about what customary is or what we did
39 yesterday?

40
41 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Well, the way I
42 see it is we're making determinations on what customary
43 and traditional trade is, and barter. And so that's
44 going to affect all species, not only fish; is that
45 correct?

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to
48 have Polly, our Staff answer that.

49
50 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Madame Chair.

1
2 And just in response to the question.
3 Customary trade is a subsistence use under ANILCA and
4 you're right, it covers all resources. But customary
5 trade is different than barter. Barter is -- you know
6 what barter is.
7
8 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: I know what barter
9 is. Uh-huh.
10
11 DR. WHEELER: Right. Customary trade
12 is a legal use under ANILCA, and customary trade is the
13 sale for cash, blah-blah-blah, of any resources. But
14 the proposal that was before the Council yesterday was
15 specific to Chinook salmon. But you're right,
16 technically if you just passed a regulation that was
17 just customary trade, it would cover all resources.
18
19 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yes.
20
21 DR. WHEELER: And you know, I mean,
22 different resources are passed through customary trade
23 all over the state, but the proposal that this RAC was
24 dealing with, and that the RAC dealt with actually last
25 fall and then the Board deferred in the spring was
26 specific to -- most of them were specific to -- or some
27 of them were specific to Chinook, some of them were
28 more generalized to salmon. But it didn't go beyond
29 that to other resources. If that helps.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does that
32 help you?
33
34 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Sort of, yeah.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well,
37 continue questioning if you have other things that --
38 because it's hard to wrap your mind around some this
39 stuff.
40
41 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yeah. Uh-huh.
42 Yeah.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. But if
45 you were concerned about what the Council did
46 yesterday, that was only Chinook.
47
48 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yeah. I
49 understand that.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
2
3 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yeah, I was on the
4 Yukon River Panel before, so I understand, you know,
5 exactly what was going on with the fisheries.
6
7 But I just, you know, really want to
8 relay the message from our village that we really, you
9 know, depend on the resource, and we're going to depend
10 on it more, and so monitoring of species is going to be
11 very important for us. You've got to keep track of the
12 bear populations, you've got to keep track of the wolf
13 populations. You've got to have that balance there.
14 And so, you know, I just wanted to relay that message
15 from our village.
16
17 Do you have anything to add, Aaron?
18 And state your name.
19
20 MR. KOZEVNIKOFF: Yeah, my name's Aaron
21 Kozevnikoff, Sr. And I am the nephew of Lester Erhart.
22
23 And I've been watching these fish
24 battles all my life. And it really upsets me to see
25 the way that things have come between the Lower Yukon
26 fishermen and our area. You know, everybody's been
27 trying to work hard to take cuts for our species to
28 continue, but it seems like our area keeps taking more
29 and more cuts to satisfy lower river fishermen, and
30 that really upsets me. And I've been dealing with this
31 all my life, and it's getting to where my way of life
32 is now illegal. And as far as I'm concerned, I will
33 keep doing what I've got to do to provide for my
34 family, my kids and my loved ones. But that's the way
35 it is, and things need to start being a little bit
36 regulated a little bit better, because we're losing our
37 lifestyle. And it's been going on, I'm 44 now and I've
38 been watching this since I was 13.
39
40 Another thing I wanted -- that really
41 concerns me is this putting the limits to where we have
42 to have crew members license on our kids for them to be
43 in the boat when we're checking, running our equipment.
44 I think that's way out of line. I've had to buy those
45 crew members license all my life until I took over from
46 my father, but, you know, that's wrong for our kids to
47 be deprived to being able to go and learn, and have to
48 pay a price to go sit in that boat to learn how to do
49 what should be a God-given right.
50

1 Another thing that really I guess --
2 customary trade issue. That's got to go on.

3
4 And one more thing I want to mention is
5 due to change in climates, moose hunting season. You
6 know, now it gets cold later and later, so as the
7 current hunting seasons are set in our area, our moose
8 don't start running until a week to two weeks after the
9 season's over. So, you know, we've got to go to great
10 means and lengths to walk miles to get back into the
11 woods, because they only start coming out to the river
12 when they start moving and running. So we need to do
13 something about adjusting that moose hunting season in
14 our area, too, and make it easier for a lot of people.

15
16 But that's about all I've got to say
17 for now.

18
19 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yeah, I was going
20 to mention the climate change also, but that's
21 something, you know, that really is affecting the
22 animals. And so, you know, when you're making the
23 regulation, you've really got to pay attention now to
24 the changing in the weather. So I think that's really
25 important for this Council to really pay attention to.

26
27 But I just want to thank all of you for
28 serving on the Council, and just, you know, make sure
29 that the communication stays there with the people in
30 the rural areas. Any means would really be helpful.

31
32 So thank you very much.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We
35 have a question for you. I wanted to mention our next
36 Council meeting's -- oh, I'm sorry. Me, I'm the bad
37 one that didn't turn it on. Sorry.

38
39 (Laughter)

40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I wanted to
42 mention that our Eastern Interior RAC meeting is going
43 to be in Tanana next fall.

44
45 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Oh, good.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So
48 we'll be in your village then. And actually, are you
49 guys aware of the wildlife call for proposals that's
50 coming up here the end of March.

1 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yes, I do. Yeah,
2 I just saw the r regulation book, so I'm aware of it.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So
5 this is the time to get those proposals in to change
6 that moose season.
7
8 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yes.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
11 And we're going to look at that, too, I'm sure.
12
13 Okay. Questions here. Bill, then Don.
14 Did I see a hand over here. Okay. Bill.
15
16 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I was just curious
17 about this crew member license. I've never heard of
18 that, guys.
19
20 MR. KOZEVNIKOFF: It's been mandatory
21 in our region since I was about 13 years old.
22
23 MR. GLANZ: I've never even known that.
24 That's ridiculous.
25
26 MR. KOZEVNIKOFF: It is ridiculous.
27 It's pissed me off all my life.
28
29 (Laughter)
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So that means
32 that they consider you commercial?
33
34 MR. KOZEVNIKOFF: Well, I've always
35 fished my father's operation under his license.
36 Because my father and mother both worked, I was the one
37 who was running the fish camp for them, but I had to
38 have the crew member license to do this for them.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, because
41 I've commercial fished on commercial fishing boats, and
42 that's the only reason that you need a crew member's
43 license is to be on a.....
44
45 MR. KOZEVNIKOFF: Well, they brought it
46 to the Yukon River years ago.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Somebody
49 looks like they could enlighten us here.
50

1 MR. HAYES: Madame Chair. Just to
2 clarify, the crew member licenses are only required for
3 commercial fisheries not for subsistence.

4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So why would
6 -- I mean.....

7
8 MR. KOZEVNIKOFF: Because I've always
9 fished under a crew member -- a commercial license,
10 I've always been required to have one. That's why it
11 bothers me.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Now, under
14 hunting licenses, you don't have to buy as a kid a
15 license until you're 16. So is it different for
16 commercial for crew member?

17
18 MR. HAYES: I believe -- well, the way
19 it works is you can have kids in the boat if you're
20 commercial fishing as long as they're not participating
21 in a commercial activity. So if they're sitting in the
22 boat, pouring coffee, observing, you don't need the
23 license. If they participate in the activity, then you
24 need the license. And I'm not sure of the exact
25 amount. It's a reduced amount for the kids I believe.

26
27 MR. KOZEVNIKOFF: It's \$35.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We
30 have lots of questions still. Donald next and then
31 Frank.

32
33 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.

34
35
36 The point that you mentioned about the
37 Subsistence Board, the two extra rural users, that's
38 not for this Council. That's for the Federal
39 Subsistence Board. And I think that everybody on the
40 RAC here agrees with you.

41
42 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Okay. Thank you.

43
44 MR. WOODRUFF: That way the stewards of
45 the land, the people that are using the resource, can
46 be on the Subsistence Board and give some input.

47
48 And the other thing is, that Bill
49 mentioned, was the crew member, I didn't know about
50 that.

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It still
4 brings tons of questions. Frank's next and then you,
5 Virgil.

6

7 MR. GURTLER: Yeah. I'm Frank Gurtler
8 from Manley.

9

10 And I was just wondering about that,
11 like he said, how is a kid supposed to learn how to
12 fish with that tied over your head of being illegal to
13 teach them how to fish while he's in the boat, on how
14 to pull the fish out of the net.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, it's
17 got me confused, too, here, because subsistence fishing
18 is not commercial fishing. So, I mean, I don't fish on
19 the Yukon, but I don't understand. Polly.

20

21 DR. WHEELER: Andy, go ahead.

22

23 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. I think what is
24 confusing here is that there is a difference between
25 subsistence and commercial, and this gentleman operates
26 under a commercial license, so that's why he's required
27 when he's fishing under the commercial license to have
28 that permitting. But if he was to go out and do the
29 exact same fishing with his kids during a subsistence
30 opening, he would not be required to have that
31 permitting for his kids. So it's just when his
32 children are participating in the commercial activity
33 that they're required to have that. But there is no
34 requirement for him to do the exact same thing with his
35 children through subsistence. Is that correct?

36

37 DR. WHEELER: That's correct.

38

39 MR. BASSICH: Thank you.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So when
42 you're selling fish, they want your kid to have a
43 license is what it boils down to, yeah.

44

45 MR. KOZEVNIKOFF: They don't go in the
46 boat unless they're going to participate.

47

48 (Laughter)

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Some of the

1 things we just don't like. Okay. Virgil.

2

3 MR. UMPHENOUR: You know, a little
4 humor. I got up this morning and smoked some moose
5 sausage, but I looked at the state trooper blotter on
6 the internet, and the state troopers have been busy in
7 Dutch Harbor. And they wrote, I don't know, maybe 10
8 or so citations for fishermen commercial fishing on
9 commercial vessels with no crew member license. And
10 it's really funny. Not one of them were from Alaska.
11 They were all from Washington, Oregon and California.
12 And all they got was a \$250 fine.

13

14 But, you know, the State it seems like
15 should do something, but that is something the
16 legislature is going to have to do. Because like my
17 kids are the same way, but now they have kids, so I
18 have grandkids now that we're going to have to buy
19 commercial licenses for if we have a commercial
20 fishery, which we don't know whether we will or not.

21

22 Thank you, Madame Chair.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

25

26 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.

27

28 Julie, thanks for all your
29 participation over the years in wildlife and fisheries
30 issues. I know you've been involved for a long time
31 and always bring a lot of wisdom to the table, and I
32 really appreciate that.

33

34 I was just looking at the map here that
35 has kind of the land designations, and I was curious.
36 Looking at this, it looks like a lot of the land around
37 Tanana is State-controlled land, and as you know we
38 basically only have control over -- or input on Federal
39 land. So I was wondering what percentage, or how much
40 use of it looks like BLM land, how important that is to
41 you in your region; and how much subsistence activities
42 take place there, because I think -- as Donald stated,
43 I think, you know, all of us at this table are very
44 much in favor of subsistence, protecting subsistence
45 and access to the resources. So I'm just kind of
46 curious, because I'm not really familiar with where you
47 hunt and how much of that is Federal lands.

48

49 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Okay. Below us is
50 the National Wildlife Refuge, Nowitna, and it's only

1 say about 40 miles downriver from us. And a lot of the
2 residence go down there during moose hunting season.
3 And so that's one of the big areas where they do go to
4 hunt moose. Yeah.

5
6 MR. BASSICH: So I guess that would be
7 the area that you would want to try and see change in
8 seasons for moose or whatever?

9
10 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yes.

11
12 MR. BASSICH: Okay. And then you would
13 have to do the same thing through the State regs.....

14
15 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Through the State,
16 yes.

17
18 MR. BASSICH:for our local area.
19 All right.

20
21 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yes.

22
23 MR. BASSICH: Thank you.

24
25 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Thank you, Andy.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
28 questions.

29
30 MR. FIRMIN: What days do you guys
31 generally stop moose hunting? I see there's 15th,
32 20th, 25th, 30th in here in the regs.

33
34 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: It's usually about
35 a week before the end of September, is when the State
36 cuts us off.

37
38 MR. FIRMIN: The 25th then?

39
40 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yes. Uh-huh.
41 Yes.

42
43 MR. FIRMIN: I would encourage you to
44 put in a proposal, because we did that in the Fort
45 Yukon area, and we got our moose season extended a week
46 from September 20th -- 25th to October 1st. And like
47 last fall I was moose hunting in a tee shirt in the
48 middle of September at five, seven in the morning, you
49 know, and it's just too hot. Everything's just laying
50 in the brush, there's nothing moving.

1 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: So we are going to
2 ask for changes to the regulations for the State also.
3 Yeah.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you guys
6 have your own proposals you're putting forth?
7
8 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: We will, yes.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
11 Because basically.....
12
13 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: We talked about it
14 at our last council meeting.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. I
17 see that you're on the boundary of 20F and is it 19 on
18 the other side of you? Which one is.....
19
20 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: It's all 20.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's all?
23
24 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Uh-huh. 20.
25
26 MR. GURTLER: What's Nowitna in though?
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Now what's
29 the Nowitna in?
30
31 SEVERAL: 21.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 21. Yeah.
34 So that looks like the one that you're really
35 interested in seeing proposals is 21, and we have
36 what's called cross over proposals. Okay.
37
38 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yes. Yes. I
39 understand that.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
42 So we don't need to worry about putting proposals in.
43 We as a RAC. Because this is a thing we can do to help
44 you. You guys are going to be putting in your own
45 proposals; is that correct?
46
47 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yes. Uh-huh.
48 Yes.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

1 Because we can take up State proposals. Yeah.
2
3 Lester.
4
5 MR. ERHART: On 20F, too, I think we
6 should change it, because it opens around the 5th and
7 closes on the 25th, and I think it should be longer.
8
9 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Through September.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that one
12 of your proposals?
13
14 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Well, we're going
15 to.....
16
17 MR. KOZEVNIKOFF: It will be.
18
19 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yeah, we're going
20 to.....
21
22 MR. KOZEVNIKOFF: It will be.
23
24 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: yeah, we're
25 looking at, you know, what the current regulation is
26 and we're going to try to change it, adjust it for at
27 least week or 10 days at least.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Also in 20F.
30
31 MR. ERHART: Yeah.
32
33 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yes. Uh-huh.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
36 Because I don't want to see anything fall through the
37 cracks. We as a Council can put a proposal in, and if
38 you suggest something to us, we're willing to do that.
39
40 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: I picked up the
41 regulation book and the form.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, before
44 you leave here, could you kind of give us a head's up,
45 unless you have something now.
46
47 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: I don't have it
48 written out right now.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We'll

1 make sure that that proposal gets in. Yeah. Okay.
2 I'll need your help, Lester.
3
4 Virgil.
5
6 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. And they've
7 changed the deadline for proposals. It will be the end
8 of next month for game issues.....
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: State?
11
12 MR. UMPHENOUR:for the Interior.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: For State?
15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR: For the State, yes.
17
18 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Oh, okay. Great.
19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR: And it's going to go to
21 once every three years so you need to get it in this
22 time.
23
24 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Yes.
25
26 MR. UMPHENOUR: Otherwise it'll be
27 three years before you can put in a proposal.
28
29 MS. ROBERTS HYSLOP: Thank you.
30
31 MR. UMPHENOUR: And then the Board of
32 Fish runs through the 8th of April, and Board of Game I
33 believe is the 29th of April. Right towards the end of
34 April anyway.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Frank.
37
38 MR. GURTLER: How about for the
39 Nowitna? Now that's Feds. You have to have it in at a
40 certain time before that?
41
42 MS. MUSHOVIC: March 24th.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The 24th,
45 yes.
46
47 MR. GURTLER: But the State extended
48 it.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The State

1 extended theirs, but this one's the same. This is
2 March 24th. Okay. Anything else. Any other
3 questions.

4
5 (No comments)

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
8 guys. Thank you.

9
10 MR. KOZEVNIKOFF: Thank you.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. All
13 right. Do you want to move on.

14
15 (Council nods affirmatively)

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Fortymile
18 Caribou.

19
20 MS. ST. LOUIS: Good morning, Madame
21 Chair. My name is Rita St. Louis. I'm with Alaska
22 Department of Fish and Game and Department of Planning.

23
24
25 I'm going to give a little bit of
26 overview of what we've done with Fortymile, and Jeff
27 Gross can give you the real information.

28
29 (Laughter)

30
31 MS. ST. LOUIS: I'd like to just
32 digress 30 seconds if you'll indulge me. Something
33 that's really struck me as I see all you people at the
34 table and I've seen you in other venues and advisory
35 committees and YRDFA and all this stuff, and I just
36 want to from a personal point of view say I really
37 appreciate all the time you folks spend volunteering to
38 make the resource better for everybody. And I don't
39 think you're told that often enough. And that's from
40 my heart. That's appreciated, and thank you.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bless you.
43 Thank you.

44
45 MS. ST. LOUIS: We've had two meetings
46 for the Fortymile caribou. We're going to -- trying to
47 update the plan. And we've had two meetings as I said.
48 One was in November and one was in Tok recently. And
49 the nice thing about this is we've had an international
50 group of people. We have Canadians coming from Dawson

1 from the government of Yukon, we had Draanjik Gwich'in,
2 I'm sure I'm mispronouncing that, and Yukon Fish and
3 Wildlife Management people, as well as someone from
4 your -- Don Woodruff came from your Eastern RAC, and
5 several people at the table here were on the committee.

6
7 One of the main things is to have
8 conservative harvest and to grow the herd. And the
9 herd is growing. It was a little over 50,000 now and
10 it was down to 6,000 way back not that many years ago.
11 So it's a successful endeavor.

12
13 The wonderful thing about the success
14 in my opinion is the real cooperation between the State
15 and the Federal Government and how this is working.
16 Specifically when you start calling names, Ruth
17 Gronquist and Jim Harrigus have been really, really
18 instrumental in helping us coordinate proposals,
19 Federal side, State side. They're all a little
20 different, but they worked really hard at tweaking all
21 this so that it works. And that's what counts. It
22 works. And it's a cooperative effort, and it's really
23 wonderful.

24
25 And the BLM, I think it's BLM also
26 helped finance some satellite collars to put on some of
27 the caribou, and it's great for tracking them. It's
28 also great for they're doing some habitat stuff, and
29 fire, you know, how fire's affecting this in the Yukon.
30 And so wonderful cooperative efforts. So it's sort of
31 a feel good thing from my point of view.

32
33 The other thing that's a little bit
34 more grassroots is three proposals are coming out of
35 this, two State proposals and one Federal proposal.
36 And the State and Federal proposals are kind of tandem
37 with one another to simplify everything. That's the
38 main thing, we want to simplify the hunt of the
39 Fortymile caribou.

40
41 And I'll let Jeff sort of go into how
42 we've had to expand the zones because the Fortymile
43 caribou are expanding their range. They're going to be
44 expanding into the White Mountains, and so to keep all
45 this simple and all one hunt, that's the purpose of
46 these proposals. And Don is proposing or going to make
47 a motion I guess it is to propose a Federal proposal.

48
49 So, thank you. I'll turn this over to
50 Jeff.

1 MR. GROSS: Yeah, I would reiterate
2 what Rita just said. A lot of us here have put a lot
3 of hours in on the Fortymile herd, and I see you guys
4 working on fisheries issues. and it would exhaust me
5 to no end to try to do some of the things you do, some
6 of the challenges you folks have. I'm glad I'm
7 wildlife.

8

9 (Laughter)

10

11 MR. GROSS: As Rita said, we are
12 currently working on a revision of the Fortymile
13 Caribou Harvest Management Plan. And one of the main
14 things that we wanted to discuss with the RAC is what
15 kind of recommendations are coming from the coalition
16 of folks that are on the planning committee.

17

18 The planning committee is made up of
19 now seven Fish and Game Advisory Committees, both in
20 the herd's range and also in the Anchorage/Mat-Su area.
21 It's the largest caribou herd on the road system right
22 now in Interior Alaska, so it's a very important
23 resource.

24

25 In addition to those Advisory
26 committees, Don was in attendance at the meetings to
27 represent the Eastern Interior RAC who is a voting
28 member on the council, and then also the Yukon
29 interest, both the regulatory interest in the Yukon,
30 and the First Nations as Rita pointed out. So this is
31 an international plan.

32

33 Thanks to Rita and our other planning
34 staff, it's been well choreographed. I think we've
35 come along pretty quickly here in just two meetings,
36 and were able to draft some recommendations to try to
37 meet the short proposal deadlines for both the Federal
38 and State regulatory process.

39

40 I guess some of the highlights that I
41 think are pertinent for this committee, the primary
42 goals of the herd are unchanged at this time. The
43 primary goal is to manage for herd growth, which
44 equates to a conservative harvest as well. A harvest
45 rate of two percent of on Alaska's side of the herd,
46 two percent of the herd size in Alaska is what's
47 allocated to Alaska. Yukon also has an allocation, but
48 are currently choosing to put that back toward herd
49 growth, so are not currently participating in harvest
50 of the herd.

1 In addition, another important lesson
2 that we've learned in recent years, we're always
3 watching the Nelchina situation with interest. And we
4 have managed to come up with -- the coalition and all
5 these committees have managed to come up with -- and
6 the public, have managed to come up with some pretty
7 original ideas to try to keep us out of the Tier II
8 situation on the State side.

9
10 And one of the discussion points that
11 we spent a lot of time on is provide a reasonable
12 opportunity for subsistence hunters. And this plan
13 dealt with that issue and weighed it very heavily in
14 their decisions when coming up with various
15 recommendations.

16
17 A couple of the major changes
18 recommended in the plan, one is expanding the hunt
19 area. And hopefully you can see this. We have
20 recommended adding zone 4, you can see in the top left
21 on the map up here.

22
23 Historically the Fortymile caribou herd
24 has, when it's exceeded about 50,000 caribou, it began
25 moving north and west of the Steese Highway more
26 regularly, and in the past several times it has been
27 documented, has calved in the White Mountains northwest
28 of the Steese Highway in 25C up in kind of where that
29 25C is, and the word Beaver Creek, some of that area up
30 there. The herd appears to be utilizing this area more
31 and more at various times in the year, including right
32 now. This year they have been -- actually the bulk of
33 the herd as many of you I'm sure know, were standing on
34 the Steese Highway on December 1st, which caused a very
35 interesting winter hunting season this year, which I
36 know all the public is very happy with, with all the
37 emergency orders and all the news releases. So we're
38 glad to help out.

39
40 (Laughter)

41
42 MR. GROSS: But with this comes the
43 need to consider being able to provide opportunity in a
44 larger portion of 25C when the herd moves into this
45 area. And currently in codified we're not able to open
46 a season for the Fortymile Caribou Herd in that area.
47 And so this proposal will add Zone 4. Again it's a
48 fairly sizeable area, basically encompasses what is
49 currently managed under the White Mountains caribou
50 hunt. This area. The White Mountains Caribou Herd is

1 within this area, and it is composed of about 600
2 animals. Zone 4 would not necessarily be allocated its
3 own quota. It's going to actually be managed along
4 with Zone 1 and considered part of the Steese Highway
5 area. But by adding this geographic area to the
6 Fortymile caribou hunt area, and having authorization
7 to hunt this herd in this area, we would be able to
8 provide a season when the herd moves into this area and
9 isn't necessarily available in other zones.

10

11 Initially as of now the Fortymile
12 Caribou Herd and the White Mountains herd are easily
13 distinguished. We have radio collars on both herds.
14 They're really not intermixing as of now. As time goes
15 on, if the Fortymile herd continues to grow, we
16 anticipate that at some point the White Mountains herd
17 could be enveloped by the Fortymile herd, at which time
18 we would just roll all the management together. But as
19 of now, we're still proposing to try to manage the two
20 herds separately.

21

22 Zone 4 will likely be open most of the
23 year, more similar to Zone 2. It has few roads, not a
24 lot of access. And so it's primarily going to be
25 managed as more of a roadless zone, but again it will
26 be included in the quota of Zone 1.

27

28 There is some Federal land in 25C.
29 Yeah, actually we've got -- it's right under that I
30 actually do have another map here to give folks an idea
31 of where the Federal land is. The Federal land's in
32 cross hatching.

33

34 Let's see. As far as the seasons and
35 bag limits for the Federal proposal, in 2009, following
36 a high harvest year, we had discussions with the
37 harvest coalition about how to deal with the over-
38 harvest that did occur in 2009. One of the things the
39 coalition came up with was a bulls only fall hunt, and
40 this proposal is recommending a bulls only fall hunt
41 under the Federal seasons law as a State season.

42

43 Another change is in the season dates
44 on the winter hunt. The coalition recommended
45 extending the winter season to March 31st, but leaving
46 the rest of the season as is.

47

48 And then I think the only other thing
49 that's being recommended is -- oh, yeah.

50

1 MS. ST. LOUIS: The change in the fall
2 general hunt.

3
4 MR. GROSS: Okay. The only other
5 thing, I guess there are a couple of other things. One
6 thing is during the early part of the fall season,
7 August 10th to the 29th, the only road accessible
8 Fortymile hunt will be under Federal regulations as a
9 State hunt is being recommended to open later in
10 August. And the recommendation of the coalition is to
11 continue to cap the Federal harvest at no more than 100
12 caribou during this period. During this last hear we
13 had the same situation and we only had a couple of
14 caribou shot during the August period.

15
16 Yeah, Rita pointed out one other thing.
17 In Zone 4 currently under the White Mountains hunt
18 there is a general season in the fall and a
19 registration hunt in the winter for the White Mountains
20 herd. And this proposal would also change the fall
21 season from a general season to a registration hunt,
22 and it would align the season dates in both the fall
23 and winter White Mountains hunt with the Fortymile
24 hunt. And I believe that's -- go ahead.

25
26 MS. ST. LOUIS: Just one other thing,
27 that I don't this affects the Federal hunt so much, but
28 the zone boundaries change from the Steese Highway,
29 because what would happen is people would be on the
30 east side of the Steese Highway and a caribou would
31 cross, step its foot over to the west side of the
32 highway, and people would say, oh, that's a White
33 Mountain caribou, kaboom, you know.

34
35 (Laughter)

36
37 MS. ST. LOUIS: So now they've changed
38 the zones so that all of the highway is one area so
39 that depending on which side of the highway it is, it's
40 not one herd or the other. But I don't that affects
41 the Federal thing so much.

42
43 MR. GROSS: Yeah. Zone 1 is going to
44 encompass the entire length of the Steese Highway now I
45 think is what Rita is saying. It will be managed under
46 a single registration permit. So Bill doesn't have to
47 drive into Fairbanks and.....

48
49 (Laughter)

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Bill.

2

3 MR. GLANZ: I make a motion we adopt
4 the joint proposal as written.

5

6 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I heard the
9 second. Okay. The joint proposal is on the table.

10

11 Discussion. Bill.

12

13 MR. GLANZ: Not so much discussion, but
14 what Jeff was talking was talking was that they closed
15 the Fortymile herd hunt because it was so over-
16 harvested. They closed it immediately. So I was
17 driving into Fairbanks one say, and I see all these
18 guys lined up like a firing squad. And I said, what in
19 the world are you doing? They said, oh, this is Steese
20 White Mountain caribou. This is not Fortymile herd.
21 He said, the minute they go across the Steese Highway,
22 bam, they'd wail it, load it in the car. And so I
23 called Jeff and them guys. They said they're legal.
24 It's Fortymile caribou. So that's going to correct
25 that, it will never happen again, because it's going to
26 be one general harvest ticket all the way down the
27 Steese. And Don and I and Andy and many other of the
28 ACs with Jeff and their help, we think this is a great
29 way to go with it.

30

31 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

34

35 MR. BASSICH: Thank you Madame Chair.
36 Yeah. Just to maybe summarize briefly what Jeff and
37 Rita was talking about is the coalition is always
38 focused on trying to keep things as simple as possible
39 and make it as user friendly as possible, not only to
40 the subsistence or State hunter, but also to the
41 Federal agencies. And we've been able to accomplish
42 that by combining the hunts through one permitting
43 system.

44

45 And also recognizing as Jeff said the
46 expansion of the caribou into the White Mountain
47 caribou population, we're envisioning that we're going
48 to need better manage the herds in the future when that
49 expansion takes place.

50

1 So what this proposal is basically
2 doing is trying to plan for the future growth of the
3 Fortymile Caribou Herd when it expands into another
4 range, and try and stay ahead of the curve as far as
5 protection and also access and use and harvest of those
6 animals.

7
8 So hopefully that summarizes briefly
9 what we've done here.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

12
13 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.

14
15
16 I just want to say that it's a really
17 rewarding experience to work on a proposal and a
18 project that's actually a success, and that it's an
19 international success, and people are working as a
20 group and we're moving forward and the herd's growing.

21
22 And I want to compliment Rita and Jeff
23 and everyone that worked on the coalition. First
24 Nations from Canada and the Canadian government. We
25 all had the same goal in mind, which was herd growth
26 and bulls only harvest whenever possible. And I want
27 to compliment and congratulate everyone that
28 participated.

29
30 Thank you.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
33 Donald. I guess I ought to say my little spiel.

34
35 My husband started this whole thing 20
36 years ago, and he invited the Canadians over and they
37 had meetings. He was the Chair of the Tok, or the
38 Upper Tanana Fortymile AC, and it's interesting. It is
39 a success and I think Frank was instrumental in helping
40 it from its infancy.

41
42 At any rate, go ahead, Bill.

43
44 MR. GLANZ: Yes. I was just going to
45 say then the Yukon Territory people, they're not even
46 harvesting their quotas. They're leaving them go and
47 putting them right back into the gene pool. So they're
48 really working hard on getting the caribou
49 reestablished in their area. Now, they do have herds
50 to hunts, but the Fortymile they're leaving grow.

1 Anyway, that's all.
2
3 MR. BASSICH: Question.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question
6 has been called for. All in favor.
7
8 IN UNISON: Aye.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
11 opposed.
12
13 (No opposing votes)
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Done.
16 And I always like to say, good things, too, because I
17 think this is a perfect, like you said, to reiterate
18 what Andy said, this like your picture book idea of
19 working together.
20
21 All right. Do we need a break or do
22 you want to continue. Five-minutes break? Okay.
23
24 (Off record)
25
26 (On record)
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Time to come
29 back. And as you're coming to your seats, I'm going to
30 remind everyone as K.J. tried to earlier, everybody
31 should be signing in on the sign-in sheet over here on
32 the table. There's a lot of people here, it doesn't
33 look like that many people have signed in, so please
34 sign in.
35
36 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thank you.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
39 Okay. Vince, is there someone here to give a report on
40 the Yukon.
41
42 MR. MATHEWS: Yes. Mark Bertram's
43 here.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We put
46 this report ahead, because of the possibility of
47 proposals, because proposals are next on our list.
48
49 MR. BERTRAM: Hi. I'm Mark Bertram,
50 the wildlife biologist with Yukon Flats Refuge.

1 Very brief comments. I just wanted to
2 point a couple of things out to you.

3
4 Did you hand that out, Vince, the
5 meeting here, was that handed out?

6
7 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah, it's going around.

8
9 MR. BERTRAM: Okay. There's a handout
10 going around which highlights a moose management
11 meeting that was conducted last October. I'm really
12 not going to talk about it too much, but I did want to
13 point out the last page of the summary to you, which
14 basically summarizes all the action items from that
15 moose management meeting.

16
17 The purpose of the meeting was just to
18 get together with delegates from all the villages on
19 the Yukon Flats and both Sue and Andrew attended the
20 meeting. We had a very productive meeting. And we had
21 a wide range of.....

22
23 (Cell phone ringing)

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Breakfast.

26
27 (Laughter)

28
29 MR. BERTRAM: A wide range of topics
30 that we discussed, all the way from regulatory changes
31 on how we can increase the moose population and
32 simplify the regulations to burn policy. It was a good
33 meeting I thought.

34
35 And we basically left that meeting with
36 a lot of action items, a lot of responsibilities that
37 were delegated to particular people to follow up on, so
38 I think it was very productive in that sense.

39
40 The next meeting was scheduled to be
41 right now, but we ran into some budget problems and
42 weren't able to fund the travel for that particular
43 meeting, so the next meeting will be next fall. And
44 our goal is to have at least one and hopefully two of
45 these meetings annually.

46
47 The other two items I just wanted to
48 briefly make comments on, and I think these are on Page
49 79 in your handbook, are basically just very brief
50 summaries on two projects that were conducted.

1 There was a moose population survey
2 conducted for the western Yukon Flats last November.
3 The bottom line is the population estimate is low at
4 440 animals. That number is in between the 2008 and
5 the 2006 estimates, so we're looking at continuing low
6 density population on the western half of the Yukon
7 Flats, thus, you know, this is a lot of the impetus for
8 the moose management meeting that we had in Beaver last
9 October. The bull/cow ratio and the calf ratios are
10 both reasonable, but it's just a very low density
11 population.

12
13 We are conducting another survey next
14 week which ties into the wolf kill rate study that was
15 just completed. The purpose of the survey next week is
16 to estimate moose outside of the normal areas where
17 people hunt and into the areas where the wolves hunt.

18
19 And we just finished up a wolf study
20 where we collared 38 animals and identified where their
21 territories were. Their territories were mainly --
22 they overlapped with the areas where most people hunt,
23 and they extend out to the southern and the northern
24 and the western boundaries of the areas where people
25 hunt, mainly up in the highlands.

26
27 And so the purpose of the survey next
28 week is to correlate the numbers of moose that are in
29 those areas with the number of wolves that are in those
30 areas.

31
32 Briefly the kill rate study estimated
33 that about 50 percent of the moose that are being taken
34 by wolves, especially in the early part of winter, half
35 those animals are young of the year, half those animals
36 are cows. There's also bulls in there, but the
37 majority of those animals are calves and cows. The
38 kill rate early in the winter when there's a lot of
39 calves available is very high. And then the kill rate
40 declines over the winter, and, you know, we suspect
41 that as the availability of the younger animals
42 declines, the kill rate also declines.

43
44 I'm happy to answer any questions
45 anybody has about any of that information.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions.

48
49 MR. FIRMIN: I do.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.
2
3 MR. FIRMIN: Thanks, Mark. Is this the
4 lowest population in the state?
5
6 MR. BERTRAM: It's among the lowest,
7 yes.
8
9 MR. FIRMIN: Among the lowest, with the
10 exception of like Unit 26?
11
12 (Laughter)
13
14 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah.
15
16 MR. FIRMIN: How long has it been among
17 the lowest?
18
19 MR. BERTRAM: I would say based on --
20 we don't have a lot of historical information, but I'd
21 say since the early 60s. The earliest information
22 we've got is a -- as you go back in time, the surveys
23 get less precise, but we do have survey information
24 when they had that Rampart Dam proposal back in the 50s
25 and early 60s, and there was a survey conducted at that
26 time, and, you know, the moose density's like, you
27 know, .2 moose per square mile currently. Back in the
28 early 60s the estimate from those flights was like .45
29 moose per square mile. And it's been consistently
30 below .4 per square mile over the last 20 years, since
31 we've been doing surveys.
32
33 So it's a long-term, you know, it's
34 always been low, and I think everybody knows the
35 reasons why. There's very high predation, lots of
36 predators. And so that was the focus of our October
37 meeting was to try and come up with regulatory changes,
38 things that we can do to try and increase harvest of
39 predators.
40
41 MR. FIRMIN: Okay. Thank you.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Vince.
44
45 MR. MATHEWS: I don't know when you're
46 going to -- I now on the agenda when you're going to
47 take up proposals, but I attend the different AC
48 meetings, and I was hoping Larry would be here. They
49 are going to submit a proposal. This refers to
50 Andrew's assignment on the back page of this management

1 group. They're going to be submitting a proposal to
2 require meat be on the front and hind quarters, but I
3 don't know where the status of that is, and I would not
4 -- I'm not bringing that up to discourage you from
5 doing something similar if that's so desired. But the
6 AC is going to submit that, and I don't know if Fish
7 and Game Staff is here, because they were going to,
8 from that area, were going to assist with writing that
9 proposal.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

12

13 MR. UMPHENOUR: You gave the moose that
14 were killed in percentages, you know, what they were,
15 but do you have an idea what the percent of moose in
16 the area, the study area was that was killed by wolves?

17

18 MR. BERTRAM: Yes, we have numbers.
19 We've got an estimate of numbers. And off the top of
20 my head, we don't have the numbers calculated for this
21 winter, but we do for last winter. And we estimated
22 that approximately 120 animals were taken from this
23 population of 400 plus. This would be winter
24 2009/2010. So as you can see, there's a significant
25 proportion of, you know, population being harvested by
26 wolves each year.

27

28 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. This year
29 did it seem like it was about the same?

30

31 MR. BERTRAM: I think it would be --
32 yeah, I don't have any -- yeah, I think it would be --
33 it's probably similar based on the number of kills that
34 we visited. I don't think there's a significant
35 difference.

36

37 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay, about four or
38 five years ago we sent a letter forward requesting
39 management of the wolves on the Refuge, and so -- but
40 we know that, or we were told basically that we have to
41 go through, you know, this long process, and this is
42 part of the process before any management actions can
43 be taken on the Refuge. So where are we in the process
44 now?

45

46 MR. BERTRAM: Well, there is no -- I
47 guess the direct answer to that would be there is no
48 ongoing process to implement, you know, an EIS, or an
49 environmental assessment for the Yukon Flats. That's
50 not ongoing for us at this time.

1 I guess, as you know, as most of you
2 probably know, that process is going down, it is going
3 on down at Unimak Island. And that is the first case
4 of Federal lands being entertained for predator
5 control. And so that's -- you know, they're in the
6 middle of that environmental impact statement and, you
7 know, the Fish and Wildlife Service is in favor.
8 They're collaborating with the State closely on that.
9 And the public's weighing in now, but the Service is on
10 record as being in being in favor of, you know, the
11 preferred alternative that's being proposed is to take
12 out a certain number of wolves from the population down
13 there, as well as supplement -- this is a whole
14 different system. They're dealing with caribou, but,
15 you know, that process is ongoing. And I would say,
16 you know, I'm sure everyone's following that closely to
17 see how that comes out. The public is weighing in now.
18

19 MR. UMPHENOUR: With that being said
20 then, because we had been -- you know, this has been
21 four or five years ago, and we did -- I don't have the
22 letters here with me, I don't know where they're at,
23 you know, that we got back in exchange.
24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I have them
26 all with me.
27

28 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Well, the
29 question is then, would it be appropriate, being as
30 this is the call for proposals time, for us to go
31 ahead and put the proposal forward again to have
32 predator management in the Refuge, and to try to
33 proceed further, because this is part of the work that
34 has to be done for the EIS that you've been doing the
35 last couple of years.
36

37 MR. BERTRAM: (Nods affirmatively)
38

39 MR. UMPHENOUR: You basically know how
40 many -- how much of the population is taken by the
41 wolves during certain time periods and what part of the
42 population it is, and more or less how many moose there
43 are, and I assume you know, have a good idea of how
44 many wolves there are doing this. And so that would be
45 my question, is would this be an appropriate time to
46 maybe get more work done on this to move in that
47 direction?
48

49 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah, I think it's, you
50 know, your decision to do that, and my focus has been

1 exactly what you've been saying, trying to collect
2 baseline information. And so the other thing I'd add
3 to what you mentioned is the State recently -- we
4 collaboratively with the State on completing a black
5 bear census also. So we do have information on how
6 many black bears are at least around a 500 square mile
7 area right around Beaver. And so the one thing that we
8 are working on right now is trying to increase our
9 information on habitat to ensure that the moose habitat
10 is high quality and can support more moose. The
11 indirect evidence says yes based on the condition of
12 the animals. The moose are large, calves are large,
13 cows are large. Twinning rate is high.

14
15 The Refuge has an unfunded proposal
16 right now to collar 40 moose on the Refuge. And we're
17 waiting on adequate funding to get that started. But
18 the purpose of that project is to get better idea about
19 where moose are so we can do a better job of assessing
20 habitat. And also to collect annually information like
21 body size and twinning rates so we can assure that
22 these indirect indicators haven't changed over the last
23 15 years. So it was about 13, 14 years ago when we
24 last did that.

25
26 So, you know, we're trying to get into
27 -- from a biological standpoint, we're trying to get
28 ourselves set up so that we can assess anything that
29 does come along. If there is a proposal for predator
30 management and it does end up happening on the Refuge,
31 you know, we'll have some monitoring in place so we can
32 assess change as it happens.

33
34 But as far as, you know, I guess it's
35 your decision whether or not to start that. I guess I
36 feel like we've been pretty active trying to collect
37 baseline data. So in the event that there was a
38 proposal and it went through some sort of a NEPA
39 process and EIS, I think we've got a good start on
40 having baseline data that could be presented within the
41 document to share with the public.

42
43 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. It looks
44 like Vince wants to say something.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Vince. Yes,
47 we'd like to hear from you.

48
49 MR. MATHEWS: I'll defer this to
50 Andrew. I understand that Virgil's indicating a

1 possible proposal to the Federal Board on this, but,
2 Andrew, you're a member of the moose management group.
3 Maybe that's another avenue to work that through since
4 it's a local planning group. So I don't know, Andrew,
5 you're on there.

6
7 And then also I need to correct that
8 the Yukon Flats AC is narrowing that meat on the bone
9 requirement to 25D. It's not going to be the whole
10 unit. There was a feeling that's why it failed at the
11 Board of Game level.

12
13 So, Andrew, if you have any input on
14 maybe that idea of going forward with a predator or
15 intensive management proposal, it might be best to work
16 through the working group or management group. It be a
17 better way.

18
19 MR. FIRMIN: It was from most of the
20 people, the community residents and other people that
21 went there from the surrounding villages, it sounded
22 like most of them wanted nothing short of aerial
23 gunning when we were at that meeting, so that's pretty
24 much their -- that was their opinion when we had that
25 meeting in October. And it was the opinion of Fort
26 Yukon, Circle and Chalkyitsik I believe, and I'm pretty
27 sure everybody else in Beaver didn't -- they weren't
28 all for it, but they wanted something done.

29
30 And currently I did have a proposal for
31 that meat on the bone, but it's for the entire Unit 25.
32 So maybe if one fails, the other won't because I
33 believe most of the deboning goes on in 25A, and some
34 in 25D.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, going
37 to that meeting with Andrew for that Yukon Flats Moose
38 Management, I have this, Carrie's report here in front
39 of me. He's diligently working on proposals, but the
40 hard proposal is, you know, predator control of wolves.
41 And bears, for that matter, I could see a problem with
42 bears in that country big time, more than any other
43 area that I've seen data on. So, you know, it might
44 behoove -- Andrew, why don't you just give a quick
45 report here on No. 2, and what some of the things that
46 we -- on this report, just give them a report of what
47 we talked about there of things that we can do. But we
48 didn't -- everybody talked about the hard one, but I
49 don't see that we recommended to do that, you know, to
50 push aerial gunning. Steven's report.

1 MR. FIRMIN: I believe we kind of left
2 a lot of that out simply because of the public outcry,
3 that goes on in the other areas where there's aerial
4 gunning and that type of activity going on around other
5 caribou herds, it's people from New York or developed
6 -- sending money up to stop me from shooting my dog,
7 too, but, you know.....

8

9 (Laughter)

10

11 MR. FIRMIN: I don't think they have
12 any say in what goes on in my backyard. I think that
13 was why it was left out of the report, because that
14 part of the proposals that you have in this newsletter
15 was the ones that will be submitted today, which would
16 be the brown bear regulations to include a community
17 harvest, to extend the wolf trapping season to open one
18 month earlier, which would simply just align the
19 seasons, because when you go from 25A to 25D to 25B,
20 they're all different, so it would just align all the
21 areas into one season.

22

23 And these were just some of the
24 proposals that we came up with at this meeting to try
25 and curb some of that, but I don't have a problem with
26 trying to put in a policy to get predator control,
27 predator management on the Yukon Flats. I think it
28 would be kind of a public -- there would be the public
29 outcries, what everybody was afraid of really, because
30 then everybody and their brother's going to want to go
31 shoot.

32

33 MR. GLANZ: I wouldn't even worry about
34 it, do it.

35

36 (Laughter)

37

38 MR. FIRMIN: Oh, and thanks for
39 bringing these. I had a big pile of these on my desk,
40 and I forgot them at home.

41

42 (Laughter)

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

45

46 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I was just
47 looking in your thing here, and so tracked or you kept
48 track of the radio collared moose between November and
49 March, which is a five-month period, and just a rough
50 estimate, for 2009 would be roughly 25 percent of the

1 moose population was killed in that five-month period.
2 But you didn't do any work other than between November
3 and March then as far as keeping track of what the
4 mortality was in those other months?

5
6 MR. BERTRAM: That's right. Yeah. It
7 was mainly to determine the winter kill, so we were,
8 you know, focused on that portion of the year when
9 they're totally being harvested primarily by wolves.
10 And so, you know, we weren't looking at when they
11 overlapped with bears.

12
13 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. That leads me to
14 one other question. I hunt grizzly bear in the spring,
15 in April. And I know one of the things the big boars
16 do is they track down pregnant cows and kill them. And
17 we got one bear one time that had -- because we tracked
18 him down, and he had killed two cows and just ate the
19 fetuses before we got him.

20
21 But is there any -- do you have any
22 information on the vulnerability of these cows in the
23 last couple months of their pregnancy in the spring?

24
25 MR. BERTRAM: We do. Back in '98/99 we
26 collared 30 cows and over three years five of those
27 cows were killed, three by grizzly bears, one was
28 poached and one died of unknown causes. So, yeah, we
29 do have some information on it. Overall the cows had a
30 pretty high annual survival rate between those two
31 years. One year it was like 88 percent, the other year
32 it was around 92 percent. And the high survival rate,
33 that's a reasonably high survival rate. The survival
34 rate is what helps keep the population from crashing.
35 You know, it keeps it at that low equilibrium. So
36 that's one of the positive things is that even though
37 there's also additional, you know, grizzly harvest in
38 the spring, as well as the rest of the year when the
39 grizzlies are out, but especially in the spring time,
40 they're able to maintain.

41
42 I just wanted to add one thing, if I
43 can make a comment on the reason why there's no
44 predator control proposal within this summary. I think
45 at the meeting, as I remember, is that we were really
46 focused -- we discussed predator control briefly, and I
47 think everybody realizes that it's complex and it's
48 expensive. It can be done, but it's complex and it's
49 expensive. And because of that, we focused on things
50 that we can accomplish within the next year or two, try

1 to make an impact on the population, and it was
2 basically the focus was on trying to come up with new
3 proposals or tweak old proposals or current regulations
4 to increase predator harvest. So that's kind of I
5 think why you see a long list of those types of
6 proposals.

7

8 MR. UMPHENOUR: Sue.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

11

12 MR. UMPHENOUR: You know, we've
13 addressed this issue ever since I've been on the RAC,
14 which has been 10 years now. And I think we got --
15 well, I know we've got the State Board to approve
16 several proposals, extending the wolf season was one of
17 them, until the end of May. And being able to position
18 yourself with a snowmachine when you're hunting. But
19 there's not -- you know, I've thought about, given
20 quite a bit of thought to this, but wolves are not that
21 easy to kill if you're basically just on the ground
22 hunting them. So I don't know if there are any more
23 ways, that the methods and means could be liberalized,
24 okay.

25

26 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah. I guess the one
27 thing I would add is that we did have an agenda item
28 that the State was going to look into, and that was we
29 were looking into the notion of trying to increase wolf
30 harvest by trapping by locating moose kills in the
31 winter and transferring that information on to
32 trapping. I don't know the status of that. I know
33 Beth Lenart was following up on it. So that's just one
34 idea that's been thrown out there, but, you know,
35 there's probably some ethical considerations that, you
36 know, scientists have to consider on giving that
37 information out. And so that's part of the discussion
38 I'm assuming that the State's having on that. But that
39 is something that's being considered, looking for a way
40 to increase, you know, the success rate of trappers.

41

42 And the other thing that, of course,
43 everybody knows is that there's just not that much
44 trapping going on. So if there was a way to -- we're
45 continuing trying to increase outreach and sponsor wolf
46 trapping clinics, et cetera, to try and get the people
47 out there.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

50

1 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.

2

3

4

5 It seems to me that the Yukon Flats and
6 other Federal agencies, whether it be the Park Service
7 or whoever, are really reluctant for the flavor of
8 predator control, but predator management, what we
9 talked about in the Fortymile herd, seems to be working
10 very well. The herd's growing and it's a big success.

11

12 And to make your job a whole lot easier
13 and to put food on the table for most of these people
14 in 24, which I'm one of, it would seem to me that we
15 could sort of take an example from what's happening
16 over there. I mean, they've got -- it's a State-run
17 process, but they definitely are, you know, flying over
18 BLM land and other Federal lands in the process, and it
19 seems to be working, and people are getting a little
20 more food on the table.

21

22 Why is these Federal agencies so
23 reluctant to just go for it? I mean, between me and
24 Chalkyitsik on my trap line, it's like 100 and
25 something miles. There's nobody there really, in
26 between, you know, catching very many wolves. So that
27 isn't going to affect them one little bit. And if you
28 teach me to, you know, don't touch the trap with my
29 bare hands, that's not going to make me catch but maybe
30 one more wolf, rather than, you know, wear a nice clean
31 pair of gloves or something in the trapping education
32 classes. Because there's just not that many people on
33 the land doing it. And you can trap all winter long
34 and maybe catch one or two wolves, but that ain't going
35 to do nothing really to the population. It might get
36 you a nice ruff and few hundred bucks, but that ain't
37 going to help the moose population. It's the lowest in
38 the State, and if you have a quarter of them dying
39 off, that's just pitiful.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

44

45 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, like the State lest
46 us up there in our area, a spotter and a couple of gun
47 ships out there, and we had no problem getting rid of a
48 bunch of wolves. I think it works just fine. And it
49 don't cost the State any money other than have to issue
50 it, so why don't the Federal government at times think
about that? We're talking money. But I understand the

1 public outcry from the Lower 48 who support most of the
2 parks and recreation.

3
4 And also when Mr. Carroll was on the
5 Board, he expressed a lot of concern about the cow
6 poaching in the villages up there on the Flats. Has
7 there been any inroads into that or have you guys been
8 watching out for that or anything?

9
10 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah. I'd say we've been
11 putting a lot of effort into law enforcement. We've
12 got a very active winter patrol system. And, you know,
13 cases are being made annually.

14
15 I can't say that we've noticed a
16 change, because it's a hard change to measure. You
17 know, I just know that there's being cases made
18 annually, and, you know, through this Moose Management
19 Committee, we're trying to get the word out.

20
21 And I think, you know, when you get
22 into a system like this where you have very few animals
23 out there, each cow very valuable and extremely
24 valuable. And so, you know, even if we can save half a
25 dozen, maybe a dozen cows each year, you know, if we
26 can save those animals, if they are not poached, that
27 will make a significant difference.

28
29 And so in response to what you were
30 saying, Don, I think it's the reason the Federal
31 government is so reluctant to embrace it is it's
32 partly, you know -- I think the main reason is probably
33 mandates. And it's because the mandates are, you know,
34 we're supposed to provide a subsistence opportunity.
35 In order to do that, you've got to provide, you know,
36 the resource. And there's also the mandate to conserve
37 fish and wildlife populations in natural diversity in
38 their natural habitats. And there gets to be a lot of
39 debate over natural. And I think that's where part of
40 it comes in.

41
42 I think what you're seeing down at
43 Unimak Island right now is a re-examination of those
44 mandates and how they relate to each other. And, you
45 know, I think the outcome of that situation down there
46 is going to have some effect on the rest of the State,
47 you know, one way or the other. You know. So it's
48 kind of a test case down there on Fish and Wildlife
49 Service policy and how they're going to, you know, deal
50 with a predator control proposal in that case dealing

1 with caribou, but I think it's going to be -- it's
2 definitely going to have an impact here.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald, then
5 Frank. Or, Frank.

6

7 MR. GURTLER: Yeah, I remember in the
8 early days when they used to go shooting the wolves out
9 of an airplane. That seemed to take care of the dumb
10 wolves, but you can never get all the sharp ones. And
11 why wouldn't that work again?

12

13 And then the other thing is, how about
14 putting a bounty on them like for each wolf so the
15 trappers would make some money. Instead of having the
16 Fish and Game do it, or the Feds to do it, why don't
17 they put a bounty on it so the trappers can go out
18 there and start making some money. And so it's
19 worthwhile, because I think right now the price of
20 fur's down so low. I mean, you can get 250, \$300 for a
21 good wolf, but by the time you spend gas money trying
22 to get that one wolf, you're broke before you even get
23 started.

24

25 But things like this in the early days,
26 it worked pretty good with hunting from the airplane,
27 wolf hunters, private individuals, and then put a
28 bounty on them to top it off so they could make a fair
29 living out in the Bush off of these animals that we've
30 been making money off of all our life to survive.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.
33 Didn't I see your hand up?

34

35 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

38

39 MR. WOODRUFF: I know that along the
40 Taylor and parts of 25, we've lightened up the
41 restrictions on taking bears. For example, now we can
42 take three black bears. But it seems to me that if we
43 don't encourage people with outreach programs to not
44 shoot the cows, and I know it's really tough to educate
45 an old guy like me, but you can educate the children
46 and show them the mathematics involved of not shooting
47 cows. And encourage them in the spring time to go out
48 and get these bears, that would definitely increase
49 your moose population.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, we're
4 probably getting wrapped around the axle here on
5 something we can't do.

6

7 I guess, you know, maybe we should just
8 take a look at this letter here that I have from a
9 while back, October 2006, and if anybody has anything
10 that they would like to send out again, because what
11 they recommended, you get a census of the animals, and
12 you guys pretty much have the census of the animals and
13 then it's like if we want to continue to push doing
14 something with the government of something that's
15 probably going to take 20 years to do, it's kind of
16 tough.

17

18 So I think let's focus on what we can
19 do here and some of the proposals that's in the
20 management meeting that we had. We're going to have to
21 take a look at that.

22

23 I'm kind of sorry that Larry isn't here
24 for that. I'll have to apologize. He has meetings to
25 go to this morning and he's excused.

26

27 But I'm sure we'll have plenty of time
28 to discuss these proposals that we're wanting to put
29 forward.

30

31 So, Virgil.

32

33 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. When we get to
34 the proposal part of the agenda, I see no reason why we
35 shouldn't put a proposal forward, and why we shouldn't
36 attach that letter from 2006 with it. Because this
37 Refuge has done a lot of the baseline work and at the
38 same time we can put in a request to fund the studies
39 that they have planned that are unfunded to finish the
40 biological background so they can do an EIS. I see no
41 reason why we can't do that.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you going
44 to write the letter?

45

46 MR. UMPHENOUR: I see Ms. Wheeler has
47 something to add to the conversation.

48

49 (Laughter)

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Polly.
2 Okay.

3
4 DR. WHEELER: Once again, thank you,
5 Virgil. I was kind of waiting to dive in, but I just
6 -- you know, you were talking about the call for
7 proposals for wildlife proposals, and there's sort of
8 two separate issues. One is the call for proposals to
9 the Federal Subsistence Board.

10
11 As you all are probably too familiar
12 with, the Board does have a policy on predator
13 management. Basically if they get proposals regarding
14 predator management or predator control, they go back
15 to the agencies.

16
17 So in terms of -- there's a couple
18 thing that this Council can do. This Council can
19 submit a proposal, but it's going to go back saying the
20 Board doesn't do predator management; it goes out to
21 the agencies.

22
23 This Council can also put something in
24 its annual report. Once again, I know it's done it
25 before. You're going to have an opportunity to talk
26 about Mr. Roczicka's addition this afternoon, which is
27 sort of what it speaks to. I mean, in a larger that's
28 what his addendum to the annual report speaks to.

29
30 I can't offer you much more than that.
31 I know it's completely unsatisfactory, but there's the
32 Federal Board and then there's the Fish and Wildlife
33 Service, and they're sort of two different venues. But
34 clearly this Council is interested in this effort, the
35 effort -- there's the full transcript that's been taken
36 this morning. We can use that. We can continue to
37 work with the Refuge. But in terms of submitting
38 proposals to the Board, your options are a little bit
39 limited with regard to predator management.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

42
43 DR. WHEELER: So I just want to put
44 that on the record, just to clarify for the new
45 membership, too, to sort of realize where the
46 limitations are of some of these things.

47
48 Madame Chair.

49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But we can

1 send a letter to the agency and recommend.

2

3 DR. WHEELER: Absolutely. And my
4 advice would be to send a letter to the agency and
5 recommend, and also include it in your annual report so
6 that you've got double coverage.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. Okay.
9 Yeah.

10

11 MR. WOODRUFF: Is that an action item?

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It would be
14 an action item, yes. So that again, as we spoke
15 earlier, the annual report came up, and now these are
16 the items, and I believe it's already in there, it's
17 already in our draft. So if we want to add any
18 language to it, that would be the place. Okay.

19

20 Virgil, do you want to add to this?

21

22 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. I just wanted
23 to add one final thing to it, and that is that, you
24 know, times it depends on who takes an interest in
25 something, and I think that if we copied Don Young with
26 all this and maybe contacted him personally, those of
27 us that know him, that that might add a little extra
28 influence on something getting done, and maybe projects
29 being funded.

30

31 Madame Chair.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: If I were to
34 go back in my memory, Virgil, we are not allowed to.
35 You can do it as an individual, but we as a RAC are not
36 allowed to go lobby.

37

38 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Cannot lobby out
39 of the RAC.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

42

43 MR. UMPHENOUR: It depends on one's
44 definition of lobbying, but.....

45

46 (Laughter)

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is there
49 Virgil's definition or the Federal Board's definition.

50

1 (Laughter)
2
3 DR. WHEELER: I think the Hatch Act
4 might need an amendment for Virgil.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, the
7 Virgil amendment.
8
9 (Laughter)
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That would be
12 great.
13
14 All right. So I guess let's look at
15 the agenda here. Man, I have to apologize. I really
16 wish Larry was here for all of this, what we just went
17 through. I'm really bummed about it, but we can't go
18 back.
19
20 So we're up to the call for proposals.
21 So I think now that we have -- do you guys want to wait
22 until Larry gets here to do these Yukon Flats
23 proposals? It might be better?
24
25 MR. FIRMIN: Uh-huh.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
28
29 MR. UMPHENOUR: Do we know when he's
30 going to be here?
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He should be
33 here by after lunch. He was going to try to be here as
34 soon as he could, but the meeting is always taking
35 longer like they always do.
36
37 Yeah. Okay.
38
39 MR. FIRMIN: I have a question.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Go
42 ahead, Andrew.
43
44 MR. FIRMIN: Mark, would you entertain
45 the thought of helping with the Refuge in the sense of
46 like, you know, the Alaska Federation of Moose, have
47 you heard of them?
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I have.
50

1 MR. BERTRAM: Yes, I know who they are,
2 sure.

3
4 MR. FIRMIN: What they, what do you
5 call it, they relocate orphan calf moose from highway
6 kills in the Mat-Su area.

7
8 MR. BERTRAM: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

9
10 MR. FIRMIN: And that would one avenue
11 that we've been eyeballing lately. And I think with
12 the Feds help, but that would be a good opportunity and
13 another direction to go; however, that's basically
14 you're just feeding the wolves in a sense.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Or
17 bears.

18
19 MR. FIRMIN: But I think that's another
20 avenue that I'd like to see addressed also. Something
21 along that line.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, that's
24 good. So as a letter, we could write to the -- are we
25 lobbying by writing a letter to these guys suggesting
26 that some calves be moved to the Flats?

27
28 MR. BERTRAM: Well, I think you're free
29 to whatever you want.

30
31 MR. FIRMIN: Maybe if the Fish and
32 Wildlife Service doesn't want to directly address
33 predator control or management, maybe they can address
34 the low population by re-introducing orphan calf moose
35 from another area of the state that has an enormous
36 population of people and moose.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: With a collar
39 and then they'll know how it died.

40
41 MR. FIRMIN: Yep.

42
43 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah, I'm not sure how to
44 respond to that. You know, I think whatever you
45 consider doing, I think it's really important to get
46 the State at the table also, because I think, you know,
47 having Beth Lenart, Jason Sakowski in the discussion I
48 think is, you know, and Larry, the member,
49 representative from the AC. I think a collaborative
50 discussion on that would be really helpful.

1 We did take an effort last year, or
2 maybe it was the winter before last, at bringing meat
3 to the villages. And we did that one winter, but
4 apparently we were violating some internal policy on
5 that and we weren't able to continue doing that. But
6 we were looking for creative ways to get more meat out
7 to the village, and so we were bringing road kills in
8 from Fairbanks. And that strategy did not work out.

9
10 And I'm sure that what you're proposing
11 has been considered, and I think it may just be cost.
12 I think it's kind of an expensive proposition by the
13 time you add everything up. But I think it's worth
14 discussing.

15
16 MR. FIRMIN: But it's not too expensive
17 to truck hundreds of bison up from Canada and the Lower
18 48.

19
20 Also though I was thinking that, do you
21 know how many moose were reported killed for ceremonial
22 purposes this year in the Flats?

23
24 MR. BERTRAM: I don't have those
25 numbers at hand. I would have to look those up. We do
26 have the -- we've got the information summarized, but I
27 don't know how many. I would guesstimate somewhere in
28 the 10 to 20 range.

29
30 AUTOMATED VOICE: Three.

31
32 MR. BERTRAM: Three. Maybe three.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's a
35 voice.

36
37 (Laughter)

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's a
40 voice in there. Where did the three come from?

41
42 MS. MUSHOVIC: Who was that?

43
44 REPORTER: The teleconference. It came
45 on the teleconference.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.
48 They're just having fun, huh.

49
50 Are you done?

1 MR. BERTRAM: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: As I listened
4 to all this creative biology, I thought of a couple
5 other creative ideas. The retired tech in Tok, he's
6 always coming up with great ideas, and he decided to
7 try with a bow and arrow where the moose calves were
8 being born, spreading skunk pee so they would never
9 smell them. It never went anywhere, but that was his
10 idea. Because he went out and did it, nobody went out
11 and checked to see if it had any impact on saving
12 calves.

13

14 And then the other thing that happened
15 in the Fortymile that we didn't mention is there was a
16 group of people that decided how important it was to
17 take wolves, and they started a caribou calf protection
18 plan they called it. And they put up the money. If
19 you got a wolf they paid you for the wolf so you had --
20 and they bought the wolf from you and they put up like
21 \$400, so people were out that got wolves in that area,
22 they were paid \$400.

23

24 MR. GLANZ: Fairbanks did that, too,
25 for the Fortymile area.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That was them
28 that did it, yeah.

29

30 Andy.

31

32 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. Maybe a possible
33 funding solution for your orphan moose calf would be to
34 ask PETA to transport them so that they could feed the
35 wolves up in the area there.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The wolves
38 are starving.

39

40 MR. BASSICH: Anyway. One other thing
41 I was going to mention, Madame Chair is, I'm just
42 looking at the agenda, and I'm a little concerned that
43 we're not going to make it through everything today.
44 And there's been a lot of very good discussion, but
45 it's also very repetitive from five years ago.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
48 We're moving on then. Let's go to the call for
49 proposals, and let's look at any proposals that we
50 might have that does not involve the Flats so Larry can

1 be here as we go through those proposals.

2

3 What's going on, Bill? Do we need
4 another break?

5

6 All right. Does anyone have any other
7 proposals right now at this time.

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're at a
12 standstill. I'm wondering if we could take up some of
13 these reports right now.

14

15 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go
18 ahead.

19

20 MR. BASSICH: I believe that we could
21 probably move through the cultural sensitivity concerns
22 pretty quickly prior to lunch.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You think
25 Larry would like to be here for that?

26

27 MR. BASSICH: Well, in talking with the
28 coordinator who might be assisting in this, I was kind
29 of brainstorming a little earlier, and I thought maybe
30 if we could get to that before lunch, maybe we could
31 have a lunch meeting with a few people that want to be
32 involved in that and just start getting some work done
33 on that while we're at this meeting, because people
34 won't be around this evening to meet. So just a
35 thought.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, let's
38 go ahead and do that. Let's skip over the proposals,
39 and let's start -- any objections.

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We
44 must have got disconnected and we're getting re-
45 connected. Yeah. Okay. You can turn that down a
46 little bit.

47

48 Okay. Cultural sensitivity concerns.
49 OSM Staff.

50

1 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
2 I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce Andrea
3 Medeiros. She's been with the Office of Subsistence
4 Management for quite a while. She is responsible for
5 putting together all the materials that you get, the
6 written materials. But her job, she's been promoted to
7 a new position where she's doing public outreach for
8 the program.

9
10 And so I just wanted to introduce her
11 and to let you know that she is working in that new
12 capacity. And she has some ideas about the cultural
13 sensitivity concerns or how concerns or how to address
14 those concerns or how to begin addressing those
15 concerns, but also she thought she might spend a few
16 minutes, or I thought she might spend a few minute
17 talking about some of the new outreach efforts that
18 we're involved in, because we are constantly trying to
19 change and improve, and Andrea has done some great
20 things with regard to outreach, but I think we can
21 always improve, too, so we're always open for new
22 suggestions, but with that introduction, the mic is
23 hers.

24
25 MS. MEDEIROS: Hi, everybody. So I
26 started acting the previous public affairs person a
27 while back, last April. And her duties involved doing
28 news releases and basically publicizing the meetings
29 and any actions that were taken by the Board or by
30 special action. And so I've been working in that
31 capacity and thinking in terms of how to broaden
32 outreach efforts, increase public involvement, how to
33 get the word out about meetings, about actions taken.

34
35 And so one of the things that I started
36 this time around with the Council meetings is to -- I
37 believe in the past we'd seem to focus our outreach
38 efforts kind of narrowly, somewhat narrowly I would
39 say, in that when a meeting was occurring in a certain
40 area, we would focus our releases in that area, or just
41 the immediate surrounding area. And so like for this
42 meeting here, I looked at all the communities that were
43 in the Eastern Interior region and then looked at all
44 the tribes that were in those areas, and sent out a
45 release to announce this meeting. And then, of course,
46 we also send out a flyer at the beginning of the cycle
47 to let everybody know, and that goes out to all the
48 tribes and other entities that may have interest in
49 issues coming before the Councils.

50

1 So we're trying to find other ways,
2 too, to get the word out, or enable more participation.
3 And maybe it would involve providing teleconference
4 line information in a news release that we send out.
5 Currently we ask that people contact our office for
6 teleconference, if they're interested in
7 teleconferencing, and so maybe as a part of our efforts
8 we just as a mode of operation, standard operation, we
9 provide the teleconference information up front so that
10 if they choose to dial in, that that's available to
11 them. And they don't have to put the effort out to
12 actually call up and say, hey, I'm interested in
13 participating, can you let me know if I can call in.
14 So that's one idea.

15
16 And then also I had been thinking about
17 starting up a Facebook page, and recently at the
18 Federal Subsistence Board meeting Jack Reakoff
19 mentioned Facebook to my surprise, and he mentioned
20 that he was aware that a lot of people in rural
21 communities were using Facebook now as a mode to
22 connect with relatives and friends around the state.
23 And so one of the things that I have on my list of
24 things to do is to explore Facebook as a mode of
25 communicating and getting the word out. And what I
26 want to do is actually flesh out the types of
27 information that we would provide through that media.

28
29 And then I also would encourage the
30 Councils to let me know or let our office know if there
31 are other ways that we can help in terms of increasing
32 public participation and reaching out, any way that we
33 can support your efforts in encouraging public
34 participation in the meetings.

35
36 And I guess, I don't know if we want to
37 -- that's probably all I have to say in regards to
38 that, and I guess we want to move on to this cultural
39 sensitivity issue, we can do that, but if you have any
40 other questions for me, I can certainly answer those
41 regarding what I just said.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe.

44
45 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair.

46
47 Does your outreach include working
48 through and using the community public radio stations
49 like KZPA?

50

1 MS. MEDEIROS: (Nods affirmatively)
2
3 MR. MATESI: And translated PSAs?
4
5 MS. MEDEIROS: We do. We do PSAs, so
6 like for this meeting I sent a PSA, and of the top of
7 my head, I don't know the radio stations, but I look at
8 the region and I look to see what radio stations cover
9 the region, and so I so I sent a PSA. And I also send
10 the news release, like I said, to tribes and then to
11 the newspapers that cover the area, like the Delta
12 Wind, and the Fairbanks Daily Newsminer.
13
14 But with the PSA you have to keep in
15 mind, it's not a paid advertisement, and a station can
16 choose to play it or not.
17
18 As far as a translated or a native
19 language PSA, we haven't done that. That's probably a
20 great idea, but I don't know quite how we would execute
21 that off the top of my head.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
24 questions.
25
26 (No comments)
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Polly looks
29 like she has one.
30
31 DR. WHEELER: Well, one other add-on,
32 in response to some requests from other entities, we
33 did try live streaming of the recent Federal
34 Subsistence Board meeting.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What was
37 that? Try?
38
39 DR. WHEELER: Live streaming so that
40 people through the internet get on and listen to what
41 was going on with the Federal Subsistence Board. And
42 we actually had a bit of interest, I mean,
43 surprisingly. And part of that is we notified all the
44 tribes and ANCSA corporations about the meeting, too.
45 So we did that and, you know, sometimes it works well,
46 sometimes it doesn't. It depends on the delay and your
47 internet connection, and everything else. But we are
48 trying these new things to get the word out and to
49 bring people in.
50

1 Madame Chair.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:

4 Videoconferencing, that would be great, because when
5 you actually -- I did that, my first one, and they can
6 hear you eating, but you have to be careful on that.

7

8 (Laughter)

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But it's
11 nice, because you can see the people. Yeah.

12

13 Okay. Joe.

14

15 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair.

16

17 My mind is still wandering down this
18 avenue of translated PSAs, and it's just kind of
19 streaming out as I'm thinking about it. It would sort
20 of require some funding I think, because there's a body
21 of competent translators out there, but they do it for
22 money. So is there any wiggle room in your budget
23 where that could be accommodated? And would you be
24 able to entertain or put together a list of competent
25 translators?

26

27 DR. WHEELER: Actually we've done in
28 the past -- through the Chair. Sorry. In the past
29 we've done, when we've looked for Regional Advisory
30 Council nominations, we have done those PSAs in Native
31 languages. So we have done it in the past. And it's
32 met with mixed success. I can't promise you right now.

33

34

35 We don't even know what our 2011 budget
36 looks like, let alone our 2012 budget, so it's
37 anybody's guess. We got extended for two more weeks,
38 so yahoo. So we'll know in a couple weeks what 2011
39 looks like hopefully, or maybe not. Maybe we'll all go
40 on vacation. So, I mean, budgets, you know, I don't
41 think it would be, in the context of our budget,
42 wouldn't be a huge amount of money. So, you know,
43 putting those things together, I think is doable.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anything
46 else.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

1 Cultural sensitivity.

2

3 MS. MEDEIROS: And I guess what I would
4 suggest is that we maybe go through a brainstorming
5 process, because I looked through the letter that was
6 set to Mr. Probasco, and I also looked through a
7 transcript from I guess it was your October 13th
8 meeting. And I seemed to get the sense there were a
9 few issues out there. So one of the thoughts I had was
10 that maybe the Council go through a process to
11 brainstorm the various issues that you think need to be
12 addressed through outreach, and that through that
13 process you might hone in and maybe combine some
14 things. It just may help you think through a little
15 bit the various issues that are going on and how they
16 could maybe be addressed or not.

17

18 And then through that process, once
19 you've identified your issues that then we come up with
20 maybe what your goal in your outreach would be, whether
21 it be to educate or to change behavior or to affect
22 behavior.

23

24 I noticed in the transcripts, too, that
25 you spoke about maybe encouraging or setting up some
26 kind of system that folks, non-rural residents or out-
27 of-state hunters that go in and take an animal, and
28 they don't remove all the parts of the animal, and that
29 maybe there's some way that we could have folks get
30 those parts out, to provide them to the local
31 communities. And so that's one issue I saw.

32

33 So that would be a behavioral kind of
34 affect of your outreach, that you would be through your
35 outreach encouraging people to take some kind of an
36 action.

37

38 The others I've heard are more geared
39 towards changing a person's opinion or view, an
40 attitude. So that's -- I would call that more of an
41 educational kind of a thing more than necessarily a
42 direct behavioral change that you're going for through
43 your outreach.

44

45 So I guess once you hone in on all your
46 issues and what effect you expect to have through
47 outreach, maybe coming up with a list of messages that
48 you want to deliver associated with each of the issues,
49 what your target audience is, and then how you intend
50 to go about executing or reaching out to the public.

1 Different media that you would use.

2

3 So that's what I would lay out as a
4 possible process to address your concerns.

5

6 And that's all I have at this moment.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Polly
9 had something to add, then Andy.

10

11 DR. WHEELER: I guess my addition would
12 be that I think this is bigger than OSM. I mean, I
13 think that in terms of outreach. And I think that
14 that's one of the ways that you as a Council can think
15 about who we could partner with. Tanana Chiefs is an
16 obvious choice as is CATG. I mean, the newsletter that
17 you all put together for the Yukon Flats Moose
18 Management Working Group is a prime example of sort of
19 ways you can get the word out. So I think it's bigger
20 than OSM. We are prepared to work with other partners
21 and figure out what the message is.

22

23 And something I heard this morning is
24 the whole message about killing cows. You know, Fish
25 and Game a few years ago had those mugs with the
26 graphic on it, and those were hot items. So those are
27 the kinds of things that we can think about in terms of
28 what message you want to get out, and what's the most
29 effective way to get that message out.

30

31 Madame Chair.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

34

35 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.

36

37 Yeah, I guess I'm the one that's been
38 pushing for this. I'm really glad to see that we're
39 maybe going to take some baby steps to get moving on
40 this. And I agree with what was said. Thank you,
41 Polly, for saying that.

42

43 I've talked with Ruth Gronquist a
44 little bit from BLM at the Fortymile Planning
45 Committee, and she also has said she's willing to work
46 with us to help develop a plan.

47

48 And I do agree. I think is something
49 that we need to get started, basically doing some real
50 foundation work right now, getting some ideas

1 identified, methods that we want to use, and then
2 bringing in the different entities, the different
3 agencies to get those to the appropriate people, and
4 also to help with the funding of it. It's going to be
5 a big project, and it's going to be something that
6 really is going to be developing over a number of
7 years. It's not something that we're going to do
8 hopefully one time. I'm really hopeful that this will
9 be a program that will kind of feed on itself and grow.
10 And as issues come up, people will join in and use that
11 methodology and that organization to get their message
12 out.

13

14 I guess what I'm thinking we need right
15 now is one or two Council members to take some time and
16 sit down and try and come up with a few of these ideas
17 and issues that are of most concern to us at this time,
18 and maybe get started. And I think we have to stay
19 pretty narrowly focused at the very beginning. You
20 know, pick a few things that we feel we can make some
21 changes on and a few things that are pretty big
22 impacts, and then start going from there would be my
23 recommendation.

24

25 So I guess in summary what I'd like to
26 see is a few volunteers from the Council to begin
27 working on some of these issues. And we'll just go
28 from there I guess.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is there
31 funding for a few people to meet? Is that the case?

32

33 DR. WHEELER: I think we could do --
34 this is the kind of thing -- I mean, Andy had mentioned
35 doing something over lunch. I think this is also the
36 kind of thing that we can do telephonically, or even
37 electronically. I mean, I think brainstorming about
38 ideas for what message you'd like to get out there,
39 that can be done through an email or phone call or
40 whatever else. So I think we can actually be pretty
41 low tech and probably low budget in terms of the
42 planning stage.

43

44 And my advice would be to do that, and
45 then whatever monies there is goes into the product or
46 the outreach material. That would be my suggestion.

47

48 Madame Chair.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. One

1 more question, Andy.

2

3 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. If I could add to
4 that. I agree with Polly. And I think we can take
5 advantage at our meeting times here to maybe break out
6 in subcommittee or, you know, meet at lunches or
7 dinners to get a lot of this work done. So I don't see
8 it as something that needs a lot of time and funding.
9 But I do think it's very critical initially to have
10 some face-to-face interaction, and that's why I'm
11 hoping that I could get some volunteers to work with us
12 maybe over lunch and just spend a half an hour or 45
13 minutes getting some foundation work done while we're
14 here. And then in future meetings if we could plan on
15 addressing or furthering this during meetings, I think
16 that would be really appropriate.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we're
19 looking for volunteers. Don't all.....

20

21 MR. GLANZ: I'm not a touchy feely guy.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MR. GLANZ: I don't think I'd work
26 well.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you
29 contradicting yourself.

30

31 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. One of the
32 things that I was really noticing, and it comes up at
33 every meeting, that's why, you know, I want to work on
34 this. Is we heard public testimony yesterday by a
35 woman up in Arctic Village, it's a perfect example of
36 what I'm talking about, you know. People trespassing
37 on her land. We heard about people going up and
38 fishing on spawning grounds on a stock that is of
39 serious concern right now. These are the kinds of
40 issues that we can be addressing through this.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. We're
43 looking for volunteers, Andy. We don't need to solve
44 it all.....

45

46 MR. BASSICH: I'm trying to motivate
47 the Council.

48

49 (Laughter)

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I'm
2 trying not to volunteer myself. But I would be willing
3 to sit, I would volunteer to sit here at Council
4 meetings and do a little emailing, because actually,
5 me, personally, I think some of the stuff I've seen
6 where hunters don't take out all the meat, just -- just
7 drives you mad. And I think this outreach for
8 education and trying to go to people that are hunting
9 in areas where they are going right through Native
10 lands and where they could share meat and do things
11 like that would be a big plus for people respecting
12 each other.

13

14 So I'm going to volunteer. I'm asking
15 for one more.

16

17 MR. FIRMIN: I'll volunteer. I don't
18 know what exactly it will entail, but I already do that
19 weekly anyway, is go to CATG's weekly radio show and
20 give them the lowdown and ask people to do -- ask
21 people if they have ideas for other proposals to call
22 me or stop by, or I go there and tell people when it's
23 moose season, when we have moose tags for sale. Buy
24 your duck stamps. That kind of thing. I already do
25 that weekly. And a lot of this is like apples and
26 oranges for me. But there's also the villages like
27 Birch Creek that maybe some people, they'd rather
28 listen to Fairbanks radio stations than Fort Yukon,
29 since they're close enough to get them, so, you know,
30 how do we outreach those 20 people that, you know, are
31 those villages that don't listen to the radio stations,
32 the other thing. However, I think that a lot of it
33 would be pretty simple if we can mirror what we already
34 do in Fort Yukon to other villages across the Flats or
35 the Interior.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Then
38 going to outdoor groups, too, that are hunting in your
39 area. Anyway, well, let's go on. Three people have --
40 and you're asking for us to meet at lunch today.

41

42 MR. BASSICH: Please.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So we
45 have a lunch date, Andrew and Andy and Sue.

46

47 And then moving rapidly along, where
48 are we at timewise? Oh, we're just after 11. So
49 agency and organizational agency reports. Office of
50 Subsistence Management. Update on travel procedures.

1 Yep, K.J. it comes your turn.

2

3 MS. MUSHOVIC: Okay. Thank you, Madame
4 Chair.

5

6 If you'll turn to Page 58 of your
7 meeting books, you'll find a brief write-up of the
8 Office of Subsistence Management's desire to update you
9 on travel procedures. You will all have received from
10 me this meeting days, sometime over the past couple of
11 days, a laminated card that has information on how to
12 contact me at all times, day or night. Feel free to
13 just go ahead and do that all the time. I'm having
14 trouble.....

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: K.J.'s
17 suffering with the same thing I suffer from. When you
18 start adding all these pages in here, then you can't
19 find Page 58.

20

21 MS. MUSHOVIC: Right there. There it
22 is. The reason why I gave you that information is
23 because the Office of Subsistence Management has found
24 that some cases in which Council members have tried to
25 adjust or rearrange their own travel, it's caused
26 circumstances such as having the person's arranged
27 travel completely disappear from our government
28 computer system. Sometimes doing that yourself causes
29 additional charges. And, you know, as the Federal
30 government is watching its budget -- well, we're
31 watching our budget and trying to reduce our travel
32 costs.

33

34 So the idea is if you make any changes
35 to your travel arrangements, if you would make them
36 through me, then I theoretically will be able to help
37 you out in a timely manner to get your travel arranged
38 however it is that makes sense and works for everybody.

39

40

41 We're switching to a new budget
42 management system this year and it's going to affect
43 all of us in the way that purchases or payments are
44 made, and how reimbursements are paid out. And I think
45 the biggest thing that's going to affect this Council
46 is our fall meeting in Tanana. I will have to have
47 every arrangement made for that meeting. Your lodging,
48 your flights. Completely in final format, turned in
49 and arranged by July 29th. So I'll be contacting you.
50 And actually that's the drop-dead date, so my date from

1 my boss is probably going to be two weeks before that.
2 One more. So you can expect me to start working with
3 your early to work on that fall meeting.

4
5 It's all part of just being audited
6 more closely, you know, trying to improve government,
7 reduce budgets. There's a scrutiny of advisory
8 councils in general right now. I'm having to update
9 the database about you guys constantly as the
10 government even considers which advisory councils are a
11 good investment to continue.

12
13 So the good news is we made it through
14 our meeting without the government shutting down, and
15 you'll all get to go home.

16
17 (Laughter)

18
19 MS. MUSHOVIC: And we're in business
20 for two more weeks, so hopefully all your reimbursement
21 checks will be paid in a timely matter. I'm open to
22 any feedback on that, because we're kind of going into
23 some new territory here. And if some of these new
24 procedures are not working for you, I need to know. If
25 it's taking six, eight weeks for you to get your
26 reimbursement check when it used to only take three,
27 that's useful feedback for me to have and then I can,
28 you know, try and find out if there's anything we can
29 possibly do differently or better to correct that.

30
31 That's about all I have unless you have
32 any questions for me.

33
34 MR. GLANZ: I have one for you.

35
36 MS. MUSHOVIC: Yes, sir.

37
38 MR. GLANZ: Yes, K.J. When we first
39 got onto this, they would just automatically direct
40 deposit. Now they send me a travel -- well, they give
41 us our check when we get here, the travel check, and
42 then when I get home, it takes a few weeks and I
43 finally get a check, but it's certified mail. I mean
44 it costs. I don't know how much it must cost the
45 government instead of just a -- well, what did they
46 tell me? I worked for the government before I retired.
47 It costs a penny or something to make a direct deposit,
48 and they're just spending like \$6 sending me my check
49 by the mail. There's a good way to save a whole lot of
50 money right here that I can see.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Actually
2 another thing is I get a lot of stuff that would be a
3 44 cent stamp and it gets stuck in a big envelope and
4 it's 2 or \$3 or 4.95 sometimes to send something to me,
5 when it's like, whoa, why is the government so
6 inefficient?

7
8 (Laughter)
9

10 MS. MUSHOVIC: Actually I've heard this
11 is on the horizon and maybe it will not be a case where
12 you'll get your reimbursement checks certified mail any
13 longer. There was some talk about going to a
14 rechargeable debit type card in the future. There are
15 some government agencies that do that now. We could be
16 looking at something like that down the road. Not
17 being involved in the budget end of my current agency,
18 it's hard to know what's out there. Polly.

19
20 DR. WHEELER: Well, and the other
21 problem, and we could talk all day about this, but
22 we're not going to solve any problems. So I would just
23 say that, you know, these initiatives are coming from
24 D.C. and our budget office that does all these things
25 is actually in Denver. So the checks get mailed out
26 from Denver, and it is, it's extremely inefficient in
27 my mind, but it is what it is, and so we can try and
28 tweak things around the edges, but unfortunately, but
29 unfortunately we don't have as much control as we would
30 like, because it's sort of a government-wide
31 initiative. But we do what we can. We've been
32 successful in the past in kind of getting some
33 allowances for the uniqueness of the Office of
34 Subsistence Management and our travel needs, but
35 there's not as much sympathy for that as time rolls on.
36 So we're doing the best we can, but a lot of this stuff
37 is kind of outside of our control.

38
39 Madame Chair.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, then
42 it's.....

43
44 MR. GLANZ: Madame Chair.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,
47 Bill.

48
49 MR. GLANZ: But that's what I was
50 saying, Polly. For the first couple years I was on

1 this, they were all directly depositing, and all of a
2 sudden I get a check. And I said, oh, lord, who's
3 suing me now. It's the government. Okay.

4
5 (Laughter)

6
7 MR. GLANZ: Being certified.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It came
10 certified?

11
12 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, wow.
15 Yeah.

16
17 MR. GLANZ: Return receipt.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, this is
20 nothing we can do. This is just an update that we have
21 a little bit more difficulty in our travel arrangements
22 and deadlines, so I don't see that we need to spend a
23 lot of time on it when we can't do anything about it.

24
25 So thank you for the encouraging
26 update.

27
28 (Laughter)

29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're
31 next to the Secretarial Program Review update and
32 actions needed.

33
34 DR. WHEELER: That's me, Madame Chair.
35 I guess before I start, I just wanted to note that Pat
36 Pourchot who's with the Office of the Secretary is here
37 today. And I don't know, Pat, if you -- there's Pat,
38 he just waived his hand. He was.....

39
40 (Phone interruption)

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: More
43 efficiency. They're mad at us.

44
45 DR. WHEELER: I turned the phone off.

46
47 MS. MUSHOVIC: Okay. Thank you.

48
49 DR. WHEELER: Yeah, it's off. Sorry.

50

1 Anyway, I didn't know if Pat wanted to
2 say anything about the subsistence program review, or I
3 can move through the actions that the Board has opted
4 to take up. It's up to you, Madame Chair. I didn't
5 know if Pat wanted to say something.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Pat, you have
8 the opportunity. Would you like to say something.

9
10 MR. POURCHOT: Madame Chair. Members
11 of the RAC. Thank you very much.

12
13 I think last year I gave an update to
14 the RAC on our Secretary's subsistence review. Since
15 that time, last fall the Secretary along with the
16 Secretary of Agriculture made public his desired
17 actions for improving the subsistence program. And a
18 lot of those involve the Subsistence Board directly,
19 and a lot of those made direct reference to with RAC
20 involvement, and subject to RAC input.

21
22 And I think how you and your agenda
23 have this laid out, these are indeed some of the more
24 important recommendations coming from that review, and
25 the ones clearly that involve the Board and the RACs.
26 And Polly is I'm sure going to walk through some of
27 those.

28
29 But there's some of them that the Board
30 is very actively involve in right now, one of which,
31 one of the more important actions is to expand the
32 Federal Subsistence Board to include two additional
33 public members appointed by the Secretary of Interior
34 with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture.
35 The public members would be representing rural
36 subsistence users. And I think we heard a lot in the
37 course of the review we heard a lot of criticism and
38 input on the way the Board is structured now with
39 primarily Federal agency heads, and that there seemed
40 to be a real desire to bring some of that decision
41 making back down to the users.

42
43 That proposed regulation is now out for
44 public review until I think through March at least.

45
46 DR. WHEELER: Actually April 12th.

47
48 MR. POURCHOT: And obviously the public
49 is being invited to comment, but specifically I think
50 that the Board would love to hear from the RACs, too,

1 on that proposal.

2

3 And there are a number of other things
4 that the Board is looking at now for a review of the
5 program, and those are pretty much outlined right in
6 front of you on your agenda.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm sorry.
9 Any questions.

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Pat.

14

15 MR. POURCHOT: Thanks.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: If we have
18 questions, we'll bring you back.

19

20 DR. WHEELER: Okay. Madame Chair. I
21 can walk through these items, and I would encourage you
22 to ask questions as we move forward.

23

24 The first item as Pat just mentioned is
25 the -- well, actually, let me back up a minute. As you
26 know, the program review was announced in October of
27 2009, and it was completed in August of 2010. And then
28 it took a little while to shake a letter loose from the
29 Secretary of the Interior to the various Federal
30 Subsistence Board members. But a copy of that letter
31 from Secretary Salazar is in your books on Page 59, and
32 it outlines kind of the -- it's from Secretary Salazar
33 to Tim Towarak as the new Federal Subsistence Board
34 Chair. And it outlines some of the key items that he's
35 looking at the Federal Board to address. So that
36 letter's included in your packages to read it as your
37 leisure and see where the Board is going with that.

38

39 The Board is taking this very seriously
40 and moving forward. In response to those letters, the
41 Board held an executive session on January 5th, and
42 there's a summary of that executive session in your
43 books. It's on Pages -- or it begins on Page 74. And
44 the Board identified about five items to work on.

45

46 One of the criticisms of the Federal
47 Subsistence Board process that came out of the review
48 was some people felt that they went into executive
49 session too often. So that was one of the items that
50 the Board addressed in their executive session meeting

1 on January 5th, and they said, okay, we have to be able
2 to go into executive session if there's personnel
3 matters to discuss or legal matters to discuss, but
4 from now on, when we do go into executive session,
5 we'll report out. We'll provide a written summary of
6 who was there, what we talked about within reason.
7 Obviously if it's a personnel matter, they'll just say
8 they talked about a personnel matter. They won't tell
9 all the juicy details.

10

11 But the Board is committed to open and
12 public transparent process, and so towards that end it
13 will be providing summaries of executive sessions. And
14 the first such summary is included in your book.

15

16 The first item, as Mr. Pourchot just
17 mentioned is expanding the Federal Subsistence Board to
18 include two new members. There's been a handout
19 provided to you I believe in your packet, correct,
20 K.J.?

21

22 MS. MUSHOVIC: It's in.....

23

24 DR. WHEELER: Okay. And I have lots
25 more copies here for the public. Certainly I know it's
26 out on the back table. I'll hand it out. Here.

27

28 What this briefing does, is provides
29 sort of a little bit of background about what the
30 situation is and why the Secretary's proposing this,
31 and why the Board is moving it forward.

32

33 On the second page of the briefing is
34 the actual regulatory language. And you can see it's
35 actually very simple. It reads, it's amending the
36 current regulatory language of the Federal Subsistence
37 Board to include two public members representing rural
38 Alaska subsistence users to be appointed by the
39 Secretary of the Interior with the concurrence of the
40 Secretary of Agriculture. And then also the language
41 is increasing the quorum, because when you add two new
42 members, your quorum gets a little bigger.

43

44 Some of the Regional Advisory Councils
45 or other entities that I've spoken to, there has been
46 some interest in amending that language to include
47 process questions. You know, that are sort of how
48 those people would be appointed, what the process would
49 be. Would these include tribal members. And in my
50 discussions with Pat and in previous discussions that

1 we've had with the Federal Board, keep in mind that
2 this is a Secretarial level change, and the Secretary
3 isn't particularly interested as I understand it in
4 kind of limiting the selection process.

5
6 As you probably all know, when a
7 Federal Board, when they were looking for a new member
8 of the Federal Board, people sort of shaking the trees
9 and looking for people to submit their applications,
10 and then it goes through a rather lengthy vetting
11 process back in D.C. through the Secretary of the
12 Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture's offices.
13 And it would be a similar process with these two new
14 members as well.

15
16 I encourage you, however, if you have
17 comments, or if any of the public has comments about
18 who they think those members should be, if you want to
19 include those comments, they will be heard, but I think
20 it's highly unlikely that the regulatory language would
21 include directions with regard to how the applications
22 will be processed or who they would be taken from. So
23 that's just a cautionary note.

24
25 But I encourage you, the public comment
26 period is open until April 12th. There's three ways to
27 submit public comments. You can mail them to us the
28 old-fashioned way; you can send them in electronically;
29 or you can write something up and provide it to K.J. or
30 myself and we will make sure it gets into the system.

31
32 All of the public comments on proposed
33 rules have to be entered into this thing called
34 www.regulations.gov, and we'll do the heavy lifting on
35 that. So we have gotten a pass from the Obama
36 Administration that we can actually help the public
37 enter proposals and public comments into that system,
38 and hopefully that pass will remain.

39
40 But in any event, if you want to
41 provide comments as a Regional Advisory Council, go for
42 it. We're all ears. We have the transcript, and I'm
43 taking notes also.

44
45 Madame Chair. That's the first item
46 before you.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
49 questions of Polly. This is an action item for us?
50

1 DR. WHEELER: If you so choose, Madame
2 Chair, to provide public comment on the proposed rule
3 to expand the Federal Subsistence Board to include two
4 new members.

5
6 Madame Chair.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
9 questions. Or motions.

10
11 MR. FIRMIN: Comments.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. What's
14 your comment.

15
16 MR. FIRMIN: I kind of think that two
17 new members might be helpful in the sense that there is
18 more rural representation there, because I believe like
19 the people that are making Federal regulations for us
20 out here that got our boots on the ground, what, the
21 director of BLM was there and he's only lived in Alaska
22 for a month and a half. I mean, two new. I mean,
23 that's kind of the general idea that that's how most
24 people view a lot of Federal regulations or, you know,
25 Federal proponents from the villages. And there's a
26 perfect example one. Just because he's new doesn't
27 mean he's going to be leaving any time soon or
28 anything, but I think that it would be good to add the
29 two people for rural representation that come from a
30 different background.

31
32 How they're going to choose them, I
33 have no idea or no thoughts on that.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Two hands.
36 Andy and Joe.

37
38 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. Madam Chair I'd
39 like to make a motion that the Eastern RAC support the
40 proposed changes to the voting membership of the
41 Federal Subsistence Board as presented to us here.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do I hear a
44 second

45
46 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that. That's a
47 good idea.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's moved
50 and seconded.

1 MR. BASSICH: Talking to the motion,
2 I'm just going to reference Andrew's comments.

3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
5 important things to say. Yes, Joe.

6
7 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I
10 called on Joe.

11
12 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair.

13
14 I just want to throw this out, because
15 I've had discussion with tribal council members in Fort
16 Yukon on this issue, and they did express a little bit
17 of concern. They thought, of course, this was an
18 excellent idea. And expressed some concern if it would
19 really end up being tribal subsistence -- not tribal,
20 rural subsistence users or not, and expressed an
21 interest in suggesting that perhaps there could be some
22 sort of stipulation or somehow make it so that one out
23 of the two could be specifically a tribal
24 representative.

25
26 I'm just throwing this out for
27 conversation. I'm not prepared to put that out as an
28 amendment to the proposal or anything. Just for the
29 Council's consideration, because I feel obligated to
30 repeat that.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know, see
33 my logical sensible mind tells me that they would be
34 two rural Alaskans. Am I not interpreting this right?
35 Not somebody from Fairbanks.

36
37 DR. WHEELER: Well, if you read the
38 language, Madame Chair, it says specifically two public
39 members representing rural Alaskan subsistence users.
40 So they wouldn't necessarily have to be two rural
41 Alaskans, but they would have to represent rural
42 Alaskan subsistence users.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm absorbing
45 what I hear. Sorry.

46
47 Andy.

48
49 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. Thank you for
50 clarifying that, Polly, and thanks for bringing that

1 up. And I think when this motion goes into the record,
2 the comments made by Joseph here, that there is a
3 concern that it is an actual rural subsistence user be
4 appointed to the Board and not a bureaucrat from a
5 tribal entity or something like that. That would be my
6 view on it. I was very pleased to hear that they were
7 going to do this, but, of course, there's always
8 loopholes, and I think what I'm hearing from our
9 Council is it's the wishes that a rural subsistence
10 user be on the Board, not a bureaucrat from a tribal
11 entity or some other entity representing rural people
12 who doesn't necessarily live the lifestyle. At least
13 that's my view.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, then I
16 guess I would entertain -- to me it makes more sense to
17 say exactly what we want, not to just adopt this and
18 then take the chance of things falling apart on you.

19
20 Polly.

21
22 DR. WHEELER: Madame Chair, you can
23 certainly submit that comment specifically that you
24 endorse the idea in principle, but you would hope that
25 those positions would be held by people that have
26 customary and traditional use, or whatever, you know,
27 live a subsistence lifestyle.

28
29 Now, just as by means of process, and I
30 will tell you the Western Interior Council did just
31 that in the Galena two days ago, but the comments will
32 go to the Federal Subsistence Board. The Federal
33 Subsistence Board will make its recommendations to the
34 Secretary. The Secretary has the final call on this
35 because it's a subpart B regulation change. So it's
36 kind of this whole -- the composition of the Board is
37 within the purview of the Secretary.

38
39 But I encourage you to make whatever
40 comment you want to make, because this is your
41 opportunity to do just that.

42
43 Madame Chair.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So you
46 either want to make an amendment and withdraw and have
47 the second concur. Am I misinterpreting it?

48
49 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I think you are. I
50 think what Polly is saying is basically the motion can

1 stand as it's made, but with the addition of the
2 comments of the Council, and that takes care of that.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I was
5 distracted. I'm sorry. All right. So we're good,
6 Polly. I mean, it's all clear what we want?
7
8 DR. WHEELER: And we have it on tape,
9 so we're clear.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
12 Okay.
13
14 DR. WHEELER: But you have to vote.
15
16 (Laughter)
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I think I
19 heard the question called. Yes. Anything else.
20
21 (No comments)
22
23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Question.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The
26 question's been called for. All in favor.
27
28 IN UNISON: Aye.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
31 opposed.
32 (No opposing votes)
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're
35 moving.
36
37 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
38
39
40 The next item under Item 18.2.b.ii
41 would be deference to Councils on items other than
42 matters of take. And this was an issue that was
43 identified in the course of the subsistence review that
44 some members of the public or Councils felt like the
45 Board was not deferring to the Councils enough.
46
47 Now, as you remember from being part of
48 this process, and this is probably a little bit new for
49 you, Joe, so if you have questions, by all means ask
50 them, but the Board is obligated under ANILCA to defer

1 to the Regional Advisory Councils. The position of the
2 Solicitor's Office has been that the Federal
3 Subsistence Board only has to defer to the Regional
4 Advisory Councils on matters of take. So proposals
5 that deal with matters of take. And the concerns that
6 some members, some public commenters had was that the
7 Board should defer to the Regional Advisory Councils
8 not only on matters of take, but also on customary and
9 traditional use determinations, on rural
10 determinations, and on in-season management.

11
12 So the Board talked a lot about these
13 different issues, and the Board is prepared at this
14 point in time to defer to the -- to either set up a
15 policy, or if necessary go through rule making to defer
16 to the Regional Advisory Councils on customary and
17 traditional use determinations. So matters of take,
18 customary and traditional use determinations.

19
20 The Board isn't prepared at this time
21 to defer to the Councils on the rural determination
22 process in large part because the Board doesn't feel
23 prepared. They don't feel like they know enough. It's
24 a relatively new Board. They don't feel like they
25 really know enough about the whole rural determinations
26 process to make a stand either way.

27
28 So they're having a meeting on April
29 6th to kind of get ready for the rural determinations
30 process. And they may or may not make a -- sort of
31 think further after that about what the deference would
32 be to Regional Advisory Councils on the whole rural
33 determination process.

34
35 I will tell you that legal counsel has
36 said that the courts have basically been pretty clear
37 that rural is a defined concept meaning sparsely
38 populated. So there's no room for interpretation of
39 that.

40
41 And the reason I think why this largely
42 came up in the context of the subsistence review was
43 the Saxman issue. As you may remember, the Board
44 determined when it finally made its determinations in
45 2006 and 2007 that Saxman fell on the non-rural side.
46 And that caused a great deal of angst on the part of
47 the Community of Saxman and among others.

48
49 So this is an on-going issue that the
50 Board recognizes. It's not going to do anything now.

1 This is informational for this Council. But it's an on-
2 going issue and the Board is going to be meeting like I
3 said on April 6th to discuss the whole rural process in
4 further detail.

5
6 The other deference issue that came up
7 was in-season management. Now, that's a tricky one,
8 because as you all know, in-season management typically
9 occurs, particularly with fisheries, very rapidly. So
10 involving the Regional Advisory Councils in the
11 decision making process can slow things down. And in
12 reality the in-season managers typically do or will
13 contact the RAC Chair or, you know, interested folks
14 before they make these decisions, or they're certainly
15 part of that process. But there's not always good
16 awareness out on the ground to sort of what the
17 parameters are of the in-season management process.

18
19 So we are going to include the letters
20 that go to the in-season managers that delegate out
21 what authority they have for in-season management,
22 we'll include those in future RAC books just for your
23 information so that you know what that authority is.

24
25 So again, there's no action required,
26 Madame Chair. It's more just a description of where
27 the Board's at right now with regard to deference, and
28 what it envisions down the road. And I can go on,
29 unless there's any questions.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any
32 questions.

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No. No
37 action other than who we would send to that, so I guess
38 that's up to me to figure out.

39
40 DR. WHEELER: And then actually you
41 have an opportunity to select that a little further
42 down the road, so we can take that up.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

45
46 DR. WHEELER: So the next item is a big
47 one, not that they're all not big, of course, but this
48 is one that's generated a lot of interest, and that's
49 the Memorandum of Understanding. And in your book on
50 Page 63 there's a briefing document, and kind of giving

1 you some background on the Memorandum of Understanding.
2 Appropriately enough it's called briefing on Memorandum
3 of Understanding. You'll find that on Pages 63 and 64
4 in your books. It just gives you some background, why
5 we have the MOU or why there is an MOU between the
6 Federal Subsistence Board and the State of Alaska.

7
8 There was some concern in the
9 subsistence review that the Board was giving away
10 authority to the State. As you all know that have been
11 in fish and game management that dual management is
12 contentious at times. And there were some people that
13 felt that in signing this MOU the Board was giving away
14 its authority to the State.

15
16 And I just want to assure you that the
17 Board's authority, charge and obligation to rural
18 residents comes only from Title VIII and any other
19 applicable Federal statutes, of course. And the MOU
20 will not and cannot change that. But even though we've
21 said that to people in the past, they're still
22 concerned about that. Understandably so.

23
24 So here's your opportunity to look at
25 the MOU. It begins on Page 65. This is not a new
26 document; it was signed in December of 2008 by the then
27 Subsistence Board. Most of the members I think have
28 changed since then except for Ms. Masica and Mr.
29 Haskett, but everybody else is new.

30
31 The Board is accepting comments on the
32 MOU, and the more specific the better. If there's
33 specific provisions that the Council is concerned or
34 worried about with regard to this MOU, I encourage you
35 to put them on the record here. While kind of general
36 comments are always appreciated, the more specific the
37 better, because those can be acted on

38
39 Now I can go through the MOU word by
40 word, but again in ending the books out to you all two
41 weeks before the meeting, we're assuming that, and
42 maybe it's not a fair assumption, but we did assume
43 that there would be -- you'd go through it. Again,
44 it's the same document that's been around for a couple
45 of years that generated some of the controversy in the
46 subsistence review. So if there's specific concerns or
47 comments or questions about the MOU, here's an
48 opportunity. If you want to take it home and look at
49 it as an individual and submit written comments, by all
50 means that's a possibility, too. They just come from

1 the individual and not the Council.

2

3 Madame Chair.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions
6 on the MOU. Any desire to -- go ahead, Joe.

7

8 MR. MATESI: It was in our books, so I
9 had the opportunity to read it carefully, and I didn't
10 have any questions and I didn't have any comments.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anyone
13 else. Do we want to comment on it, or do you just.....

14

15 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

18

19 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.

20

21 Yeah, I just have a comment and I don't
22 know that it needs to be officially recognized, but I
23 think one of the things that I find a little
24 disturbing, and I'm going to refer mainly to fishery's
25 issues is I know through this agreement there's
26 supposed to be State and Federal coordination. And on
27 the whole it goes pretty well. But as involved as I am
28 in a lot of the fishery issues, I'm constantly amazed
29 at the amount of harboring of data that goes on between
30 the lack of sharing data openly in a raw form so that
31 all scientists have an opportunity to look at it and do
32 analysis on that raw data. and I find that really
33 disturbing. And it's quite chronic in my opinion.

34

35 This doesn't really -- I mean, it
36 addresses that they're supposed have this cooperation,
37 but in fact I guess the statement I'm making is I sure
38 would like to see the Feds and the State's raw data
39 shared openly and not kind of held back until it's
40 published or whatever, because I think it really hurts
41 the science and it hurts the decision making processes
42 that we must go through.

43

44 So it's more of just a comment. And if
45 that could be given to the Federal Board or to the
46 State Boards, that's fine, but it's just a problem that
47 I've seen for 10 years now that I think really inhibits
48 our progress.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And actually

1 I really agree with you. Some agencies it's not
2 shared. You know, some of the Federal biologists,
3 they're moving rapidly, you know, changing hands, and
4 then, you know, they have to rebuild the same
5 relationship again, and it gets really tough.

6

7 MR. BASSICH: Madam Chair. I'd just
8 like to emphasize raw data, that's the issue here is
9 that.....

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Raw data.

12

13 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, it's raw data, it's
14 not shared openly. It's oftentimes not shared until
15 it's been massaged, manipulated and then published.
16 And that's I think very detrimental to the science.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So regarding
19 the MOU, you would just comment that things could be
20 even better.

21

22 MR. BASSICH: Right.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,
25 Polly.

26

27 DR. WHEELER: I was just going to say
28 that there were several protocols that were attached to
29 this MOU, and one of them is the information-sharing
30 protocol which in my mind is very dated and definitely
31 needs to be dragged out, dusted off and updated. And
32 maybe some of those concerns can be carried forward to
33 revisiting of that information-sharing protocol,
34 because I will say OSM has been -- you probably all
35 remember a year ago we took our harvest permitting
36 database off line, and we've reworked, rebuilt it, and
37 now it's out there and it's actually state of the art
38 and actually better than the State's harvest data base.
39 So that's one thing that we're working on. And we need
40 to -- and we're going to be adding fisheries to that,
41 too. It's just permit information. But I think that
42 that protocol needs to be updated and however we can do
43 that, and maybe reflect some of these concerns. That
44 may be a possibility. So I offer that as a potential
45 solution. Or maybe not a solution but some way to
46 address your concern, Member Bassich.

47

48 MR. BASSICH: Clarification.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:

1 Clarification.

2

3 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. So, Polly, are you
4 saying that I would need to continue to further this,
5 or is my comments here good enough for you to carry
6 when that discussion takes place?

7

8 DR. WHEELER: It's good enough for me
9 to carry forward.

10

11 MR. BASSICH: Than you. Madame Chair.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I
14 think all of us would concur that we agree with Andy on
15 that one.

16

17 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

20 Donald.

21

22 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.

23

24 I have to agree with Andy about this.
25 And on Page 64 it says actions needed. The Council
26 reviews this MOU. As Polly said, maybe we don't have
27 to send a letter to emphasize Andy's point of view, but
28 maybe that would be an avenue that we could take. Just
29 send a letter saying we prefer that this raw data
30 aspect be more open and sharing.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So is that a
35 motion, did I hear?

36

37 DR. WHEELER: I guess my
38 recommendation, Madame Chair, not that you asked for
39 it, but to help you along, is that you can have formal
40 comments to the Federal Subsistence Board regarding the
41 MOU and included in that formal comment would be that
42 as a general rule you support the MOU, but you are
43 concerned about sharing of data between agencies --
44 within -- or maybe not within. Hopefully not within.
45 But between agencies. And you can have that as part of
46 your formal written comments, if that's the avenue that
47 you choose to go down.

48

49 Madame Chair.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So I don't
2 need a motion.
3
4 DR. WHEELER: I think it's always good
5 to have a motion. Just make a motion and then that
6 direction is very clear.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's what I
9 thought.
10
11 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12
13 I'd make a motion that we send this
14 letter.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bells are
17 ringing. That's a motion.
18
19 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that there
20 motion.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: A second.
23 Any other discussion.
24
25 (No comments)
26
27 MR. BASSICH: Question.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions
30 been called for. All in favor.
31
32 IN UNISON: Aye.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
35 opposed.
36
37 (No opposing votes)
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
40 Passes.
41
42 MR. FIRMIN: Moving on.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you say
45 you're hungry.
46
47 MR. FIRMIN: I said moving on.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
50

1 DR. WHEELER: Moving on. I'm trying.
2 Okay.

3
4 The next item on the agenda where we're
5 looking, where the Federal Board is looking for your
6 input is with regard to customary and traditional use
7 determinations. As you're all probably intimately
8 familiar, the Federal Board when it -- or the Federal
9 Program when it started kind of adopted at least in
10 concept the State's approach to customary and
11 traditional use determinations. That's gone on for the
12 past 20 years.

13
14 The Board has done over 300 customary
15 and traditional use determinations based on that model
16 of the eight factors and evaluating those uses, in
17 evaluating whether or not the uses are customary and
18 traditional.

19
20 There's been some interest on the part
21 of some entities during the subsistence review process
22 of changing that process, whether it be getting rid of
23 the eight factors altogether, maybe doing a combination
24 of the factors.

25
26 But the Board felt that before it went
27 down the road of changing the process, it would first
28 ask the question of the Regional Advisory Councils how
29 you feel about the existing process. Is it working for
30 you? Are you interested in changing it? Or, you know,
31 if it's not working for you, what might you suggest?
32 So rather than present you with four different options
33 of how C&Ts could be done, it's sort of saying, are you
34 okay with the existing process, before we make any
35 changes to it.

36
37 So that would be just an open question
38 for the Council, Madame Chair, if you're okay with how
39 the current process works, and recognizing that as I
40 said earlier the Board is committed to deferring to
41 Regional Advisory Councils on the C&T determinations as
42 they move forward.

43
44 Madame Chair.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

47
48 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. Madam Chair.

49
50 I'm satisfied with it. I think there's

1 a pretty detailed review when this takes place, and
2 there's a lot of good information that comes to us.
3 And I feel quite comfortable in the process as it
4 stands now.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any others.
7 Well, I was just going to say that -- before I say
8 that, I'm going to have you speak, Virgil. Go ahead.

9
10 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I went through
11 lots of these things, and in the majority of the cases
12 I think it works fine. I don't know, maybe it could be
13 changed some, but I think in most cases it works fine.

14
15 Madame Chair.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Well,
18 for me if I did see a change, it's not going to be done
19 in five minutes. So it's kind like how things worked
20 at our last meeting. Yeah, there's things here that
21 might need work I don't know. But I would never be in
22 favor of us just saying, okay, let's make some changes
23 in a short time like that. I would think it would
24 almost have to have some type of a review process or
25 something before you'd -- yeah. Okay.

26
27 So I don't think I personally am ready
28 for it, but I do remember some things making my head
29 spin at times when I saw the eight criteria at times.
30 And I can't remember what it was, I'm sorry. There's
31 just too much that goes on here.

32
33 So that's all I have. I think --
34 Virgil.

35
36 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah, the only thing
37 that bothers me sometimes is people actually get
38 wrapped around the axle and comparing people against
39 people instead the use of whatever it is we're trying
40 to find a C&T on. And people get confused over that.
41 But that's your, Madame Chair, to make sure they don't
42 confused when we get to those issues.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 (Laughter)

47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Whoa. I'm
49 still here. Pretty bad when you get confused yourself.
50 Okay.

1 I don't think we have anything here
2 today on this.

3
4 Is there a bunch of stuff happening
5 with other Councils right now?

6
7 DR. WHEELER: No. The Councils that
8 I've gone to, that they've -- or actually all the
9 Councils that have met thus far have basically said
10 they're okay with the process. And, you know, the
11 Western Interior Council had said they're okay with the
12 process, and they would be kind of concerned if the
13 process were to change, what would happen to the
14 existing 300 plus C&T determinations that had already
15 been made.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
18 Really.

19
20 DR. WHEELER: And so that was the
21 conversation. But generally speaking, people have been
22 okay with how they're moving forward, how they've been
23 done.

24
25 And I would say that the courts have
26 generally affirmed the process that the Federal
27 Subsistence Board has used. As you well know.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
30 Rural determinations.

31
32 DR. WHEELER: Okay. With regard to
33 rural, again it's the Board as currently comprised
34 hasn't gone through the dreaded rural determination
35 process. So it's having -- recognizing that the 2010
36 census has been done, the data is forthcoming, and it's
37 time for the decennial review once again, the Board is
38 having a rural determinations process 101 session on
39 April 6th. The Board has invited all Regional Advisory
40 Council Chairs or their designees to come into that
41 meeting. The meeting isn't going to be
42 teleconferenced, because it's going to involve a lot of
43 visual materials and a lot of kind of discussion that's
44 kind of hard to pick up on the telephone solely.

45
46 So that is -- the Board isn't making
47 any decisions about rural determinations, it's just
48 getting the information that it's going to need to go
49 down the road. And there's questions over how the
50 Board's going to approach it. The Board hasn't made

1 any decisions about how it's going to approach rural
2 determination, just that it's a process that's out
3 there that it's going to have to take up, and the Board
4 is doing its best to get educated.

5
6 So that's just an informational item.
7 Madame Chair.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: When's that
10 meeting again?

11
12 DR. WHEELER: April 6th in Anchorage.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So it's the
15 same as the deference to the Councils?

16
17 DR. WHEELER: Well, the deference to
18 the Council covered three items, customary and
19 traditional use determinations, rural determinations
20 and in-season management. So that's the link. It's
21 that the Board is taking up the issue of rural
22 determinations at the April 6th meeting. The Board has
23 not made any decisions regarding if there's going to be
24 deference to the Councils on rural determinations,
25 because it's still learning about the process.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, it just
28 brings me to who goes, and I'm having a conflict at the
29 moment and I have to make a decision as your Chair if
30 I'm going to make that meeting or not, because I
31 usually sell my fur hats at Arctic Man and that's the
32 first day when I really sell hats. And do I say, oh, I
33 don't want to sell hats today and go down to Anchorage.
34 So it's -- you know, are we going to have.....

35
36 And, Polly, I had sent an email to Pete
37 about you have an April 6th meeting that you're asking
38 Chairs to come to, then you have a one-day meeting; and
39 then you have another meeting the 3rd and 4th, is it,
40 May, a two-day meeting. And all this travel gets
41 expensive for us to get there, and why not consolidate
42 it to be a three-day meeting and one set of travel.

43
44 DR. WHEELER: I don't have an answer
45 for you. What I can say is the May meeting was set
46 months ago, and then at the January 5th meeting the
47 Board came up with the April 6th meeting as being a
48 time when they could get together. You know, the
49 Board, sometimes meeting a day here and two days there
50 is easier than three days combined.

1 But I recognize that it's a burden.
2 And what I would say is it's the Chair or their
3 designee, you can, if you decide to sell your hats at
4 Arctic Man, then there can be a person that can go in
5 your stead.

6
7 Madame Chair.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Well,
10 I guess that's between us later.

11
12 DR. WHEELER: Yes.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
15 Alrighty. You've got one more, Polly?

16
17 DR. WHEELER: A couple more items, and
18 then I promise you you can break for lunch. I'm
19 holding you hostage here.

20
21 The next items is the executive session
22 policy which I pretty much already updated you on,
23 saying that the Board is committed to doing report-outs
24 when it goes into executive session, so that the public
25 is aware of what the Board is -- what business or what
26 the Board did when it went into executive session. And
27 I think the concern has been there's concerns that the
28 Board is making decisions when it goes into these
29 executive sessions, and the Board doesn't, can't
30 actually by law make decisions when it's goes into
31 these executive sessions, unless it involves, you know,
32 a personnel matter or something like that.

33
34 But the Board understands that that's a
35 problem. It's a problem for the public and it's
36 committed to only going into the executive sessions
37 when it needs to and then doing the report-out.

38
39 Madame Chair. So that's just an
40 informational item.

41
42 The next item us is on tribal
43 consultation, which has been alluded to a number of
44 times over the course of the last couple of days, or
45 the last -- yeah, last couple of days. And the Board
46 just wanted to give an update to the Councils on where
47 it's going with regard to tribal consultation.

48
49 There's a letter in your packets on
50 Page 72 from Tim Towarak that went out to all Regional

1 Advisory Council members. And I heard some people said
2 they didn't get it, and I don't really have a response
3 for that. I can tell you that we did send the letters
4 out, and I know we sent the letters out, because the
5 postage meter at the Fish and Wildlife Service ran out
6 of postage, so we had to buy stamps to put on the
7 letters.

8

9

(Laughter)

10

11 DR. WHEELER: So I know the letters
12 went out. So if you didn't get them, I apologize, but
13 we did mail them out I know. I talked to one of the
14 Council members from Anvik, and he said, well, when did
15 it go out? I said, oh, right, you know, around
16 Christmas. And he said, oh, well, at Christmas I
17 didn't open any of my mail, I just put it in my wood
18 stove.

19

20

(Laughter)

21

22 DR. WHEELER: I didn't have any
23 response for that. All I can say is that the letter
24 did go out, because the Board felt very strongly that
25 they wanted the Regional Advisory Council members to
26 know what the Board was planning on doing with regard
27 to tribal consultation, and to assure the Councils that
28 its process was -- that whatever it did, it intended to
29 include the Regional Advisory Councils in it. As I've
30 said several times during the course of this meeting,
31 ANILCA provides a foundational role for the Regional
32 Advisory Councils in the development of regulations
33 guiding the take of fish and wildlife. Deference to
34 the Councils ensures that rural residents have a
35 meaningful role in the management of fish and wildlife
36 and subsistence uses as envisioned by Congress. As I
37 said, by statute the Board has to defer to the Regional
38 Advisory Councils.

39

40 So while all of this is going on, the
41 Administration by Presidential order has underscored
42 the importance of tribal consultation across the
43 government. And consistent with the Secretaries of the
44 Interior and Agriculture's renewed emphasis on
45 respectful relationships with tribes, the Federal
46 Subsistence Board is intending to enhance its
47 government-to-government consultation with tribes.

48

49 Now, with everything, the devil's in
50 the details. Towards that end, the Federal Board

1 invited all Federally-recognized tribes and ANCSA
2 corporations to the January 18 to 20 fisheries meeting,
3 and invited tribes to consult, tribes and corporations
4 to consult on the specific fisheries regs that the
5 Board acted on at its January meeting. It also invited
6 Federally-recognized tribes and ANCSA corporations to
7 the meeting on January 21st to have a consultation
8 session between the Federal Board and tribes.

9

10 I would characterize that latter
11 meeting more as a sort of listening session. There
12 were a number of tribes present at the meeting. There
13 were a number of tribes present on the phone. As I
14 said earlier the live streaming. There was some tribal
15 involvement in the live streaming as well.

16

17 There were a number of points raised at
18 that session or main themes raised at that session
19 included, and I've just got a few here, tribal
20 traditions in the use of fish and wildlife predate
21 western management systems. Knowledge is passed down
22 through generations. We need to listen to traditional
23 knowledge. That was one of the themes expressed. There
24 was some sentiment expressed that the Regional Advisory
25 Councils aren't tribes with all due respect, and
26 there's a necessity to consult meaningful with the
27 tribes.

28

29 Another theme was that tribes need to
30 be involved of program developments early on. The
31 tribes need to be a partner in the process.

32

33 And there was also another theme
34 expressed was that tribal participation in the Council
35 process needs to be made more explicit.

36

37 We did hear, you know, some of these
38 comments yesterday.

39

40 The Board has heard that. I mean,
41 every member of the Board was at that listening
42 session, as were the Regional Advisory Chairs or their
43 Regional Advisory Council representatives.

44

45 So I guess the long and the short of it
46 is the Board is still working on this, still trying to
47 figure out a way to involve tribal consultation in a
48 meaningful way, but recognizing the deference to the
49 RACs is included in statute. So it's kind of how the
50 dance is accomplished is the issue.

1 And so any comments that this Council
2 has with regard to that, to tribal consultation.

3
4 I know that Andrew was at that meeting
5 and offered kind of a list of things that could be done
6 on behalf of Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments,
7 and that was really helpful.

8
9 I mean, I think at this point concrete
10 suggestions are helpful. I mean, kind of general
11 themes are helpful, too, but the concrete suggestions
12 are most helpful, because those provide actions or
13 things that can be acted upon.

14
15 The other piece of this is that we did
16 have a transcript of that meeting as always. We always
17 have a transcript for every meeting that we do. Well,
18 unfortunately I had suggested that we use wireless
19 mics, because I thought that was a good idea. As it
20 turns out, it was a really bad idea, because the
21 recording was just not very good quality. So the
22 transcript that we have resulting from that meeting is
23 not as good as we're used to seeing with regard to
24 transcripts, but it is no fault of the court reporter.
25 I assume full responsibility, because I thought
26 wireless mics would be a good thing, but it just didn't
27 record as well as it could have. I mean, we have a
28 decent transcript, but it's not as good as it could
29 have been I would say. But that's my fault, not the
30 court reporter's.

31
32 With that, just an informational item,
33 but also if the Council is interested in offering some
34 concrete suggestions, or thoughts or ideas or has
35 questions, I'll open it up to that.

36
37 Madame Chair.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
40 members, any suggestions. We have so much work to do,
41 and then we get overwhelmed with things that take a lot
42 of time.

43
44 Had you put much thought into it,
45 Andrew. I almost said Andy. Do you have anything to
46 add.

47
48 MR. FIRMIN: Nothing other than what I
49 read at the Federal meeting down there, and I may have
50 a copy of it on my computer that I could share it with

1 you after lunch.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
4 right. Anybody else.
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. I
9 think we're done there.
10
11 So is it time to break for lunch.
12 1:15. Be back at 1:15.
13
14 (Off record)
15
16 (On record)
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is everybody
19 here, I apologize for being late. We didn't get served
20 until late, over there having lunch and talking about
21 our stuff that we met on.
22
23 All right, is Virgil here, yeah.
24
25 (Cell phone ringing)
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Those doggone
28 cell phones again.
29
30 We have a lot to do. And Sue Masica
31 from the Park Service told me she has to -- you have to
32 catch a flight at 4:30.
33
34 MS. MASICA: Leave here by 4:30.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, she has
37 to leave here by 4:30 so we'd like to make sure that
38 the Park Service stuff gets taken care of before she
39 leaves.
40
41 We were at other. And, Joe, you wanted
42 to do something with the Black River Working Group,
43 with a resolution.
44
45 MR. MATESI: Yes, and there's somebody
46 from that group here to present.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Is
49 this a person that should sign a blue card?
50

1 MS. MUSHOVIC: She did.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
4 Okay. So we have a member from the public, Darcy
5 Warden.
6
7 MS. WARDEN: Yes.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Could you
10 come up?
11
12 MS. WARDEN: Do I sit here?
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sit there,
15 yes, I'm sorry, and use the mic and introduce yourself.
16
17 MS. WARDEN: Hi. My name is Darcy
18 Warden. I work for the Alaska Wilderness League, and
19 our office is based here in Fairbanks. I am a member
20 of the Black River Working Group which has been around
21 for awhile but we just got back together not too long
22 ago, this past January.
23
24 Now, the reason this group got together
25 is that there is a BLM Resource Management Planning
26 process going on right now for the Eastern Interior
27 area and that includes the Steese, the White Mountains,
28 the Fortymile area and the Black River area. These are
29 the subunits in which the resource planning takes
30 place.
31
32 Now, the Black River area does not have
33 a management plan in place at this time and they're
34 developing that plan right now. So we got together
35 with community members from Fort Yukon and Chalkyitsik,
36 folks who live on the Salmon River and on the Black
37 River and myself and some people here in town who
38 really care about that area and we're working to create
39 protections for that area, to protect subsistence, the
40 wildlife, the water, the drinking water for the
41 community of Chalkyitsik.
42
43 We have a resolution here, I guess --
44 there we go. On the top page of this packet is the
45 resolution and underneath I have maps that show the
46 planning area for BLM. It shows the subunit for the
47 Black River area. It shows an area that was nominated
48 for ACEC, which stands for area of critical
49 environmental concern. And just so that you have some
50 history on the area in which this group is focused on.

1
2 And right now, just to let you know
3 where we are in the process, the BLM will be releasing
4 a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the resource
5 management plan, hopefully, in April. It's been held
6 up. We've been expecting it for months and months but
7 it's been held up. And once that plan is released,
8 that's when the public comment period begins, it lasts
9 90 days. And because this plan has four subunits
10 there's basically a resource management plan for every
11 subunit so this plan is going to be humongous. They're
12 going to extend the comment period for this plan, we
13 don't know for how long but they said they would
14 probably extend it. And during that time we read
15 through the plan and we have the opportunity to put our
16 comments in again as to what we feel needs to happen
17 with the resource management plan.

18
19 And I'm sure you all know this, but I
20 always like to say this, BLM land is public land, it is
21 our land and it is the opportunity for us to have our
22 voices heard as to what happens with this land. So I
23 strongly encourage people to really take this seriously
24 and participate in the comment periods.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
27 Questions. Larry.

28
29 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
30 I'm a Gwich'in, you know, that's where my ancestors
31 came from and I was just wondering how did this Black
32 River Working Group come about?

33
34 MS. WARDEN: The Black River Working
35 Group started back in 2008 and it was when the resource
36 management planning process actually began for the
37 Eastern Interior and people -- I wasn't on board at
38 that time with the Alaska Wilderness League so this
39 part of the history is a little bit fuzzy for me. Joe
40 Matesi was a part of that group when it began and it
41 was really to help establish what kind of planning was
42 going to take place. While the BLM was planning, you
43 know, they made sure local resident's voices were
44 heard; that's why they came together.

45
46 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay, thank you.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
49 questions. Andy.

50

1 MR. BASSICH: Thank you. I'm a bit
2 ignorant when it comes to the designation of wild lands
3 and how that affects hunting regulations, access,
4 taking of game, whether it be wildlife, fish or birds
5 or whatever. Are there any limitations that would be
6 created by designating it as wild lands? I'm just not
7 very familiar with the designation.

8
9 MS. WARDEN: Yeah, just so you're --
10 you're not alone in not being clear about the
11 designation. That is policy that the BLM just
12 developed and they just released it, it's on their
13 website, and the BLM themselves are combing through it
14 and trying to figure out what it means for them in
15 their management.

16
17 What I do know about wild lands is that
18 every wild lands designation, it's an administration
19 designation and each one that's made is different and
20 they all have their own parameters based on whatever it
21 is that BLM feels is the best management for that area.

22
23 So with a specific question like that,
24 would it affect numbers of harvest levels for
25 subsistence maybe, I don't know, but I don't think so.
26 But there's no -- they're still trying to figure it
27 out.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe.

30
31 MR. MATESI: Good question. And
32 there's a lot of confusion in a lot of people's minds
33 because of the word, wild, in there. The first thing
34 everybody thinks of is wilderness. And wilderness,
35 which comes from the 1964 Wilderness Act is a
36 Congressional designation.

37
38 MR. BASSICH: Okay.

39
40 MR. MATESI: Like only Congress can
41 designate a wilderness. Wild lands are an
42 administrative description under this new policy,
43 they've been mandated by the Secretary of the Interior
44 to evaluate all BLM managed lands for their wilderness
45 characteristics. And the administrative designation of
46 wild lands can only be made or rescinded -- no, I
47 shouldn't say only, it can be made or revised during
48 any management plan process or in between by an
49 amendment. So it can be placed and it can be taken
50 away, again, at the same time.

1 Now the affect on subsistence is
2 interesting. ANILCA rules, essentially. ANILCA says
3 even in Congressionally designated wilderness
4 subsistence is allowed. And as you remember from
5 reading Title VIII snowmachines, camps, boats, all
6 that's allowed and that is also true with wild lands
7 designation. So based on those concepts the tribal
8 village of Chalkyitsik and also the tribal village of
9 Fort Yukon have decided that one way that they can best
10 protect subsistence use in this traditional subsistence
11 use area is to call for wild lands designation as it
12 would have a protective effect for the resources,
13 which, of course subsistence relies upon.

14
15 And this -- does that answer your
16 question?

17
18 MR. BASSICH: Well, in -- yes, very
19 much so. I guess it just begs a few more questions
20 then. And I guess the main one in my mind would be who
21 is the body -- what is the controlling body that would
22 make these designations or these determinations on what
23 is allowed or what's not allowed; is that, you know,
24 who is doing that, is it part of the Federal program,
25 is it part of a State program, is it BLM Staff that
26 does that? That would be a real concern to me if it
27 wasn't the public that had a lot of input into that.

28
29 MR. MATESI: Madame Chairman, may I
30 respond to that?

31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.

33
34 MR. MATESI: Those decisions have
35 already been made. They were made in 1980 with the
36 passage of ANILCA.

37
38 MR. BASSICH: Okay.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think I
41 missed something.

42
43 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, I did too.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Bill
46 and I missed something.

47
48 MR. GLANZ: So this is already in
49 ANILCA, right, designated, so there's no more
50 wilderness according to ANILCA, what I've read, and is

1 this just due to the fact that there happens to be a
2 airstrip there or there might be some mining maybe
3 eventually going on?

4

5 MR. MATESI: I can answer that
6 too. It's not wilderness, it's wild lands. And it is
7 Federal land so ANILCA applies and Federal subsistence
8 regulations apply. And that landing strip, it's not
9 part of it, that's a parcel of land, which is selected
10 and been transferred to Doyon.

11

12 MR. GLANZ: Well, this correlation
13 that's up there, is that BLM wild and scenic river or
14 is that BLM -- or rather State of Alaska, low priority,
15 what is the yellow there by Salmon Fork?

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

18

19 MR. MATESI: All that yellow is BLM
20 land.

21

22 MR. GLANZ: What about the brown.

23

24 MR. MATESI: And the brown is Native
25 selections.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think
28 there's too many mics on. Excuse me, are you cut off.

29

30 MR. GLANZ: Go ahead. Go ahead.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now,
33 we're trying to get this in our heads here. Is it
34 clear, what these lands are?

35

36 MR. GLANZ: I know what the lands are,
37 Madame Chair, I just don't understand, what's going to
38 change by doing this wild and -- or this wilderness
39 when it's already protected all the way through it
40 looks like.

41

42 And like I say between the military
43 wanting more operational areas and stuff like this,
44 they want to take the whole doggone country away from
45 us.

46

47 MS. WARDEN: I guess I would just like
48 to respond, in that, this request is coming from
49 community members who live in that area.

50

1 MR. GLANZ: So you don't live there
2 apparently?
3
4 MS. WARDEN: No, I do not.
5
6 MR. GLANZ: I rest my case.
7
8 MS. WARDEN: We have a membership list
9 with the community members who are from that area.
10
11 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry.
14
15 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
16 I was going to ask you that same question along the
17 same lines. Since we're talking about the village of
18 Chalkyitsik, ancestral lands, why isn't there a
19 representative from the village of Chalkyitsik here to
20 speak for or against this proposal? It seems only
21 right that they've been living in that area for
22 thousands of years and here we're trying to do
23 something and not one representative from the village
24 of Chalkyitsik is here. That bothers me.
25
26 Thank you very much.
27
28 MS. WARDEN: Why are they not here?
29 You're asking me why they're not here?
30
31 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.
32
33 MS. WARDEN: I don't know.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: How many
36 people are on this working group; are you on it right
37 now, Joe?
38
39 MR. MATESI: Yes.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can you give
42 us a little bit more from the working group.
43
44 MR. MATESI: Participants on the
45 working group include the tribal council of
46 Chalkyitsik; CATG; residents of the area, there are
47 people that live up there; individuals who have some
48 sort of past history of -- like myself, I used to trap
49 there before I moved over to the Porcupine River, so I
50 lived there for many years; and, Darcy, who helps us

1 with paperwork and stuff like that. I'm wracking my
2 brain, who else has been there on these meetings.

3

4 MS. WARDEN: First Chief of Fort Yukon.

5

6 MR. MATESI: Yeah, First Chief of Fort
7 Yukon; First Chief of Chalkyitsik. Other Chalkyitsik
8 residents.

9

10 And I think that for answering Mr.
11 Williams' question, yeah, I agree I'd be nice if it had
12 been possible for First Chief of Chalkyitsik to travel
13 to Fairbanks for this meeting, I guess it wasn't
14 possible. They have their own resolution, which is
15 almost the same, word for word, and so does Fort Yukon
16 have their resolution which is almost the same as this,
17 word for word.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

20

21 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.
22 What's an area of critical environmental concern, is
23 that just some wording you came up with or is there a
24 designated -- is that a title for a designated type of
25 land or issue?

26

27 MS. WARDEN: That is an official
28 designation within the BLM planning.

29

30 MR. BASSICH: And can you define that
31 for me?

32

33 MR. MATESI: Do we have somebody from
34 BLM here that can.....

35

36 MR. BASSICH: Ruth's gone right now.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Ruth
39 Gronquist is from BLM and she's not here right now.

40

41 MR. MATESI: Well, I can tell you
42 historically when the Black River working group first
43 organized and looked at ways to protect the subsistence
44 resources for the community of Chalkyitsik, they went
45 to BLM policy manuals and said what is out there that
46 BLM -- is in their tool kit, what sort of designations
47 does BLM have.

48

49 I think one area that was considered,
50 one designation that was considered was something

1 called natural resource area; does that sound familiar
2 to you folks -- and over conversations it was decided
3 to try and recommend an area of critical environmental
4 concern as one most fitting among everything that was
5 available at the time and that was the recommendation
6 that was made by the tribal government of Chalkyitsik.

7

8 Since then they've sort of added on a
9 secondary layer of protection by asking that wild lands
10 designation also be considered for that area.

11

12 And, actually, then they've added on a
13 third layer of protection -- because none of these are
14 really 100 percent, and none of these are forever, but
15 that third layer of protection, what they're asking
16 for, leaving the D1 withdrawals in that area in place.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Before I get
19 Andy, I'd like to say this is confusing to me a great
20 deal, and you're part of the group, I don't know
21 exactly how many people are in the group and how the
22 whole thing works and then I'm presented with a
23 resolution for the Eastern Interior RAC, nothing of
24 which we personally had anything to do with. So it's
25 kind of hard to just be thrown out all of this
26 information like that, for me, I don't know about the
27 rest of you -- but, Andy.

28

29 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you, Madame
30 Chair. I was going to echo the same sentiments. You
31 know, before I would feel comfortable putting my John
32 Hancock on this I think I need more information on --
33 more specific information on what an area of critical
34 environmental concern is; what a wild land designation
35 entails. And I certainly would be happy to look at
36 this in-depth more in the future but I do not feel
37 comfortable at this time supporting this with so little
38 information available to me.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

43

44 MR. GLANZ: Yes, thanks, Madame Chair.
45 On Map 5, it says State selection with the lines --
46 State selection low priority and is that -- Joe, it
47 looks like Chalkyitsik goes right -- I mean Chalkyitsik
48 there and then the Black River goes right through all
49 that, so -- can you look at it there; can you tell me
50 if that's a misprint or.....

1 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair. Bill.
2 Yeah, you have a good idea catching that. And I'm glad
3 they put that on the map because there is a whole lot
4 of complexity that's going on here. This is a venue
5 where this kind of complexity is very well analyzed and
6 parsed out. It turns out that that cross-hatched area
7 was State selection. Getting into a whole bunch of
8 detail here, the State's over selected on purpose a
9 huge amount of land, I don't know how much in terms of
10 acerages, and they're prioritized one through 15.
11 That's priority 15. We asked BLM, well, does that mean
12 it's going to go back to BLM and it hasn't technically
13 yet but they fully 100 percent expect it to and they're
14 managing it as if it will. So for our purposes we're
15 assuming that's going to end up being BLM land again.

16
17 And when I say, we, part of the problem
18 with the Black River Working group is the fact that
19 it's just a citizen's group, it's completely ad hoc,
20 you know, it's not a government funded thing or
21 anything like that. It's just subsistence users from
22 the area who are concerned about protecting their
23 subsistence rights.

24
25 MR. GLANZ: Okay. A follow up.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

28
29 MR. GLANZ: I understand, Joe, like I
30 say all I'm wondering if this isn't just a ploy to lock
31 up all that for sure due to the fact that they know
32 there's resources in there, and Doyon, I know, is very
33 pro-development to make some money for their
34 corporation, that's what I thought maybe the plan was
35 here with these hash marks. And they may -- once the
36 State finds out that, hey, they're going to do this
37 wild and scenic they may just say, I got a better idea
38 this is priority four; that's the only thing I'm
39 concerned with, for the people in Chalkyitsik.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

42
43 MR. WOODRUFF: I'm going to concur with
44 Andy. Until we have a little bit more information and
45 some feedback from BLM I'm going to have to abstain
46 from now.

47
48 MR. GLANZ: I concur with Donald and
49 Andy on that.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I think
2 the Council gets overwhelmed with things we have to --
3 you know, we're almost faced to prioritize what we work
4 on anymore, there's so many things flying at you that
5 you got to work on and you wonder, okay, now, how does
6 this relate to subsistence and then you get -- and then
7 it creates all these questions that you can't get
8 answered right away. You need the BLM here to be
9 answering the questions.

10

11 So, gosh, you know, I'm having a hard
12 time, too, I'm sorry.

13

14 So, anyone else -- Virgil.

15

16 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right, I'm just like
17 Andy. I am leary of things that there's no definition
18 of, like wild lands and critical environmental concern.
19 I know that this wild lands thing, since it's come up
20 with BLM, there's been a lot of people around Fairbanks
21 that I associate with that are anxiously waiting for
22 what this definition is, and wild lands means and what
23 does it mean to the users of the land. And so I
24 wouldn't be comfortable in voting for something like
25 this without knowing exactly what I'm voting for.

26

27 Madame Chair.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry.

30

31 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you. Madame Chair.
32 Well, I tend to agree with the other Council members
33 that we have very little information. But I was
34 reading a paragraph here:

35

36 Therefore be it resolved;

37

38 Support the recommendation of

39 Chalkyitsik.

40

41 And I was reading that paragraph and
42 I'm sure that the residents of Chalkyitsik support this
43 proposal even though I'm having -- I'm having kind of
44 second thoughts about it.

45

46 But I'd like to find out more about it
47 before I make any decision like this.

48

49 Thank you, Madame Chair.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.
2
3 MR. BASSICH: I'm sorry, I was out of
4 the room, is there a motion on the table for this?
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No.
7
8 MR. BASSICH: Okay.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: This is
11 public testimony actually and we're now kind of getting
12 wrapped around the axle again.
13
14 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. Okay, well, I
15 would.....
16
17 MR. GLANZ: I make a motion that we
18 adopt the resolution.
19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR: Second.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
23 Discussion. We've had a lot already.
24
25 MR. BASSICH: Question
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, the
28 question has been called for.
29
30 IN UNISON: Aye.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
33 opposed.
34
35 IN UNISON: Aye.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well.....
38
39 REPORTER: Do a roll call, please.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do a roll
42 call.
43
44 MR. FIRMIN: Sue Entsminger.
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No.
47
48 MR. FIRMIN: Andrew Firmin, yes.
49
50 REPORTER: Andrew, turn your mic on.

1 MR. FIRMIN: Larry Williams.
2
3 REPORTER: Andrew.
4
5 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.
6
7 MR. FIRMIN: Larry Williams.
8
9 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.
10
11 MR. FIRMIN: Lester Erhart.
12
13 MR. ERHART: Yes.
14
15 MR. FIRMIN: Andy Bassich.
16
17 MR. BASSICH: No.
18
19 MR. FIRMIN: William Glanz.
20
21 MR. GLANZ: No.
22
23 MR. FIRMIN: Frank Gurtler.
24
25 MR. GURTLER: No.
26
27 MR. FIRMIN: Joseph Matesi.
28
29 MR. MATESI: Yes.
30
31 MR. FIRMIN: Donald Woodruff.
32
33 MR. WOODRUFF: No.
34
35 MR. FIRMIN: Virgil Umphenour.
36
37 MR. UMPHENOUR: No.
38
39 MR. FIRMIN: Six no's and four yes.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Six to four.
42
43 REPORTER: Thank you, appreciate it.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're
46 welcome. Four to six -- the no's win, six to four.
47
48 All right, thank you for coming and
49 doing all that. I appreciate it.
50

1 MS. WARDEN: Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, thanks.
4 Okay, now, I've got some time deadlines and I'm getting
5 a little nervous here. Greg Roczicka could be on line
6 to talk to us between 2:00 and 2:30 and Park Service
7 Federal Board member Sue Masica has to leave the room
8 by 4:30 and these are and these are issues that we need
9 to take up and then we have our proposals that we have
10 that we want to take up, so we -- we've got a lot on
11 the agenda.

12

13 Donald.

14

15 MR. WOODRUFF: Just on this last
16 resolution, I wanted to thank the presenters and if we
17 could get more information in the future I think we
18 could maybe have a better understanding and bring this
19 up again in the near future.

20

21 Thank you.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
24 Donald. Frank.

25

26 MR. GURTLER: I think we're running
27 into a big problem here with all the new regulations
28 coming out and what they're throwing us and what the
29 villages are throwing at us just here. But what I'd
30 like to see is have the corporations do a study on what
31 the Feds, the State and everybody's doing and bring it
32 to us in a package, I think, to put it all into one and
33 explain to us what this all means. I mean, you know,
34 we could listen to him but he's only one person, but
35 what I think I need or am looking for, is have a group
36 that oversees the Feds, the State and the villages to
37 come together and take care of some of this for the
38 Board to vote on instead of sitting here and not
39 knowing what we're voting on and when could we vote on
40 it and, you know, I don't know if it's possible to do
41 that.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I love the
44 idea but I have a feeling we're barking up a tree.

45

46 (Laughter)

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And, you
49 know, I really appreciate that because what I'm seeing
50 here, for this Council, and the amount of work load

1 that comes upon us, how do you get it done in two days.

2

3 MR. GURTLER: Yeah.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know,
6 there's so many issues that are flying at us here and
7 they're so complex, they're not little issues that you
8 can just, okay, let's look at this one and we'll pass
9 this in five minutes, it just doesn't happen.

10

11 So I mean we're showing some real
12 concerns here and not having time to do all the
13 business that we have to do; we have a lot on our
14 plates still.

15

16 So, I don't know how you want to -- I
17 really appreciate what you're saying, Frank, I don't
18 know how we, as a Council, can relay that, other than
19 our transcripts and have OSM hear what we're saying, I
20 mean we're just crying for -- to have this a little
21 more organized. I do the best I can with the
22 information I got but, you know, we're volunteers and
23 when it starts flying at you and then people who are in
24 the room telling me, I have a time deadline, you know,
25 and this one has a time deadline, I want to get out of
26 here as soon as I can get out of here, I don't want to
27 sit through your whole meeting; I mean it gets a little
28 hard as a volunteer to figure out how to deal with all
29 that.

30

31 DR. WHEELER: We hear you.

32

33 (Laughter)

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

36

37 DR. WHEELER: And believe me similar
38 concerns were shared at the Western Interior Council.
39 And I think, you know, part of the issue is people
40 asking to get put on the agenda -- we already have a
41 full two day agenda and then we insert other people and
42 if somebody comes and they take an hour, then that's an
43 hour less than everything else that's on the agenda.
44 But we hear you and I think, you know, we can all do a
45 better job of trying to maybe put some time constraints
46 on things, particularly people that come in at the 11th
47 hour and kind of want to do an hour long presentation
48 or whatever.

49

50 So we hear you, but, I don't expect in

1 this day and age that there's going to be requests for
2 less information, so it's incumbent upon all of us to
3 try and help you to organize it and to structure time
4 better and we'll do what we can, Madame Chair.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

7
8 DR. WHEELER: I feel your pain, for
9 what it's worth.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, thank
12 you. Andrew suggested three day meetings but, you
13 know, I think more likely what has to happen there has
14 to be something in front of the meeting and a lot of
15 discussion and, you know, as the volunteer, again, it
16 just gets overwhelming to -- but you almost need like a
17 premeeting to talk about, okay, these are the priority
18 things and somebody should tell me, as the Chair, you
19 know, that really isn't in your privy, you know, if
20 it's marginally in our privy, we should know about that
21 ahead of time. So if I'm saying, okay, yeah, let's let
22 this person speak and then all of a sudden it isn't
23 even in our privy and we lost an hour; I mean we've got
24 to figure out ahead of time that that's not worth our
25 hour, you know.

26
27 So you guys got to help us out on that
28 as much as you can and, Frank, that's -- I don't know
29 how else to do it, where else to go, but they
30 understand the process that we're involved in and they
31 need to help us as much as they can. So ideas from the
32 Council is great to how to do that.

33
34 Frank, and then Bill.

35
36 MR. GURTLER: Yes, and I think it's
37 going to get a lot more complicated.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm afraid.

40
41 MR. GURTLER: Just in the next year or
42 so.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, you're
45 right.

46
47 MR. GURTLER: And that's what I'm
48 worried about.

49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

1 MR. GURTLER: We got.....
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well,
4 there'll be new people coming in because we're all
5 going to wear out.
6
7 Bill.
8
9 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. What I was going to
10 say we had the same thing at the Fortymile Caribou Herd
11 meetings there, who died and made us god, they had
12 different people wanting to come and join the coalition
13 and saying, hey, wait a minute here, we're volunteers
14 ourself, that has to come from somebody else. I mean
15 so, I, myself, don't 'want to put any of us here in the
16 position of saying, well, I'll vote for that but not --
17 I mean are you following me, how do we separate; that's
18 the only problem I have.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, yeah,
21 there has to be -- I don't know how it's done. I know
22 the Board of Game, whenever they do things they have a
23 -- Fish and Game gets together and they give their
24 recommendations to the Board of Game and then the -- it
25 might be that we need to prioritize, you know, somehow.
26 You know it takes time for us, you know, like somebody
27 would have to call me or a group of us and say, okay,
28 one, two, three, four, yeah, these are good, you know,
29 but these not, but that isn't -- I don't know how to
30 deal with it Polly, I'm sorry.
31
32 DR. WHEELER: I hear that. And, you
33 know, I think we could spend probably the rest of the
34 afternoon talking about how frustrated we are.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, uh-huh.
37
38 DR. WHEELER: But I guess my
39 recommendation would be we hear you loud and clear.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
42
43 DR. WHEELER: We will try and figure
44 out a way, it may that be a work session prior to the
45 evening before the meeting or something like that might
46 be in order. So we'll work on it and we hear you loud
47 and clear and we'll do what we can to organize the
48 information more effectively or better or whatever
49 else.
50

1 So that's a promise.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. This
4 is a quick one, right here.
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: I'd like to see at our
7 fall meeting to revisit this with more information as
8 well because this is a conservative measure for people
9 of Fort Yukon and Chalkyitsik that have been living off
10 that land for.....
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
13
14 MR. FIRMIN:you know, what's the
15 term, time immemorial.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Time
18 immemorial.
19
20 MR. FIRMIN: So I think that this is
21 just if it's something that if you guys don't feel
22 comfortable with that's fine, but I think it needs to
23 be revisited in the future, possibly at our Tanana
24 meeting.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
27
28 MR. GLANZ: We'll take it up again, no
29 problem.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Polly,
32 there's a time period possibly that it might be over.
33
34 DR. WHEELER: That's what I was going
35 to say, I believe there's a 90 day public comment
36 period so I would recommend those of you that are
37 interested in this.....
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do it on your
40 own.
41
42 DR. WHEELER:get the information
43 that you can and take the time to -- oh, I'm wrong.
44
45 MR. MATESI: I don't think that we're
46 constrained right now in terms of a public comment
47 period.
48
49 DR. WHEELER: Oh, okay.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So, Joe,
2 you're going to be given a chore, if there is a
3 constraint you will let K.J. and myself know when that
4 deadline is and then if it is over we won't be
5 revisiting it.
6
7 MR. MATESI: Yes, Madame Chair, I'll
8 take on that responsibility.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
11
12 MR. MATESI: And if there's any
13 additional responsibility in helping to prepare more
14 information for this Council, I'm more than happy to do
15 that and wouldn't mind some direction on how I can make
16 that happen. Hint. Hint.
17
18 DR. WHEELER: I'll provide you
19 direction.
20
21 (Laughter)
22
23 MR. MATESI: Okay.
24
25 DR. WHEELER: We're on it.
26
27 (Laughter)
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Good deal.
30 All right. Moving rapidly along. We're going to -- I
31 believe we're going to have to call Greg so we can hear
32 this thing, so is everybody okay about that. Or he's
33 calling us?
34
35 MS. MUSHOVIC: He's calling us.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He's calling
38 us so we can continue our agenda. All right.
39
40 DR. WHEELER: Is he on?
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He will call
43 us?
44
45 REPORTER: I think he's on.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh.
48
49 DR. WHEELER: Is somebody on the phone?
50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, this is Greg
2 Roczicka, I was asked to call in about this time.
3
4 DR. WHEELER: Hi, Greg, it's Polly.
5 You're on, we've got the microphone on you. So, Sue,
6 go ahead.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hi, Greg, how
9 you doing?
10
11 MR. ROCZICKA: I don't know, is that
12 Sue?
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, I'm
15 sorry, this is Sue.
16
17 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay, you're a little
18 bit echo'y and faint but I'm on my phone cell phone
19 here in the lobby of the hotel, I haven't checked in
20 yet but.....
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's
23 probably why we're faint, is this better?
24
25 MR. ROCZICKA: Let me take you off the
26 speaker and hold it up to my ear I guess.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
29
30 MR. ROCZICKA: A little better, still
31 kind of fuzzy but I'll do my best.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you sent
34 out that paper, do you want to try to give us a little
35 summation and then there might be some questions.
36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. Well, if you read
38 it, I think it's pretty well self-explanatory.
39
40 YK-Delta Subsistence, we've raised this
41 issue on several occasions and I'm sure several other
42 Councils have done as well.
43
44 The answer that we got back last year,
45 you know, concerning the whole matter of there should
46 be some accountability also for the manager not -- to
47 manage to make sure that the resources are there for
48 subsistence uses, and when the situation came down, of
49 course, with Unimak, all of that was thrown out the
50 window and I find it as well that the Federal

1 government at that time, not only were out of
2 compliance with Title VIII and the deference criteria
3 as it was -- as well, if you take -- you've got the MOU
4 up in front of us this time and they were in direct
5 violation of that in many areas as well.

6
7 And what I started to say earlier was
8 that the answer that we got back regarding this issue
9 last year, on our annual report and the response from
10 the Secretary, said that they believed that they were
11 already managing for subsistence and, again, went right
12 back to saying that they were opening and closing the
13 seasons to provide for subsistence and where necessary
14 eliminating other uses from participating in the hunt,
15 which totally ignores or shrugs away the question that
16 we were trying to get answered. And we requested also
17 that they -- to start to take that pro-active
18 management approach of the populations important to
19 subsistence and create or put together environmental
20 assessments in advance and try to come up with some
21 trigger points. That hasn't occurred. And, again, our
22 response to that, the Unimak situation.

23
24 So what I've incorporated in this one
25 also is, again, repeating that request but more
26 directly to the Secretary that make it clear that in
27 Title VIII of ANILCA, the management agencies are also
28 fully accountable to that due deference criteria.

29
30 I have had conversations in the interim
31 with some of the managers, Mr. Haskett being one,
32 saying that they were having that problem with
33 conflicting legislation. And, again, it's not a
34 conflict of the legislation, it's a conflict in the way
35 someone chooses to interpret it. It's quite clear and
36 if you go look back through wide diversity processes
37 that they go through, they're fully, fully, fully able
38 to accommodate and give that deference to subsistence
39 use. And what does a rural priority mean in this case,
40 it evidently doesn't mean that you get consideration
41 over other uses, that may be more abstract in nature.

42
43 So I could go on from there, I guess,
44 but, again, reflecting back to Unimak which is our main
45 case in front of us, one thing that I noted as well
46 there in the letter that was sent to the State, saying
47 that if they were going to go in and do something there
48 that they would be in violation and they had to have a
49 permit first. Well, if you go and take a look there is
50 no process for even issuing a permit in place. What

1 has been done historically is a letter would be
2 exchanged between the State and the Federal management
3 of the area and that was considered notification and it
4 was sufficient, but there is no actual permit. So
5 that, there, again, was another false trail, if you
6 will. And I believe it was probably used in the past,
7 with the letter, that it was also a way to preclude or
8 get around the question of having to do the -- or
9 trigger the full NEPA process as well, for an
10 environmental impact statement, as in that it was not
11 Federal personnel going in and actually doing the
12 activity, it was State personnel, therefore, the NEPA
13 wasn't triggered. That's a speculation on my part.

14
15 But anyway I just feel that we need to
16 keep pressing this issue as much as we can and it just
17 guts the whole purpose in my mind and going back to
18 saying that they're providing any kind of a subsistence
19 priority just by opening and closing seasons and having
20 no onus on them to actually manage the resources to
21 provide for those subsistence needs as well. And what
22 I would say, again, this one also, was establishing for
23 those trigger points and a starting places, is where we
24 have either closures or a Federal Tier II situation and
25 you do not have habitat as a limiting factor. And
26 there's decades of scientific information available,
27 the best scientific information available, which also
28 if we wanted to incorporate that into the MOU this time
29 and, pardon my fuzzy memory, I'm going to be officially
30 older here pretty soon, hitting the 55, but, oh, gosh,
31 what was it, I think it was that Section 12 within the
32 State's MOU-- oh, no, no, no, I'm digging it out
33 actually as I'm talking, Section 10 in there following
34 the sentence of that section, we included into the
35 guiding principles, we wanted to included here;

36
37 for conservation of the resource or
38 continuation of subsistence uses is of
39 immediate concern the review shall not
40 delay timely management action

41
42 So.....

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That was in
45 the MOU?

46
47 MR. ROCZICKA: I did try to keep that
48 short, you know, I could have gone and made that thing
49 three or four pages long and try to cover all the bases
50 but I wanted to -- hopefully it is a good summation and

1 speaks to the point. And I know you guys have mutual
2 concerns along those same lines and so that's why I did
3 request this time that it go on to the other Regional
4 Councils.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, thanks,
7 Greg. Greg, are you still hearing me okay?

8
9 MR. ROCZICKA: There's an echo, it's
10 really difficult, I can hear you but I don't really
11 understand all the words.

12
13 (Laughter)

14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, that's
16 not good.

17
18 (Laughter)

19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
21 members, do you have any questions of Greg. I think
22 that we are on the same page, Greg, here, as a Council.
23 There might be some questions of new Council members or
24 others, anyone.

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They're kind
29 of quiet right now. We're being beat up with too much
30 work.

31
32 MR. GLANZ: Madame Chair.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

35
36 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, in Section 5,
37 Paragraph 10, like reading here, it says -- I've dealt
38 with a lot of memorandums of understandings when I was
39 in public safety, anyway, what did I read there -- ten
40 you read on, blah, blah, blah, it says;

41
42 but does not create legal enforceable
43 obligations or rights for either party

44
45 So a memorandum of understanding is a
46 maybe rather than a shall, you know, in that sense. So
47 they can just try to do what they can do the best and
48 that's the only way it can be done for both parties.

49
50 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, well, again, what

1 I had written up for the annual report and the MOU are
2 two separate documents.

3

4 MR. GLANZ: Oh, I'm sorry, I was
5 quoting the MOU.

6

7 MR. ROCZICKA: I did mention that
8 section out of there, yeah, I don't have the MOU right
9 in front of me.

10

11 MR. GLANZ: Okay, Greg, I wasn't
12 criticizing, just correcting.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you made
15 two changes. You added to the report, the annual
16 report; and the other was you made some suggestions to
17 the MOU.

18

19 MR. ROCZICKA: I did, yes.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

22

23 MR. ROCZICKA: I tend to have that
24 fault at times, having dealt with this stuff for as
25 long as I have I'll go off on a tangent occasionally so
26 I do apologize.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
29 questions of Greg.

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Greg,
34 we're going to have to deal with it on our own now.

35

36 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. Well, have a good
37 meeting, I'm on my way to the Board of Game out to
38 Wasilla. They're messing with the boundary on a
39 deferred proposal from a year or two ago.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
42 good luck to you.

43

44 MR. ROCZICKA: Alrighty, you guys take
45 care. Thanks.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh, bye.

48

49 All right, do you guys want to go back
50 to proposals.

1 MR. GLANZ: We're going to run out of
2 time to get Sue out.

3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then this
5 time constraint with the Park Service, so do you --
6 help me out.

7
8 MR. GLANZ: Why don't we let the Park
9 Service go first here while she's here so she can get
10 going.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, we
13 might as well do that. We have a Board member here.
14 All right.

15
16 MS. MASICA: Good afternoon, Madame
17 Chair. For the record I'm Sue Masica. I'm the
18 Regional Director of the Park Service and the Park
19 Service representative on the Federal Subsistence
20 Board. And it's in both capacities I'm here today and,
21 yesterday, mostly to sit and listen and learn.

22
23 As was said this morning and I would be
24 remiss if I didn't echo the appreciation that was
25 extended and the thanks for all of the hard work and
26 time and talent that you all bring to the table. I
27 know certainly in the Park Service and probably many of
28 the other agencies as well, we couldn't do our work
29 without the work that you all do. And we might not
30 always be able to get to the place of agreement that
31 we'd like but to be involved and engaged in the
32 discussion and the conversation is absolutely critical
33 from our standpoint. And, again, appreciate all the
34 input that you all are providing and the work that you
35 do throughout the year, not only on the RAC but all the
36 other work that I know many of you are involved with.

37
38 I don't have a whole lot that I was
39 going to say, I tend to learn more by listening to what
40 others have to say and engaging in conversation.
41 Certainly the Parks that are in the purview of the
42 Eastern Interior RAC, Yukon Charley and Denali and
43 Wrangell-St.Elias all have specific information and I
44 think Staff are here that can speak to that, but, as
45 the Regional Director I wanted to make sure that if
46 there was anything you wanted to say directly to me or
47 wanted me to hear I would make myself available for
48 that. But mostly I wanted to come as the Board member.

49
50 I think Polly did a great job of

1 summarizing, and, Pat, this morning, the changes that
2 are coming to the Board. The Board's in a period of
3 transition. In the little over two years that I've
4 been in my position and Geoff Haskett, my counterpart
5 from the Fish and Wildlife Service, we're now the two
6 most senior members of the Board because of
7 the turnover that's changed with the representation and
8 the membership there. And so it's, I think, new people
9 learning as well as the changes resulting from the
10 Secretary's Review, so there's definitely, I think, a
11 different energy and a lot of change going to be
12 happening and I think the Board is trying to figure out
13 how do we work our way through all of the various
14 pieces of the Secretary's Review and accomplish
15 the directives that have been laid out for us.

16

17 With that, Sue, I'm happy to take any
18 questions or engage in any commentary. If there's
19 something specific anybody wants me to address, I'm
20 happy to do that.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
23 members, questions.

24

25 Andrew.

26

27 MR. FIRMIN: Thank you. I was
28 wondering how difficult you think it would be to get,
29 say, like local rural users that are around the Parks,
30 specifically the Yukon Charley Park, to go to the city
31 or the tribe and get like a subsistence sticker waiver
32 for Joe Blow fisherman that can't read or write let
33 alone know where to find a DMV or what a DMV is to get
34 his homemade wooden boat registered for X amount of
35 dollars when the guy just -- his only living is fishing
36 and trapping? And then he can't go past Circle because
37 he needs his boat registered and he gets ticketed
38 because of that and he can't even read or write. So, I
39 mean, how is there a way for people of that nature that
40 are in a paperless society, do you think that would be
41 -- that it would be possible to get like -- say, they
42 can put their name down and get a sticker from the
43 tribal government, and turn around and stick the
44 sticker on their boat and it would be like exempt from
45 having to register their boat? Do you think something
46 like that's possible?

47

48 MS. MASICA: I'm hesitant to respond to
49 the specifics of the proposal because I'm not sure how
50 it might really work and play itself out. I think

1 certainly the Park Service is very committed to
2 engaging and interacting with folks and entertaining
3 ideas and seeing if there are ways that we can work
4 some of those issues. I know we've had, certainly our
5 challenges over the course of the last year and
6 nobody's as concerned about that as we are. Our
7 relationships with the people who live in and near
8 these areas and use them and rely on them are very,
9 very important to us and we are committed. I know,
10 Greg, as the superintendent, has committed to opening
11 up the dialogue a bit more and interacting as much as
12 we possibly can with folks, looking to do things,
13 perhaps in ways that we haven't done them previously,
14 to have that conversation go on. And I think those
15 would be the kinds of opportunities to have more in-
16 depth conversations about the kind of things that
17 you're just talking about.

18

19 MR. GLANZ: I want to be next.

20

21 (Laughter)

22

23 MR. DUDGEON: If I could just follow up
24 with what Sue had to say. I'm Greg Dudgeon, the
25 superintendent there and at Gates of the Arctic. One
26 of the things that we're committed to, and we had
27 talked about with you, actually, last fall, was
28 conducting, for lack of a better word, listening
29 sessions. We'd like to come Central and Circle and to
30 Tok and Eagle. And also I believe that Gary
31 Youngblood, who's the chief ranger, he's not here
32 today, but he's talked with several enforcement
33 managers for other agencies, and they're planning on
34 coming to Fort Yukon at some point this spring. And
35 the idea is, is somebody had mentioned earlier, it's
36 sometimes unclear as to what's important and what
37 isn't. And in my way of thinking boat registration,
38 that's a State regulation, a State requirement, it's
39 not really all that important to us. What we'd like to
40 do is have our enforcement folks come to the
41 communities and talk about what is, so that when people
42 travel into the Preserve or if they're on BLM lands or
43 Fish and Wildlife Service area, where they have
44 jurisdiction, people understand what it is that the
45 agencies are concerned about and what they're not.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

48

49 MR. GLANZ: Anyways so me and Greg had
50 this discussion last year. And like most people with

1 this Board, we're totally, totally opposed, if I'm
2 driving down the road in my car, dude throws the red
3 light on me and pulls me over, why did you stop me
4 officer, oh, I want to make sure you got a driver's
5 license, you mean you got no due cause, no, I just
6 wanted to check your license; they don't do that
7 because they know they wouldn't win anything in the
8 court. And technically that's what they were doing on
9 the Yukon River and that's what's got everybody so
10 upset with Greg, they can't buy anything in Eagle, they
11 can't buy anything in Circle, they can't buy anything
12 in Central, because nobody wants the Park Service
13 around them. Those two rangers did more damage to the
14 National Park Service than Lee Harvey Oswald did to the
15 voting rights, you know.

16

17 And another thing this Jim got nailed
18 in December, he still has not went to court because,
19 I'm sorry, the rangers are in Nevada or somewhere
20 working. And not so bad but he has property in Belize
21 where he goes to stay the winters, he finally got the
22 judge to give him back his passport, this is a
23 misdemeanor. We was hoping it'd be a felony but you
24 dropped the felony because we wanted a felony so we
25 could have a jury of his peers in court, but, no, now
26 there's rumors going around a couple of different
27 villages, they're going to try to get a felony stop so
28 that they can go to court and find out if this 35
29 Congressional Resolution, 32 or whatever they are.

30

31 You guys got a lot of patching to do.
32 That's all I have to comment on.

33

34 Actually no, I want to.....

35

36 (Laughter)

37

38 MR. GLANZ:what do you think
39 about -- I mean I'm the good guy on the Board, you
40 ought to see some of the bad ones, anyway.....

41

42 (Laughter)

43

44 MR. GLANZ: But what is your opinion of
45 stopping without due cause, Director?

46

47 And I may add.....

48

49 (Laughter)

50

1 MR. GLANZ:they're doing Coast
2 Guard stops but I have yet to see a certification from
3 the United States Coast Guard vessel inspection, did
4 they go through that, Greg, the United States Coast
5 Guard vessel inspection certificate, do they have them,
6 your rangers, that's stopping boats to inspect?

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We got three
9 questions now.

10
11 MR. GLANZ: Yep.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We'll have to
14 take one at a time.

15
16 MR. DUDGEON: I'm always happy to talk
17 with Bill and he is a friendly guy.

18
19 (Laughter)

20
21 MR. DUDGEON: Actually they weren't
22 going through a full Coast Guard inspection, what they
23 were primarily interested in were PFDs and like a
24 personal safety equipment, some kind of noise maker,
25 like we talked about last fall and maybe a throw ring
26 or something of that nature.

27
28 MR. GLANZ: The next question was, why
29 does it take nine months to go to court?

30
31 MS. MASICA: Nobody would like an
32 answer to that question more than me. We've had three
33 different dates, the current date is April 5th, and
34 trust me nobody's as hopeful that it actually -- the
35 judge proceeds as is currently scheduled.

36
37 We need to deal with what happened in
38 the past. I'm as equally as concerned and committed to
39 how do we do forward and what's the future hold for all
40 of us. The circumstances will be dealt with in the
41 court proceeding. I'm not aware that the Park Service
42 asked for any of these delays, they were decisions that
43 the judge made and we have to live with that. And we
44 would have been delighted had things happened in
45 November when they were initially supposed to happen.
46 So, you know, I don't know -- I can't influence that
47 outcome other than to make sure that we are available
48 and prepared.

49
50 I happen to be dealing with email last

1 night and, you know, as government bureaucrats we have
2 to go through this, what's going to happen in two weeks
3 if the budget runs out, and some of us get labeled as
4 essential and the rest of us are sort of dirt, and, you
5 know, we get to get treated as however, what happens.
6 But one of the things that sort of is essential is
7 making our folks available for legal proceedings that
8 might be occurring during the time period, so, you
9 know, we're trying to be smart about being any kind of
10 a contributor to any sort of delay.

11
12 MR. GLANZ: Okay. That was my concern
13 because I figured because the rangers were south is
14 what I had understood.

15
16 MS. MASICA: That's not true to my
17 knowledge.

18
19 MR. GLANZ: Oh, it's not, okay, good,
20 well, that's just a rumor as they go then. That's all
21 for me.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you sure?

24
25 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

26
27 (Laughter)

28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

30
31 MR. WOODRUFF: Bill, you forgot due
32 cause.

33
34 MR. GLANZ: Oh, yeah, the due cause.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: See.

37
38 (Laughter)

39
40 MS. MASICA: Well, you know, I think
41 the main thing that when we're out there doing our
42 patrols is we want to make sure that people are safe
43 and that we're not doing things beyond what we should
44 be doing. And safety is of concern and, you know, I
45 appreciate the concerns that have been raised, we've
46 been having a lot of conversations internally about how
47 do we position ourselves to make sure that we can build
48 some relationships and move forward in a more
49 constructive way than we have -- you know, than sort of
50 what happened over the last year.

1 Hopefully when we're stopping folks we
2 do have due cause to do so. But, you know, our folks
3 are well trained. We're trying to make sure that the
4 appropriate law enforcement training is equally
5 complimented with understanding about the rules and the
6 regulations as they apply here in Alaska, about the
7 lifestyle, the subsistence requirements that we have
8 and that all of that, is appropriately informing our
9 folks as they're going about doing their business.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Frank.

12

13 MR. GURTLER: I don't quite know how to
14 put this, but where do these rules and regulations come
15 from, through the Fish and Wildlife, from the standard
16 procedure -- is it standard -- what the Fish and
17 Wildlife has, is it standard procedure that they do
18 this?

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think I
21 know what -- you're asking her -- and it's Park
22 Service, do they have a standard procedure, how
23 they.....

24

25 MR. GURTLER: Made these rules.....

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:pull
28 somebody.....

29

30 MR. GURTLER:and regulations.

31

32 MR. GLANZ: SOP. It's an SOP is what
33 he's talking about.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:you know
36 -- SOP?

37

38 MR. GLANZ: SOP, standard operating
39 procedure.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, do they
42 have that for pulling somebody over on a boat, is that
43 what you're asking?

44

45 MR. GURTLER: Well, I think kind of
46 what I'm thinking is, whether these rules came from the
47 Lower 48 or were they made up here in the middle of
48 Alaska, where the people are staying, and that was one
49 of the reason I asked this question. Because it's
50 altogether different than the Lower 48, up here in the

1 Bush, you can't just run to the store and buy a PFD, or
2 get a license. I tried for two years to try to get a
3 license for my boat and I couldn't find anybody. I
4 finally got it though.

5
6 MS. MASICA: So the Park Service has
7 regulations that are both National and we have Alaska
8 specific regulations. So we have to manage under both
9 sides of that equation.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But as far as
12 like a standard operating procedure for -- I think I'm
13 hearing Frank right, so I'm down there on my boat and I
14 don't have my license and how you handle that
15 situation.....

16
17 MR. GURTLER: Well.....

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:is that
20 right, Frank?

21
22 MR. GURTLER: No. I think mostly it
23 was where were these regulations coming from.....

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh.

26
27 MR. GURTLER:I think is what I'm
28 asking. Because I know if you had these standard
29 regulations from the Lower 48 when you came up here and
30 got this land, you brought your regulations with you,
31 and didn't -- it didn't fit our area, these
32 regulations, I think is what I'm trying to say. And
33 that was one of the problems, I think, we're having.

34
35 MS. MASICA: And most of the
36 regulations that are -- certainly the Alaska specific
37 ones are -- since the Parks were -- that were created
38 through ANILCA and the Preserves and the other areas,
39 they're more recent than that. They're not pre-ANILCA.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But the.....

42
43 MS. MASICA: And, Madame Chair, as far
44 as sort of the preparation for our rangers, you know,
45 the rangers all go through a very common or a standard
46 training procedure in terms of their law enforcement
47 training and then there's a lot of sort of localized
48 emphasis in terms of the issues at each Park area. And
49 that's true throughout the whole National Park Service.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But most of
2 the regulations that Frank's referring to really are
3 coming out of Washington. And like, say, you guys, on
4 the CFRs just regs for Alaska alone, it really goes
5 through Washington.

6
7 MS. MASICA: Ultimately all of our
8 regulations have to be signed off by somebody in
9 Washington.....

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

12
13 MS. MASICA:that's correct.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
16 Andy.

17
18 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.
19 I feel like a lot of this discussion is useful but
20 quite frankly this RAC can't do much about it. One
21 thing that we can do -- we're not going to change
22 regulations but one thing we can do is recommend
23 methods and/or encourage the relationship between law
24 enforcement officers and the local subsistence users
25 methods and means to improve those abilities. Because
26 in my mind it's not what is done by law enforcement,
27 it's how they conduct themselves when they do it. How
28 do they present themselves to the rural subsistence
29 user when they're having contact with them. That's the
30 real issue here that we need to really be addressing.

31
32 And I'm quite confident in my
33 discussions, as an AC Chair, with Park Service, that
34 we're going to be able to move forward on working
35 together and trying to rebuild those relationships and
36 develop some kind of cultural sensitivity.

37
38 But I just wanted to bring that up
39 because I really don't want to spend a lot of time on
40 talking about regulations and things that, we, as a
41 body here, can't do anything about anyway.

42
43 Thank you.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Frank.

46
47 MR. GURTLER: Yes. I think safety
48 first is on everybody's mind anyway but it's how it's
49 presented to you and what to do about it in a way where
50 it doesn't hurt anybody, I think is what I'm trying to

1 get across.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I think
4 Sue's hearing you loud and clear.

5

6 MS. MASICA: Yes, absolutely.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

9

10 MS. MASICA: As is Greg and the other
11 Staff who are here also.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anyone
14 else. Don.

15

16 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame
17 Chairman. I had a little talk with Sue this morning
18 but just to get on the record a couple of things that
19 are pertinent to our area.

20

21 One is, for 30 years, or 33 years, I've
22 been down there fishing and trapping and hunting and
23 there's no boundary markers for the Preserve, and I
24 would really encourage the Park Service to mark the
25 boundaries so it's very clear that we're entering the
26 Preserve and if we have an unregistered boat or some
27 other such thing that they have issues with, we can
28 turn around and go back and not enter the Preserve.

29

30 The next issue I have is their
31 community involvement with the community of Eagle, in
32 particular, is it's pretty much zero. And it's not our
33 doing, it's their doing. And in the past we had a
34 ranger that lived in Eagle for nine years, she only
35 issued one ticket, one citation. She was involved with
36 the Eagle AC. She participated in the community
37 functions like potlucks, and she was an asset to the
38 community. I'd really encourage the Park Service to
39 move in that direction so that we can build more trust
40 and move forward to resolve some of these issues. And
41 one of the ways that we can do that is to set up
42 something similar to an SRC, and I want to call it an
43 SCR because there's no Federal funding for an SRC to a
44 Preserve, so that we -- if -- when Park Service has an
45 issue or we have an issue we can meet on a regular
46 basis, not once a year for a PR potluck event, but on a
47 regular basis, once a month we could talk and
48 participate with a coherent civilized discussion and
49 the community members can bring up issues.

50

1 Thank you.
2
3 MR. GLANZ: I was going to mention the
4 same thing about more.....
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
7
8 MR. GLANZ:public relations
9 between all of us.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I just
12 had one thing, Sue, and I spoke to you on it at a break
13 and I'm just not going to take the guy's time.
14
15 There's two letters in front of you.
16 One was sent from the SRC, the Wrangell Park, and then
17 the Park Service's return, and Sue signed it. But I
18 expressed my concern to her and it's just brief.
19
20 But we need to -- the way some things
21 come across to you, come across offensively, and I
22 explained that to her. So I think we're okay on that.
23 Yeah.
24
25 MR. GLANZ: Who?
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anything else
28 -- who, the Park Service -- no.
29
30 (Laughter)
31
32 (No comments)
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No. All
35 right, so, Sue, would you like to have the rest of your
36 Park people come up and listen to what's going on
37 before you leave?
38
39 MS. MASICA: We'd defer to the desires
40 of the Chair. I'm just, unfortunately, the one that
41 had the schedule conflict, but if you want to take care
42 of the Park Service now, that's fine, or if you want to
43 stick to.....
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you feel
46 it would help you?
47
48 MS. MASICA:the rest of the
49 agenda? Either way. Whatever's your preference.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: She's not
2 helping me make a decision.
3
4 MS. MASICA: Well, sure, let's do it.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
7
8 MS. MASICA: If you want to get
9 them.....
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
12
13 MS. MASICA:get it taken care of,
14 I'll help you make that decision, you bet.
15
16 (Laughter)
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
19 All right. So Yukon Charley's first, then Denali, then
20 Wrangell. So let's try to -- I hate to make -- push
21 you to make it brief but that's what we're going to
22 have to do here in the essence of time.
23
24 MR. DUNGEON: Well, thank you, Madame
25 Chair. I'd like to have Tom Liebscher come forward.
26 Tom's going to do the natural resource portion of our
27 presentation and bring you up to speed on some of the
28 resource issues.
29
30 MR. LIEBSCHER: Madame Chair. Members
31 of the RAC. We've got a handout that we've prepared
32 that pretty much covers the major issues, and I just
33 want to highlight a few of those.
34
35 We're seeing a gain in the moose
36 population. We did our last survey in 2009, we've got
37 another one coming up in 2012. We've heard loud and
38 clear from the ACs that the Fortymile Herd Advisory
39 Group that we need to be looking at some of the
40 habitat. The Upper Yukon, one of the things we do is
41 burn, and what's that change mean for the habitat,
42 we're even seeing reburns of the 2004/2005 fires
43 happening and so that means habitat change and that
44 means range condition changes for the caribou.
45
46 We've initiated additional discussions
47 with Fish and Game in their Tok office. We have an
48 active program, we're working with Fish and Game for
49 the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, and we need to improve
50 our working relationship with the Fish and Game for the

1 Fortymile Herd. The final item we wanted to mention is
2 that we're looking at opportunities to work with the
3 other State and Federal partners on some of these range
4 conditions for the Fortymile Herd.

5
6 Finally, a really interesting
7 component, one of the things that emerged, literally
8 this year, was after the 2009 floods and after the
9 major rain events this year, we had a wonderful visitor
10 floating the Yukon River and found a four foot mammoth
11 tusk, and it's one of the first real finds that we
12 found and the individual was able to hand that over to
13 us and that'll become part of our, I think our
14 traveling exhibit perhaps, among the communities.

15
16 Again, the handout is there. If
17 there's any specifics about the populations, we're
18 seeing our typical fall to spring changes in the wolf
19 population, we've dropped about 30 percent in numbers
20 since our last efforts at collaring in November.

21
22 Madame Chair.

23
24 Any questions.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
27 members. Lester.

28
29 MR. ERHART: When you make this burn
30 how long does it take for the caribou moss to come
31 back?

32
33 MR. LIEBSCHER: The literature that's
34 been out to date has been talking 50 to 75 years. We
35 have some studies currently going on in the last 50
36 years of burning cycle in the Noatak in Western Arctic
37 Park lands and it's showing that it may not be quite
38 that long, 35 years, but as Andy pointed out to me in
39 the Tok Caribou meeting, that's still a generation if
40 the caribou have moved.

41
42 MR. ERHART: I was just wondering about
43 it.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's a long
46 time.

47
48 MR. ERHART: Yes it is.

49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Especially in

1 a million acres on the Fortymile. Whew.

2

3 Other questions.

4

5 MR. LIEBSCHER: Madame Chair. I'd also
6 just mention that these are wild fires, lighting
7 ignitions, these aren't planned ignitions.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I knew he
10 meant that.

11

12 (Laughter)

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You just got
15 to know what he means.

16

17 Okay, Virgil.

18

19 MR. UMPHENOUR: Are you still doing the
20 isotope analysis of the wolf bones when you find a dead
21 wolf to see what they've been eating?

22

23 MR. LIEBSCHER: We've had some
24 continuing work going on there Virgil. And, you know,
25 our morts, when we get them, sometimes we're able to
26 diagnose some things without too much effort, other
27 times it's not done completely. What we have been
28 doing, though, is analyzing -- we had a second draft of
29 a paper on the genetic composition of the population
30 and I just reviewed a second draft of that and some
31 interesting things. It's showing a very strong
32 population and a very diverse gene pool and one that
33 should be very vibrant in the future in terms of
34 susceptibility, parve-virus or other things.

35

36 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. Madame
37 Chair.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions.
40 Donald.

41

42 MR. WOODRUFF: Madame Chair, thank you.
43 Has the issue of predator control by the State on the
44 Parks wolf population, has that been resolved, have you
45 come to some working agreement with them or are they
46 flying around on the boundary, over?

47

48 MR. DUNGEON: Our understanding as of
49 just within the last few days, is that the State, at
50 some point here this spring, plans to go back out and

1 do more predator control with Staff, unlike the last
2 couple of years, will not be sharing frequencies,
3 anything of that nature. Their plan is to go out and
4 -- for specifics you should ask them about. That --
5 just to be clear, is outside of the Preserve.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

8

9 MR. GLANZ: All right. Tom, in 1991 we
10 had a major fire in the Yukon Charley and so maybe 10
11 years from now we'll know exactly how long it might
12 start -- for the caribou browse to start coming back,
13 you know, so we'll have to keep our eyes up there. You
14 know what I'm talking about, you guys, it was a major
15 son of a gun. I guess it was started by F16s and they
16 was hitting their little foot button to throw the
17 flares out, okay, you know.....

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Natural fire.

20

21 MR. GLANZ: Oh, yeah, that's what I was
22 going to say.

23

24 (Laughter)

25

26 MR. GLANZ: And now they want more of
27 our skies, no thank you.

28

29 (Laughter)

30

31 MR. LIEBSCHER: Through the Chair.
32 It's interesting. That's a good point, Bill, yeah,
33 that F16 fire and we had another one -- it wasn't a
34 large acreage burn, just a few acres a couple years
35 ago, again, but since 1950 900,000 of a 2.5 million
36 acre conservation unit has burned and as I mentioned
37 the 2004 and five large burns, in the last two years
38 we've seen reburns of portions of those already.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Lots of fun
41 data.

42

43 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anything
46 else.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

1 MR. DUNGEON: Madame Chair. If I may,
2 just very quickly, and in close, one of the
3 recommendations that this group had made to us last
4 fall was to incorporate some kind of train -- and then
5 in a letter, a followup letter from the AC, from Eagle,
6 that we incorporate some kind of subsistence and
7 cultural training with our seasonal training. We plan
8 on doing that this year. And what I'd like to do is
9 make an invitation. I can talk to you specifically
10 later but what we'd like to do is perhaps have a member
11 or two of the RAC that would talk to -- serve as a
12 panel for that presentation for our folks later this
13 spring. And, so, again, we'll be looking to you for
14 perhaps some help there.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: In Eagle?

17
18 MR. DUNGEON: That can be -- that's yet
19 to be determined, Fairbanks, Eagle.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, there's
22 two guys from Eagle here.

23
24 MR. DUNGEON: Uh-huh.

25
26 MR. BASSICH: Yep, we'll work it out.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, uh-huh.

29
30 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, I'll volunteer too.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Uh-
33 huh, so Bill's volunteering.

34
35 MR. DUNGEON: Thank you, Madame Chair.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So I'll make
38 you the Chair, okay.

39
40 (Laughter)

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, thank
43 you guys. So next would be the Denali. You can stay
44 with us.

45
46 MS. MASICA: Yes, I'll stay.

47
48 MS. CRAVER: Good afternoon, Madame
49 Chair and Council members. For the record my name is
50 Amy Craver and I'm the program manager for cultural

1 resources and subsistence at Denali National Park and
2 Preserve.

3

4 Given your time restraints, I've given
5 K.J. a copy of our wildlife and subsistence project
6 update for you to review. And if anybody has any
7 questions about that report feel free to contact me and
8 I can put you in contact with our wildlife biologist
9 Tom Meyer.

10

11 As many of you may already know Paul
12 Starr, who was the Eastern Interior RAC appointment to
13 Denali's Subsistence Resource Commission passed away
14 earlier this summer. We will greatly miss Paul. He
15 was a valued and active member of our SRC. Paul made a
16 unique contribution to our SRC representing the people
17 of Tanana. With Paul's passing away we need to fill
18 his appointment on the Denali Subsistence Resource
19 Commission.

20

21 According to Denali's National Park
22 Subsistence Resource Commission Charter one of the
23 appointments to the SRC is appointed by the Eastern
24 Interior Federal Subsistence RAC. This appointee must
25 be a member of the Middle Nenana Advisory Committee and
26 also qualified to lawfully engage in subsistence uses
27 within Denali National Park.

28

29 On February 7th 2011 the Middle Nenana
30 Advisory Committee elected Kevin Mayo to one of their
31 two Healy seats. Mr. Mayor has a history of customary
32 and traditional use for harvesting moose and caribou in
33 Unit 13E of Denali National Park and holds a National
34 Park Service subsistence use permit. At the last
35 Federal Subsistence Board meeting Mr. Mayo's request
36 for an individual C&T determination for moose and
37 caribou for GMU 13E was approved by the Board. This
38 regulatory change provides Mr. Mayo a resident of GMU
39 20A customary and traditional use determination for
40 hunting moose and caribou in GMU 13E, thus allowing him
41 to lawfully engage in subsistence within Denali Park.

42

43 At this time I would like to request
44 that the Council consider appointing Mr. Mayo to
45 Denali's SRC on behalf of the Eastern Interior RAC.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

50

1 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.
2 Were there any other people that were interested in
3 sitting on that seat? Any other applications?

4
5 MS. CRAVER: Actually Kevin Mayo is
6 probably -- he is the only qualified person for that
7 seat.

8
9 MR. BASSICH: So there were other
10 applicants but they were not qualified under the.....

11
12 MS. CRAVER: There were no other
13 applicants that came forward.

14
15 MR. BASSICH: Thank you.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Also from the
18 AC or the RAC, he's from -- that AC you spoke of, he's
19 the only one that was qualified?

20
21 MS. CRAVER: Yes. He's the only one
22 qualified from that AC because he -- what makes him
23 uniquely qualified is because has that special
24 subsistence use permit that's issued by the Park
25 Service to allow him to hunt within Park lands.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. And
28 the only other choice is somebody off our RAC. So, go
29 ahead, Andrew.

30
31 MR. FIRMIN: Thank you. I believe I
32 posed this question a year or so ago and never did get
33 an answer and it was just, simply, what was the purpose
34 of the study for the bears, and it's just simply
35 monitoring because now I see now that they're done
36 monitoring the west and they're moving to the north,
37 so, I mean simply other than where the tourists can go
38 take pictures, I mean what was the intent of the study
39 of the bears?

40
41 MS. CRAVER: You know, Andrew, I can't
42 answer that specifically but I would be happy to put --
43 have our wildlife biologist contact you directly to let
44 you know more about the nature of the study and what
45 they have planned in the future.

46
47 MR. FIRMIN: Okay, yeah, that's fine.
48 I was just curious more than anything. But I just
49 asked before and I never really got an answer, but, if
50 I could, thank you, that'd be excellent.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
2 We probably should have taken up the SRC, yeah, Andy.
3
4 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. Do we need
5 a motion to.....
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
8
9 MR. BASSICH:make a
10 recommendation. I'd like to make a recommendation that
11 the Eastern RAC.....
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Or a motion.
14
15 MR. BASSICH: A motion -- what'd I say
16 a recommendation -- a motion, I'm sorry, I'd like to
17 make a recommend -- a motion.....
18
19 (Laughter)
20
21 MR. BASSICH:a motion to support
22 Mr. Mayo to the SRC at Denali National Park as a
23 representative.....
24
25 MR. GURTLER: Second.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Seconded by
28 Frank.
29
30 MR. BASSICH:from the Eastern
31 RAC.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
34 need for discussion.
35
36
37 (No comments)
38
39 MR. ERHART: Question.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question's
42 been called for. All in favor.
43
44 IN UNISON: Aye.
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
47 opposed.
48
49 (No opposing votes)
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank
2 you. Any other questions of Amy regarding the Denali.

3

4

5 (No comments)

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
8 Wrangell-St.Elias is next.

9

10 So now all the agencies are going to
11 get the idea we need to be brief.

12

13 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madame
14 Chair. I'm going to be brief in a way similar to Amy.

15

16 You have three handouts from me.

17

18 One is a couple of page document that
19 says Nabesna ORV Draft EIS.

20

21 One is Judy's wildlife report that you
22 might have looked at earlier this morning when we
23 talked about the Chisana Caribou Herd. It's got both
24 the DOI logo and the NPS log on it.

25

26 And then there's a piece of paper that
27 says Copper Basin subsistence update and it has a
28 photograph of the Copper River on it. It's two pages,
29 and it has a map on it in the back -- well, one sheet
30 of paper printed on both sides.

31

32 So those are our handouts.

33

34 Summary of public comments on the ORV
35 EIS, which you've heard about from me a lot before. We
36 are responding to the comments and my understanding,
37 and Sue knows more about this than I do, but we're
38 looking at -- when you do an EIS you put out a bunch of
39 alternatives but you're not -- when you come up with
40 your final you're able -- as long as you're sort of
41 combining elements that were analyzed in the Draft EIS
42 you can come up with a different alternative, and my
43 understanding is that we're developing a sixth
44 alternative that's based on Alternative 4 and
45 Alternative 5. And that's about as much as I know
46 about that.

47

48 We're doing a subsistence survey in the
49 Copper Basin right now and sort of in the middle of the
50 field work on that. That's what one of the handouts is

1 we're working on that project with Fish and Game.
2
3 I'm going to stop there unless you have
4 any questions.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any
7 questions.
8
9 MR. GLANZ: So when do they make a
10 final on this ORV, Barb?
11
12 MS. MASICA: Madame Chair. Bill. I
13 think the plan is that we would have a final late
14 spring, early summer, and it has to go out and be made
15 available to the public for 30 days before a decision
16 can be issued on that.
17
18 MR. GLANZ: Okay. Because I know
19 Barb's been involved with this for some time.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Or the
22 Park has, yes. Don.
23
24 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.
25 We discussed this at our last RAC meeting, the ORV
26 issue. And I would like to just emphasize one more
27 time about the continued access of the trails for
28 subsistence use is a huge priority for the people that
29 live and depend on those resources and I think that
30 that should be kept in the forefront of your.....
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think I
33 heard a motion again. Because we can still put
34 comments in, it might not -- it doesn't have to be --
35 from what I understand at our SRC meeting, it doesn't
36 -- it won't be evaluated like a regular EIS but you can
37 still send things in. That was my understanding.
38
39 MS. MASICA: Well, the public comment
40 period on the Draft EIS is concluded. We're in the
41 middle of the analysis of all of those public comments
42 and working on moving from the Draft EIS to a Final EIS
43 so there's not an opportunity to formally comment,
44 certainly the kind of verbal input that I just heard, I
45 heard it. And.....
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It goes
48 directly to you.
49
50 MS. MASICA:then we'll be going

1 through that decision making process, as I said, later
2 this spring.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So that's
5 enough. We clearly want that as a priority.

6

7 MS. MASICA: I think we're all anxious
8 to get that one done.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

11

12 (Laughter)

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
15 Anything else, anyone, for Wrangell-St. Elias.

16

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I
21 believe we handled the Park Service.

22

23 MS. MASICA: Thank you, Madame Chair.
24 Appreciate it.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
27 Thank you for coming to our meeting, really appreciate
28 it.

29

30 All right, do you guys need a short
31 break.

32

33 (Council nods affirmatively)

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Five minutes,
36 which turns into 10.

37

38 (Off record)

39

40 (On record)

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're back.
43 And Bill's getting nervous and I had to answer his
44 question. In front of you you have a bunch of
45 handwritten proposals, Andy's been sitting here trying
46 to get things done, stuff that we'd talked about
47 earlier. So just for your information, these are the
48 proposals.

49

50 Okay.

1 Larry just had a request, he would like
2 to introduce an elder from your area.

3
4 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
5 I'd like to -- it gives me great pleasure to introduce
6 Maggie Roberts, would you stand please. She's a
7 respected elder from Venetie and she used to go to Fort
8 Yukon, she used to go to Arctic Village and she went
9 down to the Hutchinson Career Center to teach her
10 traditional ways and her language and she's been doing
11 that for many years. She just got out of the same
12 meeting that I attended for the in-service for the
13 teachers of the Yukon Flats, who are having a
14 conference and they invited us over to have our say and
15 our input and ask questions and they also asked
16 questions of us. I'd like to recognize her at this
17 moment, so everybody give her a hand.

18
19 Thank you, very much.

20
21 (Applause)

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Maggie, I
24 think we might have seen you somewhere, where was it,
25 Arctic Village?

26
27 MS. ROBERTS: Arctic Village.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Ah, I do
30 remember the face. Nice to see you again.

31
32 MS. ROBERTS: Yes.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
35 right, going back to the agenda. The last thing that I
36 had on my list that we hadn't done, just so you know,
37 we left off at summary of the Federal Subsistence Board
38 executive session. We've already really kind of looked
39 at that, right?

40
41 (Council nods affirmatively)

42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm
44 going to take it off.

45
46 And then I just want to hit this next
47 one, Native Corporations, regional and village tribal
48 councils. Are there any reports from any of the Native
49 Corporations.

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, this is
4 always on our agenda, often times we have TCC here,
5 Mike Smith has been at our meetings.

6

7 Okay, then we're going to go back to
8 the call for proposals and then we'll come up to Alaska
9 Department of Fish and Game unless they think it has
10 any bearing on our proposals. I'm looking at -- just a
11 second here, what am I looking at, it says, action --
12 oh, okay, never mind. We're going to go to our
13 proposals.

14

15 Andrew.

16

17 MR. FIRMIN: Hum.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you want
20 to address these proposals.

21

22 MR. FIRMIN: I guess so.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Since you
25 wrote them and probably understand them.

26

27 MR. FIRMIN: These proposals that you
28 should have handwritten copies of, they came about from
29 the Yukon Flats Moose Management meeting outcomes,
30 which was involved with ADF&G, Fish and Wildlife
31 biologists and managers and it was kind of a brainstorm
32 of what proposals we could get to change or create new
33 proposals to curb some of the predation on the moose
34 population without going to predator control or
35 predator management, without having to use those terms
36 so they're all, I guess you could say, predator based.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

39

40 MR. FIRMIN: And the first one is wolf
41 trapping, which is just kind of a -- it's fairly simple
42 because Unit 25A, B, and C have different season dates
43 than 25D, so the wolf trapping one would simply align
44 all dates and it would change the dates in Unit A, B
45 and C to open wolf trapping a month earlier on October
46 1st instead of November 1st.

47

48 The second one is a brown bear
49 proposal, which would create a community harvest for
50 brown bears simply because there are not a lot of

1 people who hunt bears or even want to shoot at them. I
2 don't know if it's just fear or spirituality, cultural,
3 whatever their reservations are, they don't want to
4 mess with them. So there are only a handful of people
5 that actively hunt or go look for or are willing to
6 shoot brown bears on site. And there was a recent
7 ADF&G study, an ethnography report where they dubbed
8 super hunters, or people that basically live off the
9 land year-round and they're out there actively getting
10 their game limits yearly and if we had a community
11 harvest, those people could get other people's limits
12 of bears as well. So it would just be a community
13 harvest for, say Joe was living out in the woods all
14 summer long and he's allowed to shoot more than one
15 bear for him, one for his wife and maybe one for me if
16 he wants; it would be more of a community harvest plan.
17 As there's already one in place for black bears, this
18 would just make it for brown bears. Because during the
19 black bear surveys they did last summer, I forget how
20 many black bears they counted in like a 15 -- I forget
21 what the radius was, it was only like 400 square miles
22 but they counted, I forget, 400 -- like one black bear
23 every square mile and I asked them how many brown bears
24 did you see and they said, well, we didn't see -- we
25 weren't counting them but about -- they saw at least a
26 hundred doing that, I forget what he said, one every
27 three or four black bears there would be one brown
28 bear. So there is a significant brown bear population
29 and like I said, though a lot of people don't actively
30 hunt them, so this would just open up another avenue
31 for people that are into that kind of hunting, that
32 they could go do that.

33

34 The third one is a meat on bone
35 requirement. We've visited this one before but I
36 believe it was about a year and a half ago when we had
37 our meeting in Fort Yukon this got proposed but it came
38 in under my name with our support, and basically when
39 it went to the Board of Game they said that it would
40 just add a burden to subsistence hunters, and that was
41 their reason for declining to adopt that proposal.
42 However, nobody I know debones their meat and leaves
43 all the bones in the field and head and what not, they
44 -- I don't know anybody that does that, I don't know
45 about the rest of you guys in your regions. It's just
46 easier to do and it saves on meat, so I'd like to get
47 that one resubmitted again coming from the RAC to both
48 the Board of Game and the Federal Subsistence Board.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we're

1 going to have to write the State one.

2

3 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. And
6 we can do that, right, Staff, we can get that written
7 based on this?

8

9 DR. WHEELER: (Nods affirmatively)

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So
12 there'll be -- we're going to do this all at once, if
13 that's okay.

14

15 (Council nods affirmatively)

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then that
18 will be part of it, a State joint proposal. Okay.

19

20 (Council nods affirmatively)

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Keep going.

23

24 MR. FIRMIN: And the last one is the
25 Arctic Village Sheep Management Area, and this will
26 basically just reclose the area of Red Sheep Creek and
27 Cane Creek that we talked about last -- yesterday
28 evening. So basically it would just exclude the
29 wording;

30

31 except the drainages of Red Sheep Creek
32 and Cane Creek during the period of
33 August 10th, September 20th

34

35 So it would just add -- readd that area
36 back into the Arctic Village -- it's already part of
37 the Arctic Village Sheep Management Area, it would just
38 reclose that area.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Huh.

41

42 MR. FIRMIN: And I believe there's a
43 map of it in your book if anybody.....

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

46

47 MR. FIRMIN:wants to look at it.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, with no
50 objection I think we're going to have to handle that

1 one separately.
2
3 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, okay.
6 So the handwritten ones are the ones we're handling
7 now.
8
9 MR. FIRMIN: Yes, we can go.....
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
12
13 MR. FIRMIN:through them all
14 individually if you want or.....
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No. Andy.
17
18 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I'd like to make a
19 motion to adopt the wolf trapping proposal, the brown
20 bear proposal and the meat on the bone proposal.
21
22 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Moved and
25 seconded. Discussion. Or do you think we.....
26
27 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. I don't
28 think we really need it, I think Andrew did a good job
29 of summarizing this and I don't think we -- well, I
30 would recommend that we don't spend a lot of time on
31 these because once we submit these there'll be analysis
32 and we'll get it back and we'll be able to have further
33 discussion on it in the future.
34
35 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question's
38 been called for, all agree.
39
40 IN UNISON: Aye.
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
43 opposed.
44
45 (No opposing votes)
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Wow.
48 We got a big job done quickly.
49
50 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. I'd put a

1 motion on the floor to adopt the proposal for Unit 25A
2 Arctic Village Sheep Management Area to remove the
3 words;
4
5 except the drainages of Red Sheep Creek
6 and Cane Creek
7
8 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
9
10 MR. GLANZ: I'll second it.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, do you
13 want him to say it again?
14
15 MS. MUSHOVIC: Yeah.
16
17 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, it's
20 been moved and seconded. K.J., wants you to restate
21 your motion, please.
22
23 MR. BASSICH: Okay. The motion is to
24 adopt the proposal as presented to us for regulation
25 regarding Arctic Village Management Area No. 2, and the
26 modification to what we have before us would be to
27 remove the words;
28
29 except the drainages of Red Sheep Creek
30 and Cane Creek
31
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Which would
34 close those two drainages.
35
36 MR. BASSICH: Correct.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay,
39 discussion.
40
41 (No comments)
42
43 MR. GLANZ: Question.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You don't
46 want to discuss it at all?
47
48 MR. GLANZ: Well, we discussed it
49 yesterday.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you have
2 any discussion.
3
4
5 (No comments)
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.
8
9 MR. UMPHENOUR: I have a question.
10 When I read this, like two, where it says how should
11 the new regulation read.....
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Want to close
14 the season but then you got a two ram limit.
15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, it's -- okay,
17 this is.....
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, that's
20 for Federal qualified users?
21
22 MR. FIRMIN: I'll explain.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,
25 Andrew's going to explain.
26
27 MR. FIRMIN: This area is closed to
28 everybody except people that live in Arctic Village,
29 Venetie, Fort Yukon, Kaktovik and Chalkyitsik and they
30 have to get a Federal registration permit. And I
31 believe last year we got them from Arctic Village
32 Council and we just filled them out, sent them in and
33 that was our -- okay, you're a resident, sent in a copy
34 of our IDs and hunting licenses and then good for two
35 rams, as long as you're residents of those villages.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
38
39 MR. UMPHENOUR: Do we know how many
40 people actually hunted there last year from these
41 villages, or in recent times, during the August 10 to
42 April 3rd -- well, the regular hunting season would be
43 August 10 to.....
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: September 20.
46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR:September 20.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That would
50 take a biologist to tell us that, that has data.

1 MR. FIRMIN: There is data in your book
2 but it doesn't go that.....
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What page is
5 it on?
6
7 MR. FIRMIN:specific, though. 55
8 -- 52.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: If you go to
11 Page 55, does that answer your question Virgil.
12
13 MR. UMPHENOUR: Let me look here.
14
15 MR. FIRMIN: 52.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, 52.
18
19 MR. UMPHENOUR: 52.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, I think
22 the information he's looking for is over on 55.
23
24 MR. FIRMIN: I don't believe they have
25 an actual number of people that hunted there from --
26 who would know that?
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Polly, can
29 you help us out?
30
31 DR. WHEELER: I'll try to help you out.
32
33 (Laughter)
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
36
37 DR. WHEELER: I think that -- well, I'm
38 not going to be able to help you out in terms of what
39 the harvest is, but, again, just remember in principle
40 that you're going to get the analysis before you at the
41 fall meeting. This is just the initial submit the
42 proposals and then.....
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
45
46 DR. WHEELER:they'll be analyzed
47 ad nauseam over the course of the summer and then
48 you'll have them before you in your very thick book in
49 the fall.
50

1 (Laughter)
2
3 DR. WHEELER: So this is just the
4 initial stages so I'm not prepared to speak to.....
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
7
8 DR. WHEELER:sort of the
9 implications of the proposal or the biological
10 implications or whatever else.
11
12 Madame Chair.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's just to
15 submit the proposal, Virgil.
16
17 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
20 discussion on submitting this proposal.
21
22
23 (No comments)
24
25 MR. BASSICH: Question.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question's
28 called for. All in favor to submit the proposal say
29 aye.
30
31 IN UNISON: Aye.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
34 opposed.
35
36 (No opposing votes)
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Are
39 there any other proposals?
40
41 MR. GLANZ: Here at the end, Don's got
42 one there.
43
44 MR. WOODRUFF: I've got one.
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, just a
47 second, there's one here -- we did do this, right, the
48 wildlife proposal 25, all rural residents.....
49
50 MR. GLANZ: That's Don's there.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
2 Donald.
3
4 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.
5 This proposal was generated out of our fall Fortymile
6 caribou harvest meeting. And it's basically just a
7 housekeeping but the proposal submits that all rural
8 residents, is the way it reads now, and they would
9 prefer to have a C&T and have it changed to local rural
10 residents.
11
12 Thank you.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, this is
15 one that I can't believe you guys didn't do years ago.
16
17 (Laughter)
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But, yeah --
20 go ahead, Bill.
21
22 MR. GLANZ: I was going to say, that's
23 the same thing that the Department of Fish and Game
24 asked us down there at the meeting, they can't believe
25 that it's not done. And we're not trying to exclude
26 everybody, we're just worried about when things really
27 get heavy we're going to have people coming up from who
28 knows where, Fairbanks and everybody and part of the
29 planning committee can hunt there, so it's just
30 housekeeping.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, well,
33 this is a Federal proposal, right?
34
35 MR. WOODRUFF: Yep.
36
37 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, so it
40 would have to be a rural resident and somebody
41 from.....
42
43 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, it wouldn't be
44 Fairbanks, but I'm saying.....
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:
47Unalakleet or.....
48
49 MR. GLANZ:you know -- I meant
50 Delta and all them.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Delta,
2 okay. Okay. I have no problem submitting this, I
3 think it's great. It came from a lot of work from a
4 working group so did -- you moved it.....
5
6 MR. GLANZ: Who seconded. I'll make a
7 second, sorry.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, moved
10 and seconded. Discussion.
11
12
13 (No comments)
14
15 MR. BASSICH: Question.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any more
18 discussion.
19
20
21 (No comments)
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question's
24 been called for. All in favor say aye.
25
26 IN UNISON: Aye.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
29 opposed.
30
31 (No opposing votes)
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
34 Others.
35
36 MR. FIRMIN: A quick housekeeping.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Housekeeping
39 from Andrew.
40
41 MR. FIRMIN: I just wanted to make sure
42 all three of these are submitted to the Board of Game
43 and the Federal Subsistence Board.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay, go
46 ahead and say that.
47
48 MR. FIRMIN: I just wanted to make sure
49 all of the -- the wolf trapping, the brown bear, and
50 the meat on bone requirement are submitted to both the

1 Board of Game and the Federal Subsistence Board.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Everybody
4 concur.
5
6 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, we don't need a
7 motion on that or anything.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, do
10 we.....
11
12 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. That was
13 the intent of the motion.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All three of
16 them, yeah, he's just saying housekeeping. So any
17 others.
18
19 (No comments)
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
22 proposals. Virgil.
23
24 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you, Madame
25 Chair. I don't know exactly how to do this so I'll
26 make an attempt.
27
28 I move that we make a proposal to start
29 the process to manage wolves in the Yukon Flats
30 National Wildlife Refuge.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I know
33 what you're trying to do Virgil. Go ahead.
34
35 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
38 there's a second. Are they all gone now, that we want
39 to talk about this again.
40
41 (Laughter)
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But, you
44 know, didn't we really do this already.
45
46 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, if I may.
47 I remember, I think it was three years ago we discussed
48 this at length and I think we put in a similar
49 proposals and found that there were just too many -- we
50 generated a lot of paperwork between here and

1 Washington, D.C., got the reply of how difficult it is
2 because of the Federal mandates to do this and maybe
3 things have changed and maybe it's appropriate.

4
5 I'm not opposed to putting it in there
6 but I sure would hate to create an awful lot of work
7 for people to regurgitate the same thing that they did
8 three years ago.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, if we
11 can just get from Staff verification that we haven't
12 already made this request at our prior meetings.

13
14 Polly.

15
16 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
17 I can't promise that you haven't already made this
18 request in prior meetings, but what I can say when
19 we've gotten similar requests is that the Federal Board
20 is quite clear that it doesn't address predator
21 management. When proposals come in along those lines,
22 the response is, this isn't within our purview, it's
23 within the specific agency purview. So I thought.....

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, see
26 and.....

27
28 DR. WHEELER:we had talked about
29 it before lunch -- sorry, Madame Chair, but I thought
30 we had talked about it before lunch, that the will of
31 the RAC was to write a letter to the Fish and Wildlife
32 Service asking the Service to.....

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

35
36 DR. WHEELER:begin the process of
37 predator management in the Yukon Flats National
38 Wildlife Refuge.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, so we
41 wrote a letter to you instead of them last time, that's
42 what I'm remembering?

43
44 DR. WHEELER: You have written lett --
45 you have included predator management in your annual
46 reports in the last number of years, so that I do know.
47 Whether or not a specific proposal -- perhaps Vince
48 remembers. His memory is clearly better than mine,
49 especially right now.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He might have
2 wrote it.

3
4 (Laughter)

5
6 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. The term you're
7 stumbling over is proposal. You requested a letter, I
8 believe to the Fish and Wildlife Service to initiate
9 predator control and there was a response on that,
10 which, I think listed needing all this additional data
11 and I think there was, in your annual report response,
12 all the steps that have to go through to get it.

13
14 So I think, so all the Council members
15 understand, whatever action you take, it will not be in
16 the Board book on proposals.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I
19 understand that.

20
21 MR. MATHEWS: Okay.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. It's
24 just that I thought we had done that at the last
25 meeting Virgil, but I'm willing to do it if we haven't
26 done it, that it goes directly to the Yukon Flats
27 Refuge, right?

28
29 DR. WHEELER: It would go to the Fish
30 and Wildlife Service, Geoff Haskett, Regional Director
31 of.....

32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Requesting.

34
35 DR. WHEELER:Fish and Wildlife
36 Service requesting.....

37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, I
39 gotcha.

40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Everybody
44 else understand it now that I messed it up.

45
46 (Council nods affirmatively)

47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, go
49 ahead.
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: When we did that, the
2 Refuge manager -- well, we got a bunch of
3 correspondence back. One thing we got back is that
4 letter you've got, dated 2006. That's one of the
5 things we've gotten back.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm talking
8 about beyond that, yeah.

9
10 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right, I know that.
11 But we were told and then you had Greg Roczicka on
12 there talking about this a while ago, okay, what we
13 were told is they're going to have to do an EIS, before
14 they can do an EIS they're going to have to determine
15 things, such as the report we got earlier, 25 percent
16 of the moose population is killed in a five month
17 period by wolves between November and March, 25 percent
18 of all the moose in that study area were killed by
19 wolves in 2009. And if you read the -- I don't know
20 where I put it -- if you read their -- let's see, I
21 think it's in this book here, isn't it.

22
23 MR. FIRMIN: Yes, part of it.

24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: Is the Yukon Flats
26 report.

27
28 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.

29
30 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'm going to read one
31 little piece out of it.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, he's
34 right, it's in that.....

35
36 MR. UMPHENOUR: I can't remember where
37 it's at though is the problem -- let's see.....

38
39 MR. FIRMIN: Page 79.

40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR:Page 72 or
42 somewhere around in there.

43
44 MR. FIRMIN: I think it's 79.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 79 someone's
47 hollering.

48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR; Right. I'll read the
50 last part of it.

1 From a population dynamic standpoint,
2 predation occurred primarily on the most valuable
3 demographic component of the population and it was 25
4 percent of the population in five months, killed by
5 wolves. That's documented now. And then they'll have
6 another year -- that's for 2009, they also studied them
7 in 2010, and, you know, the end of the study is this
8 month and so they'll have that information available.

9
10 So a big part of the information that
11 you need before they can do any predator management has
12 been done because the Refuge there started this three
13 or four years ago, doing these things, to gather all
14 this information, so they could actually manage
15 predators. And so we need to hold -- what we need to
16 do is help the Refuge, that's actually trying to do
17 something, do their job, is what we need to do.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

20
21 MR. UMPHENOUR: And that's by putting
22 the pressure on Fish and Wildlife Service to allow them
23 to do their job because they've already -- they've
24 started the process, they're three or four years into
25 it and if they -- and like he said, they have unfunded
26 studies right now that would help finish this and so we
27 need to request Fish and Wildlife Service fund the rest
28 of their work, like the collaring the moose and doing
29 the habitat work. That's what we need to do, is send a
30 letter requesting that they do these things.

31
32 Madame Chair.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks,
35 Virgil. Go ahead, Polly.

36
37 DR. WHEELER: I hear you loud and
38 clear. I think what you want is an updated letter, not
39 the same letter that was sent three years ago, or
40 whatever, but an.....

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It was sent
43 five years ago.

44
45 DR. WHEELER:updated letter,
46 referencing the 2006 letter and also biological
47 information that's been done and collected since then
48 and keeping the pressure on.

49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

1 DR. WHEELER: That's my understanding
2 of what this Council wants to do.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
5
6 DR. WHEELER: I get it. I'll help K.J.
7 with the letter.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Cool.
10
11 DR. WHEELER: Yeah.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You don't
14 have to write it Virgil.
15
16 (Laughter)
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You don't
19 have to write the letter, isn't that great.
20
21 Other discussion on this letter.
22
23 MR. BASSICH: Is there a motion on the
24 table?
25
26 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.
27
28 MR. BASSICH: Tina?
29
30 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Didn't you
33 second it?
34
35 MR. WOODRUFF: (Nods affirmatively)
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.
38
39 MR. FIRMIN: Just a quick followup to
40 Virgil. Like it says in here 25 percent and that
41 doesn't include the other 25 percent that the bears
42 kill in the springtime and in the fall. This is just
43 the wolves.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
46
47 MR. FIRMIN: And they start that study
48 again in May, or it's ongoing though, so don't forget
49 to add that number in with that other 25 percent.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, does
2 everybody understand.
3
4 (Council nods affirmatively)
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: Question.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question's
9 called for, all in favor.
10
11 IN UNISON: Aye.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.
14
15 MR. MATESI: I oppose.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Great. One
18 opposed.
19
20 MR. MATESI: I oppose, yes.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
23 right. Now we're up to -- is there anything else there
24 on this proposals and stuff that we want to do.
25
26
27 (No comments)
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
30 ADF&G, your turn at the table.
31
32 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
33 George Pappas, Department of Fish and Game. I'll make
34 this really quick.
35
36 I just wanted to update you on the
37 program. The subsistence liaison team has a Chair,
38 which we have a new hire, her name is Jennifer Yuhas
39 from Fairbanks -- or excuse me, from Juneau. She works
40 at headquarters and is spokesperson for the Department.
41
42 Additionally the recruitment process is
43 nearly complete for the wildlife position that Terry
44 Haynes vacated a couple of years ago, so we will have a
45 full team fairly shortly.
46
47 Thank you, Madame Chair.
48
49 MR. BASSICH: Can you repeat the new
50 Subsistence Chair's -- the director's name again?

1 MR. PAPPAS: Jennifer Yuhas. Jennifer
2 Yuhas.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Subsistence
5 Chair of what now?
6
7 MR. PAPPAS: The Chair of the
8 subsistence liaison team for the Department.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. With
11 the Federal government.
12
13 MR. PAPPAS: State government, State of
14 Alaska.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: State
17 government, just State.
18
19 MS. MUSHOVIC: Liaison.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's what I
22 was trying to say.
23
24 MR. GLANZ: Why don't we just leave it
25 at that.
26
27 (Laughter)
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's
30 George's report. I'm sure there's -- is there any
31 other ADF&G reports -- Rita has one.
32
33 MS. ST. LOUIS: Madame Chair. This is
34 Rita St. Louis, I have an hour long report for you.
35
36 (Laughter)
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're great.
39
40 (Laughter)
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: God bless
43 you.
44
45 MS. ST. LOUIS: As you know we're still
46 trying to get wood bison out onto the landscape and are
47 hoping to release them in spring of 2012 and are
48 requesting that someone on the committee could serve as
49 your liaison and I know that -- well, I'll ask you that
50 first.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, and we
2 do need to do that, there's a meeting.
3
4 MS. ST. LOUIS: Yeah. The meeting will
5 be May 5th and.....
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And 6th,
8 right?
9
10 MS. ST. LOUIS:I.....
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I thought it
13 was.
14
15 MS. ST. LOUIS: And 6th, yeah. And so
16 I do know.....
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So.....
19
20 MS. ST. LOUIS:that this is for
21 the Lower Yukon Innoko, I do know that Joe Matesi has
22 served -- serving on the committee is the wrong word,
23 but has had a lot of strong interest in the Yukon
24 Flats, but I'm not trying to suggest that.....
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 MS. ST. LOUIS: I mean I'm not trying
29 to manipulate your committee by any means.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you sure?
32
33 (Laughter)
34
35 MS. ST. LOUIS: Yes, I am.
36
37 (Laughter)
38
39 MS. ST. LOUIS: I just thought he.....
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: An hour long
42 report.
43
44 MS. ST. LOUIS:was a greenie and
45 didn't have so many things that.....
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, you're
48 telling me.
49
50 MS. ST. LOUIS:so many

1 committees, that we could nail him.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay,
4 so this is the bison -- I was just thinking about this,
5 the Federal Board's meeting 3 and 4.....
6
7 DR. WHEELER: 11th and 12th.
8
9 MS. ST. LOUIS: Excuse me, Ma'am, 11th
10 and 12th, it was 3 and 4 once upon a time.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Ah.
13
14 MS. ST. LOUIS: Sorry. Thank you,
15 Polly.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: See, you
18 can't even do two meetings at once that way.
19
20 This is what's hard for people. So,
21 okay, so Council members we need -- who is interested
22 in going to Anchorage to the Wood Bison Working Group,
23 is it?
24
25 MS. ST. LOUIS: We're calling it a wood
26 bison forum and it'll be a big meeting to sort of kick
27 off planning to get them -- kick off the planning
28 efforts to get them to the Lower Yukon.
29
30 DR. WHEELER: And I would add that the
31 second day of that meeting, you're actually going to
32 make a field trip to the Alaska Wildlife Conservation
33 Center to observe the bison herd.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And pet them?
36
37 (Laughter)
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No.
40
41 (Laughter)
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Make meat.
44
45 (Laughter)
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Joe.
48
49 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair.
50 I would love to participate in this. Unfortunately

1 living on the river there's two times of the year that
2 travel is guaranteed to be impossible.....

3

4 (Laughter)

5

6 MR. MATESI:and that's break up
7 and I -- I mean other than a helicopter, you know,
8 transportation is not reasonable.

9

10 MR. WOODRUFF: Not going to happen.

11

12 MR. MATESI: Yeah.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Send the
15 Roberts in when they're doing surveys.

16

17 MR. MATESI: I don't think the.....

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I mean, yeah,
20 okay, and Larry, Andrew, you guys live on the Yukon, do
21 you have an interest.

22

23 MR. FIRMIN: How long is it going to
24 be, just.....

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Two days.

27

28 MR. FIRMIN:two days because I'd
29 love to go but that's in the middle of geese season and
30 flood season so I mean I'd like to go just to get --
31 because I'm still mad at Doyon because they're supposed
32 to be releasing those in my backyard.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't blame
35 you. When you say that, that means you're not
36 available, is that what you're telling me?

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 MR. FIRMIN: I can be available.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You can be.

43

44 MR. FIRMIN: I can be available.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, because
47 it's flooding and you can't do anything else.

48

49 MR. FIRMIN: I might as well just shove
50 the house in the river anyway.

1 (Laughter)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Larry,
4 what's your feelings.
5
6 MR. WILLIAMS: Well, that's almost
7 migratory bird time so I'll be quite busy myself.
8
9 (Laughter)
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's some
12 of the biggest complaints when they have Federal Board
13 meetings in May. Yeah, Virgil.
14
15 MR. UMPHENOUR: I want to ask Rita a
16 question. Rita, what is the status of getting them
17 classified as an experimental population?
18
19 MS. ST. LOUIS: Virgil, thank you for
20 that question. It's a long story.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
23
24 (Laughter)
25
26 MS. ST. LOUIS: This will be a short
27 long story.
28
29 They still -- the preliminary rule
30 still has not been put out. We had hoped that it would
31 have been published in October, it still hasn't, it's
32 still at Fish and Wildlife Service hands. So it's
33 always really close. So that's all I can tell you.
34 Then once the preliminary rule has been put out then
35 there's a 30 day or 60 day, I've forgotten which
36 comment period, and then the final rule is published
37 and we will not turn bison loose on the landscape until
38 this is final. That much I can tell you. But there's
39 quite a lot more but I don't want to take your time to
40 do this now.
41
42 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. I was just
43 trying to get a rough idea if it looks like it's going
44 to happen sometime in the near future.
45
46 MS. ST. LOUIS: We're certainly hoping
47 so.
48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR: And if it's positive
50 then they're planning on trying to put some in Minto

1 Flats, right?

2

3 MS. ST. LOUIS: Through the Chair.
4 There are three places, as you know, Yukon, Innoko,
5 Minto Flats and Yukon Flats. We're doing the lower
6 Yukon Innoko first because that is the one place that
7 has the least opposition from mineral development and
8 specifically Doyon. And, then, yes Minto Flats is one
9 of the three release sites and, yes, we are hoping
10 eventually they'll be at Minto Flats as well.

11

12 Madame Chair.

13

14 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. Madame
15 Chair.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But in brief,
18 what you're telling me is, it's really not a done deal.

19

20 MS. ST. LOUIS: Madame Chair. You are
21 right, it is not a done deal. The Regional Supervisor
22 says he feels like pushing a rock up hill and the
23 closer you get to the top the steeper the hill gets.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's real
26 encouraging.

27

28 MS. ST. LOUIS: I say it's like the
29 Mexican song, the matador up there facing a half of ton
30 of angry pot roast.

31

32 (Laughter)

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I guess
35 that's -- you know I'm not going to spend a lot of time
36 on it, I mean I'm hopeful that you get that rock to the
37 top of the hill and it rolls down the other side.

38

39 Okay, and I'm sitting here thinking
40 about it and by process of elimination, this gentleman
41 is willing to go, so any objections of Andrew going to
42 that meeting so he can be mad at Doyon, uh.

43

44 MR. FIRMIN: (Nods affirmatively)

45

46 (Council nods affirmatively)

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Good.

49

50 MS. ST. LOUIS: Thank you, Madame

1 Chair. Thank you for your time. Thank you, Andrew,
2 and I'll be in touch with you.

3

4 MR. FIRMIN: Okay.

5

6 MS. ST. LOUIS: Thank you.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
9 other Fish and Game reports.

10

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: BLM. You
15 were absent when we needed you.

16

17 MS. GRONQUIST: Madame Chair. Council.
18 My name is Ruth Gronquist and I'm with the Bureau of
19 Land Management, Eastern Interior Field Office located
20 in Fairbanks and I'm a wildlife biologist.

21

22 We have had some major changes in our
23 organization recently with the retirement of our State
24 Director, we now have a new State Director, Bud
25 Cribley. Our District Manager retired in December and
26 we currently have an acting District Manager and that's
27 Shelly Jacobson, in the process of filling that
28 position.

29

30 So despite our uncertain Staff in the
31 Fairbanks office and uncertain budgets we are able to
32 continue to work closely with the Alaska Department of
33 Fish and Game to manage the Fortymile Caribou Herd and
34 look forward to working more closely with the Yukon
35 Charley National Preserve.

36

37 In addition to our annual support for
38 monitoring the herd, we were able -- BLM was able in
39 2010 to purchase 16 GPS collars, and we were able to
40 provide the funding to capture that data from those
41 collars, and the collars have already enhanced Fish and
42 Game and our ability to monitor the herd, particularly
43 during the hunting season. That data will also help us
44 better understand caribou, the Fortymile Caribou Herd
45 range use -- range and habitat use.

46

47 As most of you probably know, BLM and
48 the Park Service was able to keep the Fortymile Caribou
49 Herd season open for the entire season this year and
50 the total Federal harvest to date is about 116 and I

1 say to date simply because the hunt closed on Monday
2 and they're probably just getting the final permit
3 returns right now. So there were 63 harvested in the
4 fall by qualified Federal subsistence hunters and 53
5 harvested and so far reported for the winter hunt.

6

AUTOMATED VOICE: Three.

7

8

(Laughter)

9

10

11 MS. GRONQUIST: I have a brief -- I
12 think I'll be able to keep this under an hour. I have
13 a brief report from our planning coordinator on the
14 Eastern Interior Resource Management Plan, an update on
15 that.

16

17

We were hoping to release the Draft RMP
18 in the fall of 2010, however it has been delayed due to
19 the new policy regarding management of lands with
20 wilderness characteristics and our hands are kind of
21 tied on that. We've been told that we have to wait and
22 incorporate the new policy. So the Secretary of
23 Interior released the new policy regarding management
24 of the lands and the BLM manuals that instruct BLM how
25 to implement the new policy were just finalized on
26 February 25th, so I haven't even had a chance to look
27 at those finalized policies yet. And let me just say
28 at this point I am not an authority on wild lands, but
29 I did pass out to you a handout that gives a brief
30 description of what this means for our planning process
31 in the Eastern Interior. What is the Department policy
32 briefly. How is this going to change the way that we
33 do management or assess and inventory and manage lands.
34 And there is a very nice table that Jeannie Cole put
35 together that gives you information on the differences
36 between areas of critical environmental concern, wild
37 lands and designated wilderness.

38

39

(Cell phone ringing)

40

41

42 MS. GRONQUIST: So those three
43 categories also goes into how those three different
44 designations -- and they're not really designations,
45 but categories will be managed. What it means to
46 subsistence, primarily the issue is access, with these
47 three different categories. And also she includes a
48 part on access for industry.

48

49

(Cell phone ringing)

50

1 MS. GRONQUIST: So currently BLM is
2 reviewing the manuals and determining what, if any,
3 changes are needed in our Draft RMP to make the RMP
4 consistent with this new policy.

5
6 Once the reviews and revisions are
7 completed and have been approved by our Washington
8 office, the Draft RMP and the environmental impact
9 statement will be released for public comment. We're
10 not sure how soon this is going to happen but we're
11 hoping that it'll be sometime later this spring.

12
13 We're planning on having a longer
14 public comment period than the normal 90 days for a
15 Draft RMP because this is a particularly large document
16 with four major planning areas being addressed.

17
18 We will notify this RAC, as well as
19 many other groups and individuals when the Draft RMP is
20 ready for public comment and we're very interested, as
21 I have said to this Council before, in getting comments
22 on the draft from the communities in the Eastern
23 Interior. And I'll put a plug in now for asking
24 through the Council, and we'll also be asking all the
25 communities, if they're interested in hosting public
26 meetings on the Draft RMP. So you can do that as a
27 Council or as individuals or, you know, encouraging
28 your communities to respond when they get the
29 notification that the comment period is going to begin.
30 And, again, Jeannie Cole is our planning coordinator
31 and she's the one that you can contact. Her number is
32 (907) 474-2340, and it'll show up in the transcripts
33 through the meeting notes.

34
35 So the handout I've given you, I've
36 already gone over a little bit, but I've also included
37 an overview of the ANILCA .810 evaluation and finding
38 process that's required for any environmental analysis
39 of proposed land uses so this is the process that we
40 use when somebody comes in and gives us a mining plan
41 of operations; it's what we use for request for a
42 special recreation permit; it's what we use for our
43 environmental impact statements as well.

44
45 So other than that, Jason Post is our
46 fisheries biologist for the area and he wanted me to
47 mention that the report on the Black River inventory
48 that he did, I believe in 2008 or nine, is nearing
49 completion and will be available after internal review.
50

1 So I'm going to end there and I'll take
2 any questions you may have.

3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions.
5 Andy.

6
7 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.
8 Ruth, we had a question earlier when you were out of
9 the room in regards to the wild lands and reading this
10 I'm really fully clear on how some of the rules and
11 regulations are made or how the plan is developed and
12 who develops it. So could you maybe just elaborate
13 very briefly on how these plans are developed and who
14 develops them.

15
16 MS. GRONQUIST: Andy, are you referring
17 to the policy on wild lands?

18
19 MR. BASSICH: Right.

20
21 MS. GRONQUIST: Well, it was developed
22 by the Secretary of Interior. It's coming out of that
23 office.

24
25 MR. BASSICH: Okay. But once these
26 lands are designated -- I see a thing here it says
27 there's no designated BLM wilderness in Alaska. I
28 guess what we were struggling with earlier is by
29 designating it wilderness what changes will take place
30 and how does that impact users of the area and if it
31 does impact them, what body -- what entity or what body
32 would be the authority to make changes; do you
33 understand my question?

34
35 MS. GRONQUIST: I think so and you can
36 put me back on the path you want me to go if I stray
37 too far.

38
39 But if you look at the second page of
40 this handout at the table.....

41
42 MR. BASSICH: Okay.

43
44 MS. GRONQUIST:wilderness
45 requires a Congressional designation.

46
47 MR. BASSICH: Okay.

48
49 MS. GRONQUIST: We are not going to be
50 recommending any wilderness designation. Wild lands,

1 and I wish I had a better term, I'm sure our planners
2 do, but wild lands is more like -- I guess it -- it's
3 being referred to, in this table, as an administrative
4 decision. So it's something that would be developed
5 through our land use planning process, which is what
6 we're doing right now, and would take effect when our
7 record of decision on the plan is signed. And then
8 those things can be changed later through plan
9 revisions or amendments.

10

11 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

14

15 MR. BASSICH: So that planning is done
16 through internal Staff at BLM, are those the people
17 that do the planning then, and what would be the public
18 input to that plan?

19

20 MS. GRONQUIST: The planning process is
21 done internally. When it comes -- almost -- well, yes,
22 it's done internally. And this plan has had a very
23 long life. Like I said earlier we had hoped that we
24 would have it out for public review last year, so we're
25 over a year behind our schedule primarily because of
26 the policy changes that bring us the wild land
27 inventory and designation.

28

29 Bring me back to center on your
30 question.

31

32 MR. BASSICH: Well, I think maybe what
33 I'll do is, Madame Chair, is rather than take up the
34 Council's time I'll just talk with you at a later time
35 and maybe I'll be able to formulate my question better
36 too.

37

38 MS. GRONQUIST: I will say that we've
39 already been through the scoping process. Every plan
40 of this nature -- every environmental impact statement
41 has a scoping period and that was conducted, I believe
42 in the spring of 2009, possibly even the spring of
43 2008.

44

45 MR. MATESI: Eight.

46

47 MS. GRONQUIST: Was it 2008 -- so you
48 can see how long this process has been taking. But
49 when it goes -- when we have our draft ready and it's
50 been given the blessing of the Washington office then

1 we'll release it to the public for the review period --
2 review and comment period, and, again, we want to go to
3 every village that wants us to come and talk to them
4 about -- to get public comment.

5

6 MR. BASSICH: Right. Okay.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

9

10 MR. FIRMIN: What was that phone number
11 again for public comment, I didn't quite catch it all?

12

13 MS. GRONQUIST: Well, the phone number
14 I gave you was if communities are interested in having
15 a public meeting to make comments on our draft plan and
16 EIS and that number is (907) 474-2340, and that's the
17 number to our planning coordinator, Jeannie Cole.

18

19 MR. FIRMIN: Thank you.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

22

23 MR. GLANZ: So earlier, when you were
24 gone, Ruth, there was something about making wild lands
25 out of the upper Black River past Chalkyitsik, but then
26 looking at this, that land is State designated at this
27 time for withdrawal, well, they say it's on the end of
28 the scale, so that was -- we wasted an hour of our time
29 today apparently then with talking about it if we're
30 going to bring it back later to discuss but it's BLM
31 lands, so it's not -- it's State designated withdrawal
32 lands so that thing -- we could throw that out the
33 window it sounds like, is what I'm understanding.

34

35 What I'm saying is wild wilderness
36 land, what is this thing called?

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wild lands.

39

40 MR. GLANZ: Wild lands. It has to be
41 on BLM or Federal ground then to take effect, correct?

42

43 MS. GRONQUIST: That is correct, Bill.

44

45 MR. GLANZ: Okay.

46

47 MS. GRONQUIST: And in fact the -- if I
48 understand what the discussion was about, although I
49 missed it, they were asking -- the resolution did cover
50 the upper Black River, which is part of our plan, it is

1 land we manage.
2
3 MR. GLANZ: Right. Yeah, but I see
4 there's a big swath of it that's State designated
5 withdrawal according to that one map I had earlier, but
6 it don't matter, we tabled it until a later date anyway
7 until we get everything -- but I was just thinking
8 making it easy and simple, you know, the KISS -- yeah,
9 okay.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The KISS
12 principle.
13
14 MR. GLANZ: Keep it simple stupid.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That was
17 selected land, not withdrawal.
18
19 MR. GLANZ: Oh, yeah, selected, yeah.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, yeah,
22 uh-huh. Okay.
23
24 MS. GRONQUIST: Correct. It is
25 selected land, if I understand. I mean I'm not looking
26 at the map right now and I wasn't.....
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And it says
29 low priority, I think.
30
31 MS. GRONQUIST:here for the
32 discussion. But it's also a low priority selection as
33 I understand it.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
36
37 MR. GLANZ: Right.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
40 We're going to have to fill ourselves full of
41 information after the meeting so you're right on top of
42 things at the next meeting. Okay, anything else Ruth.
43
44 (No comments)
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
47 Then.....
48
49 MR. GLANZ: I have one other thing.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: One.
2
3 MR. GLANZ: We'd like to thank Ruth
4 for giving us a hand with the Fortymile Caribou
5 Management Plan. Thank you, Ruth.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, Ruth.
8
9 MS. GRONQUIST: You're welcome.
10 And.....
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I believe you
13 started when Frank started, uh.
14
15 MS. GRONQUIST: Yes.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He's over
18 there.
19
20 MS. GRONQUIST: If Frank is still
21 here.....
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: My husband is
24 still here.
25
26 MS. GRONQUIST:we -- Frank and I
27 were at the beginning, at the ground level, but, of
28 course, really Frank was even in on the process earlier
29 because he's one of the folks from the public that
30 invited all of the interests to get going.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's my
33 husband back there, Frank Entsminger.
34
35 MR. GLANZ: Thank you also, Frank, from
36 us.
37
38 MS. GRONQUIST: Well, Madame Chair,
39 Council, thank you for.....
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
42
43 MS. GRONQUIST;opportunity to
44 address you.
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Ruth.
47 It's a pleasure working with you.
48
49 MS. GLANZ: Yes, very much.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. US
2 Fish and Wildlife Service, Arctic first. We get to see
3 Vince again.
4
5 MR. MATHEWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair --
6 Madame Chair.
7
8 (Laughter)
9
10 MR. MATHEWS: I've been at too many
11 meetings.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I've been
14 called worse.
15
16 MR. MATHEWS: I do have a 98 page
17 PowerPoint slide show to show.....
18
19 (Laughter)
20
21 MR. MATHEWS:but I think I'll
22 save that.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I believe
25 you.
26
27 (Laughter)
28
29 MR. MATHEWS: The other thing that you
30 may have noticed, you guys are subsistence users, I've
31 been surrounded by two law enforcement officers during
32 this whole meeting, so my reputation precedes me but
33 what I'm trying to bring up on that is, is that, do you
34 desire to have law enforcement present at your meeting,
35 to bring their perspective. I'd like to carry that
36 back to the office, if you desire that or don't.
37
38 MR. BASSICH: Yes.
39
40 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm hearing a
43 silent yes behind me or beside me. Yes, go ahead,
44 Bill.
45
46 MR. GLANZ: Well, yes, I agree with
47 that also and especially if a need arises to talk to
48 them about some issues but.
49
50 MR. MATHEWS: Okay, thank you because

1 that will help in different ways.

2

3

So first I'll talk about Arctic.

4 Arctic is basically going through their CCP process.

5 It's going to be published here, I think sometime in

6 April. And I'll give a handout here for you to take

7 home, and, now, of course, now I've lost it but I'll

8 get it -- oh, here it is, to Staff, so it's supposed to

9 be coming out on April 10th. And I need my notes on

10 the top -- thank you Polly.

11

12 DR. WHEELER: No problem.

13

14 MR. MATHEWS: I've got a couple of

15 questions. Did you guys receive the newsletter and

16 some of these other items. I believe you should have

17 -- okay, if you want another one -- we've already

18 received from the public that this caribou bookmark

19 should have a hunter in the picture so I'll carry that

20 back to the office.

21

22 (Laughter)

23

24 MR. MATHEWS: But anyways these are

25 things that are there. I don't want to downplay the

26 CCP, that's a Comprehensive Conservation Plan, you're

27 getting hit with a lot of plans in your region but as

28 you know those plans give direction both to the users

29 and the public.

30

31 So now we'll switch over to Yukon

32 Flats, if that's okay, because I do serve them also.

33

34 Okay, on Yukon Flats, on that note I

35 want to thank you for allowing the Refuge biologists to

36 talk about moose and wolves and other topics earlier on

37 in the agenda. I think that was very productive so if

38 you can help us find a good spot on your agenda to do

39 that to help you, that would be great. Because it is

40 the end of the day and it's difficult to get things

41 across.

42

43 The other thing we're doing or

44 continuing to do is government to government, that's a

45 new acronym for you, it's G2G.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 MR. MATHEWS: So if you see it in my

50 emails that's government to government. It took me a

1 while to figure that one out. But anyways, we're going
2 to be doing that and that's going to happen in March or
3 April and we're going to be talking about fire
4 management, wildlife management, is there support in
5 that wildlife management, is there support for wood
6 bison. We're going to be talking about the 2011 salmon
7 season and harvest and changes that have happened. And
8 the Federal Subsistence Board empowered us to work with
9 the villages to talk about options to subdivide fishing
10 district 5D, that would be Andrew Firmin's proposal.
11 And so we'll be doing that in addition to asking elders
12 about anything they've observed on climatic change.
13 Those look like they're going to be two day meetings,
14 if we can pull them off. One day would be a public
15 meeting and the other day would be a tribal council
16 meeting.

17

18 Let's see that gives you the government
19 to government and it gives you the other one.

20

21 And then I want to thank -- personally
22 thank Bill Glanz and Andrew Firmin, I'm the field
23 coordinator for the Wildlife Waterfowl Survey Program
24 and they were instrumental in getting surveys done for
25 your area. I want to remind them or let them know that
26 that survey process is possibly going to change and
27 we'll be finding out more about that. So I want to
28 thank them for doing that because that really helped,
29 and it shows your connections of your Council members.

30

31 And let me see, the last thing here for
32 -- I also work for Kanuti Refuge. We have created what
33 we're calling, or I'm calling hunter maps and I hope
34 to, if I get time, to look at that same concept for the
35 Yukon Flats area, i.e., it's a single map that a hunter
36 would have that would help he or she understand
37 boundaries as far as hunt seasons, not GO political
38 boundaries, okay, because us government people, myself,
39 in particular, it took a couple of meetings to get me
40 off of the fact that they really don't need to know
41 where Refuge lands are or private lands are, they
42 really need to know where the season is. And so
43 experimented with that on Kanuti and I hope to, if
44 possible, to carry that over. And then Phase II would
45 be a poster of just the hunt seasons for that area
46 because it is confusing.

47

48 And let me look at my notes real quick,
49 I think that's it. So I look forward to your next
50 meeting in Tanana.

1 Any questions.
2
3 And there are additional materials on
4 this, I brought them, but if you already got them, I
5 don't think you need any more to, unless you want to
6 carry them home, I don't think you need any more of
7 these.
8
9 (Laughter)
10
11 MR. MATHEWS: But I did request that
12 they be present here.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
15 members, questions. Donald.
16
17 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.
18 Thank you, Vince. This is C2G.
19
20 (Laughter)
21
22 MR. MATHEWS: Well, when I started this
23 new job I sit in these Staff meetings and they throw
24 around so many acronyms, I've been in the position for
25 a year and I still don't know what they're talking
26 about. We're blessed to have a Wounded Warrior on our
27 group that's a military program and that, and he stops
28 them in mid-track and says, what are you talking about
29 because literally there's so many acronyms, so I just
30 put that out as a joke, I'm not going to use G2G
31 because there's a whole 'another concept of G2G.
32
33 (Laughter)
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Didn't you
36 say C.
37
38 MR. WOODRUFF: (Nods affirmatively)
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: C, not G.
41
42 MR. MATHEWS: Right.
43
44 MR. WOODRUFF: Madame Chair, I think I
45 said C to G, being Council to government.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Just wanted
48 to be sure it wasn't citizen or something else.
49
50 (Laughter)

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone else.
2
3 MR. GLANZ: Thanks, Vince.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks,
6 Vince. All right. Tetlin. Peter gets to be last all
7 the time it seems.
8
9 MR. KELLER: I'm here for the entire
10 time anyway so it doesn't really matter.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Welcome.
13
14 MR. KELLER: You've heard about the
15 Chisana Caribou Herd Management Plan so I'm not really
16 going to touch on that.
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Peter, just
19 introduce yourself.
20
21 MR. KELLER: I'm sorry, Peter Keller,
22 wildlife biologist for Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
25
26 MR. KELLER: The Refuge has been
27 conducting telemetry flights for the Mentasta Caribou
28 Herd, which mixes with the Nelchinas as they come
29 across the Refuge and there's about 40 collars out on
30 the Mentastas and we really only found two or three
31 each month that we go out in non-year regular hunting
32 areas so we're not really concerned about any harvest
33 of the Mentastas on the Refuge.
34
35 Our hunt opened on November 6th and
36 we've had about 92 users issued permits so far.
37 Generally about 50 percent of those permits issued, the
38 people hunt and we have about 40 percent success
39 generally, so somewhere around 20 caribou are harvested
40 on the Refuge each year, it's pretty minimal.
41
42 And we've been having a lot of use of
43 our 17(b) easements, that was just cleared last year
44 across the Northway lands to the Refuge about Mile Post
45 1285 so it's been a success in that regard.
46
47 There is another 17(b) easement from
48 the Northway Airport and there's some conflict there
49 with a user who has been using that as a trapline for
50 many, many years. So we're working through the issues

1 there. Part of the issue, one big issue is that
2 there's no real way to get to the easement across the
3 airport because the FAA doesn't allow public use across
4 airports and they could potentially pull their funding
5 for the airport if that were the case, so we need to
6 get around it somehow, which is not terribly easy.

7

8 But anyway we're working on that and
9 hopefully we'll resolve those in the next year.

10

11 We've had a bunch of personnel changes.
12 We hired a new biologist last year Nate Berg and his
13 family are working out quite well. And two new
14 seasonal Refuge information technicians, basically, you
15 know, tribal liaisons to local villages Teddy Northway
16 and Sylvia Pitka, and we've got -- since we have two
17 RITs we're not going to refill Connie Friend's old
18 position and they are working out well, instead we're
19 going to be working -- we're going to be hiring a much
20 needed law enforcement officer since we haven't had any
21 for the past two or three years there.

22

23 And Tony Booth was our Refuge manager.
24 He left for the Wichita Mountains in Oklahoma and our
25 new manager should be coming in late April, his name is
26 Ryan Mullnow, he was previously the Deputy Manager at
27 Koyukuk Nowitna and went down to Ouray National
28 Wildlife Refuge in Utah, but he'll be coming up in the
29 next month.

30

31 So that's all I have.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
34 Any questions of Peter.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
39 thanks Peter. Our smaller Refuge in our area.

40

41 Okay, I think I'm falling apart, no,
42 migratory birds.

43

44 MR. FIRMIN: Already did it.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Already did
47 that.

48

49 MR. FIRMIN: Vince did it.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm sorry,
2 Vince, I must have not been paying attention.

3
4 DR. WHEELER: Madame Chair, there's
5 actually nothing to do, you'll be happy to know. It's
6 just a written briefing for you in the books. There
7 was some questions that came up about migratory birds
8 so it's on Page 81, beginning on Page 81 in your books,
9 so you can look at it at your leisure. It was just
10 informational, adding to the paper.

11
12 (Laughter)

13
14 DR. WHEELER: Madame Chair.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: More things
17 to sort out.

18
19 So we have now finished Park Service
20 and now we're down to other.

21
22 Okay, I believe Alaska Native Science
23 and Engineering Program, we pulled that out because
24 it's in our packet, and we added a couple things.

25
26 One is that I wanted to mention that
27 the Southcentral Regional Council sent us an invitation
28 to send somebody from our RAC to their RAC at their
29 next meeting which is the 16th and 17th. And I would
30 like to have gone to that but I'm not available and I
31 talked to Ralph Lohse, their Chair, and, you know, he
32 wasn't too concerned if someone didn't go. So I don't
33 know if anyone here would be interested in going
34 because we had asked to have a subcommittee for the
35 Chisana for us to be able to talk about the differences
36 and the issues between the two RACs. So I don't know,
37 we had invited them to come to our meeting and they
38 weren't able to come because of Board of Game meetings
39 and now we're kind of running into scheduling problems
40 once again.

41
42 So is anyone willing to go besides me,
43 who can't?

44
45 Donald.

46
47 MR. WOODRUFF: Madame Chairman, thank
48 you. Could you repeat the dates of that?

49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 16th and 17th

1 of March. I think that we're just going to tell them
2 that it can't happen and we'll ask Staff to keep
3 pursuing us getting together.

4

5 And then there was a -- we didn't
6 really appoint anybody to be a representative from our
7 RAC, I'm willing to because I've been deep into it and
8 if someone else would want to do it with me that would
9 be great, to be a representative on that issue.

10

(No comments)

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I'm
14 looking around the table.

15

(Laughter)

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I know Virgil
19 knows a small amount about it so.....

20

(Laughter)

22

MR. UMPHENOUR: Hum.....

24

(Laughter)

26

27 MR. GLANZ: Madame Chair. We should
28 ask for these volunteers at the first part of the
29 meeting instead of towards the end, everybody's more
30 okay I'll do it.

31

(Laughter)

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, right,
35 but in Fairbanks, and this is in Anchorage, yeah, and
36 you'll be here.

37

MR. UMPHENOUR: (Nods affirmatively)

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, okay,
41 well, it's just not going to happen this time, this
42 round of meetings. Things are coming up next meeting
43 so maybe something -- I would ask Staff to see if
44 there's a way for us to even meet by teleconference or
45 something, so we could talk, prior to the next round of
46 meetings -- yeah, okay, that'd be great.

47

48 And we brought up that aircraft thing,
49 the military fly over zones increasing, remember we
50 talked about that and we talked about a possible

1 letter; do you all remember?

2

3

MR. GLANZ: Yes.

4

5

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

6

7

MR. GLANZ: I mailed mine. But I'd
8 love to see our RAC send a letter of protest against
9 it.

10

11

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and
12 then in the letter you would protest the increase
13 and.....

14

15

MR. GLANZ: Protest the increase and
16 the hazard to other flight, plus I really don't know if
17 there's been any studies done with -- this is really
18 around our area, right over the Fortymile Herd with
19 their sonic booms, I mean 10, 15 20 in a row chasing
20 each other around the sky and I don't know what it may
21 do to the calving of their caribou. And they burned
22 the Charley River Refuge twice with their flares. And
23 so I mean -- you know, playing their games.

24

25

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

26

27

MR. UMPHENOUR: I don't know, maybe
28 someone from the Park, I see he's got his hand up,
29 knows about that. There is a mitigation.....

30

31

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Two of them
32 there.

33

34

MR. UMPHENOUR:committee for
35 examining that and I know the Park Service is involved
36 in it and then the State Fish and Game is involved in
37 it. But maybe they can tell us something about that.

38

39

MR. LIEBSCHER: Madame Chair. Tom
40 Liebscher, Chief of natural, cultural and fire for the
41 Park Service again. We've worked with Fish and Game
42 and have some post-calving studies of the aircraft in
43 times past but that was when the 810s, F16s and they
44 were just some of the new generation F15s. We don't
45 have any acoustics data currently for the F-22 Raptors
46 and as Bill mentioned there's more sonic booms, they
47 gain altitude quicker but there's more sonic booms in
48 the process. We don't have information on those. But
49 the information we did have on our calving -- post-
50 calving areas and we actually had forward observers and

1 we called in the strikes over the herds and there was
2 -- for the aircraft we saw and we used there was very
3 little disturbance that was recorded. But, again, that
4 was the older generation of aircraft and the new
5 generation we do not have the acoustics data. We also
6 did that for the peregrine and also for some sheep
7 lambing areas.

8

9 MR. GLANZ: So it really didn't affect
10 the sheep any at all out there then, in the Charley?

11

12 MR. LIEBSCHER: That's correct.

13

14 MR. GLANZ: Wow, okay. Because they're
15 pretty constant now with -- well, they're up there
16 again. And I'm not so much against our own military,
17 I'm against everybody in the world coming to train over
18 our country. And I think one of the members here was
19 talking about their husband had three encounters, close
20 encounters with military aircraft, so I just feel
21 they've got enough training area.

22

23 MR. LIEBSCHER: Through the Chair.
24 Also in times past there was a resource protection
25 council that was made up of State and Federal agency
26 people that worked with some of the mitigation measures
27 for the aircraft, and that group, due to a lot of
28 people retiring, moving on and our connections at
29 Elmendorf Air Force Base has somewhat diminished, but
30 we're trying to revitalize that effort right now
31 because it was a good forum to discuss some of the
32 issues and as Leif mentioned in Tok of some of his
33 encounters, near misses, that were outside of air space
34 -- or away from the conservation units, but still were
35 encounters, near encounters.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Barbara, do
38 you have something to add.

39

40 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madame
41 Chair. Barbara Cellarius, subsistence coordinator for
42 Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. And one
43 of the reasons I've been sitting in the back of the
44 room with my computer is that the comment deadline is
45 today and the SRC wanted me to write a letter.

46

47 So we -- the Wrangell-St. Elias SRC has
48 written a letter expressing concern about a variety of
49 resources and making sure that the analysis looks at
50 how those resources would be affected, it talks about

1 this issue of aircraft encounters, both for wildlife
2 surveys and for subsistence hunters and it talks about
3 the subsistence experience in having planes flying over
4 your head.

5
6 So I just wanted to let you know that
7 the Commission has written a letter.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that a
10 5:00 o'clock deadline like most government stuff.

11
12 MS. MUSHOVIC: It already has a
13 timeline, it's today.

14
15 MR. GLANZ: I believe you're right.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: One of the
18 things that was told to me about this, I think you told
19 me K.J., that if you write a letter, they're still
20 going to get it, right?

21
22 MS. MUSHOVIC: (Nods affirmatively)

23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you
25 talked to them about that, could you let the Council
26 know what you found out for us?

27
28 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thank you, Madame Chair.
29 Well, before they extended their deadline to today it
30 appeared that our group would meet after the deadline
31 had passed, and they did indicate at that time that
32 they would be willing to consider, although they
33 couldn't guarantee if you brought up some concern that
34 was new, that it would be fully addressed in their
35 environmental impact statement. But certainly it could
36 be considered. Anything that comes into the office
37 could be looked at, read, and considered.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh, I
40 see.

41
42 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thank you, Madame Chair.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But did you
45 find that out, Barbara, is that a -- is it a 5:00
46 o'clock deadline.

47
48 MS. CELLARIUS: You know I'm looking at
49 the notice, I just pulled it up on my computer. I'm
50 looking at the notice for the extension and my computer

1 is not helping. It mostly seems to be through March
2 4th and I'm not sure that it's giving me a time of day.

3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I think
5 -- you can continue looking for us there. But I think
6 it's wise for us to write a letter because two things;

7
8 They're extending the area;

9
10 And then the time of year that they're
11 doing it;

12
13 So your letter might be real helpful to
14 us to -- yeah.

15
16 MS. CELLARIUS: So I have emailed you
17 my letter, I can email it to anyone else who would like
18 it.

19
20 The other -- the one other thing I
21 would add that they felt that they should say in the
22 letter was requesting that there be closures during
23 things like hunting season so that.....

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: See, that
26 would be my suggestion too.

27
28 Go ahead Virgil.

29
30 MR. UMPHENOUR: What about calving and
31 lambing season.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I was
34 thinking of that earlier.

35
36 MR. LIEBSCHER: Through the Chair.
37 Those were some of the studies that we looked at but,
38 again, those were the earlier generation aircraft, you
39 know, there's a few F-15C and E models around yet but
40 we did not have any studies that involved the F-22
41 Raptor. As part of the 1997 Record of Decision and the
42 rollout of those military operating areas, there was
43 the creation of this resource protection council and I
44 suspect with their environmental impact statement that
45 they're preparing now and taking public comments on,
46 there will likely be some level of an oversight group
47 regarding the aircraft and mitigation that might be
48 needed. It was as a connected effort to that, Virgil,
49 that the Air Force funded several of these studies.
50 That was to allow the calving -- post-calving was off

1 of Joseph's airstrip and so we were able to get some
2 pretty good acoustics data as well as observations on
3 impacts to the caribou and as well as the sheep study
4 area.

5
6 Through the Chair.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What did I --
9 who said through the Chair?

10
11 MR. LIEBSCHER: I did.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you did,
14 it came behind me, sorry.

15
16 (Laughter)

17
18 MR. UMPHENOUR: I just want a followup
19 question.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

22
23 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay, I know I supplied
24 videos of them buzzing sheep when they lied to the
25 Troopers and said they didn't do that, that they showed
26 them back in the late '90s because I think it was Rob
27 Bosworth and -- took my wife and my son there because I
28 was at a Board of Fish meeting when they showed my
29 video, but anyway did they ever come up with anything
30 about telling those guys to quit buzzing the sheep and
31 stuff like that, to educate these young pilots?
32 Because -- now there's a guy that was a young pilot at
33 one time flying those things.....

34
35 (Laughter)

36
37 MR. UMPHENOUR:and I had lots of
38 buddies that did it and they were all just kids, that's
39 what those guys are, having a good time.

40
41 (Laughter)

42
43 MR. GLANZ: Were, otherwise you'd be
44 not dumb enough to do it.

45
46 (Laughter)

47
48 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. But, anyway, so
49 to educate them so that they're aware of what they're
50 doing because that's what I wanted the military to do

1 and I don't know if they ever did that or not, probably
2 not, but do you know if they did?

3

4 MR. LIEBSCHER: The efforts there are,
5 you know, the reporting mechanisms and as quickly as
6 we've gotten some calls in and reported the information
7 there were a -- a few years ago, again, over flights of
8 some of the villages where people saw the pilot's faces
9 so they were pretty close, and -- but it's improved, I
10 believe, but I think an oversight group is definitely
11 needed again and particularly with mitigation on an
12 annual basis. That was one of our big points of
13 discussion every year with Fish and Game was some
14 mitigation needed at certain times of the year for
15 whatever species.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, getting
18 back to the letter. I think did I -- was that a
19 motion?

20

21 MR. GLANZ: Well, I did but I don't
22 know if it's going to be even worthwhile if the comment
23 period's over with.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, I think
26 we ought to just do it.

27

28 MR. GLANZ: Okay. Well, I'll make a
29 motion that we draft a letter stating we oppose the
30 expansion of the military training and also to, like
31 Virgil said, maybe put in there during calving season
32 and hunting season let's hold off the flights.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

35

36 MR. LIEBSCHER: Currently the only air
37 space restriction that is over military operating areas
38 that include the Yukon Charley Preserve is there's a
39 2000 foot AGL above mainstem Yukon, that's it. All the
40 other -- a lot of the other mitigation was tied into
41 the delisted American peregrine falcon and we had a
42 five year timeframe after that, that we had some pretty
43 good teeth in things to help educate some of the out of
44 country and out of state young pilots that would come
45 through.

46

47 MR. GLANZ: The only thing is there was
48 -- I wish Leif was here.....

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Leif.

1 MR. GLANZ:because when you fly
2 that GPS is lit up all the time. Controlled air space.
3 Controlled air space. And what it is is probably the
4 DOD air space, and don't even think of going down by
5 Greely. I'll tell you I got this thing on my plane,
6 the minute the radar hits me it lights up, and it's --
7 going down the Yukon River even, out of Circle, there's
8 areas where it stays lit for 10, 15 miles at a time. I
9 have no idea where they're tracking me from but
10 something's locked on me so.....

11
12 (Laughter)

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wow.

15
16 MR. GLANZ: That's true up there.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh, yeah.

19
20 MR. GLANZ: Anybody flying, I'll show
21 you.

22
23 MR. ERHART: Stealth bombers.

24
25 (Laughter)

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

28
29 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame
30 Chairman. I think in this letter if we mention the
31 resource protection council, maybe if it's not active
32 we could reactivate it and participate in that a little
33 further.

34
35 Thank you.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So did I hear
38 a motion and a second.

39
40 REPORTER: No, no second.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh.

43
44 MR. BASSICH: No second.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I didn't

47 think so.

48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR: Oh, I'll second it.

50

1 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm hearing
4 several seconds now.
5
6 Okay, and we're discussing without a
7 second but that's okay, we're tired. Okay, who's going
8 to write the letter, K.J.....
9
10 MS. MUSHOVIC: Well.....
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:do you
13 have any trouble, get some.....
14
15 MS. MUSHOVIC:I just.....
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:help
18 from Barb.
19
20 MR. GLANZ: You got Barb's.
21
22 MS. MUSHOVIC: Well, except I can't
23 open it because it's in an incompatible format, I just
24 emailed her to -- yeah, if I have something to work
25 with I can -- I'll do it while we're working here.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That'd be
28 great.
29
30 MR. GLANZ: Thank you.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Good.
33 So any other discussion on this letter.
34
35 (No comments)
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question
38 called for. All in favor.
39
40 IN UNISON: Aye.
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
43 opposed.
44
45 (No opposing votes)
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And
48 then I had the annual report needs finalized.
49
50 Gentlemen, pull that up. We had our

1 suggestions in there and then we had the potential
2 addition that Greg Roczicka talked to us about.

3

4 Right now we have customary trade
5 mentioned, incidental harvest of Yukon origin salmon,
6 potential effects of the burbot predation on salmon
7 fry, intensive management on wildlife in practice of
8 non-rural users; potential effects of climate change on
9 seasons and bag limits, dog lice, Chisana caribou.

10

11 MR. UMPHENOUR: And hatcheries.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And
14 hatcheries, thank you Virgil. It's here I just didn't
15 read it. Over production of hatchery fish on wild
16 stocks, what process to evaluate this. And then study
17 funded in the Black River, I wrote this down.

18

19 MR. FIRMIN: It was to identify and
20 update the anadromous catalog, weren't they just doing
21 that and we said write a letter to have studies funded.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.

24

25 MR. UMPHENOUR: But we're getting a
26 report on the Black River.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you want
29 it in the annual report?

30

31 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, the BLM's going to
32 give us a report on the Black River as soon as they're
33 done manipulating it.

34

35 (Laughter)

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does that
38 meet your concerns of this?

39

40 MR. FIRMIN: It may or may not but I
41 was thinking more in the lines of mapping what's where,
42 because when Joe did hand me a bunch of information the
43 other day after we discussed that, because there is
44 information but it's that working relationship that
45 everybody just claims their own data and doesn't share
46 it with anybody until it's been manipulated to their
47 liking.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So I take
50 that to mean you want it in there.

1 MR. FIRMIN: (Nods affirmatively)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yep.
4
5 (Council nods affirmatively)
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Uh-
8 huh, all right, now, then we -- Greg's.....
9
10 MR. FIRMIN: Possibly you could change
11 it to study funded locally so it's a locally funded
12 study and not some genius from the University of Las
13 Vegas wanting to come up and study fish for 10 days.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: In-state,
16 locally, is that what you're trying to say?
17
18 MR. FIRMIN: Or in that area.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: In the area.
21
22 MR. FIRMIN: The Refuge or a CATG
23 study.
24
25 (Laughter)
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: CATG study.
28 I mean I need some wording for her so tell me what you
29 like. Locally is good.
30
31 MR. FIRMIN: So it would be in that
32 region, the Yukon Flats.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
35
36 MS. MUSHOVIC: Locally.....
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Locally,
39 Yukon Flats. All right. Any discussion on Greg
40 Roczicka's one page that we had attached to this.
41
42 Actual management of wildlife
43 populations on public lands to provide
44 for subsistence needs continues to
45 contradict Presidential and Secretarial
46 declarations as well as the spirit,
47 intent, promise and primary purpose of
48 ANILCA.
49
50 MR. UMPHENOUR: Where's Greg's letter

1 at?

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It was
4 attached to this.

5

6 MR. UMPHENOUR: Mine wasn't.

7

8 MS. MUSHOVIC: Do you need a copy of
9 it?

10

11 MR. FIRMIN: I got two.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Here's one
14 Virgil. Virgil, you didn't look at this, this could
15 take another hour.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Discussion.
20 Or do you want to bring it up. Can someone tell me,
21 that was the YK that put this forth and did the Western
22 Interior take this up?

23

24 MR. MATHEWS: Yes.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And what did
27 they do?

28

29 MR. MATHEWS: They had a meeting like
30 yours that had a lot of agenda items and they weren't
31 real clear on it so they didn't do anything on it. It
32 wasn't real clear to them what was in the document.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: See that's
35 the hard thing about this, some of this stuff is near
36 and dear to us and now we're out of time. Me,
37 personally, I -- all the work that we've done in the
38 past 10 years that I've been on the Council this is --
39 I sat at a meeting with Greg, I believe it was two
40 years ago, if anybody, if Staff can help me, it was --
41 Greg had a long discussion between the Chair regarding
42 how he believes that ANILCA does protect and can you
43 help me on that Polly?

44

45 DR. WHEELER: Well, it was in a
46 response to a proposal that Mr. Roczicka had submitted
47 dealing with wolves statewide, I believe. And, yeah,
48 there was a lengthy discussion between Mr. Roczicka and
49 the Chair at the time, Mike Fleagle, and Mike was, you
50 know, defending the program, I guess, and defending how

1 he felt that he and the Board were protecting
2 subsistence uses as mandated under ANILCA. But
3 reasonable people can disagree and clearly Mr. Roczicka
4 doesn't agree and he is pursuing this. And I think
5 this is his answer.....

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But in
8 the.....

9
10 DR. WHEELER:or his response.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But in his
13 discussion with Mike, it was like a light bulb went on
14 at the end of the discussion and then he said, yes, I
15 understand, you know, because Mike finally got his
16 point across and -- I mean Greg to Mike and it seemed
17 like -- without going back to the transcripts I can't
18 tell you exactly what happened. But I felt that --
19 because Greg put our October 2006 letter as an example,
20 look these guys have -- Eastern Interior's been working
21 on this for how long and you guys had this letter and
22 he argued and argued and argued and maybe you guys
23 don't want to go down this route but I know that this
24 is where we've been and maybe it's too late to do it
25 because there's not enough time. But I just want you
26 to know that this happened at that meeting, it was two
27 years ago.

28
29 Yeah, go ahead.

30
31 DR. WHEELER: Well, Madame Chair, I
32 mean I think that for the purposes of this Council the
33 direction that we got, I don't know an hour or so ago,
34 was that we were going to -- that K.J. and I would be
35 writing a letter to the Fish and Wildlife Service, for
36 whom we work, write a letter to the Fish and Wildlife
37 Service updating the 2006 letter and further kind of
38 including the new data. They said, okay, in 2006 you
39 said we needed X, Y and Z, now we have it, so that will
40 exert the same kind of pressure and perhaps more so
41 than including something like this as an addendum to
42 your annual report.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

45
46 DR. WHEELER: So I think your issue is
47 covered, just perhaps in a different way.

48
49 Madame Chair.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I feel
2 warm and fuzzy now.

3
4 (Laughter)

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I feel like
7 it's -- all right, great. So other people, discussion
8 on our annual report.

9
10 Donald.

11
12 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.
13 As a special action item we were discussing the rural
14 users on the National Marine Fisheries to the Governor,
15 now would that be appropriate to go in our report, that
16 we are sending this letter, because it's an appointment
17 by the Governor.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It sounds --
20 yeah, it sounds appropriate to me. Right, Polly?

21
22 DR. WHEELER: I think it's perfectly
23 appropriate. The Council has every.....

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

26
27 DR. WHEELER:reason to include
28 something like that in its annual report so that can be
29 included as well.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
32 there's another item.

33
34 Anything else.

35
36 (No comments)

37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So Staff can
39 help us with this -- yeah, great. Anything else,
40 Council.

41
42 (No comments)

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's getting
45 pretty late, huh. So.....

46
47 MR. BASSICH: Do we need a motion?

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.

50

1 MR. BASSICH: I'll make a motion. I'd
2 like to make a motion that we adopt the annual report,
3 as amended, with the additions discussed during this
4 meeting.
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: Second.
7
8 MR. GLANZ: I'll second.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's been
11 a motion to adopt with additions and seconded. Any
12 other discussion.
13
14 (No comments)
15
16 MR. BASSICH: Question.
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question's
19 been called for. All in favor.
20
21 IN UNISON: Aye.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
24 opposed.
25
26 (No opposing votes)
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Let me
29 look at the rest of this. Have I missed anything K.J.?
30
31 MS. MUSHOVIC: Now we have to go back
32 and revisit the minutes.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: K.J. says we
35 have to revisit the minutes because we asked for some
36 changes so she's got a one page of the change so you
37 need to take a look at this and be happy with it.
38
39 (Pause)
40
41 MR. GLANZ: I make a motion we adopt
42 the minutes as altered or adapt or what do you call it,
43 adjusted.
44
45 MR. BASSICH: Second.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that a
48 second, Andy?
49
50 MR. BASSICH: Yes.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
2 There's a motion on the floor to adopt the amendment to
3 the minutes or the change to the amendments [sic].
4 Discussion.
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 MR. FIRMIN: Question.
9
10 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question has
13 been called for. All in favor.
14
15 IN UNISON: Aye.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
18 oppose.
19
20 (No opposing votes)
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now,
23 we're down to election of officers. K.J. will take
24 over.
25
26 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thank you, Madame Chair.
27 I guess the first question to ask is are you willing to
28 continue as Chair, to consider continuing as Chair.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sure.
31
32 MS. MUSHOVIC: Great. With that said,
33 do I hear any other nominations for Chair from.....
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You need to
36 hear nominations.
37
38 MR. GLANZ: I'd like to nominate Virgil
39 for the vice Chair.
40
41 MS. MUSHOVIC: Wait, we're not there.
42
43 MR. GLANZ: Okay, oh, I misunderstood,
44 I'm sorry.
45
46 MS. MUSHOVIC: Do I hear any other
47 nominations for the position of Chair.
48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move nominations be
50 closed.

1 MS. MUSHOVIC: Okay.
2
3 MR. ERHART: Second.
4
5 MS. MUSHOVIC: Okay, there's been a
6 motion for the nominations to be closed and a second.
7
8 REPORTER: Wait, hold on -- well,
9 whatever, go ahead.
10
11 MS. MUSHOVIC: I'd like to call for a
12 vote, oh, can I do that, oh, can I do that, no,
13 like.....
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, you can.
16
17 MS. MUSHOVIC:somebody else needs
18 to do that.
19
20 MR. GLANZ: I'll call the question, I
21 guess if that has to be done.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But you
24 can.....
25
26 MS. MUSHOVIC: If that needs to be
27 done, thank you.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Because
30 you're conducting it.
31
32 MS. MUSHOVIC: Well, do I hear a -- a
33 show of yes -- all those.....
34
35 IN UNISON: Yes.
36
37 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thank you. Any opposed.
38
39 (No opposing votes)
40
41 MS. MUSHOVIC: Well, congratulations,
42 that motion was passed.
43
44 MR. GLANZ: A hard fought battle.
45
46 MS. MUSHOVIC: You may.....
47
48 (Laughter)
49
50 MS. MUSHOVIC:you may now take

1 over the rest of the elections.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
4 Now, I'm looking for nominations for vice Chair.
5
6 MR. GLANZ: I'd like to nominate Virgil
7 to maintain his seat as vice Chair if he so accepts.
8
9 MR. BASSICH: Second.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You don't
12 need a second for that.
13
14 MR. GLANZ: Okay.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
17 nominations.
18
19 MR. ERHART: I make a motion that
20 nominations be closed.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do I
23 hear a second.
24
25 (No comments)
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I have to
28 have a second on that.
29
30 MR. GLANZ: Oh, I'm sorry, and I can't
31 do it, I made the motion.
32
33
34 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All in
37 favor.
38
39 IN UNISON: Aye.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now,
42 for the secretary, nominations.
43
44 MR. GLANZ: I'd like to nominate Andrew
45 if he so will accept.
46
47 MR. FIRMIN: I so accept.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He did.
50

1 MR. GLANZ: He did, okay.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
4 nominations.
5
6 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move nominations be
7 closed.
8
9 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
10
11 MR. ERHART: Second the nominations be
12 closed.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's
15 another second. All in favor.
16
17 IN UNISON: Aye.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
20 opposed.
21
22 (No opposing votes)
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So did
25 we do it wrong, Polly?
26
27 DR. WHEELER: Tina, do you want to tell
28 them.....
29
30 REPORTER: Please, go ahead.
31
32 (Laughter)
33
34 DR. WHEELER: I'm sorry, Madame Chair,
35 you did because you actually weren't nominated.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's what I
38 thought, I tried to tell her twice but.....
39
40 (Laughter)
41
42 DR. WHEELER: So if you could go -- I
43 know it's a bureaucratic exercise but the Council's
44 FACA chartered and it needs to go by Robert's Rules and
45 blah, blah, blah.
46
47 (Laughter)
48
49 DR. WHEELER: The coordinator can't
50 nominate you, with all due respect.

1 (Laughter)
2
3 MR. GLANZ: I'd like to nominate Sue to
4 be our Chair for the next -- during this election.
5
6 MS. MUSHOVIC: But can we do it that
7 way. I mean.....
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
10
11 MR. UMPHENOUR: I move that nominations
12 be closed.
13
14 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
15
16 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
17
18 MR. GLANZ: Call the question.
19
20 (Laughter)
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Now you can
23 call for the question. All in favor.....
24
25 MS. MUSHOVIC: All in favor.
26
27 IN UNISON: Aye.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
30
31 MS. MUSHOVIC: Any opposed.
32
33 (No opposing votes)
34
35 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thank you.
36
37 DR. WHEELER: Clean as a whistle, we
38 didn't want to have any hanging chads.
39
40 (Laughter)
41
42 MR. GLANZ: Thanks for seeing that,
43 I'll tell you that.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We kind of
46 put you on the spot, didn't we.
47
48 MS. MUSHOVIC: I'm trying to do three
49 things at once.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that's
2 okay. K.J.'s being overworked over here, too.
3
4 Okay, next, we need to confirm the date
5 and location of the fall 2011 meeting and currently it
6 is, if you find your.....
7
8 MR. FIRMIN: Tanana.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, it's in
11 Tanana on October 11th and 12th.
12
13 MR. FIRMIN: Okay, we'll all eat a lot
14 of fish at Lester's house.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you say
17 fish head?
18
19 MR. FIRMIN: No, we'll eat a lot of
20 fish at Lester's house.
21
22 (Laughter)
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I thought you
25 were going to serve me fish head, but I bet Larry eats
26 fish head.
27
28 MR. WILLIAMS: Oh, yeah.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
31
32 MR. WILLIAMS: In July.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, I'm
35 waiting for it when I get to Tanana.
36
37 MR. ERHART: Okay.
38
39 (Laughter)
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So no
42 changes, we're just verifying that this is Tanana on
43 11th and 12th of October. Any conflicts.
44
45 MS. MUSHOVIC: Today.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Excuse me.
48
49 MS. MUSHOVIC: An extra day.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I bet you
2 wouldn't even give us an extra day if we wanted it?
3
4 DR. WHEELER: That's not true.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Really?
7
8 DR. WHEELER: Oh, absolutely. I know
9 fall over, knock you over with a feather.
10
11 (Laughter)
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We could have
14 done that for this meeting.
15
16 DR. WHEELER: Yes. I mean we have
17 Councils that take three days to go through their
18 business so if this Council feels that it needs three
19 days to go through to do its business then, you know,
20 we can do three days. One option might be to fly in in
21 the morning and you could have an afternoon session and
22 that sort of thing, but, no, it's at the will of the
23 Council.
24
25 Madame Chair.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's a
28 really good idea, to fly in in the morning and then
29 take two and a half days.
30
31 MR. GLANZ: What's the holiday on the
32 10th, I'm worried about air flights, what is that
33 holiday?
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Veterans or
36 what is it?
37
38 MR. GLANZ: No, Veteran's is in
39 November.
40
41 DR. WHEELER: Columbus Day.
42
43 MR. GLANZ: Columbus, oh, then they'll
44 be flying.
45
46 (Laughter)
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They'll be
49 flying.
50

1 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.
2
3 (Laughter)
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I guess
6 the thing to remember is -- K.J., have you already
7 looked into this, are we going to have problems?
8
9 MR. UMPHENOUR: With what?
10
11 MS. MUSHOVIC: I've been in contact
12 with the owners of the store/cafe/bed and breakfast/
13 Erickson's Dale and Cindy. They have assured me that
14 they can accommodate our group and will be happy to do
15 so.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I was more
18 concerned about the flights.
19
20 MS. MUSHOVIC: Oh. There's three
21 different air carriers.
22
23 MR. FIRMIN: Two.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Because of
26 that holiday?
27
28 MS. MUSHOVIC: Oh, I'm sorry, I wasn't
29 following. I still think it could be a concern because
30 of the fact that a lot of the carriers subsidize their
31 flights.....
32
33 MR. FIRMIN: The mail.
34
35 MS. MUSHOVIC:because of the mail
36 and if there's no mail delivery that day, the day
37 before could be a problem.
38
39 MR. FIRMIN: If the flight is full of
40 Federal employees or us, I'm sure they'll take us
41 because the flight will be booked and they'll make
42 their money.
43
44 MS. MUSHOVIC: And that's the
45 other.....
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh.
48
49 MS. MUSHOVIC:thing to consider
50 is that it will probably go.

1 MR. FIRMIN: And another thing was
2 maybe a third day would be good to schedule or an extra
3 half day simply because of all the fish issues and that
4 will be right after fishing and hunting season. And
5 remember when we had our meeting in Fort Yukon it was
6 like one whole day of public testimony.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I know. I
9 know. He's still talking. I see you Virgil. I see
10 you.

11
12 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But he was
15 still talking, are you done?

16
17 MR. FIRMIN: I was done. That's all I
18 had.

19
20 MR. GLANZ: He's right about the
21 fishing and hunting.

22
23 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

26
27 MR. FIRMIN: I'm sure the town's going
28 to line up out the door for public testimony.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Virgil.

31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I don't know if
33 you remember the last time we went to Tanana, it's been
34 a long time ago.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I remember.

37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, Tanana's a
39 fishing village there will be lots of participation in
40 this meeting in Tanana and so it wouldn't hurt to have
41 an extra day. But Wrights flies that Caravan, it can
42 hold.....

43
44 MR. FIRMIN: Eight, nine.

45
46 MR. UMPHENOUR:eight or nine
47 people and gobs of luggage and freight and everything
48 else and I know.....

49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They'll fly

1 on the 10th.

2

3 MR. UMPHENOUR:regular scheduled
4 flights with the Caravan will get most of us there with
5 all the gear.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, if this
8 meeting was going to be just the 11th and 12th, we
9 would have been flying on the 10th, right, yeah, so I
10 just wonder if we should just fly the morning of the
11 11th and then come back the 13th. I don't know, I'm
12 just throwing out ideas. You got some ideas?

13

14 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah, their flight
15 leaves at 10:00 in the morning is when it leaves
16 Fairbanks.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, well, I
19 don't want to leave.....

20

21 MR. UMPHENOUR: Wright's does.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But do you
24 charter?

25

26 MR. UMPHENOUR: But they'll -- but Bob,
27 the owner, lives in Fairbanks, it's easy to deal with
28 him.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Change it,
31 yeah.

32

33 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah. He'll send two
34 planes if he needs to.

35

36 MR. ERHART: Times seven.

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 MR. UMPHENOUR: Polly wants to say
41 something.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

44

45 DR. WHEELER: Madame Chair. I was
46 going to say schedule the days, we'll take care of the
47 logistics and, you know, if you're choice is to go in
48 on the 11th have an afternoon session on the 11th or
49 whatever, we'll carry that, we hear your intent and let
50 us worry about.....

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
2
3 DR. WHEELER: Please let us worry with
4 our government travel nightmare.
5
6 (Laughter)
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I love that
9 word, you worry about it.
10
11 (Laughter)
12
13 DR. WHEELER: Let us worry about the
14 logistics.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So then we'll
17 go through the 13th.
18
19 DR. WHEELER: That's my understanding.
20
21 MR. FIRMIN: Do we need a motion to
22 extend another day?
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do we need a
25 motion to extend it another day?
26
27 DR. WHEELER: No.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
30
31 (Laughter)
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.
34
35 MR. BASSICH: I just want to let
36 coordinators and OSM Staff know that Everts Airlines is
37 incredibly unreliable for us and on a holiday they
38 seldom come into Eagle. So if Monday the 10th is a fly
39 day I would confirm with them right now before you get
40 too involved in this, that they would indeed fly on
41 that date. But we have really poor service out of
42 Eagle.
43
44 (Laughter)
45
46 MR. BASSICH: Sorry,that's the way it
47 is.
48
49 DR. WHEELER: We heard that loud and
50 clear, let us worry about the.....

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, so then
2 they could just.....
3
4 DR. WHEELER:logistics but thank
5 you for that head's up.
6
7 MR. BASSICH: Yep, just forewarn you.
8
9 DR. WHEELER: We are forewarned.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Our window of
12 time could be the 11th through the 14th, because the
13 14th is still open for -- is that okay, you don't like
14 that idea, do you?
15
16 DR. WHEELER: No, no, no, that's fine.
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.
19
20 DR. WHEELER: And we've gone past the
21 windows before so I'm not worried about it, trust me.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.
24
25 DR. WHEELER: So the 11th to the 14th,
26 we've got it we'll figure it out.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
29 great. All right. And then select a date and location
30 for the winter 2012. And it was.....
31
32 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. Can we
33 keep the same dates. One of the things that I've been
34 encouraging for many years from all these different
35 groups and organizations to pick a day or a week of the
36 month when they want to have their meetings and try and
37 stick to it as close to possible every year, it makes
38 it a lot easier for people to schedule way ahead of
39 time. I know for you guys who are guides, it's an
40 issue for sometimes. I know for me in the spring time
41 it's a real issue trying to plan trips for clients and
42 things like that, which is often a year in advance.
43
44 So anything we can do to standardize it
45 would greatly assist in that area.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, the
48 problem I run into personally is the fact that Frank
49 was selling his art work in the state and it usually
50 conflicts at the same time as these meetings.

1 Okay, I'm looking at it, where are we
2 here.

3
4 MR. BASSICH: It doesn't matter to me
5 when it is but let's try and get a time and stick with
6 it is I guess the point I'm trying to make, if we can,
7 to the extent practicable.

8
9 DR. WHEELER: Page 85 in your book is
10 the winter 2012 calendar.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I got it but
13 we don't have anything on it as well, that's what's --
14 Donald.

15
16 MS. MUSHOVIC: Oh, Madame Chair, we
17 know the dates of some meetings.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Already.

20
21 MS. MUSHOVIC: Do you have yours
22 penciled in. The 14th and 15th will be Seward
23 Peninsula in Nome. The 22nd and the 23rd is the YK-
24 Delta in Emmonak. And that's where I.....

25
26 DR. WHEELER: And February 28th and
27 29th is Western Interior. And I can't remember where
28 they're meeting -- we're talking about winter, it's
29 Holy Cross at this point.

30
31 MR. GLANZ: What about March 6th and
32 7th, dead center plus is equal right around our time
33 now.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 6th and 7th.

36
37 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I'm not going to
38 come. I'm not going to come. I've been saying for
39 years this month of March is the most important month
40 of the year for most people who live out in the remote
41 areas, especially out in the Bush and I'm already
42 committed during the Yukon River Panel for 10 days in
43 March and I'm just not going to give up any more, I got
44 to put my foot down somewhere. But don't let me stop
45 the rest from coming.

46
47 MR. GLANZ: Well, pick a date Andy.
48 Pick a date.

49
50 MR. BASSICH: Well, come early in

1 February then, let's just go earlier in February.
2 February's a month it's dark, it's cold, I'd rather sit
3 around then but I'm not going to sit around during
4 March anymore.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Calm down.
7 Take a deep breath.

8
9 MR. BASSICH: I'm sorry, I've been
10 fighting this for years.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, but,
13 you know, we all fight our schedule.

14
15 MR. BASSICH: It's not a big issue, go
16 for it, pick your dates, I'm fine. I'll come if I can
17 come and I won't if I won't.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

20
21 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame
22 Chairman. I just want to enlighten some people.
23 Through the month of February trapping season is on
24 until the 28th and 29th this next year and there's
25 going to be some people out harvesting and pulling
26 their traps up until the 29th of February and if we
27 want subsistence users to participate in the resource
28 then we can't exclude them.

29
30 Thank you.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What's on the
33 agenda, it's all fisheries again. We got kind of
34 hammered on fisheries, or is it wildlife?

35
36 DR. WHEELER: I'm sorry Madame Chair,
37 my brain is seizing up.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's
40 wildlife, I'm sorry, for proposals.

41
42 DR. WHEELER: It'll be call for --
43 it'll be fish, it'll be fish, we do fish every other
44 year, yeah it'll be fish. It'll be fish next year.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
47 Virgil.

48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR: Why can't we do it on
50 the weekend? Why couldn't we do it say the second and

1 third of March? That would be a Friday and a Saturday,
2 and then if we needed time we could go on Sunday.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It doesn't
5 bother me.

6

7 MR. FIRMIN: It sounds good to me.

8

9 MR. ERHART: It sounds good to me.

10

11 MR. UMPHENOUR: That would accommodate
12 Andy, that would accommodate Don.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

15

16 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.
17 I think that's going to work out for a lot of the
18 people that would participate in that. I mean what I'm
19 referring to is not just my trapline but everybody in
20 the Interior, and in Sue's and perhaps a good part of
21 the Council will be out trapping and pulling traps and
22 so the first part of March would work very fine because
23 often Park Service, BLM, State Troopers and a bunch of
24 people show up on snowmachines and ask me, are my traps
25 pulled on the 28th of February.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
30 Okay, anyone else.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That works
35 for everyone.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 MR. FIRMIN: Location.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Now location.
42 He's writing me notes. What'd you say.

43

44 MR. FIRMIN: Let's have the meeting in
45 Eagle.

46

47 MR. BASSICH: There's no access --
48 well, you can fly in.

49

50 MR. FIRMIN: It's on the highway

1 system.
2
3 MR. BASSICH: The roads aren't open
4 yet.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They don't
7 plow it.
8
9 MR. FIRMIN: Where do they stop plowing
10 it at, at Chicken?
11
12 MR. GLANZ: No, at Tetlin.
13
14 MR. FIRMIN: Or Tetlin.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They don't
17 plow it they.....
18
19 MR. BASSICH: They don't plow it at
20 all.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, they
23 stop, they go right by it. Most of the people can
24 travel on -- I mean you guys did, didn't you, it just
25 depends on the year, how many people have been up and
26 down making little tracks.
27
28 MR. GLANZ: We sure didn't see any the
29 other day when we was flying past there, going to the
30 Fortymile meeting.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You didn't
33 see -- snowmachines, yeah. That'd be kind of fun,
34 let's all go to Eagle on snowmachines.
35
36 MR. FIRMIN: We could meet in Tok.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It'd probably
39 take us as long.
40
41 (Laughter)
42
43 MR. FIRMIN: As long as the Fortymile
44 Herd is open, the season.
45
46 (Laughter)
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We could have
49 our little winter hunt as we're at it.
50

1 Okay, we need a place. And are we
2 still restricted on these hub things?
3
4 DR. WHEELER: You know, again, we don't
5 know what our budgets look like, we don't anticipate
6 that our budgets are going to increase, it was a cost
7 savings measure. What I would recommend is that you
8 have -- if you pick an alternative location, you also
9 pick an alternate so that if the one place doesn't work
10 out you've got another place that you know will work
11 out. But that would be my suggestion, Madame Chair.
12
13 MR. UMPHENOUR: Since they opened
14 Crab's Corner back up, except it's named something
15 else, can we.....
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Where is
18 that?
19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR:stay at Central
21 now, because we were going to go to Central.....
22
23 MR. GLANZ: Right, we've been trying to
24 get up there.
25
26 MR. UMPHENOUR:before and
27 couldn't because of the place closing down.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What do you
30 have, Larry, just a minute.
31
32 MR. GLANZ: Okay.
33
34 MR. WILLIAMS: I respectfully request
35 that we pick a time and a place and get this over with.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Central.
38
39 (Council nods affirmatively)
40
41 MR. GLANZ: Yes, there would be -- I've
42 talked to the owners already and it's paid in cash so
43 the place ain't going to shut down like it's been
44 doing. And the school is closed so that was my plan to
45 utilize that for our meetings, that they'll still have
46 heat on at the end of school, what Andrew was telling
47 me, but we'll go and fire it up so -- but anyway
48 there's probably bedding for 20, maybe 20 at the corner
49 and maybe put eight or 10 up across the street in the
50 BLM building there. I know there's, two, four, no

1 there's, two, four -- there's 16 bunks -- or eight
2 bunks, I believe in there at the BLM station.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So.....
5
6 MR. GLANZ: I'd be happy to have you at
7 Central if anybody wants to go there.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So Central is
10 the first choice.
11
12 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And the
15 second choice. You want to go Fairbanks, again?
16
17 (Council nods affirmatively)
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any
20 objection.
21
22 MR. FIRMIN: Do we need a fall back for
23 Tanana if for some reason we can't make it?
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We probably
26 should, uh?
27
28 DR. WHEELER: (Shakes head negatively)
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No. It
31 pretty much planned it sounds like.
32
33 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.
34
35 DR. WHEELER: Yeah, I think you're set
36 to go on Tanana.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Probably what
39 will happen is Fairbanks if something falls through,
40 yeah, okay.
41
42 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. Yeah.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
45 Council appointments to the -- appoint members to this
46 Tri-Council customary trade subcommittee. I need
47 volunteers.
48
49 DR. WHEELER: I believe you did that
50 yesterday, Madame Chair.

1 MR. FIRMIN: I believe we did that six
2 months ago.
3
4 DR. WHEELER: Or at the last meeting,
5 I'm sorry.
6
7 MS. MUSHOVIC: At the last meeting, but
8 do you want to review.....
9
10 MR. UMPHENOUR: It's in our minutes.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's in our
13 minutes, I don't think we have to go through it again.
14
15 Yeah, Donald.
16
17 MS. MUSHOVIC: You don't need to look
18 at that?
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
21 Donald.
22
23 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.
24 I reviewed the request by the Subsistence Board and
25 they requested three members from three Councils, I
26 think we only appointed two, well two volunteers so
27 far.
28
29 MR. FIRMIN: I remember Bill, myself
30 and Andy.
31
32 MR. WOODRUFF: Okay, thank you.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I was
35 going to suggest Larry you be an alternate to go to
36 this Tri-Council meeting.
37
38 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
39 When I first came into this -- when I was having
40 orientation I was talking to K.J. about this customary
41 trade. I grew up in customary trade, my mom and my dad
42 engaged in it and there's a lot of other families up
43 and down the Yukon River where I grew up that engaged
44 in this, customary trade, that you call it now. At
45 that time we were calling it barter and we did -- you
46 sold your fish to the school teacher or the storekeeper
47 for cash money for things that you couldn't manufacture
48 on your own. And now days I have a hard -- now I have
49 a hard time understanding what the big deal is about
50 it, you know, it's still going on, I engage in it.

1 When I have a little fish left over that I want to --
2 most of the time I give it to them, either my auntie or
3 my sister when they can't go out and they give me maybe
4 a check to cover my expenses, I don't want to take it
5 but I don't want to insult them by refusing it. And
6 there's no big deal about it in my mind but what we
7 should do is go after these people that engage in it in
8 big time, like over \$10,000 or 15,000 of whatever they
9 make, you know, but there's little -- just in my own
10 mind.

11
12 But the Council can do whatever they
13 feel is appropriate for this C&T, that's my feeling
14 anyway.

15
16 Thank you, very much.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry, what I
19 was thinking and I'm asking the Council, I feel like
20 someone like Larry would be excellent to be on that
21 Tri-Council panel because you live it, you've been
22 there, and who do we have again?

23
24 MR. GLANZ: I'd be happy to send Larry
25 in my place, I mean if this.....

26
27 REPORTER: Bill. Bill.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Mic.

30
31 MR. GLANZ: Oh, sorry, late in the day.

32
33 (Laughter)

34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

36
37 MR. GLANZ: I'd be happy to let Larry
38 go in my place to the Tri-Council meeting.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, let's
41 just say that -- I mean would you agree that you would
42 like to be part of that?

43
44 MR. WILLIAMS: Well, like I said, you
45 know, I would go into that Tri-Council meeting with an
46 open mind but, you know, it's pretty much in my mind
47 that I've made up but I would respectfully listen to
48 their recommendations and how they feel about it and
49 then make my decision based on that. But I don't want
50 to take Bill Glanz place here.

1 I would say that you can put me down as
2 an alternate in case somebody don't want to go, you
3 know.

4
5 MR. GLANZ: Okay. Well, because I mean
6 your views aren't going to be any different than
7 Andrews or mine or anybody else sitting on this council
8 so I mean you should go. Like he's the alternate so if
9 I can't make it he has to go, right?

10
11 (Laughter)

12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

14
15 (Laughter)

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's do it
18 that way, okay.

19
20 (Laughter)

21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's four
23 of you and one of you is an alternate, okay.

24
25 MR. GLANZ: Okay.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does
28 everybody agree?

29
30 (Council nods affirmatively)

31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

33
34 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, just maybe to help
35 you, Larry, too, I think at this Tri-Council meeting,
36 there's no formal decisions being made. What the
37 process is going to be, my understanding, is that it's
38 a group of people from the three RACs that will hash
39 over the issues of customary trade, make
40 recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board and
41 that will also come before this Council before it goes
42 to the Federal Subsistence Board for approval. So it's
43 not like this is an end all and the discussion, I don't
44 think, is going to revolve around getting rid of
45 customary trade, I think that's well recognized. I
46 think the discussion's probably going to be based more
47 on some type of recording methods or limit -- limits to
48 customary trade, those sorts of discussion. So I just
49 wanted to make sure that that was clear, what the
50 procedures are going to be to address the issue.

1 MR. WILLIAMS: Can I make a quick
2 comment on that.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.
5
6 MR. WILLIAMS: Like at my Advisory
7 Group meeting I told them, keep it short and to the
8 point, you know, anyway.....
9
10 (Laughter)
11
12 MR. WILLIAMS:yeah, I realize
13 that that no decision's going to be made but, you know,
14 like I said I'm going to respectfully listen to all the
15 comments and try to participate as much as I can but
16 it's a very controversial issue to my people in my
17 area, you know, because a lot of them engage in
18 customary trade in a small way so I have to think about
19 them and all that.
20
21 Thank you, very much.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know,
24 Larry, that's all we ask of you to do.
25
26 MR. GLANZ: That's right.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that's
29 the best you can do is you listen and you try to work
30 with people. That's great.
31
32 The last on the list here is Council
33 member recognition. Something special might happen.
34 And then you can prepare yourself for closing comments.
35
36 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
37 We have a Council member who has, as of December 2nd,
38 completed five years of service and the Office of
39 Subsistence Management and your fellow Council members
40 would like to recognize that contribution. If you'd
41 come up, Polly.
42
43 DR. WHEELER: Well, thank you, Bill.
44
45 MR. GLANZ: Oh, I thought it Polly was
46 getting it.
47
48 DR. WHEELER: I wish.
49
50 MR. GLANZ: I'm sorry.

1 (Laughter)
2
3 DR. WHEELER: It's a certificate of
4 appreciation and it reads in recognition of his
5 contribution, that would be his contribution, to the
6 Federal Subsistence Management Program as a member of
7 the Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional
8 Advisory Council for the years 2005/2010.
9
10 MR. GLANZ: Well, thank you very much.
11
12 DR. WHEELER: Thank you very much for
13 your service and here's a mug that you can put a
14 beverage of your choice in.
15
16 MR. GLANZ: Budweiser will fit just
17 right in there.
18
19 (Laughter)
20
21 DR. WHEELER: Thank you very much, sir.
22
23 MR. GLANZ: Thank you.
24
25 (Applause)
26
27 MR. BASSICH: Now, you got five more
28 years to go, Bill.
29
30 MR. GLANZ: Well, I put in for three
31 more, we'll see what happens.
32
33 MR. BASSICH: We need you for five more
34 here.
35
36 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I know, I'm just
37 saying.....
38
39 (Laughter)
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: My cup's
42 already wearing out.
43
44 (Laughter)
45
46 MR. GLANZ: You got yours -- was it
47 last year you got yours? No, two years -- I can't
48 remember Sue.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's been

1 awhile already.
2
3 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I thought it
6 was five but maybe it was less than that.
7
8 MR. GLANZ: No, two years, I think it
9 was -- you got a 10 year pin I think, wasn't it, or
10 something.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Five. But,
13 anyway, go ahead. Do we have something else going on
14 here with the computer right there.
15
16 MS. MUSHOVIC: If it works I could show
17 you a draft of that military operations area letter,
18
19 MR. GLANZ: Outstanding.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. She's
22 taking notes from Robert, try to get the letters done
23 at the meeting.
24
25 MS. MUSHOVIC: And if this doesn't work
26 I can put it on a thumbdrive, run upstairs and print it
27 out and run back down while you guys are commenting.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
30
31 MR. FIRMIN: It's not too bright.
32
33 MR. GLANZ: It's coming.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's called
36 patience, uh.
37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Why don't you turn the
39 lights off up there.
40
41 (Laughter)
42
43 MS. MUSHOVIC: It's saying it's not
44 reading it.
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: While she's
47 doing that do we want to patient or do we want to start
48 our closing comments.
49
50 MS. MUSHOVIC: You guys start I'm going

1 to run upstairs.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Start, okay.

4

5 MS. MUSHOVIC: I'm working on it.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do you
8 want to start Donald.

9

10 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you. Mr. Chair. I
11 think it's a real honor and a pleasure for me to be
12 able to sit on this Council and work with everyone.
13 And like Larry said we try to keep an open mind and
14 share ideas. And, I, personally, prefer to be quiet as
15 much as possible and listen because I learn so much
16 that way.

17

18 I want to thank everyone on the Council
19 and the Staff, most of which have left. But I want to
20 just say that I really appreciate everybody's point of
21 view and I can take that back home and share that with
22 the people that are interested in this subsistence
23 lifestyle.

24

25 I thank you very much Madame Chairman
26 for your services and Bill's five year commitment. And
27 our court reporter rarely gets acknowledgement but I
28 was just talking to some people that were at the Black
29 River Working Group and they were amazed at how clear
30 and precise the transcripts, minutes and the data was,
31 thank you very much.

32

33 Madame Chair.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Frank.

36 Wisdom.

37

38 MR. GURTLER: Well, it's been good
39 working with everyone but I didn't re-up for election
40 on this. I have other things I want to do and actually
41 I wish I could have stayed on or at least be nominated
42 but I had other things to do and I want to thank
43 everybody for not getting after me too much. Thanks
44 Fish and Game and Parks and everybody for putting up
45 with me.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Putting up
50 with you, goodness, it's a pleasure to have you here.

1 Lester.

2

3 MR. ERHART: Yeah, I want to thank

4 everybody too for being here and I feel it's a pleasure

5 to be on this board. And I re-uped again so.....

6

7 (Laughter)

8

9 MR. ERHART:I want to thank

10 everybody.

11

12 MR. GLANZ: Okay, it's my turn. I just

13 appreciate the award. I'm going to miss Frank because

14 he's fun to work with here. And I think -- well, we

15 did see one thing, when we did have our coordinator,

16 Vince, stationed in Fairbanks, when I came on to here,

17 to this board, I had a whole, half a day, maybe more,

18 six hours, I can't remember, I spent with Vince going

19 over Title VIII and so forth and so on, and all the way

20 through, where these newer guys came on, Joe and Larry,

21 and it was the same impression that -- like I said the

22 other day about Matthew Gilbert, he thinks well we have

23 a vote and bingo it's the law, we're good to go but,

24 you know, they didn't realize the long process. But

25 K.J.'s doing a great job, I don't mean anything

26 derogatory, I'm just stating it was a lot better when

27 we had one based here but it's never going to happen

28 again due to budget constraints and it's no fault of

29 anybody in the audience or anybody in the state.

30

31 So anyway I had fun and appreciate

32 everybody coming and helping and putting in their

33 thoughts and look forward to seeing you this fall.,

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

36

37 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, this meeting turned

38 out pretty great. I think I'd also like to thank our

39 court reporter because I see her burning the midnight

40 oil over here.....

41

42 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

43

44 MR. FIRMIN:at 10:00, 11:00

45 o'clock at night setting up stuff for the next day.

46

47 And thank Bill. And K.J.'s not here

48 but she's been doing a good job for keeping in contact.

49 I don't know if you all get the flood of emails that I

50 do from her but they are quite informative and they

1 help you have the knowledge of stuff before you get to
2 the meeting so you actually know what something is so
3 you don't have to read it from scratch in front of you.

4
5 And sad to see Frank go, but if you got
6 other things to do, you have other things to do.

7
8 And other than that I think I don't
9 have a problem with going three days in other places if
10 we have to on some issues, and I hope that everyone
11 else feels the same and I think we'll have a good
12 meeting in Tanana this fall.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I want to thank
17 all the Staff for all their reports and the book and
18 all that other stuff to keep us informed and I've been
19 getting lots of emails also to try to keep me informed.

20
21 And just thank everyone for being civil
22 to each other and working together. I think we work
23 together real well.

24
25 Thank you.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry.

28
29 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
30 This meeting went real well. Everybody was civil
31 towards each other like Virgil said and there was no
32 harsh words exchanged. I'd like to thank K.J. for
33 giving me a brief orientation when I first came in on
34 Wednesday.

35
36 And there's another brief comment I'd
37 like to make, is that, we should all encourage our
38 younger generation to start taking over in our villages
39 to -- when we had our meeting in Arctic Village I
40 really spoke strongly for that and I think I put a few
41 ideas into their heads because I heard a few comments,
42 positive comments about applying for these boards and
43 see if they can get appointed. So I think that we all
44 should encourage the younger generation in our villages
45 to participate more in these meetings.

46
47 Thank you.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

50

1 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.
2 Frank I'm going to miss you. I thought you brought --
3 over the years you've brought a really valuable insight
4 in your knowledge and experience. I know I learned a
5 lot from it and it actually influenced a lot of my
6 points of view so good luck on whatever it is you want
7 to go do but I'm going to miss your points of view. I
8 think you were a very good stabilizing force on the
9 Council, very reasonable and also questioned new
10 regulations and I think that's a really good point of
11 view to have on this Council. We always have a
12 tendency of always wanting to create new regulations to
13 fix problems and you were always a really good check on
14 that. So thank you for that.

15
16 I want to just extend my
17 congratulations to Sue for getting through her health
18 issues and I'm really glad to hear that you're doing
19 well so we look forward to having you here for a long
20 time, you do a good job of Chairing the meetings and we
21 know it's so much work for everyone.

22
23 I wanted to also thank Andrew for his
24 time spent at the Federal Subsistence Board meeting.
25 These are all jobs that take a lot of time and a lot of
26 commitment and both of you have done those jobs so
27 well, so thank you for that. I really enjoy being on
28 the Council too and I think we make a lot of progress
29 in areas.

30
31 I want to especially thank Polly for
32 all of her assistance. Any time there's a question,
33 technical or whatever, she's always provided really
34 great insights and helped out.

35
36 And, of course, Tina, well, can't
37 forget Tina, she's like a part of the family here it
38 seems like.

39
40 Thank you.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe.

43
44 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair.
45 Well, I'm certainly tickled pink, I guess, to be able
46 to make the acquaintance of such an outstanding group
47 of individuals. It's thrilling. And also it's an
48 opportunity for me to actually participate meaningfully
49 in something that is very near and dear to my heart.
50

1 And K.J., good job, you really made the
2 entrance into this process for me smooth, and I
3 appreciate that.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, I think
8 the Eastern Interior RAC is a really good example of
9 people working together and this group of people that
10 we have here has been really, like you, an honor to
11 work with. And, truly, Frank, put up with you, how
12 crazy is that, you're just -- you're the kind of people
13 we want in here so we really appreciate what you
14 brought to the Council and you're really going to be
15 missed. So I just want you to know that.

16
17 And I really want to thank all of you
18 for all your volunteer time and your confidence in me
19 as a Chair, I really appreciate that.

20
21 Thank you, Andy. I just want you guys
22 to know that when you do go through these health issues
23 sometimes it makes you really look at your life and
24 wonder where you should be focusing your energy. And
25 for me I guess it's left me with -- I was honored to
26 have K.J. come and see me in the hospital, honored to
27 have Tina come, honored to have some Park Service, Lisa
28 Fox show up, and people were there, it was awesome.
29 And I had some people praying for me, and I think that
30 God truly does answer prayers because I think he wants
31 me to hang around a little longer.

32
33 And my purpose in this life, I feel
34 like I'm being told by our maker that it is to bring
35 people together and I don't know if I -- it's a dream,
36 like the Lower Yukon guy told you, but I would like to
37 hope that it's a dream come true.

38
39 And I want to thank all of you guys for
40 all of the time you put in and you'll probably see a
41 lot of emails flying in the future.

42
43 Polly, and all the Staff that's put all
44 their work into it, as much as you can help us to keep
45 our volunteer time not to overwhelmed that would be
46 great and more and more I'd like to push towards that.

47
48 So I thank you all and is there
49 anything else that we need to cover.

50

1 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, we'll give you a
2 standing ovation Sue.
3
4 (Applause)
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh. Wow.
7 Wow. And a hug from everybody.
8
9 MR. GLANZ: And for Sue and K.J., for
10 all your help too, thank you very much both of you.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, golly.
13 I want to give you all a hug.
14
15 (Laughter)
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
18
19 MR. BASSICH: I just had one other
20 thing, it just occurred to me, I forgot to mention, I
21 was just wondering if it'd be possible in the future
22 when we get our booklets if there was some kind of a
23 notation when there's going to be an action item needed
24 on that topic. I think that would really be helpful
25 for me because I know sometimes like to try and draft a
26 motion prior to the meeting so that I have a chance --
27 I think it would speed up our process and might help.
28 I don't know how hard it would be to do that.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well.....
31
32 MR. BASSICH: Or maybe even just a
33 separate piece of paper at the beginning of the meeting
34 that would just identify action items, that might be
35 helpful.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, when I
38 --not to take the meeting longer but I sat down here
39 and wrote myself a note to talk to Polly and them,
40 those are the kinds of things that we need to be doing
41 and my -- some of my stuff had action items by it and I
42 don't know if that was an addition for me as Chair or
43 not, but you're right, that should be in there. And,
44 you know, how this meeting, we started getting
45 bombarded with stuff, everybody wanted to bring us
46 reports, I'm thinking that we probably ought to make a
47 time certain, Polly, that when she sends out her stuff,
48 there's a time certain, that you get your stuff in and
49 if the Council doesn't want to take it up, it's their
50 meeting, then it isn't going to get in there.

1 That's something that came to me.

2

3 Yes.

4

5 DR. WHEELER: Madame Chair. I think
6 that that's an excellent idea. And I guess I would
7 also encourage you and other members of the Council, if
8 you feel like there's a person or an issue that you
9 want to have brought up at the meeting, that you go
10 back to OSM, rather than sort of have a dialogue with
11 the person. So if a person contacts you directly, Sue,
12 for example, and says I want to get on the agenda, push
13 it back to K.J., then you won't be in a position of
14 having -- you know, a week before the meeting or
15 something then you won't be in a position of having to
16 say yes or no, it goes back to OSM and we can help in
17 that way.

18

19 And I agree with you. I mean I did try
20 to do that, just so you know, with the Office of
21 Subsistence Management, the report, I did try and
22 identify where there was an action item, recognizing
23 that there's a lot of materials that you have to slog
24 through. But I completely admit we can do a much
25 better job and I commit to you that we will try to do
26 that. And I think action item in bold or, you know,
27 highlight or something -- yeah, we'll work out some of
28 these issues.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, just in
31 parenthesis we'll see it, I think.

32

33 DR. WHEELER: Yes. Yes.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: On the
36 agenda, and it says action item.

37

38 DR. WHEELER: The one thing that I
39 would say is part of saying this is the cut off date is
40 we need to make it broadly known. You know, we're a
41 multi-agency program, there's all kinds of different
42 appendages so we just need to make sure that we're real
43 clear on when the drop dead date is. And like you said
44 make it clear, if you don't get in the book, we can't
45 promise you anything in terms of the agenda because
46 it's a full agenda and we may have to start also
47 distilling things out, you know, interesting but not a
48 priority, that kind of thing. So we will always try to
49 do better.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, great.
2 And K.J., you're doing a great job making -- she calls
3 me and she asks me lots of questions and we get through
4 a lot of things. We might not get through everything
5 we need to but we've done a lot of phone tag and email
6 tag.
7
8 So anything else.
9
10 MR. BASSICH: Do we need to adopt that
11 letter.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, the
14 letter that you just sent out to us, yeah, we probably
15 should.
16
17 MS. MUSHOVIC: Just to let you know I
18 started off by just taking out any reference to the SRC
19 and filling in your information and then as I went
20 along I pretty much took word for word what was in
21 there already. I did a strikeout here and there and
22 then italics, addition, let me know, I can fix anything
23 you want on it -- it looks like Barbara's found
24 something.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Just take out
27 the people on the bottom, which is the SRC people.
28
29 MR. FIRMIN: Do we want to add anything
30 for the calving and lambing areas too?
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: If it's not
33 in there we should have it in there.
34
35 MR. FIRMIN: I didn't notice it in
36 there.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew's
39 saying that the calving and lambing areas of all
40 species, maybe, should be added in there.
41
42 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.
43
44 MS. MUSHOVIC: Where would you like to
45 see that in the letter?
46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR: We discussed doing
48 that.
49
50 MS. MUSHOVIC: Do you have it written

1 on there?

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No.

4

5 MS. MUSHOVIC: Barbara had the

6 same.....

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: She had the
9 same thing, uh-huh. I -- do you guys want to -- do you
10 trust us that we're going to do a good job to finish it
11 -- yeah.

12

13 MR. BASSICH: Do you want me to make a
14 letter to adopt the letter and you can work out.....

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, all
17 right.

18

19 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. I'd like
20 to make a motion to send this letter to ALCOM Public
21 Affairs with the understanding that this is a rough
22 draft and it will be worked on and then sent out.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that. I think
27 it's a fine letter.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Barbara.

30

31 MS. CELLARIUS: When Tom Liebscher from
32 Yukon Charley was here he spoke of some kind of a
33 resource council, where there was an opportunity to
34 discuss problems. I don't remember the exact title of
35 that, But that was something else that the Park
36 Service had mentioned.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

39 Donald.

40

41 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.
42 That was the resource protection council. And
43 apparently it was in effect in the past and if we could
44 put that in the letter that we would like to see that
45 enacted, or if it's not inactive maybe we could
46 participate in that a little bit.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's the

1 correct acronym, resource protection.
2
3 MR. UMPHENOUR: It had the word
4 mitigation in it, I know.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you
7 remember Bill.
8
9 MR. GLANZ: I was trying to think. I
10 got all them books at home, they sent us about eight
11 books on the EIS from the Air Force but I don't have
12 them here.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Resource
15 Protection Council, is that what you remember, Donald?
16
17 MR. UMPHENOUR: And mitigation.
18 Mitigation was in there.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Resource
21 protection and mitigation.
22
23 MR. WOODRUFF: I think they'll know
24 what we mean.
25
26 MR. GLANZ: I agree.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: If we throw
29 an acronym at them then.....
30
31 (Laughter)
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
34 right, any other discussion.
35
36 (No comments)
37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question has
41 been called. All in favor say aye.
42
43 IN UNISON: aye
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.
46
47 (No opposing votes)
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't -- do
50 we have anything else?

1 MR. GLANZ: Is everything done?
2
3 REPORTER: Bill.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think so.
6
7 MR. GLANZ: Then I make a motion to
8 adjourn.
9
10 MR. FIRMIN: Second.
11
12 REPORTER: Bill.
13
14 (Laughter)
15
16 MR. GLANZ: Hold on, standby,.
17
18 (Laughter)
19
20 MR. GLANZ: I make a motion to adjourn,
21 I'm sorry Tina.
22
23 (Laughter)
24
25 DR. WHEELER: We may have to take your
26 award away.
27
28 (Laughter)
29
30 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay,
33 all in favor to adjourn.
34
35 MR. WOODRUFF: I second that.
36
37 IN UNISON: Aye.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We are
40 adjourned until Tanana.
41
42 (Off record)
43
44 (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
36

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 in and for the state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 197 through 422 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 4th day of March 2011, beginning at the hour of 8:30 o'clock a.m. at Fairbanks, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by under my direction and reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and ability;

THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 15th day of March 2011.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/14