

1 EASTERN INTERIOR FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME III

7
8
9 Pike's Landing
10 Fairbanks, Alaska
11 October 13, 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
28 Regional Council Coordinator, K.J. Mushovic

29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42 Recorded and transcribed by:

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

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

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Anchorage, Alaska - 10/13/2011)

(On record)

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Let's get started. Last night we ended up with the Proposal 76 on Arctic Village and with the Council's permission there was some new information that did not get given to us that might be important to have on the record. So therefore I'm relaxing the rules and bringing up Hollis Twitchell to talk about some of the stuff if that's okay with the Council. It's just a few reports that might be important to be in the record.

MR. UMPHENOUR: I would consider the proposal on Red Sheep Creek.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You agree?

MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah, that motion.....

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Now I can't hear you.

MR. UMPHENOUR:(indiscernible - away from microphone) support the motion for that (indiscernible - away from microphone).....

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Then make it to where I can hear you, there was enough I couldn't hear you.

MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to reconsider Proposal.....

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't want to do that.

MR. UMPHENOUR:number 76.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't think we're going to do that. I'm going to.....

MR. UMPHENOUR: If we're going to use the information in the record I think procedurally we have to do that.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can someone

1 help me out on that? This is more of a report that
2 probably could have been later on and Hollis is going to
3 be leaving is what I was told. So.....
4
5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It'll give you guys
6 more information.....
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And it'll
9 just.....
10
11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE:and you do have
12 to review this. So.....
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't think
15 it's going to change our vote.
16
17 Joe.
18
19 MR. MATESI: I would like to see this new
20 information simply available to put into the record,
21 Madame Chair.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And we don't
24 feel like it's -- it's more of a report, Virgil, if
25 that's okay. I don't think procedurally it's going to
26 change things.
27
28 MR. UMPHENOUR: I know what it is, but I
29 know that we're supposed to follow Robert's Rules of
30 Order. And so if we're going to put this in the record
31 I think this is an appropriate way to do it, but maybe
32 someone on the staff that's more up to speed on the
33 procedure could speak to the issue.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm calling it
36 an agency report.
37
38 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madame Chair. I would
39 think I could agree with you if it's just going to be an
40 agency report, we can -- it'll be on the record, it'll be
41 available for the Board. I mean, I don't think we need
42 to go and reconsider.....
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, I don't
45 either.
46
47 MR. ARDIZZONE:the proposal.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So we're
50 safe. We're assume we're safe. Okay.

1 Hollis. And I'm going to ask you to make
2 it brief.

3
4 MR. TWITCHELL: I will try to be brief.

5
6
7 Chair, Vice-Chair, Council members.
8 Thank you for allowing me to come up and present this
9 additional information.

10
11 We overlooked the opportunity to step
12 forward when the agencies were asked to come forward. I
13 was under the assumption that we would be called forward
14 in deliberations and so I missed the opportunity to come
15 forward and present this to you. Thank you again for
16 allowing me to come forward with this now. I think it's
17 pertinent and important for you as well as the Board to
18 be aware of these particular issues associated with prior
19 lands and native allotments in particular in this
20 drainages of Cane Creek and Red Sheep Creek. So I think
21 it's value added to have this information in the record.

22
23 Let me begin to just say that the Inupiat
24 and Gwich'in people have been on the landscape for
25 thousands of years. It was well testified to that, it's
26 documented and supported in archeological records that as
27 far back as early man sites 10,000 years ago the
28 ancestors proceeding the Gwich'in and Inupiat people were
29 on the lands. The map that I'm going to start out with
30 would give a representation of the more contemporary,
31 historical distribution of native people's use on Arctic
32 Refuge and I call your attention to first this map, it's
33 a small sheet map with a bunch of red dots showing the
34 overall Arctic Refuge land boundary. If you can pull
35 that out. What this map is showing you is what's on the
36 Refuge's webpage to help inform the public in terms of
37 non-Refuge lands within the boundaries of Arctic Refuge.
38 The thing I'd like to point out here to you is the
39 distribution of native allotments spread out across the
40 Refuge. It's very obvious that the region around Arctic
41 Village and up the east fork of the Chandler River is of
42 significant importance, that would be the southern part
43 of the Refuge where the large concentration of red dots
44 are. Those are representing native allotments that have
45 been conveyed to individuals based on their long term,
46 traditional pattern of use in that area. Upon the far
47 north you see Kaktovik's land and the scattering of
48 native allotments southwards towards the Brooks Range.
49 It is very clear that both of those native people have a
50 significant use pattern in those drainages and that would

1 represent the more contemporary use. But I want to
2 stress to you that the homeland use of the Inupiat and
3 Gwich'in people is scattered out throughout the whole
4 Arctic Refuge. And this is representing a more
5 contemporary use, land ownership pattern of native
6 allotments.

7
8 With that background I'd like to move you
9 forward more specific to this proposal that was in front
10 of you yesterday. And if you move to this large sheet
11 it's going to be representing the area around Cane Creek
12 and Red Sheep Creek and a small portion of the Arctic
13 Village sheep management area to the south of it. Again
14 you see the native allotments represented in the red dot
15 locations and two of the more frequented landing zones
16 that various aviation access points are. There are some
17 additional ones beyond what's represented on this map.
18 But that gives you an idea where some of the individuals
19 who testified yesterday before you, where their land
20 native allotments are within this particular proposal
21 area.

22
23 Moving in a more focused manner towards
24 Red Sheep Creek where we have the greatest issues of
25 trespass and native allotments, I'm going to draw your
26 attention to this smaller map, it's sort of gray in color
27 with the more defined boundaries of where the native
28 allotments are, in the confluence of Red Sheep Creek to
29 the east fork of the Chandler River. You heard extensive
30 testimony yesterday by Arctic Village people in terms of
31 their importance of getting into the lower parts of Cane
32 Creek, Red Sheep Creek as points of access they would get
33 to by boat or foot traffic up into these regions. You
34 heard specifically several of the individuals, Mrs.
35 Peters and then her daughters and son talk about their
36 allotment which is represented by this one on the left
37 top on this page. If you look at that allotment you'll
38 see that there is an airstrip that's marked overlaying
39 that private land. That's the one that they're referring
40 to when they talk about trespass onto the allotment by
41 non-local users.

42
43 That particular airstrip is over alpine
44 tundra type of a bench, the aircraft tracks over time
45 have -- are clearly identified from the air so aviators
46 flying into this area, they're readily visible and appear
47 to be a landing zone. So we have issues in terms of the
48 public not knowing where this native allotment is and
49 assuming that because there's aircraft tracks there that
50 that's a safe place to land. So the main access points

1 for the public, which are done by the larger carriers,
2 the Beavers, 206s, 185s, occur on this airstrip which is
3 represented below that allotment. It's long enough for
4 those larger carriers to come into the area and stage
5 there, drop off hunters into the area. As you can Red
6 Sheep Creek is up to the left and as testified by Gideon,
7 the walls are quite steep, the canyon as you start to see
8 in the topography, so people who are accessing into Red
9 Sheep Creek obviously come across from this lower public
10 access airstrip and it sort of puts it right -- foot
11 traffic right in line with that native allotment. That
12 native allotment is not marked so there is no indications
13 for someone on the ground to readily know and see that
14 they're about to trespass if they're going to hike across
15 that area to get into Red Sheep Creek. Mildred and I
16 spent a day on her allotment last summer trying to find
17 the corner markers and a day of searching we could only
18 find one survey marker on the native allotment. It was
19 surveyed so many years the regrowth of that area has made
20 it very hard to even us who are specifically looking for
21 the corners to find them. So we have issues with not
22 having the ability to find the corners or the surveys
23 line of these native allotments. And again they are not
24 marked.

25

26 A number of years ago Refuge staff went
27 in and did cleanup not only in the public areas of the
28 airstrips you see down below, but also up onto this one
29 location. I'm not going to go into too much depth
30 because I don't know all of the history that led up to
31 this becoming a high profile issue, but in the 2000s
32 there was a lot of time and effort put towards land
33 status and trash cleanup in this area.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that it,
36 Hollis?

37

38 MR. TWITCHELL: I was going to move to
39 other information for the public had access to them to
40 help notify themselves. If you see this sheet that was
41 put out in 2006, the top page is a Dall sheep hunt. This
42 is when Cane Creek and Red Sheep Creek was reopened to
43 non-local hunting activities in those two drainages. It
44 was a public information sheet that was sent out, made
45 available in a brochure. You see the partners over
46 there, Arctic Village Council, Alaska Department of Fish
47 and Game, Department of Natural Resources and Arctic
48 Refuge. The following page was a map that went along
49 with that notification sheet that depicted the Cane
50 Creek, Red Sheep Creek. You'll see, although it's hard

1 to see in this particular copy, the native allotments are
2 also portrayed there as well as the landing zones in
3 those particular drainages. So this information was put
4 out and available to people to help them understand about
5 the drainage, the opening and the land status there. A
6 very short blurb about respecting private property. So
7 that's another piece of information that was out to the
8 public.

9
10 I'll close by talking a little bit about
11 the activities that we've observed in the last couple
12 years in the Arctic Village sheep management area and the
13 problems with Alaska hunters not being aware about the
14 boundary in the area and the restrictions for hunting in
15 that area. It, I think, will help you understand the
16 more recent issues in terms of non-local hunting in the
17 area.

18
19 We, of course, have been hearing a great
20 deal from Arctic Village people over the years about this
21 issue and about the allotments, about trespass, about
22 trash, about resources not being all extracted and
23 salvaged from non-local hunters. We've made an effort
24 over these last few years to concentrate our protection
25 law enforcement activities in the area and I'm just going
26 to use this last two years as sort of an indicator of
27 what pattern we see going on from the resource protection
28 standpoint.

29
30 In August of 2010, over a year ago our
31 Refuge officer contacted three hunters that had flown
32 into what is Water Creek which is just south of the Cane
33 Creek drainage of the Junjik River drainage. One of the
34 hunters had successfully harvest a sheep in the area.
35 That individual was cited for violation of hunting in a
36 close area, he was Alaska resident and had flew -- flown
37 in two aircraft, three hunters total. The meat of the
38 sheep was seized as well as the horns and the cape. The
39 meat of the sheep was donated to Arctic Village Council.
40 The other two hunters were cited for hunting in a close
41 area.

42
43 The next month of 2010 in September our
44 officer was in Arctic Village, basing out of there for
45 doing patrols and contacted a Supercub that came in late
46 one evening. In contacting them and discussing with them
47 it was learned that they had hunted in the Arctic sheep
48 management area and they had shot a sheep and outside of
49 the area they had shot a moose. These hunters had been
50 in contact with ADF&G biologist who had misinformed them

1 about the area and the hunting regulations for the area.
2 They had also called Arctic Council and had talked to
3 Arctic Council, letting them know that they were coming
4 into the area, general area, and that they were going to
5 be hunting. They had asked if they could bring anything
6 up to the village for them. And so they continued on,
7 when they actually came they hunted in the area. As a
8 result of the officer seized the meat and issued
9 violation notices to the individuals. The individuals
10 has previous -- previously flown some of the meat from
11 their sheep in and donated it to Arctic Village and they
12 donated half of the moose that they had taken to Arctic
13 Village folks. Nevertheless one of the wives of one of
14 the hunters had left earlier with one of their sheep that
15 they had taken. That sheep meat was seized back in the
16 city where they came from by the troopers and that meat
17 was donated by the troopers donation list. So all of
18 that meat did eventually get turned over to other people
19 in need.

20
21 That was 2010. In August of this year
22 our officer again contacted hunters who were -- had flown
23 in and were hunting in Spring Creek. Spring Creek
24 is.....

25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can you
27 summarize, please.

28
29 MR. TWITCHELL: Spring Creek was an area
30 that's in the Arctic sheep management area, each of those
31 individuals were issued a violation notice, sheep were
32 seized and turned over to Arctic Village Council as well.

33
34
35 In patrolling the east fork in the Red
36 Sheep Creek area our officer.....

37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You just have
39 to give us a report, Hollis, you don't have to go into
40 all the detail because now I'm.....

41
42 MR. TWITCHELL: Okay.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:now I'm
45 getting into this 8:52.

46
47 MR. TWITCHELL: Two hunters -- four
48 hunters were contacted, two hunting parties in Cane Creek
49 this year. They were legal. And so they were
50 represented there. On the east fork of the Chandler

1 River at Red Sheep Creek through the course of patrolling
2 this year there were only two hunting parties of non-
3 local hunters that were contacted on that particular site
4 and that would be the areas where Arctic Village people
5 would typically access in that map that showed the
6 landing zones at this location.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We have a huge
9 schedule here and I appreciate you bringing this stuff
10 forward. It's in the record and if anyone has any
11 questions of him you would have to do it at break. I
12 expected it to be a little shorter and I apologize to the
13 Council. This job as Chair is difficult, I get people
14 asking me all the time, change the schedule for me,
15 change the schedule for me. And you didn't do this and
16 you didn't do that. And it's a tough job, I'll tell you,
17 and I try to do a good job here and I'm human so if I
18 make mistakes it's up to you guys to help me through that
19 process.

20
21 So thank you, Hollis, I'm not taking any
22 questions.

23
24 We're going to move right into the --
25 what we had on the table, 71 and 72, we're going to
26 finish it up from yesterday. And to make it simple I'm
27 going to ask Jeff if he can make it brief. But I think
28 where we were was back in -- just in short, Council
29 members, that whole thing got real complicated and it
30 didn't need to be. It just needs to go back to what we
31 had on the table. So I believe we have to bring this
32 back on the table, we tabled it.

33
34 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to bring Proposal 71
35 and 72 back to the table.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do I hear a
38 second.

39
40 MR. FIRMIN: I'll second bringing it
41 back.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. It's on
44 the table. Try hard to help me out here.

45
46 Go ahead, Jennifer.

47
48 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
49 Jennifer Yuhas, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.
50

1 The Council assigned us homework last
2 night or yesterday day and that was to find agreement on
3 language that would satisfy both agencies. I'm happy to
4 report that we've done that and I'm going to turn the
5 microphone over to Jeff Gross.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Don't be gross.

8
9 MR. GROSS: Thank you. Jeff Gross, Fish
10 and Game in Tok.

11
12 The Tetlin Refuge staff and myself got
13 together last night and looked at maps and discussed the
14 options and determined that leaving a green harvest
15 ticket along the road system would confuse a lot less
16 people than trying to go to a straight Federal
17 registration permit in this remote portion that we're
18 looking at changing. Therefore our recommendation is to
19 leave the proposal as is except for strike the words by
20 joint -- or strike the words joint State.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. And
23 I believe that's our motion that we had, that we brought
24 from the table. As my memory serves me can I.....

25
26 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. That and then we
27 were changing the dates from March 1st to February 28th
28 is my recollection. Sorry, March 31st to February -- the
29 new ending time would be February 28th, Madame Chair.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's right.
32 Okay. Do we need any more discussion.

33
34 Ryan looks confused.

35
36 MR. MULLNOW: Just real quick. I wanted
37 to bring attention to we want the one Federal
38 registration permit to cover both the fall and the winter
39 season. So just to make sure that that gets satisfied,
40 which it should.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm assured
43 that I'm okay.

44
45 MR. MULLNOW: Yes.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Every now and
48 then I have to check.

49
50 Okay. Any more discussion, the motion is

1 clear?

2

3 MR. MATESI: No, the motion is not clear
4 to me. Could I have the motion read out loud, please.

5

6 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. I can make
7 an attempt, I think, if I recall I made the motion. But
8 basically the motion was to retain what is presented to
9 us under proposed regulations, Unit 12 moose. The only
10 thing that would be changed is in that first long
11 paragraph where it says one antlered bull by joint State
12 and Federal registration person -- permit, we would
13 strike joint State and then in addition to that we would
14 strike March 31st as the end of the hunt and replace it
15 with February 28th.

16

17 Madame Chair. That's the best of my
18 recollection.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's my
21 recollection also. Okay. And we discussed all that
22 yesterday, we just kind of wrapped around the axil
23 on.....

24

25 MR. MATESI: Yeah. I apologize for
26 taking the time there, but.....

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's okay.

29

30 MR. MATESI:you know, we went back
31 and forth and I had things crossed out and then written
32 in and that was crossed out and something was -- and then
33 that was crossed so I just had to get that straight.

34

35 Thank you.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I appreciate
38 that, Joe, that's important to do.

39

40 MR. BASSICH: I'd like to call the
41 question, Madame Chair, if there's no more discussion.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any more
44 discussion.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question
49 has been called for. All in favor say aye.

50

1 IN UNISON: Aye.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
4
5 (No opposing votes)
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
8 motion carries. Thank you.
9
10 And now we're going into crossover
11 Proposals 23 and 24. Looks like Chuck's doing the
12 analysis.
13
14 (Pause)
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Go
17 ahead, Chuck.
18
19 MR. ARDIZZONE: Good morning, Madame
20 Chair, Council members. As you know KJ just handed out
21 these, they're not in your book so I'll go right into the
22 proposals.
23
24 Proposal 12-23 requests a season be
25 established for caribou in Unit 11 within the Wrangell-
26 St. Elias National Park and Preserve from October 21st
27 through March 31st by Federal registration permit.
28
29 Proposal 24 requests a season be
30 established for one bull caribou from August 1st to
31 September 30th in Unit 11 by Federal registration permit
32 with Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve.
33
34 Proposal 23 requests a season be
35 established, a harvest limit of one caribou with a limit
36 of 25 permits be issued. The proponent states that the
37 Mentasta Caribou Herd co-mingles with the Nelchina
38 Caribou Herd within the requested hunt area and they
39 believe that the most -- that most of the harvest would
40 be from the Nelchina Herd. The proponent states that
41 while there's an opportunity to harvest caribou in any
42 other of our eight locations, they are not traditional
43 harvest locations and the expense in cash and time
44 continue to place a burden on the people with heavy
45 reliance on wild foods.
46
47 The proponent for Proposal 24
48 states that there is a small, harvestable surplus
49 available within this herd and that the Federal
50 subsistence users should be able to harvest it.

1 So pretty much we're talking about the
2 Mentasta Herd area.

3
4 The Mentasta Herd caribou management plan
5 states that an annual fall harvest will be allowed as
6 long as the previous two year mean calf recruitment is at
7 least 80 calves, then the quota will be established
8 between 15 and 20 percent of the previous two year mean
9 calf recruitment. The plan also states that at a
10 population level below 2,000, the harvest limit will be
11 limited to bulls only and will be closed if the two year
12 mean bull/cow ratio drops below 35 bulls for 100 cows.
13 In addition the plan states winter hunts for Nelchina and
14 Fortymile Caribou Herds may result in incidental harvest
15 of Mentasta Caribou and should be managed to minimize the
16 effects on the Mentasta population.

17
18 Based on traditional herd definition,
19 Mentasta and Nelchina Herds are separate entities because
20 they have distinct calving grounds.

21
22 Since 1995 the Mentasta population has
23 decreased from 850 to this year -- or to last year's
24 estimate of 336 caribou. Population estimates that have
25 been adjusted show an average of 350 caribou since 2008.
26 Since the management plan in 1995 the two year mean calf
27 estimate has not been above 47 calves. The total
28 observed cows from 1995 to 2010 has decreased from 534 to
29 88 respectively.

30
31 The Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge
32 conducted an aerial survey for the Mentasta Caribou in
33 January, 2010 and found five caribou within the boundary
34 of the Refuge and seven caribou north of the Alaska
35 Highway near Mount Fairplay and Mosquito Flats in Units
36 12 and 20 and in March, 2011 found all six located within
37 Unit 12. Or six caribou I should say.

38
39 There's been no reported harvest from the
40 Mentasta Caribou Herd since 1998 since there has been no
41 Federal or State or season.

42
43 If Proposals 23 or 24 were adopted it
44 would allow a harvest on a population that has
45 chronically low -- has chronically low productivity and
46 this would have detrimental effects on the caribou herd
47 and ultimately subsistence users by driving the
48 population of the herd to a point where recovery is more
49 difficult.

50

1 The OSM preliminary conclusion for both
2 these proposals is to oppose them.

3
4 If there's any questions I'll try and
5 answer them.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions,
8 Council.

9
10 (No comments)

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Next is
13 Fish and Game.

14
15 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
16 Jennifer Yuhas, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

17
18 The Department also opposes both of these
19 proposals, you have our written comments in the handout
20 that KJ distributed. One thing we added at the
21 Southcentral RAC meeting that we'd also like to add here
22 is that we have a slight disagreement with part of the
23 analysis simply that there hasn't been an early
24 patriation study for Mentasta so we're not sure whether
25 that's due to calf loss or the productivity level. We
26 know that in Nelchina it's due to early calf loss.

27
28 We do oppose both of these proposals.

29
30 *****
31 STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
32 *****

33
34 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
35 Comments to the Regional Advisory Council

36
37 Wildlife Proposal WP12-23:

38
39 This proposal requests opening a
40 registration federal subsistence caribou hunt in a
41 portion of Unit 11.

42
43 Wildlife Proposal WP12-24:

44
45 This proposal requests an opening a
46 registration federal subsistence bull caribou hunt within
47 a portion of Unit 11.

48
49 Introduction:

50

1 Proposal WP12-23 was submitted to
2 establish a federal subsistence registration caribou hunt
3 in that portion of Unit 11 within the Wrangell-St. Elias
4 National Park and Preserve that is bounded by the Copper
5 Lake Trail to the east, Nabesna Road to the north and the
6 Copper River to the south and west to the Suslota Trail
7 trailhead and the Suslota Trail to the east, the park and
8 preserve boundary to the north and west ending at the
9 boundary between Units 11 and 13. The proposal request
10 establishing a limit of one bull per household by Federal
11 Registration Permit only with a limit of 25 permits
12 issued. The proposal recommends a 183 day hunting season
13 with season dates of October 21 through March 31. The
14 proponent indicates this proposal was submitted to
15 provide replacement opportunity for federally qualified
16 users concerned with pending land conveyances of federal
17 public lands to private owners thus removing the federal
18 subsistence priority on those lands land. The proponent
19 also indicates access to the un-conveyed federal public
20 lands portion of Unit 13C is extremely difficult and
21 adoption of this proposal will provide opportunity for
22 more accessible federal subsistence caribou hunting.

23
24 Proposal WP12-24 was submitted to
25 establish a federal subsistence registration bull caribou
26 hunt in Unit 11 north of the Sanford River and in Unit 11
27 Remainder. The proposal requests quotas and any needed
28 closures be announced by the appropriate delegated
29 federal official after consultation with the Alaska
30 Department of Fish and Game. The proposal requests an
31 August 1 through September 30 hunting season. The
32 proponent indicates a small harvestable surplus is
33 currently available and the surplus should be allocated
34 to federally qualified users.

35
36 Impact on Subsistence Users:

37
38 If WP12-23 is adopted, federal
39 subsistence hunters would have a 183 day season to
40 harvest caribou in the above described portion of Unit
41 11. If adopted, twenty five households will be
42 authorized to harvest one bull caribou in the described
43 portion of Unit 11.

44
45 If WP12-24 is adopted, federal
46 subsistence hunters would have a 61 day season to harvest
47 one bull caribou in the identified portion of Unit 11.

48
49 If either proposal is adopted, federal
50 subsistence users will be required to obtain a federal

1 registration to hunt.

2

3 Opportunity Provided by State:

4

5 The state caribou hunt has been closed in
6 Unit 11 since 1989.

7

8 Conservation Issues:

9

10 The Mentasta Caribou herd has been
11 observed as a population in steady decline since 1988.
12 Any exploitation on this herd would be detrimental to the
13 long term sustainability of this herd.

14

15 Enforcement Issues:

16

17 If either proposal is adopted, federal
18 land managing agencies will be responsible for all
19 enforcement as Unit 11 has been closed to hunting by
20 state regulation since 1989. Adoption of either proposal
21 may create enforcement issues in areas with mixed land
22 ownership, especially if federal subsistence users
23 mistakenly or choose to illegally hunt for caribou on
24 non-federal public lands in Unit 11.

25

26 Other Comments:

27

28 Recommendation: Oppose.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Could you
31 restate that disagreement again.

32

33 MS. YUHAS: That without an early
34 patriation study for Mentasta that maybe -- the low calf
35 recruitment may be due to early calf loss rather than not
36 having been born.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I think
39 it was that big word that got me. I'm not a biologist.

40

41 Any questions.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Next
46 we'll have any Federal agency comments.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: InterAgency

1 Staff.
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Native tribal
6 or village.
7
8 (No comments)
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Neighboring
11 Councils.
12
13 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thank you, Madame Chair.
14 The Southcentral Regional Advisory Council opposed
15 Wildlife Proposal 12-23 and supported Wildlife Proposal
16 12-24.
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They opposed
19 them both?
20
21 MS. MUSHOVIC: Opposed 23 and supported
22 24.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What was the
25 vote on 24? Council members, I heard -- Gloria Stickwan,
26 are you on? Gloria's from Southcentral.
27
28 MS. STICKWAN: Hello.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Good
31 morning, Gloria.
32
33 MS. STICKWAN: Good morning.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The vote
36 was four to three, is that correct?
37
38 MS. STICKWAN: Yes, it was.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Could
41 you say anything about how that came about?
42
43 MS. STICKWAN: One member spoke about
44 that -- getting 25 caribou wouldn't have an affect on the
45 herd. And it's -- was opportunity for people to hunt in
46 Unit 11 for caribou and, I guess, they just wanted to
47 have an open hunt for people, for Chees'na and Nabesna,
48 in that area to be able to hunt caribou in that area.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.

1 Thank you.

2

3 MS. STICKWAN: The other one was a
4 conservation concern, the no votes were a conservation
5 concern.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
8 you. Any other questions.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. Any
13 local advisory committees.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I do -- I will
18 report that the Upper Tanana did meet and opposed both.

19

20

21 And continuing, SRCs. Barbara.

22

23 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
24 Barbara Cellarius for Wrangell-St. Elias National Park
25 and Preserve presenting the comments for the Wrangell-St.
26 Elias National Park Subsistence Resource Commission.

27

28 The SRC opposed both proposals due to
29 serious conservation concerns about the Mentasta Caribou
30 Herd. The herd is too small to sustain a harvest and
31 this is a long standing concern that the SRC has had
32 about the herd.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Summary
39 of written comments.

40

41 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thank you, Madame Chair.
42 The Ahtna 'Tene Nene' Customary and Traditional Use
43 Committee opposed Wildlife Proposal 12-23, they cited
44 concerns over the mixing of the Nelchina and Mentasta
45 Caribou Herds, they noted that the Mentasta Caribou Herd
46 population is 250 to 300 and is likely that that figure
47 includes part of Nelchina Caribou Herd population due to
48 the intermingling of the two herds. They noted that
49 conveyance of the land in Unit 13C as described in the
50 proposal has yet to occur so it's still Federal public

1 lands and -- but no one knows when conveyance is going to
2 occur and that the proposed hunting area is confusing as
3 it is written in the proposal. A better description
4 should be made or a map delineating landmarks should be
5 included.

6
7 The Committee was neutral on Wildlife
8 Proposal 12-24.

9
10 Thank you.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Public
13 testimony

14
15 (No comments)

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're
18 into the motion.

19
20 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, I'll make a
21 motion that we support WP12-23 and 24.

22
23 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

26
27 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, speaking to
28 the motion, I'm not going to support it due to
29 conservation concerns and I'll reference all the comments
30 previously made in the analysis to support that,
31 chronically low production rates and low numbers. So I
32 don't think it's warranted to open up that hunt at this
33 time.

34
35 Madame Chair.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
38 comments or discussion.

39
40 (No comments)

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Since I serve
43 on the SRC and went to several meetings on this, I wanted
44 to add that on the -- I appreciate you putting them in
45 one motion because I believe the maker of the first
46 motion was a group of people from Slana, they thought
47 that they would be just harvesting Nelchinas, but looking
48 at the map that they created, I can guarantee you they
49 would be shooting some Mentastas during that time. It's
50 just that trail going back to Copper Lake is added to it

1 and that's -- there's Mentastas that probably never leave
2 there. So I've hunted there and I understand it well.

3

4 And this is definitely a conservation
5 concern, we are always hearing about in Unit 12 the
6 possibility of shooting one Mentasta Caribou so we would
7 hate to see something happen to -- a conservation concern
8 to that -- those animals down there.

9

10 So is there any other discussion.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 MR. BASSICH: I'll call the question,
15 Madame Chair.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question is
18 called for. All in favor of opening a hunt in Unit 11
19 say aye.

20

21 (No aye votes)

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All opposed.

24

25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The motion
28 fails. Moving to 27. And that one is also a handout.

29

30 Go ahead, David.

31

32 DR. JENKINS: Madame Chair, Council
33 members, good morning. David Jenkins with OSM.

34

35 WP12-27 is a handout. I think KJ's
36 passing it around if you don't already have a copy. This
37 proposal requests a positive customary and traditional
38 use determination for goat in Unit 11 by residents of Tok
39 Cutoff Road, Milepost 79 through 110, Mentasta Pass and
40 Nabesna Road, Milepost 25 through 46. And that's the
41 request.

42

43 The proponent states the residents of the
44 proposal area have subsistence use patterns that closely
45 resemble those of Slana and Mentasta Lake which are
46 located in Unit 13. And the proponent also states that
47 the residents of the proposal area may have been
48 inadvertently omitted from the current customary and
49 traditional use determination. Customary and traditional
50 use of the proposal area has also been recognized by the

1 Federal Subsistence Board for black and brown bear, sheep
2 and wolf in Unit 11 and caribou and moose and in Unit 11
3 north of the Sanford River.

4
5 The proposed regulation change would more
6 closely align the customary and traditional use
7 determination for goat with these other species for these
8 communities.

9
10 Let me mention a little bit of harvest
11 data for a moment on this proposal. There's very little
12 harvest data for communities that hunt in Unit 11.
13 Previous ADF&G harvest surveys are limited in scope and
14 reveal low harvest numbers for Mentasta, Mentasta Pass,
15 Nabesna Road and Slana in the years 1982 and 1987. And
16 it's Table 1 in your handout, you can see that -- those
17 data. Between 2005 and 2010 there were 495 resident
18 permits issued for Unit 11. In 2011 there were 26 goat
19 permits issued. And you can see harvest reports which
20 are also quite sparse in Table 2 of your handout. There
21 are data for 2011 for Mentasta Lake, there were nine
22 permits, in Slana there were five permits, but not
23 Mentasta Pass or Nabesna Road or Tok Cutoff Road.

24
25 There have been however recent harvest
26 data collected by Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and
27 Preserve in a harvest survey this year, 2011. And this
28 updated information, Barbara Cellarius can speak to I
29 think later, but let me briefly mention a little bit from
30 that updated work. For that part of the Nabesna Road
31 that falls within Unit 12 there are nine resident
32 households and in this interview work, they interviewed
33 five households and conducted mapping with four
34 households. And none of those indicated a search area
35 for goat. For the Mentasta Pass area 12 residents
36 households were interviewed and they completed surveys
37 and mapping with seven households and three of those
38 households indicated search areas for goat, in each case
39 the goat search area was in Unit 11. And there are two
40 households in the Mentasta Pass area that have -- that
41 already have individual customary and traditional
42 determinations for goat in Unit 11, meaning that at least
43 one other Mentasta Pass household hunted goat in Unit 11
44 in 2010.

45
46 We've gone through the eight factors for
47 customary and traditional use, we did that yesterday,
48 there's no need to reiterate them. But let me mention
49 that during the -- during past regulatory cycles the
50 Federal Subsistence Board has determined that the

1 residents of the Tok Cutoff Road, Mentasta Pass and
2 Nabesna Road should have a positive customary and
3 traditional use determination for a number of species,
4 but not limited to, sheep, black bear and brown bear.
5 And so it logically follows that these residents'
6 positive customary and traditional usage should be
7 recognized for goat as well given the residents' reliance
8 of subsistence resources and as guided by these eight
9 factors determining customary and traditional uses.

10

11 Now the affects of the proposal would be
12 these. Residents of the proposed area would still have
13 to comply with National Park Service regulations for
14 engaging in subsistence activities in Wrangell-St. Elias
15 National Park. If this proposal is adopted there would
16 be minimal effects on nonsubsistence users because goat
17 hunting in Unit 11 includes natural preserve lands where
18 non-rural residents may hunt under State of Alaska
19 regulations. And if this proposal is not adopted the
20 residents of the proposal area would continue to be
21 ineligible to harvest goat in Unit 11 under Federal
22 subsistence management regulations.

23

24 Recognizing the customary and traditional
25 uses for goat in Unit 11 by residents of the Tok Cutoff
26 Road and Nabesna Road would make the customary and
27 traditional use determination for goat more consistence
28 with customary and traditional determinations for other
29 wildlife in Unit 11 and for these reasons the OSM
30 preliminary conclusion is to support this proposal.

31

32 Thank you, Madame Chair.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you. Any
35 questions.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
40 State.

41

42 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
43 Jennifer Yuhas, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

44

45 The Department supports the OSM analysis
46 and therefore the proposal. We believe that this is the
47 first time this question's been pose before the Board and
48 that the proponents were inadvertently left out of the
49 original C&T.

50

1 **No official written comments
2 inserted/provided by State at this
3 time**
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
6 Jennifer. Any questions.
7
8 (No comments)
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Federal
11 agencies.
12
13 (No comments)
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: InterAgency
16 Staff.
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Barbara.
21
22
23 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
24 I don't actually have any additional information beyond
25 what David presented in the analysis, but would be happy
26 to answer any questions there are about the survey.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.
29
30 (No comments)
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thanks,
33 Barbara. Fish and Game Advisory Committees. The one
34 that put it in supports it I will report.
35
36 SRC.
37
38 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
39 The Wrangell-St. Elias SRC unanimously supported the
40 proposal for the reasons stated in OSM staff
41 recommendation. The Commission heard testimony from two
42 residents who live in the proposal area and hunt goats as
43 well as other species in Unit 11.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.
46
47 (No comments)
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Summary
50 of written comments.

1 (No comments)

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, I missed
4 one. Neighboring Regional Advisory Comments and then
5 follow with written comments.

6

7 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thank you, Madame Chair.
8 The Southcentral Regional Advisory Council supported
9 Wildlife Proposal 12-27.

10

11 Written comments from the Ahtna Tene
12 Nene' Customary and Traditional Use Committee in support
13 of Wildlife Proposal 12-27. The people who live along
14 the highway system already have C&T for black bear, brown
15 bear, caribou, sheep and moose and since they have it for
16 those species they should have it for Unit 11 goat as
17 well.

18

19 And there was two other communications
20 received on this proposal that weren't exactly comments,
21 but there were two families from the Kenny Lake area that
22 requested to be added to the determination.

23

24 Thank you, Madame Chair.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, I remember
27 that coming up at the SRC. It was -- I think that's
28 another mistake, an inadvertently forgotten community
29 that should definitely have that qualification. And it
30 was because of the process of C&T it -- we were
31 instructed it's better if they make their own proposal
32 later. And that was discussed, I think, at the
33 Southcentral, was it not? Yeah, also.

34

35 Okay. Any further questions here.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that was
40 out public -- oh, public testimony.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're
45 going into the motion.

46

47 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, I'll make a
48 motion. I'd like us to support WP12-27.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Is there

1 a second.
2
3 MR. GLANZ: I'll go ahead and second
4 that.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
7 Discussion.
8
9 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, speaking to the
10 motion I'm just going to reference the analysis and
11 justification. I think it clearly shows and doesn't
12 sound like there's any opposition, you know, that there
13 was just some people that were left out of the original
14 C&T. So that's kind of almost more like a housekeeping
15 proposal.
16
17 Thank you, Madame Chair.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anyone
20 else.
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
27 been called for. All in favor.
28
29 IN UNISON: Aye.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
32
33 (No opposing votes)
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Next is
36 25.
37
38 Go ahead, Chuck.
39
40 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madame Chair, this is
41 another one of those ones that's a handout so it won't be
42 in the book.
43
44 Proposal 25 requests the Unit 13 fall
45 caribou harvest season be extended an additional nine
46 days, from August 10th through September 30th to August
47 1 through September 30th.
48
49 The proponent requests that the harvest
50 season be extended to allow Federally-qualified

1 subsistence users an additional nine days of hunting
2 opportunity. The proponent states that there will be no
3 impact on the Nelchina Caribou Herd since the State and
4 Federal administered hunts can be closed if the annual
5 harvest quota is reached.

6
7 During the most recent fall survey in
8 2010 of Nelchina Herd, there were 65 calves per 100 cows
9 which equates to nearly 15,000 calves and 33 percent of
10 the total herd. And there was 42 bulls per 100 cows.
11 From 2008 to 2010 the average bull/cow ratio increased to
12 38 bulls per 100 cows. Hunters harvested primarily bulls
13 in Tier II drawing and subsistence registration hunts
14 despite the hunt being open for either sex. The summer
15 population estimate for 2011 for the Nelchina Caribou
16 Herd is 40,915 animals.

17
18 From 2004 to 2009 participation in the
19 Federal registration hunt has remained relatively
20 constant or consistent with an average annual harvest of
21 420 caribou. In 2009 the joint harvest quota was 1,000
22 caribou. The State community harvested 125 caribou and
23 the total harvest from State and Federal hunts was 810
24 caribou for the 2009/2010 season.

25
26 Federally-qualified subsistence users
27 currently have an additional 10 day season at the end of
28 September and the harvest within the first week of August
29 is minimal compared with the State harvest during that
30 same time period. The harvest chronology shows that most
31 of the State harvest occurs during August and September.

32
33 If this proposal is adopted it would add
34 an additional nine days to the beginning of the Federal
35 season giving Federally-qualified subsistence users nine
36 days prior to the opening of the State hunt.

37
38 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
39 support the proposal. There's really no conservation
40 concern since there's quotas in place, managers can have
41 a mechanism to reduce the chance of over harvest. And if
42 necessary the Federal hunt can be closed to avoid
43 exceeding any annual harvest quotas.

44
45 Madame Chair.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
48 Chuck. Any questions.

49
50 (No comments)

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: State
2
3 MR. MATESI: I have.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh. One
6 question, sorry.
7
8 MR. MATESI: Really brief. Chuck, on
9 Table 1 why is that -- is there an explanation for that
10 high calf to cow ratio, 65, is that just a sampling out
11 of that because of the timing?
12
13 MR. ARDIZZONE: In Table 1, the high.....
14
15 MR. MATESI: For 2010, 2011.
16
17 MR. ARDIZZONE: I'm not sure. I'd have
18 -- give me a second to look and I'll give an answer.
19 Hold on a second.
20
21 Madame Chair, Jeff said he can help out
22 there.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jeff's in Unit
25 13 now.
26
27 (Laughter)
28
29 MR. GROSS: Madame Chair, Jeff Gross,
30 Alaska Fish and Game, Tok.
31
32 I did speak with the biologist in
33 Glennallen about this and no, it was just an excellent
34 year. So they just had very high calf/cow ratios last
35 year.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Was there any
38 reason why that's not filled in then, just the calf/cow
39 ratio?
40
41 MR. GROSS: It's likely she just didn't
42 -- maybe wasn't able to get the data to OSM.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They probably
45 have it though?
46
47 MR. GROSS: Yeah. Unfortunately I don't
48 have that.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that's

1 really awesome. Maybe there'll be a few caribou next
2 year.

3

4 MR. ARDIZZONE: It's nice to see a little
5 good news now and then.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
8 Federal agencies, any comments. What did I miss, Fish
9 and Game. He distracted me, sorry.

10

11 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12 Jeff was simply offering some help on a question posed to
13 OSM?

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, I know.
16 I'm sorry.

17

18 MS. YUHAS: Jennifer Yuhas, Alaska
19 Department of Fish and Game and -- with our official
20 comments.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.

23

24 MS. YUHAS: I hate to break this train
25 we've had with OSM where we've been in such agreement for
26 so many proposals in a row, but we do oppose this
27 proposal.

28

29 We're currently managing this herd to
30 capacity at this time. The Federal permittees enjoy two
31 permits versus one for the State hunters and the
32 additional days at the beginning of the season is closed
33 to nonresidents at this time. We just don't think that
34 the additional pressure at this time is sustainable and
35 would still create additional enforcement issues. We've
36 got quite a few in that area already, but the main
37 comment here is that we don't think that that little bit
38 of addition is going to be sustainable, we think we're at
39 capacity.

40

41 **No official written comments
42 inserted/provided by State at this
43 time**

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
50 you. Now I need Federal agencies.

1 (No comments)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: InterAgency
4 Staff comments.
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Native tribal,
9 village or other.
10
11 (No comments)
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Neighboring
14 Regional Advisory Councils.
15
16 MS. MUSHOVIC: That you, Madame Chair.
17 The Southcentral Regional Advisory Committee supported
18 Wildlife Proposal 12-25.
19
20 Shall I go on with the public comment?
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does the SRC
23 have anything.
24
25 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
26 The Wrangell-St. Elias National Park Subsistence Resource
27 Commission unanimously supported the proposal as written.
28 There's not a conservation concern for the Nelchina
29 Caribou Herd and the proposal will benefit subsistence
30 users by providing additional opportunity at a time when
31 there less competition from other hunters.
32
33 And with your permission there's one
34 other thing I want to mention after we see if there's
35 questions.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.
38
39 (No comments)
40
41 MS. CELLARIUS: Judy and I need to get
42 back to Copper Center this evening and so we're going --
43 may end up leaving before the agency reports. There are
44 a number of handouts that you have, a wildlife report, a
45 fisheries report and a report on our ORVEIS. We'll be
46 around, you know, a bit longer today so if anybody has
47 any questions, but we may end up leaving before you get
48 to that point on the agenda. And I just wanted to give
49 you a heads up about that.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
2 Barbara. Any written comments.
3
4 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thank you, Madame Chair.
5 The Ahtna Tene Nene' Customary and Traditional Use
6 Committee wrote in support of Wildlife Proposal 12-25,
7 noting that the Nelchina Caribou Herd population is above
8 ADF&G's management objective and can sustain a longer
9 hunting season.
10
11 Thank you.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any public
14 testimony.
15
16 (No comments)
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I need
19 a motion.
20
21 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
22 25.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Motion to
25 adopt.
26
27 MR. GLANZ: And I'll second that.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Second.
30 Discussion. Do you want to start, Vigil?
31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I'll speak to the
33 motion. This is a subsistence hunt on the State side as
34 well. And so it's all subsistence hunters, there's no
35 what people call sport hunters in it so I'm going to
36 oppose the proposal. I think all subsistence hunters
37 should be on even footing.
38
39 Madame Chair.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
42 discussion.
43
44 (No comments)
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know,
47 that's interesting. In my -- in Unit 12 people are
48 always trying to get two caribou in the Refuge. That's
49 just information. There's two caribou down in that part.
50 But if you look at the land status in that -- on that

1 Federal land, boy you really have to know where the
2 Federal land is. And it is marked, I guess, but it's --
3 you know, it's minimal. And so the opportunity on
4 Federal land is not a great deal in that area.

5

6 Joe.

7

8 MR. MATESE: Well, I'm struggling a
9 little bit because I'm really not -- I don't think I've
10 got a handle on the issues, but probably because of that
11 and some other reasons, I think I'm going to oppose this
12 proposal. I do see the potential for enforcement
13 problems which will, of course, only lead to and increase
14 expenditure for -- and cost for enforcement. That's --
15 if we're going to extend it, I don't know about extending
16 it that early. There's some calf survival issues, you
17 know, some of the late born calves are still accompanying
18 cows in early August and I'm a little sensitive to the
19 fact that the State is continuing -- is at this point
20 managing it at capacity for harvest. So I think I'm
21 going to oppose this.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I am going to
24 ask you guys to pull out -- well, you can look at this.
25 This is Unit 13 and there is a season that's open for
26 moose. Well, let's see now, that's 13, August 1st. I
27 don't we have any 13 biologists here. But -- and then if
28 you look at your map -- I'm just giving this out for
29 discussion. If you look at this map in Unit 13, it's
30 just below here. There -- it's minimal land and probably
31 would not turn into a few harvest although it is two
32 bulls is something to consider.

33

34 Virgil.

35

36 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, the name of the --
37 I know there's enforcement problems here with people
38 shooting -- with Federal permits shooting caribou on
39 State land. In fact, there was some guys that, I don't
40 remember from -- well, I'm not going to say where they're
41 from, they were Federally-qualified subsistence users
42 that severely or extremely, whatever you want to call it,
43 violated the law harvesting caribou on State land that
44 accidentally did get caught. How much of that goes on I
45 have no idea, but like I said a while ago this is a
46 subsistence hunt period for the State and the Federal
47 hunters and like you brought out only about 10 percent of
48 the land is Federal land. I believe all subsistence
49 users should be on even footing, that we should not
50 discriminate against subsistence users whether they be

1 State or Federal. And that combined with the small
2 amount of Federal land, the lack of enforcement, it's an
3 enforcement issue which, you know, we're not -- most
4 cases I say well, if it's an enforcement issue, you know,
5 we can't really penalize people for what a few people do,
6 but it's -- like you brought up the land is hard to
7 identify and it just makes more of a problem. I think
8 that all subsistence users should be on equal footing and
9 not give one group of subsistence users a priority over
10 another group of subsistence users. And I'm going to
11 vote in opposition to the proposal.

12

13 Madame Chair.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But, Virgil, I
16 will point out to you that the two systems are uniquely
17 different on who qualifies. So people would have --
18 somebody that gets a Federal permit is a different system
19 on how they would be able to hunt it on the State system.
20 They may not have that permission on the State, they'd
21 have to go through a different process to get a permit.
22 So they do have that opportunity and it is occurring on
23 the Forty-Mile Caribou in that land, sometimes the
24 season's closed and people are still -- rural residents
25 are still hunting on the Federal land and that Federal
26 land is wild and scenic rivers and it's very checker
27 boarded up there also, small amount of land. And I'm
28 sure that there could be some -- I -- I'm aware that
29 there is some enforcement problems there also. Just for
30 discussion purposes.

31

32 Anyone else.

33

34 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair, can somebody
35 jog my memory, where's the bulk of the herd located
36 during that time of the year?

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I know it's
39 usually on the Denali Highway. Yeah, uh-huh, but there's
40 remnants here and there. So.....

41

42 Other discussion.

43

44 MR. GLANZ: Call for the question.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm
47 going to do a show of hands. All in favor raise your
48 hand.

49

50 (Council raises hands - Williams, Firmin,

1 Entsminger, Gurtler)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All opposed.
4
5 (Council raises hands - Matesi, Glanz,
6 Umphenour, Bassich, Erhart)
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's four/four.
9 One, two, three, four.
10
11 MR. UMPHENOUR: One, two, three, four,
12 five.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you're
15 opposed.
16
17 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'm against.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Boy did I miss.
20 All in favor.
21
22 (Council raises hands - Williams, Firmin,
23 Entsminger, Gurtler)
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's three
26 -- four. Okay. All opposed.
27
28 (Council raises hands - Matesi, Glanz,
29 Umphenour, Bassich, Erhart)
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Five. Okay.
32 Five/four. It fails.
33
34 One left, 56.
35
36 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madame Chair, 56 is on
37 Page 250 of your books. I do believe there's a
38 supplemental map for 56 that.....
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,
41 Chuck.
42
43 MR. ARDIZZONE. Madame Chair, Proposal
44 12-56 requests an extension of the fall moose season by
45 seven days in Unit 21B. The current season is September
46 5th through October 1st with the portion after 25
47 September being only open under Federal regulations.
48
49 The proponent is requesting that the
50 Federal moose season in Unit 21B be extended from 26

1 September through October 1 to September 26 through
2 October 8 to provide additional harvest opportunities for
3 Federally-qualified subsistence users.

4
5 The proponent states that due to warm
6 weather conditions fall moose movements have been delayed
7 and a season extension is needed to harvest moose.

8
9 The moose population in most Unit 21B was
10 last estimated at 2,317 moose in 2008 which is below the
11 State management objective. Area moose trend surveys in
12 2010 showed stable adult bull and cow numbers, improved
13 calf abundance and low yearling recruitment. Population
14 composition data in the area affected by this proposal,
15 the Nowitna River area, are different from the rest of
16 Unit 21B, suggesting hunting pressure along the Nowitna
17 River has lowered bull/cow ratios. The survey results
18 from in Table 1 of Page 256 however note -- excuse me, I
19 think it's just saying that the Nowitna are different
20 than unit wide surveys if you look at the table. Over
21 the long term the Nowitna moose population appears
22 stable, but at a low density.

23
24 Moose continue to be the most important
25 and widely used large animal for the subsistence users in
26 the Interior region. Ruby residents reported harvests
27 were above average in 21B from 2007, 2009, after a period
28 of low or below average harvests. Tanana residents have
29 averaged a harvest of five moose per year in 21B between
30 1983 and 2009. And harvests were low in 2006, 2008
31 through 2009.

32
33 The current September 26 through October
34 1st Federal season was initiated in 2007 to provide
35 additional harvest opportunity Federally for Federally-
36 qualified subsistence users. Most of the harvest effort
37 has been associated with residents of Ruby. Tanana
38 residents were issued 11 permits between 2007 and 2008,
39 but only three residents reported using their permits and
40 only one moose was harvested in 2007. No permits were
41 requested or issued to Tanana residents for this hunt in
42 2009 or 2010.

43
44 Adoption of this proposal would extend
45 the fall moose hunt on a portion of Federal lands in Unit
46 21B by an additional seven days. This extension would
47 provide additional opportunity for Federally-qualified
48 subsistence users to harvest a bull moose. The adoption
49 of this extended season would not likely lead to a large
50 increase in bull moose harvested in 21B, especially with

1 recent low participation rates by Federally-qualified
2 subsistence users.

3

4 Only Federal public lands on part of the
5 Nowitna River drainage downstream from and including the
6 Little Mud River drainage would be included. Residents
7 of Tanana would be required to travel a minimum of 30
8 river miles to reach the eastern boundary of the open
9 area.

10

11 The proposed season extension would
12 overlap with the peak of the rut which may affect the
13 population, however the extent of such impacts from
14 harvesting during the rut is not known as much of the
15 effects are speculative and direct evidence of such
16 impacts are lacking. However due to the overall low
17 performance of the population, fluctuating cow numbers in
18 the count areas and a conservative harvest strategy is
19 warranted. Therefore the OSM preliminary conclusion is
20 to oppose this proposal.

21

22 If there's any questions I'll try and
23 answer them.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
30 State.

31

32 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
33 Jennifer Yuhas, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

34

35 What he said. The Department supports
36 the OSM analysis and therefore opposes the proposal.....

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

39

40 MS. YUHAS:for the same basis.

41

42 **No official written comments
43 inserted/provided by State at this
44 time**

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you. You
47 probably don't have any questions.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Federal
2 agencies.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: InterAgency
7 Staff.
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There is one.
12
13 MR. MOOS: Good morning, Madame Chair.
14 My name's Kent Moos, the Refuge manager for Koyukuk
15 Nowitna National Wildlife Refuge and I'm just here to
16 answer any questions if there are any regarding this.
17 The Refuge does oppose this as well.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
20 you. Any questions.
21
22 Andrew.
23
24 MR. FIRMIN: When did the season get
25 extended to October 1st or has that always been the norm?
26
27 MR. MOOS: Madame Chair, through the
28 Chair. 2007 this extended Federal season was instituted.
29 So it's been in for -- this is the fifth year, I believe.
30
31 MR. FIRMIN: Okay. Thank you.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
34 questions.
35
36 (No comments)
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
39 you. Okay. I'm going to say InterAgency Staff again.
40
41 (No comments)
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Native tribal,
44 village or other.
45
46 (No comments)
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Neighboring
49 advisory groups.
50

1 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thank you, Madame Chair.
2 The Western Interior Regional Advisory Council opposed
3 Wildlife Proposal 12-56.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other advisory
6 groups.
7
8 (No comments)
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No SRC. Okay.
11 Summary of written.
12
13 (No comments)
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: None. Okay.
16 And I have one blue card.
17
18 Gerald.
19
20 MR. NICHOLAI: Thank you.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Gerald Nicholai
23 from Tanana, our previous Chair.
24
25 MR. NICHOLAI: Yeah, thank you. Gerald
26 Nicholai from Tanana, I represent the town and tribal
27 council. Why we asked for this, you don't -- you don't
28 know what we're facing in our area like Fish Lake and
29 (indiscernible) area where we depend on a lot of -- to
30 get our yearly supply of meat, there's a lot of people
31 that do hunt in that area, but what we're facing is
32 airborne against boats. We have a lot of people that's
33 coming in from Fairbanks mostly and I heard even from
34 Anchorage. I was up there last year for like three weeks
35 trying to get a moose and just in the (Indiscernible)
36 area. And what they're doing is coming in. We're facing
37 airborne there, they get the bulls. They have more --
38 they have better opportunity than us. So what we're
39 asking for is more opportunity to get a moose. You know,
40 we spend a lot of money to go that distance and some of
41 us have to put our money together and everything just to
42 get more distance in. I do a lot of traveling, I went
43 everywhere this last fall to get a moose for my family
44 and for people. And what the State does, they don't
45 really believe what we say, there are more sport and more
46 opportunity for outsiders than Tanana. And we don't have
47 the opportunity like they do here in Fairbanks where
48 Safeway and everything goes. See what we're just looking
49 for is more opportunity to get our moose for the winter.
50 You go there and you go hunting and you see those

1 airbornes in Fish Lake and everything, from Fish Lake all
2 the way from -- even the -- what I'm -- next thing if we
3 don't get an opportunity like this we're just going to
4 have to do something else, maybe go to the State. But
5 we're just looking for a better opportunity to get our
6 moose for the winter. And I wasn't there, be able to go
7 the Western Interior RAC meeting because I have more
8 obligations than this.

9

10 Thank you for my time.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
13 Gerald. Any comments, Council members.

14

15 Andrew.

16

17 MR. FIRMIN: Do you think, Gerald, that
18 that would be a little late in the season for them to be
19 kind of deep in the rut or wouldn't matter if you're just
20 there to eat?

21

22 MR. NICHOLAI: Some years -- some years
23 the moose rut later than others like this year I'd say it
24 was earlier than last year and then it was earlier than
25 the year before, but just like -- maybe some years they
26 rut later than -- in that area.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Gerald, I have
29 a question. Do you -- is there enough access on that
30 river for -- to the Nowitna, I'm looking at this Federal
31 land status here, for you guys to be able to have that
32 opportunity?

33

34 MR. NICHOLAI: Well, where Nowitna
35 starts, it starts right about 45, 30, 33 miles below
36 Tanana, they named that Branch Slough -- Branch Slough
37 Darbnar (ph) area. So mostly if we get this we'll have
38 mostly from Maracamp (ph) on -- from duck camp and
39 Clarence on down to the Mastnovian if we have -- get
40 enough money and stuff together and go up Novi, we'll
41 have a better opportunity to get our moose.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So you
44 have areas where you can get into the river system in the
45 Nowitna. Okay.

46

47 Frank.

48

49 MR. GURTLER: Yes, I think the -- I'm
50 having a little problem with the weather warming up to

1 and the moose aren't rutting like they normally do --
2 used to. I think they're a couple weeks late actually
3 now from what they used to be back in the '60s and '70s.
4 And extending the season would be good.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
9 other questions.

10
11 Larry. We'll -- have questions of Gerald
12 here.

13
14 MR. WILLIAMS: I lost my train of thought
15 here.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm sorry.

18
19 MR. WILLIAMS: Anyway, Mr. Nicholai, if
20 I can -- I for one am a subsistence person all the way.
21 And I don't have any questions, just a comment pertaining
22 to your situation there.

23
24 Back home, back where I come from, we
25 don't -- we're fortunate in the fact that we don't really
26 have to deal with the Federal and State too much. I'd
27 rather -- I've always said that I would rather face the
28 wrath of my elder -- wrath of the State or Federal than
29 the wrath of my elders. So I can see where you're coming
30 from, it's getting harder and the weather has kind of
31 changed and all that. And I -- I just want to make it
32 known that I know how you feel and I sympathize with you
33 and that's just a comment that I like to make.

34
35 Thank you very much.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
38 members, any other questions.

39
40 Virgil.

41
42 MR. UMPHENOUR: Gerald, the season was
43 extended in 2006 at the 1st of October and in the staff
44 report they say that no one from Tanana has put in for,
45 you know, one of the permits the last couple of years.
46 Do you have any idea why that is?

47
48 MR. NICHOLAI: I'd say that the trick
49 they pulled on us in 2005 and 2004 is that if we didn't
50 turn over our harvest tickets we wouldn't be allowed to

1 get another one. Some of us forgot about it, some of us
2 like my cousin, Fred, he forgot to turn it in so they
3 didn't give him another ticket the next year. And if
4 would have did that he would have been allowed. See some
5 of us are -- have more money than the other so we kind of
6 help out each other. Some people just can't do it, they
7 want to, but they can't. But if they give them the
8 opportunity, in fact, if I got a moose -- my cousin did,
9 and he get one of those permits I'd let -- give them
10 everything I have just to get one.

11

MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.

12

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
15 questions. Lester.

16

MR. ERHART: Yeah, I think this is the
18 last ditch effort for the people that didn't get a moose
19 because that's the last -- you know, they'd like one more
20 opportunity and I'm kind of for this because those little
21 bulls are not that bad, you know, they're still good.

22

Thank you.

23

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
26 other questions.

27

(No comments)

28

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We'll
31 move on. Thanks, Gerald.

32

That was our public testimony on 56. And
34 if there's any other public that would like to speak.

35

(No comments)

36

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Gerald knows
39 the system so he's handing in his blue cards.

40

All right. Next, taking up the motion.

41

MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
44 56.

45

MR. GLANZ: I'll second that also.

46

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
49 Discussion.

50

1 MR. BASSICH: I'll speak to it first.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

4

5 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you, Madame
6 Chair. I'm going to actually support this. I don't
7 think there's a conservation concern here, I don't see it
8 demonstrated. I think -- I agree with Lester, I think
9 that this is an opportunity for people who really need
10 some meat late in the season that weren't successful.
11 And I know it's getting more and more critical to people
12 living out in remote areas, especially people that are
13 living on a very low income or no income. And I think
14 this is -- really goes towards the lifestyle of
15 subsistence living.

16

17 One of the things that I've always
18 struggled with with a lot of the regulations is the
19 timing of them. And when you live out in the woods, you
20 know, we all know the seasons change, some years we have
21 warm falls, others we have cold and regulations don't
22 take in account for that at all, but it's really critical
23 for people who live out there. And I see this as an
24 opportunity for those people that may be struggling to
25 have an opportunity to get food for the winter which is
26 critical to them. I think that ecologically or, you
27 know, as far as TEK goes, we all know that moose rut at
28 different times on different seasons, different years,
29 due to weather conditions and everything and I think we
30 all know that climate change seems to be extending our
31 fall range into the warmer temperatures and I think
32 that's going to be impacting hunting efforts. So I think
33 this is good for this hunt to account for that. And I
34 think it provides for greater subsistence opportunity so
35 therefore I'm going to support it.

36

37 Madame Chair.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
40 discussion.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I actually did
45 hear from you late -- earlier, Frank and Larry, it was --
46 your comments. If you want to add you can go ahead. Do
47 you have anything else?

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 MR. GLANZ: Call for the question.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I will take
4 that, but I wanted to add something that I learned over
5 the course of talking to moose hunters. One moose hunter
6 told me and maybe you guys could verify this, that when
7 the moose are in rut it's usually -- everything --
8 they're the ones that roll in their pee and if that hide
9 is kept away from the meat it's usually not a problem
10 like caribou who drink it.
11
12 MR. ERHART: That's true.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So that's gross
15 to eat. So it's -- at any rate, so I -- it's just
16 something that I think we should add to the record.
17
18 (Council nods affirmatively)
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I'm seeing
21 noddings, you guys all agree to that, yes? Okay.
22
23 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
26
27 MR. BASSICH: Madam Chair, I'd like to
28 add one more thing to my testimony or my support of this
29 and that is that the analysis shows that there's going to
30 most likely be a very low participation in this and so I
31 think that also leads to the argument of it's not going
32 to really affect the conservation of the animals there,
33 it's a low participation, it's kind of like Lester says
34 a last ditch and I think that's really important to take
35 in account.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,
38 Frank.
39
40 MR. GURTLER: Well, I think with the
41 later season like this too you don't have to have in the
42 deep freeze either, the high price of electricity and I
43 think the way it's going now with no jobs in the villages
44 hardly you can't afford the freezer anymore, it's, you
45 know, the price of fuel's so high for the light plants to
46 run and they keep jacking up the prices on electricity.
47 But the main thing is the moose have been rutting later,
48 around Manley have. They weren't even rutting when the
49 season closed down there this year and that was late.
50

1 Thank you.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.
4
5 MR. UMPHENOUR: I don't know what the
6 Western RAC did, we'll find that -- I should know that
7 though. Could you say again what -- how they voted?
8
9 MR. BASSICH: They opposed it.
10
11 MS. MUSHOVIC: Yes, they opposed.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They opposed.
14
15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: The Western RAC
16 opposed.
17
18 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that's
21 their region, we're in the crossover because of C&Ts.
22
23 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Go
26 ahead.
27
28 MR. ARDIZZONE: I can give their
29 reasoning. They opposed it due to low participation in
30 the current Federal season and to hunting during the peak
31 of the rut, they were -- biologic concern
32 and the quality of the meat is what they stated.
33
34 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. The Western
35 RAC -- well, it takes in the Koyukuk Refuge and the area
36 around Galena and that area there which is the highest
37 moose densities in the state. However by boat that's --
38 to get down there is more than 200 miles. Well, actually
39 it's 190 and 30 is 210 -- no, I mean, 220, 220 miles to
40 get to the mouth of the Koyukuk where the densities are
41 much higher around Galena and the Koyukuk. So the people
42 from Ruby and Galena, they have -- it's much easier for
43 them to get a moose.
44
45 As far as the meat issue, I've seen --
46 well, I've participated in butchering large bull moose
47 that really smelled bad, however even though the moose
48 really smelled bad, if the meat's taken of properly the
49 moose is delicious even though he really smelled bad when
50 you killed him, I like it when they swim the river first

1 and take a bath, it's more pleasant butchering them. But
2 the meat issue's not an issue to me because I know that
3 the meat is still good, especially if you shoot a smaller
4 one, a younger one.

5
6 I'm going to support the proposal as well
7 based on a number of things, but one of the big things is
8 what Lester said, it's a last ditch chance for someone to
9 get some meat, it's not really that far for the people
10 from Tanana to get down there.

11
12 (Conference call status report)

13
14 MR. UMPHENOUR: That kind of messed me up
15 on my train of thought. Anyway I'm going to support.....

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That means you
18 were done.

19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR:support the
21 proposal.

22
23 Madame Chair.

24
25 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, I think the
26 question's been called too.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
29 been called. All in favor of the proposal say aye.

30
31 IN UNISON: Aye.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.

34
35 (No opposing votes)

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. It
38 passes unanimous.

39
40 That was the last of our proposals.
41 Let's go on into our agenda.

42
43 MR. BASSICH: Can we take a break.

44
45 Sounds like we need a -- one said two,
46 but five, which turns into 10.

47
48 MR. BASSICH: I said two so that it would
49 be five.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We'll
2 take a five minute break.

3
4 (Off record)

5
6 (On record)

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So we're
9 going to go to public testimony on customary trade. I
10 have several blue cards here and then we're going to go
11 back to the agenda.

12
13 The first one is Kathleen Peters Zuray,
14 Tanana.

15
16 (Pause)

17
18 MS. ZURAY: Good morning.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Good morning.

21
22 MS. ZURAY: My name is Kathleen Peters
23 Zuray and I'm from Tanana, Alaska. I'm born and raised
24 there, fished with my mother and now I fish with my
25 husband and we raised our children. I just wanted to
26 speak on behalf of my family and I'm also the executive
27 director of the Tanana Tribal Council.

28
29 So we're in opposition of the
30 recommendations put forth by the subcommittee of this --
31 the TRI-RAC mainly because of -- first of all I believe
32 that it hasn't been clearly defined. Customary trade has
33 been going on for many years on the Yukon River, on the
34 Kuskokwim, on all the -- all through the state. So this
35 has been going on for many generations. And I do
36 understand the pressure that OSM is under in terms of,
37 you know, doing something about this issue. But I
38 believe that doing something doesn't mean prematurely
39 making regulations on many diverse groups of people. The
40 Yukon River has many different, unique fisheries. I can
41 only speak to where I'm from.

42
43 So due to the customary trade,
44 traditional trade has been happening for generations. It
45 happens in different ways all along the Yukon River.
46 There's the Yup'ik tribes, the Interior tribes and the
47 Canadian tribes. Those people in the beginning respected
48 the resource, lived off of the resource and are stewards
49 of that resource. We're not -- I'm not -- after raising
50 my three children, our four children, you know, we have

1 grandchildren now in camp, we're one of the few camps in
2 Tanana that chooses to go to our camp which is 40 miles
3 upriver. That choice is compensated because of the -- by
4 the fact that I -- both Stan and I have jobs. We're not
5 dependent upon just going to camp and trying to scrape a
6 life by that. We go to camp because it's the best place
7 for us and to raise our children so that they can also
8 learn what tradition that has been practiced for many
9 years by our people, by my family, by many families. I
10 believe that the regulations put forth by the
11 subcommittees do not take in account that the majority of
12 the people that fish and hunt on the Yukon River, which
13 there are 15 villages, do not get rich off of this
14 lifestyle. It's clearly a choice and the reason why I
15 chose to raise my children in our camp throughout their
16 life was to teach them to become strong, independent,
17 healthy people. And that's what happens when you do
18 raise your family out there. If you raise them in the
19 village you might as well be raising them in New York
20 City. And I feel when I saw these proposals because I
21 too cut strips and I make dry fish out of chinook, out of
22 chum, I jar fish, I freeze fish and we raise our family
23 on that along with moose meat and caribou.

24
25 So customary trade I believe needs to be
26 further researched. There's one anthropological study
27 completed by Catherine Moncrief and in that study they
28 studied three communities, and that was Alakanuk, Holy
29 Cross and Tanana. I believe Tanana is one of the
30 villages on the Yukon River that proudly fishes. If you
31 go into Tanana the first thing you're going to see are
32 all the fish wheels. We are proud fishermen. We're not
33 getting rich off of it. In our area there has been no
34 commercial, the only one that comes down to buy fish is
35 Virgil. We're not a commercial enterprise. The
36 commercial fisheries has been and wants to be continuing
37 in the lower river.

38
39 I believe that there is not enough data
40 for this group to bring to the Subsistence Board because
41 you're talking about people's lives. Overregulation, we
42 already deal with that under ADF&G. You're going to have
43 the problems that come along with this is that there is
44 -- you're going to have -- require enforcement. I think
45 that you should task the tribes along the river, that are
46 the Federally recognized users, to put together a task
47 force to create our own solution. And one of those
48 solutions has -- we've -- all the 43 -- 42 villages in
49 our region voted in '09 for a moratorium on the chinook
50 run, it was ADF&G that opened it up. And that's fine.

1 We -- we're not concerned about what you
2 do with us about customary trade although it's a huge
3 burden. You're over regulating people that are just hard
4 working people. We actually live in the villages and
5 pay, you know, six to \$10 a gallon on gas. We choose
6 that lifestyle. I believe that you guys have a hard job
7 before you. I think that to remain open minded on
8 something like the other RACs are doing until you have
9 more information. I believe some of the information
10 coming against us, which I've read this stack of letters,
11 including the one that represents the TCC region, 42
12 villages and the Doyon Corporation. And I've read the
13 pros and cons. I've written on behalf of the tribe, my
14 husband is writing on behalf of what he believes. It's
15 a hard issue to deal with because there's a lot of
16 confusion. And I think that most people hate the fact
17 that there are abuses, but to point the finger at
18 everyone that lives on the river and make us feel like we
19 are the ones doing something wrong when we're not.

20
21 I think that I would like to -- the
22 conservation of the chinook run is one of our most
23 important values and it always will be. When you live on
24 the river we have -- we have the fall chum and we have
25 the coho, we have other -- we have whitefish, we have a
26 lot of different fish that we get from the river. I
27 believe that the protection of the chinook run is very
28 important, but pointing fingers at a certain practice
29 without enough information is premature.

30
31 I think that I would like the opportunity
32 to work with the committees on behalf of our tribe and
33 our community to create a way to be -- to gather factual
34 information on what is truly being sold and what is
35 happening so that we have true data, not biased. I
36 believe that some of the biased information is coming
37 from the commercial interests. We're not commercial in
38 our part of the river. We haven't been since the '70s.
39 And although, you know, my son has a commercial license,
40 he's not ever been able to use that. So I think that
41 respectfully on behalf of myself and my children and my
42 grandchildren I would request that you take some time to
43 listen to what all of the people are saying that -- about
44 this issue and gather more input that's based on not
45 opinions, but fact. You know, and because of the
46 subsistence rights we -- that subsistence rights are
47 before commercial interest. I question where this
48 proposal is coming from and why. And I just pray that
49 the resource gets stronger and -- by the post closers and
50 that more fish get into Canada. And maybe we can

1 continue this conversation in the future.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Stay put. And
6 thank you for your testimony. Questions of Kathleen.

7

8 Joe and then Frank.

9

10 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair.
11 Thank you, Kathy, it's good to see you again.

12

13 Are there -- I understand that the number
14 of family fish camps in the middle Yukon, it's
15 decreasing. Are there -- my question is are there any
16 families that are able to maintain a fish camp throughout
17 the summer without having to generate some income during
18 that time, in other words they can just go out there and
19 they don't sell any fish, they don't make strips to sell
20 or anything, they're able to stay there and not even --
21 and never make any money?

22

23 MS. ZURAY: I think that there are fish
24 camps in the Tanana area that people go there and that's
25 all they do is they live in camp all summer. And it's
26 not more about the money, although it does cost a lot of
27 money. I believe some people do sell salmon and -- but
28 that's not what I believe we're all there for, it's the
29 lifestyle. It's a lifestyle that offers a lot more than
30 money will ever buy. So yes, some people do go to camp
31 with nothing and just stay in camp and fish during the
32 king season. Because a lot of us have family all over
33 the state, my niece is in Afghanistan, fish has gone over
34 there. You know, we're a very -- our communities are
35 dying, our communities -- there's a trend, the rural
36 areas are emptying out, moving into the urban area. Not
37 only that is the cost of having a fish camp, you know,
38 you have to have a boat and motor and the ability to buy
39 gas. Yeah, I'm sure there are people that, you know,
40 that sell salmon to buy gas. But normally that doesn't
41 happen during the season and that's the honest truth.
42 But I think that people -- what I see happening here is
43 that the lifestyle has been demonized in terms of the
44 fact that people make something valuable and there are
45 consumers that want it, whether you give it to family or
46 you have your family come to your camp which is what I
47 do. I have 17 to 20 people in my camp all the time.
48 Those are all family members. And we don't sell whole
49 fish, you know, that's only during commercial, if and
50 when there is commercial. The sale of whole fish is not

1 customary in our area.

2

3 MR. MATESI: Madame Chairman, I -- may I
4 clarify my question a little bit.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

7

8 MR. MATESI: I -- what I'm wondering
9 about is it's not free to go to fish camp, I mean, it
10 costs gas and stuff like there. So I'm looking for a
11 little bit of clarification from somebody who's actually
12 still having a camp out there, the reality of how you can
13 afford to maintain a camp unless you can do something
14 like make strips and sell them.

15

16 MS. ZURAY: The reality is that some
17 people are elders and they still go to fish camp at the
18 age of 70 to 80 such as my mother who worked all her life
19 and is receiving money from the Federal government for
20 that, retirement. Other people receive Social Security,
21 other people work. You know, it's -- like I say it's a
22 dying thing because people cannot just go to camp. With
23 all the restrictions that are happening along the river,
24 with the fact of all the closures, with just the way the
25 -- nature is, sometimes there too high water during the
26 open season. I mean, there's a lot of factors that come
27 against the people, that's why we all feel we have to
28 defend a certain part of our lifestyle because we're
29 already over regulated, we're already -- there's already
30 a lot of pressure. But I believe that in our hearts, you
31 know, we all understand there's a small resource. It's
32 the resource that we value and we are willing to put up
33 with the fact that the chinook pulses when they come will
34 be -- that we won't be able to fish on it. We're not
35 there to manufacture, you know.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Excuse me.
38 Joe, is your question answered?

39

40 MR. MATESI: Yes.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Frank,
43 did you have a question.

44

45 MR. GURTLER: Yes. I'd like to know what
46 the difference is between customary trade and traditional
47 use in subsistence. Like could anybody answer that one,
48 is it all the same, you know.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well.....

1 MR. GURTLER: Okay.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:we're in
4 public testimony and I would like staff to keep that
5 question for when we discuss it that Frank has just asked
6 and let's -- when you have these types of questions it's
7 fine if you want to bring them out to make sure that
8 staff knows, but let's try to see if we have any other
9 questions of Kathleen.
10
11 MR. GURTLER: Well.....
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But it'll come
14 out, Frank.
15
16 MS. ZURAY: But I heard -- I saw -- I
17 think that's a good question though, I think that that's
18 what, you know, the subsistence office is trying to
19 define. But to come up with regulations are not the best
20 way because you turn everyone into very defensive mode
21 when we're just trying to defend a lifestyle that is not
22 built around money in certain areas of the river.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
25 Kathleen. Anybody.....
26
27 MS. ZURAY: But I'd like to say that
28 customary trade is something that happens all along the
29 Yukon River.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
32 Andy.
33
34 MR. FIRMIN: I have a quick question for
35 you, Kathleen. What do you think you would call a
36 significant commercial enterprise in your own words or
37 today's economy?
38
39 MS. ZURAY: I think with -- under ANILCA
40 that's what -- you know, they -- that has not yet been
41 defined in terms of customary trade and the evolution of
42 it. If you -- it can mean one thing to another, one
43 person in our part of the river or let's say up in Canada
44 that is used to having severe low numbers of chinook to
45 go and catch that means something to them, it means
46 something different when you're at the mouth of river and
47 it means something different to me. To me that would be
48 -- I mean, I don't cut strips for sale. And I think if
49 people were needing to buy gas, but I think that's
50 something that is also a huge question. I think that's

1 where the questions are under that term. You know, I
2 think that it hasn't been clearly defined. And all these
3 opinions that I've been reading, they're just opinions on
4 various people with diverse backgrounds, with commercial
5 interest, with subsistence interest, you know, I think
6 it's a very complex issue that I can't even answer.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
9 questions. Larry.

10

11 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, Kathleen, my name is
12 Larry Williams and I grew up in the village of Beaver on
13 the Yukon River, but I now live in Venetie.

14

15 The question I'm going to ask is before
16 this -- prior to this meeting that -- of the TRI-RAC, was
17 anybody contacted by phone or by some other means to give
18 you opinion on what they were going to discuss for C&T,
19 was there an elder contacted or official or some
20 knowledgeable person like yourself, was there any effort
21 to reach those people?

22

23 MS. ZURAY: You mean for the May 12th
24 meeting, for the May meeting?

25

26 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, I believe they had
27 a meeting in August of this year.

28

29 MR. BASSICH: And in May.

30

31 MR. WILLIAMS: Well, anyway what -- the
32 question -- regardless of when they meet, I was just
33 trying to figure out if anybody, some kind of elder or
34 some kind of official that -- especially the elders who
35 have the knowledge and know the concept of customary
36 trade, was there anybody contacted in your village of
37 Tanana?

38

39 MS. ZURAY: Well, Lester is an elder and
40 he represents us very well on this Board. We have our
41 Council which there legally aren't any elders, maybe
42 young elders. But this has not been -- for some reason,
43 you know, this -- being it's such as important issue has
44 not been talked about as much. And I think it needs to.
45 We haven't sat down ourselves to interview our own elders

46

47 on what they have been doing all these years and
48 practicing. And then what is -- what is the definition
49 of what's happening today.

50

1 MR. WILLIAMS: The reason I asked that
2 question, I said -- I knew this meeting was coming up and
3 I'm part of the Council here. And not one person in my
4 village of Venetie ever -- they were -- they talked about
5 it among themselves, but nobody was out there, ever
6 contacted us as far as I know to get their opinion
7 because any -- a chief or a respected elder was not
8 contacted. And I figure that's a huge oversight on the
9 TRI-RAC's part. Meaning no disrespect to anybody, but I
10 think that should be an important part of these
11 deliberations on a complex issue.

12
13 MS. ZURAY: Yeah, I agree on what you're
14 saying that there hasn't been enough input from everyone
15 regarding this issue, it's a very divisive issue,
16 everyone has their own opinions. But I think to really
17 sit down and discuss this issue and to come up with
18 something that works would be the goal, not to continue
19 over regulating everyone and this be the solution for the
20 fact that the chinook run is in danger. Our priority
21 should be to manage the chinook run, not manage the user
22 until everything is put on the same plate together,
23 commercial and subsistence.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's a point
26 well noted. That will continue and maybe with the tribal
27 consultation whenever -- this is not what I'm hearing,
28 just observing that maybe that there needs to be a better
29 way to communicate.

30
31 Okay. So any other questions of -- one
32 more from Andrew.

33
34 MR. FIRMIN: Do you feel barter can
35 replace most customary trade transactions?

36
37 MR. ZURAY: I think barter has always
38 been a customary, traditional transactions. It's the
39 beginning of it, it's at the heart of customary trade.
40 Barter and trade are basically the same thing. It's just
41 the evolution of trade has -- is money. But I believe I
42 used to send.....

43
44 (Off record comments)

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I apologize for
47 interrupting, but it's very hard to hear.

48
49 MS. ZURAY: No problem.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.

2

3 MS. ZURAY: I think barter and trade are
4 basically the same thing except that when I sent whole
5 king to the Koyukuk River to one of my elder friends in
6 Hughes, I didn't want her money, but she did send me a
7 pair of slippers. So there's a lot of things that
8 traditionally were done because of the food sources in
9 each region. People prized king salmon for beluga,
10 people prized king salmon for sheep, for moose, it was
11 always traded. Berries, this year we had no berries in
12 our area so people were trading with the Minto Flats
13 people because they have all the berries. It's something
14 that is necessary for our own spiritual, cultural way of
15 life and diet is a huge part of it.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 MR. FIRMIN: Thank you. I think what was
20 on our biggest things that we had a time with is
21 bartering is simply -- it could be like you said trading
22 for slippers, it could be the same as me buying you fuel
23 to go fishing and you give me fish. And the customary
24 trade part is the direct exchange for cast. And like it
25 seems the biggest hardship is getting money to go out and
26 buy stuff, but that's what I mean is barter can replace
27 a lot of that buy, do you think that would work for a lot
28 of places where I could just buy you food, buy you a
29 grubstake and two drums of gas and you can be gone, you
30 know, a certain family could be out in the woods. And
31 that's the definition more of barter. They are the same,
32 but they are quite different and that was one of the
33 hardest that we had to get across with a lot of even
34 ourselves as we tried to figure out some of this stuff.

35

36 MS. ZURAY: Well, I think that's a very
37 good suggestion. I think that if the tribes and the
38 corporation and -- came together and addressed this issue
39 truly and had a system where we could receive goods in
40 trade of gas, then to go into possibly our food bank
41 because that's where we're headed in this economy, the
42 poor are getting poorer and the rich are getting richer.
43 So I think that these are all ideas that need to be
44 looked at, further research done to develop a solution
45 that -- where all the people are onboard.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
50 other questions.

1 (No comments)

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We have several
4 other people who want to testify and I'm going to take
5 the testimony from the teleconference first if that's
6 okay with the Council and then we'll -- Stan, your next,
7 Stan Zuray. And after Stan would be James Roberts.

8

9 And, Patrick, is that the right name,
10 Patrick Moore, now you can.....

11

12 MR. MOORE: Right.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:take it
15 off mute. Okay. You're on.

16

17 Go ahead.

18

19 MR. MOORE: I'm on?

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes. Go ahead.
22 I know you can hear me.

23

24 MR. MOORE: I got a big, elaborate bunch
25 of stuff I was going to talk about, but I don't have it
26 in front of me. I just wanted to say that in order to
27 build a fish wheel it's going to cost an individual close
28 to 2,000 bucks in either gasoline or in supplies. I
29 personally -- like if somebody has a fish wheel log here
30 that I can use, I'll pay 100 bucks for it rather than
31 spend 150 in gas going to look for one myself. So just
32 to build a fish wheel there's some expenses there. There
33 are no new fish wheels being built on the Yukon, there's
34 no -- there are no kids or new families starting up
35 fishing. The ones that have quit rely on other people or
36 on nets.

37

38 In order to travel to fish camp it's like
39 it used to be, a long time ago they'd pole their boats up
40 with their families and they'd stay there. With the high
41 price of gasoline people are doing the same. But all I'm
42 saying is that there's a lot of expense in fishing that
43 keeps somebody out of it, it keeps people from doing it.

44

45 As far as -- there was a lawsuit held by
46 a Federal judge down in Sitka on herring on kelp probably
47 20 years ago and they found that \$13,000 was not a
48 substantial commercial enterprise. I feel as though by
49 instituting any type of change in what has traditionally
50 has happened is going to lead to lawsuits and I don't

1 think that the Federal government will come out on the
2 high side with it.

3

4 But I want to go too to ANILCA when it
5 was -- upon its inception, we had all these Federal
6 people out here and all these meetings in all the
7 villages and they were telling us how they were going to
8 help us and everything was going to be better and to
9 watch out for the State and now this is all coming
10 through the Feds, the people that offered to help us. So
11 I kind of feel like if you go back to the '80s I kind of
12 feel like how the miners must have felt with the Feds
13 took the miners on and ran them all out of business.

14

15 Let's see, I had another point that I
16 wanted to make, but I guess it slipped my mind.

17

18 A long time ago there was, you know,
19 subsistence was -- a lot of it was dealt with by the
20 women, the men would build a small fish wheel and the
21 women here in Tanana would, along with raising their
22 families while the men were out fire fighting or maybe
23 they had a construction job up on one of the highways or
24 something, but they would leave -- the men would leave
25 town and then the women kind of ran the show until they
26 started putting up feed for dogs in the fall time.

27

28 Subsistence has got to be able to evolve.
29 A long time ago in Tanana there was no electricity and
30 there was no refrigeration. And so what people would do
31 is they'd put split fish up in their smokehouses late in
32 the fall and that would be their whole fish, they didn't
33 have a freezer to stick a whole fish in. I ate split
34 fish with Pete Nicholai every Friday night. And by -- I
35 try now -- I try to get my wife to let me stick split
36 fish in the smokehouse and she says I ate that stuff five
37 times a week when I was a kid growing up, you're not
38 sticking that in the smokehouse. But from time to time
39 I'll have an elder like Josephine Roberts or something
40 come by and ask do you have any split fish. And I
41 usually don't unless it's for the dogs. And sometimes
42 she'll even take that.

43

44 But subsistence, you know, like just with
45 the refrigeration has evolved. And it's -- I understand
46 when I say evolved that it could evolve from what maybe
47 I'm rooting for to something worse or it could -- or some
48 leniency could be taken in account. I personally think
49 that it's -- that the kids are losing valuable --
50 learning valuable work ethic and how to live off the

1 land. It used to be fish in the summer, trap in the
2 winter and that's how people lived and that's how they
3 raised their families.
4
5 And I'm kind of at a loss for words after
6 that.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We would
9 take some -- I'm going to ask the Council members if they
10 have any questions of you.
11
12 MR. MOORE: Okay.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
15 members, are there any questions.
16
17 (No comments)
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Patrick,
20 thank you, and you're welcome to stay on. Are you aware
21 of anyone else that's wanting to call in?
22
23 MR. MOORE: I'll check with some of the
24 boys around and see.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
27 We're.....
28
29 MR. MOORE: All right.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:we have
32 several others that are going to be testifying here so
33 we're going to continue on.
34
35 Thank you.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: MR. MOORE: All
38 right. Bye.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Stan is next.
41
42 MR. ZURAY: Hello.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Good morning.
45
46 MR. ZURAY: Okay. Let's see, I'll do a
47 -- my name is Stan Zuray, I'm from Tanana. I've been a
48 subsistence and commercial fishermen in the Tanana area
49 for 40 years. I'm Chairman of the local State Advisory
50 Committee, Secretary of YRDFA and presently running a

1 number of fisheries data collection projects directly
2 involved with documenting the decline of chinook salmon
3 run numbers, quality and size of fish. I'm here
4 representing the Tanana, Rampart, Manley AC and probably
5 in the end have a few personal comments too, but I'm
6 going to reference a paper that you all have in your
7 packet, it's something that was written last spring,
8 March of 2011, in anticipation of the TRI-RAC meeting.
9 Our Advisory Committee decided we would charge one of the
10 members, this guy Charley Campbell who used to write for
11 the newspapers and he worked a lot with Lester Erhart on
12 the Board here to write this summary of customary trade
13 subsistence patterns on the upper Yukon River and you
14 guys have that and have hopefully read that. And some of
15 the stuff that I'm going to be going over is just updated
16 information on that report such as the latest data and
17 stuff that we've used to write that report and other
18 things.

19
20 And so let me see here. Okay. So first
21 off I'd like to start with some stuff I pulled out of old
22 customary trade information that I've had. I got -- I
23 have a folder that's hugely thick on customary trade
24 going back 20 years. And, you know, we was -- even back
25 we -- before the Federal government took over subsistence
26 fishing there was this defining of subsistence and stuff
27 that we were always dealing with. And anyway I'd just
28 like to read this.

29
30 As you know, customary trade is
31 specifically identified in ANILCA as a subsistence use.
32 The Federal Subsistence Board has said that they would
33 define significant customary enterprise according to the
34 traditional practices in each region. They did not say
35 they would put a limit on it because of conservation
36 concerns. So I think the discussion needs to focus on
37 what are the traditional practices along the Yukon. This
38 has a lot to do with like what Kath -- when Kathleen was
39 up here, what she was talking about. I think the main
40 issue that is being overlooked in some of the sub -- by
41 some of the subcommittee members -- okay. All right.

42
43 Anyway right now as the combined TCC and
44 Doyon statement to the Federal Subsistence Board says,
45 the proposed regulations are arbitrary and capricious.
46 And that goes to like these recommendations I feel are
47 just being at this point because of the knowledge we have
48 of the traditional practices in the different districts,
49 this stuff is like being pulled out of a hat, it's like
50 the \$750 thing. That is -- I mean, it's like -- I

1 remember Charley Campbell he had in his letter to you, he
2 said something like well, why not \$350, why not 3,500,
3 why not -- you know, it's like, you know, this -- and I
4 don't know.

5
6 So anyway in this -- in our AC report we
7 talked about the price of gas and all that stuff going up
8 and that subject has come up also. And so what I did was
9 I pulled out some gas receipts from my 2008 -- from 2008
10 because I keep all this for taxes and stuff like that,
11 but anyway I have here \$2,019.03 worth of gas receipts
12 from the gas stations in Tanana and somebody would let --
13 I'd love it if somebody looked at this to make sure this
14 is all legit, this is all in between June 1st and October
15 1st and as people like Virgil knows and Lester know, I
16 spend every single day without fail in fish camp for four
17 months. So I'm not even capable of using this gas in my
18 truck in Tanana. I don't -- I'm not in Tanana, I don't
19 spend a single night for those four months in Tanana.
20 And I figure there's \$1,500 more worth of gas on top of
21 this that I buy off of people who come by my camp, who
22 bring me gas. And again this is something Virgil knows
23 because even last year I bought gas off of Virgil this
24 way, I buy gas off of a lot of people this way and I have
25 no receipts for it. And I know Charley Campbell, one of
26 the guys who wrote you about it, he's like this
27 meticulous character and he keeps -- and he says he also
28 spends over \$4,000 worth of gas each year. So this is
29 just gas, this isn't my tools, this isn't my fish wheel,
30 this isn't my generators, this isn't my anything, this
31 isn't my boat, this isn't my motor, you know, so you're
32 talking about significant commercial enterprises and
33 people trying to run a fish camp and support their family
34 at that fish camp without turning it into something where
35 they have to go get a job to support this. I mean, this
36 doesn't even happen nowadays because of the way the runs
37 are. There isn't any customary trade supported fish
38 camps that I know of in my area, in my immediate area.
39 Nobody pays for all their stuff, nobody's doing that
40 anymore because the runs are shut down for the majority
41 of the summer. So but as far as practices 10 years ago
42 and prior, you know, people used to try to at least
43 somewhat take the burden off of things by selling fish
44 strips. This is part of -- this is what customary trade
45 was, it wasn't making big money, it wasn't buying a boat
46 and motor, it was maybe paying for your gas and your wire
47 and your wheels and your rope and stuff like that. But
48 anyway, okay, so that's my gas receipt thing.

49
50

And then -- okay. And then I have a

1 paper here on where I think we should be going here
2 instead of attacking customary trade. And this is about
3 chinook pulse protection and stuff like that. So I have
4 a -- can I have -- paper.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, give it
7 to KJ.

8
9 MR. ZURAY: So on that paper is the -- I
10 added -- in 2009 we had pulse protection, real pulse
11 protection. And that paper has a lot of data on it going
12 back to 2004 and it shows how low an average king size
13 there is every year on the river. And then in 2009 all
14 of a sudden that average size of fish shot up a good
15 number of pounds, a significant amount of pounds. It was
16 I guess you'd say -- the statistician would say it's
17 significant, it's statistically valid. So anyway we kept
18 -- in 2010 we did the same thing, you'll see 2010 data.
19 There was no protection to the pulses in 2010 and we were
20 right back down -- actually it was one of the worst years
21 as far as the average size fish. Then this year, again
22 2011, we had pulse protection, not just on pulse one, but
23 on pulse two too. But, you know, and you can see again
24 how the average size fish, and not just the average size
25 fish, on the top chart you'll see the percent of fish
26 over 25 pounds, the percent of fish over 30 pounds,
27 dramatically changed, you know.

28
29 So and then you see on the graph on the
30 bottom, that's the graph of this project that I run where
31 we count chinook going by the rapids, the mid river
32 there, compared to Pilot Station sonar. So you can see
33 how -- and I don't change my axes or anything like
34 that. So you can see how like, you know, pulse one and
35 pulse two, we got a very good amount of fish, higher than
36 average amount of fish this year during pulse one and
37 pulse two because of the closures. And you can see from
38 the charts that the average size of those fish was much
39 bigger. And then you can see what happens when pulse
40 three came by. Pulse three as detected by Pilot Station
41 sonar. You can see what happened to it when it went by
42 the rapids. It didn't exist, it was the lowest part of
43 the run, it was lower than the beginning of the run and
44 lower than the end of the run. It was lower than pre-
45 pulse one and post-pulse, you know, three. So that's
46 what happens when you don't protect the pulses. Now this
47 is only because of the -- this is how -- this is the --
48 the run is so bad now, it's so low in numbers, it's so
49 weak in size and quality that this is what happened when
50 we don't protect pulses. And so I think that the full

1 pulse closures in 2009 and again in 2011 clearly show the
2 direction that management should take in the future, not
3 eliminating the opportunity for future generations to do
4 customary trade. I think they clearly show the direction
5 that should have been taken 20 years ago when these
6 problems started surfacing. And this again is what
7 people like me and Virgil and others have been fighting
8 for for that long. But we've been being ignored. I
9 often have said after the 2009 king run and can say it
10 again after 2011, if we can turn one of the poorest runs
11 recorded at the mouth into one that not only met border
12 escapement, but did it with some of the best quality
13 female rates and size in years, just think what we could
14 have done with some of those larger runs of the past when
15 problems were starting.

16
17 And as a final statement here I guess I'd
18 like to say so now what I see happening, what's happening
19 right in front of me here, what's happening with the
20 State, with the Commercial Fisheries Division people who
21 are pushing to put these regulations and restrictions on
22 customary trade, I think what's happening is the same
23 thing that happened with the pollack fishery where we're
24 taking somebody and we're blaming them for something that
25 we didn't -- that they didn't do. The pollack fishery
26 and the data that we have on that fishery clearly shows
27 that the pollack fishery is not to blame, the numbers, if
28 we look at those numbers and all the experts agree, they
29 clearly show that they are not to blame for the demise of
30 the king run. And we are doing the same thing to
31 customary trade that we did to the pollack fishery and
32 it's because we don't want to face what the problem is.

33
34
35 And so I have to say so now what are
36 happening are not changes to any of the things that
37 caused this problem, but a simple takeover by commercial
38 fishing interests of the economy of the complete king run
39 should it ever recover and the elimination of the
40 subsistence activity of customary trade cheered on by
41 those who don't believe in this messy, unregulated way of
42 life. This is all completely unfair especially to upper
43 fishermen who did not fight for the allocation of almost
44 all of the commercial limited entry quota for king and
45 chum salmon to the lower river districts specifically
46 because they felt customary trade was more important to
47 them and fit their way of life better. This is something
48 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should be fighting
49 for, not facilitating the elimination of. This is why I
50 thought the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was taking

1 over management from the State because the State was not
2 protecting subsistence properly. So now the Federal
3 government is maybe lining up to set the precedent on
4 this issue and the dominos will fall in line and
5 customary trade will have seen its day.

6

7 And that's the end of my presentation.
8 Thank you.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
11 Stan. Any questions of Stan.

12

13 (No comments)

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I don't
16 -- I'm --

17

18 MR. MATESI: Yes.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I missed you.
21 Sorry, Joe, turned my head when your hand went up. Go
22 ahead.

23

24 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Stan.

25

26 MR. ZURAY: Yeah.

27

28 MR. MATESI: I enjoyed reading that when
29 I first got ahold of it this summer.

30

31 Well, I certainly agree that, you know,
32 there's never been any really good socioeconomic analysis
33 of what would -- what would -- what is significant
34 commercial activity and what is customary trade defined
35 by a numerical amount. So I don't know, some people have
36 proposed 750 and some people are saying no, that's not
37 enough. You've given us some interesting numbers there.
38 Would you be willing to take a stab at what you would put
39 in as a limit, a definite -- that would define, you know,
40 in both directions. And because that's kind of like what
41 the -- this movement is headed towards.

42

43 MR. ZURAY: Well.....

44

45 MR. MATESI: I know I'm really putting
46 you on the spot.

47

48 MR. ZURAY: Prob -- well, I would
49 actually love to. I'd love to say something like
50 whatever, 10,000, something like that. I don't know.

1 You know, you got to remember the price of strips, you
2 know, we're taking a small amount of king salmon and
3 we're doing all this work to it and we're turning it into
4 something that's worth a heck of a lot more than even the
5 \$5 a pound that they sell king for at the mouth because
6 of all the labor that goes involved in. And the price of
7 strips is going up as the price of gas is going up.

8
9 But, you know, I can't say that without
10 pointing out something like in 2001 we went through this
11 -- they wanted to put -- the State wanted to put a limit
12 on the amount of dogs you could feed salmon to. And one
13 of the biggest problems we had with that and originally
14 they were in unanimous agreement that they needed to do
15 something about that such as put a limit of 12 dogs being
16 able to be fed fish. That was what the Board was, you
17 know, headed to. And we went to this meeting and we
18 brought all this stuff up and one of the biggest things
19 we pointed out is that you have people such -- we used
20 this guy, Frank, Lester knows Frank, and we said here's
21 a single guy who wasn't born in the village, who came in
22 from outside, but took over the lifestyle, had a small
23 dog team, about 12 dogs, and he would be able to feed all
24 those dogs fish. And then you had Lester Erhart who had
25 50 dogs in his dog yard and, you know, to somebody who
26 hears that they say 50 dogs, one guy. But it's not 50
27 guys, one guy, he's got a whole bunch of his own kids,
28 he's got half the kids in town helping him feed dogs and
29 run dogs and they're Lester's dogs, he's the big boss,
30 but it's a totally different scene. And so you're going
31 to use a \$750 per household thing on these -- on this
32 significant, you know, customary trade number of \$5,000,
33 \$10,000. It just doesn't work, you know, it had -- the
34 idea of household has no place in village life. It's
35 kind of like, you know, and I can say it, it's a white
36 man term. It's a white man concept, it's not a village
37 concept. And it has no place in any kind of regulation
38 that has anything to do with village life.

39
40 And the same goes for fish camp life.
41 Like I heard there was a -- they had a whole bunch of
42 these cases of -- oh, the person who sold all this fish
43 to Doyon, you know, a single person sold fish to Doyon.
44 Well, it turned out -- and it was a large amount of fish,
45 it was a pretty big amount of money and maybe in this day
46 and age or at this time in history with the chinook run
47 low, I would think that people should just be cooling it
48 a little bit, you know. But really that person doesn't
49 even check her own nets, she doesn't run that smokehouse
50 and that fish cutting table all by herself, she's got a

1 whole family behind her and extended family checking the
2 nets. I mean, this is just the way it goes, you know,
3 and the same with the downriver guy who bought the new
4 vehicle or something like that. These -- and these are
5 all things that are just like thrown out there, you know,
6 as a way to make us look like poachers because that's
7 what we're being made to look like, we're being made to
8 look like we're some sort of poachers, you know. And
9 that guy down there, he had a whole extended family
10 behind him and family behind him, you know, on this fish.

11
12

13 So yes, there are abuses, there are
14 people selling fish for resale, if that's going on they
15 should be busted, I have -- it's just like whether
16 they're my friends or not, if that's happening we've
17 decided that's illegal.

18
19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's like
21 anything in life.

22
23

24 MR. ZURAY: If somebody's running -- huh?

25
26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's like
28 anything in life, there's always a bad apple that ruins
29 the whole.....

30
31

32 MR. ZURAY: Exactly. And to ruin a
33 lifestyle to me -- I believe in commercial fishing if
34 there's enough fishing, I'm a commercial fisherman. My
35 -- you know, if possible. And I believe in the lower
36 river being able to commercial fish. But to me,
37 customary trade is the most ethical use of king salmon on
38 the Yukon River, it bypasses commercial fishing, it keeps
39 most of the fish right on the river, the fish aren't
40 going to Japan or to Seattle and it causes people an
41 awful lot of work, it causes people to have to do all
42 this value added stuff to the fish and so they have to be
43 in fish camp, they raise their kids there and that's all
44 something that commercial fishery can't even come close
45 to.

46
47

48 So to me you're taking -- you're just
49 pulling numbers out of a hat and it could destroy this
50 lifestyle that to me is the most ethical use of the damn
51 king salmon on the river. And there are people, there
52 are -- and it's happening more and more, there are people
53 that go to fish camp and they have a job and they go
54 there for a couple of weeks and all the costs are paid
55 for by their job and then there are other people that go

1 there for half the summer of the entire summer and they
2 -- you know, but that's not hap -- like last year these
3 pulse closures.....

4
5 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chairman, can I
6 interrupt for a second, please.

7
8 MR. ZURAY: Yeah, sorry.

9
10 MR. BASSICH: I'm sorry. Stan, I think
11 once we get into our deliberations I think there's a lot
12 of misunderstanding on what the intent is behind the
13 committee that worked on customary trade and I think a
14 lot of that will come out in our deliberations for the
15 public to fully understand. I think Andrew and Bill who
16 attended these meetings can probably concur with me. So
17 I would really like to ask -- I really like this
18 testimony and I especially appreciate Stan's information
19 here, but we have an awful lot to cover, Madame Chair,
20 and we need testimony to be concise, to the point, and
21 then we need to move on.

22
23 Thank you.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm --
26 I try to do it, but I'm not real good at it. Sorry, I
27 hate to interrupt people, but we have to do that
28 sometimes.

29
30 So is there any other questions?

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Next is
35 James Roberts and as he's coming up I would like to ask
36 was there a -- someone come on the teleconference who
37 wants to speak to customary trade?

38
39 MS. PETERS: Yes, ma'am. Faith Peters,
40 Tanana.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is it Grace?

43
44 MS. PETERS: Faith.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Faith.

47
48 MS. PETERS: F-A-I-T-H.

49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Hi.

1 MS. PETERS: Sorry.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We have James
4 Roberts and then I'm going to go ahead and put you in
5 next. And I'm going to ask you guys to -- I have you
6 twice, James. I have about four more here. So go ahead.

7

8 MR. ROBERTS: Yes, thank you for this
9 opportunity to stick up for myself and my people. I'm
10 looking at this through a cultural relativism which is
11 the person that's actually doing it, that does it, that
12 lives there. And I look at this RAC and I don't trust
13 one person on here. I trust Lester. And for Andrew --
14 Andrew and Bill to make that determination for us is
15 wrong, you know. That's how I feel. And what's going on
16 here too is these other RACs are making these decisions
17 and forcing us to live a different life.

18

19 I just want to give a brief history of
20 what's going on around Tanana. We got the weather and we
21 got the wood and we got the fish, we're not too oily and
22 we're not too dry. And there's people that are on the
23 Koyukuk River, the Tanana River, that are depending on us
24 to provide this product. They work, they have jobs and
25 they will trade cash for it.

26

27 And what I see too is -- what I don't
28 like is they use Copper River and Bristol Bay with \$750.
29 That's where I've seen this figure come from. Well, if
30 they want to give up their rights, that's for them,
31 that's what they chose. And for you guys to force us to
32 make this decision is wrong.

33

34 And a commercial enterprise, what I look
35 at is \$750 above the poverty level, whatever that poverty
36 level is. You're asking people to live on \$750. It's a
37 very low number and if you guys want my opinion, I'd want
38 it to be \$75,000. Really, that we live good. I got
39 five children to raise and it hurts. And what you guys
40 are doing is forcing us to be criminals when in -- right
41 now I'm a regular Robin Hood, you know, I'm taking this
42 and I'm providing a service to people.

43

44 I work with my in-laws, I fished with
45 them for a number of years and we drive 90 miles a day,
46 we check the net three times a day. And people say well,
47 what are you doing. Well, I go those 90 miles, but I'll
48 run across the river and I'll make a wood raft to make up
49 for the gas money that I lose, that's what I do. I check
50 my net or I set it and I'll go across the river and I'll

1 cut wood and I'll make a raft. I might make \$2,000 and
2 that will cover my gas.

3
4 The issues that are facing us is like
5 what I noticed being a native Alaskan fisherman, and
6 we're becoming very rare. There's a lot of white people
7 that fish in our area and they're experts now. Where are
8 the native men, there's me, there's Lester. When we were
9 fishing in October there was just me and Lester, the last
10 native people that fish. I lived with Lester for 20
11 years and he taught me how to cut fish. It took me all
12 my life to learn this. And now you guys are going to
13 break it down and destroy what I do, what I'm trying to
14 teach my children is going to be gone. They see what I
15 do, they see me sell fish, they see me trade fish, and
16 they're going to watch me and they're going to do that
17 too if you guys let us do this.

18
19 And then, you know, like an example of
20 customary trade is like the 20th of the month, everybody
21 is getting broke. And they have Quest cards and they're
22 out. I'll give them fish on credit, you know, I know
23 they're going to get me back, but they're hungry. I got
24 people that work for me, I don't give them a darn penny,
25 but they can go hang their own fish and cut it there and
26 dry it themselves. I mean, people come to me for salmon
27 loins to eat, they are hungry. You guys don't see this,
28 you don't feel it. I feel it, these are my people. We
29 are suffering and we're struggling. We're losing our
30 people, but the legacy of the native American fisherman
31 is going by the wayside. You guys got to realize this,
32 I am the youngest fish carter at my hometown. And these
33 people from the Koyukuk River are coming to me and saying
34 geez, who are we going to buy fish from in the future.
35 They don't get what we get, they want we got and they
36 will pay money for it like that guy testified from Nome,
37 he said we have money, we want to pay for this, we don't
38 care how much you charge.

39
40 Another thing I notice too is the health
41 affects of, you know, processed food, sugar and flour is
42 killing our people. My auntie came to me this summer and
43 said gee, your uncle's dying, he got diabetes, you got to
44 give me 50 fish a day. And I -- you know, I felt bad,
45 but, you know, I look at uncle and I was like geez, he
46 does need fish, you know. And that's how he lives,
47 that's what he eats every day, every morning he has to
48 eat fish, he cannot eat processed food.

49
50 I trade fish and I go from Barrow to

1 Sitka to Teller and all in between. People come from all
2 over to trade fish. I'll even trade dogs for a fish.

3

4 My mother-in-law, she has real severe
5 arthritis. She's about 70 and her hands are like this.
6 And she wants to cut fish so what I do for her is I'll
7 filet that whole, big, 40 pound king salmon out for her
8 so she can take her knife and cut it. Even though she
9 suffers and she hurts and she's going to hurt for two
10 weeks after the season, she cannot move her hands. But
11 that's how they live, that's how we live.

12

13 You guys cannot see how we live. You can
14 think you see it, but how we live is being threatened by
15 you guys here. And I just hope you guys make the wise
16 decisions because we are really hurting on the river.
17 And that is the legacy of the Alaska native fisherman.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions. Go
20 ahead, Larry.

21

22 MR. WILLIAMS: It's not really a -- it's
23 not really a question, it's more of a comment. Like, Mr.
24 Roberts, I thank you for your strong words and I
25 appreciate that.

26

27 But I was appalled -- like I said to
28 Kathleen that I grew up in the village of Beaver and my
29 mom and dad grew up -- grew us up, me and my brother,
30 Paul, in the traditional lifestyle of our people which is
31 Athabascan people, you know. And we never had much
32 money, but my dad did the same thing that you're doing at
33 that time to provide for our family the basic necessities
34 of life. So, you know, to say -- include me and saying
35 that we don't know what you are talking about, you know,
36 because I grew up that way and I'm still living that way.
37 I have a camp -- fish camp on Wydank (ph) is about 30
38 miles upriver from Beaver. And I still maintain that
39 fish camp. I don't make no money off it, but it's mostly
40 for recreational use and to get out on the land and
41 maintain a lifestyle that I grew up with you see. So I
42 know where you're coming from and I can feel your hurt in
43 having these rules and regulations imposed upon us. And
44 all these fish closures, we have to live with that
45 because we're people that try to follow the law and try
46 to maintain peace in our lives and harmony with nature
47 and harmony with our fellow man. You know, so that's
48 where I'm coming from. And I hold a seat on the -- a
49 subsistence seat and I am all for the subsistence
50 fisherman.

1 Thank you for your testimony.
2
3 MR. ROBERTS: All right. Thank you all.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Calling on the
6 teleconference, I heard with had Faith Peters. Did
7 anyone else call in.
8
9 Faith, are you are on?
10
11 MS. PETERS: Yes, ma'am.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. It's
14 your turn to testify.
15
16 MS. PETERS: My name is Faith Peters,
17 born and raised here in Tanana, Alaska. I'm 53 years
18 old, I have been raised at fish camp, my mom and dad
19 taught me how to cut fish and to hang and dry king
20 salmon. Also I run my own boat, just purchased a 90
21 horse Honda for \$9,000 in cash. And to run my boat from
22 Tanana to fish camp for 15 gallons of gas is \$84 plus \$23
23 for oil. So that's a total of \$107.20 for me to go
24 upriver and come back. And that may be just for one trip
25 for three days. But if I get 30 gallons of gas that's
26 \$168 plus oil is \$30 so that's \$201. I also work for the
27 tribe and to buy a gallon of milk here is \$12 a gallon.
28 Or a little, dried up Fred Meyer loaf of bread is seven
29 bucks. And if I fly in stuff from Fairbanks that's 50
30 cents a pound depending on how much pounds you have and
31 how soon you want to get that freight here. And if you
32 want to get it like tonight you have to pay an additional
33 express freight for delicious ribeye steak, hot dogs,
34 hamburgers, all the meats that cause you to have high
35 heart disease and problem. So if there is no customary
36 trade how are the native people in town going to get
37 access to their native foods to help combat diabetes and
38 heart disease.
39
40 Our way of life has been for centuries
41 and we've been teaching our youth to go to camp, to learn
42 how to cut half dried fish, how to prepare our native
43 foods. And if the Board at this time make a decision to
44 cut our way of life then what are we going to teach our
45 kids, how to barbecue, how to ground up different meats
46 or should we just -- I don't know. We're questioned with
47 the lifestyle for seven generations and we have to
48 preserve it. And our way of life has been handed down to
49 us from generation to generation and if it goes away by
50 the decision of people who don't understand the way we

1 live then our culture will be lost.
2
3 I'd like to say thank you to everyone
4 who's there and those are present fighting for the rights
5 of our people.
6
7 Thank you very much.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
10 Faith. Council members, do you have any questions of
11 Faith?
12
13 (No comments)
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
16 you, Faith. You're welcome to listen in.....
17
18 MS. PETERS: Thank you.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:we have a
21 few more people that are testifying and we'll take this
22 up later.
23
24 Next, Gerald Nicholai.
25
26 MR. NICHOLAI: I'm not going to go on to
27 history or nothing, but I'm just going to say where this
28 started from, what's the demise of the Yukon kings.
29 Thirty, 40, 50 years ago the State mismanaged them then,
30 we catch 120 summer, 120,000 king salmon be sold
31 commercially. They did that for 20, 30 years. And then
32 they got this pollack fishery, a big industry, how much
33 should they have. They're not -- what you guys' numbers
34 in your bycatch, what I seen when I was on the TRI-RAC,
35 I mean, when I was on this thing, they put those numbers
36 down somehow.
37
38 And those -- the TRI-RAC Committee what
39 -- how this started out was a downriver, upriver fight.
40 We wanted to stop them from being commercial fisheries so
41 we could get some fish by. Those pollack closures they
42 had two years in a row should be made for the border
43 passage, close the first pollacks off. And then the
44 second year they switched to first pollacks and we didn't
45 make the border pass. You guys are just aiming your
46 direction the wrong way. I told the Board last year that
47 you guys are doing the wrong thing and if you guys are
48 going to come and oppose this it will be doing the wrong
49 thing.
50

1 That's all I'm going to say. I'm just
2 going to stick up for Doyon and Tanana Chiefs and we'll
3 take you guys to court if we have to.

4
5 Any questions.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions
8 of Gerald.

9
10 Andrew.

11
12 MR. FIRMIN: Gerald, I agree with you in
13 some -- a lot of ways, but do you really think Doyon
14 should even have a say in any of this as they're just a
15 land owner, I mean, that's like asking BLM their opinion.

16
17 MR. NICHOLAI: You know, if the numbers
18 -- the numbers from 20 years ago, if they would have --
19 if the Fish and Game -- if this Department of Fish and
20 Game would have restrict them at the mouth and did
21 something which you -- work with the Council to restrict
22 the numbers in the pollack fishery we wouldn't have this
23 problem. And you guys micromanaging us is not going to
24 work.

25
26 MR. FIRMIN: I agree with you, Gerald,
27 thank you.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry.

30
31 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, Mr. Nicholai. I --
32 just to make a comment it's not a question.

33
34 I said I -- to Mr. Roberts there that I
35 appreciate the strong words that's coming from you and
36 your people you -- that you represent. And I like
37 finally hearing a native American speaking those strong
38 words in a public meeting. So I -- that's all I want you
39 to know.

40
41 Thank you.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
44 Gerald.

45
46 MR. NICHOLAI: You're welcome.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's good to
49 see you Gerald.

50

1 Russell Wood.

2

3 MR. WOOD: Yeah, my name is Russell Wood,
4 I live here in Fairbanks. I'll keep my testimony fairly
5 short because I know you guys got a lot going on here,
6 but I'd like to emphasize a lot of things that some of
7 these people said here today.

8

9 Twenty years ago and the twenty years
10 before that I was fishing on the Yukon in the same area
11 there, upstream from Tanana where they're fishing now.
12 I hope to get back there sometime.

13

14 The -- I read the justification in the
15 proposal put out by the TRI-RAC Committee here and it's
16 just filled with some words that don't have any meaning,
17 you know, I mean, it -- you can interpret it however you
18 want, hopes to curtail large. I mean, what -- I mean,
19 it's -- there's no real meaning to those words to me.
20 And may. And like the words reported to occur in urban
21 areas, urban areas of Alaska, reported to occur. I mean,
22 is there any justification behind that, I mean, do you
23 have any set numbers, can they say that, you know -- I
24 mean, there's not enough research being done or hasn't
25 been done in order to come up with, I think, a real valid
26 rule on how to manage the fishery on the Yukon. And I do
27 think that they're picking on the customary trade.

28

29 I wrote a letter to the -- I got -- it
30 got in here by the 15th and I asked Andy there and he
31 said yeah, they had read all those letters and they'd
32 gone over them, but I just -- we need to have more
33 information. And I think one thing that the Committee
34 did say and I really do think that they need to do these
35 calendars, they need to figure out some way to get the
36 fishermen to do valid, honest calendars on what they're
37 catching. Not to penalize the fisherman, but to know
38 what the numbers really are because nobody knows what
39 those numbers are. I mean, nobody knows how many strips
40 are being sold, how many dry or salmon are being cut to
41 edible fish, nobody knows. The individual fisherman does
42 and he may not even tell the other fishermen. So to cut
43 something that you don't know what's -- what the amounts
44 are to me seems to be going in the wrong direction. But
45 if you can get and if you -- and the fishermen are honest
46 and I know a lot of fishermen that aren't honest, but I
47 know a lot that are too. And if they're worried about
48 their own resource they should be honest, you know.

49

50 The -- and I'm just going to finish up

1 with something that I found this out today when I finally
2 got my computer going this morning. I was reading this
3 status report, the Secretarial recommendations to the
4 Federal subsistence management program. And Secretary
5 Vilsack, he's the Secretary of Agriculture, he made a
6 statement right at the first of this report that I'd like
7 to read because it means a lot if you really think about
8 what he's saying here. And he's Secretary of Agriculture
9 and he's one of the members of the Board, the main, big
10 Board. And it says implementation of a subsistence
11 program that fulfills the obligations of the United
12 States government to rural families is important to me.
13 The Federal subsistence management program in Alaska
14 aligns closely with the mission of the United States
15 Department of Agriculture's mission and embodies key
16 priorities that include sustaining the livelihood of
17 rural families, ensuring access to healthy and affordable
18 food, providing jobs in rural communities, sustaining
19 control -- excuse me, sustaining cultural and traditional
20 ways of life and strengthening relationships with the
21 Alaska native tribes. And, I mean, when I -- I'm not the
22 smartest guy in the world, but when I read that it sounds
23 to me like some -- customary trade fits the bill in there
24 somehow or another and to that recommendation by the
25 Secretary of Agriculture who's -- you know, he's one of
26 the big cheeses on that, you know, on the Board, I mean,
27 he -- you know, he -- when it comes to making
28 recommendations.

29
30 So I just think more research needs to be
31 done on the customary trade issue before it's wily nilly,
32 you know, done away with or changed drastically.

33
34 And the dollar amount, the dollar amount
35 for the guy that fishes at the bridge could be a dollar
36 amount totally different than the guy that fishes in
37 Tanana. And it's only 100 miles of river, you know, the
38 dollar amount, what he would need to maintain a life at
39 fish camp. You know, I mean, so -- yeah, I just -- I
40 couldn't believe it, you know, I couldn't believe
41 whenever I -- after I -- when I got this paper, I found
42 this paper, this TRI-RAC Customary Subcommittee report
43 and then I read that and besides when I looked on here
44 and it said that -- it said me, that I live here in
45 Fairbanks now, so I'm not considered a Federal -- I
46 wouldn't qualify as a Federal subsistence user. So now
47 I can't -- and I grew up on fish and the last -- you
48 know, for 40 years I've been eating fish. Now if I went
49 to Lester I wouldn't expect Lester to give me some
50 strips, I'd like to pay him for those strips. But living

1 here in Fairbanks I wouldn't be able to do that now. But
2 I ain't going to quit eating fish, you guys, so I ain't
3 going to say where I'm going to get them from now on.
4 I'm going to eat fish, you know.

5
6 And that's all I have. Thanks.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

9
10 (No comments)

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I
13 believe other than the report from YRDFA -- Stan, do you
14 have a copy of that report?

15
16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah, I can locate
17 you one. Do you want to do the YRDFA report now.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We can do it
20 when it's time. I thought it had something to do with
21 customary trade.

22
23 Okay. Council members, you know there's
24 people here that testified and I'm wondering now if a
25 report from the Tribe Council Committee would be
26 appropriate, kind of when it's fresh in your mind.

27
28 Andrew.

29
30 MR. FIRMIN: I think we should have did
31 that first so people have more of a better understanding
32 of the whole point.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We are learning
35 as we go, aren't we.

36
37 MR. FIRMIN: It took us a while to figure
38 out a lot of it ourselves.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

41
42 MR. FIRMIN: I think there's a lot of
43 misunderstanding with a lot of it.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I really need
46 you guys' help in situations like that. I know we're --
47 we get into these agendas and we -- I mean, man, it just
48 -- you don't know exactly where everything should fall in
49 place and now that it's over KJ and I've been here, she's
50 got a stack of stuff from your Council there, it's about

1 this thick -- or I mean, from your TRI-Council meetings
2 and there is -- I hear what you're saying. Do you want
3 to hear the report then, and I apologize that it wasn't
4 first. We have so much on our agenda at this meeting
5 that we're.....

6

7 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

10

11 MR. BASSICH: Can I get some help and
12 direction from Dr. David Jenkins and maybe he could come
13 up here and -- if you want to pursue this right now I
14 guess I'd like to hear a little report on what took place
15 at the other TRI-RAC meetings and then we could follow-up
16 with a report with our perspective of the TRI-RAC
17 meetings. And then if there's going to be a motion made
18 we can make a motion to address this, to further it to
19 the Federal Subsistence Board from this RAC.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is everybody in
22 agreement?

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I just
27 want people that are here to hear some of this stuff here
28 that -- and I apologize that it wasn't first.

29

30 So, David, if you could come up.

31

32 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. Madame Chair, if I
33 may, I think what would be really helpful if David could
34 give us a really brief synopsis of how the RACs were
35 formed, who was involved, the outreach effort to get the
36 comments that we got from the public, how that was
37 reviewed and then we could probably talk as members on
38 the Committee to more detail as to what kind of
39 discussion took place. And I think we could probably do
40 that fairly quickly.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

43

44 MR. BASSICH: If David keeps it brief.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Good luck,
47 David.

48

49 DR. JENKINS: Madame Chair, Council
50 members, thank you. David Jenkins, OSM. And I will be

1 brief.

2

3 Let me remind everybody what customary
4 trade refers to to begin with because there -- I heard
5 some confusion in the testimony. Customary trade is a
6 protected subsistence use under Title VIII of ANILCA.
7 Under subsequent Federal regulations for fish it was
8 defined as the exchange for cash of fish, their parts and
9 their eggs. This is customary trade. Now there are five
10 strictures governing the sale of fish, parts and eggs
11 under customary trade. The fish have to be harvested in
12 Federal waters. The sale cannot constitute a significant
13 commercial enterprise, it's not clear what that means,
14 but it can't go beyond that threshold. The sale can't
15 involve any individual or business or organization that
16 is required to be licensed by -- as a fisheries business.
17 And the sale cannot involve a business defined by --
18 involve a business as defined by Alaska statute. And
19 finally the sale to nonrural residents is for personal or
20 family use and it can't be resale. So those are the
21 strictures governing the sale of fish, parts and eggs
22 under customary trade.

23

24 Okay. So the Subcommittee which was
25 formed was made up of three Regional Advisory Councils,
26 the Yukon Delta Regional Advisory Council, the Eastern
27 Interior and the Western Interior Advisory Councils. And
28 in April the Subcommittee of nine members had a
29 teleconference to set its agenda. So this Subcommittee
30 was not driven by OSM, it wasn't driven by the Federal
31 Subsistence Board, it was driven by subsistence users up
32 and down the length of the Yukon River in these three
33 regions. In April they set their agenda and in May they
34 met for a two day meeting to discuss the issue of
35 customary trade of chinook salmon, it's only chinook
36 salmon that the Subcommittee addressed and I should
37 emphasize that the Subcommittee addressed the customary
38 trade of chinook salmon in the context of declining
39 chinook runs. That was what was driving, as far as I can
40 understand, the issue of trying to think about and
41 perhaps limit some aspects of customary trade, it was in
42 the context of declining chinook runs.

43

44 So the Subcommittee met in May for two
45 days and discussed customary trade. And at that meeting
46 for advice if it was needed were fisheries biologists
47 from the State and the Federal side, there were law
48 enforcement officials and the solicitor, the attorney
49 from the solicitor's office was there to answer questions
50 as well.

1 So from that two day meeting the
2 Subcommittee came up with three proposals, three broad,
3 regulatory changes again in the context of the declining
4 chinook runs. The first was to preclude customary trade
5 of Yukon River chinook salmon harvest between rural
6 residents and others. The second was to allow customary
7 trade of Yukon River chinook salmon between rural
8 residents within the Yukon River drainage with a \$750
9 limit. And the third was to require a subsistence Yukon
10 River chinook salmon permit and record keeping form with
11 three components, a harvest permit calendar, a customary
12 trade record keeping form and a transfer of possession
13 form for Yukon River chinook salmon.

14
15 These three broad, regulatory changes
16 were then sent out for public review. And OSM endeavored
17 to contact as many people as we can by email and by mail,
18 tribes, corporations, YRDFA, helped distribute these
19 three broad, regulatory proposals. And we followed up
20 the emails and the mails with a postcard to all of these
21 people that we had contacted, asking them for their input
22 in terms of these three broad, regulatory changes. Now
23 we received about 20 written comments ranging from two or
24 three lines in an email to 20 page responses that read
25 like legal briefs.

26
27 The Subcommittee met again in August for
28 two days and it very carefully went through all of this
29 public response to these three regulatory changes, letter
30 by letter, the Subcommittee went through. It was very
31 slow, it was very tedious, it was very exacting. They
32 took all of the public commentary very seriously. In
33 that August meeting the Subcommittee offered its
34 proposals and came up with a preferred proposal and it's
35 this. In the context of declining chinook runs the
36 customary trade of Yukon River chinook salmon may only
37 occur between Federally-qualified rural residents with a
38 current customary and traditional use determination.
39 That was the preferred option.

40
41 And perhaps the Subcommittee members can
42 provide justification with this and I can skip over their
43 justifications.

44
45 They had an alternative proposal which
46 they didn't prefer, but they put it in for the RAC
47 review. And the alternative was to preclude customary
48 trade of Yukon River chinook salmon between rural
49 residents and others, establish a \$750 limit per calendar
50 year per qualified household and require a customary

1 trade record keeping form and receipt. This was the
2 second proposal, but it wasn't the one that was
3 preferred, the first one was the preferred proposal.

4
5 Now I can go through the justifications
6 that the Subcommittee had, but since you have three
7 members here it might be more useful to hear their input
8 at this point. And I hope that's a sufficient and --
9 sufficiently brief summary.

10
11 Thank you.

12
13 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. Madame Chair, if we
14 may. David, could you brief very briefly because I think
15 you were at both of the other two TRI-RACs could you give
16 us a brief synopsis of what took place there?

17
18 DR. JENKINS: Yes. At the YK meeting the
19 Council didn't vote on this, but they discussed the
20 status and these two proposals. And they agreed with the
21 prioritization of the two proposals, in other words they
22 agreed that the highest priority was the first proposal
23 that the TRI-RAC Subcommittee meeting suggested and the
24 lower priority was the \$750 limit proposal. They didn't
25 vote on it, but they indicated that they agreed with the
26 ranking. They also -- some members also said that if a
27 limit is imposed they thought a \$750 limit was
28 appropriate.

29
30 So that's what went on at the YK meeting.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you say
33 some?

34
35 DR. JENKINS: Well, they didn't all
36 discuss it, some of them had input, not all of them did.
37 So those who talked about it and because they didn't vote
38 on it, there wasn't a consensus of any sort. Those who
39 talked about it said that they agreed with the ranking
40 and others who talked about it said if there's a dollar
41 limit imposed they thought a \$750 limit was appropriate.

42
43 Now at the Western Interior they did take
44 a vote and they voted that the first alternative was the
45 appropriate alternative, they voted in favor of that,
46 they agreed with that first alternative. They also
47 suggested that the Federal Subsistence Board should
48 recognize that -- they should recognize customary food
49 processing techniques, strips, for example, or jarring as
50 culturally significant and customary practices. And they

1 suggested that the Federal Subsistence Board discuss that
2 specifically as a customary practice and it shouldn't be
3 a prohibited practice of any sort.

4
5 So those are the two things that went on
6 at those two meetings.

7
8 Thank you.

9
10 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, Madame Chair. I
11 think, Andrew, if you're comfortable with it, I think it
12 would be great if Andrew could just give us his -- maybe
13 his discussion on what took place at the TRI-RAC and some
14 of the difficult issues.....

15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

17
18 MR. BASSICH:that we struggled
19 with.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew, I know
22 you're comfortable.

23
24 MR. FIRMIN: I guess so.

25
26 One of the -- I guess the hardest thing
27 come out with, and I guess to be up front, there was
28 about nine of us on the TRI-RAC all together. Seven of
29 them were elders and at least six of them were native.
30 And we got together on two separate occasions and on the
31 phone to try to develop this wording with a lot of staff
32 and the help of David and others.

33
34 And a lot of the big misunderstandings
35 that -- correct me if I'm wrong now, but a lot of the big
36 misunderstandings that we had even amongst the people
37 involved in this was that this will only apply to Federal
38 waters. So if you're in State water it's not even going
39 to matter. It's only going to apply to whole, frozen
40 fish in the round, it's not going to apply to strips and
41 jarred salmon or any other process and it's only going to
42 apply to chinook salmon and it will only apply to -- when
43 it's in low abundance, when we're being restricted of it.
44 Those are the only time these will come into effect, it's
45 not like we're trying to kill everybody's whole -- you
46 know, you're not going to have to start shooting dogs or
47 anything, it's only going to apply to certain measures
48 and I think that was a lot of the big misunderstandings.

49
50

1 So when somebody's got a truckload of
2 whole, round, frozen fish then obviously where did you
3 get that and where are you going with it is kind of the
4 question. And that was one of the things that we were
5 hoping to enlist their commercial buyers or there's
6 something from the -- you know, and they're commercially
7 selling it then that would be the definition between
8 somebody going to Fairbanks to give fish to their grandma
9 and going to who knows where to do what with it. And
10 there was a lot of difficulties with that and even from
11 one meeting to the next some of us had the problem
12 realizing that again, you know, forgetting from one
13 meeting to the next. And I think in -- all in all there
14 was some -- there was a good consensus at the end of both
15 of them on -- I think from about everybody's part, but it
16 was difficult getting there the whole time, it was a hard
17 fought battle and a lot of time and effort put into it.

18
19 MR. BASSICH: And if I can maybe build on
20 that a little bit. There's a couple of key components
21 that were discussed. One was conservation of chinook
22 salmon during low abundance periods. That probably drove
23 the conversation and the discussion more than anything
24 else. One of the key things that we really spent a lot
25 of time on is the traditional -- the value of the
26 traditional way of life. And it was really important and
27 discussed that we don't want to see that disappearing on
28 the Yukon River, we recognize that, it's a very strong
29 component of what the Yukon River is, what the fisheries
30 and what subsistence use is. And so the effort was to
31 try and minimize any impacts on that under the
32 regulations that would be imposed.

33
34 One of the driving factors in that
35 discussion was in low abundance times it was felt that
36 the prioritization of chinook salmon should stay within
37 the Yukon River drainage, the villages to feed the people
38 in the villages. And that's what ultimately led to the
39 -- trying to restrict in low abundance years the sale or
40 the distribution of chinook salmon outside the drainage
41 to urban areas. So it was to provide for food security
42 in the villages for the people who live along the Yukon
43 River and that was a really key element to what we
44 discussed because that is essentially what we want to be
45 able to maintain on the Yukon River is food security and
46 king -- chinook salmon is identified as one of the
47 primary needs of subsistence people on the Yukon River.

48
49 Another aspect that was talked about a
50 great deal was the ability to use barter to fulfill some

1 of these needs to provide for people in subsistence camps
2 as opposed to cash sales of salmon. Barter is not
3 customary trade, it is not regulated under customary
4 trade so there was a great deal of discussion. We had
5 one member who actually lives over on the Kuskokwim River
6 and trades or has in the past bought salmon. And he was
7 very concerned about losing his ability to do that. But
8 by understanding the methods of barter, I think he became
9 very comfortable with the ability to still obtain the
10 food sources that he required or wanted, but not do it
11 through cash sales. So that was another important that
12 we spent a lot of time talking about and trying to get
13 people to understand the difference between the
14 definition of customary trade and the difference between
15 it and barter.

16
17 And then finally one of the main factors
18 that drove all of this is the simple fact that law
19 enforcement under the current definitions of customary
20 trade has no ability to act on any abuses in customary
21 trade. And so a big part of the discussion also was
22 about as law enforcement calls it, creating a bright
23 line, a line in the sand, a line in which then they can
24 begin to work or build a case on a person who may be
25 abusing this. There was a lot of discussion that --
26 during the meeting that it was basically a fairly small
27 group of people that were in that latter portion of what
28 I just discussed, that were basically abusing it and, you
29 know, the old adage one bad apple spoils the whole
30 bushel. And so the attempt also of the Committee was to
31 try and assist law enforcement in developing that bright
32 line so that when there are people that are abusing
33 salmon in low abundance years, law enforcement has the
34 tools in their toolbox to build a case and prosecute or
35 at least attempt to slow down or curtail that.

36
37 Recognizing that during low abundance
38 years a lot of discussion was on the demand for the
39 salmon. And it's recognized that it has always gone to
40 urban areas to a certain extent, but I think the
41 Committee was pretty much unanimous in that in low
42 abundance years salmon should stay as close to the
43 villages as possible, that markets -- it cannot sustain
44 markets in Fairbanks, Anchorage, Nome, Kotzebue, Barrow,
45 wherever. Large populations create a greater demand
46 which means more harvest of chinook salmon during those
47 times and that's what we're really concerned about.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I have a
50 question when you just said that, in low abundance times,

1 does this only refer to the whole salmon?

2

3 MR. BASSICH: What we defined as low
4 abundance or what would drive or what would kick these
5 regulations is as we discussed, was on years when there
6 was restrictions to normal subsistence harvests. So when
7 we have a year where both Fish and Wildlife and
8 Department of Fish and Game feel it is necessary to put
9 restrictions on subsistence users because of low
10 abundance, then these regulations would then go into
11 effect. That would be -- that would be the defining
12 point.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. I
15 understood that. But that -- we're only talking about
16 whole salmon, right, not strips in this case?

17

18 MR. BASSICH: When you talk about
19 customary trade you are only talking about whole salmon
20 and this is probably some of the misunderstanding and
21 this is where the work really needs to be done is these
22 regulations are only referring to customary trade as
23 described in ANILCA. However as we all know and as we
24 heard a lot of testimony today, there are many different
25 ways that people view customary trade in different parts
26 of the river and the practices are very different. And
27 I think that's where the work needs to be done in the
28 future.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
31 Questions, Council members, on this TRI-Council's.....

32

33 MR. FIRMIN: I just have a couple of
34 additional comments. And like Andrew said this is just
35 Federal waters. The State waters, the State waters are
36 good to go for everybody wanting to do this stuff. The
37 only thing is if you're in State waters if you sell
38 strips the State troopers can bust you because you're not
39 having a proper food -- licensed food handling facility.
40 And I myself, I'm -- I've traded gas for fish ever since
41 I've been in Alaska, 27 years. So it's -- that's wide
42 open and you can do that with no problem.

43

44 That's the only comment I had there.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

47

48 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. The third thing
49 that came up which was required customary trade record
50 keeping and receipt form, I didn't hear you say that the

1 other two RACs even addressed that.

2

3 DR. JENKINS: They did not.

4

5 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.

6

7 DR. JENKINS: They focused on the two
8 alternatives and even though I described a third part
9 that -- something that else came out of the Subcommittee
10 which was a calendar for Federal subsistence users. The
11 two -- I don't recall the two -- either of the two RACs
12 discussing that particular aspect.

13

14 MR. BASSICH: If I could elaborate on
15 that. As far as the discussion in our Committee, it was
16 determined that if you are going to put a dollar limit
17 you have to have some ability to track it and that was
18 the permitting. And then also to help to develop an idea
19 of how much of this is going on you would need a calendar
20 to have some sort of record keeping of what takes place
21 along the river. And that was to help develop some sort
22 of an idea of how much is going on.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Actually I
25 don't see anyone -- if you're going to sell whole fish,
26 you're not going to write it down. So it's going to be
27 a tough thing I think to make happen, that type of
28 reporting.

29

30 MR. FIRMIN: Madame Chair, I think the
31 calendar was harvest reporting so as you're -- you know,
32 the idea -- and correct me if I'm wrong, Dr. Jenkins, I
33 think the idea was to begin to try and get people to
34 start reporting total harvest, not just what you're going
35 to use in customary trade, but that -- it's felt that
36 there's a tremendous lacking in accuracy by many people
37 on what the subsistence harvest is and it was felt that
38 this might be a good time to begin to get some actual
39 numbers on what subsistence harvest is.

40

41 If I'm wrong on that, I think that was
42 the direction that we were moving it.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Lester.

45

46 MR. ERHART: I want -- I want to say
47 this, you know, there'll never be an accurate count
48 because some guy say well, let's take the lower river,
49 he's got a girlfriend, he stops off and gives her five
50 fish. He gets home and his wife -- he's got about eight

1 or 10, he's not going to write it down so his wife can
2 see it. So you'll never get an accurate count.

3

4 (Laughter)

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe, I can
7 sense that you have a question.

8

9 MR. MATESI: I do have a question. It
10 sounds like the justification for requiring all
11 subsistence users to record on a calendar or whatever
12 their subsistence catch is to track numbers for the
13 purpose and customary trade or few a few people selling
14 it. That sounds like a large onus to be put on
15 everybody. I -- you know, I must have misheard that
16 then.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I was
19 wanting a clarification on that too.

20

21 MR. GLANZ: The clarification is there's
22 never.....

23

24 MR. BASSICH: I'm sorry, maybe I did.

25

26 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah, go ahead,
27 Bill.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, go ahead.

30

31 MR. GLANZ: The clarification is there's
32 never been a real accurate count on the river of the fish
33 taken and the fish -- you follow me?

34

35 MR. ERHART: Never. Never.

36

37 MR. GLANZ: Never. They've never had a
38 real count on how many other than hearsay.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And no
41 CATG.....

42

43 MR. GLANZ: In the upper zone five where
44 they have a catch calendar at the end of the season, you
45 know, I might have caught 72 king or I got a 100 whatever
46 you got, you know, but there's never been an accurate
47 record kept.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe.

50

1 MR. MATESI: Well, back in the '70s I
2 worked for a few years for Fish and Game as a fisheries
3 technician and one of my jobs was collecting that very
4 information and I know they've been doing it ever since
5 and for a long time before. So, I mean, you know, that
6 involves fish catch calendars and then follow-up surveys
7 from village to village. And, of course, nothing's ever
8 100 percent accurate, but I'm wondering would it be
9 appropriate to ask Fish and Game what they do to monitor
10 harvest, I thought harvest was monitored.

11
12 DR. JENKINS: Madame Chair. Yeah, the --
13 my understanding of the current practice is to do post
14 season household surveys and it looks like Steve Hayes is
15 going to come up and speak to that.

16
17 MR. HAYES: Madame Chair, we do conduct
18 post season subsistence surveys. We send out catch
19 calendars. We don't get a great return of those calendar
20 back, but we do have staff that goes out and hits the
21 communities to determine what the subsistence harvest is.
22 Of course, as it was said, I mean, nothing's 100 percent
23 accurate, but it is our best estimate of what the harvest
24 is.

25
26 MR. MATESI: So how is what the TRI-RAC
27 suggestion an improvement over that? It might be, I just
28 don't see how it is.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's a good
31 question.

32
33 MR. BASSICH: The discussion at our
34 Council was that if anybody comes to your home six months
35 after you've done your fishing season, you're going to
36 have a pretty hard time reporting accurately what you
37 took that year. I know a lot of people that have a hard
38 time remembering at the end of the week what they took
39 the previous week. So there's a lot of concern over the
40 accuracy of that and that it's basically a survey that is
41 conducted in a few villages and then extrapolated
42 throughout the drainage. And a statistician could
43 probably speak to that more, but what we're attempting to
44 do through the calendar is -- or a calendar system or
45 what was thought of is to help to create a little bit
46 better -- more accuracy in-season on what's going on and
47 earlier post season of what's going on on the Yukon
48 River.

49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Boy, this is a

1 pretty big thing and I don't think we're going to be
2 covering it -- all of it because I've written down some
3 questions here and one was to identify the question that
4 Frank asked earlier, defining definition between trade
5 and subsistence and is that something that you could give
6 us a quick answer to?

7

8 DR. JENKINS: Well, it -- Madame Chair,
9 customary trade is as I defined it, it's a protected
10 subsistence use, it's fish, parts and eggs and it can't
11 exceed a significant commercial enterprise as well as the
12 other strictures that I mentioned.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

15

16 DR. JENKINS: There's been some
17 discussion of only the sale of whole, unprocessed fish
18 and the reason that's come about is because even though
19 in Federal regulations it says fish parts and eggs, the
20 State of Alaska has argued that if you process food and
21 those fish enter the stream of commerce then you're a
22 business and as a business you need to meet health
23 regulations for the processing and handling of those --
24 of that food. The Federal Subsistence Board has agreed
25 with that argument and has said that if you process food
26 you need to meet those State health regulations. So even
27 though it says in the Federal regulations under customary
28 trade you can exchange for cash fish, parts and eggs, we
29 have these other strictures that are laid over that
30 Federal regulation, having to do with State health
31 regulations and the Federal Subsistence Board agreeing
32 with that interpretation of the reach of those
33 regulations.

34

35 Is that helpful?

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does that help
38 you, Frank?

39

40 MR. GURTLER: Yeah.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He says it
43 does. Okay. Council, I have another one that kind of
44 hit me as -- through the testimony. That lawsuit for
45 Sitka when they were harvesting roe on kelp and there was
46 a \$13,000 value said that it's not significant
47 enterprise, is -- can someone address that?

48

49 MR. UMPHENOUR: I can address it.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let him.
2
3 DR. JENKINS: Well, that was a state suit
4 is what I understand.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.
7
8 DR. JENKINS: And whether that sets a
9 precedent for commercial -- significant commercial
10 enterprise on this -- the Federal side, I can't speak to,
11 you have to get a solicitor to clue you in.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Man, I didn't
14 realize that was State.
15
16 Virgil.
17
18 MR. UMPHENOUR: It's mainly roe on
19 hemlock though not roe on kelp that they sell, but they
20 did.....
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, I said
23 kelp, I'm sorry.
24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: It can be either/or, I
26 think, but, you know, the State lost that lawsuit and
27 that's a big deal in Sitka, roe on Hemlock.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm aware of
30 it, my friend uses it.
31
32 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: One other
35 thing, the State water thing, so can you just -- how does
36 it -- if you're on the river how is it different for you
37 if you're on the State water, it's not a big -- this
38 regulation?
39
40 MR. BASSICH: This only applies to
41 Federal waters, this suggested regulation of customary
42 trade. And Federal -- qualified Federal subsistence
43 users. Doesn't apply to State waters.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So it's more
46 restrictive on State then?
47
48 MR. BASSICH: The State doesn't allow
49 customary trade.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Period. Okay.
2 So again you'd have to know the -- where the waters are
3 and all that.

4
5 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, so actually it's less
6 restrictive in that if you are Federally-qualified on
7 Federally-qualified waters you could participate in this
8 whereas if you're on State waters legally you're not
9 allowed to.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. So did
12 you guys talk about enforcement issues? Do people know
13 the river well enough that they try to abide by that?

14
15 MR. BASSICH: It's difficult. Getting
16 back to your question on dollar amounts, that was another
17 area that we really struggled with a lot of things. And
18 the reason why the dollar amount is fairly low is when
19 you start projecting how much a fish is worth and the
20 number of households that would be able to participate in
21 doing that on the Yukon River and you start multiplying
22 those numbers, it becomes a number, if I remember
23 correctly from the talks, a number that would potentially
24 add another 16 to 20,000 fish taken in the harvest for
25 customary trade. I mean, that's not an entirely fair
26 extrapolation, but that's the potential for it. Right
27 now the harvest is estimated to be about 50,000 fish by
28 subsistence and so that would be a very large percentage
29 of the subsistence harvest would then go into customary
30 trade as opposed to going into feeding people. So the
31 potential for greater harvest, you ended up having to
32 limit it by a dollar amount so that you keep the numbers
33 of fish down, I guess, is maybe the best way to try and
34 explain that, Madame Chair, so that's why the numbers
35 were so low, if a fish is worth \$35 right now or 35 or
36 \$40 and when you start extrapolating those numbers it
37 gets to be a lot of fish very quickly.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and I'm
40 kind of reminding everyone that's whole salmon.

41
42 MR. BASSICH: Correct.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So, I guess, a
45 couple members that -- it just brings another question to
46 me and that is is there -- did you guys discuss how many
47 whole salmon you think is being sold that really creates
48 the need for this. I don't know why, but I just don't
49 think people in the river selling whole salmon to.....
50

1 MR. BASSICH: Well, Madame Chair, the
2 problem that we have is that we're talking about the
3 definition of whole salmon, but it's also recognized
4 through traditional knowledge that that's not the general
5 practice that people consider customary trade to be and
6 that's the dilemma that we have a little bit is that
7 customary trade is viewed as creating strips and selling
8 strips and a large portion of the areas that are quote,
9 conducting customary trade in their villages, they're not
10 doing whole fish. But the fact remains that that is at
11 the heart of the issue is how much fish is being
12 harvested in excess of what it would take to feed your
13 family and what are those impacts on a low abundance run.
14 That's the root of the issue here.

15
16 Madame Chair.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
19 members. Andrew.

20
21 MR. FIRMIN: I just wanted to go back to
22 like that whole dollar amount thing that Andy was saying
23 of why it was kind of low because I was going to -- we
24 were time crunched, but I was kind of going to pose that
25 question to Stan was that, you know, like you said and
26 five, 10,000 you weren't sure, but if -- you know, if you
27 could sell fish up to \$10,000 worth how many people do
28 you think that never fished before would run down and buy
29 a net and know that they'd be reimbursed \$9,500 at the
30 end of the year because that would be like ooh, a cash
31 crop, I'm going for it. You know, how many -- how many
32 people would go and start fishing just because of that.
33 That was kind of part of the reason of why it was also
34 low.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, we're not really in
39 deliberations, but we're talking like we're in
40 deliberations.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I think
43 it's -- this is -- I'm asking -- I would ask you guys how
44 do you proceed because this is all -- you need to
45 understand what's in front of you so we're doing that.

46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So go ahead and
50 do your.....

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: So I have something to
2 say on the subject that was just brought up. And that is
3 that we have to be practical. No one is going to -- if
4 you go by what the regulations say, the Federal
5 regulations, you have to ask this question. Who other
6 than a business is going to go buy whole king salmon or
7 who they going to sell whole king salmon to if you live
8 in a village that's going to buy even \$750 worth.
9 Because the person that buys it cannot resell it, they
10 have to -- it's for their own personal family's
11 consumption. They can't be a business so who's going to
12 buy it, no one's going to buy it. And just getting it to
13 town and I'm real experienced at transporting fish all
14 over the state, just getting it to town so that it's
15 going to be edible is a gigantic challenge. And so what
16 we're really addressing here defies common sense because
17 it's impossible to do to begin with. There's no ice
18 machines in the village, the only way you're going to
19 transport fish from any village in the Yukon, because all
20 of them are going to require air transportation of a
21 fresh fish, that's what it's going to do. That means
22 it's got to be chilled somehow or even if it's not
23 chilled you could take a fish that you catch right out of
24 the river, go stick it in a plastic bag or something or
25 an ice chest, a big ice chest, and stick it on an
26 airplane and someone meets the airplane and it's going to
27 be suitable. If they don't do that the fish is garbage
28 to begin with. So the -- everything we've done here, I
29 mean, we've learned a lot and et cetera, but it's
30 impossible to do this to begin with, that's my point.
31 It's totally unrealistic.

32
33 MR. BASSICH: He's missing the point.

34
35 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'm not missing the
36 point.

37
38 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chairman. Virgil,
39 you're missing the point. You're not allowed to.....

40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, I'm not missing.....

42
43 MR. BASSICH: No, wait a minute, listen
44 to me. You're not -- under these regulations you are not
45 allowed to transport fish.....

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

48
49 MR. BASSICH:outside the Yukon
50 drainage. So the intent of this is to keep the fish in

1 the village. And it certainly is possible for a
2 fisherman to land his boat on the shore, have a relative
3 or a friend or someone in need come to him and say I
4 would like some fish, he can take fish out of his tote,
5 he can give it to that person could under customary trade
6 give him cash for it.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

9

10 MR. BASSICH: That person could also give
11 him a barrel of gas and then it would not be customary
12 trade, it would be barter.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Question from
15 Joe.

16

17 MR. MATESI: Well, everybody's always
18 telling me there's no such thing as a stupid question,
19 but I got one for you.

20

21 (Laughter)

22

23 MR. MATESI: You know, in our agenda this
24 is asterisked which means it's an action item. Well,
25 what does that mean, are we supposed to come to some sort
26 of decision or consensus or position and how do we do
27 that. And what is -- you know, what are we supposed to
28 be doing with this.

29

30 Madame Chair.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, this is
33 complicated for me because I wasn't on the -- this
34 meeting, but they're asking our opinion of what they come
35 up with. So.....

36

37 MR. BASSICH: No, we're asking it to be
38 forwarded to the Federal Subsistence.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. Yeah.

41 Okay.

42

43 MR. BASSICH: Excuse me, Madame Chair.
44 We're asking this -- the TRI-RAC Committee's
45 recommendations.....

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's our
48 opinion.

49

50 MR. BASSICH:to be forwarded to the

1 Federal Subsistence Board for consideration. That's
2 what's being asked.

3

4 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair. I move that,
5 and this will formalize our conversation, I hope, I move
6 that Committee -- this Council forwards the TRI-RACs
7 recommendations to the Board.

8

9 MR. UMPHENOUR: Point of order. We don't
10 even have this on the table. The only thing we've done
11 is we have kind of dot -- unless I'm messed up.....

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think you're
14 messed up.

15

16 MR. UMPHENOUR:is we -- no, I don't
17 think I'm messed up.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

20

21 MR. UMPHENOUR: We -- we're going to
22 allow public testimony, we never really have put this on
23 the table. And then so that the -- the public wouldn't
24 be held up.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But this is how
27 you do it.

28

29 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's what I think we're
30 doing unless my -- I've got old timer's disease I know
31 and I can't remember, but I don't remember us putting
32 this on the table. I think all we did was decided we'd
33 let the public get the -- get the public testimony out of
34 the way. Maybe I'm wrong.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, maybe I'm
37 getting old timer's too, but.....

38

39 MR. BASSICH: That's what Joe said.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's what he
42 just did with a motion, you put it on the floor. And
43 we've -- yes, we've had a lot of discussion here and I'm
44 going to call it.....

45

46 MR. UMPHENOUR: I don't think we've went
47 through all this process that we do before we put it on
48 the floor.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, this is

1 different because it's not a proposal. Go ahead. That's
2 where you're getting old timers because it's not a
3 proposal.

4

5 DR. JENKINS: Yes. Madame Chair, let me
6 speak to Andy's point about forwarding this to the
7 Federal Subsistence Board.

8

9 OSM has -- in your packet it shows the
10 next steps that we think should proceed. And that the
11 Council and public comments compiled of the sort that you
12 heard today and you'll hear perhaps later that the
13 testimony and public commentary and the RAC comments will
14 be taken back to the Subcommittee and the Subcommittee
15 can meet again. And then the Subcommittee can develop a
16 proposal based on all of the information that it has at
17 its disposal for a regulatory change. And then the
18 proposal goes through the Federal regulatory process for
19 fish beginning with the publication of the proposed rule
20 and the call to change regulations. The Councils then
21 provide recommendations on the proposal during the fall,
22 2012 meetings and the Federal Subsistence Board action
23 would be in January of 2013. That's the sequence that
24 I've been advised by my office that will happen.

25

26 MR. MATESI: So I could either reword my
27 motion or I could withdraw.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, you don't
30 have a second, so you can do whatever you want now.

31

32 MR. MATESI: Or I could reword it so that
33 it goes through that procedure. And I think I'll just
34 simplify by.....

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

37

38 MR. MATESI:oh, I think have to go
39 through that kind of wording again. Yeah, I want us to
40 do what he just said.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That works
43 because I believe he understands.

44

45 MR. MATESI: And I understand then that
46 we're going to come up with a position, we'll probably --
47 that we'll vote on these items, that we will refer our
48 decisions on these positions back to that Subcommittee,
49 that TRI-RAC Committee. Does that kind of fit everybody
50 else's understanding.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, actually
2 that short version that Andy said earlier made my mind
3 think that we're just going to have the Federal Board
4 consider it. And then you put your whole line of chain
5 down it was a little more different. So you're following
6 this procedure.

7
8 MR. MATESI: (Nods affirmatively)

9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.

11
12 MR. BASSICH: I would agree with that.
13 I stand corrected Madame Chair.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. This is
16 the procedure that he wants to follow. Do I hear a
17 second.

18
19 MR. UMPHENOUR: Second.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I heard a
22 second. Discussion on the motion. Do we -- I know it's
23 difficult guys, do you understand what's going on, we're
24 just -- probably going through more public testimony, is
25 what we're doing.

26
27 MR. BASSICH: Well, I guess, our census,
28 it's on the table now. Maybe the thing for us to do
29 would just to address each one of these proposed changes
30 and just say whether we support them for further
31 discussion in the Subcommittee or not. I guess basically
32 what the Subcommittee wants is some kind of a report card
33 back from the RAC on whether or not we feel this is a
34 direction to pursue further or maybe what we feel more
35 strongly -- maybe a better way to say it is what we feel
36 is the most preferred avenue to try and pursue for future
37 development for regulation if, in fact, that was to take
38 place.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

41
42 DR. JENKINS: Madame Chairman, let me
43 just emphasize again which might not have been clear that
44 if the Subcommittee meets again and gets a proposal, that
45 proposal has to go back to all of the RACs for its
46 determination. So it would come back before the -- each
47 of these three RACs and it would go through the normal
48 process at that point. So the RACs themselves then would
49 weigh in on whatever the proposal the Subcommittee comes
50 up with. So you'll see it again.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. But
2 what he suggested would take much longer, you know, going
3 through each one.
4
5 MR. BASSICH: No, I'm not saying -- just
6 say do we agree with these as -- Madame Chair, it would
7 be basically saying do we agree with these as they're
8 presented as far as a prioritization, I guess, is what it
9 -- what we would be doing, go back to the Subcommittee.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe.
12
13 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's how I understand
14 it.
15
16 MR. MATEESI: Yeah, Madame Chair, that's
17 how I understand it as well. Yeah, there's a preferred
18 and then non-preferred, but also recommended.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. And
21 what is your motion on, the preferred or the recommended.
22 You'll clarify that.
23
24 MR. MATEESI: Well, we're going to need to
25 do -- we'll need to look at both.....
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
28
29 MR. MATEESI:and should we do them
30 separately. Then it's on the first.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We'll look at
33 them both.
34
35 MR. MATEESI: Look at them both. Okay.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well, of
38 you that were on the TRI-RAC, do you have any more input?
39
40 MR. BASSICH: So maybe just a very quick
41 synopsis. The first one would be the emphasis is to try
42 and keep chinook salmon on the Yukon River between
43 Federally-qualified rural residents with current C&T
44 determinations on the Yukon River. So in simple terms
45 that's basically trying to keep chinook salmon on years
46 of low abundance in the village, but not impose any kind
47 of trade restrictions on dollar amounts or anything like
48 that. It was felt that that's self limiting once you
49 require to stay within the villages, communities along
50 the Yukon River. With the addition of those that have

1 traditional use of it.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe.

4

5 MR. MATESI: Yeah, the wording of that --
6 it's not a proposal, what do you call this thing?

7

8 MR. BASSICH: recommendation

9

10 MR. MATESI: Recommendation. Yeah, the
11 wording of this recommendation does not limit customary
12 trade to the Yukon River drainage, it only limits
13 customary trade to occur between Federally-qualified
14 rural residents period. So I think we need to keep that
15 into consideration or make -- or maybe make that a point
16 to refer to back to that TRI-RAC if they want to reword
17 that recommendation.

18

19 MR. BASSICH: We've -- actually with the
20 addition of the words customary trade to use
21 determinations, that defines the Yukon River and a few
22 other villages. Like I believe it was Scammon Bay.
23 There were a few other villages outside the Yukon River
24 drainage that had C&T determinations, but putting that
25 C&T determination, that limits it to the Yukon River
26 drainage.

27

28 MR. MATESI: And I just -- I can get
29 everything off my chest real quick and then I'll just sit
30 back and be quiet.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's okay.

33

34 MR. MATESI: Alternative proposal, I will
35 oppose that. I have a -- I actually have a little bit of
36 heartburn with \$750 limit. It's just that there's never
37 been a real socioeconomic analysis done, it's kind of a
38 -- back in the envelope calculation. And I know that
39 some really good people, a lot smarter than me, have
40 spent some time trying to figure that out. But I don't
41 think that we've had the really good analysis for that
42 yet. And also I've heard a lot of testimony and I'm
43 sensitive to the fact that there's a lot of variation
44 from one region of the river to the next. So I'm -- as
45 it's written there I cannot support it for application to
46 the entire river.

47

48 Also I'm opposing the alternative
49 proposal because it would require customary -- well, it
50 says it will require customary trade record keeping and

1 receipt form. I guess I wouldn't oppose that. A blanket
2 harvest record keeping imposed on all subsistence users
3 up and down the Yukon River I would oppose for a number
4 of reasons, but I see we're not really discussing that
5 here.

6

7 Okay. I'm done.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I'm faced
10 with -- it's lunchtime, it's 12:32. And do we want,
11 Council, to continue. I don't want to rush anything
12 through on this, I think this is too important. So how
13 do we feel?

14

15 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, Madame Chair, I think
16 if we went to lunch I think when we come back we actually
17 could get through this because as it was stated all this
18 will come back before the TRI-RAC again, we're not making
19 a recommendation that's going to have action until 2013.
20 So, you know, it's -- I think basically we could probably
21 come to a fairly quick recommendation to forward to the
22 Committee.....

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

25

26 MR. BASSICH:and then move forward
27 with your agenda.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I -- what I
30 want to put in your head before you go to lunch, you
31 know, just what I heard here and trying to be logical and
32 sensible, I guess when you narrow this down to the whole
33 salmon, I'm thinking for me I'm not -- I think it's a lot
34 of work and maybe it's not really doing much because I
35 feel like we're -- show me where the heck someone sold
36 whole salmon that -- over \$750, that's a problem. I
37 mean, that's what's jumping at me right now, I'm having
38 a hard time with that.

39

40 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's the facts.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I know, but I'm
43 -- I don't -- I'm wondering if there's a problem out on
44 the river is what I'm saying that we're doing all this
45 work and I'm not -- I haven't -- in the years I've been
46 here I haven't seen a problem, okay, that's all I'm
47 saying, it's not coming out and hitting me.

48

49 Lester.

50

1 MR. ERHART: There was a problem, not
2 this last year, but the year before where people were
3 abusing it, but enforcement got out there and racked a
4 few people and this last summer everything kind of calmed
5 down again.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So
8 you're admitting there's a -- there was a problem,
9 Lester?
10
11 MR. ERHART: There was a problem,
12 but.....
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
15 you for that.
16
17 MR. ERHART:enforcement took care
18 of it, most of it.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
21 right. That's just something to think of. Now I --
22 people are requesting lunch and it can happen quickly
23 afterwards and.....
24
25 Andrew.
26
27 MR. FIRMIN: One more thing, that's
28 really what you want is to leave people on.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He said it's
31 not a problem.
32
33 MR. FIRMIN: The other things is that you
34 have to keep in mind that this doesn't mean you can't
35 give your grandma fish in Anchorage or Fairbanks or you
36 can't give it away or barter for it. You can ship all
37 the fish you want to Fairbanks and Anchorage and they can
38 ship you back a \$2,000 gift card at Walmart if they
39 wanted and that would be barter, it's not like -- it's
40 not -- this is only addressing the cash sales. And the
41 part to keep it in the river doesn't mean you can't give
42 it away, it just means you can't sell it to people in
43 Fairbanks. And it's not like it may not be a problem in
44 some places, but in others it might be. And that's their
45 -- and you're right, it does -- when you look at it in
46 some ways it might not have a whole lot of clout, but in
47 other cases there is room for abuse and that's what this
48 is for. And it if it's not a big deal to some people
49 then why complain about it.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That's
2 a better note to leave people on. Because I -- you guys
3 know it way better than I and I really depend on you guys
4 bringing it to me.

5
6 So thank you. And if we can have it well
7 done after lunch maybe we'll get through that one.

8
9 How about -- what do you suggest an hour?
10

11 MR. UMPHENOUR: We need an hour -- at
12 least an hour and 15.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: An hour an 15.
15 Quarter to 1:00.

16
17 (Off record)

18
19 (On record)

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm
22 calling the meeting back to order. Has everybody taken
23 a seat.

24
25 Andrew, can you recap where we're at.

26
27 MR. FIRMIN: Where are we, we were just
28 at lunch.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We were just at
31 lunch and we have a proposal -- I mean, a motion on the
32 floor. And the motion was to proceed with the process.

33
34 MR. FIRMIN: Proceed with the process of
35 making our recommendations for the Federal Subsistence
36 Board and which way we should proceed.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And the
39 motion allows us to choose.....

40
41 MR. FIRMIN: Correct.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:what's in
44 front of us. So we're looking at which one of these,
45 what we agree and what we don't agree on.

46
47 MR. GLANZ: We're on the first one, river
48 trade only so far, you know, customary trade between
49 the.....

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: River trade
2 only.
3
4 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, we're.....
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: With no monetary cap.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Joe, go
9 ahead.
10
11 MR. MATESI: I'm under the impression
12 that we're considering each independently. It might be
13 one recommendation, but we may recommend or not recommend
14 either or neither is my understanding.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I would
17 take that as an explanation of what we're doing.
18
19 All right. On the first one, how do we
20 feel on that, do we all favor it.
21
22 Andy.
23
24 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, Madame Chair, I had
25 some really good discussion at lunch with a few
26 individuals and one thing that I wanted to make on the
27 record was that there's a lot of concerns -- there's a
28 lot of concerns on the first one, but a lot of those
29 concerns could be alleviated just with the simple
30 assurance that these policies or regulations would only
31 be place in times of low abundance which was the intent
32 of the Subcommittee and that during these restrictions
33 that the sale of incidental caught chinook salmon by any
34 commercial fisheries in the lower river would not be
35 permitted and therefore nobody would be able to benefit
36 financially from any sales of chinook salmon in the lower
37 river as well.
38
39 So with that being said, I just wanted to
40 get that out on the table so that it was very clear that
41 that's a very strong topic of discussion and would
42 hopefully modify or help move this first recommendation
43 forward for further development in the Committee.
44
45 Thank you, Madame Chair.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So is that a
48 suggestion of how we should move that one forward?
49
50 MR. BASSICH: Yes. I guess what I'm

1 trying to do is basically give my word that this is
2 something that we will work very hard on at the
3 Subcommittee level to make sure that it is a part of the
4 language that is -- maybe would come out in the form of
5 a proposal. The next step as we all know is for the
6 Subcommittee to take all the input from the RACs, develop
7 a proposal and then bring it back. So we'll be looking
8 at this again, but I just wanted to make sure that the
9 public and everybody knew the intent by that statement.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that clear
12 what Andy suggested regarding the lower Yukon and them
13 not being able to sell their -- some incidental king on
14 a commercial harvest or commercially? I'm sorry.

15

16 Virgil.

17

18 MR. UMPHENOUR: I don't think you should
19 limit it to the lower Yukon, I think it should just be if
20 there were any fish sold commercially or is it no fish
21 can -- no chinook could be sold commercially because we
22 do -- the largest producer of chinook salmon in Yukon
23 River drainage is the Tanana River drainage. And so if
24 we have a commercial chum fishery in the Tanana River
25 drainage then like in the past -- I haven't bought
26 chinook salmon, the fishermen in the Tanana drainage when
27 there was a commercial fishery for chum salmon, did not
28 sell chinook salmon even though the lower Yukon did sell
29 chinook salmon. And so we need to not single out the
30 lower Yukon, just make it the whole Yukon River.
31 Otherwise it -- it's going to cause animosity along the
32 lower Yukon people. And we can say well, we're not
33 selling them in the upper river either because we're not.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'd say that's
36 a point well taken. So would we agree that -- can we
37 agree on that point that no chinook would be sold on low
38 abundance no matter how it was taken, is that how -- or
39 just the statement?

40

41 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

44

45 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I think the details
46 will be worked out, I think the gen -- what I'm trying to
47 accomplish is to give assurances to people with those
48 concerns that that will be a priority in the working
49 group or the Subcommittee, to have a lot of discussion
50 and try.....

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: To address
2 that.
3
4 MR. BASSICH:and make sure that
5 that's incorporated at some point.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. Okay.
8 Does everyone agree upon this, this is just to go before
9 this process for discussion is my understanding. Would
10 we agree?
11
12 (Council nods affirmatively)
13
14 MR. GLANZ: Do you guys agree or disagree
15 so we can move this along?
16
17 MR. BASSICH: I concur.
18
19 MR. FIRMIN: I agree.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
22 Everybody agrees?
23
24 (No comments)
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Nobody
27 disagrees.
28
29 (No comments)
30
31 MR. GLANZ: You disagree, push your
32 button.
33
34 MR. WILLIAMS: I don't know how to word
35 this, but only a recommendation from the TRI-RAC, is that
36 all we're going to be wanting moved today, I just made
37 three.....
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, that's my
40 understanding. Unless you want to bring something else
41 up that -- to input. You have other things that you
42 wanted to -- would -- you would add to this?
43
44 MR. WILLIAMS: Well, let me see. In
45 reading these reports and reading these recommendations
46 from the TRI-RAC and then after that to ask for feedback
47 from the public, from the people on the Yukon mainly, and
48 there was a lot of negative response to these proposals,
49 you know, from what I can gather. And now you -- you
50 want us to work with these proposals, some kind of

1 agreement so they can take it back to their meetings
2 again or, I mean, I don't -- I'm a bit confused here and
3 I just -- somebody -- I wish somebody would straighten me
4 out, you know. Now given the fact that there was a lot
5 of negative response, we have to keep that in mind and
6 that maybe a lot of people don't agree with this and
7 that's all we have to work with. And but I have a little
8 problem with that. That's all I wanted to say.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I'm
11 having trouble how to go about this process myself. So
12 I apologize as the Chair, but it -- I guess this is all
13 for discussion purposes and I understand we did get a lot
14 of negative here and then at your home villages also is
15 what you're saying too?

16

17 MR. WILLIAMS: (Nods affirmatively)

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So --
20 and then I think for me personally the understanding that
21 it was the whole fish and not strips was an important
22 thing that maybe people didn't understand. And then low
23 abundance. So this process is to -- yes, it's going to
24 be revisited until 2013 it sounds like.

25

26 MR. WILLIAMS: So what I'm hearing right
27 now, we are in time of low abundance so these things will
28 be -- will go into effect, am I not right?

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't think
31 -- Pete, can you help.

32

33 MR. PROBASCO: We're sort of going back
34 and beating the bush again, but these are
35 recommendations, if you will, that the Subcommittee which
36 is formed of each of the three individual RACs, have
37 developed for your consideration and comment. And you've
38 heard the comments today. These -- all this information
39 will go back to the Subcommittee and the Subcommittee
40 will once again take a look at this and develop
41 recommendations which have to come back to each
42 respective RAC. And it's then the RACs will take a look
43 at these -- this information and a proposal has to be
44 developed by the RAC, not the Subcommittee. So you'll
45 get to see it again, Larry. And these recommendations
46 will not be in effect.

47

48 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay, thank you.

49

50 MR. PROBASCO: Okay.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry, does
2 that help?
3
4 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
7
8 MR. WILLIAMS: That helps quite a bit.
9 Thank you very much.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. All
12 right. So the first one we agreed. Is there anything
13 else on here that anybody wants to put forth, let's put
14 it that way.
15
16 MR. BASSICH: Well, Madam Chair, I think
17 there was a motion on the table so maybe the thing to do
18 would be just to have a vote on moving that -- just
19 addressing the first one, move -- whether we're going to
20 move it forward or not and then if we want to make a
21 motion on the second one we can or we could just take no
22 action on it or whatever the Council wishes to do. But
23 there is a motion on the floor and it's been seconded to
24 address this.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, but it
27 was my understanding that it's on the floor to -- just
28 for us to put it forward with our recommendations and I
29 thought I could just handle each one of these and be done
30 with it.
31
32 MR. GLANZ: That's good enough.
33
34 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, okay.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And then
37 we vote for it. Yeah, the motion's on the floor, we have
38 to vote for the motion, but we're just going to have --
39 we're delineating what the motion that -- or the -- how
40 we feel about what's going forward. Does that make
41 sense.....
42
43 MR. MATESI: Madame Chairman.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:or am I
46 confusing myself here? I'm sorry.
47
48 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.

1 MR. MATESI: I'm anticipating being able
2 to vote on each of these two alternatives separately. I
3 may be wrong on that. In other words I may want to vote
4 for one and not for the other.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
7
8 MR. MATESI: I'm hoping I have the
9 opportunity to do that.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
12
13 MR. MATESI: Okay.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Absolutely. So
16 we did the first one.
17
18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We didn't vote.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you want to
21 vote on it. I thought we all agreed with the -- okay.
22 Are we -- do we need more discussion.
23
24 MR. MATESI: I abstain. I abstain.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: For the first
27 one?
28
29 MR. MATESI: On the first one.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I guess I was
32 under the impression we all thought it was okay the way
33 it was.....
34
35 MR. MATESI: The first of these two
36 alternatives, my vote is abstain.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. How
39 about the rest of you, who is in favor of.....
40
41 REPORTER: Let's do -- why don't you do
42 a roll call.....
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I can do a roll
45 call, but.....
46
47 REPORTER:instead of hands.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:that
50 puts.....

1 REPORTER: That doesn't show up.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
4
5 MR. GLANZ: A roll call vote will be.....
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're
8 going to do a roll call vote. Are we ready to vote?
9
10 (No comments)
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
13
14 MR. FIRMIN: And this is on the original
15 recommendation, right.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's my
18 understanding it's on the first one, the first --
19 customary trade of Yukon chinook salmon may occur -- only
20 occur between Federally-qualified residents with a
21 current C&T use determination.
22
23 MR. FIRMIN: Correct.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Which included
26 -- no matter how it was taken.
27
28 MR. FIRMIN: Okay. Roll call vote on
29 what Sue just said.
30
31 Sue Entsminger.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
34
35 MR. FIRMIN: Andrew Firmin. Yes.
36
37 Larry Williams, Sr.
38
39 MR. WILLIAMS: No.
40
41 MR. FIRMIN: Lester Erhart.
42
43 MR. ERHART: No.
44
45 MR. FIRMIN: Andy Bassich.
46
47 MR. BASSICH: Yes.
48
49 MR. FIRMIN: William Glanz.
50

1 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
2
3 MR. FIRMIN: Frank Gurtler.
4
5 MR. GURTLER: No.
6
7 MR. FIRMIN: Joseph Matesi.
8
9 MR. MATESI: No.
10
11 MR. FIRMIN: Donald Woodruff's excused.
12
13
14 Virgil Umphenour.
15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes.
17
18 MR. FIRMIN: Thank you.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What's the
21 vote?
22
23 MR. FIRMIN: We have five yes, four no,
24 one excused.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now
27 let's take up the next one.
28
29 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, Madame Chair, maybe
30 I can move this along a little bit quicker. I'm just
31 through hearing a lot of the discussion on the other
32 second one, I don't think we're going to probably reach
33 consensus and probably will not pass it. So I would say
34 maybe if we could have brief discussion and then have a
35 vote on it just to move on.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That works for
38 me if it works for everybody.
39
40 (No comments)
41
42 MR. BASSICH: So I guess if I'm not
43 hearing any further discussion just call question.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The second one,
46 alternative proposal is to preclude customary trade of
47 Yukon River chinook salmon between rural residents and
48 others, (a), establish a 750 limit per calendar year, per
49 qualified household and (b), require customary trade
50 record keeping and receipt form.

1 So I'm assuming that from what I've heard
2 earlier we're not in favor of that, moving that one
3 forward. Are you ready to vote?

4
5 (No comments)

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All in favor of
8 moving this forward.

9
10 (No aye votes)

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All opposed say
13 aye.

14
15 IN UNISON: Aye.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And.....

18
19 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, I'm sorry --
20 can -- let the record stand, I'm going to vote for it.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So
23 anybody else voting for it?

24
25 MR. GLANZ: I'd probably vote for it
26 since we got to get a number somewhere, it can be
27 negotiated, but we got to have a number somewhere.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do a roll call
30 again.

31
32 MR. FIRMIN: Sue Entsminger.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No.

35
36 MR. FIRMIN: Andrew Firmin. I abstain.

37
38 Larry Williams, Sr.

39
40 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

41
42 MR. FIRMIN: Lester Erhart.

43
44 MR. ERHART: No.

45
46 MR. FIRMIN: Andy Bassich.

47
48 MR. BASSICH: Yes.

49
50 MR. FIRMIN: Bill Glanz.

1 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.
2
3 MR. FIRMIN: Frank Gurtler.
4
5 MR. GURTLER: No.
6
7 MR. FIRMIN: Joseph Matesi.
8
9 MR. MATESI: No.
10
11 MR. FIRMIN: Donald Woodruff's excused.
12
13
14 Virgil Umphenour.
15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR: No.
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That one fails.
19 Okay. All right. We're done with this one, right,
20 gentlemen?
21
22 MR. UMPHENOUR: No.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you say no?
25
26 MR. UMPHENOUR: I said no.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Why aren't we
29 done?
30
31 MR. UMPHENOUR: Because we got one other
32 item here we need to discuss, declining.....
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Isn't that part
35 of the.....
36
37 MR. UMPHENOUR:harvest calendar.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Because of
40 declining Yukon River runs the Subcommittee also
41 recommended a direct -- is this part of that one we just
42 voted on, I thought it was.
43
44 MR. GLANZ: I thought the way you read
45 it, it was, yes, but.....
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I thought it
48 was all -- these is all one, Virgil.....
49
50 MR. UMPHENOUR: Two.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:am I
2 correct, is there three, staff?
3
4 DR. JENKINS: Madame Chair, David Jenkins
5 with OSM. My understanding is that the Subcommittee had
6 two alternatives for the customary trade proposals and
7 you just voted on those two.
8
9 The other one they bracketed out as a
10 recommendation, they would like to see a harvest calendar
11 so that there could be better data collected on chinook
12 salmon, but that was distinct from the two customary
13 trade issues that you just voted on. It's not a
14 customary trade issue as far as I understood the
15 Subcommittee's intent.
16
17 Thank you.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.
20
21 MR. BASSICH: Hearing that, Madame Chair,
22 I'd like to make a motion that we support the.....
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's just do
25 it like we did before.
26
27 MR. BASSICH:the recommendation
28 for.....
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
31
32 MR. BASSICH:the recommendation for
33 a calendar to be put in place.
34
35 MR. FIRMIN: Second.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. There's
38 a motion on the floor with a second. Because of the
39 declining Yukon River chinook runs the Subcommittee also
40 recommends that a required chinook salmon harvest
41 calendar be implemented for Federally-qualified users.
42 Discussion.
43
44 Larry.
45
46 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
47 On this calendar, I -- correct me if I'm wrong, but when
48 we go down to our fish camp we always have a little blue
49 thing that -- it's sort of a calendar like, to like keep
50 track of our harvests. And also after the fishing

1 season, this time of year, a person comes around from I
2 don't know what agency, but they ask us how many fish
3 that we caught. Isn't it duplication of that process,
4 that I went through?

5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Who can answer?

7
8 MR. BASSICH: He can answer.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead with
11 staff.

12
13 DR. JENKINS: Yes, Madame Chairman. My
14 understanding is that the Subcommittee was interested in
15 finding a way to develop some robust statistics on
16 chinook salmon and that there was some discussion at the
17 August Subcommittee meeting from Dr. Simon, ADF&G
18 anthropologist, about the harvest surveys and the number
19 -- and the low returns of some of those. And but he
20 wasn't sure that this calendar would be actually useful.
21 And so it's a real -- it's an interesting question. The
22 Subcommittee thought that it would be a useful mechanism.
23 There is some discussion I understand from the
24 anthropologist about its usefulness, but the Subcommittee
25 thought that it would be a good start. And in addition
26 to gathering data if I recall the Subcommittee also
27 thought that it would be a way to promote conservation of
28 chinook along the length of the Yukon River and to keep
29 that in the forefront of people's minds.

30
31 Madame Chair.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anything else,
34 Larry.

35
36 MR. WILLIAMS: No, that's fine.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Joe, did
39 you have something.

40
41 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair.
42 Yeah, I'm against this, it's duplication of effort, it's
43 actually being done. There's a long history of Fish and
44 Game doing this. In particular, I do not approve of
45 trying to outsource their job onto subsistence users. If
46 they need to work a little harder to get more -- to get
47 their data more solid then they should do that. But I'd
48 hate to see this put on as an onus on the backs of
49 subsistence users who already have enough to do. I don't
50 even feel that it's consistent with the intent of ANILCA

1 which is simply to recognize legitimate rights of
2 subsistence users and not to necessarily regulate the
3 heck out of them. So if we vote on this one I vote
4 adamantly no.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

7

8 MR. UMPHENOUR: I don't remember who said
9 it, but there was someone in here said, I think it might
10 have been Stan, I don't know, someone said it's hard
11 enough to remember what you caught last week. The
12 Department comes around sometime in the winter and asks
13 people what they caught. And that's how they attempt to
14 figure out how many fish were caught. Now the State
15 already sends catch calendars out, something like that to
16 me makes it much easier for the user because I don't care
17 who you are there's no way you're going to remember how
18 many fish you caught unless you have some way -- you have
19 to write it down on something. This way there's a
20 calendar, if someone wanted to really analyze when the
21 runs went -- were at different places they could look at
22 that calendar and tell when people caught X number of
23 fish. But I don't look at it as a burden, I look at it
24 as making it easier because the Department is going to go
25 around and try to figure this out anyway and that's the
26 reason that -- why they issue these things to begin with
27 and this would -- if we had it in regulation then it
28 would remind people to do it. I think -- you know, I've
29 been to so many fish meetings.....

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think you
32 don't need to go.....

33

34 MR. UMPHENOUR:where the Department
35 really know for sure, you know, they don't really have a
36 good idea of what's being utilized and this just would
37 make it so much easier if it was done. And I note that
38 in the public testimony this morning there was actually
39 people in favor of that.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I have a
42 question. We're -- on the Copper River we take
43 subsistence fish on wheels. I -- you're required to get
44 a permit, you either get one from the State or for the
45 Federally-qualified subsistence you get it from the
46 Federal side. And it's -- you just go get your permit
47 and then you have to send it back and tell them what you
48 took. So does that work -- that doesn't occur on the
49 Yukon?

50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: No.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Larry.
4
5 MR. WILLIAMS: Well, I think it occurs,
6 but I don't think it occurs, but I don't know how
7 faithfully people fill it out, you know, I know I fill
8 mine out, just every day I catch a couple and that's
9 pretty easy to keep track of, you know. You know, that's
10 kind of a blue little thing that during the months of
11 early June and about the middle part of July that's when
12 the chinook are running in my area. So go with that.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Frank.
15
16 MR. GURTLER: Yeah, I could see a lot of
17 this studying going on and finding out how many fish you
18 catch and all that, and but all the time it's going on
19 there, well, you got a closure here, you got a closure
20 there, and you got this, pretty soon they want to know
21 how many you're going to eat yourself, how many you're
22 going to give away and all it is is a bunch of
23 regulations that people don't really want and care about.
24 I think with the regulations in place already we have
25 enough without any more regulations or proposals. Like
26 if I take the tender or the drift will take care of the
27 fish so you can't even fish. I mean, so why worry about
28 how many did you catch. I'm just -- we've got all of
29 these regulations, you got a closure, so many days to
30 fish, so many hours and then you got to pull your net and
31 all that and now they want to know how many you catch.
32 But I don't think it's -- should be any problem.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.
35
36 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.
37 I'm going to support it for the reasons that Virgil
38 mentioned. And in addition I see this as a way of
39 building stewardship amongst people, making them realize
40 what's going on on the Yukon River and their impacts on
41 the Yukon fisheries during low abundance. I also feel as
42 Federally -- for Federally-qualified people or for even
43 State people, having a calendar backs up what your use of
44 that resource is. And there may be a time, folks, when
45 the Yukon River chinook salmon goes to a Tier II type
46 system and when that happens you better be able to show
47 your use because that's going to open up a can of worms.
48 So I see this as a way of protecting people. I also see
49 it as a very good benefit. And the main point I wanted
50 to make is that it's not consistent on the Yukon River,

1 reporting is not consistent throughout the whole
2 drainage. That's the problem. There are some places
3 like where I live I can't fish unless I get a permit with
4 a calendar on it, I feel it out and I turn it in at the
5 end of the year.....

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

8
9 MR. BASSICH:otherwise I don't get
10 another one.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't think
15 we have to get too crazy here either because this is
16 just.....

17
18 MR. BASSICH: A recommendation.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:a
21 recommendation. Yeah. So do we want anymore discussion
22 on sending this recommendation forward?

23
24 Virgil.

25
26 MR. UMPHENOUR: I think it's super
27 important. And like Andy said it promotes stewardship.
28 And also like Andy said in some parts of the river you
29 have to have a permit, you have to have real accurate
30 record keeping, other parts you don't have to have
31 nothing, you just go fishing.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well.....

34
35 MR. UMPHENOUR: And this is just sending it
36 forward so it's still on the table so that it can still
37 be discussed. But it's important in the treaty
38 negotiations with Canada that we're -- that are ongoing,
39 you know, and that the Yukon Panel works with. This is
40 one of the big stumbling blocks is not knowing what -- a
41 number of things, like what the exploitation rate is
42 because you don't really know for sure how many fish came
43 up the river, how many fish got on the spawning grounds.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR: And so it's super
48 important for the biological aspects of it and the -- our
49 treaty with Canada as well.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know, I'm
4 not from the area and I really rely on you guys a lot.
5 And I know in my area, I guess, what I -- what's coming
6 from this discussion in my head is why doesn't everybody
7 have to just get a permit. I mean, it really -- this is
8 for me and my area, it might not be that way where you're
9 at, but it isn't that hard to just get your permit and
10 then fill in what you got. I mean, I can remember what
11 I got last week, but I don't know, and I'm -- I got
12 senioritis. So I don't know, it's hard.

13

14 MR. BASSICH: Question.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But before you
17 go on is -- your calendar is what's hanging me up, that
18 seems more detailed. Is this something everyone's
19 familiar with up there?

20

21 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, one thing though guys,
22 this -- the other two RACs may through everything out, so
23 it would be a new -- this could be new or the other two
24 could vote 100 percent behind these amendments and we're
25 just one voice in the wilderness saying. So you've got
26 to keep that in mind too, we're not the only people
27 involved with this process. And if you don't show use
28 you lose, that's the problem with the fish calendar,
29 that's why Arctic Village lost that whole mountain for
30 sheep hunting because they didn't show any usage. That's
31 why everybody's asked in the spring, make sure you turn
32 your ducks in because if you don't you're going to lose
33 the privilege, they'll be pulling your spring duck hunt
34 and stuff like that. You've got to show usage. Either
35 way, I don't even fish so I'm just here for the beer.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What beer.

38

39 (Laughter)

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

42

43 MR. FIRMIN: This past two summers I said
44 the YR DFA summer weekly surveys and the majority of the
45 people that I catch on the river are down at the river
46 bank when I ask them about their catch most of them say
47 I don't know, it's on my calendar, stop by later. So,
48 you know, normally I go find the next guy in line instead
49 of waiting for them to get home, but that's the common
50 answer in Fort Yukon and like Virgil said, everybody gets

1 them. It's just a matter of making it more of a
2 mandatory thing than another.....
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
5
6 MR. FIRMIN:piece of fire starter.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
9
10 MR. GLANZ: Question.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
13 been called for, do we need a roll call vote.
14
15 MR. GLANZ: Yes, might as well.
16
17 MR. FIRMIN: Sue Entsminger.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm in favor of
20 reporting, I don't know about your calendar thing so I
21 guess I'll just say yes.
22
23 MR. FIRMIN: Andrew Firmin. Yes.
24
25 Larry Williams, Sr.
26
27 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.
28
29 MR. FIRMIN: Lester Erhart.
30
31 MR. ERHART: Yeah.
32
33 MR. FIRMIN: Andy Bassich.
34
35 MR. BASSICH: Yes.
36
37 MR. FIRMIN: William Glanz.
38
39 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
40
41 MR. FIRMIN: Frank Gurtler.
42
43 MR. GURTLER: Yes.
44
45 MR. FIRMIN: Joseph Matesi.
46
47 MR. MATESI: No.
48
49 MR. FIRMIN: Donald Woodruff, excused.
50

1 Virgil Umphenour.
2
3 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes.
4
5 MR. FIRMIN: Carries.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Carries. And
8 that's our recommendation. Okay. That's it on that
9 topic. Okay. Channel 13 was in earlier wanting to find
10 out what we're doing on this. Yeah, so we should have
11 been for the -- earlier.
12
13 Okay. All right. The next thing on our
14 agenda is number 12 and we've got to go through number
15 18. Board of Game proposals. I'm going to call on
16 Andrew because he said he thinks he can make this really
17 short.
18
19 MR. FIRMIN: I think the majority of
20 these proposals were submitted by us, the RAC.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
23
24 MR. FIRMIN: And one is the -- two are
25 for -- two are dealing with the bears and then there are
26 one with the trapping, to align the trapping seasons.
27 They're all similar proposals that we've already all went
28 over. And there was the.....
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Meat on the
31 bone.
32
33 MR. FIRMIN:meat on the bone and
34 the closure to Red Sheep and Cane Creek drainages to
35 hunting for sheep as well. And the other one that might
36 take a -- somebody might want to take discussion to is
37 Proposal 170. And that was submitted by an individual
38 that lives in the area, but he wants to -- what does it
39 say, moose hunting pressure has increased significantly
40 in the Shenjek and Coleen drainages during the past five
41 years and he wants to in Unit 25A shorten the moose
42 season in a portion of 25A to one bull moose from
43 September 15th to 25th.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I see you have
46 them all. Well, you're looking it up, huh?
47
48 MR. FIRMIN: I was looking to see what
49 the original dates were and that's -- and that would just
50 shorten the beginning of the season by five days from the

1 10th to the 25th.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do you
4 have those numbers for the -- I see the little yellow
5 tags, does that give us the numbers?
6
7 MR. FIRMIN: It's Proposal 170.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's 170,
10 what about the two bears, the trapping and the meat on
11 the bone and the Red Sheep?
12
13 MR. FIRMIN: Proposal 171, 172, 173 and
14 -- those are all -- those are meat on the bone
15 requirements for 25A, B and D.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then there
18 was a trapping, two bears and a closure of Red Sheep
19 Creek and Cane Creek.
20
21 MR. FIRMIN: That Proposal 178 is the
22 close the Red Sheep and Cane Creek drainages to sheep.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. It's not
25 in your books, guys, because it's a State proposal book.
26
27 MR. FIRMIN: Proposal 180 is the open
28 wolf trapping season earlier to start October 1st.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Was that 180?
31
32
33 MR. FIRMIN: Yes, that would be to --
34 that was to align the wolf trapping seasons.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. Virgil
37 had the only book too.
38
39 MS. MUSHOVIC: I've got one.
40
41 MR. FIRMIN: Proposal 182.....
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: KJ has one.
44
45 MR. FIRMIN:would be to increase
46 the bag limit for black bear in Unit 25D.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 182 was black
49 bear.
50

1 MR. FIRMIN: And Proposal 183 is allow
2 hunters to take more than one brown bear by community
3 harvest permit in 25D. And speaking with Refuge staff
4 previously they said 25D doesn't have a brown bear C&T
5 determination so it's unlikely that that would go
6 anywhere.

7
8 And there are others in the Dalton
9 Highway corridor management area and some other along
10 with the Porcupine, Caribou, but whether or not you want
11 to take those up or -- up to you, Madame Chair.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'd say it's up
14 to you because I would like to take up at least the ones
15 that we put in, that are parallel proposals to -- which
16 I think you all -- identified all and then you added one.
17 Correct?

18
19 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Did you
22 raise your hand, Larry?

23
24 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.
27 Thought I saw somebody in the back.

28
29 Andy.

30
31 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I'm wondering is it
32 possible just to get kind of a consensus agenda going
33 that basically was -- where these duplicate the ones we
34 already talked about in this meeting we could just lump
35 those together and deal with it. And.....

36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's what I'm
38 trying to do.

39
40 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

41
42 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. Okay. Well.....

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. That's
45 why I had him identify all of them so staff has the
46 numbers and we're identifying ones that are the same
47 as.....

48
49 MS. MUSHOVIC: I've got it. You guys put
50 in one for Forty-Mile Caribou.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that's
2 right. The Forty-Mile Caribou, is -- did we put one in
3 or are we just supporting? We put one in, a companion
4 proposal. I don't have the number.

5
6 Vince, you keep raising your hand. Is
7 there something you're wanting to add to this Board of
8 Game?

9
10 MR. MATHEWS: Well, I can give you a path
11 out of this. Western Interior just took up the statewide
12 proposals because that's a January Board meeting. The
13 Interior comes up March 2nd to the 11th, you meet March
14 3rd and 4th. So what Western did is just prioritized
15 statewide at this meeting and at their next meeting took
16 up the big.....

17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's really
19 helpful. Because it would be in front of our -- if we
20 have our meeting schedule -- what days does the Board of
21 Game start again, March.....

22
23 MR. MATHEWS: It's 2nd to the 11th and
24 I'm guessing on your dates. And the benefit of it is is
25 you may get input from the ACs to work with. The cost of
26 it is is you got to hustle to get it into the Board of
27 Game meeting.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Our
30 meeting is already scheduled for March 2nd and 3rd in
31 Central and we'll discuss that later. So, I mean, it's
32 pretty timely. The -- usually the Board of Game
33 testimony is -- is it three days now? No, their
34 testimony where we would testify is two or three days, it
35 used to be less than that.

36
37 MR. UMPHENOUR: It's two days normally.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Two days. I've
40 heard three before. But -- okay. We'll work that out
41 because we can -- I think that's -- what do you think,
42 Council, do you think we can do -- it'll give us more on
43 the agenda at the other meeting because it's things that
44 -- our agenda isn't as heavy as this. Our meeting is the
45 2nd and 3rd.

46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, then Madame Chair,
48 we have to make a recommendation at this meeting if we
49 want it to be in the Board book otherwise it's not going
50 to be in the Board book because the Board of Game starts

1 meeting on the same day we do.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
4
5 MR. UMPHENOUR: So we need to do it here.
6 We should at least support all our own proposals that we
7 made.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm
10 going to entertain a motion for that.
11
12 MR. UMPHENOUR: I move we support all the
13 proposals that we made that are in the -- going to be
14 before the Board of Game on their meeting the 2nd of
15 March.
16
17 MR. GLANZ: And I'll second that.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do I need
20 anymore discussion?
21
22 MR. BASSICH: Question.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
25 been called for. All in favor of putting the proposals
26 that we proposed to the Board of Game, we're supporting.
27 All in favor.
28
29 IN UNISON: Aye.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.
32
33 (No opposing votes)
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That one
36 passes, but 170 was a new one you brought up, right?
37
38 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah that was just in the
39 25A, Shenjek and Coleen drainages is that they just
40 wanted to shorten the season by five days. And that was
41 for.....
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you want to
44 take this up?
45
46 MR. FIRMIN:and that was for -- I
47 would like to, just be quick.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew wants to
50 take it up. I'd have to have a motion. Is that a motion

1 to take it up?

2

3 MR. FIRMIN: Does it have to be?

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you making
6 a motion to take it up? Yeah, you have to make a motion
7 to support.

8

9 MR. FIRMIN: I'll make a motion to take
10 up Proposal 170 at this time.

11

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

14

15 MR. UMPHENOUR: Second.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that would
18 be in the positive. Okay. Do you want to speak to it
19 again a little bit?

20

21 MR. FIRMIN: This Proposal 170 was put in
22 by an individual that lives up there and he just noticed
23 that with the large influx of hunters in that area lately
24 that it's -- the more moose that they're taking, a lot of
25 them because those are a lot of burn areas in there and
26 a lot of them migrate, the moose in there migrate from
27 the Old Crow Flats area in Canada across. And with all
28 the hunters on the Coleen River area they're not getting
29 enough moose into the Shenjek and closer over, you know,
30 they're not -- they're not being allowed to migrate as
31 much into the other areas. So he's just noticing that.
32 I think he was also one of the people that told me one
33 day on his cabin he counted like 19 rafts go by his cabin
34 in one day and it's not like he's sitting there waiting
35 to count rafts, but it's just with the large influx of
36 hunters and float hunters he's think that shortening that
37 season would be good for the moose population in that
38 area. And I don't know if there's any -- they don't have
39 the scientific data or numbers in the State books like
40 they do in our Federal books, but the guy's lived there
41 for 30 years, I kind of take his word over the next
42 guy's.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Shorten it five
45 days on the front, I think I might have shortened it on
46 the back. But oh, well.

47

48 Go ahead, Joe.

49

50 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair.

1 Yeah, I just now saw this, but I'm very familiar with
2 this issue and the proponent and the proposed solution.
3 And I also support this proposal. It might not be the
4 best way to address what's becoming something of a real
5 problem in that area, but there is a real problem in that
6 area. And I appreciate the fact that this individual is
7 trying to address that with this idea. And I like the
8 idea of shortening it in the back for a num -- I mean, in
9 the front. He's already -- he's trying to shorten it
10 five days in the front?

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.

13

14 MR. MATESI: Yeah, I think that's a good
15 idea. And we all agree that autumns are getting warmer
16 and warmer and hunting is actually shifting later and
17 later for just not meat spoilage reason, but just it's
18 better hunting with the leaves down and the moose are
19 moving. People in that area have been asking to be able
20 to hunt later anyway. What we don't like is to see it
21 being opened early in the season when the leaves are on
22 and the moose aren't moving around and people have to go
23 out and compete with each other to get a few moose. And
24 then deal with it in the hot weather. So leaving it open
25 later on I think is a good idea.

26

27 The moose that -- this population of
28 moose that he's addressing, they spend their winters in
29 the high valleys of the Brooks Range and they spend their
30 summers over in Canada in the Old Crow Flats. And it
31 just so happens that they migrate through these -- this
32 one particular area, the upper Shenjek and the upper
33 Coleen, right smack dab on the middle of the hunting
34 season. And guess what, the outfitters and the city
35 hunters have found that out and they go in there and they
36 just pound the heck out of them. This proposal is an
37 attempt to try to address that problem.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
40 discussion.

41

42 MR. GLANZ: I'll call for the question.

43

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

46

47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.

50

1 (No opposing votes)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. It
4 passes.
5
6 Okay. Are there any others that anyone
7 wants to take up at this time.
8
9 (Off record comments)
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're going to
12 move along and if there's any other ones you can bring it
13 up later so we can move along here. Right now we're
14 going to 13 which is review and make recommendations on
15 draft 2012 fisheries resource monitoring plan, Yukon.
16
17 OSM. And do I see an action item coming
18 up?
19
20 MR. RIVARD: Madame Chair, this is an
21 action item for your Council, yes.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
24
25 MR. RIVARD: Good afternoon, Madame
26 Chair, Council members. My name is Don Rivard, staff
27 biologist with the Office of Subsistence Management.
28 We're going to talk now about the 2012 draft fisheries
29 resource monitoring plan. I'm going to make this real
30 brief. It starts in your book on Page 261, it's three or
31 four pages of introductory material we don't really need
32 to go over in my opinion. And then we'll -- I'll just go
33 right into what's being proposed and recommended on the
34 Yukon and then there's one multi-regional project as
35 well.
36
37 So I'm going to start on Page 264. So
38 the 2012 fisheries resource monitoring plan for 2012, a
39 total of 32 investigation plans are under consideration
40 for funding and it's broken down by region on Page -- on
41 Table 1 of Page 264. Of these 22 are stock status and
42 trend studies projects and 10 are harvest monitoring and
43 traditional ecological knowledge projects. The Technical
44 Review Committee recommends funding 29 of these
45 investigation plan, this is -- I'm talking statewide now.
46 For the Yukon region the 2012 request for proposals
47 identified eight priorities information and issue needs.
48 And those can be found on the top of Page 265.
49
50 Since the inception of the monitoring

1 program in 2000, 93 projects have been funded in the
2 Yukon region and seven of these will still be operating
3 in 2012. And those are listed in your book starting on
4 Page 268 in Tables 1 and 2. Of the seven ongoing
5 projects, five address salmon, one focuses on non-salmon
6 and one examines climate change.

7
8 Now 15 Yukon region proposals were
9 initially submitted to the Office of Subsistence
10 Management in response to the 2012 request for proposals.
11 In March, 2011 the Technical Review Committee reviewed
12 these proposals and recommended nine for investigation
13 plan development, including seven stock status and trends
14 and one harvest monitoring and traditional ecological
15 knowledge proposals. There were -- one of each of those
16 types were withdrawn and the investigators for the
17 remaining seven projects responded to the Technical
18 Review Committee proposal review comments in developing
19 their investigation plans.

20
21 Now if you go to Page 266. After
22 reviewing the seven investigation plans the Technical
23 Review Committee recommended funding six projects. The
24 first one is the Alatna River inconnu or sheefish
25 population structure; the second is abundance and run
26 timing of salmon in Henshaw Creek; the third is Anvik
27 River sonar project; the fourth is Kaltag chinook salmon
28 sampling project; the fifth is Yukon River's Bering Cisco
29 (ph) spawning origins telemetry; and the last one is in-
30 season management teleconference and harvest interviews.

31
32 So those are -- there's brief synopsis of
33 all of those on Page 266 and 267 and then the full-blown
34 description of all those start on Page 273.

35
36 For your information in the last two
37 weeks the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta and the Western Interior
38 Regional Councils also reviewed this plan and they both
39 recommended funding these projects you see in front of
40 you on Page 266.

41 Thank you, Madame Chair.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I don't
49 -- it's a lot of material I know, when I first saw all
50 these I'm like what are we working on here. But it's

1 projects in our area or is it the whole Yukon that we're
2 looking at these six?

3

4 MR. RIVARD: It's throughout the Yukon
5 region, Madame Chair.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Uh-huh.
8 And your Committee -- this is their recommendation and
9 you're looking for us to endorse?

10

11 MR. RIVARD: Yes, the -- this is just
12 like regulatory proposals. The regional or the Federal
13 Subsistence Board looks for a recommendation from the
14 Councils that are affected by these projects or that are
15 in their region.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy, did you
18 have something.

19

20 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, if you wanted a
21 motion for support of these, I think that's what they're
22 looking for, I'd be happy to provide that.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

25

26 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that one.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And it's been
29 seconded. Discussion.

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think I'm
34 going to do the \$5 fee next time. Any discussion.

35

36 Andy.

37

38 MR. BASSICH: I guess just in support of
39 it, I think resource monitoring of Yukon River stocks and
40 various species within those stocks is incredibly
41 important. We've emphasized that in our deliberations in
42 the past many times. And I think these are all valid
43 projects that need -- there is a critical need for this
44 information. And therefore I think the funding should
45 move forward on that.

46

47 Madame Chair.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
50 discussion.

1 (No comments)
2
3 MR. GLANZ: Question.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
6 been called for. All in favor.
7
8 IN UNISON: Aye.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
11
12 (No opposing votes)
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
15
16 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, I have a
17 question if I may.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
20
21 MR. BASSICH: I'm not sure where it would
22 be on the agenda, but there have been times in the past
23 where we have made recommendations for future funding and
24 I don't know if that would be appropriate at this time to
25 just make that recommendation because I don't really it
26 anywhere else on the agenda unless I'm missing something.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What funding
29 did you.....
30
31 MR. BASSICH: For resource monitoring.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald, can you
34 answer that.
35
36 MR. RIVARD: Yes, Madame Chair. Andy,
37 yes, you can make -- that would be a good time if you
38 know of some future issue or information needed that you
39 would like the fisheries resource monitoring program to
40 look into. The next call for proposals will be for the
41 2014 cycle. And that'll go out about -- a little over a
42 year from now because it's about a year process. So it's
43 a good time to make some kind of recommendation if you do
44 have it.
45
46 MR. BASSICH: Maybe I'll just put that
47 together in a little bit more detail and then present it
48 at the next meeting, Madame Chair, if that's okay.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

1 MR. BASSICH: Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Great. Do we
4 need that listed as an agenda item for the next meeting.
5 We can handle that, right? Okay.

6

7 MR. RIVARD: And then, Madame Chair, just
8 a real quick one here now on Page 290 is a multi-regional
9 overview. For the multi-regional category, the 2012
10 request for proposals was focused on four priority
11 information needs that are on the top of Page 290.
12 Multi-regional obviously is more than one region and this
13 particular one that's only up -- the only one being
14 considered is one that is for the Yukon and the
15 Kuskokwim.

16

17 So three proposals for research in the
18 multi-regional category were submitted to the Office of
19 Subsistence Management for funding consideration in 2012.
20 Again in March, 2011 the Technical Review Committee
21 reviewed these proposals and recommended two of them for
22 development of investigation plans. One of these was
23 subsequently withdrawn and then the other investigator
24 did submit an investigation plan. And that's the one on
25 Page 291.

26

27 The Technical Review Committee does
28 recommend funding the Yukon and Kuskokwim inconnu or
29 sheefish genetic baselines project. It's a three year
30 project and it basically is laboratory analysis of
31 sheefish samples that are caught or that have been
32 sampled in three projects so far and another four that
33 may get funded along with -- as part of this 2012 call
34 for proposals.

35

36 Thank you, Madame Chair.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think Andy
39 first.

40

41 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, I'm ready to
42 offer a motion.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

45

46 MR. BASSICH: The motion would be to
47 support funding for 20-700 under the multi-regional
48 resource monitoring program projects.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that 12-700

1 or 20?

2

3 MR. BASSICH: I'm sorry. Yes, 12-700.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

6

7 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that also because
8 I'm very interested in the sheefish and that's not much
9 known about them.

10

11 MR. RIVARD: Madame Chair, if I may. I
12 just -- the other two Councils on the Yukon, the Yukon
13 Kuskokwim Delta and the Western Interior Regional
14 Advisory Councils also took this one up and they
15 recommended funding for this project.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anymore
18 discussion.

19

20 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, actually I have a
21 question, Don. Under the first bullet on Page 290, that
22 actually addresses exactly what I was just speaking to
23 that -- for future funding. And I'm wondering is there
24 additional funding available to develop a plan for this.
25 I know this first bullet is a pretty comprehensive
26 program to try and study and evaluate and I would assume
27 you would have to do some preplanning, put some time and
28 effort into

29 preplanning to make sure that you captured what you were
30 looking for in that. And I'm just wondering how -- the
31 process that OSM uses when developing these, is that just
32 something that's done in the office that you kind of do
33 a roundtable on or do you actually set aside funds to try
34 and develop the program ahead of time?

35

36 MR. RIVARD: Madame Chair, Andy. It's a
37 pretty long, involved process. As you can see the first
38 thing that's done for each cycle is to identify these
39 issues and information needs. And the call for proposal
40 goes out to potential investigators, people who might be
41 interested in doing this kind of research. And they have
42 the choice or the opportunity to address these issues.
43 They can also maybe address other proposals or put in
44 other proposals that don't directly address any of these
45 issues. They all get considered. The ones that are
46 addressing these identified issues and information needs
47 are the ones that get a higher priority.

48

49 So what I'm hearing from you is you would
50 like to make sure that that first bullet again is put in

1 the 2014 call for proposals. And if you want to refine
2 that a little bit more, please do so and you can submit
3 that to us at anytime. But it would probably be good to
4 go through your Council like you said in your next
5 meeting in the spring so that it gets the Council's
6 endorsement as well.

7

8 MR. BASSICH: Okay. Thank you. Can I
9 add just a little bit very briefly?

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 I just really want to.....

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I didn't say
16 yes, yet.

17

18 MR. BASSICH: Oh, I'm sorry.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

21

22 MR. BASSICH: You looked at me and
23 nodded.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

26

27 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.
28 I just wanted to emphasize how important that first
29 bullet is in what's going on with all of our resources in
30 Alaska. There are tremendous changes in social
31 demographics and the way people are using the resources
32 and climate changes is affecting those things. So I
33 think this is something for us to really focus on in the
34 future so that we can be prepared for how the use of our
35 resources changes over time with the change of our -- of
36 climate change and our social patterns. And that's all
37 I really wanted to say.

38

39 Thank you, Madame Chair, for indulging
40 me.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. You're
43 welcome. So any other discussion on the motion, 12-700.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 MR. BASSICH: Question.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
50 been called for. All in favor of this genetic baseline,

1 12-700, say aye.
2
3 IN UNISON: Aye.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
6
7 (No opposing votes)
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Passes.
10
11 MR. RIVARD: Madame Chair, if I may. I'm
12 scheduled to do the second one, the next -- not the next
13 one, but the one after that, it's just on bycatch.
14 There's really nothing to add other than what's the
15 written briefing in your book unless somebody wants to
16 ask questions or something. But so there's really no
17 need for a verbal presentation.
18
19 Thank you, Madame Chair.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are there any
22 questions on the update on the Bering Sea, Aleutian
23 Island chum salmon bycatch?
24
25 (No comments)
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We have a ton
28 of material in front of us.
29
30 Thank you, Donald.
31
32 Other fisheries issues. Yukon River post
33 season reports. I have U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
34 ADF&G and YRDFA.
35
36 Go ahead.
37
38 MR. MASCHMANN: Madame Chair, Council
39 members. I'm Gerald Maschmann, I work for U.S. Fish and
40 Wildlife Service in the Fairbanks office. I assist Fred
41 Bough who's the Yukon River in-season Federal manager.
42 KJ's handing out the -- Fred's season summary and it's
43 pretty thorough so if you don't mind I'd like to speed it
44 up and just hit the high points, if that's okay.
45
46 The preseason -- the 2011 chinook salmon
47 run was projected to range from poor to below average.
48 Summer and fall chum salmon runs were projected to be
49 average to below average, while coho salmon were expected
50 to be average. The chinook salmon outlook range was for

1 a run of 130,000 to 178,000.

2

3

4 Because chinook salmon have performed
5 below expectations in recent years the U.S., Canada Yukon
6 River Panel provided funds as it had in 2009 and 2010 to
7 coordinate a special outreach preparation program during
8 the proceeding winter and spring and this special
9 outreach effort was facilitated by the Yukon River
10 Drainage Fisheries Association and involved both
11 teleconferences and in person meetings to inform and
12 receive input on conservation approaches. Using input
13 from stakeholders ADF&G and Fish and Wildlife distributed
14 a joint Yukon River salmon fisheries 2011 outlook sheet
15 that described run expectations and run strength and
16 management approaches for the coming season and this
17 would be the blue sheet that many fishers got preseason.

17

18

19 Some of the key approaches in the
20 preseason management strategies were that one, no
21 anticipated directed commercial fishing on chinook
22 salmon, set start dates for the beginning of the
23 regulatory subsistence fishing windows and protection of
24 the first pulse of chinook salmon by closing one
25 subsistence fishing period during passage of that pulse
26 as it migrated upriver. In addition it was also
27 discussed preseason that if the run appeared to be coming
28 in even weaker that it -- closing on the second pulse
29 would be a possibility.

29

30

31 As the summer season started the
32 regulatory window subsistence salmon fishing schedule was
33 initiated on June 6th in District 1 which coincided with
34 the typical initial build up of chinook salmon. And this
35 schedule was implemented chronologically in upriver
36 districts as the run progressed. And as the first pulse
37 came in the river closures around that first pulse were
38 initiated and we tried to do a pretty precise and
39 surgical job in keeping the closure right on the pulse so
40 that we could limit our -- limit or prevent closing
41 subsistence as much as possible while yet still
42 protecting that pulse.

42

43

44 As the chinook salmon run continued to
45 develop slowly it became apparent that the run strength
46 would fall below expectations necessitating further
47 conservation actions to achieve escapement objectives.
48 So we decided that we would need to, due to the low
49 chinook numbers, need to close fishing on the second
50 pulse. And again that was initiated starting in District
51 1 and moved upriver as the run progressed.

1 And while most lower river, middle river
2 and Tanana River stocks appeared to be on track for
3 reaching their respective escapement needs, the Canadian
4 origin stocks continued to indicate weakness. Therefore
5 a third subsistence fishing period was canceled in the
6 middle and upper portions of Subdistrict 5D to provide
7 necessary protection for the third pulse as it migrated
8 into Canada.

9
10 All of these management actions resulted
11 in achieving the U.S., Canada border passage target of
12 approximately 50,000 chinook salmon. The total chinook
13 salmon passage at the Eagle sonar was 50,800 with the
14 border passage estimate of 49,800.

15
16 In addition to closing around the pulses,
17 the 2011 season was the first time that the new fishing
18 gear regulation restricting gillnet mesh size to no more
19 than seven and a half inches came into effect. Also
20 fishing gear in Districts 1 and 2 was further restricted
21 to no larger than six inch mesh once the commercial
22 season began and the chinook salmon run continued to be
23 poor.

24
25 Due to significant overlap of the chinook
26 and summer chum salmon runs managers delayed actions to
27 commercially target summer chum salmon until near the mid
28 point of the chinook salmon run. At the time an above
29 average summer chum salmon run of 2 million fish was
30 projected. Therefore the sale of chinook salmon was
31 prohibited during the summer season commercial fishery
32 and strategic commercial fishing periods were opened by
33 the Department in the lower river districts to avoid
34 incidental harvest of chinook salmon.

35
36 In all there are 11 commercial fishing
37 periods in District 1, nine in District 2 and 11 periods
38 in District 6. The total summer commercial fishing --
39 the total summer commercial fishery harvested 275,000
40 summer chum with 4,470 incidentally harvested chinook
41 salmon in the chum directed fishery. And those
42 incidentally harvested chinook were passed out to
43 subsistence users on the river.

44
45 Most chinook salmon escapements were met
46 or exceeded except in the Tanana River tributaries where
47 high water levels precluded escapement estimates, however
48 an early aerial survey of the Salcha River indicated that
49 the lower end of its escapement goal was obtained.
50 Likewise most summer chum salmon escapements were within

1 or above escapement goal objectives or averages.

2

3 Based upon the summer chum to fall chum
4 salmon relationship, managers revised the 2011 fall
5 preseason expectation to a near average run size of
6 750,000 fall chum salmon.

7

8 Commercial fishing was initiated in the
9 lower river during the first quarter of the season on a
10 conservative pace due to uncertainties with the early run
11 assessment. Furthermore some subsistence fishermen
12 indicated to managers that they planned to make up for
13 the low chinook salmon harvest with good quality fall
14 chum salmon from the front of the run. Commercial
15 fishing continued in the lower river throughout the
16 season with attempts being made to align commercial
17 openings with pulses as salmon entered the river.
18 Meanwhile the overlapping coho salmon run appeared to be
19 developing near average with the commercial harvest of
20 coho remaining within an acceptable level to provide
21 necessary escapement needs and normal subsistence harvest
22 needs.

23

24 Subsistence fishing in District 4 was
25 relaxed to seven days per week after the -- I'm sorry.
26 As we entered the fall season the subsistence fishing
27 schedule that we ended the summer season with continued
28 into the fall and that for Districts 1, 2 and 3, that
29 meant subsistence was open seven days a week except
30 around commercial openings. District 4 was -- began the
31 fall season on a five day a week schedule. And
32 Subdistricts 5A and 5B and 5C continued on their standard
33 schedule of two 48 hour periods per week. And District
34 6 was on its standard 40 two hour periods per week. And
35 5D remained on a normal open seven days per week
36 schedule.

37

38 As the -- as it appeared that the fall
39 chum run was looking pretty good the subsistence fishing
40 in District 4 was relaxed to seven days per week. After
41 the third pulse of fall chum salmon Subdistricts 5A and
42 5B and 5C had subsistence fishing time increased to five
43 days per week and then was further relaxed to seven days
44 per week.

45

46 The combined fall season commercial
47 fishing harvest through -- I'm sorry, the combined fall
48 season commercial harvest was 237,000 fall chum and
49 76,000 coho salmon which are both above average harvest
50 levels. Indications at this time are that fall chum and

1 coho salmon escapements are expected to end or are within
2 their escapement objectives for the 2011 season.
3 Subsistence harvest information collected in-season found
4 that some fishermen were able to obtain their subsistence
5 harvest goals if they were persistent throughout the
6 season. Some did not meet their goals and reported lack
7 of fishing opportunity or having to fish later in the
8 season or having shifted their fishing efforts to other
9 species.

10

11 I think as a result of conservative
12 management actions restricting both the 2011 chinook
13 salmon subsistence harvest and the targeted summer chum
14 salmon commercial fishery, most escapement needs were
15 provided for as was our U.S., Canada treaty obligations.
16 And we'd like that the Yukon River fishing community is
17 relied upon for assistance in sustaining this important
18 resource and we realize that the community incurred a
19 significant hardship in reduced harvest in following the
20 preseason plan to achieve our escapement goals this year.

21

22 The outlook for 2012 will be prepared
23 this fall, winter and spring and we're currently working
24 on our age analysis for the 2011 season. If poor chinook
25 salmon productivity continues into 2012 conservative
26 management actions will be necessary to maintain the long
27 term health of Yukon River salmon population.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions,
30 Council members.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
35 you. On our agenda we have Board of Fisheries proposals.
36 We put in two proposals, 55 and 114. How do you want to
37 proceed?

38

39 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I think we should
40 support our own proposals. We've already deliberated it
41 -- wrote them, deliberated them and submitted them.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Was one of them
44 a special action request?

45

46 MR. UMPHENOUR: No.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I got an email
49 from somebody saying one of our special requests was not
50 granted. And you guys saw? Okay.

1 Virgil, I'm wondering was that one of
2 these?
3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR: No.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Gotcha.
7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. We have two
9 proposals, Proposal -- I wrote them down.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 55 and 114,
12 they're our proposals.
13
14 MR. UMPHENOUR: Proposal 55 and Proposal
15 114, we should support our own proposals. And we should
16 send someone to the Board of Fish meeting. It's going to
17 be in Valdez and it's the 2nd through the 7th or -- I
18 think. Well, let me look in the book here. Anyway, it's
19 the first week -- it's the same exact time.....
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
22
23 MR. UMPHENOUR:as the Yukon River
24 Panel meeting.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to
27 put that at the end because we have a whole bunch of
28 stuff, I think, meetings that we need to send people to.
29
30 Council members, did I hear a motion?
31 You have two things here, a motion to support.
32
33 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. I made a motion
34 to support our proposals which were Proposal.....
35
36 MR. MATESI: Second.
37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR:number 55 and 114 to
39 the Board of Fish.
40
41 MR. GLANZ: Joe seconded?
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Joe
44 seconded it. Discussion. Anymore discussion.
45
46 MR. UMPHENOUR: I don't think -- we
47 discussed these pretty good whenever we wrote them.....
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR:at our last meeting.
2
3 MR. GLANZ: Question.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
6 been called for. All in favor of supporting our own
7 Proposals 55 and 114 to the Board of Fish say aye.
8
9 IN UNISON: Aye.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
12
13 (No opposing votes)
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
16 second topic was to send someone, but I would prefer
17 talking about all the things we have to send people to at
18 the end if that's okay with the Council.
19
20 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. And
23 I wrote it down, it's number 6 at the end that we have to
24 talk about.
25
26 Okay. Right now it's agency reports.
27 First is Office of Subsistence Management, status report
28 on the Secretarial review recommendations.
29
30 And Pete will take that.
31
32 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair, Council
33 members. These are both written briefings, they're very
34 straightforward. So I'm here just to answer questions,
35 I know time is important right now.
36
37 The only thing I want to remind people is
38 the application period for the two additional new Board
39 members is currently underway and if anybody has an
40 interest in submitting their names let me know and we'll
41 put you in touch with Pat Pourchot's office, special
42 assistant to the Secretary.
43
44 So on both these briefings, tribal
45 consultation and the status report on Secretarial
46 recommendations, I can answer questions.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions.
49 Okay.
50

1 Joe then Andy.

2

3 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair. I
4 have a question on the staffing at OSM, that is the
5 position of tribal liaison. I've noticed it's been
6 unfilled for a while now. And, you know, to be honest
7 we've talking at lunch times and at dinner in the
8 evenings about the many instances we've observed of
9 cultural disconnect between say members of the public who
10 are addressing the Council and the way their
11 presentations are perceived by Council members and by OSM
12 staff sometimes. And it's my personal belief that a good
13 person in that position might be very beneficial to this
14 whole process. So I wonder if you could tell us what the
15 plans are for that position.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Five bucks.
18 Next meeting I'm going to have a can.

19

20 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair, the
21 background is that -- Joe, it's a very good question.
22 I'll specifically to the native liaison fish position,
23 but currently right now in the Office of Subsistence
24 Management I have 10 vacancies. Some of those are due to
25 retirement, some of those are due to promotions. Most
26 recently my deputy, Dr. Polly Wheeler, was promoted to
27 the deputy Refuge manager -- not Refuge manager, but.....

28

29

30 MR. JESS: Chief of Refuge.

31

32 MR. PROBASCO:chiefs of Refuges.
33 Thank you. And she has officially started in that role.
34 Specifically to the native liaison position, that was
35 vacated by Carl Jack, he retired. That position has not
36 been filled at this point in time, but is on -- s slated
37 to be filled. I've informed the Federal Board that my
38 plans are to have -- hopefully with the bureaucracy of
39 filling Federal positions that that position would be
40 filled by the 1st of January. That's the goal. Now
41 hopefully I can meet that.

42

43 MR. MATESI: Well, it just seems really
44 soon for an announcement of recruitment, but that's.....

45

46 MR. PROBASCO: That's my goal.

47

48 MR. MATESI:that's admirable.

49 Thank you.

50

1 MR. PROBASCO: And as with any
2 recruitment there are hiccups, but that's our goal. I'm
3 working very closely with our native liaison to Region 7,
4 Crystal Leonetti. And we'll also be putting outreach
5 both to the native community as well as the other
6 agencies.

7
8 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Mr. Probasco.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. I'm
11 all -- so other questions, Council members.

12
13 (No comments)

14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There was --
16 the process for nominations, when's that deadline?

17
18 MR. PROBASCO: October 31st.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The end of this
21 month.

22
23 MR. PROBASCO: For the two additional
24 Board seats.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There was talk
27 among Council members with me in talking about maybe
28 considering a nomination. Does anyone want to do that
29 now or where are we on it?

30
31 Andrew.

32
33 MR. FIRMIN: Is there any way of knowing
34 who's actually been nominated so we could support
35 nominees that have already put their name in the hat?

36
37 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair, I do not
38 have that list. That's specifically done through the
39 Secretary's office. Just like when they recruited and
40 Mr. Towarak, Towarak was appointed, I was not privy to
41 the list. So it's strictly within the respective
42 Secretary's office, Secretary of Ag and Secretary of
43 Interior.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So once the
46 nominations are all in by the end of the month then what
47 happens?

48
49 MR. PROBASCO: Then -- Madame Chair.
50 Those are vetted then with the respective Secretaries

1 jointly and then vetted further up the chain through the
2 White House.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is there an
5 opportunity for the public to look at that and comment?

6

7 MR. PROBASCO: As far as the list.....

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

10

11 MR. PROBASCO:of names, I don't
12 believe so. Not -- just like the Chair's position, it's
13 strictly within the privy of the Secretaries.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So is this
16 Council able to nominate then?

17

18 MR. PROBASCO: Most definitely if you
19 know a person that's willing and then contact the -- Pat
20 Pourchot's office to do the necessary paperwork. Most
21 definitely.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, there's
24 some paperwork involved.

25

26 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madame Chair, it's not
27 just a simple name nomination. I have talked to the --
28 Pat's office and they would like a resume on the person
29 along with a nomination letter. They'd have to have some
30 background to be appointed.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And what if
33 that person told somebody their resume's already in
34 there, we have to do it again?

35

36 MR. PROBASCO: You wouldn't have to
37 resubmit someone who's already been submitted.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The same
40 resume.

41

42 MR. PROBASCO: Right, yeah.

43

44 MR. ARDIZZONE: I would double check to
45 make sure the resume is there so you'd still want to
46 contact Mr. Pourchot's office and verify that.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone want to
49 do anything?

50

1 Joe.
2
3 MR. MATESI: I would like to see this
4 Council submit at least one nomination. There's only
5 going to be two seats and I think it would be really nice
6 to have an individual from the Interior, from the Yukon
7 River perhaps, from our region specifically at least in
8 the running. So I propose that this Council consider a
9 name or two and when the time's appropriate I have a name
10 that I'd like to submit for your consideration.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'd say that's
13 right now.
14
15 MR. MATESI: Okay. Mr. Paul Williams
16 from Beaver.
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Did you
19 have something, Andrew?
20
21 MR. FIRMIN: (Shakes head negatively)
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No. Okay. Is
24 that a nomination -- a motion to nominate?
25
26 MR. MATESI: Yes, I move that we nominate
27 Mr. Paul Williams from Beaver to a seat on the
28 Subsistence Board.
29
30 MR. FIRMIN: Second.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
33 Discussion. Further discussion.
34
35 MR. MATESI: I believe that -- are all
36 the Council members already familiar with Mr. Williams?
37 Yeah. Yeah. Probably very familiar with him.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
40
41 MR. MATESI: So I don't need to introduce
42 him to you. And his eminently qualified, I think, we
43 agree. I believe so anyway. And experienced and
44 interested and competent and I think he would do a good
45 job of representing all of Alaskan subsistence users, not
46 just the members of our region. So that's why I
47 submitted his name.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
50 right.

1 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

4

5 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.

6 Pete, could you very briefly get into what the
7 responsibilities are of that position, what kind of time
8 frames are required and travel and that sort of thing.
9 I think it -- and I'm not saying get into a big long
10 thing, but could you just really briefly give us what it
11 entails, I mean, it sounds like a pretty big job with a
12 lot of responsibility.

13

14 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair, I can
15 guarantee that it'll be a lot of reading. The position
16 will serve just like the current seated regional
17 directors from each respective agency. There is at least
18 two public meetings, we've seen them in the January and
19 April/May time period, but in addition to that depending
20 upon the issues there's numerous work sessions and
21 sometimes executive sessions. What's on -- what's coming
22 up on our plate which does require a lot of meetings is
23 the rural determination process, a very involved process
24 requiring numerous work sessions with the Board. I would
25 anticipate in addition to the two regularly scheduled
26 meetings a person could anticipate having at least
27 anywhere from six to eight additional meetings in a given
28 year.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

31

32 MR. BASSICH: To follow-up. Just in days
33 of time commitment you're probably looking at a total of
34 somewhere around 80 days, somewhere around there for the
35 year?

36

37 MR. PROBASCO: Well, as far as meetings
38 I'd say two to three days per meeting depending upon the
39 issue, but then in addition to that you have prep time.
40 I mean, you see the workload for the wildlife cycle and
41 reading that. Also these two additional people would
42 probably have a learning curve and so that -- all of that
43 will tack on additional days to get up to speed, maybe 80
44 days as far as most, but it would be somewhere in that
45 neighborhood.

46

47 MR. BASSICH: Thank you.

48

49 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair, one question
50 through you to Joe. I'm assuming Mr. Paul Williams is

1 aware of being nominated?
2
3 MR. MATESI: Mr. Probasco, Madame Chair.
4 Yes.
5
6 MR. PROBASCO: Okay. Then it would be up
7 to him -- what this would say is the Council supports Mr.
8 Paul Williams for consideration. And then we have to get
9 Mr. Paul Williams to go through the next steps.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
12 motion is to support Paul or nominate him. Anymore
13 discussion.
14
15 (No comments)
16
17 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
20 been called for. Al in favor say aye.
21
22 IN UNISON: Aye.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
25
26 (No opposing votes)
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We'll --
29 Joe, you're going to help, we don't need KJ to write a
30 resume, that'll be -- you can talk to Paul and make sure
31 the resume gets in and we'll get the -- we get a letter
32 of support, is that how it works?
33
34 MR. PROBASCO: You would draft a letter
35 of support for Mr. Paul Williams. In addition I will
36 send an email to Mr. Pat Pourchot just notifying him that
37 Mr. Paul William's name will be forthcoming.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
40 you. Anything -- any more questions of staff or Pete.
41
42 (No comments)
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So we
45 covered both, right, including the briefing on tribal
46 consultation, this is in our book.
47
48 (No comments)
49
50 MS. MUSHOVIC: Sue did that.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Sue did
2 that, that's right.

3
4 The next thing on the agenda is -- is
5 there anything -- any reports from the native
6 corporations.

7
8 MR. DUPUIS: Madame Chair, members of the
9 Council. I'd like to introduce myself, I'm Aaron Dupuis,
10 I am the new partner's program fisheries biologist for
11 Tanana Chiefs Conference. I'd also like to make the
12 Council aware of this and members of the public that we
13 have a new wildlife and parks director, his name is
14 Orville Huntington. He's a great guy to work with and
15 I'm sure most of you all already know him. So just want
16 to let everybody know that.

17
18 So in brief the current projects this
19 past year that TCC has been involved with are a
20 subsistence net exchange program, Yukon River subsistence
21 catch sampling program in the Henshaw Creek where --
22 which is on the upper Koyukuk River. The subsistence net
23 exchange was in response to the recent mesh size
24 regulation changes on the Yukon River. We worked with
25 Pacific States Marine Fisheries on this and we were able
26 to exchange approximately 600 nets with local subsistence
27 fishers within TCC's region. So we were able to get a
28 whole bunch of six inch and seven and a half inch nets
29 out to folks who needed them. And yeah, we were really
30 happy with that. This wasn't a perfect program by any
31 means, but I think we did an excellent job doing that
32 because nothing like this has been done before by TCC.
33 So we're pretty proud of our involvement with that. And
34 oh, yeah, in case everybody's wondering, the old nets
35 that came in, they're going to be recycled down in
36 Washington so they're not just going to end up in a
37 landfill somewhere. So they're going to be put to good
38 use elsewhere.

39
40 The next thing was the subsistence catch
41 sampling and that was important for characterizing the
42 subsistence catch of chinook Salmon the Yukon River. And
43 we worked with 16 fishers from about nine villages with
44 Tanana Chiefs region and we were able to get ASL or age,
45 sex and length and girth measurements and genetic
46 information from approximately 1,800 chinook salmon
47 within TCC's region on the Yukon River.

48
49 The next project was the Henshaw Creek
50 weir and that's what I was responsible for. We operated

1 that weir since 2008 and we also partnered with the U.S.
2 Fish and Wildlife Service and the Canadian National
3 Wildlife Refuge and the village of Alakanuk for that
4 project. And this is the only upper Koyukuk River
5 drainage escapement assessment project.

6
7 And this year we had a record number of
8 summer chum return, about 250,000 and a record number of
9 Chinook salmon return to Henshaw creek about 1,700
10 chinook salmon. And then personally really interested to
11 see -- oh, to go through the age, sex and length data
12 just to see anything is different given the mesh size
13 restriction on the Yukon River. So when I get those data
14 back I'll be analyzing it and I'm really excited about
15 that.

16
17 And finally the next thing that, I guess,
18 I'm really excited about is the future for TCC's
19 fisheries program. We wish to continue the subsistence
20 harvest sampling into the future, we feel that it's a
21 very important project for our region and the resource.
22 And we're also looking at continuing the Henshaw Creek
23 weir project. And we also have another one going on, the
24 sheefish population structure project on the Alatna
25 River.

26
27 And finally one thing that we've been
28 working on, and this is still in the developing stages
29 right now, but we're looking at partnering with the
30 University of Alaska's School and Fisheries Ocean
31 Sciences to create some sort of an educational and
32 research centered field station on the Yukon River,
33 somewhere on the Yukon River within Tanana Chief's
34 region. And we're still going through some of the
35 initial discussions on that, but hopefully we'll get
36 something hammered out on future steps that we can take
37 with a project like that.

38
39 So are there any questions from the
40 Council.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council,
43 questions.

44
45 Virgil.

46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR: When will you have your
48 report out on the ASL data on Henshaw Creek on those
49 1,700 chinook?

50

1 MR. DUPUIS: Hopefully sooner rather than
2 later. I'm aiming to have that done by the end of the
3 year. I'm still waiting on the ASL samples to come back
4 from the Department of Fish and Game laboratory. And so
5 once those come back it should be pretty quick.

6
7 MR. UMPHENOUR: And what percent did you
8 sample?

9
10 MR. DUPUIS: Let's see, I think out of
11 the entire chinook coming back to Henshaw Creek we got
12 about 30 percent of the returning fish.

13
14 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew or Andy,
17 I'm sorry.

18
19 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.
20 When that report is available or when you get those
21 results could you please make sure that that's forward to
22 me, email, whether it be through KJ or I believe you have
23 my email, but I'd be really interested in looking at it.
24 And I'm just looking at Virgil saying, I'll bet he'd like
25 a copy of it too.

26
27 And I just wanted to offer my support for
28 the long term ASL in the communities, I think that's
29 absolutely essential for us to have long term monitoring
30 programs in place. So I really -- I think the RAC has
31 always supported that, but I can't stress enough these
32 long term data sets and what it does for us in the future
33 when we're working on fisheries issues. And I commend
34 TCC for taking that on, I know it's a lot of
35 coordination, but it's also building capacity within the
36 communities and fostering stewardship and that's what
37 needs to happen on the Alaska side here.

38
39 Thank you.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
42 questions.

43
44 Andrew.

45
46 MR. FIRMIN: Mr. Dupuis, do you know if
47 Mr. Huntington put in his resume for the Federal
48 Subsistence Board at all?

49
50 MR. DUPUIS: I'm not aware of that at

1 this moment.
2
3 MR. FIRMIN: Well, make sure you tell him
4 he's only got two weeks left.
5
6 MR. DUPUIS: I'll forward that on to him.
7 Thank you.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
10 other questions.
11
12 (No comments)
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
15 Thank you.
16
17 MR. DUPUIS: Thank you.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Next is the
20 Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Is there any
21 reports?
22
23 MR. GROSS: Thank you, Mr. Chair [sic].
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm not a
26 mister. Are.....
27
28 MR. GROSS: There were just a couple
29 things I had.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you hear
32 yourself call me Mister?
33
34 (Laughter)
35
36 MR. GROSS: Did I?
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's great,
39 Jeff. Go ahead.
40
41 MR. GROSS: I don't know what to say.
42
43 (Laughter)
44
45 MR. GROSS: So, Mr. Chair [sic].....
46
47 (Laughter)
48
49 MR. GROSS:I just had a couple
50 quick things. I just wanted to remind the members that

1 the presentation on the Forty-Mile male caribou harvest
2 plan that I gave the prior or yesterday, I think it was,
3 I guess what we'd like to ask is that should the plan not
4 change that perhaps you could make a motion here to
5 recommend to the Board to endorse the plan. If there is
6 some kind of substantial change at that point it -- we'd
7 probably contact you, Sue, and see if we can arrange a
8 teleconference with the RAC to discuss those changes and
9 then make a recommendation. But as of now I don't think
10 we foresee any major changes to the plan. There's
11 probably going to be a few more edits. It's out for
12 public review right now.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you're
15 asking for our support?

16 MR. GROSS: I am asking for your support,
17 yeah.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. No
20 problem. I think that would be an easy one because
21 what.....

22
23 Joe, what's this.....

24
25 MR. MATESI: As long as there's some
26 money.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Why.

29
30 (Laughter)

31
32 MR. GLANZ: I'd like to make a motion we
33 support the Forty-Mile management plan.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

36
37 MR. FIRMIN: Second.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: If -- yeah, I
40 hear the second, but
41 just to clarify. As long as there aren't any changes,
42 we're supporting what's currently out there. Discussion.

43
44 And I think it goes without saying,
45 doesn't it, Bill, that we've been working as a group with
46 the plan and did you have something to add, Bill?

47
48 MR. GLANZ: No, this is the 2012 to 2018
49 plan is what I'm endorsing.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
2
3 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, Madame Chair, we have
4 -- I'm sorry.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I saw you, you
7 would like to speak.
8
9 Andy, go ahead.
10
11 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12 I just wanted to remind you, I know that you've tried to
13 participate and have participated and we also have three
14 Eastern RAC members that are sitting in on that coalition
15 anyway so we're very well informed as far as the Eastern
16 RAC goes to any changes that would take place if there
17 were some.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I believe
20 the third one is Donald because he was -- and did I
21 understand Donald will not be able to go to the 30th,
22 December 1st one. I might be able to do that so we can
23 talk about that later, I think.
24
25 Okay. Anymore discussion on supporting
26 the plan.
27
28 (No comments)
29
30 MR. BASSICH: Question.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
33 been called for. All in favor.
34
35 IN UNISON: Aye.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
38
39 (No comments)
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I knew that was
42 easy, we like the slam dunk ones.
43
44 MR. GLANZ: I wish they'd be all that
45 easy.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, okay.
48 Fish and Game, do you have other things?
49
50 MR. GROSS: Madame Chair. The other two

1 things that I was going to draw your attention to as well
2 is Proposal 192 is a sister proposal to the Federal
3 proposal for the Forty-Mile.

4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And we were
6 trying to find that one.

7
8 MR. GROSS: Correct.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

11
12 MR. GROSS: For the Forty-Mile plan to
13 work that proposal's going to need to pass through the
14 Board of Game.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

17
18 MR. GROSS: And.....

19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 142 is it?

21
22 MR. GROSS: 192.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 192.

25
26 MR. GROSS: Yeah, I believe it's Page 267
27 in the Board of Game book. I don't know if you have the
28 Board of Game book, but.....

29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
31 members, do you want to take it up now it's fresh in our
32 mind that we did not -- that isn't really our proposal
33 and we didn't take up the Board of Game proposal to
34 support the Forty-Mile caribou management plan. And
35 we're just needing to support it to the Board of Game.

36
37 So do I hear a motion.

38
39 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair. A motion to
40 support 192, is that correct, proposal to the Board of
41 Game regarding the Forty-Mile harvest plan.

42
43 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that one.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Discussion.

46
47 MR. BASSICH: Just reference all the
48 previous comments in our support at our level here to the
49 Federal Subsistence Board.

50

1 Thank you, Madame Chair.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: To the Board of
4 Game.
5
6 MR. BASSICH: (Nods affirmatively)
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. Okay.
9 Anymore need for discussion.
10
11 (No comments)
12
13 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
16 been called for. All in favor say aye.
17
18 IN UNISON: Aye.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
21
22 (No opposing votes)
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That's
25 number 2. Number 3.
26
27 MR. GROSS: One final thing. Proposal --
28 Board of Game Proposal 186 which is submitted by the
29 Upper Tanana Fortymile and Slana Fish and Game Advisory
30 Committees is a sister proposal to the Nabesna Road moose
31 proposal, Federal Proposal 70 -- 73, I can't remember
32 which one it was. The -- we support it.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, the
35 Federal proposal is where we aligned the seasons on the
36 Nabesna Road. It's a sister proposal to that one.
37
38 MR. GROSS: And that particular.....
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we passed it
41 on the Federal side and this is the companion proposal on
42 the State side. And that was Proposal number?
43
44 MR. GLANZ: 186.
45
46 MR. GROSS: 186.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 186.
49
50 MR. GROSS: And that particular proposal

1 just to summarize, aligns.....
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
4
5 MR. GROSS:season dates.....
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We understand.
8
9 MR. GROSS:and calls for a 50 inch,
10 four brow tine.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 180 -- why do
13 throw that in there when we know what we're talking
14 about.
15
16 Joe.
17
18 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair, I move that we
19 support Proposal 186 to the Board of Game.
20
21 MR. GLANZ: Second.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Discussion on
24 Proposal 186 to the Board of Game is a companion
25 proposal, it's worded -- that means the same as what
26 we've already passed on the Federal side.
27
28 (No comments)
29
30 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
33 been called for. All in favor say aye.
34
35 IN UNISON: Aye.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anyone
38 opposed.
39
40 (No opposing votes)
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Good. We got
43 through that.
44
45 MR. GROSS: That's all I have, Madame
46 Chair. I think -- think.....
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did I see some
49 more Fish and Game?
50

1 A question of Jeff.
2
3 MR. BASSICH: Jeff, where were you
4 yesterday when we were struggling through all these other
5 ones. We just did in the last five minutes than we did
6 half of the day yesterday.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's because
9 we already struggled through them.
10
11 Okay. Go ahead.
12
13 MS. BROWN: Thank you, Madame Chair. My
14 name is Caroline Brown, I'm subsistence resource
15 specialist for the Interior and Yukon River. I work for
16 the Subsistence Division at Fish and Game.
17
18 I just had two things to go over with
19 you. There are -- you should have two handouts, one
20 looks like this, the Interior Alaska subsistence update.
21 Most of you know that one of our primary roles in the
22 Division is to collect data on subsistence harvests of
23 all subsistence resources by community and produce
24 community estimates of that use. And so on the backside
25 of that handout you'll see a map. Over the next several
26 years we are -- we'll be contacting the communities
27 listed here to do comprehensive subsistence surveys in
28 those communities. And it's particularly relevant for
29 this RAC given that many of the communities are
30 communities represented by this RAC.
31
32 The methods for this work will be
33 standard -- our standard Divisional methods for
34 collecting data that we've -- that have been in place
35 since we began so it's a pretty straightforward project.
36 And I'd be happy to answer any questions about them to
37 the extent of my ability since I'm not the project
38 coordinator on this, but any questions I can't answer I
39 can certainly take back to the project coordinator.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
42 members, any questions.
43
44 (No comments)
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I have one. I
47 was interviewed in a household survey in my area and it
48 was in cooperation with Fish and Game and the Park
49 Service, the Wrangell-St. Elias.....
50

1 MS. BROWN: Okay.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:and I
4 really had heartburn with the questions asked because
5 they would only ask what you harvested that year and they
6 would not map out anything that you'd done in the past.
7 So if subsistence is long term use why are we bringing
8 data before Boards that could eliminate the data of past
9 use which is long term, consistent pattern of use. How
10 do you show that in one year?

11

12 MS. BROWN: That's a good question,
13 Madame Chair. When we collect this data we have to put
14 side bars on -- we couldn't very well come into your
15 house and say tell me all the berries you've collected
16 over your life, that would be hard to do.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But you could
19 ask me where have you collected berries.

20

21 MS. BROWN: Absolutely. And as part of
22 these -- I'm not familiar with the particular project
23 that you were involved in because if it was involved with
24 Wrangell-St. Elias it would have been out of our southern
25 region office. However when we do these in the northern
26 region out of the Fairbanks office it is standard for us
27 to collect -- we collect harvest data for a 12 month
28 period and then if you briefly just look at the front
29 page of that, we do map harvest locations for that year
30 and then also this project contains a second data set
31 that we'll collect, but we'll be doing key respondents
32 with primary subsistence harvesters and that would
33 collect contextual information for lifetime use or
34 significant use and which would also include maps that
35 exceed just the one year.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That did not
38 happen in this survey and it was a Fish and Game based
39 survey -- based on surveys they've always done in the
40 past. And I find that what can -- what happens when I
41 hear reports come before these Councils or before any
42 entity you can actually come up with something that's a
43 subsistence report and then they report well, they only
44 did this and this is them applying for this one year and
45 they don't use it so bye-bye. And I had a lot of
46 heartburn with that and so did the people that were being
47 surveyed that I helped because I was asked to help
48 survey. But it was a Fish and Game survey and it was
49 based on the way they've always done it in the past. And
50 our communities were surveyed in '83 and '87 and my

1 household was surveyed the same way.

2

3 MS. BROWN: I can certainly take your
4 concerns back to the southern office. What I will say
5 though is that having collected some of this data in the
6 past and use it say, for example, in a Board of Game or
7 Board of Fish setting, we don't just present data from
8 one year, we present data from every year we have it
9 whether or not it was a comprehensive baseline. So if
10 the information from your community was used in a Board
11 setting or any purpose for which we use public
12 information like that, it would have been combined with
13 the surveys that were done in previous years. And so it
14 should have represented a greater use.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But
17 unfortunately I've seen at meetings just currently that
18 it's being used as one year and it's been presented that
19 way and it can be misleading for the -- what's really
20 going on.

21

22 MS. BROWN: I -- most of our maps do
23 create or do include a caveat as well that says that this
24 is just for that year and it cannot represent the entire
25 community's use over time because it is just one year of
26 data. So the reports have those caveats in them and any
27 presentation of that data should also -- any oral
28 presentation should also include those caveats. But I
29 will certainly take your concerns back.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
32 Council members, any questions.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

37

38 MS. BROWN: Thank you, Madame Chair. The
39 second handout is a preliminary summary on a research
40 project that we've been working on on the Yukon -- the
41 2009 Yukon salmon disaster declaration. We were asked by
42 the legislature to put together a project looking at the
43 socioeconomic affects of the 2009 disaster year for
44 chinook salmon on the Yukon. And the goal was
45 understanding the socioeconomic affects that the recent
46 changes in the Yukon salmon fishery had had on fishing
47 communities and how these changes have influenced fishing
48 patters and priorities. We have some specific objectives
49 in this research and that included recording data on deer
50 tags used in different parts of the drainage, documenting

1 subsistence salmon fishing locations identified -- as
2 this would be over time, identifying patterns of
3 commercial and customary trade activities, documenting
4 affects of the disaster on the social organization of
5 fishing activities and looking at the reasonable
6 opportunities for customary and traditional use and
7 traditional uses of chinook salmon.

8

9 We worked in five communities that
10 stretched the length of the drainage. Starting in
11 downriver we worked in Emmonak, then Marshall, Nulato,
12 Beaver and Eagle. Our -- I don't want to get into a
13 lengthy discussion of the methods although I'd be happy
14 to answer questions about them, it was primarily an
15 ethnographic project where we worked -- we did lengthy
16 key respondent interviews with knowledgeable fishermen
17 from those communities. There was also a smaller
18 component of that project that involved a survey on
19 customary trade which is something you guys have been
20 talking about quite a bit today.

21

22 I have to say that as the PI on that
23 project I have extreme reservations about that data
24 because when we tried to do this, launch this project, it
25 was -- it happened simultaneously to a Federal
26 investigation on customary trade so you can imagine that
27 people were somewhat resistant to talk about it. As a
28 result we did not specifically ask -- we asked people if
29 they were involved in customary trade and barter. We did
30 not ask to collect information on specific exchanges or
31 monetary value of specific exchanges because that would
32 have shut it down immediately. What we were able to do
33 however was to collect some of this information and to
34 have a much broader discussion in the ethnographic
35 context about customary trade which I'm -- my colleague,
36 Juroco Cuda (ph) and I will be writing up over the next
37 couple of months and I hope that it will be useful to the
38 RAC in terms of understanding the types and kinds of
39 customary trade that happen along the river, some of
40 which you've heard about today, and to clarify some of
41 the concerns and some of the practices of customary trade
42 all along the river.

43

44 So we did -- as I mentioned we did
45 conduct ethnographic interviews in those five
46 communities, we conducted 52 interviews. And in four of
47 the five communities we conducted 172 surveys. The
48 village of Nulato declined to participate in the
49 customary trade survey because of the Federal
50 investigation.

1 On the back you'll see that there are
2 some preliminary results. I would caution you that these
3 are extremely preliminary. All of the data has not been
4 reviewed and analyzed, but I didn't want to come to you
5 and say there's preliminary results, but I'm not going to
6 give you any idea of what they are. So this is extremely
7 preliminary, future analysis and review might change some
8 of these or alter some of these, but there are some
9 general trends about what people all along the river were
10 experiencing and then there was some regional differences
11 that we're trying to point out. And then, of course,
12 there's some information coming out of this survey again
13 with my caution about the reliability of that information
14 about people -- about how many people are participating
15 in customary trade practices and barter practices.

16
17 But all that to say that something that
18 we all probably know which is that Yukon River salmon,
19 especially chinook, is extremely valued on this river and
20 a critical part of the subsistence economy. We hope to
21 have this report available for review by the end of the
22 calendar year and we'll be sending it back to all of the
23 communities that participated as well as the RACs and
24 especially the TRI-RAC group that's been working on
25 customary trade and anybody else who's interested in
26 reviewing the draft.

27
28 But I'd be happy to try to answer any
29 questions at this preliminary stage of analysis.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
32 members, questions.

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

37
38 MS. BROWN: Thank you.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

41
42 (Off record comments)

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's time for
45 a break. Let's go for 10 minutes.

46
47 (Off record)

48
49 (On record)

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Fish and Game
2 and something had slipped through the cracks on another
3 one.
4
5 Yeah, go ahead, Jennifer.
6
7 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hello, quiet in
10 back.
11
12 (Pause)
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. Go
15 ahead, Jennifer.
16
17 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
18 I'll be succinct I just did want to put a few things on
19 the record, too.
20
21 I'd like to thank the RAC for the last
22 few days of meetings and for keeping things respectful.
23 You're dealing with several different agencies and a
24 Department here all with different missions and
25 parameters that are set by statute and regulation for
26 which we can answer questions. And, you know, for the
27 Department, a lot of the questions before us have to be
28 filtered through those legal documents. We have ANILCA,
29 the Constitution, the statutes and regulations and that
30 dictates our answer on many questions.
31
32 So I just wanted to thank everyone for
33 keeping things respectful and professional as we're
34 dealing with a lot of really passionate issues that
35 affect real people in real ways and sometimes we can't
36 all come to the same conclusion on how to answer that
37 question.
38
39 I know it was very difficult yesterday to
40 listen to some of the testimony for some of the people
41 who are being affected in very negative ways and know
42 that, while I come to these meetings I represent the
43 State of Alaska and most of the questions within our
44 regulatory boundary are for Fish and Game, but a lot of
45 the testimony yesterday centered around some real
46 disrespect and trespass issues, which is not something
47 that Fish and Game deals with, and I'm hoping that some
48 of you, in your discussions with some of these real
49 people who testified yesterday might be able to lead them
50 to some of the other ways the State could help them, you

1 know, the Citizen's Advisory Council on Federal areas is
2 probably a good avenue for some of these trespass issues.
3 Fish and Game doesn't deal with trespass so the question
4 before you is to regulate hunting and fishing in an
5 effort to maybe keep some of the people when it's really
6 the people that are the problem when we don't have a
7 conservation issue.

8

9 I'm hoping that maybe we can all work
10 together to find some solutions for these folks in some
11 of our private discussions because they can't always be
12 solved through some of these regulatory questions.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, thank
15 you, Jennifer. I think a lot of people might not be
16 aware of that Citizen's Advisory Committee on Federal
17 lands that the State has. It's a huge committee, how
18 many people are on it?

19

20 MS. YUHAS: I believe that the Council
21 has -- or the Commission has nine members. But Stan
22 Lepard as the contact within DNR, he's the executive
23 director. His job is to represent the citizens of Alaska
24 in their dealings with Federal areas. That doesn't
25 always mean it has to be a conflict with a Federal land
26 manager. In this instance it sounds like it's other
27 Alaska citizens who might not understand, or may
28 understand, it's debatable, when they're traveling to an
29 area to hunt or fish, where some of the private land is
30 and so there may be an avenue through Department of
31 Natural Resources. And some of these other things that
32 we've been discussing, you know, the DEC is involved when
33 we're talking about some of the customary trade and the
34 food products. Or DCCED when we're talking about
35 licensing. And so they can't always be solved through
36 the parameters that are set before this body for setting
37 regulations because it's not even within your
38 jurisdiction.

39

40 But as people, who are concerned for our
41 neighbors and the other people who live in Alaska, you
42 know, we can talk to them outside of these meetings about
43 what their other avenues might be to pursue and we can
44 hopefully help them find a way to resolve some of these
45 issues.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, well,
48 thank you. I remember when the State of Alaska voted to
49 have that watchdog committee on the Feds, that's been, I
50 think -- I don't remember what year it was, but it was

1 either after the Antiquities Act or ANILCA. But, yeah,
2 that was actually -- it wasn't in -- for awhile it worked
3 really great right away and then it kind of died and then
4 came back, so it's back and they're still meeting. So
5 that's great to hear.

6

7 Any more questions here.

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
12 Jennifer. And then when I called the Yukon River post-
13 season reports, it was Fish and Wildlife Service, ADF&G
14 and YRDFA, and YRDFA -- what's her name?

15

16 MS. MUSHOVIC: Jill Klein.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jill Klein had
19 requested that Stan bring the report forth and he
20 promised me that it was going to be short.

21

22 Okay, Stan.

23

24 MR. ZURAY: Yep, want to get this
25 overwith.

26

27 Okay, so there's a paper that was passed
28 out to everybody and on it is -- and I'm just going to
29 read the heading, there's information about
30 teleconferences that we do. Salmon bycatch information
31 that Becca at YRDFA does. The YRDFA/U.S. Fish and
32 Wildlife Service in-season subsistence monitoring project
33 that we do. And our habitat assessment that we do.
34 Educational exchange we run. And then information about
35 the salmon in the Yukon Territory.

36

37 And the main thing and I'll just read one
38 paragraph of it that Jill wanted me to make sure
39 everybody knows about and also there is a request that
40 the RAC elect a member for this working group; but it's
41 the Yukon River King Salmon Management Plan. It's a plan
42 that we're trying to develop. And it says here:
43 Initiate by resolution from the riverwide YRDFA Board of
44 Directors, YRDFA is launching a two year project to
45 develop a unified conservation plan to address the low
46 chinook salmon runs to the Yukon River. At the core of
47 this process will be a working group of stakeholders,
48 agencies and other experts. With the group's blessing a
49 proposal could be submitted this April 2012 and then this
50 plan will be presented to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

1 at its next AYK meeting, most likely in January of 2013.

2

3 And like I say, there'll be a lot of
4 other groups being asked to elect a representative for
5 this working group and you are being asked that also.

6

7 And that is my report.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That was good,
10 thank you. All right, so that's going to be an action
11 item later. I list -- I put at the end here all the
12 meetings and representatives that we need to appoint and
13 that is one, YRDFA rep, okay.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 MR. ZURAY: Thank you.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Now, it's BLM.

20

21 MS. GRONQUIST: Madame Chair. Members of
22 the Council. I'm Ruth Gronquist with the Bureau of Land
23 Management here in Fairbanks, Alaska.

24

25 And I just wanted to briefly say, I think
26 most of you know, that BLM continues to support the
27 habitat -- or excuse me, the harvest management planning
28 efforts that are going on for the Fortymile as well as
29 continuing to partner with the Alaska Department of Fish
30 and Game on collecting population data for the herd,
31 which helps us in many ways in what we term, in-season
32 management for the Fortymile Herd.

33

34 We're also hopeful that this year we'll
35 be able to continue a caribou habitat assessment project
36 that we did some initial groundwork on this summer
37 looking at the conditions of the caribou habitat,
38 primarily in the Steese National Conservation area.

39

40 The GPS collars that we funded and were
41 put on the Fortymile Herd by Fish and Game last year will
42 be really helpful in this project and I think as Geoff
43 would echo have been extremely helpful with our hunt
44 management this past year.

45

46 So I'm basically here to offer any
47 answers I might have to questions and throughout the last
48 two and a half days help you wherever you needed it. So
49 I will hand the mic back to you folks.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions
2 of Ruth.
3
4 Andy.
5
6 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you, Ruth. In
7 regards to the Fortymile harvest plan and your interest
8 in the area, the Steese Highway area, I'm just wondering,
9 is there any studies going on in that area of the
10 effects, long-range effects of fire on high level habitat
11 for caribou? I've been trying to find information on
12 that for a couple years and I haven't been real
13 successful but I would really like to see some
14 information on regenerative timeframes for high altitude
15 fires -- high elevation I should say.
16
17 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, high elevation.
18
19 MS. GRONQUIST: Yeah, Andy, that actually
20 is one of the -- I should have mentioned that, that's
21 kind of the focus of this project, would be looking at
22 areas that have burned in the past and will also be
23 revisiting some plots that were set up in 2001 and
24 possibly even some that were set up before and so that
25 will be a real focus of this project.
26
27 Now, there has been work similar to that
28 done in northern Game Management Unit 12, maybe southern
29 Game Management Unit 20E on habitat use by Nelchina
30 Caribou Herd after fires and that might be of interest to
31 you. I have some of those references if you do not.
32
33 MR. BASSICH: I'd love them, thank you.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone else,
36 questions.
37
38 (No comments)
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thanks,
41 Ruth.
42
43 MS. GRONQUIST: Thank you.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Next is
46 Fish and Wildlife Service, Arctic Refuge.
47
48 Long wait, uh, Vince.
49
50 MR. MATHEWS: Thank you. Vince Mathews,

1 subsistence coordinator for Arctic, Kanuti and Yukon
2 Flats.

3
4 You already have a handout in front of
5 you, which is just a brief update on the Comprehensive
6 Conservation Plan for Arctic. And basically that plan is
7 to update the plan, the earlier plan completed in 1998
8 and it incorporates new information and changes in laws,
9 policies and Refuge conditions that have concurred since
10 the -- occurred, I should say, since 1998.

11
12 The key thing to focus on there is that
13 public comments must be received by November 15th.

14
15 On the bottom in the yellow box are the
16 upcoming meeting dates. Obviously they just finished
17 Arctic Village October 4th, so the Fairbanks public
18 hearing is October 19th, Kaktovik the 25th of October and
19 Ft. Yukon on October 28th.

20
21 So if you have any questions on the
22 Comprehensive Plan, CCP for Arctic, I can carry those
23 back to the office.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe.

26
27 MR. MATESEI: I have maybe a quick
28 question for Vince right now.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

31
32 MR. MATESEI: Let's see, subsistence is
33 the issue here, so, okay, the CCP, I see that there is
34 several alternatives and some of the alternatives call
35 for consideration of wilderness designations for a number
36 of areas.

37
38 And so the change would be from minimal
39 management to wilderness designation of the Wilderness
40 Act, can you summarize, briefly, what effect that would
41 have on subsistence use if an area makes that change in
42 management?

43
44 MR. MATHEWS: That one I'll have to get
45 back to you on. Richard gave me a briefing on that but
46 I wanted to do some more work on it to get it correct.
47 But his basic statement to me would be there would be no
48 change, but I need to look into that further from, what
49 you mentioned, from minimum management to wilderness.
50 Because of the purpose of the Refuge -- well, because of

1 the purpose of ANILCA and the mission of the Refuge, it
2 probably would not change but I'll have to look further
3 into that. And that would be on that chart that you've
4 looked at in the CCP, the different alternatives and then
5 the different, I think, they're called goals. So I can
6 get back to you on that, because that is an important
7 topic for this group.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
10 questions of Vince.

11
12 (No comments)

13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I just have a
15 question of the Council, since this is a November 15th
16 deadline of comments, has anyone considered that the
17 Council would put forth any comments?

18
19 (No comments)

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I always see
22 this as an action item, if you want to do something.

23
24 (No comments)

25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, it could
27 be because we would put comments in by this November 15th
28 deadline.

29
30 Yes, go ahead.

31
32 MR. MATESI: That's a pretty tall order,
33 especially at the end of a three day meeting. I can't
34 imagine us quickly coming up with a consensus position on
35 -- have you seen the draft -- the CCP, it's two thick
36 volumes?

37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I went
39 through the Wrangell.....

40
41 MR. MATESI: Yeah.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:ORV
44 Nabesna Road.

45
46 MR. MATESI: Yeah. If, anything, maybe
47 we would want to consider a subcommittee but then we'd
48 have to get back to the rest of the committee. I don't
49 know.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is there any
2 interest in it?
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I see that it's
7 overwhelming.
8
9 Andrew.
10
11 MR. FIRMIN: Joe and I discussed the
12 possibility of just picking a preferred alternative and
13 just submitting that to the RAC but we couldn't come up
14 with one quick enough in the last few evenings. That was
15 one of the other things, because like he said it is quite
16 a lot to wrap your head around, and I've been reading
17 parts of it at work over the past few weeks and it's --
18 I haven't come to a conclusion of which one I think is
19 the best so I'm kind of at a standstill right now.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I see there's
22 a meeting in Ft. Yukon so I bet you'll have lots of
23 questions there. Yeah. Yeah, I mean this process, EIS'
24 are pretty big.
25
26 Okay.
27
28 I guess we're not willing -- or we don't
29 have enough time to deal with it.
30
31 Okay. Anything else on reports, Vince?
32
33 MR. MATHEWS: No, that's it for Arctic.
34 As you can tell, those that have talked to the Refuge
35 Staff for Arctic, that they're just working really hard
36 on that CCP and that's taking up all of their time.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right, any
39 other questions of Vince?
40
41 (No comments)
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you. Oh,
44 go ahead, Vince, Paul -- Paul's raising his hand, is that
45 a public testimony, Paul, what's up?
46
47 MR. P. WILLIAMS: No, I just had a
48 question on the area pertaining to the CCP.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Could you talk

1 to Vince about that?
2
3 MR. P. WILLIAMS: (Nods affirmatively)
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, okay,
6 thank you.
7
8 Yukon Flats. You're done with that, too,
9 Vince.
10
11 MR. JESS: No, ma'am. Vince, Jr.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, it's a
14 different -- I have Vince on my report here, sorry.
15
16 (Laughter)
17
18 MR. JESS: Vince, Jr., here.
19
20 (Laughter)
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.
23
24 MR. JESS: Robert Jess, Refuge Manager
25 for Yukon Flats Refuge. Madame Chair.
26
27 We've given you a handout. And the only
28 thing relative -- two things relative to subsistence is
29 just that because of significant budget cuts we have not
30 been able to hire our two RITs that have been out --
31 supposed to be out in either villages of Beaver or Ft.
32 Yukon, either or, or both. But we are utilizing a law
33 enforcement officer for outreach, that's Mimi Thomas, and
34 she is from the village of Ft. Yukon, she's also our law
35 enforcement, full-time law enforcement officer and we're
36 utilizing her in that capacity as an RIT, in a sense,
37 where she's doing outreach. Keeping us in communica
38 relative to the villages and what's going and then also
39 doing law enforcement up and down the river.
40
41 The second thing is relative to CCPs,
42 Yukon Flats is due to start their CCP in October of 2012,
43 and that should be when Arctic's CCP is completed, we
44 will begin ours. And we're going to try to keep the RAC
45 a little more engaged in it, with minimal paperwork, we
46 understand the volume that you all face as far as issues
47 and also we'll try to do that through Andrew, if that
48 works out for the committee.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sounds great.

1 MR. JESS: And that's my report.....
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anything
4 else.....
5
6 MR. JESS:in a nutshell.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anything else
9 -- that's your report. All right, any questions.
10
11 (Laughter)
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You have one,
14 it's okay, Joe, you can ask a question. Go ahead.
15
16 MR. MATESI: Thank you, Madame Chair.
17 Mr. Jess, I understand that the Athabaskan Language
18 Placename Study has just recently been -- for the Yukon
19 Flats, has just recently been completed and published.
20 Is there somehow that the Refuge will be making that
21 available to the communities and to the public and if so,
22 how?
23
24 MR. JESS: Yeah, you're right, the study
25 has been completed and we hope to be able to get out this
26 winter and be able to distribute that out as much as we
27 can. Again, we're -- the Federal system is under
28 tremendous cuts right now, we're looking at a five
29 percent budget cut and we're shooting ourselves in the
30 foot in a lot of ways because what that does, is the only
31 flexibility where we have right now is fuel, plane use
32 and biological projects. We want to continue the
33 baseline biological projects on the ground because that
34 helps you all, especially, Mark and I looked at our
35 projects and realized over 90 percent of our projects are
36 baseline studies that can be used by the RAC and other
37 committees for baseline information; wolf, bears, moose
38 populations, vegetation density, et cetera. So that
39 limits us, where we've got to hit cuts, is being able to
40 go out to the villages. So we're shooting ourselves in
41 the foot and we're trying to figure out alternative ways
42 to get out there and be out there more, but, frankly
43 budgets are going to really nip us.
44
45 MR. MATESI: I actually have a suggestion
46 to that Mr. Jess. I believe that report is something
47 with maps and all that you could make available on your
48 web site.
49
50 MR. JESS: Thank you, Joe. We'll do

1 that. That's a good idea.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
4 questions.

5

6 MR. FIRMIN: I have one.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

9

10 MR. FIRMIN: What other type of
11 biological projects do you got going on besides wolf,
12 bear and moose, do you have any new ones or any old ones
13 that are closing out?

14

15 MR. JESS: Well, we decided not to do
16 moose surveys this fall but it looks like the State is
17 looking at 25D East and I think you're involved with that
18 Andrew. And so we will probably help fund that through
19 fuel as a support, to partner.

20

21 The other thing that we're doing is that
22 there's been issues on potential impacts, future impacts
23 relative to BLM lands, so we're looking at putting water
24 quality data studies or assessments on Beaver Creek to
25 get baseline water quality data there and then also on
26 Chandalar Lake. You know it looks like a gold mine
27 operation is ramping up there, and so on the Chandalar
28 we're working with the fisheries -- Fish and Wildlife
29 Service field office, the Chandalar sonar camp, we're
30 getting water quality data there as well as a baseline.
31 And it's potential impact to the Refuge but it's more to
32 the villages and we feel it's the right thing to do, we
33 have people there already, it's actually free and easy
34 since we have the equipment, they have the field
35 personnel and we feel like it's important to just to go
36 ahead and get that done. So I think we're on our second
37 year now on the Chandalar as far as water quality
38 assessment.

39

40 MR. FIRMIN: Okay, thank you.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
43 questions.

44

45 Virgil.

46

47 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. The study over
48 near Beaver of the wolves and how many moose they're
49 eating, are you continuing that one?

50

1 MR. JESS: That one, Virgil, I think we
2 are pretty well done with that. The collars, the wolves
3 have either dropped, died or chewed off most of the
4 collars, and they were short-term collars, so that one --
5 we've gotten the preliminary data in. Bryce Lake of our
6 Staff is doing the final assessment on that and the
7 report should be done, if not near done.

8

9 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm frantically
12 searching for a piece of paper where I read something and
13 I wanted to ask you a question about, but maybe I can go
14 by memory.

15

16 On that moose management plan for the
17 Yukon Flats, I thought I read somewhere and it might have
18 been in Cari Stevens report from your last meeting in
19 Venetie, that that -- there has been a moose management
20 plan in the Yukon Flats area for 10 years, and the report
21 that I read that she said that there's been no increase
22 in moose, and I can see that as a frustration, and you
23 guys didn't attend the last meeting, so the government or
24 the State was not involved, what's going -- I mean why is
25 there -- you're involved for 10 years and then there was
26 a meeting that you weren't involved.

27

28 MR. JESS: Well, as Mark Bertram, the
29 senior biologist for the Refuge had stated earlier,
30 Madame Chair, that a date was set by CATG, both the
31 State, during that time, and the Feds, we could not make
32 that date. We had obligations. I don't know what the
33 State's were, but they had surveys they were doing and we
34 had the same issue, either get the surveys done or attend
35 the meeting and we just could not attend it. We tried to
36 get alternative dates with CATG to work with that, but
37 they were set in stone and so in talking with Cari
38 Stevens, they opted to go ahead and continue on. So.....

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I knew
41 that. I guess I should go back to, you know, isn't it
42 odd that 10 years working on a moose management plan, all
43 the funding, you get people together and everything and,
44 yet, there's no increase in the moose population, that's
45 what kind of hit me with a red flag.

46

47 MR. JESS: And that's a valid question.
48 And there's probably no valid answer. It's much like the
49 salmon issue, there's a lot of external issues that are
50 going on relative to moose as there are with salmon where

1 we're always going to have, either a little blip where it
2 goes up and a significant blip where it goes down. We
3 certainly have got good baseline documented on Flats and
4 around the villages and Doyon lands, that we've got a
5 high density of black bears, we've got a fair density of
6 brown bears, and we've got high populations of various
7 packs of wolves. And when you have that combined with
8 that three-legged stool of, you've got bears, wolves and
9 we've got significant poaching going on within the
10 villages, I'm not saying all or pointing to one, but we
11 do have a lot of cow moose that are taken illegally, and
12 when we have those three things vying up against a low
13 density moose population to begin with, we're never going
14 to get high numbers. Never going to get high numbers of
15 moose on the Flats, even though the vegetation studies
16 suggest that it's viable to hold a lot higher population
17 of moose than it currently does.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm not going
20 to take all day but I made my point.

21

22 Andrew.

23

24 MR. FIRMIN: Just to continue off that.
25 That was also the first time that we decided to have that
26 summer meeting, I think, at our last meeting you were at,
27 we tried having one every six months and that was our
28 first attempt and a lot of the outcome there was every
29 villages like long-term goals for their areas, concerning
30 fish and wildlife.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I can
33 feel their pain, that's what I'm saying.

34

35 Predator control is what it sounds like.
36 With the government it's tough, unfortunately.

37

38 Okay. Any more questions.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, let's
43 move on.

44

45 MR. JESS: Thank you.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The next is the
48 Tetlin Refuge.

49

50 MR. RISDAHL: Madame Chairman. Members

1 of the Council. I'm Greg Risdahl, the deputy manager at
2 Tetlin Wildlife Refuge. In lieu of a report, formal
3 report from the Refuge, I'd like to introduce two of our
4 new Staff that will be working closely on subsistence
5 issues in the future and you'll probably be seeing a lot
6 more of these young men.

7
8 First is Teddy Northway, he and another
9 individual from Northway Village, Sylvia Pitka, were
10 hired as RITs and they've been helping, both, at our
11 visitor center for about five to six months out of the
12 year and as well as working on all kinds of subsistence
13 issues. Both Teddy and Nate, for example, will be
14 participating in the every three year moose survey that's
15 coming up in November; they both fly and do well, so
16 we're going to put them to work doing some of that.

17
18 And I'll mention Nate Berg, he's up new
19 from, actually Yellowstone, Park Service, Forest Service?

20
21 MR. BERG: Forest Service.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There is a
24 difference.

25
26 MR. RISDAHL: And we have a lot of mutual
27 friends from down that part of the country. Nate's a
28 good hand. Of course, he hunts and traps as well. He's
29 very interested in this sort of thing so he's going to be
30 a good addition to our Staff at the Refuge.

31
32 And the last thing that I'd like to do is
33 just let Teddy talk about one project that he's
34 participated in this spring for us, and that was in an
35 effort to get some information on the historic use of
36 Chisana caribou by elders of Northway and that area. So
37 I'll hand this over to Teddy for a few minutes.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Teddy, before
40 you get started I got to ask, you said they both fly, is
41 that in the back seat or the front seat?

42
43 MR. RISDAHL: They both fly in the back
44 seat.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.

47
48 MR. RISDAHL: What that means is.....

49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Teddy, I

1 didn't know you were a pilot.
2
3 MR. RISDAHL: What that means is they fit
4 and they don't get sick, they got good eye sight, they've
5 got good.....
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
8
9 MR. RISDAHL:spotting.
10
11 MR. BERG: We don't get sick.
12
13 MR. RISDAHL: We're counting on that, so
14 that's.....
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
17
18 MR. RISDAHL:what that means.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
21
22 MR. RISDAHL: Thank you.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you. Go
25 ahead, Teddy.
26
27 MR. NORTHWAY: In the TEK video
28 interviews that I've conducted, there was -- most of them
29 were talking about historic use of the Chisana Caribou
30 Herd through a trapline, going up in early spring,
31 getting up there before the water thaws out and floating
32 back down into Northway from upper Chisana area. So out
33 of 21 individuals, I interviewed seven, and three of them
34 didn't want to get video'd, and they also talked about
35 the -- most of the burial sites, the trapline through
36 trapping cabins, trading posts, all the way up into and
37 across into Canada. So most of them did have -- like my
38 grandmother, Laura John, that was born up in Chisana but
39 had a village in Scottie Creek, and most of those
40 interviews we were talking about elders that were talking
41 about their grandfather or their dad and different
42 traplines in the Chisana, Silver (ph) Creek, Cardin Hills
43 area.
44
45 And is there any more information you'd
46 like, please ask.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
49 Teddy. Any questions.
50

1 Joe.
2
3 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair, thank you.
4 Are those going to be available to the public or are
5 those privy to say, just the tribe?
6
7 MR. NORTHWAY: Yes, we have copies of the
8 interviews as I heard recently so if you'd like I could
9 get more information -- or excuse me, more videos copied
10 and that can be, and I do still have to get some of those
11 copies back to the interviewees and the Council.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Greg.
14
15 MR. RISDAHL: Madame Chair. We are
16 actually going to put together -- we have actually a
17 draft final report also from the interviews that he's
18 done and that will be available for dissemination
19 sometime this winter.
20
21 Thank you.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
24
25 MR. NORTHWAY: And so.....
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Teddy, did you
28 say, four, so out of seven you had four that would take
29 the video?
30
31 MR. NORTHWAY: The video, yes. And.....
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Video, yes,
34 okay. Go ahead.
35
36 MR. NORTHWAY: And the other set of
37 interviews I conducted was climate change and last year
38 this was a statewide RIT information through each RIT --
39 any village that had RITs we conducted interviews through
40 elders that mentioned from elders to middle age to young
41 adults and what they've seen in their lifetime and how
42 they've seen it. And I also have copies of those
43 interviews, of the seven individuals I interviewed.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions.
46
47 Andy.
48
49 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you. If I
50 could just follow up on that, is there going to be any

1 attempt to try and correlate the information of their
2 observations with their changing patterns or changing use
3 of the resource at all? Do you have any plans for any
4 further analysis or was it basically just to kind of
5 collect some TEK and some baseline?
6

7 MR. NORTHWAY: It was TEK and more so
8 information about the climate change, it was a big issue
9 last year for AFN, for -- as RITs.
10

11 MR. BASSICH: Follow up.
12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: One more
14 question.
15

16 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, just a follow up.
17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.
19

20 MR. BASSICH: Thank you. Yeah, I would
21 just really like to recommend to the Refuge that maybe
22 the pursue some of that because I think that's really
23 pertinent to the future of all management in Alaska, and
24 I think the earlier we get started on that, and it sounds
25 like you've already got kind of an early start on this,
26 and you might be able to develop a program of analysis
27 and data collection that might be mirrored around the
28 state and other places. So I think it's a really golden
29 opportunity to begin to develop something that's going to
30 be greatly needed in the future.
31

32 Thank you, Madame Chair.
33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.
35

36 MR. FIRMIN: I just had another
37 suggestion, or question, I guess, if you guys were going
38 to donate copies of your information, like to the UAF
39 archives, I know they've got extensive photos and videos
40 and oral histories on tape. I think that would be an
41 interesting addition to the archive.
42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Very good, uh-
44 huh. Did you want to respond Greg.
45

46 MR. RISDAHL: I was just going to tell
47 him that that's a great idea.
48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
50

1 MR. RISDAHL: Yeah, we hope to get copies
2 of those interviews out to whomever is interested in
3 them.

4
5 And our Refuge is what they call a land
6 management demonstration and research Refuge so we have
7 in place a number of different scientific research
8 projects as well to study the effects of climate change.
9 It's a fairly major thrust within the Fish and Wildlife
10 Service all across the United States. And it's been
11 identified as an important ecosystem to study so we've
12 been involved in that as well and there's lots of
13 different studies going on, from beetles to, you know,
14 various kinds of changes in the habitat.

15
16 Thanks.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, any other
19 questions.

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Just
24 one, did the Refuge do any of that type of video stuff
25 before Teddy started?

26
27 MR. NORTHWAY: They had voice recording
28 before any of my video, it's all pretty much voice.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did they ever
31 get Walt -- or -- yeah, Walter Northway?

32
33 MR. NORTHWAY: No, they didn't, but they
34 got an elder, my father, Teddy Northway, Sr., and other
35 elders that are still alive today and they've also
36 conducted pretty much the same answers and what they've
37 seen throughout their life and how they pursued and the
38 changes from when the -- the elders talked about simple
39 little changes that they were watching, the degrees were
40 coming up every year after year and to present.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I think
43 there's a lot of history in Northway that might have been
44 lost, Walter, and then Crystal Wilson's grandfather, I
45 don't remember his name.

46
47 MR. NORTHWAY: Oscar Albert.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. He's --
50 they said he's kind of getting.....

1 MR. NORTHWAY: Yes, he is.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:forgetful
4 and -- it's tough, yeah.
5
6 Okay.
7
8 Any other questions.
9
10 (No comments)
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
13 thanks guys.
14
15 MR. RISDAHL: Thank you.
16
17 MR. BERG: Thank you.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Good job,
20 Teddy.
21
22 Okay.
23
24 National Park Service, Yukon-Charley
25 Rivers. It's been a long wait, uh.
26
27 MS. OKADA: Madame Chair. Council
28 members. I can see I'm the newcomer amongst a lot of
29 old-timers here. My name's Marcy Okada, I'm the
30 subsistence coordinator for Yukon-Charley Rivers.
31
32 It's been good for me to see the
33 camaraderie that people have -- with people that have
34 been coming to these meetings for a long time.
35
36 A Park update has been handed out, I
37 believe it was included with your binders, it may not
38 have been in your binders but it was handed out.
39
40 As far as our biological studies go, our
41 moose surveys will continue. They'll be -- the next
42 moose survey is planned for November 2012.
43
44 There were sheep surveys that were
45 conducted and results from 2011 will be available prior
46 to the November Board of Game meeting.
47
48 Peregrine falcon studies have been
49 continuing every summer.
50

1 And I'm going through this very quickly
2 with the assumption that people have gone through the
3 update.

4
5 Lastly, wolf surveys have been ongoing
6 every year as well.

7
8 And I'm willing to answer any questions
9 that people might have.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I found my
12 report, it's this color -- yeah, okay, Yukon-Charley.

13
14 Any questions.

15
16 (No comments)

17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you. All
19 right, no questions it looks like.

20
21 MR. GLANZ: I just have a comment.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

24
25 MR. GLANZ: We're going to have the
26 Yukon-Charley, those three folks right there, and one
27 other one, Tom come into Central and see what we can iron
28 out here with all the problems that we've been -- they've
29 been escalating back and forth amongst ourselves. So
30 they're more than welcome to come to Central and I'll put
31 it all out and I'm going to have an AC meeting like prior
32 to it, so I'll have most of the community in there so
33 it'll be all right.

34
35 So look forward to you guys around 2:00
36 o'clock on the 3rd of November, will that work for you
37 guys?

38
39 *MR. DUDGEON: Thanks, Bill, we
40 appreciate it.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do you
43 have some more reports?

44
45 MR. DUDGEON: Madame Chair. I was here,
46 I think mostly at the request of Don Woodruff, who's not
47 here. I'm prepared to talk about compendium or I'm
48 prepared to do that as a side board with people who are
49 individually interested. I can do whatever you wish.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: First I'd like
2 you to introduce the other person I haven't seen before.

3

4 MR. DUDGEON: I'd be happy to do that.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

7

8 MR. DUDGEON: First let me say, I'm Greg
9 Dudgeon, the superintendent of both Gates of the Arctic
10 and Yukon-Charley Rivers. And to my left is Seth
11 McMillian, who was the acting district ranger at Yukon-
12 Charley living for, at least during the summer season,
13 for the most part in Eagle this year. So you might have
14 heard his name, but now you have a face to put with it.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So he's acting
17 now?

18

19 MR. DUDGEON: Seth was acting. He is one
20 of our pilot rangers and had been stationed in Gates of
21 the Arctic working out at Bettles for a few years now.

22

23 MR. MCMILLIAN: Tenth years.

24

25 MR. DUDGEON: Ten years, I believe. And
26 we had gone ahead and moved him over to Eagle while we
27 were in the process of determining how we will get a
28 designated leader back in Eagle under our current
29 organizational structure. As I think I heard one of our
30 sister agency representatives testify earlier, we all
31 know that budgets are not going up, if anything they're
32 going down. And so as we get leaner we are trying to
33 resolve some of those conflicts we've had in the past.
34 In part, we, as I think we explained last time, we
35 withdrew some of our Staff from Eagle in the past after
36 the flood, we really didn't want to be in competition
37 with local people for available housing. And I think
38 what in part that ended up biting us because people who
39 would be working and doing, particularly protection and
40 law enforcement contacts in the Park were not known to
41 local users and vice versa. And so by moving Seth, who
42 is somebody who had experience in the Preserve
43 previously, was a known entity, not only was Seth there
44 helping provide oversight and day to day direction for
45 law enforcement and the other programs out of Eagle, but
46 he was my primarily representative, if you will, for the
47 superintendent and also his -- one of his most important
48 roles was just serving as a liaison with the community.
49 And Seth worked with the self-selected Eagle and Eagle
50 Village working group, the subsistence working group that

1 served as an informal advisory role for me and for the
2 Park Staff.
3
4 That was a really long-winded answer. I
5 hope that answered your question.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Is he
8 going to be scheduled, I mean to live there yearround?
9
10 MR. DUDGEON: We're still trying to
11 figure that one out. The short answer is we need.....
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You don't know.
14
15 MR. DUDGEON:a designated -- well,
16 the short answer is we need a designated decisionmaker in
17 Eagle, as to who that person will be yet, we don't know
18 that, but we know we're going to have somebody there,
19 yes.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But your intent
22 is to have someone there yearround?
23
24 MR. DUDGEON: I'm sorry?
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Your intent is
27 to have someone in Eagle yearround?
28
29 MR. DUDGEON: We will have somebody in
30 Eagle.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
33 Questions. Andy, can you cover what Donald wanted to
34 cover?
35
36 MR. BASSICH: Well, Madame Chair, yeah,
37 actually I'll just talk briefly to it. I think Don
38 Woodruff had requested the superintendent to be here to
39 talk about the compendium, which is in place and really
40 in discussion with superintendent and a little bit with
41 you, I don't think really we're at the point where the
42 RAC needs to be involved other than maybe just an
43 informational about what the compendium is and how often
44 it's reviewed. I think we.....
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's good.
47 That'd be good discussion.
48
49 MR. BASSICH: Yeah.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What a
2 compendium is.
3
4 MR. BASSICH: Right. I think we should
5 maybe cover that and I just wanted to real briefly touch
6 on the working group.
7
8 The working group has met, I think four
9 times now, yeah, four times and we've identified some
10 strategies and some goals and the compendium is one of
11 those things to work on so it's not really ready for
12 anything beyond just an introduction as to what it is.
13 And I will say that I think as far as this season went,
14 it was a great season. The community has a lot of
15 respect for Seth, he's been around our community for
16 awhile so I think it's a great first step in fostering
17 new relations and building those relations.
18
19 The working group is something that's
20 going to be an ongoing process and it's going to take
21 many years but I think, you know, we have a core group of
22 people in the community that are dedicated to it and I
23 think we're going to make progress and I feel positive
24 about it.
25
26 So maybe as a segue to lead in, if you
27 wanted, maybe it'd be appropriate for Superintendent
28 Dudgeon to just talk about the compendium very briefly,
29 what it is, what it reviews and how it's implemented.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to
32 pick on you, can a bureaucrat be brief.
33
34 MR. DUDGEON: Absolutely. I would like
35 to.....
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He's looking at
38 me pretty mean.
39
40 MR. DUDGEON: I would like to -- exactly.
41 I would like to add one thing to what Andy just said. I
42 know Don was very interested in seeing if we could get a
43 Subsistence Resource Commission, an SRC in place.....
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.
46
47 MR. DUDGEON:in the Preserve, and,
48 of course, ANILCA established those for Parks, not
49 Preserves, it's a lot.....
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So the short
2 answer is no.
3
4 MR. DUDGEON:more complicated than
5 just something we would want to do.
6
7 Well, this is what I'm prepared to offer,
8 I don't think we, either as the Park or as the community,
9 would have -- probably get very far with an actual
10 formalized SRC, given that that's legislative through
11 ANILCA and specific to Parks, but what I would be willing
12 to offer is to help the community and the working groups
13 from Eagle and Eagle Village, if we could get some kind
14 of a FACA group, an actual advisory group. I think it
15 would take some work through the delegation to do that.
16 And so the village and community would have to carry most
17 of the freight, we can't, as you know, lobby, but we
18 could certainly talk, work with folks and if we could
19 make a more formalized FACA type group, one that would
20 come under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, we would
21 be.....
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you're
24 saying.....
25
26 MR. DUDGEON:certainly supportive
27 and willing to do that.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:that would
30 have to be legislative through our.....
31
32 MR. DUDGEON: It would take some work
33 from our delegation to help make that happen, yes. Those
34 groups are limited and, you know, I don't know all the
35 rules that come with but we would be a happy to be a part
36 of that.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But it's
39 occurring right now.
40
41 MR. DUDGEON: And that's my phone, I'm
42 sorry, I thought I put it on mute.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Ah-ha, 10
45 bucks.
46
47 MR. DUDGEON: I recognize it.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's going up.
50

1 MR. DUDGEON: If you'd like me to talk
2 about the compendium, I can do that very briefly.

3
4 Every National Park unit across the
5 country, not just in Alaska has a superintendent's
6 compendium and we all work off the Code of Federal
7 Regulations, 36 CFR but there are a few discretionary
8 areas in that Code of Federal Regulations where the area,
9 local superintendent can weigh in and do additional
10 closures, or exemptions or what have you. It's limited
11 but the compendium spells out, for each Park unit, what
12 those discretionary things are and how the Park is
13 implementing those.

14
15 The compendium is rewritten and
16 republished for each Park every year, it's a public
17 process. The public comment period for Parks is from
18 January 15th to February 15th. And one of the
19 commitments we made to the folks in Eagle and Eagle
20 Village is that we could start that process much earlier
21 and we are. As a matter of fact I believe we're getting
22 together in early December to talk about what the group
23 there has already decided, collectively, they'd like to
24 see us try to do and move forward with the compendium.

25
26 We then will also meet with the State,
27 the State of Alaska has representatives who weigh in on
28 the compendiums for each of the Parks every year, we
29 usually meet in the fall. We take their sentiments as
30 well as local sentiments, roll that into a draft
31 compendium, the public can comment on those from January
32 15th to February 15th, and then a month later we try to
33 finalize those and sign them off and they're in place for
34 that year. And then the process starts all over again
35 that next fall.

36
37 I brought the current compendium for each
38 one of you, if you're interested, for Yukon-Charley.
39 And, again, very shortly we'll start talking about what
40 this will look like for the year 2012. But this is one
41 that was in effect for 2011.

42
43 And I think that's it, that's compendium
44 in a nutshell.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: How many do you
47 see, how many each year since you've been there?

48
49 MR. DUDGEON: Very, very few. I know
50 that Don asked for the last 10 years worth of compendia,

1 which he's been given. He was going to take a look and
2 maybe some of the folks with the group in Eagle were
3 going to take a look at it and try to get a sense of
4 what's changed over the years. My understanding is
5 probably not much. I think there was some things back in
6 2006, which predates me, but since that time and the four
7 years I've been here it's been pretty much the same
8 document; not a lot of changes.

9

10 I think we had two public comments about
11 the Yukon-Charley compendia last year. One came from the
12 CACA, the Citizen's Advisory Group for Alaska that Stan
13 Lepard heads up.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

16

17 MR. DUDGEON: There was one comment from
18 them, that group, and then there was one from the ANILCA
19 implementation team, which I think is seated in under the
20 Department of Natural Resources.

21

22 So there were just two comments about the
23 compendia for last year.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

26

27 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.
28 Yeah, I think the real concerns as far as local use on
29 the compendiums, that's what I'm saying, we're not really
30 ready for anything at this time. Because you know it's
31 one thing on paper, in this whole process, but, really
32 the key issue here is how that compendium may affect
33 users, subsistence users in their daily take of fish or
34 game or whatever, so that's what we're going to be
35 addressing this winter and that's what we're going to try
36 and work with Superintendent on addressing.

37

38 As far as your question about how much
39 has been changed. Quite frankly the public really didn't
40 even know that it existed and I think that's indicated by
41 who contacted them to make comment. Basically the public
42 really never knew what this document was or what it
43 meant, through no fault really by anybody, just people
44 living their lives, in my opinion. So we're at the
45 starting process right now, but I think we'll be able to
46 work through these things. And.....

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. In my
49 area it's the Wrangells and people have been watching
50 them from the beginning, the locals, you know, from

1 experience, there was a distrust of the Park Service and
2 some of the people that worked for them don't work for
3 them anymore and they're looking at compendiums and
4 getting really critical of it and it actually hasn't
5 really, for me, has been watching all the government
6 since ANILCA or Antiquities Act, I didn't even realize
7 all this stuff that can happen in a compendium. So,
8 yeah, I mean it's amazing how much, I don't want to say,
9 crap, but it seems like it sometimes that you have to
10 watch to stay involved in all of the things that's going
11 on. And then, you know, one superintendent comes in and
12 then a change is made, and people don't know about it,
13 people find out later, oh, so and so did it back here,
14 you know, and you found -- that's how we found out about
15 it, we were very unhappy about changes that was done by
16 the superintendent, right, that's how it starts?

17
18 MR. DUDGEON: Right. The
19 superintendent.....

20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

22
23 MR. DUDGEON:ultimately is
24 responsible.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh, yeah.
27 Okay, any other questions of Yukon-Charley.

28
29 (No comments)

30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't hear
32 any -- oh, there's one behind me here, Virgil.

33
34 MR. UMPHENOUR: Do you still have the Air
35 Force flying high performance aircraft over there buzzing
36 the animals and stuff and if you do, have you been doing
37 any analysis of what the results of that are?

38
39 MR. DUDGEON: Yes, we do. We have low
40 flying aircraft. As a matter of fact we were taking some
41 comments this fall, we were getting complaints actually,
42 some people thought there was an ordinance being dropped
43 in the Preserve, there was some hunters out -- Seth may
44 know more about the specifics. But I guess the bottom
45 line is, when the peregrine falcon went off the
46 Endangered Species list, we lost the ability or I guess
47 the military was no longer quite so concerned about the
48 over flight issue and the committee that would get
49 together and talk about how to mitigate those problems
50 sort of went away. We've been, the last couple of years,

1 trying to get that committee or a group that could take
2 this very serious issue to the military and make it part
3 of a working group again, forward, and I think the fact
4 that the F-22 is now back in service, which has a very
5 different noise and -- none of the work, none of the
6 previous work that was done on noise abatement and that
7 sort of thing ever involved the F-22 so there's a concern
8 because there's a new aircraft type and also because of
9 the low flying training that they're doing.

10

11 The short answer is we're in the process
12 now trying to get that working group back together to try
13 to mitigate that kind of a problem in the Upper Yukon.

14

15 MR. UMPHENOUR: When it was done before,
16 I had supplied a videotape of them flying under us when
17 we were sheep hunting, when they were lying and said they
18 never flew below 3,500 feet, but did you guys ever
19 document them startling like sheep and causing them to
20 fall off cliffs or anything like that because that's what
21 always kind of caused me to wonder?

22

23 MR. MCMILLIAN: Madame Chair. There was
24 a study that was undertaken in Yukon-Charley, they studied
25 sheep that were collared at the time. More so, I guess,
26 that was a bit more definitive, was they had cameras on
27 peregrine falcons because that was really the impetus for
28 the study being, the endangered species, and they would
29 video nesting pairs of falcons or rearing small falcons
30 and looking at the effects of the sonic booms, the low
31 flying jet aircraft, high speed aircraft and had some
32 findings from that. I don't have those findings here
33 with me now, but those are available to the public, and
34 we can certainly point you in the right direction for
35 those.

36

37 As far as sheep go, I'd have to defer to
38 one of our resource managers.

39

40 The comments that we got this year were
41 mostly from hunters in August and September and it
42 happened to coincide with the large military exercises,
43 the Red Flag events and things like that, low flying
44 aircraft, high speed, sonic booms. Like the
45 superintendent mentioned, you know, some of the reports
46 were actually of an ordinance being dropped, which we
47 weren't able to substantiate at all. But certainly more
48 than or several complaints came in about people's hunts
49 being impacted by the large -- or the loud sounds.

50

1 If you look at the current charts, the
2 aeronautical charts for the Yukon MOAs, the one and two,
3 it still shows a 2000 foot buffer over the Charley River
4 and the mainstem of the Yukon, which, in theory, is
5 supposed to protect those visitors and, you know, animal
6 resources from the effects of really low flying, like
7 under 2,000 AGL, to the extent -- those are -- and I
8 guess -- how I should say it, those are recommendations
9 by the FAA for AGL buffers. I think what the complaints
10 were from the hunters this fall is those were very
11 clearly not being adhered to, that the aircraft were just
12 a few hundred feet off of the ground rather than a few
13 thousand feet of the ground.

14
15 So that's all.

16
17 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. That's been
18 my experience as well.

19
20 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, they really make
21 Central rock and roll, let me tell you that. Lots of
22 them there.

23
24 And I think what they may have seen for
25 ordinances is they were throwing their flares out, they
26 were tracking flares, so that's all I think they may have
27 seen not knowing.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I know in
30 my area, Fortymile Air was saying that there was three
31 near death situations from those with small aircraft, so
32 it's a problem, yeah.

33
34 Any other questions.

35
36 (No comments)

37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thanks
39 you guys. I look forward to things working better in the
40 future, and welcome aboard, both, the new people.

41
42 MR. DUDGEON: Thank you.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. The
45 next one on the agenda would be Denali National Park.
46 And we have a handout in our book, they are not here.
47 And Barbara said they were going to be leaving, the
48 Wrangell-St. Elias and there's -- those handouts were in
49 your blue folder, there's some fisheries stuff, game
50 stuff on the survey and numbers in the Park, and I think

1 something else was in there.
2
3 Now, we are down to other.
4
5 The annual report is not due for this
6 meeting, but thinking of things that goes into it is
7 something we've got to keep in our head, okay.
8
9 An, now, I have here six meetings that we
10 need to talk about and who will be going.
11
12 January is the Federal Subsistence Board
13 meeting.
14
15 MR. FIRMIN: When is that?
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What dates?
18 These two can maybe tell me -- I'm going to interrupt for
19 a second, when's the dates of the Federal Board in
20 January?
21
22 MS. MUSHOVIC: The week of the 16th.
23
24 MR. FIRMIN: 17th and 18th.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 17th, 18th, is
27 that a two day meeting?
28
29 MS. MUSHOVIC: It's a four day meeting.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Four day.
32
33 MS. MUSHOVIC: There's tribal
34 consultation.....
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 17, 18, 19, 20
37 possibly. Okay, that week. And I've been going. When
38 it was fisheries I had Andrew go and in the past Virgil
39 has gone. What I'd like to do is say,yeah, I could go to
40 that meeting, that will be everything we took up at this
41 meeting, the Federal Board would be acting, so we send
42 someone from our Council to that meeting.
43
44 Yes, Joe.
45
46 MR. MATESI: You have six meetings you
47 say?
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: (Nods
50 affirmatively)

1 MR. MATESI: Could we see the.....
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
4 There's.....
5
6 MR. MATESI:get a list maybe
7 before.....
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:a list I
10 have here. There's the January Federal Subsistence
11 Board.
12
13 Fortymile meeting November 30th, December
14 1st.
15
16 The Yukon Flats Moose Management, I have
17 attended that.
18
19 Board of Game. That one is a winter one,
20 do you have dates on that Yukon Flats Moose Management?
21
22 MR. FIRMIN: No. But it will probably be
23 in March or April, probably more like March, we were
24 trying to plan it like before like around Spring Carnival
25 so we can travel by snowmachine and lessen travel costs.
26
27 Also the Board of Game meeting is here in
28 town about the same time as our March meeting and.....
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. And I'm
31 going.....
32
33 MR. FIRMIN: And also I was going to try
34 to travel to the Federal Subsistence Board in another
35 capacity and possibly we could share duties at that
36 meeting if you would like.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh.
39
40 MR. FIRMIN: Then you could address your
41 unit's.....
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, yeah.
44
45 MR. FIRMIN:area and I could
46 address the Interior items.....
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're going to
49 be there anyway?
50

1 MR. FIRMIN:on there. I'm working
2 on it.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: It's to be TBA.....
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let me.....
9
10 MR. FIRMIN:at the moment,
11 tentative.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:let me
14 list these other two and then we'll go back to that
15 discussion Andrew.
16
17 The other one was a YRDFA rep. They just
18 want a representative from this Council, correct, there's
19 no meeting dates that are set yet.
20
21 And then if someone goes to the Board of
22 Fish.
23
24 So let's start at the top, do you have it
25 all Joe?
26
27 MR. BASSICH: Do you have the Board of
28 Fish meeting dates?
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, somewhere
31 here.
32
33 MS. MUSHOVIC: Yeah, 12/2 to 7th in
34 Valdez.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: December 2nd to
37 the -- to the -- is that what?
38
39 MS. MUSHOVIC: Seventh.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: To the 7th in
42 Valdez.
43
44 Do we -- do we.....
45
46 MS. MUSHOVIC: That's the Board of Game
47 in Barrow in January -- in November -- I don't know.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Pete, do other
50 RACs go to all these Board of Game and Board of Fish

1 meetings, like even statewide and then the regions?

2

3 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair. It's not
4 blanket that you attend. It really has to be a
5 significant issue that the Council will contribute to in
6 the discussion because a Council member, from this
7 Council or another Council is a standing member of the
8 Board of Fish committees when they address proposals. So
9 it has to be an issue. If you recall the Board of Fish
10 sets up committees.....

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

13

14 MR. PROBASCO:to address proposals.
15 Our Council members that attend are automatically
16 standing members of those committees. So it has to be an
17 issue that's pertinent to the Council and it has to be
18 something of significance.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does the Board
21 of Game do that?

22

23 MR. PROBASCO: Chuck.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, just.....

26

27 MR. ARDIZZONE: No.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I've seen
30 committees at the Board of Game.

31

32 MS. YUHAS: The Board of Game does not
33 break up into committees under the same structure as the
34 Board of Fish.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

37

38 MS. YUHAS: The upcoming meeting in
39 Valdez for this Board of Fish should be printed on the --
40 topics should be printed on the meeting dates that KJ
41 has, but they will be discussing fish issues along the
42 Copper River if that helps you make a determination.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and I bet
45 you you wouldn't consider that pertinent?

46

47 MR. UMPHENOUR: Madame Chair. We have
48 two important proposals.....

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh.

1 MR. UMPHENOUR:for that Board of
2 Fish meeting.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
5
6 I'm getting off track. Let's go -- all
7 right, let's just take number 1. I think that would be
8 great that Andrew would be able to help on Unit 25 at the
9 Federal Board meeting. And if for some reason I'm out to
10 lunch, no, and I couldn't attend, could he attend for --
11 even though he's still there?
12
13 MR. PROBASCO: Most definitely, Madame
14 Chair. If you.....
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
17
18 MR. PROBASCO:identify a person and
19 a potential alternative for whatever reason.....
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
22
23 MR. PROBASCO:and if Andrew ends up
24 going in the other commitment as a possible then OSM
25 would pick up his travel.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
28
29 So I would ask the Council if that works
30 I would go for the Council and Andrew would be the
31 alternate.
32
33 (No comments)
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No the
36 Fortymile meetings.....
37
38 MR. BASSICH: Don Woodruff was already
39 going to go but.....
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:what they
42 asked me though was to have a representative from the RAC
43 and that was Donald.
44
45 MR. BASSICH: Chuck, Don Woodruff is that
46 person and he.....
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And he can't
49 attend.
50

1 MR. BASSICH:will be out on
2 trapline.....
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
5
6 MR. BASSICH:but Bill and I can go
7 in. I can go in as an AC Chair or I could sit in as a RAC
8 representative. It doesn't really matter. The important
9 thing is that we have representatives there for.....
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. And I
12 understand that, I guess I was wondering -- I mean I
13 might -- I might be willing to do that for the RAC; does
14 that funding exist or do we just let these guys represent
15 the RAC?
16
17 MR. PROBASCO: Funding is available. But
18 we ask you, I mean we're in a pretty tough situation,
19 you've heard the Refuge's speak on funding levels and so
20 I would respectfully ask the Council, if you have other
21 members attending then I would.....
22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
24
25 MR. PROBASCO:ask you to look at
26 that.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, could you
29 tell me this, Pete, of these six places that we might
30 send someone, is there funding for all of them? I know
31 that YRDFA, that's different, right?
32
33 MR. BASSICH: They'll probably pay for
34 that for whoever travels, I would think, YRDFA probably
35 will. That will be part of their funding process, to
36 bring their people to that meeting. That's their
37 traditional way of doing it, generally.....
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
40
41 MR. BASSICH:speaking when they
42 invite someone. But KJ may.....
43
44 MS. MUSHOVIC: I would just point out at
45 the pre-season riverwide meeting, we had to pay for our
46 RACs representative.
47
48 MR. BASSICH: I think this is maybe a
49 little different because this is something that they're
50 being funded by other sources for to establish this group

1 of people to work on a management plan for the river, so
2 you might check on that. But I think that they will be
3 funding that.

4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's assume
6 they are.

7
8 MR. FIRMIN: Do we have any possible
9 dates for that?

10
11 MR. BASSICH: No.

12
13 MR. FIRMIN: No.

14
15 MR. BASSICH: I was going to nominate
16 Virgil for that. I think he has a very longstanding
17 knowledge of the Yukon River issues and this is a
18 development of a management plan that will then be
19 submitted to the Board of Fish and I guess the Federal
20 Subsistence Board in the future, too, so I think he would
21 be a great representative to go to that if he's
22 available.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hum, okay.

25
26 MR. FIRMIN: I believe they're just
27 revising the current one, uh?

28
29 MR. BASSICH: Well.....

30
31 MR. FIRMIN: Or is this a brand new one?

32
33 MR. BASSICH: Trying to develop -- I
34 believe they're trying to develop a management plan for
35 Yukon River to accommodate the low abundance, low
36 productivity and all that, and I think you then will be
37 invited as CATG and I will probably seek the appointment
38 from the Yukon River Panel so -- but I really think we --
39 you know, Virgil.....

40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Who else is
42 reps from our Council besides you two and whoever we
43 appoint, anyone else on the Council? There's the Yukon
44 River Panel, then there's YRDFA.

45
46 MR. BASSICH: The Yukon.....

47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You guys have
49 plenty of meetings to go to, holy cow.

50

1 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, and we're about
2 meeting'd out.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I would
5 just ask if anyone else is interested in being a rep for
6 the YRDFA meeting?
7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: I think I should go
9 because I have the most experience in writing management
10 plans and I've been involved in this issue for over 25
11 years.
12
13 MR. FIRMIN: And I agree.
14
15 MR. BASSICH: I agree.
16
17 MR. GLANZ: I agree.
18
19 MR. FIRMIN: I think what Andy was trying
20 to say.....
21
22 MR. UMPHENOUR: If they would have done
23 what I said 20 years ago we wouldn't be in the pickle
24 we're in now.
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 ** MR. BASSICH: I agree.
29
30 MR. MATESI: I agree.
31
32 MR. FIRMIN: I agree.
33
34 MR. ERHART: I agree.
35
36 MR. GLANZ: I agree.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: These are all
39 these I agrees around here.
40
41 MR. BASSICH: Yes.
42
43 MR. GLANZ: So Sue.....
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, so you're
46 appointed on -- any disagreement.
47
48 (No disagreement)
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So now

1 we have to prioritize. We have a statewide Board of Game
2 and then we have a region, is it three -- 3 is it,
3 anyway.....

4
5 MR. UMPHENOUR: Region 3.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:Fairbanks
8 -- yeah.

9
10 Joe.

11
12 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair. This might be
13 a time to bring up what we had discussed earlier on
14 possibly shifting the dates of our March meeting. Before
15 we -- before today I had been planning on attending the
16 Board of Game meeting here in Fairbanks on my own. But
17 now there is a conflict in dates. And I'm wondering if
18 the Council would entertain some discussion on perhaps
19 shifting these dates a little bit, I don't know if we
20 could do that or not and still make it work, you know,
21 what, with Staff travel.

22
23 The meeting's here in Fairbanks, Board of
24 Game, and it starts March 2nd and the public testimony
25 will probably be March 2nd and 3rd, I don't know how we
26 can work this out, I definitely had planned and wanted to
27 attend that meeting -- I can't be in two places at once.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I'm going
30 to throw another problem in there, I'm scheduled for an
31 SRC meeting February 28th and 29th, the leap year. I
32 could move my -- I could probably request and they'd
33 probably grant -- because they said we might only need a
34 one day, and if it was one day we were going to go with
35 the 29th, so I could just jump in the vehicle from there
36 and come to here. I could -- if -- that meeting would
37 have to be moved for me, and I think Staff -- Pete, the
38 Western Interior, are they sharing Staff with Eastern
39 Interior?

40
41 MR. PROBASCO: Well, I'll have an
42 announcement here a little bit later, but we could work
43 with that, Madame Chair. And also keep in mind you have
44 the option of going a week beyond the scheduled window
45 that we have for Council meetings.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So the window
48 closes no longer March 23rd?

49
50 MR. PROBASCO: I don't have the window in

1 front of me, KJ, do you have the.....
2
3 MS. MUSHOVIC: The window closes March
4 23rd.
5
6 MR. PROBASCO: Okay.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
9
10 MS. MUSHOVIC: It says 23rd March.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So I will say
13 this, when I was at the SRC meeting, Sitka moved their
14 Southeast RAC Meeting to the 19th, 20th, 21st because the
15 Federal Board is meeting March 22nd in Juneau.
16
17 MR. PROBASCO: No definitive date but
18 that week is going to be scheduled with the Southeast
19 RAC, with the Federal Board to deal with a request for
20 extraterritorial jurisdiction. If it works out the way
21 that we planned it would occur on that date that you just
22 mentioned, but I don't have confirmation from all Board
23 members.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, I see.
26 Okay. Does that mean that if it doesn't happen that
27 they'll go back to the.....
28
29 MR. PROBASCO: No, they're set.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They're just
32 going to meet that week in Juneau.
33
34 MR. PROBASCO: (Nods affirmatively)
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So what
37 you're saying is we could meet after the 2nd and 3rd --
38 we could meet the week of March 5th.
39
40 MR. PROBASCO: It's your call, Madame
41 Chair.
42
43 MS. MUSHOVIC: Yeah.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy, do you --
46 wasn't it you that why we were meeting on a Friday and a
47 Saturday because of your travel, you guys if you are
48 flying you have to wait until Monday to go home?
49
50 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. Just schedule to

1 make your meetings work and we'll deal with it, you know,
2 I mean it was a request because so many of these meetings
3 I end up spending an entire weekend in Fairbanks waiting
4 for a plane to get home. But I've resigned myself to the
5 fact that that's the price you pay for being involved.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Last time you
8 didn't like it, now he's okay.

9
10 MR. BASSICH: No, I'm still not liking
11 it, I don't.....

12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, I got it.

14
15 MR. BASSICH:even like a meeting in
16 March. That is my one time a year to actually get out
17 and enjoy my dog team without 50 below temperatures. So
18 -- I hate being gone in March.

19
20 (Laughter)

21
22 MR. BASSICH: So the earlier the better
23 is, I guess what I would say, but I understand the need
24 for others to participate in these other meetings and I'm
25 not going to put my selfish needs in front of the desire
26 for them to attend and participate.

27
28 MR. FIRMIN: Well, what's wrong with
29 February, wasn't that another good time, either the 21st,
30 22nd?

31
32 MR. BASSICH: There's Quest time around
33 then too.

34
35 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah.

36
37 MR. BASSICH: Just do what you need to do
38 in March, I'll work it out.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So what's on
41 our -- what's on our agenda for next meeting, is it.....

42
43 MS. MUSHOVIC: Fish proposals.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:fish
46 proposals and what else?

47
48 MS. MUSHOVIC: Annual report replies,
49 finalize that.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's going to
2 be a lot shorter than this one, uh-huh.
3
4 MR. PROBASCO: I would anticipate that
5 the agenda will be fairly short, but you never know, you
6 might have a management plan come your way; I'm not sure.
7
8 MR. BASSICH: We could end up talking
9 about customary trade again.
10
11 MR. PROBASCO: You might end up talking
12 about customary trade.
13
14 MR. BASSICH: For three days.
15
16 (Laughter)
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're only
19 going to give it two. Well, I can sympathize about the
20 Board of Game and if that was moved up two days.
21
22 Okay, then let's talk about where the
23 meeting's going to take place, our meeting.
24
25 Joe.
26
27 MR. MATESI: Did I understand you to say
28 you're considering moving out meeting to February 29th
29 and March 1st?
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, that's
32 what I threw out.
33
34 MR. MATESI: That would be very
35 accommodating for anybody on this Council who also is
36 planning on attending the Fairbanks located Board of Game
37 meeting.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
40
41 MR. MATESI: Wouldn't it?
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, as long
44 as you don't have to travel very far.
45
46 Bill, can you speak to Central for the
47 meeting?
48
49 MR. GLANZ: Pardon?
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can you speak
2 to Central being the place of the meeting or what's the
3 preference?
4
5 MR. GLANZ: Well, I'd like to see but
6 then again like Bill was saying I'm going to have to be
7 -- since I'm Chair of the AC I normally would have to be
8 at the State meeting.
9
10 MR. FIRMIN: On the other hand could we
11 possibly move it to the 5th and 6th and book our venue at
12 the same hotel or wherever the Board of Game meeting is
13 at, so whenever we're done we can walk into the next
14 room.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Gee, they're
17 not liking that one, just because of it being filled up?
18
19 MR. PROBASCO: Right.
20
21 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, it'd be tough to get a
22 hotel in the same area.
23
24 MR. FIRMIN: Not if we book it now.
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 MS. MUSHOVIC: They already got the.....
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Where is.....
31
32 MS. MUSHOVIC:meeting booked up I'm
33 sure.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:it --
36 where is it, which hotel -- it's probably not in the book
37 either, uh?
38
39 MS. YUHAS: Last night at the AC meeting
40 they said they hadn't determined yet.
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I was afraid of
43 that, yeah.
44
45 MS. YUHAS: Yeah, they just don't know in
46 time for your meeting here, I think we're going to know
47 by the end of the week but.....
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 5th and 6th,
50 that was your idea?

1 MR. GLANZ: Pardon?
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 5th and 6th?
4
5 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, that would work.
6 What's this Naknek stuff?
7
8 MS. MUSHOVIC: Well, that's Bristol Bay.
9
10 MR. GLANZ: Huh?
11
12 MS. MUSHOVIC: Bristol Bay.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are we okay, I
15 know that we've been told not to schedule three. Well,
16 if we schedule ours that'll be three.
17
18 Did you hear that? Why don't you put
19 that mic on.
20
21 MR. PROBASCO: We can only handle two
22 meetings a week, you can't schedule three.
23
24 MR. MATESI: I'm going to suggest to
25 everybody, how about February 29th and March 1st here in
26 Fairbanks.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's' fine with
29 me.
30
31 MR. FIRMIN: Those work for me.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to
34 have to talk to the Wrangells about I might be at that
35 meeting.
36
37 MR. GLANZ: I was just concerned about
38 the Western Interior had one of those days.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They said
41 that's not a problem really.
42
43 MS. MUSHOVIC: Oh, wait, I'm sorry, your
44 -- there's been some changes since the -- the Seward
45 Peninsula is meeting in Nome the 28th and the 29th, I'm
46 sorry, I just realized that I have it penciled in, the
47 same days as Western Interior's meeting in McGrath, so
48 that's already two meetings that week. I'm sorry.
49
50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, how did

1 they do that when we already had ours.
2
3 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: How did they do
6 that?
7
8 MR. PROBASCO: They shouldn't have done
9 that.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Who told you
12 that?
13
14 MS. MUSHOVIC: That's the report I got
15 when the Staff came back from the Seward Peninsula
16 meeting.
17
18 MR. PROBASCO: If you hang on here, if
19 the existing date that was printed out to the Councils
20 went out and then they came back and changed on top of
21 it, I would have the Seward Penn change their meeting
22 date.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go Pete.
25
26 MR. PROBASCO: Well, that's the standing
27 procedure.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. We'd
30 have to hang on to our dates?
31
32 MR. PROBASCO: Well, to answer your
33 initial question, you have priority on that date because
34 that was what was sent out to each of the Councils to act
35 on.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We have
38 priority on that week, right?
39
40 MR. PROBASCO: Correct.
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I think
43 that we had that week, it's our week, let's go man.
44
45 MR. FIRMIN: All right, 29th and 1st in
46 Fairbanks.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 29 and 1st,
49 Fairbanks, Eastern Interior.
50

1 MR. PROBASCO: And I'll.....
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All -- are we
4 all okay with this?
5
6 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I'm very fine with that,
7 there's no problem.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do you
10 want to discuss your Central thing?
11
12 MR. GLANZ: Well, I could do it in the
13 fall then.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We'll
16 talk about that next because we have to schedule that
17 meeting.
18
19 But I got to make sure that I make my
20 call to the Staff of the Park.
21
22 All right.
23
24 MR. MATEESI: Is that a two day meeting or
25 a three day meeting?
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Two.
28
29 MR. MATEESI: 28th and 29th, is that.....
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 29 and 1.
32
33 MR. MATEESI: 29 and 1.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Eastern
36 Interior, Fairbanks.
37
38 Okay.
39
40 MR. GLANZ: All right.
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That is
43 decided.
44
45 Yes, and now what I'm hearing Pete say is
46 cuts in funding, spend your money well and I'm very
47 concerned about how to spend my mine so I guess I better
48 be the same with the government.
49
50 MR. PROBASCO: If I may, Madame Chair,

1 the other thing that we're under is a cap and you would
2 think that a travel cap would only apply to my Staff, but
3 it also applies to Council members. And so I have to
4 bring my entire travel under a cap, of course, the
5 Council travel has priority but I'm being held to that.
6 So 110 Council members, we have two meetings a year,
7 additional travel I have to ask you guys to, you know, be
8 cognizant of what I'm under.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So that means
11 your Staff will be on the teleconference more often?

12

13 MR. PROBASCO: As far as my Staff you'll
14 see less of them. So you'll see more of Chuck.....

15

16 (Laughter)

17

18 MR. ARDIZZONE: Thanks.

19

20 (Laughter)

21

22 MR. BASSICH: Well, he does all right.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

25

26 But that really doesn't help us out to
27 know how much that is, for how many meetings?

28

29 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair. We don't
30 know what our fiscal year 2012 budget is. All we know is
31 that we are going to be reduced, it could be a five
32 percent reduction, it could be more and it could be
33 program specific. We have no idea.

34

35 All we know is right now, based on the
36 last continuing resolution it's five percent less than
37 what we had the previous year.

38

39 MR. BASSICH: Vote Democrat.

40

41 (Laughter)

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What'd you say?

44

45 MR. BASSICH: Vote Democrat.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Will you hush,
50 you're out, man, you can't do that.

1 MR. FIRMIN: Fall, same time, same
2 wonderful place in Central.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: In the fall is
5 what you're talking about Andrew?
6
7 MR. FIRMIN: Moving along here, I got
8 stuff to do.
9
10 (Laughter)
11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I know.
13
14 MR. FIRMIN: Been sitting here for three
15 days.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, well, I
18 want to make sure. Let's -- we have all these meetings.
19 I'll go ahead -- we'll schedule our meeting for October
20 and then talk about if anyone's going to the Board of
21 Game and Board of Fish as a RAC rep.
22
23 MR. FIRMIN: All right.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. So
26 for this Council she's got some penciled in stuff already
27 for who beat us to the week, the week of the 3rd through
28 the 7th, we don't really want to go there anyway, but
29 that one's scheduled. And we've got Sitka -- or
30 Southeast in Sitka for the 25th to the 27th.
31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Of what?
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: September.
35 We're over there on this.....
36
37 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, we can't do nothing
38 until.....
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I realize that.
41 I'm just giving you.....
42
43 MS. MUSHOVIC: October's out for your
44 guys, they beat you to it.
45
46 MR. GLANZ: What do we got in October,
47 how about October 1 through the 5th.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You might not
50 have a meeting with the Eastern Interior, because Western

1 Interior is October 10th and 11th.
2
3 MS. MUSHOVIC: YK also.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Western
6 Interior. So we got to have our meetings first it sounds
7 like. 10th and 11th. And YK, 10th and 11th.
8
9 MS. MUSHOVIC: There's before.....
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, we can't
12 have our meetings any earlier.
13
14 And then the Southcentral's meeting the
15 2nd and 3rd of October. And the.....
16
17 MS. MUSHOVIC: Seward Penn.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:Seward
20 Penn is the 3rd and 4th. Yeah, you might not have a few
21 people.
22
23 MR. BASSICH: Hey, why don't you guys all
24 come out to Eagle in August and help me chum fish.
25
26 MR. FIRMIN: There you go, that sounds
27 perfect.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'll be sheep
30 hunting.
31
32 MR. FIRMIN: Eagle or Central, August
33 21st and 22nd.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What did you
36 just say.
37
38 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair. We've gone
39 a week prior to the open window and a week after, so you
40 have those as well.
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you say we
43 have a week after?
44
45 MR. PROBASCO: Yes.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Whew, we're
48 going a week after, right guys.
49
50 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm not going
2 in August, I won't be here.
3
4 MR. FIRMIN: Why don't we go chum fishing
5 in Eagle.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I promise you.
8 You want to go chum fishing in -- well, all right, it's
9 a fisheries meeting, Virgil can be in charge.
10
11 I can tell you I will not be there in
12 August.
13
14 MR. BASSICH: So am I understanding that
15 we can go after the date of October 12th, so.....
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
18
19 MR. BASSICH: So why don't we.....
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We -- the week
22 of.....
23
24 MR. BASSICH:just do it the first
25 day or two of the next week, 15th, 16th of October and
26 that's pretty similar to what we normally try and do
27 anyway.
28
29 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, well.....
32
33 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:the.....
36
37 MR. BASSICH: We're usually around the
38 13th, 14th.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The 13th is a
41 Saturday, the 14th is Sunday.
42
43 MR. BASSICH: I said 15, 16.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you're
46 scheduling -- you want to schedule 15 and 16; how is that
47 for you guys?
48
49 MR. GLANZ: 15 shows a holiday for your
50 air travel, does that mess you up, there'll be no mail?

1 MR. BASSICH: Actually we'd have to do it
2 that Tuesday, Wednesday because we need a day to travel
3 in.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I was
6 wondering about that.
7
8 MR. FIRMIN: Okay, 16, 17.
9
10 MR. BASSICH: So 16, 17.
11
12 MR. GLANZ: Sure, fine.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 16, 17, that's
15 Tuesday and Wednesday.
16
17 MR. GLANZ: That works for me.
18
19 MS. MUSHOVIC: In Central.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: In Central or
22 -- are we strongly in favor of Central.
23
24 MR. BASSICH: If possible.
25
26 MS. MUSHOVIC: Oh.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, let's --
29 what's possible?
30
31 MR. GLANZ: The invitation is there if we
32 want to do Central.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, if
35 possible, okay. And then second choice if something
36 doesn't work out?
37
38 MR. BASSICH: Fairbanks.
39
40 MR. MATESI: The Porcupine River.
41
42 (Laughter)
43
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm game.
45
46 MR. FIRMIN: Let's go to Joe's.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That one I
49 could dig.
50

1 MR. BASSICH: I'll say Tok as a second
2 one. Tok.
3
4 MR. GLANZ: I'll go for that.
5
6 MS. MUSHOVIC: For a fisheries meeting?
7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: For a fisheries
9 meeting, is that right?
10
11 MR. BASSICH: That'd be game, it's
12 falltime -- no.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, we're --
15 it's -- it's every other year or this.....
16
17 MR. BASSICH: That's even better because
18 they don't know anything about it and we can just do
19 whatever we want.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't think
22 it's wise, you're not going to have any input from Tok
23 when it comes to fisheries, unless it has something to do
24 with the Copper River.
25
26 MR. MATESI: What was the problem with
27 Tanana. A fishery meeting in Tanana would just.....
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That would be
30 good.
31
32 MR. MATESI:go hand and glove.
33
34 MR. BASSICH: They didn't have the
35 accommodations. They didn't feel like they had the
36 accommodations available for that many people.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, they --
39 well, that's not how I heard it.
40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR: It's because of the.....
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I heard
44 that.....
45
46 MR. UMPHENOUR:construction project
47 screwed things.....
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:I heard
50 that there was so many.....

1 MR. UMPHENOUR:up for the dates.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:people
4 interested in this meeting that there was just not enough
5 for everybody to stay there.
6
7 Okay.
8
9 MR. ERHART: Right. Right.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So I'm okay
12 with that as a second, Tanana.
13
14 MR. FIRMIN: The cost for all those
15 people from Arctic Village to come here would have
16 doubled having them fly from Arctic Village for us to
17 meet in Tanana and vice versa, as far as the Tanana
18 people having to go someplace else.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, and the
21 other thing about -- I would like to tell Staff is, when
22 we've been to Tanana before we stayed, you know, it was
23 arranged that we could stay with people, you just ask the
24 Council how many people are willing to put up the RAC
25 members and we got to stay with the people and got to
26 learn more about them and that's really helpful.
27
28 Did you have a question?
29
30 MR. BASSICH: It's a question.....
31
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I said -- I
33 heard.....
34
35 MR. BASSICH:for Pete, please.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
38
39 MR. BASSICH: I was just wondering, you
40 know, it just seems like a lot of our meetings that have
41 been scheduled for outlying areas have been cancelled and
42 then just moved to Fairbanks and a lot of times it's
43 budgetary and now I'm hearing you say that your budgets
44 are cut and I'm just wondering if we're just making a lot
45 of plans but we're going to end up in Fairbanks here
46 because of budgetary cuts.
47
48 MR. PROBASCO: Well, in addition to
49 budgets, a lot of these, what we're finding in these
50 rural communities, keep in mind we're dealing with the

1 Federal government, is they are not registered for us to
2 allow -- to have people attend them. So hotels have to
3 be registered within the Federal system to allow.....

4
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, it
6 hasn't.....

7
8 MR. PROBASCO:CCRs.....

9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:it been
11 that way for -- it seems.....

12
13 MR. PROBASCO: Some communities and their
14 accommodations, they do register, others -- it's their
15 prerogative for other reasons they don't. And so once
16 you don't have that registration we can't put people
17 there.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you going
20 to stop us from staying with people? Is there some
21 regulation to stop us from staying with volunteers?

22
23 MR. PROBASCO: I don't have an answer for
24 that. I know that we.....

25
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Probably don't
27 ask it.

28
29 MS. MUSHOVIC: The only thing I would say
30 is there was that vacancy in the tribal office in Tanana
31 this year, too, that it was evidently would have been the
32 liaison between coordinating staying in people's homes
33 and working to accommodate a big meeting in that village,
34 and hopefully that position will be filled by the time
35 this meeting -- or the Tanana meeting planning would be
36 taking place because that would be -- from what I
37 understand from Kathleen Zuray, key in making this
38 happen.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So I
41 think we're done. We got Eastern Interior RAC meeting
42 the 16th and 17th of October either in Central or Tanana.

43
44 MR. FIRMIN: The 17th and 18th.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I heard 16 and
47 17.

48
49 MR. BASSICH: Tuesday, Wednesday,
50 whatever days.....

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Tuesday,
2 Wednesday.....
3
4 MR. BASSICH:those are.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:is 16 and
7 17.
8
9 MR. GLANZ: And plus they could drive to
10 Central, I mean the majority of the Staff and that fly to
11 here and drive to there.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm up for
14 that.
15
16 MS. MUSHOVIC: Well, actually.....
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.
19
20 MS. MUSHOVIC: There is air service to
21 Central so at some point I'd want to hear from Council
22 members if they'd prefer to fly in rather than carpool or
23 caravan or whatever so there's some options there too.
24 Some of you might not have a car here.
25
26 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, like Warbelows, they're
27 there to fly the mail and the Ft. Yukon folks would get
28 on that plane and they'd just go to Ft. Yukon first and
29 come to Central next with the mail if they room, but
30 they'd work it out.
31
32 MR. PROBASCO: We'll get a Princess Tour
33 bus and drive up there.
34
35 (Laughter)
36
37 MR. GLANZ: Get the one with the bar.
38
39 (Laughter)
40
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We actually
42 would love to go to a hot springs that's open, that was
43 my first meeting. Yep, uh-huh.
44
45 MR. GLANZ: That was the first I started
46 getting involved with this, this side, instead of the
47 State.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, so I
50 don't -- do we have an answer for Board of Game, Board of

1 Fish, and the Flats Management. I guess I'm going to say
2 this, I would like to go to that Yukon Flats Moose
3 Management meeting but if it cost -- funding for better
4 places.

5
6 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're there,
9 and Larry's there, you go to that, I guess I don't need
10 to go.

11
12 MR. FIRMIN: Well, we've already got two
13 going.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. They
16 asked me to go before and I got to go. It was very, very
17 good for me actually, but Frank go ahead.

18
19 MR. GURTLER: Can I break in and just --
20 I'm going to have to.....

21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You got to
23 boogie.

24
25 MR. GURTLER: I'm going to have to leave
26 pretty soon.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

29
30 MR. GURTLER: I wonder if I could break
31 in and tell you guys it's been fun working with
32 everybody. I had a good time and I'll see all you people
33 later, a later date, and I thank you.

34
35 MR. GLANZ: It's been a pleasure working
36 with you, man.

37
38 MR. GURTLER: Thank you.

39
40 MR. PROBASCO: Frank, you can't.....

41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wait. Wait.

43
44 MR. PROBASCO:escape yet.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You can't leave
47 yet.

48
49 MR. PROBASCO: Frank. On behalf of the
50 Federal Subsistence Board we want to give you a small

1 token of our appreciation for the many years of service.
2 And we're also giving you a little pocketknife too to put
3 in your pocket to remember. But thank you for your
4 service and we hope you apply again.

5
6 MR. ARDIZZONE: Just don't take it
7 through security.

8
9 (Laughter)

10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

12
13 (Applause)

14
15 MR. GLANZ: See you Frank.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you have a
18 hot date, Frank. I want to give him a hug. I want to
19 give you a hug.

20
21 MR. GURTLER: Oh, okay. Thanks for
22 putting up with me.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, thanks
25 for putting up with us, yeah. Do you have a hot date,
26 you got to leave?

27
28 MR. GURTLER: No, I have a flat tire.

29
30 (Laughter)

31
32 MR. GURTLER: And I found someplace to
33 get it fixed.

34
35 MR. GLANZ: I have a flashlight if you
36 want to change it later.

37
38 (Laughter)

39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Frank, you're
41 awesome, I hope you do reapply.

42
43 MR. GURTLER: Okay, well, we'll see

44 everybody and.....

45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.

47
48 MR. GURTLER:thanks a lot again, I
49 appreciate working with you, I had fun, all of you.

50

1 MR. BASSICH: We're going to miss you
2 Frank.
3
4 MR. FIRMIN: Yep, we'll see you.....
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, we are.
7
8 MR. FIRMIN:on the river.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: See you on the
11 river he said. All right.
12
13 MR. GURTLER: Oh, I'll be in the audience
14 one of these days, I'm sure, I'll be watching you guys.
15
16 (Laughter)
17
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
19 Flat tire, that's a bummer.
20
21 All right, can you help me out, do we
22 need a priority.
23
24 Go ahead, do you have a motion?
25
26 MR. BASSICH: Well, do we need a motion
27 for setting our meeting dates, I see a star there. So,
28 no, we're okay?
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, it's just
31 discussion, yeah. I can tell when Joe wants to speak, he
32 has good body English, uh-huh. So I misread that one,
33 okay. Well, all I'm left with is just finishing up on
34 any priorities to go to the Board of Game or Board of
35 Fish for one of us.
36
37 MR. MATESI: Madame Chair. I plan on
38 attending the Board of Game anyway.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we could
41 have you testify for us?
42
43 MR. MATESI: Sure.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That works for
46 me.
47
48 MR. MATESI: And Bill's going to be
49 there, too. And you can speak twice, once as -- or as
50 many hats as you where.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's my
2 understanding that the RAC Chairs get 20 minutes.
3
4 MR. ARDIZZONE: They get the same amount
5 of time as the AC Chair.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's a lot of
8 time.
9
10 MR. GLANZ: I think five to 10 is what it
11 is. Isn't it five individual, 10 for a -- I don't know
12 we'll figure it out.
13
14 MR. ARDIZZONE: I think it's 15.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Whatever, it's
17 longer.
18
19 MR. ARDIZZONE: It is longer than.....
20
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Yeah,
22 okay.
23
24 MR. UMPHENOUR: And I'll be at the Board
25 of Game meeting as well.
26
27 MR. GLANZ: There'll be enough of us
28 there, I'm sure.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So since
31 it's working out that there'll be enough of us there,
32 yes.
33
34 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair. It will be
35 on the onus.....
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
38
39 MR. PROBASCO:of Chuck to identify
40 the Council's rep. So if you have three people there you
41 need to identify who the Council rep is, and if that's
42 Joseph.....
43
44 MR. GLANZ: It's going to be Joe then.
45
46 MR. PROBASCO: Okay, thank you.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, does
49 everyone agree.
50

1 (Council nods affirmatively)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, it will
4 be Joe.
5
6 Okay.
7
8 MR. FIRMIN: What's all going to be taken
9 up at the Board of Fish meeting, because at that same
10 date we also have a Yukon River Panel meeting the 5th to
11 the 9th, which would include -- that would be Virgil and
12 I, of December, and I'm not certain of making that
13 meeting date or not, but I was wondering what was going
14 to be on at that Board of Fish meeting, or what proposals
15 we have in there that.....
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We just had
18 those two, 55 and 114.....
19
20 MR. FIRMIN:we would.....
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:and our
23 comments will go before the Board of Fish, right?
24
25 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I guess I
28 would have a hard time spending our money on two
29 proposals, you know, sending a rep to a meeting for two
30 proposals when the stuff goes in, would you all agree, we
31 might want to save our money for other travel, and I
32 think we covered it then. Who is the rep for YRDFA?
33
34 MR. BASSICH: Virgil.
35
36 MR. FIRMIN: Virgil.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, that's
39 Virgil, yeah, okay.
40
41 MS. MUSHOVIC: The Yukon Flats, you.....
42
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And the Yukon
44 Flats, we're going -- it's going to be the guys that are
45 already going, uh-huh.
46
47 We're about done guys.
48
49 MR. GLANZ: Pete's got his hand up.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:I would
2 ask for some closing comments from the Council.....
3
4 MR. GLANZ: Pete's got his hand up.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:members
7 and raise a hand -- okay, Bill.
8
9 MR. GLANZ: Pete was raising his hand.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, Pete's
12 waiving his hand.
13
14 MR. PROBASCO: I'd like to say something
15 before the Council gives final comments. We were talking
16 about Staffing and.....
17
18 (People in back of room talking)
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Shhhh.
21
22 MR. PROBASCO:a little over.....
23
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Quiet.
25
26 MR. PROBASCO:a year ago I was
27 lucky to hire our coordinator KJ.....
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Pete, I'm
30 having a hard time hearing. Whoever's in the back
31 talking, could you take it outside, I can't hear. What,
32 now you can't hear me -- can you hear me.
33
34 REPORTER: Yes, you're fine.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Pete, I'm
37 sorry.
38
39 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you. As I was saying
40 over a year ago, I was lucky to hire a very good Staff
41 member, KJ, and as with good Staff members they're hard
42 to hang on to. And KJ has been recently hired back by
43 BLM to lead their public affairs for the Pipeline
44 project. It's a great opportunity for KJ, and we're
45 going to miss her at OSM, and I'm sure you, on this
46 Council, are going to miss her because she has set the
47 bar for how coordinators should deal with their Councils.
48
49 So, KJ, I want to thank you and we're
50 going to miss you.

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, we are.
2 We got her so well trained.
3
4 (Applause)
5
6 MS. MUSHOVIC: Believe me I'm going to
7 miss you guys.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: She didn't even
10 tell me.
11
12 MR. GLANZ: You took care of us, KJ.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I started to --
15 try to, she said.
16
17 MR. PROBASCO: She wouldn't let me tell
18 you this but I told her I had to.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh.
21
22 MR. GLANZ: Thanks, Pete, for doing that
23 otherwise we wouldn't have ever known.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So is this her
26 last meeting?
27
28 MR. PROBASCO: That's correct.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: KJ.
31
32 MR. BASSICH: KJ, I'm going to feel
33 really lonely, I'm not going to get any more emails.
34
35 (Laughter)
36
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wow.
38
39 MS. MUSHOVIC: Well, don't worry, if you
40 really want me to, I'll send you emails about the
41 pipeline.
42
43 (Laughter)
44
45 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, I'm going to get any
46 more paperwork.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wow. So, I
49 have a question because of this, the next meeting who
50 would be -- will someone be hired by that time?

1 MR. PROBASCO: The answer is yes. These
2 are going to be big shoes to fill.....
3
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
5
6 MR. PROBASCO:so all I can say is
7 we're going to have a person hired, I don't know who that
8 is at this point in time. But our RAC process is our
9 priority, so this position will get filled before the
10 Native Liaison position.
11
12 Okay.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I can't believe
15 it.
16
17 MR. GLANZ: That puts a downer on our
18 closing comments.
19
20 (Laughter)
21
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, my
23 goodness. Do you guys each want to speak, Lester.
24
25 MR. ERHART: (Shakes head negatively)
26
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No closing
28 comments from Lester.
29
30 MR. ERHART: It's been fun. I've been
31 kind of quiet because a lot of this doesn't pertain to my
32 area. Other than that it's been fun, I appreciate it.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I appreciate
35 you sitting through stuff that's not in your area.
36
37 MR. ERHART: Especially those seven
38 caribou.
39
40 (Laughter)
41
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But you might
43 have to do something about the telephone.
44
45 MR. ERHART: Especially those seven
46 caribou.
47
48 (Laughter)
49
50 MR. GLANZ: We spent more time talking

1 about them than they will hunting them probably.
2
3 (Laughter)
4
5 MR. ERHART: Yeah, right.
6
7 (Laughter)
8
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No kidding.
10 Thanks, Lester, but we are going to work on the phone
11 thing, we got to put it on vibrate, so it's going to go
12 like this and nobody's going to hear it, okay.
13
14 MR. ERHART: Hey, those guys needed to
15 get in on that discussion.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, they did,
18 I agree.
19
20 MR. JESS: I have to confess I've been
21 calling Lester's number and hanging up.
22
23 (Laughter)
24
25 MR. ERHART: So that's been you, uh.
26
27 (Laughter)
28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.
30
31 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chairman.
32 I just want to say, although it was a long meeting and we
33 had a lot of tough discussion as usual, we had some
34 really varied viewpoints, which, I think always leads us
35 to the best decisions. I'm glad we're not a RAC that
36 just is unanimous on every vote. I think everyone here
37 seems to do their homework and seems impassioned and
38 every time I come here I learn a lot and I appreciate
39 that and I always walk away from here feeling like I've
40 learned a lot from all of you guys at the table.
41
42 And I'm really going to miss KJ because
43 I think she -- I agree with Pete, I think she sets the
44 bar really, really high.....
45
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's right
47 girl.
48
49 MR. BASSICH:and I'm really going
50 to miss that, someone to be here, and I'm sure we'll all

1 be working on a lot of issues in the future. But I
2 really enjoy the meetings with you guys.

3

4 Thanks.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

7

8 MR. FIRMIN: As always I enjoy learning
9 about everybody's new areas and seeing what they did in
10 the winter, over the summer in different parts of the
11 state that I may or may not have been able to visit over
12 the past years, but it's always a learning experience and
13 it's always fun.

14

15 And I'll miss KJ too, and all the
16 outstanding work she's done. And I'll miss Frank and his
17 opinion and he's always got a different view on things
18 and I'll be missing that also.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

21

22 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I don't have too
23 much to say. I think we had a good meeting. We had some
24 debate on some of the issues and sometimes it's a lot of
25 fun debating. I enjoy it.

26

27 (Laughter)

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Especially when
30 you put inflection in it.

31

32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah.

33

34 (Laughter)

35

36 MR. UMPHENOUR: But anyway and we had a
37 lot of public participation at this meeting, more than
38 what we normally have, which is real good. But that's
39 about all I have to say. And I'll miss you too KJ.

40

41 MS. MUSHOVIC: Thanks Virgil.

42

43 MR. UMPHENOUR: But you don't have to not
44 communicate with us with your new job.

45

46 (Laughter)

47

48 MR. GLANZ: Making her cry.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

1 MR. GLANZ: I think it was a great
2 meeting myself. And sorry sometimes I look a little
3 agitated but I just expect things to move a little faster
4 sometimes, guys, but everything else went good I think.
5 And I'm going to miss KJ also. And if I don't get
6 reappointed, this might be my last meeting, but I still
7 think the world of you guys, and, you know, I'll still
8 bug you, so either way.

9
10 You guys have a good winter.

11
12 MR. PROBASCO: Get that paperwork in.

13
14 MR. GLANZ: Oh, it went in a long time
15 ago, yeah.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry.

18
19 MR. L. WILLIAMS: Yeah, it was a very
20 good meeting. I'm still in the learning process. I've
21 been doing this for a lot of years. I've been the
22 Chairman of the Yukon Flats Advisory Committee for a lot
23 of years but it's still a learning process. And I'd also
24 like to thank KJ for sending me all the information and
25 keeping me updated on everything that's coming out, and
26 I'd really like to thank her publicly and thank you very
27 much.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Joe.

30
31 MR. MATESI: Well, I'd really like to
32 thank the elders on our Council here. They've been able
33 to provide a good anchor as far as how to keep things
34 straight in my own mind. And I wish everybody a warm
35 winter, safe winter, and don't get cabin fever.

36
37 (Laughter)

38
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, Council
40 members, I want to say that working with this group is
41 very good. We have a lot of different diverse ideas and
42 I think we work really well together. I really
43 appreciate all that everyone brings into the Council.
44 And I appreciate the Staff and all the work that they do
45 for us. And, Joe, you're doing a great job; Larry,
46 you're doing a great job; I really appreciate you guys.
47 You're new and it's great. And, Frank is really going to
48 be missed and I just enjoy having him around and really
49 appreciated his input.

50

1 And, KJ, I'm still in shock. She's
2 pretty good at keeping a secret, I can tell you that.
3 You absolutely do an outstanding job and you will be
4 missed. So a good RAC is their good coordinator and you
5 definitely have provided that for us, so you're greatly
6 appreciated.

7
8 So, I thank you guys.

9
10 (Applause)

11
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, thank you.
13 Everybody gets to hug her.

14
15 MR. GLANZ: KJ, are you going to be
16 working out of Fairbanks or Anchorage?

17
18 MS. MUSHOVIC: Anchorage.

19
20 MR. GLANZ: Anchorage. So you don't have
21 to move out of your house or anything. Good.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. I
24 entertain a motion to adjourn.

25
26 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.

27
28 (Laughter)

29
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: First and
31 second by you.

32
33 MR. GLANZ: Yep.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, we will
36 adjourn.

37
38 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, we don't care.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,
41 thank you guys.

42
43 (Off record)

44
45 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

