

1 EASTERN INTERIOR FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME II

7
8 Ft. Yukon, Alaska
9 October 14, 2009
10 9:00 o'clock a.m.
11

12
13 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

14
15 Sue Entsminger, Chairman
16 Andy Bassich
17 Andrew Firmin
18 Frank Gurtler
19 William Glanz
20 Virgil Umphenour

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27 Regional Council Coordinator, Vince Mathews
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44 Recorded and transcribed by:

45
46 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
47 135 Christensen Drive
48 Anchorage, AK 99501
49 907-243-0668
50 jpk@gci.net/sahile@gci.net

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Ft. Yukon, Alaska - 10/14/2009)

(On record)

CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right. We're going to get the ball rolling this morning. And I remember, last night you had an important thought on your mind there, Andy, regarding testimony going to the Fish Board. Do you want to expound on that.

MR. BASSICH: Certainly. Thank you, Madam Chair. Yeah, I'd like to make a motion that we submit the transcripts of last night's public testimony to the Board of Fish.

MR. UMPHENOUR: Second.

CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Got that second.

MR. BASSICH: And if there needs to be any discussion or justification, I just feel that this was a really good interaction with the people of Fort Yukon here. I think they did a very good job last night of sharing with us some of the frustrations, some of the issues that they have in this area with both fish and wildlife issues, communication issues, and I'd really like to see them encouraged to get more involved in the process. And I think that this would be a very good first step in getting their message out to both Boards, and hopefully get greater participation from the people of Fort Yukon in the future.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any other discussion. Exactly when are those dates again for that Fish Board meeting.

MR. UMPHENOUR: What are the dates?

MR. BASSICH: January 12th.

CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: January 12th.

MR. BASSICH: Was the late date for submission I think.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. And you
2 want to put it in as written?
3
4 MR. BASSICH: Yes.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And then when's
7 the meeting?
8
9 MR. BASSICH: The 26th I believe
10 through 31st.
11
12 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. And then
13 the public testimony will be the first three day or
14 something.
15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR: The first day.
17
18 MR. BASSICH: Generally.
19
20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, is there
21 only day?
22
23 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, one or two.
24
25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Because,
26 boy, I heard Board of Game is three days now. Okay.
27 And I get a confirmation over there. Yeah. At any
28 rate, I'll talk to Vince about it. So we're looking at
29 maybe sending a rep from RAC?
30
31 MR. MATHEWS: Yes. The OSM funds a
32 representative from each of the three councils.
33 Western Interior has their representatives from Ruby
34 going.
35
36 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And if Deborah
37 doesn't go with her two jars of fish, I would like to
38 know about that, because I think that would be awesome
39 to request her two jars of fish. And I'd consider it
40 if I had the time to go and even read her transcript
41 and stick up the two jars of fish, because to me that's
42 pretty powerful testimony. So I'm going to leave that
43 open. But at any rate I'm just giving that as
44 discussion under this idea. Yeah.
45
46 So anyone else have anything.
47
48 (No comments)
49
50 MR. GLANZ: Do you needs comments from

1 the public or we can call for the question?

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We can call for
4 the question.

5

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

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All in favor.

9

10 IN UNISON: Aye.

11

12 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: No one opposed.

13

14 (No opposing votes)

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. You
17 weren't opposed, right? No, I'm kidding, Gil.

18

19 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you, Madam Chair.

20 Before we leave fish, I have a motion I want to put
21 forward, and my motion is I would like for the RAC to
22 request the transcript of the deliberations of the
23 proposals for the Yukon River from the January -- the
24 Yukon River proposals from the January of 2001 Board of
25 Fish meeting. I would like to request that we get a
26 copy of that and that a copy of it be provided to the
27 Board of Fisheries as well.

28

29 MR. BASSICH: Second.

30

31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any more
32 discussion there, Virgil. Or let's have Andy do that.

33

34 MR. BASSICH: I guess the only question
35 I had, Virgil, is I'm sure those transcripts are fairly
36 large and lengthy. Is there a particular area of that
37 transcript that you would like to focus on?

38

39 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. I want to focus
40 on the proposals addressing mesh size and stock status,
41 because they were in the same situation in 2001,
42 addressed some of the exact same proposals that are
43 going to be before the Board at this meeting. So it
44 was addressing the same exact issue, except nine years
45 earlier. And so that the Board can see what the Board
46 discussed and how they approached these same issues
47 nine years ago, because we don't need to be reinventing
48 the wheel and that can demonstrate to them that they're
49 going through the same exact thing that the Board did
50 nine years previous.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andy.
2
3 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madam Chair.
4 And, Virgil, can you enlighten me, would this
5 discussion in these transcripts also refer to the
6 windows program and how it was supposed to be
7 implemented?
8
9 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. It will have
10 that in it, plus it will be the discussion and the
11 debate over whether to go to six-inch mesh or not.
12
13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: If you were a
14 Board member, would you be reading all that?
15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR: If the Board member
17 don't read it, it doesn't really make that much
18 difference, because when I give my presentation, and
19 we're going to have to divide this up, because I've
20 discussed with all the co-proposers on the proposals we
21 have, what we're going to do is we are going to
22 allocate out different parts of how we want to present
23 the science in our testimony, and so that way we can
24 refer to that when we give our AC and RAC testimonies.
25
26 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right.
27 What did you have, Vince.
28
29 MR. MATHEWS: Well, my understanding
30 is, is they don't have transcripts, they have tapes,
31 and I don't know if Audrey can confirm that, but we can
32 get tapes, if they exist. I don't know if they've
33 transcribed them.
34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes, Virgil.
36
37 MR. UMPHENOUR: On important issues,
38 many times when they think there -- especially if they
39 think that there could be legal action taken, the Board
40 of Fisheries does transcribe portions of the transcript
41 that relate to proposals where they think there could
42 potentially be legal action. And so many times parts
43 of those tapes are transcribed. I don't know whether
44 those are or not, but I'm going to -- the Fairbanks AC
45 will put forward the same request, and so if we -- they
46 hit it from two different entities, there's a good
47 chance that I -- and then we can put political pressure
48 forward through our politicians to encourage the
49 Commissioner to have this done.
50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay.
2 Regardless, if it's transcripts or a tape, I bet you --
3 in my travels, I could be listening to a tape faster
4 than I can read something sometimes, because you have a
5 chance to do it. So at any rate, they'd have it in
6 whatever form it comes in. That's fine.
7
8 So is there any other discussion.
9
10 (No comments)
11
12 MR. GLANZ: Call for the question.
13
14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All in favor.
15
16 IN UNISON: Aye.
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
19
20 (No opposing votes)
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. So now
23 we are officially leaving fish. No.
24
25 MR. BASSICH: No, I've got a follow up.
26
27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: A follow up?
28
29 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. Vince, if that is
30 made available, and as soon as that's made available,
31 can you make sure that that makes it to all of our
32 Council members, whether it be in a tape form or
33 whether it be in a transcript form?
34
35 MR. MATHEWS: Right.
36
37 MR. BASSICH: Thank you.
38
39 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Let's verify
40 it. Andrew just passed a note about did we subdivide
41 the 5D or 5YD, is it, in a motion?
42
43 MR. BASSICH: Madam Chair. I don't
44 think that has to be done in a motion. I think -- it's
45 my understanding that the Department can do that. It's
46 not something that has to be done in a proposal. I
47 might be wrong on that, but I think.....
48
49 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, I think
50 we want to support something, right, Andrew?

1 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, I'd just like to see
2 that shortened, because, I mean, that's a 250-mile
3 stretch of river there. And that's just -- I look at
4 the map and it doesn't seem to be that way with the
5 other subsections.

6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Did you want to
8 make a motion so we support subdividing or do you
9 think.....

10
11 MR. FIRMIN: I think so, at least split
12 that into two or something.

13
14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. And then
15 you don't have any specific boundaries?

16
17 MR. FIRMIN: Well, from the comments
18 last night, somewhere between -- you know, because it
19 stops by Stevens, right? Below Stevens?

20
21 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes.

22
23 MR. FIRMIN: And then it goes all the
24 way to Circle. Why not cut that in half in the middle
25 somewhere above Beaver, in between Beaver and Fort
26 Yukon.

27
28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Let's give him
29 a chance. Did you want to make the motion, or do you
30 want Andy take a stab at it?

31
32 MR. FIRMIN: I could let Andy take a
33 stab at it. I haven't quite got my wording down yet.

34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right.

36
37 MR. FIRMIN: I just -- well, I guess I
38 could. I just want to make a motion to subdivide 5YD
39 into smaller subsections, to make it smaller so our
40 openings and closings.....

41
42 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And that's what
43 we support. Okay.

44
45 MR. GLANZ: I'll second his motion.
46 Where would you like to have the dividing line, that's
47 what I'd like to know, but I'll second it.

48
49 MR. FIRMIN: Right there at the
50 Hadweenzic River.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. And it's
2 on the floor for discussion. Andy.

3
4 MR. BASSICH: Madam Chair. Yeah, if
5 it's acceptable, I'd like to amend that motion
6 actually. I think it should be -- 5YD should be
7 divided into three separate subunits. They've already
8 divided it into two and that obviously didn't work this
9 year for management strategies. So I think the
10 boundaries should be from Stevens and Beaver in one
11 section. It should be Fort Yukon to Circle in another,
12 and then it should be from Circle to the U.S./Canadian
13 border for the third subsection.

14
15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andrew, would
16 you accept that as a friendly amendment?

17
18 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.

19
20 MR. GLANZ: I'll accept second on that
21 also.

22
23 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. So that
24 is the motion on the floor.

25
26 Any other discussion. Yes, Virgil.

27
28 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. This placeholder
29 the Department has, Proposal 87, that proposal leaves
30 this open to -- you know, because that's just a
31 placeholder proposal to do anything they want to to the
32 management plan. And so that proposal actually is a
33 vehicle for this motion.

34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So then we can
36 add this motion to our comments when we supported that?

37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Correct.

39
40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. And
41 that's what I recommend of the committee. All in
42 agreement?

43
44 MR. GLANZ: Say again? We was talking
45 about the (indiscernible, away from microphone).

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: This proposal
48 that we supported on the fisheries.....

49
50 MR. UMPHENOUR: Proposal 87.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER:State
2 fisheries, it's Proposal 87, opens the window to do
3 that. And so we're going to add this to our comments
4 in support of that proposal.
5
6 MR. GLANZ: Oh, okay.
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
9 understood? Any other discussion.
10
11 (No comments)
12
13 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: The question's
16 been called for. All in favor.
17
18 IN UNISON: Aye.
19
20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
21
22 (No opposing votes)
23
24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now I
25 believe we might be officially leaving fish.
26
27 MR. GLANZ: Are we done with fish.
28
29 MR. UMPHENOUR: One final thing.
30
31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, my
32 goodness. One final thing. Okay.
33
34 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. The final thing
35 I have on the fish is directed at the people that live
36 at Fort Yukon. And that is that in order to help the
37 situation of the people in Fort Yukon, which is to have
38 more responsible fisheries management so that you have
39 a reasonable opportunity to get your subsistence needs
40 met, is to participate in the Board of Fish process and
41 attend the Board of Fish meeting in Fairbanks the 26th
42 through the 31st of January. And so I'm encouraging
43 you to get as many people as you can that can go there
44 and you need to work through your local advisory
45 committee. I know that your local advisory committee
46 is getting ready to have -- that's the Yukon Flats
47 Advisory Committee, is getting ready to have an AC
48 meeting here real quick. I'm not sure exactly what
49 date it is, but it's within the next week or two I
50 think.

1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Next month.
2
3 MR. UMPHENOUR: Next month. Okay.
4 Anyway, I encourage you to get with your local advisory
5 committee and to coordinate representation. But the
6 more people you have there, the better off you're going
7 to be and the better you will be heard, and the better
8 chance you'll have of getting something positive done
9 that's going to benefit the people that live in the
10 Yukon Flats. And if you need help on that, you can
11 work through the Advisory Committee process with the
12 co-author Advisory Committees on these various
13 proposals. And all these people, two of us are sitting
14 here at the table right now. We're also chairmen of
15 Advisory Committees. We will help you with that.
16
17 But that's all I have to say on fish.
18 I'm done with fish. Madam Chair.
19
20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right. You
21 know, we thought we were done with fish, but there was
22 a Norton Sound proposal to the North Pacific Fisheries.
23 And actually I -- did you guys get that in the mail?
24 They wanted to change the structure of that National
25 Marine Fish -- I can't say it all -- Council, the one
26 that does the.....
27
28 MR. UMPHENOUR: North Pacific Council.
29
30 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: North Pacific
31 Council, yes. So do you guys remember it? Because
32 they were going to put more of the users on it than the
33 commercial. That was the -- yeah. Uh-huh. We don't
34 have copies in our.....
35
36 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, you do have copies.
37 You have the -- I sent you the original letter that
38 looks like this.
39
40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right.
41
42 MR. MATHEWS: I don't remember if I
43 sent you Senator Murkowski's response to the Southern
44 Norton Sound Fish and Game Advisory Committee. And
45 just to.....
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Is it in our
48 green one?
49
50 MR. MATHEWS: It should be in your

1 green one. And then Western Interior did take this up
2 and they supported it with a modification to have one
3 representative from the Yukon and one representative
4 from the Kuskokwim. And I don't know if the Yukon-
5 Kuskokwim Delta Advisory Committee took this up, nor do
6 I know if Seward Pen took it up.

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, I
9 recommend we take it up, Council, because this is the
10 -- in all the years that I've been working with you
11 guys, not being on the Yukon River myself, but I can
12 tell you that that seems to be a very important thing
13 that we should support some change. We don't
14 necessarily have to support exactly what they came up
15 with. Actually it's right on top for me. Art Ivanoff,
16 from Art Ivanoff?

17

18 MR. MATHEWS: Yes.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. And his
21 proposal was four voting seats for Federally-recognized
22 tribes and/or Alaska Native organizations from the Y-K.
23 So I just think it should be -- and did you say Western
24 did two?

25

26 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, Western went with
27 two, did not use a tribal platform. They just used
28 in-river people.

29

30 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I guess what I
31 would-- what I was thinking, Council members, just to
32 speed this along, is four voting seats from Federally-
33 qualified subsistence users on the Y-K. I doubt it's
34 going to do something, but it's definitely something to
35 send a message that that Council needs more
36 representation than what's on it.

37

38 Because I spent some time this fall,
39 Denby Lloyd came on a sheep hunt with myself and my
40 brother, and we talked about this, and he told the that
41 cap, you know, as his representation on the Council,
42 trying to get that cap lowered, if they went with the
43 lowest cap, they'd have got nothing, because of the
44 commercial interests on that Council. So, you know, it
45 sounds like it's, you know, a group that's pretty tough
46 to work with. And if you had more representation by
47 Federally-qualified subsistence users on there, it
48 might be a little more balanced.

49

50 So do I hear any motions on support or

1 not support?
2
3 MR. GLANZ: I'll make a motion that we
4 support that resolution. Is that a resolution or.....
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: The four?
7
8 MR. GLANZ: For the four members, yes.
9
10 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Four Federally-
11 qualified subsistence users from the Y-K?
12
13 MR. GLANZ: Correct. Yes, this is the
14 Y-K. I don't know -- that's speaking to tribes, but
15 just the Y-K.
16
17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do I
18 hear a second.
19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR: Second.
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay.
23 Discussion.
24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes, Madam Chair.
26 Okay. So we amended it. Read to me how it's amended
27 so I can understand this better.
28
29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We're making
30 our own motion, so it's not amended or anything. We're
31 recommending four seats, Federally-qualified
32 subsistence users from the Y-K.
33
34 MR. UMPHENOUR: I like that, Madam
35 Chair. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council,
36 in fact all of the management councils, the Federal
37 management councils are absolutely absurd, because what
38 they have is the people that are appointed, every one
39 of them has a conflict of interest. It's like.....
40
41 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We know that
42 .We know that.
43
44 MR. UMPHENOUR:training a pack of
45 wolves to guard a herd of caribou. It's the same damn
46 thing. It's no different.
47
48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I don't think
49 we have to go through a huge discussion. We're all how
50 many years aware of this. So, thanks, Virgil. I don't

1 like the wolves after the meat anyway.
2
3 Any other discussion.
4
5 (No comments)
6
7 MR. BASSICH: Call for question
8
9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: The question's
10 been called for. All in favor.
11
12 IN UNISON: Aye.
13
14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
15
16 (No opposing votes)
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. I didn't
19 mean to move it too fast, but we've got a lot to take
20 up.
21
22 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, that's fine.
23
24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
25
26 MR. MATHEWS: And all I need is
27 direction. This would go to the North Pacific Fishery
28 Management Council. Did you also want a copy to go to
29 the Governor's Office since the Governor also appoints
30 members.
31
32 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes.
33
34 MR. UMPHENOUR: And it should go to
35 the.....
36
37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Do we need it
38 to go to our Federal Subsistence Board.
39
40 MR. MATHEWS: If you read her response
41 to Ivanoff, she has contacted the Governor's Office,
42 requesting he consider a rural subsistence member for
43 one of the seats on the Council.
44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well,
46 just so we get the right entities, Vince. We trust
47 that you know how to do that for us. Thank you.
48
49 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Well, I just need
50 your empowerment so when I get back to the office it's

1 there.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right.

4 You've got it. Okay.

5

6 Now, did we miss anything there? I
7 don't think we did, because we got all those reports
8 yesterday.

9

10 So now we're moving into wildlife
11 issues. And first is Federal proposals, the call for
12 2010-2012. Chuck's going to give us an update.

13

14 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair, Chuck
15 Ardizzone for the record.

16

17 Under this topic, I think we have a
18 couple things to cover that you covered before, if we
19 juggle the order a little bit, if we go back over the
20 old things that we need to revalidate, and then we can
21 jump in the new proposals. Would that be okay?

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Sure

24

25 MR. ARDIZZONE: So at your last meeting
26 there was a closer review that was covered for 25D West
27 moose. There's a closure in that area. Based on some
28 things that happened in the Federal Register, the
29 meetings weren't properly noticed, so we just need to
30 reaffirm your decision, which was to maintain that
31 closure in 25D West. And then there was also a
32 proposal submitted that we would have to reaffirm based
33 on that same reasoning that the meetings weren't
34 properly noticed. It just could be a quick vote that
35 you.....

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Is that in your
38 book?

39

40 MR. ARDIZZONE: If you go to Page 16
41 under your minutes, that would probably be the quickest
42 way to cover those two things.

43

44 MR. MATHEWS: And if needed, you have a
45 full copy of the analysis, but it may not be necessary.

46

47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: No. I think --
48 so what you're telling us just.....

49

50 MR. ARDIZZONE: This is more of a

1 housekeeping thing, because you already covered it.
2 It's just the meeting wasn't properly noticed.

3

4 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I see.

5

6 MR. ARDIZZONE: We just need to
7 reaffirm your vote and then we can get those over with
8 and go on to new proposals. So if you look on Page 16,
9 on the bottom of the page, that's the closure review
10 discussion. It's WCR08-22, Unit 25D West moose.
11 There's a closure in that area to non-Federally-
12 qualified users, and your vote was eight to one at that
13 time to maintain the closure. I would just need that
14 revalidated.

15

16 And then on the next page, at the very
17 top of the page, is the moose proposal that was
18 submitted to align seasons in 25C with Unit 20E so all
19 the seasons would be the same. And that was also an
20 eight to one -- or eight with one absent vote. So it
21 was pretty clean. It was just, like I said, the
22 meeting wasn't properly noticed in the Federal
23 Register, so we have to get it on the record again.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Gee. Okay.

26

27 MR. GLANZ: Chuck, I have to amend
28 that. Could we do that right now with this one?

29

30 MR. ARDIZZONE: We can do that at this
31 time, too. I just wanted -- these should be more of a
32 housekeeping issue than anything else.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Bill.

35

36 MR. GLANZ: The reason that -- when I
37 made the motion, I asked for 25C, all Federal lands in
38 25C. And it says that here, if you have it handy
39 there, guys.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Is that in our
42 pamphlet? Okay.

43

44 MR. GLANZ: Yes. It's on Page 8. What
45 page was that?

46

47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Page 9.

48

49 MR. GLANZ: Page 17.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, 17, I'm
2 sorry.
3
4 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. Okay.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And what's the
7 amendment.
8
9 MR. GLANZ: Okay. The amendment is I
10 had it for all of 25C, and it came out as all of 25C,
11 but then in the paragraph three it says, to run in
12 conjunction -- the existing Federal, September 1st to
13 15th, fall moose season is more restrictive. Those
14 portions within Yukon-Charley National Preserve.
15
16 In other words, this is like dealing
17 with the Yukon-Charley Federal Preserve, but I wanted
18 it for all the Federal lands in 25C, because if you
19 look at the map, we're just a little white island
20 there. Everything else is Federal all around us. And
21 are inundated with non-resident hunters and everything.
22 Fairbanks and Anchorage hunters up there solid. And
23 the Fort Yukon residents could come down there, and
24 Circle residents come down in all the Federal grounds
25 there. Wild and scenic rivers. We've got all kinds of
26 hunting areas there that aren't exploited at all,
27 because the season's only two weeks long for it. So
28 I'd like to make it for.....
29
30 In regards it would be amended to read,
31 eliminate paragraph -- well, you could put paragraph 3,
32 but amend it to those portions within, you know,
33 Federally-qualified lands or whatever you want to call
34 it. Federal lands. All Federally-administered lands.
35
36 MR. ARDIZZONE: So all Federal lands in
37 Unit 25C?
38
39 MR. GLANZ: Yes, that's the way I'd
40 like to amend it. Because this is what it says up
41 here, 25C, one antlered bull August 20-September 30th
42 in paragraph 2.
43
44 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. And did
45 we discuss that at the last meeting?
46
47 MR. GLANZ: Yes, we did. We voted on
48 it at the last meeting. That's way it came out, but it
49 came out written in a different.....
50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right. So
2 just to keep things clean, what was your motion to
3 start with.

4
5 MR. GLANZ: My motion was to have all
6 Federal grounds on 25 coincide with the same seasons at
7 Yukon-Charley National Preserve.

8
9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. It
10 sounds like.....

11
12 MR. GLANZ: Because the north bank of
13 the river, we could hunt, the south bank we couldn't.
14 But then I wanted to make it within all Federal lands
15 in 25C. That was my motion.

16
17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. And that
18 doesn't reflect what's in the minutes, right?

19
20 MR. GLANZ: Exactly. Yes.

21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. So we
23 need two motions here. One to take up the first one
24 08-22 and this one. Does this one have a number?

25
26 MR. ARDIZZONE: No, this was just a
27 proposal. It doesn't have a number yet. The other one
28 was the closure review.

29
30 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. I
31 gotcha. Right. Right. So we're going to take up
32 yours first.

33
34 MR. GLANZ: Okay. Sounds fair.

35
36 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And you have
37 the motion on the floor.

38
39 MR. GLANZ: Yes.

40
41 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Second?

42
43 MR. GURTLER: Second.

44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. There's
46 a second. Any other discussion.

47
48 (No comments)

49
50 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All in favor.
2
3 IN UNISON: Aye.
4
5 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
6
7 (No opposing votes)
8
9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. So now
10 taking up 08-22. Just want to reaffirm it. I need a
11 motion.
12
13 MR. GLANZ: Okay. What page -- I was
14 on the wrong page. What page is that again.
15
16 MR. ARDIZZONE: It's Page 16.
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: 16. The bottom
19 of 16.
20
21 MR. GLANZ: Okay. I've got it, okay.
22 I'll make a motion to go with that one or whatever it
23 is. Accept it.
24
25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: 08-22.
26
27 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
28
29 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'd second.
30
31 MR. ARDIZZONE: So, Madam Chair, so the
32 motion would be to maintain closure?
33
34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes. And based
35 on the discussion at the last meeting, unless you guys
36 have something new to bring up.
37
38 Any other discussion, this is basically
39 housecleaning. Okay. No discussion.
40
41 (No comments)
42
43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I'm assuming
44 we're on the question.
45
46 MR. FIRMIN: Question.
47
48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All in favor.
49
50 IN UNISON: Aye.

1 (No opposing votes)
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now, got
4 that issue taken care of.
5
6 MR. ARDIZZONE: So, Madam Chair, now
7 would be the time if there's any new wildlife proposals
8 that the Council would like to bring to the table.
9 This is when we could cover those.
10
11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right. Now
12 Andrew brought up Unit 25D, so I would actually like to
13 call the Staff up, Fish and Wildlife Service and
14 Department of Fish and Game. We might have to -- you
15 could take the lead, Andrew, and kind of give us some
16 ideas and then some questions of Staff.
17
18 MR. FIRMIN: Okay. One of the things
19 that I wanted to do was, we're going to have to work
20 this out, and like she was saying earlier, might have
21 to make a subcommittee to go over the writing of this
22 with you guys. But what I'd like to do is see the
23 Federal lands in the remainder of Unit 25D have a
24 closure as they do in the remainder of like 25D West to
25 Federally-qualified users. I mean, basically meaning
26 local rural residents under Federally-qualified user to
27 only be allowed to only be allowed to hunt on those
28 Federal lands in the remainder of 25D West until --
29 because we're having the same moose population problems
30 as they are in that area.
31
32 MR. GLANZ: You want 25D on the east
33 though, not west. The west's already got it.
34
35 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, the west is already
36 on there, but I'd like to see the remainder of 25D,
37 Federal lands, be in the same -- is that a Federally-
38 registered permit area? It's not a drawing for people
39 or.....
40
41 MR. BERTRAM: 25D remainder is.....
42
43 MR. FIRMIN: West. No, I'm saying I
44 want to make it like 25D West, so that's kind of what
45 I'm comparing it to. And my question is, is that just
46 Federal registration that only local people can
47 register in, or is it a drawing that anybody can
48 register with.
49
50 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah. I mean, what would

1 -- if you want to mirror what's being done on the west,
2 then on the east you would have a Federal hunt, and
3 there would be a -- I mean, if it was mirrored as we
4 have it set up in the west, there would be some type of
5 a harvest quota associated with that that would be
6 split between villages that hunt 25D East. And then on
7 private or State lands you would have a Tier II hunt
8 that would be open to all Alaska residents. So that
9 would mirror what you've got on 25D West.

10

11 MR. FIRMIN: Okay. But on the
12 Federally-qualified users, the subsistence users,
13 that's open to anybody in the State as well, right, but
14 you just have to.....

15

16 MR. BERTRAM: No.

17

18 MR. FIRMIN: No.

19

20 MR. BERTRAM: No, that would be only
21 available to residents of 25D East and there would be
22 some type of a harvest quota established, a certain
23 number of moose that could be harvested, you know, a
24 number to be determined based on the harvest -- not the
25 harvest, but the population estimation. And that's how
26 it would be worked out.

27

28 MR. FIRMIN: As the local area
29 biologist, would you just have any number that you
30 could think of in your head that -- like they have 60
31 permits a year down at Birch Creek-Beaver-Stevens.

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, go ahead.

34

35 MS. LENART: Chairman. Andrew. Just a
36 little bit of background in how we got to where we are.
37 Even like in 1980 they identified 25D West as a bit of
38 a separate population of moose that was lower density
39 than 25D East. And so that's sort of how we got to
40 where we are in the 25D West regulations.

41

42 And in order to eliminate other users
43 in the area, even the Federal process, I mean, it
44 wouldn't be just, okay, that sounds like a good idea.
45 We'd have to go through the reasonable opportunity and
46 all that. And so there would be a process to identify
47 whether or not you could exclude other users even on
48 Federal land. So we'd still have to go through that
49 process for the Federal side, and also on the State
50 side, if you wanted to do a Tier II, that would be the

1 same thing, that the very first thing we'd have to do
2 is identify whether or not it even qualifies for a Tier
3 II hunt. And we can go down that path.

4
5 In the past when ACs and community
6 members have talked about whether or not it was a good
7 idea to try to look at 25D East as a Tier II permit,
8 many folks felt like that was a more complicated
9 process, because you have additional paperwork to deal
10 with. And folks were really trying -- you know, when
11 Bob Stephenson was the area biologist, they were really
12 trying to try to make regulations so everybody was
13 legal. Now it's still complicated, because it's always
14 a paperwork process, and that doesn't always lend
15 itself to working out very well. So we'd have to go
16 through that process and identifying -- you're right.

17
18 I mean, we believe that the 24D West
19 moose population is of lower density than the 25D East,
20 but we know that 25D East is not a high population
21 density. So it could be that it does fall within the
22 realm that the Federal system could exclude other
23 users, and it could go Tier II. But, you know, we'd
24 have to go through that process first.

25
26 And I would just like to hear from
27 folks. In the past we heard that folks didn't want to
28 go down that more complicated paperwork process. And
29 if that's changed, then maybe we can.....

30
31 MR. FIRMIN: Well, the Tier II, I think
32 we could leave that as the harvest or a separate issue,
33 because I think anybody in their right mind that got a
34 Tier II area up here would just kind of be like where
35 am I supposed to hunt. You know, I mean it would be
36 too complicated for somebody that didn't have a bunch
37 of maps, and he has to run around up here during
38 harvest season.

39
40 And I just kind of want to get a foot
41 in the door to get the Federal subsistence, because we
42 have a high population density of people here Native
43 and local-wise. I mean, there's more people in this
44 room than there is in Birch Creek and Beaver put
45 together, you know, and they get -- I mean, that's a
46 fact. I mean, I don't know how many people live in
47 Stevens, 100? Maybe a little more. 60. The same --
48 Beaver's got 60. I mean, Birch Creek got 20 on a good
49 day.

50

1 So, I mean, there's more people in town
2 here than there is in all three of those villages put
3 together, and I'd just like to see something different
4 to make it fair for hunters around here that have to
5 compete with all these people that can must cruise up
6 the river with their boats and do whatever they want
7 around here. And it's just hard to compete with
8 somebody that -- like people were saying last night,
9 somebody that's got an airplane and a jet boat on the
10 ground, it's kind of hard to compete with people like
11 that for moose, because basically we've got whatever a
12 guy can walk off the river where he knows where there's
13 lakes or something. That's just how we've been doing
14 it for years. But it's getting harder with outside
15 competition.

16
17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So since
18 there's a call for proposals, the deadline is November
19 5th to get the proposals in, Andrew, I need to ask you,
20 do you want to have -- do you have a proposal in your
21 mind right now, or do you think it would be important
22 to try to get the State and the Feds in a group
23 together and then meet the deadline of the 5th?

24
25 MR. FIRMIN: I would like to see that
26 at least attempted or to get it on -- to get something
27 going in the near future.

28
29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes. See, we
30 have to have it done by the 5th.

31
32 MR. FIRMIN: If we aren't fishing,
33 people are going to be moose hunting. If we don't even
34 have that resource, then what else are we going to turn
35 to.

36
37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right. So.....

38
39 MR. FIRMIN: I mean, it's either going
40 to make criminals out of people around here, because
41 they're hungry.

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Do you have a
44 proposal in your mind that you would like to do?

45
46 MR. FIRMIN: I had one here, but I
47 don't know if the wording's quite right. What did I do
48 with that?

49
50 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Can you explain

1 to me in simple what it would do?

2

3 MR. FIRMIN: It would isolate Federal
4 subsistence lands, as you can see, the checkerboard
5 around here, to only Federally-qualified users from --
6 which would be Fort Yukon and Chalkyitsik.

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. And
9 then do you think you'll see a.....

10

11 MR. FIRMIN: And I guess Circle is
12 probably in that, too. People from those three
13 villages can hunt as they do in Beaver.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Are you happy
16 with the C&T as it is right now so you know who would
17 qualify? That's important, too. Sometimes you do
18 this, and then there's not enough people in the C&T.

19

20 MR. FIRMIN: That was why I'm bringing
21 it up.

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: What's in the
24 C&T now? Let's look at that. I want to be sure.
25 Rural residents of 25D West are in 25D West. And it
26 looks like rural residents of 25A and 25D have a C&T
27 for 25A. I don't see a 25D.....

28

29 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chair. Turn the
30 page, it's on top.

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, remainder.
33 Okay. For 25D remainder, rural residents of all of 25.
34 Does that include everyone?

35

36 MR. UMPHENOUR: In the remainder of 25.

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, the
39 remainder of 25. So there's people that don't qualify
40 in part of 25D.

41

42 MR. ARDIZZONE: Anybody who lives in
43 the remainder, qualifies in the remainder.

44

45 MR. BERTRAM: So 25D east is in
46 remainder of 25.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Is that enough?
49 Do you know what I'm saying?

50

1 MR. FIRMIN: Well, basically in my
2 mind, what that would do is take the remainder of 25D
3 West, which goes from the lower mouth of the Birch
4 Creek on down the Yukon, and I forget where the
5 boundary -- the boundary's pretty much the same on the
6 north side of the river, I think from the Hadweenzic on
7 down. That makes that closed to people that only live
8 in those three villages, Birch Creek, Stevens and
9 Beaver. That sums it up.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And that's what
12 you want.

13

14 MR. FIRMIN: And that's what I want on
15 the other side of the river, so those Federal lands,
16 only people from Fort Yukon, Chalkyitsik and I guess
17 Circle. I don't know, Venetie's in there. I don't know
18 where Venetie falls in there.

19

20 MR. GLANZ: Circle's in 25C.

21

22 MR. FIRMIN: Circle's i 25C. So, yeah,
23 that would leave Fort Yukon and Chalkyitsik. And they
24 would be the only people that would be allowed to hunt
25 on those Federal lands.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. And you
28 feel that's sufficient?

29

30 MR. FIRMIN: Yes, that's a start.

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Council
33 members. Who does? Vince.

34

35 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. I think we got the
36 picture that you want to mirror it, but do you also
37 want -- if you look in the Federal one for West, the
38 Refuge lands are closed. Did you want that component
39 in your proposal for 25 East, or whatever you want to
40 call it. Remainder. I believe you do, I just need it
41 on the record that you want that mirrored.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that's
44 the difference. Boy, these are complicated regs.

45

46 MR. BERTRAM: If I could just say one
47 thing, Madam Chair.

48

49 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

50

1 MR. BERTRAM: Mark Bertram with Fish
2 and Wildlife Service.

3
4 And that is, one thing, Andrew, that
5 you should -- you know, as you look at this is, looking
6 at the land status, because I just understood you to
7 say you're -- really one of the goals is you're trying
8 to separate village uses so that Beaver, Birch Creek
9 and Stevens are hunting on the west and Chalkyitsik and
10 Fort Yukon are hunting more so the east; is that
11 correct?

12
13 MR. FIRMIN: No, that's incorrect.
14 What I'm trying to do is get people that drive up the
15 highway and come in my backyard and shoot moose, you
16 know, a mile from my cabin, that came for 2,000 miles
17 away. That just kind of irks me as people aren't
18 getting moose enough around here as it is, and that's
19 just the type of competition that I want to eliminate.
20 I don't care if they go moose hunt and if they can get
21 a Tier II permit somewhere else, or they can hunt on
22 the regular harvest season in the middle of Fort Yukon.
23 I just want the Federal lands allocated for Federally-
24 qualified subsistence users.

25
26 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And, see, one
27 of the things that we had talked about a break, too,
28 and that's what I need to know from you, Andrew, we can
29 write a proposal right now, or we could get you on a
30 committee and you work it out with Vince and Staff, and
31 it just comes from Eastern Interior as long as the
32 Council agrees. So if that works for you guys, and
33 then you could get more input from your community if
34 that works.

35
36 MR. FIRMIN: That's kind of what I was
37 hoping for right there, so we can form a committee and
38 keep going on this, because I don't want to rush into
39 anything to where we're going to end up getting screwed
40 in the long run or something, a small item was
41 overlooked that we might not have wanted.

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right. Yeah, I
44 think that would be a pretty good way to go. We've
45 been doing that. When you come up with the idea, you
46 get to be the head of the committee.

47
48 MR. GLANZ: And then what are you going
49 to do with State land? I see all that white in there.
50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: He's going to
2 have to work that out with his committee.
3
4 MR. FIRMIN: I think that would be just
5 be the same as just leave that open for harvest as it
6 is. If somebody wants to hunt in front of town across
7 the river from Fort Yukon from wherever they're from,
8 that's just fine with me. They'll get sick of that
9 real quick.
10
11 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. They see Birch Creek
12 (indiscernible, away from microphone).
13
14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. So -- go
15 ahead.
16
17 MR. BERTRAM: I was just going to make
18 one last comment, just a suggestion, that as this is
19 getting fleshed out, it might not be a bad idea to get
20 this on the agenda for the Yukon Flats Advisory
21 Committee in November, and then you'd have another
22 opportunity to, you know, work on the.....
23
24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But the Federal
25 side is closed on the 5th.
26
27 MR. BERTRAM: Oh, I'm sorry. I'm
28 sorry.
29
30 MS. LENART: And I don't think we're
31 going to have our meeting until probably like the.....
32
33 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But if he's --
34 we're going to -- that's what I would suggest, Council
35 members, that he works with the agencies and the
36 communities and comes up with a proposal.
37
38 And do you guys want to review it
39 before it goes in from Eastern Interior. Discussion.
40
41 MR. BASSICH: Madam Chair, I'd be
42 comfortable with the committee developing the proposal
43 and supporting it as the RAC.
44
45 MR. GLANZ: Would you make that in a
46 motion then, Andy?
47
48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: There's a
49 suggestion that you make the motion.
50

1 MR. GLANZ: I'll make it.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Bill
4 says he'll do it.
5
6 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. I make a motion that
7 we support what the committee comes up with for the
8 Fish and Game Board meeting in the spring there for the
9 Feds.
10
11 MR. FIRMIN: Second.
12
13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
14 other discussion.
15
16 (No comments)
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That's pretty
19 easy, guys. All in favor.
20
21 IN UNISON: Aye.
22
23 (No opposing votes)
24
25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. So while
26 these guys are here, is there any other questions of
27 the Refuge or Fish and Game. They'll be giving reports
28 later I guess, too, so.
29
30 (No comments)
31
32 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Go
33 ahead.
34
35 MS. LENART: Madam Chair. I have one
36 question. Because your deadline is coming up so
37 closely, I know I'm supposed to be here next week for
38 the Gwich'insa tribal meeting, and I think somebody
39 from the Refuge is also going to be here. I'd just
40 hate -- two weeks can go by so quickly, and I'd hate
41 for you to miss your deadline. So one of my other
42 questions is, is there opportunity to amend a proposal
43 later on, or that's -- I mean, like in the Board of
44 Game we can do that.
45
46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We can as a
47 council recommend a change, yes.
48
49 MR. ARDIZZONE: Well, Madam Chair, I
50 was going to say the deadline is firm this year. We

1 went to a new system. So whatever's in has to be in by
2 November 5th. There's no changing it. However, when
3 it comes back to the Council at the next meeting your
4 recommendation could be to modify the proposal.

5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, uh-huh.
7 Right. So that's the way it works. Yeah.

8
9 And I did see a hand back there.
10 James, did you have something to contribute to.....

11
12 MR. KELLEY: I had a couple of
13 questions.

14
15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'll
16 allow him to.

17
18 MR. KELLEY: Yeah, James Kelley with
19 CATG, the acting natural resource director.

20
21 The question I've got for Andrew. If
22 you could establish timeline when you would like to see
23 this, you know, implemented if it gets approved,
24 because you're talking about November 5th deadlines and
25 stuff like that. And I'm kind of concerned, because
26 not knowing really the feelings of the people that are
27 already under a Tier II system, how the system is
28 working for them, you know. And I think this is going
29 to be -- really this will be a comprehensive survey
30 that goes across everybody to find out whether they
31 would approach this Tier II approach, because once you
32 establish a Tier II, how easy is it to get back to the
33 Federal -- the recognized program we have today in the
34 system.

35
36 MR. FIRMIN: Well, actually I'm not
37 really trying to get a Tier II right here. So if you
38 look on your map, you see all the pink lands, the pink
39 within the white?

40
41 MR. KELLEY: Yeah.

42
43 MR. FIRMIN: The white is the State.
44 All the pink property in there is what I would want,
45 which would be closed to people that are only
46 Federally-qualified subsistence users, which is me and
47 you. So basically if you didn't live in Fort Yukon or
48 Chalkyitsik, you can't hunt on any of those pink lands
49 unless you're -- you'd have to be Federally registered.
50 So there wouldn't be a permit.....

1 MR. KELLEY: Okay. So basically you're
2 not looking at a Tier II system.

3
4 MR. FIRMIN: No.

5
6 MR. KELLEY: You're just looking at
7 something that the Federal agencies would establish
8 criterias, and that would address.....

9
10 MR. FIRMIN: Yes. And that would be
11 something that would say due to our moose population, I
12 would imagine that you guys should be able to harvest
13 100 moose. So here's 100 permits, and then 100 people
14 are registered for them. And I can't imagine -- I
15 mean, do you guys have an idea of how many moose are
16 harvested per year out of Fort Yukon with harvest
17 tickets turned in.

18
19 MR. KELLEY: Yeah.

20
21 MR. BERTRAM: I don't think we've
22 gotten really good data.

23
24 MR. KELLEY: I like the idea, I'm just,
25 you know, like I said my concerns would be, you know,
26 if we set something in place, how easy is it to get
27 back out of it if we have to.

28
29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You know, to
30 help Andrew out a little bit, the process is this. We
31 put proposals in to the Federal Board, and then they
32 write them or it goes into a book, and they go through
33 analysis. And then it comes back to the Councils in
34 the spring. And then in the spring we go through all
35 the proposals and if we make -- we can make amendments
36 or, you know, recommendations to these proposals, and
37 then that goes to the Federal Board and they make the
38 final decision.

39
40 MR. KELLEY: Oh, okay. So it.....

41
42 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So it isn't
43 like it's a done deal. It's just a proposal that will
44 be analyzed, and then you get to look at it again in
45 the spring after it comes out in the book.

46
47 MR. KELLEY: Yeah. And you know, I can
48 see.....

49
50 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And this gives

1 you an opportunity, too, to work with Andrew here. And
2 you said you guys were coming up next week? Yeah. So
3 you guys should get together and work on the proposal,
4 and I think it will be just fine.

5
6 MR. KELLEY: Yeah. I'm glad the idea
7 is to put it on the table. It's just, like I said, we
8 really need to flesh this out and make sure that, you
9 know, it's.....

10
11 MR. FIRMIN: Well, I'd like to get more
12 input, especially from Chalkyitsik.

13
14 MR. KELLEY: Chalkyitsik, Fort Yukon.

15
16 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah. Get them involved
17 before we did anything more. Especially them people.

18
19 MR. KELLEY: Because it does -- if
20 you're talking about people that are not resident of
21 this area, you know, identified on the map, you know,
22 then it does raise question I think that the Feds would
23 really have to research to make sure that, you know,
24 we're violating any laws that really would -- that if
25 it's public land, you know, a lot of times they always
26 hear that, well, it's open for everybody. But we want
27 to make sure that, you know, everything is done right.
28 And I think that's the way we need to move on it. I
29 mean, like I said, I'm in support of the idea, because
30 I think -- and so the concerns people have been
31 addressing here the last two days, you know, it tells
32 them -- it's saying that, you know, there's a lot of
33 thing happening that they're not comfortable with, and
34 we need to probably.....

35
36 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right. Well,
37 maybe, Chuck, you out to just for the record here, and
38 the people, can you explain that when we -- when
39 there's a closure on Federal lands to just qualified
40 subsistence users, is there a special process that
41 you've got to go through.

42
43 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. It's the
44 same as a regular proposal analysis. It would go
45 before the Board and there would have to be a good
46 justification to close Federal public lands.

47
48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, that's
49 what we're talking about.

50

1 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We want to hear
4 about this justification.

5

6 MR. ARDIZZONE: Well, if moose
7 population's really low and there's not enough to meet,
8 you know, subsistence needs based on ANILCA, they can
9 close Federal public lands to outside users, because
10 there is a subsistence priority for the resources on
11 Federal Public lands. It's done in other places, and
12 it.....

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Is there a
15 criteria that the Federal Board has to look at to
16 determine that?

17

18 MR. ARDIZZONE: They look at a number
19 of issues. I don't have the policy in front of me,
20 but, you know, it would be, you know, subsistence users
21 meeting their needs, what the moose population's like.
22 They take into account other uses, but it's one of
23 those Board decisions, you know. If it meets their
24 threshold in their head, then they can justify it, and
25 they can close the Federal public lands. And it's done
26 in other places. Closures are reviewed every three
27 years to see if they need to be opened up again or not.
28 And that's what you just reconfirmed on that WCR08 was,
29 you know, reaffirming that you would like to see that
30 closure stay in place. So it's done.

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Does that help
33 you guys? Does that help you, James, to understand?

34

35 MR. ARDIZZONE: Legally it is
36 allowable. We do it in other places.

37

38 MR. KELLEY: Yes, it does address my
39 concerns. Like I said, when you talk about a three-
40 year review period for it.

41

42 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right.

43

44 MR. KELLEY: You know, it doesn't sound
45 like it's going to be a long time, but, you know,
46 unless you can justify it by the facts, and maybe data
47 that show that the moose population is now rebounding,
48 but, you know, it sounds like if you go through this
49 process every three years, or whatever -- so I think as
50 long as we're covering all our bases and ensuring that,

1 you know, we are following the laws and regulations, so
2 that, you know, we don't find ourself defending, you
3 know, allegations or accusations that we're closing our
4 areas because, you know, of this or that. And it being
5 public land, you know, there's stipulations that does
6 open the door to people outside coming in to utilize it
7 for certain purposes. And I'm just wanting -- you know,
8 like I said, I'm in support of it. We should have done
9 this a long time ago. It's just that, you know.....

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, you've
12 gotten to the point where you're considering it now.

13

14 MR. KELLEY: Yeah. And that's good.
15 And I appreciate that move, you know. I think we all
16 do. That's the only concern I've got, and I'd just
17 like to say, you know, let's just make sure that we
18 have everybody involved with this.

19

20 Okay. Thanks.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right.
23 Yes, go ahead. Any discussion we need here is good.

24

25 MS. LENART: Madam Chair. I'd just
26 like to make two comments, and one is I do think it is
27 -- I think James had some really good concerns. And
28 one is that it isn't a slam dunk to just exclude other
29 users. It's not. And I wanted to make sure the
30 audience didn't think that we decide we want to do
31 that. It's more than just meeting subsistence need.
32 It's really providing a reasonable opportunity. And so
33 that's a lot harder decision to make, because it's not
34 the same as meeting subsistence needs.

35

36 But also James' other concern about
37 whether or not making regulations more complicated, if
38 the Federal system went through this and they did find
39 that, you know, they could exclude other users, I would
40 think that that would almost automatically bump the
41 State land into Tier II, because we'd be using the same
42 data. So that is something to consider. But that's
43 something I can look into in the next week, so when we
44 meet again I'll have a little more information and be
45 able to, you know, sort of present that to you guys
46 about that.

47

48 MR. FIRMIN: Well, I have another
49 question then. What would be the difference then to
50 open the season like they do in 25D West for August

1 25th to February 28th with no closure for that whole
2 entire winter? Would that be an easier thing to
3 tackle, do you think?

4
5 MS. LENART: Not under the -- not
6 without restricting -- I'll look into that, but I think
7 we'd have to have more restrictions on number of
8 permits. I mean, that's sort of why you can do it in
9 25D West, because we're only allowing so many permits
10 out there. So we think, well, there's only going to be
11 60, it doesn't matter when you take it. But if you
12 have a more open season and you have unlimited number
13 of hunters, then we don't have as much control over the
14 number of moose.....

15
16 MR. FIRMIN: Well, it wouldn't be
17 unlimited number of hunters. It would just be the
18 people in the Yukon Flats, because it's the Federally-
19 qualified people.

20
21 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But if that's
22 the road you go.

23
24 MS. LENART: Yeah. Right.

25
26 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: She's trying to
27 point out the difference.

28
29 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, then everybody and
30 their kids can go shoot a moose. I understand that.

31
32 MS. LENART: No, I think you're
33 correct. If you make -- we make the proposal and it's
34 to restrict other users, then I think a longer season
35 is more probable.

36
37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Chuck.

38
39 MR. ARDIZZONE: I just wanted to make
40 one clarification. A reasonable opportunity, that's
41 the State subsistence law; that's not the Federal
42 subsistence law. We do operate under different
43 criteria, but reasonable opportunity would be.....

44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And ours is --
46 theirs is reasonable opportunity. Ours is.....

47
48 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right. Ours is, you
49 know, basically to meet subsistence needs. ANILCA
50 doesn't say reasonable opportunity.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right. And
2 that's what's complicated for everybody is to keep it
3 separated what the difference is.

4
5 MR. ARDIZZONE: It's very confusing.

6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. But I
8 was going to give you guys just a thought, too. On the
9 Fortymile Caribou -- I mean, sometimes you just have to
10 -- to make things work for local areas, you just have
11 to be clever on how you come up with proposals that
12 kind of meet your needs, but don't close all the doors.
13 And I think that's what James was trying to allude to.

14
15 And one of the things that happens on a
16 good year over on the Fortymile is they have a Federal
17 season and a State season. It's a joint permit. And
18 then up until this year I believe, the quota was still
19 left for a winter hunt. And people -- and the only
20 ones that qualified to go on the Federal land would be
21 the people that had these C&Ts. So then you could go
22 hunt there, but no one else could.

23
24 So I feel like if you had a way to put
25 your seasons and bag limits more restrictive on the
26 area that you're talking about, make it short and more
27 restrictive, except for the Federal land, it would be
28 more open.

29
30 And, you know, in talking with Staff at
31 that Fish and Game Advisory Committee meeting in Tok,
32 the Board is open to -- the Federal Board is open to
33 clever ideas, or like Andy talks, think beyond the box,
34 you know. Come up with ideas that seem to get a season
35 that works for you and still doesn't close so dog gone
36 many doors.

37
38 And I hope that you guys understand
39 what I'm trying to say, you know. You've got to think
40 that through and think the whole process through, and
41 you might just be able to come up with seasons and bag
42 limits that work.

43
44 Yours is pretty dog gone complicated.
45 I'm not absorbing it all right now or I'd have a
46 suggestion.

47
48 MR. FIRMIN: Even if you made all the
49 -- if you.....

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. There's
2 hands flying all over the place. Yes.

3
4 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, I'm just asking
5 since you have all the Staff up there, is there any
6 disadvantage to Staff for two proposals to go forward,
7 one with this mirroring 25D West and another proposal,
8 and these are both Federal side, of expanding the
9 season? Is there any disadvantage? I see an advantage
10 to that, because if the Board doesn't want to go with
11 the mirroring, you have this other season expansion.
12 If you combine them, and the Board doesn't like, for
13 whatever reasons, I don't know what they are at this
14 point, don't like the closure part, then you lose your
15 expanded season for two years.

16
17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, I don't
18 see any problem in doing two if that's what it comes
19 out to be. A lot of times committees will come up with
20 two proposals and then they support one, and if they
21 don't like the other, you support.....

22
23 MR. MATHEWS: But I wasn't getting
24 direction from the Council that that's what they
25 wanted. It was mainly mirroring 25D West.

26
27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: No, we're open
28 a far as I'm concerned. Council members. We're open
29 for what this would look like.

30
31 MR. MATHEWS: And then the last thing
32 is I'm hearing from Staff that -- and from CATG that
33 they would like some time to review that. Looking at
34 my calendar before the battery goes out, that means
35 this has to be pulled off next week. So what I need to
36 know, or someone needs to know, is Andrew available
37 when next week, and when is Staff available so we can
38 start banging the dents out on this. Otherwise the
39 community won't be maybe as involved and et cetera. So
40 I'm looking at the 22nd, but I don't remember what Beth
41 said when this Beaver meeting was.

42
43 MS. LENART: Well, next week is -- the
44 tribal council here has a three-day meeting, and then
45 it's AFN, so I don't know -- you know, at the end of
46 the week. I don't know how many folks are leaving
47 for.....

48
49 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: It sounds like
50 you guys have got to get right on this.

1 MS. LENART: Yeah, that was what I
2 thought we needed to do.

3
4 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. And
5 actually, Vince, you know, not to take up the meeting
6 for scheduling, I know it comes down on your back to
7 get a proposal in, so you guys have got to be real
8 sympathetic to Vince and help him out so this proposal
9 gets in or it isn't going to happen. And you've just
10 got to keep in my that we can amend the proposal. Our
11 suggestion doesn't have to mirror it once we discuss it
12 at the next meeting. But you've got to get something
13 in, or it isn't going to happen.

14
15 MS. LENART: I agree.

16
17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Uh-huh.

18
19
20 MR. JESS: Madam Chair. I'd just like
21 to add a few comments to Andrew to help out on this
22 situation, because this is something that Mark and I
23 and Staff have talked about, this very issue, Andrew,
24 over the last year or year and a half, about the
25 feasibility of something like this on a management
26 perspective. Is this reasonable to pull off. And I've
27 asked Mark to look into it a number of times. And
28 there are a number of checks and balances that have to
29 occur as far as the Federal level in order for
30 something like this to be pulled off. And that bar is
31 set pretty high. I mean, you're really barking up a
32 very, very steep hill here. And, not impossible, but
33 the bottom line is, is that from what I understand
34 talking to Mark on this, is this, is that our moose
35 densities are not low enough in order to meet that kind
36 of litmus test totally restrict this.

37
38 Is that correct, Mark

39
40 MR. BERTRAM: We're going to have to
41 reanalyze -- we haven't thoroughly analyzed it.

42
43 REPORTER: Can't hear you, Mark.

44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, I think
46 what I'd like to do here instead of -- this is going to
47 be -- you're hashing out now what would happen when the
48 proposal comes forward. So I appreciate the input,
49 but, you know, they just have to come up with a
50 proposal, and we're going to unfortunately -- I mean,

1 look at our agenda. I mean, we're going to battle this
2 for several hours if we're not careful. And I don't
3 mean to, you know, postpone it. It's just kind of
4 where we're at. It will come up at the Federal --
5 through the proposal process and then we'll hammer it
6 out at that point is my feeling.

7

8 So what do you guys -- do you guys want
9 to go through a long process here?

10

11 MR. BASSICH: Madam Chair. We already
12 made a decision to support the actions of this
13 committee. And I think -- I feel quite comfortable in
14 allowing this committee to develop a proposal and then
15 we can address it at a later time if it needs to be
16 addressed. I think we should move on.

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,
19 Virgil.

20

21 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah. I don't know
22 what options are open on the State side of the house,
23 but the deadline for proposals for the State Board is I
24 believe the 5th or 6th of December, and so there might
25 be some options there that could be looked at. Because
26 when I look at this, and I don't understand it, under
27 State regulations it says one bull by permit TM-940,
28 August 25 to February 28th. I assume that's some type
29 of registration hunt or something. I don't know
30 exactly what it is.

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Virgil, I
33 believe Andy -- I mean, I'm sorry, but would you not --
34 yeah.

35

36 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Well, let me
37 finish. And then we have the Federal season where they
38 give 25 permits for Beaver, 10 for Birch Creek, and 25
39 for Stevens Village. And they're wanting to do
40 something on the order of whatever these two permits
41 are, because they have they have these long seasons in
42 that 24D West. And they want the rest, the remainder
43 of 25D to have a longer hunting season, because all
44 they have is 10 days in the fall and then 10 days in
45 winter.

46

47 And so I think we've got all the Staff
48 there to analyze whatever the best thing to do is. The
49 Federal call for proposals is, you know, the 5th of
50 November. The State is the 5th or 6th of December. Try

1 to figure out what's the various options are and then
2 people here are going to have to decide what they want
3 to go for and go for it, and we'll support whatever
4 they're going for.

5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So you
7 agree with Andy.

8
9 MR. UMPHENOUR: I agree with Andy.

10
11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Then
12 we're going to move forward.

13
14 MR. UMPHENOUR: But that leaves most
15 avenues open to try to figure out something that will
16 work.

17
18 MR. JESS: Where I was going with that,
19 Madam Chair, and it just surmises this whole issue, is
20 that if this is something we can't put into writing,
21 but if this were to not work out, people of the
22 villages can apply for the Tier II permits if I
23 understand correctly, and that would tie up -- now
24 although it's equal basis out there for application,
25 they could still tie up some permits to reduce numbers
26 of people from the outside coming in.

27
28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But this is
29 like the nuts and bolts of putting something together,
30 and we're relying on you guys and Vince to put
31 something together.

32
33 Vince, do you feel uncomfortable with
34 what you've got.....

35
36 MR. MATHEWS: No, I'm not uncomfortable
37 at all here. With all the experts here, this is
38 exactly what a Council meeting should be doing. Not
39 the discussion now, I'm not arguing that, you have all
40 -- they know what you want, they've heard it. Now we
41 go back in a room and we work it out. And then we're
42 going to go back to the public again through Andy, and
43 again you've repeated it, which is very powerful, it's
44 just a proposal. You're going to have it in spring.
45 You can find out you didn't like it at all and you vote
46 it down. Or you amend it or you support it.

47
48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right. Yeah.
49 And, see, I have proposals I'd like to bring up and we
50 could spend all day on them. So let's probably not get

1 too wrapped around the axle here.

2

3 MR. GLANZ: I'd like to move it along.
4 We've already supported the actions of the committee,
5 so can we just go ahead and drop it there and let them
6 work it and then we'll review it in the spring.

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And that's a
9 call for the question that I hear.

10

11 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah. Question.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. All in
14 favor of this, Andy working with the committee for the
15 idea.

16

17 IN UNISON: Aye.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. No one
20 opposed.

21

22 (No opposing votes)

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're
25 going on. Yes.

26

27 MR. BASSICH: I just have to give my
28 two minutes here, or minute and a half. I'll make it
29 very brief, but this brings up exactly what I've been
30 talking about at about the last three or four Council
31 meetings, and that is some of the issues that are
32 developing and are continuing to develop between
33 non-rural and rural hunting competition. And I brought
34 it up at a number of meetings that I see this as a real
35 serious issue in the future, that we're having people
36 in non-rural areas, especially with the economy and the
37 cost of foods the way they are, depending greater than
38 ever on subsistence resources and they're having to
39 compete with doctors, lawyers and people running around
40 with \$50,000 jet boats and airplanes. And I see this
41 in my area extensively on the Taylor Highway. And this
42 is a real issue that we need to begin to address, and
43 it's a long-term issue.

44

45 And in my view it's an educational
46 issue. We need to educate urban hunters and fishermen
47 as to what their impacts are when they come into a
48 rural community and compete for a food resource.
49 Anyway I just had to bring that up right now, because I
50 brought it up at other meetings, and this is an exact

1 example of what I'm talking about, and the conflict
2 that it's causing and the hardship that it's causing to
3 the people in those areas.

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Andy.
6 Right. Well, in my book you brought up two things, and
7 if we have an action way that we can go about it, I'm
8 open. One is education. I can see even in our area
9 where the people go through Mentasta Village with their
10 big rigs, and the village people watch them all go by
11 and then they watch them come out with all the antlers,
12 and they're like look at all the moose they're killing.
13 That's our moose, you know, and they get really upset.
14 And actually the chief now, Katie John's youngest
15 daughter, she's open to receive meat from people.

16

17 And here's the education part. Some of
18 these people are probably willing to share meat with
19 the people in the villages. And I feel like they're --
20 somehow, I don't know how we would do this as a
21 recommendation, but somehow we should recommend that
22 this education part where people could actually get
23 along, where some people would be willing to share
24 meat, and then they respected the people's land, and
25 ask if they're going through the community and say,
26 hey, you know, there's people -- in Mentasta they eat
27 the stomach, the head, and I know they do it here.
28 That that's left in the field. And if people, urban
29 hunters knew that, they could bring it to these people.
30 If they knew how to keep it clean and do it the way the
31 people would use it, it would be utilized.

32

33 And education-wise, I'm open, Staff.
34 Is there a way that we can support some type of a
35 pushing for education of this sharing? You know, we're
36 open. And this is for aeons of time a problem, and I'd
37 just like to see some way to start a ball rolling that
38 we're going to work on education.

39

40 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, you started the ball
41 rolling at your last meeting, and the Yukon River took
42 out Eagle. And so Andy was going to be in charge of
43 that letter. I just didn't follow up on that. So you
44 started the ball last meeting with a letter that would
45 be addressing this education.

46

47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And the letter
48 did not get written you're telling me.

49

50 MR. MATHEWS: Correct.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Naughty,
2 naughty, naughty.
3
4 MR. BASSICH: We were a bit busy this
5 spring.
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes. Okay.
8 I'll forgive you for that. But, yes, Frank and then
9 Bill.
10
11 MR. GURTLER: Yes, I live in Manley Hot
12 Springs on a road system. And I see all the hunters
13 come in. And I go talk to them. I tell them, if you
14 ever have any problems with your meat, I said, I'll
15 take it all. I know where to get rid of it. I know
16 who needs it, and I could take care of the meat really
17 good. I've got a place to hang it, I've got a
18 smokehouse. I have everything. And I said, even the
19 moose nose or the heart and the tongue, I said I'll
20 take everything, just as long as you bring it in. And
21 I do that every year, and so I get a lot of moose meat.
22 I get a lot of moose nose and tongues and I pass it out
23 to the people who need it. And I did this on my own.
24 And if a person could do that in all the villages, you
25 know, see a hunter come in. Go talk to them. That's
26 all you have to do, and it helps.
27
28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. Well,
29 and then people have to be friendly. They've got to
30 talk to someone in the village that's kind of friendly,
31 because some people say, I didn't get a very good
32 response. They scared me out of there. So, you know,
33 you've got to be cautious. Star 1.
34
35 Okay. Frank, yes. And, so, Andy, if
36 you need some help with that, you and I need to
37 communicate, because I think.....
38
39 MR. BASSICH: We can get it done.
40
41 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Uh-huh.
42
43
44 MR. GLANZ: What I was saying, Andrew
45 here says, well, he had six people go by his house in
46 Central during Fortymile caribou season. I probably
47 had 15 people in my driveway, two of them stuck in my
48 turnaround. I mean, trying to back their camping
49 trailers up. So we definitely need to get some kind of
50 a community -- and I do the same thing. When they're

1 stuck out there, I say, hey, if you happen to get a
2 couple of caribou, we'd be happy to take them off your
3 hands if you just want the head. We'll help you clean
4 it up. We've got a lot of people here who could use
5 the meat in this down. And we take it to some of the
6 old people and all that stuff. And it works sometimes.
7 I mean, the people who live in Central, when you see
8 them going by, 30, 40, 50 four-wheelers, six-wheelers,
9 you say, God damned tourists. I mean, after a while
10 you start to hate them. I mean, you know, especially
11 you can't even go out in the woods.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Tourists.

14

15 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. It's almost like
16 tourists. I was out there trying to -- with my
17 granddaughter last year, we were hiding behind our snow
18 machines last December season while the bulls were
19 ricocheting off around us. They were driving them with
20 show machines and herding them and just whaling on
21 them, so we definitely need to educate these people
22 some how, some way. And we have this big Fortymile
23 meeting anyway coming up the 15th or whatever date it
24 is. And I'm going to ask them to ban all off-road
25 vehicles, just like you do a boat or an airplane. You
26 drive it, you park it, you get out and walk. Anyway,
27 but that's my opinion of the urban.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: He's hard core.

30

31 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. Well, I am. Them
32 urban hunters are starting to really tee us off, boy.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, there's
35 definitely a problem. And one of the things that
36 happened on the Ahtna land for the Chitina bison is the
37 Native organization there complained about the
38 trespassing problems and kept asking the State to put
39 it in regs that it's private land. And they finally
40 put it in the State regs that it's private land where
41 these buffalo live. And maybe they need to do that on
42 their education. Put in information in the books, you
43 know. I don't. Andy and I can work that out in a
44 letter.

45

46 Okay. We could just go on and on and
47 on about this. Because the only other thing that Andy
48 brought up, you know, it's just a shame that we've got
49 these two complicated systems. I think people would
50 respect each other if there was a way that we had -- we

1 can work together and have -- but this isn't happening,
2 not in my future probably. I don't know if it's going
3 to happen in my son's.

4

5 Okay. I'm going to look at the agenda.
6 Any other comments on these issues right now? Are we
7 missing anything?

8

9 MR. MATHEWS: Well, Madam Chair,
10 there's a couple of thing. I know you want to talk
11 about writing proposals for your area.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

14

15 MR. MATHEWS: Since you're on Federal
16 proposals, you requested one last meeting to have fur
17 bearer classification for black bear.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I'm not --
20 that's State, right?

21

22 MR. MATHEWS: No, you wanted it on
23 Federal as well as State. And it's this, whatever
24 color this is. So you just have to reaffirm that's
25 what you want. We can modify it again.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, we
28 already voted to put it in, Vince, so do you want us to
29 vote again?

30

31 MR. MATHEWS: Well, Chuck covered that
32 earlier.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, this one
35 also?

36

37 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah.

38

39 MR. ARDIZZONE: You had it at the last
40 meeting and you voted, we need to have it on record
41 again.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: It wasn't
44 publicly noticed. Naughty, naughty. Okay. Are we
45 going to reaffirm that one, Council members. I need a
46 motion.

47

48 MR. GLANZ: I make a motion that we
49 reaffirm it.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Do I hear a
2 second.
3
4 MR. FIRMIN: Second.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do we
7 need any discussion.
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 MR. BASSICH: Question.
12
13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: The question's
14 been called for. All in favor.
15
16 IN UNISON: Aye.
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
19
20 (No opposing votes)
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. And I
23 guess I'm going to ask for your indulgence. There's a
24 few C&Ts in my area, since this is a two-year cycle
25 now, it just seems like -- I don't want to take up all
26 your time. I would like to talk to committees for
27 Upper Tanana about some proposals for C&Ts, and Unit 13
28 is one. Or, no, it's Unit 20E. Fort Greeley is
29 excluded in Unit 13 for caribou and moose, but not
30 excluded in 20E. And I think that would be a good
31 proposal to put forth from the Council.
32
33 And then there were a couple that I had
34 for 13 where the boundary of Unit 12, you'd have to
35 look at the map to understand it. People qualify for
36 moose and caribou in Unit 12 along the Nabesna Road,
37 but not along the Tok Cut-off. And there's hardly
38 anyone that lives on the Tok Cut-off, and they adjoin
39 Mentasta Pass and the Slana area. It's just the way
40 the game management unit boundaries come across.
41
42 So I'm asking you, would you guys be
43 willing to -- we'll have a committee and write some
44 proposals for those? I think there's three of them,
45 C&Ts, because it's for wildlife. Yes.
46
47 MR. BASSICH: In former RAC meetings
48 was Greeley given a C&T and 20E? Was that -- I'm
49 trying to remember if I ever saw anything on that. Is
50 that something that we've gone through and it was

1 determined that they did have a C&T for that? And we'd
2 have to then revisit that?

3

4 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I don't think
5 so. I think it's just that it said all of 20D, and it
6 was excluded for 13, but wasn't excluded for 20E. And
7 that came up at the Fish and Game Advisory Committee in
8 the upper Tanana. And it concerned them, so that's why
9 I thought I'd bring it up. I just think it's one of
10 those deals where 20D and they just didn't exclude
11 them. Maybe it's not important, I don't know. But it
12 seemed to be important to them at the time.

13

14 MR. GLANZ: I remember going through
15 that in Delta when we had our meeting down there, and
16 they were going to hang us all out to dry. And we
17 passed a motion and it was anybody with a telephone or
18 a mail address in Fort Greeley is non-subsistence
19 qualified, but Delta people were. I remember we
20 specifically separated that. So, I don't know, maybe
21 this is an oversight, but make a motion and make it for
22 all the Delta residence anywhere in the State there
23 would be no subsistence for them.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: 20D is
26 included, and you're saying to exclude like I'm --
27 exclude Greeley like I just said, right?

28

29 MR. GLANZ: Yes, right. Yes. So we
30 already voted on that once, so I think we just -- I
31 don't know if we need to reaffirm it or what. But it
32 must have been an oversight when they did the law, just
33 like in 25C they had non-residents hunting from the 5th
34 to the 25th and residents from the 1st to the 15th. It
35 was just an oversight on the printing I believe.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I think it was,
38 too, actually. Vince, you probably can't help us on
39 that, right? Or can Staff?

40

41 MR. MATHEWS: No, there was a lot of
42 discussion at Delta Junction on Fort Greeley. There
43 was a lot of work that this Council worked on.

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: To exclude them
46 from the Nelchinas.

47

48 MR. GLANZ: From any subsistence.

49

50 MR. MATHEWS: It was during -- it was

1 associated with the construction camps and their
2 impacts. Earlier on Nat Good brought up the military
3 personnel and et cetera, et cetera. I wish -- I don't
4 know if Pete's on line. He would have the depth of
5 knowledge on it, because he wrote the analysis.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Pete DeMatteo.
8 Will he hear us with the way that thing's set up right
9 now?

10

11 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, he would. And I
12 think he's out ill, because yesterday he was out ill.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, do you
15 want us to look into it?

16

17 Andy, go ahead.

18

19 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I guess the easiest
20 way to determine whether we've done this, would be able
21 to pull the minutes or the transcripts from that Delta
22 meeting and see just what we had approved at that
23 meeting and determine whether or not it was a
24 typographical error or clerical error or whether it's
25 something that we happened to miss during that meeting.
26 But now that Bill mentions it, I do remember us having
27 quite a lengthy discussion on the Greeley area when we
28 were discussing the C&T for Delta and those areas.

29

30 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You know, and
31 that proposal was for Unit 13 at the time, and 20D --
32 or 20E was not discussed. We were talking specifically
33 on south, those C&T south. That's what I remember.

34

35 MR. GLANZ: Can we just make a motion
36 to (indiscernible, away from microphone) the
37 information (indiscernible, away from microphone).

38

39 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I think
40 you just did, didn't you?

41

42 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I did.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And did he get
45 a second.

46

47 MR. BASSICH: I'll second it if he
48 didn't.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. And

1 that's to eliminate anything -- for 22D C&Ts, to
2 eliminate Fort Greeley across the board.

3

4 MR. GLANZ: (Indiscernible, away from
5 microphone) 25C, wherever (indiscernible).

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Vince
8 will look at that and see what that applies. And that
9 one is taken care of.

10

11 And then like I was saying, the other
12 one is -- there's a few C&Ts where it's Unit 12 along
13 the Nabesna Road, but it doesn't include the Tok Cut-
14 off. And that community around the Tok Cut-Off, it is
15 where I live, I know, but I can tell you that that
16 surrounding area from Mentasta on the Tok Cut-off and
17 Nabesna Road, we're like all one. We all kind of do
18 the same thing. So I just wanted to align the people
19 where we live.

20

21 MR. GLANZ: I'm lost. So we're talking
22 about everybody but except in Tok Junction or.....

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: The C&T for
25 Unit 13 is for -- regarding Unit 12, only regarding
26 Unit 12, the people that qualify is only the people
27 along the Nabesna Road of Unit 12. If you look at the
28 map, you go up to Slana, you go up to Mentasta.
29 Mentasta and the people right across from Unit 12,
30 we're all in the same area. And people on the Unit 12
31 side, there's probably six households. They don't
32 qualify, but Mentasta and the people in Unit 12 -- you
33 see, Mentasta is in Unit 13, they're just across the
34 border. The people on the Tok Cut-off, there's
35 actually one household that's a Mentasta Native that
36 lives in Unit 12, right at the boundary. And so the
37 people on the Tok Cut-off do not qualify from Unit 12,
38 but the people along the Nabesna Road do. And I'm
39 proposing that we clean up that C&T.

40

41 MR. GLANZ: I'd like to make a motion
42 we clean up that C&T as you stated there for the people
43 out in that area.

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay.

46

47 MR. ARDIZZONE: Excuse me, Madam Chair.
48 Which C&Ts are we talking about, because.....

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Moose and

1 caribou.
2
3 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay. That's what I
4 wanted to know.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I'm sorry.
7
8 MR. ARDIZZONE: Thank you.
9
10 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Moose and
11 caribou.
12
13 MR. BASSICH: Madam Chair. So the
14 procedure here would be through this motion we'd be
15 asking OSM to do -- re-evaluate the C&T determination?
16 Is that the process that we're doing now?
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: When you do a
19 proposal for C&T, that's what they have to do.
20
21 MR. BASSICH: All right. Okay. Thank
22 you.
23
24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You look at
25 these regs, and they become so complicated, and they
26 get changed by piecemeal, and then you realize that
27 some of it is -- it didn't even cover the people.
28 That's why I kept asking here to make sure these guys
29 are all included while they're at it.
30
31 I have a motion.
32
33 MR. BASSICH: I'll second.
34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And I heard a
36 second. Discussion.
37
38 MR. MATHEWS: Madam Chair. You had a
39 motion before you didn't vote on, so now you have
40 another motion.
41
42 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We voted on
43 Fort Greeley.
44
45 MR. MATHEWS: We didn't catch it here.
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I'll bet if you
48 listen to the tapes you caught it.
49
50 MR. UMPHENOUR: We may not have voted.

1 I think he might be right.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I said all in
4 favor, didn't I? Okay. All in -- I thought I heard
5 someone call for the question. Andy, didn't you?
6
7 MR. GLANZ: He did, but we didn't vote
8 though.
9
10 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Yeah, we
11 did. Okay.
12
13 The question is called for the last
14 motion on Fort Greeley. All in favor.
15
16 IN UNISON: Aye.
17
18 (No opposing votes)
19
20 MR. GLANZ: No, I think we voted on
21 that. We're talking about the.....
22
23 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Which one was
24 it?
25
26 MR. MATHEWS: The Fort Greeley one. I
27 thought you were going to put both action items into
28 one motion and how you're bringing up another motion.
29 So it's done. You voted on the Fort Greeley eliminated
30 in Unit 20.
31
32 MR. GLANZ: So my motion, did you get a
33 second on that motion?
34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes, I did.
36 And I'm asking for discussion. Any other discussion.
37
38 (No comments)
39
40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Like all
41 proposals that come before us, we can look at them
42 again.
43
44 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Chuck.
45
46 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, Madam Chair. I
47 just want to be clear I have this written down. So for
48 moose and caribou in Unit 13, it's to re-evaluate the
49 C&T to add the Tok Cut-off area; is that correct?
50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You know, we
2 need to be sure what we're talking about.
3
4 MR. ARDIZZONE: I'm just trying to be
5 sure.
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Let me
8 get the book out here, because it's complicated also.
9 The places where it says along the Nabesna Road of Unit
10 12 needs to be added, Nabesna Road and Tok Cut-off. So
11 there's one -- looking under caribou, there's one, two,
12 three of them it looks like. Oh, God. Can I review
13 this and.....
14
15 MR. GLANZ: I'll withdraw my motion
16 then.
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right. I'm
19 going to take it up with the local people. We can move
20 along.
21
22 Now we're under the State. We were
23 always on the agenda.
24
25 MR. MATHEWS: If you're looking at
26 state proposals, you had two. They're green. If
27 that's where you're at. I may have misunderstood.
28
29 And again real quickly it's the
30 parallel one on the black bears, making them a
31 furbearer. And then the one, and Andrew can correct
32 me, is meat on the bone if I remember correctly for
33 Unit 25.
34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. I've
36 been requested that we take break before we dive into
37 this. So let's go for our 10-minute break and then
38 we'll come back.
39
40 (Off record)
41
42 (On record)
43
44 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right.
45 Good to have you back, Bill.
46
47 MR. GLANZ: Can I ask you something
48 here?
49
50 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes. Bill.

1 MR. GLANZ: Yes. I would like to make
2 a motion, and have Sue check into C&T and write up the
3 recommendation for whatever she wants to change, and
4 give her a blank check just like we did with the 24D
5 here, east and west. If I make myself clear what I
6 want to do. In other words, I would like to have you
7 go ahead and do your study, talk to your locals down
8 there, and go ahead and get your proposal submitted
9 prior to the deadline, if that would be all right.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, like we
12 did with Fort Yukon's proposal.

13

14 MR. GLANZ: Correct.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Is there
17 a second.

18

19 MR. UMPHENOUR: Second.

20

21 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any more
22 discussion.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 MR. BASSICH: Question.

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: The question's
29 been called for. All in favor.

30

31 IN UNISON: Aye.

32

33 (No opposing votes)

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
36 you.

37

38 All right. Then there's another
39 housekeeping thing under the State. They have a call
40 for proposals. We put in a proposal for black bear as
41 a furbearer, and meat on the bone in Unit 25. We just
42 need to reaffirm both of those. So I need a motion.

43

44 MR. GLANZ: I'd like to make a motion
45 to reaffirm our proposals.

46

47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do I
48 hear a second.

49

50 MR. UMPHENOUR: Second.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Any other
2 discussion.
3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR: Madam Chair, is that on
5 Page 58? Or is that just the one on Page 58?
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: No. No, that's
8 a different issue. That's the working group in 58.
9 These were the -- Vince, are they in there?
10
11 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah. They're green, the
12 green ones.
13
14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: They're the
15 green ones in our green envelope. That was the --
16 remember, that was the proposal we put forth based on
17 that meeting in Tok. One of the people there and
18 suggested we do that. Do you need to see it again,
19 Virgil?
20
21 Yes, go ahead. I'm sorry. Go ahead.
22 Do you have something to add?
23
24 MS. LENART: Madam Chair. Excuse me.
25 I just couldn't tell if you were submitting a proposal
26 on the meat on the bone for the Federal and the State?
27 For both?
28
29 MR. MATHEWS: It was only on the State
30 side.
31
32 MS. LENART: It's only -- okay. But we
33 might want a companion proposal for the Federal side,
34 because, I mean, a lot of that area is Arctic National
35 Wildlife Refuge. If there was a proposal to be passed,
36 we would want it for both probably.
37
38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. And so
39 you're telling me that this -- wouldn't this affect the
40 Federal also?
41
42 MR. MATHEWS: I'll defer to Chuck,
43 because it is a.....
44
45 MR. ARDIZZONE: If it's not in Federal
46 regulation or we're not using the State permit, it's
47 not going to apply.
48
49 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, they're
50 not using the State permit?

1 MR. ARDIZZONE: I'm not sure what
2 region or area we're talking about, so -- I haven't
3 seen that.

4
5 MS. LENART: It looks like -- I mean,
6 for most of what I think they're talking about is in
7 25A, fly-in -- I'm not sure where this proposal came
8 from, but fly-in hunters. And then they are. They are
9 using the State green harvest ticket for moose for
10 example. But if there's some little loopholes areas, I
11 just wonder if it -- what you guys normally do if you,
12 you know, try to have.....

13
14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. So what
15 I would suggest here, could we have Staff research if
16 it does affect the Federal, and if it does, that a
17 companion proposal go forth? That would be my
18 suggestion.

19
20 And, Vince, do we need a motion for
21 that?

22
23 MR. MATHEWS: I think it's based on
24 consensus of the Council that you're empowering Staff
25 to check to see if it carries off. If not, then a
26 proposal will be drafted for your review and approval.

27
28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right.

29
30 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah. If everyone
31 agrees.

32
33 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Does everyone
34 agree on this one?

35
36 MR. BASSICH: It sounds good to me.

37
38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
39 you for bringing that to our attention.

40
41 MS. LENART: Thank you.

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Because it does
44 get complicated. Each area, with the way the land
45 status is, it gets very confusing at times.

46
47 All right. Then. So that covers that
48 issue. But regarding the other two issues, it makes me
49 wonder about this. We put a companion proposal in for
50 this furbearer in the -- yeah. Okay.

1 So it's on the floor. Any other
2 discussion. Virgil.

3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR: Which one are we
5 addressing or are we addressing both of them?

6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Both.

8
9 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Well, I'm going
10 to address.....

11
12 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Just
13 reaffirming our two proposals that we put in, because
14 of this -- it's just housekeeping because of the other
15 ones, you know, it wasn't publicly noticed properly.

16
17 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Well, if it
18 wasn't public noticed properly, I'm going to cover a
19 little bit of this one on the meat on the bone. We've
20 heard a fair amount of testimony here from the public
21 concerning seeing these aircraft flying in and out of
22 the airport here with antlers and what appears to not
23 be a lot of meat. Now, where I hunt, this is what the
24 regulation is, you have to leave the meat on the bone
25 of the front quarters, hindquarters, ribs and the
26 brisket where I hunt as well.

27
28 And I run a meat process -- or own a
29 meat processing business, and I see a lot of meat
30 wasted when hunters bone the meat and bring it in,
31 because they expose the meat to contamination. And
32 they get -- when you bone it, you expose all the meat
33 to contamination. And so many times what ends up
34 happening is the meat is not fit for human consumption
35 by the time that people get it to the place of
36 processing.

37
38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Virgil, I have
39 to ask you. Is your discussion to change the proposal?

40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, my discussion is
42 not to change this proposal. My discussion is
43 supporting the proposal.

44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. We don't
46 need to do that right now.

47
48 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I think we do
49 because we had a lot of public input at this meeting on
50 this issue, and so this proposal is addressing that

1 issue, and it will make enforcement of the wanton waste
2 statute much easier if this proposal is passed. That's
3 what I'm pointing out.

4
5 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well, I
6 appreciate that.

7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'm done pointing out.
9 Madam Chair. Thank you.

10
11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
12 you, Virgil. But what I'm saying, what's on the floor
13 is that we're re-establishing these just, you know, as
14 a housekeeping measure. And I appreciate your input.

15
16 Any other discussion on these two
17 proposals, just cleaning up the mess that
18 evidently.....

19
20 MR. FIRMIN: Oh, I do.

21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

23
24 MR. FIRMIN: I thought originally -- I
25 was just going to ask you that, Virgil, about the
26 brisket. I thought originally that was on here, but
27 maybe it just got edited over the time as it got.....

28
29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So that changes
30 the proposal. Do you want that in there?

31
32 MR. FIRMIN: Well, we don't need to
33 change proposal, but I just originally thought that
34 that was in here, but it might have slowly got brushed
35 to the side as it was retyped and retyped by several
36 different people I'm sure.

37
38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So we can
39 change the proposal and add it right now, or you can
40 take it up.....

41
42 MR. UMPHENOUR: Let me see what it says
43 in the State book here. If it has to be
44 (indiscernible, away from microphone) take it off.

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So you want it
47 to mirror the State reg on the other.....

48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR: If it (indiscernible,
50 away from microphone)

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, that's
2 pretty easy for us to do. We just ask Staff to do
3 that.
4
5 MR. MATHEWS: I think I captured it
6 there, but it's been a while, in that sentence there.
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So you're
9 saying.....
10
11 MR. GLANZ: So the State
12 (indiscernible, away from microphone).....
13
14 REPORTER: Turn your mic on please,
15 Bill.
16
17 MR. GLANZ: Pardon? I was saying the
18 State regulations specify everything that has to be
19 taken, so we should make this equal with the State
20 regulation.
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And the ribs as
23 far as I'm concerned, does that include the brisket?
24 That's a lot definition.
25
26 MR. GLANZ: Hold on.
27
28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Because the
29 ribs are attached to the brisket.
30
31 MR. GLANZ: Well, the neck meat, all
32 the brisket, all of the meat on the ribs, front
33 quarters, hindquarters. This is the State regs, meat
34 salvage, so.....
35
36 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Your intention
37 was to have brisket on there, Andrew?
38
39 MR. FIRMIN: It may be split, but on
40 there.
41
42 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So, Vince, do
43 we need a motion?
44
45 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah, but not -- yes,
46 that you're going to modify it for those to match the
47 State regs.
48
49 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, because
50 that's the one that you want to go forward. Okay. It

1 needs to be exactly the same.

2

3 MR. GLANZ: So I'd like to make a
4 motion that we amend it to coincide with all State
5 regulations for the meat.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: The same
8 language as the bone on the -- or the

9

10 MR. GLANZ: Yes. Salvage of the
11 brisket and so forth. And it says all the parts, the
12 hindquarters, front quarters, rib meat, neck meat.

13

14 MR. FIRMIN: Second.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Is that
17 confusing now. I don't have a second yet.

18

19 MR. GLANZ: Yes, we do.

20

21 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I did? Who
22 second?

23

24 MR. FIRMIN: I did.

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Sorry.
27 Okay. Virgil.

28

29 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I'm going to
30 have to ask a question of the State. Okay. What's in
31 the proposal is what is in the regulation book;
32 however, I know that in Koyukuk the brisket is
33 included, that it has to be packed out and can't be
34 boned out. So that's in the special permit though,
35 isn't it? Is that how that's listed is in the special
36 permit?

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: The brisket's
39 not in here.

40

41 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's right. That's
42 what I said. But I know that in the Koyukuk -- I know
43 that in the Koyukuk you have to haul the brisket out as
44 well intact. But the regulation.....

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Where did you
47 it?

48

49 MR. UMPHENOUR: It's on Page 113 of the
50 handy dandy, the definition up at the top where it says

1 moose. It says, meat taken in Unit 24 prior to October
2 1 must remain on the bones of the front quarters,
3 hindquarters and ribs until removed from the field or
4 processed for human consumption. But I know the
5 brisket has to be there, too. It has to be taken out
6 as well. And I believe that's on the special permit;
7 is that where they list that or do you know that? You
8 used to work over there.

9

10 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I'm sorry, go
11 ahead.

12

13 MS. LENART: Madam Chair. Chairman
14 Umphenour. I can't reach -- I haven't worked that
15 check station the last few years, and I don't recall
16 the brisket being a requirement of the permit, but that
17 would be correct, if it is on there, it would be
18 underneath that special permit. Most areas of the
19 State have the regulation that you just read on Page
20 113 where the ribs and the hindquarters and
21 forequarters are required to come out on bone. When
22 this originally started, a lot of areas, it didn't
23 require the ribs, but most recent proposals have
24 included requiring the ribs come out on the bone.

25

26 MR. GLANZ: If I may, it says, meat
27 salvage, State law, \$10,000 fine, one year in jail.
28 All the neck meat, all the brisket, all of the meat on
29 the rigs, front quarters, hindquarters, all the meat
30 along the backbone between the front and hindquarters,
31 backstrap and tenderloins. And so this here in this
32 proposal that we have here, it says all current meat
33 salvage requirements shall apply for moose taken in
34 Unit 25. So it's already in there as far as I'm
35 concerned.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: It's just that
38 it doesn't say it has to be attached for the brisket is
39 what I'm reading that to mean. Right?

40

41 MR. FIRMIN: No, it says or, and/or
42 all current meat. So that would basically come from
43 what's written in the book, which says, which includes
44 brisket.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So are we -- so
47 you're okay with the wording?

48

49 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right.
2 Then we don't need to make a change. That's.....
3
4 MR. FIRMIN: Speed reading.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right, Andrew?
7
8
9 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.
10
11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You're happy
12 with the reading. Okay.
13
14 MR. FIRMIN: Yes, I am.
15
16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So I had an
17 amendment and a second. Are you withdrawing them.
18
19 MR. GLANZ: I'm withdrawing. Thank
20 you. I'm going to withdraw my motion.
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: If we forgot
23 something, we can take it up when we do the proposals.
24 Okay.
25
26 MR. GLANZ: Excuse me. Who was the
27 second on that?
28
29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I think it was
30 you.
31
32 MR. FIRMIN: No, I seconded it.
33
34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You guys both
35 withdrew?
36
37 MR. GLANZ: Right. Okay.
38
39 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: all right.
40 These proposals are as written. We're just -- we
41 already voted on them once. We're just doing it for
42 the record to clean it up.
43
44 Any other questions.
45
46 (No comments)
47
48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All in favor.
49
50 IN UNISON: Aye.

1 (No opposing votes)

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. All in
4 favor. What else do we have here under the State
5 proposals. Anything? Does anybody have anything.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right. So
10 Bear Claw Working Group is the next thing on the
11 agenda. A report from Chuck. Go ahead, Chuck.

12

13 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. This is
14 just an update on the Bear Claw Working Group status.
15 The work group was put together after the Federal
16 Subsistence Board met last April/May. They had a
17 proposal from the State addressing the sale of bear
18 claw handicrafts, and the State was concerned about
19 commercialization of handicrafts, and they wanted to
20 come up with a system to track those claws that are
21 made into handicrafts. So the Board deferred that
22 proposal and based on a recommendation from the State
23 we formed a work group consisting of Federal and State
24 Staff, and then the Board also wanted to have
25 representation from the RACs on that work group.

26

27 There's been a number of meetings;
28 however only one meeting by teleconference was attended
29 by RAC members. We made some -- the RAC members had a
30 lot of questions and we pulled a bunch of information
31 together for the RAC members into a booklet form, who
32 are on the committee. And we haven't had a second
33 meeting to actually go over that information.

34

35 The plan is to this fall or this winter
36 is have another in-person meeting with the RAC
37 representatives and the Federal and State Staff to go
38 over the information that we gathered to see if we can
39 work out something to possibly track bear claws and
40 handicrafts. But maybe we can't. It will all depend
41 on the work group discussion and see how things get
42 hammered out.

43

44 The charge for the work group was to
45 develop a method to recommend to the Federal Board and
46 the Board of Game for tracking bear claws in
47 handicrafts that is enforceable, culturally sensitive,
48 commensurate with a need to provide conservation for
49 the resource.

50

1 So most of the discussion has evolved
2 around a paper-tracking system. Nothing invasive,
3 nothing that would damage a claw or affect the
4 handicrafts.

5
6 Let's see, what else was in here.

7
8 So I guess that's basically where we're
9 at. We're still in the examining if the system will
10 work, and we still need more input from the Council
11 members. So like I said, there should be another
12 meeting this winter/this fall, but we want to do an in-
13 person meeting, because the teleconference doesn't work
14 quite as well as you like.

15
16 What Sue has in her hands are the books
17 we put together. It's a bunch of information based on
18 what the Council members wanted. They wanted data on
19 legal harvest, number of brown bears harvested under
20 Federal permits. We talked a lot about CITES permits,
21 and maybe using CITES permits as a way to track the
22 handicrafts.

23
24 And we went into some reasons why we
25 felt that handicrafts may need to be tracked. It's,
26 you know, conservation of resource. Law enforcement
27 had a lot of links. They wanted to link handicraft
28 sales to black marketing and poaching, and that was a
29 lot of the information we dug up for the Council
30 members so they had information to base decisions on.

31
32 So I guess the status is we're working
33 towards a conclusion hopefully and we'll have some more
34 meeting with RAC members.

35
36 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Any questions?

37
38
39 (No comments)

40
41 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: If anybody
42 wants to see this booklet at this meeting, I've got
43 actually three of them to look at. It took some work
44 to put together.

45
46 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes, it did.

47
48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I just
49 saw James Nathaniel walk in, and I wanted to say hello.
50 He used to serve on our group, and it's nice to see

1 him.

2

3 Okay. No more questions of the Bear
4 Claw Working Group.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And how are we
9 doing? Oh, wow, we're doing good.

10

11 Now we're on today's schedule. Caribou
12 management. And we took up the Chisana Caribou Herd,
13 unless there's anything else to add.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now it's
18 the Porcupine Caribou Herd.

19

20 MR. MATHEWS: Madam Chair. The Staff
21 that were going to discuss the Porcupine Caribou Herd
22 are in route. That would be Arctic Refuge. So we may
23 want to wait on that.

24

25 And then I had a note down here,
26 Fortymile. I don't know if you had some actions.

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I have that on
29 my notes, too. But we were.....

30

31 MR. MATHEWS: Something about a
32 proposal that was coming out on Fortymile.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Actually just
35 in quick here, I'll let Andy or Bill.

36

37 MR. GLANZ: I really myself would like
38 to table any of the Fortymile actions. Me and Andy and
39 Sue are -- Andrew and Sue are going to go to the
40 Fortymile meeting tomorrow and iron out some things.
41 So I think it would just be a waste of time here with
42 this. Unless somebody on this Board would like to make
43 some suggestions to us to take to the Board meeting on
44 the Fortymile Herd.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right, because
47 there's five ACs, right, meeting tomorrow.

48

49 MR. GLANZ: Yes.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: To talk
2 about.....
3
4 MR. GLANZ: Fortymile management.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER:permit
7 strategy, right? Yeah. And they invited myself as
8 Eastern Interior RAC to also attend. So if there's
9 anything that you guys see, anybody here on the Council
10 that would like to give us suggestions, or these two
11 guys suggestions, because I think I'm a listen only,
12 and you guys are going to be.....
13
14 MR. GLANZ: You're a member of the RAC.
15 I've got a feeling you will -- but what the big problem
16 was is they opened the season. There's three zones.
17 We're in Zone 1, Circle, Central and that area. Where
18 the total allotment for the year is 190, they shot 230
19 the first day. Actually they took a total of 500 and
20 some odd on the Taylor Highway. So we have 855 taken.
21 And without even waiting for any more field reports,
22 they shut it down. Who knows what the total was.
23
24 And they left number 2 zone open, which
25 was really a thorn in our side, because the people in 2
26 zone, which is Delta area and north of there, and the
27 Good Pasture, Salcha, and they were all blaming me and
28 Andy for all you people in Central and Eagle got all
29 yours, and now it was the Steese, and we've still got
30 to get ours. Well, there was seven of them taken out
31 of Central under subsistence, and all the rest were
32 taken by military personnel and then residents of
33 Anchorage and Soldotna. I seen three of them taken out
34 of Soldotna.
35
36 So anyway we're going to work that out,
37 guys. I don't know, Andy may have some ideas also, but
38 there's going to be a lot of ideas thrown about
39 tomorrow during this meeting. And the State called the
40 meeting for us. We thought that was pretty special.
41 And they're going to take care of our lodging for
42 tomorrow night even.
43
44 Anyhow, folks, if anybody has anything,
45 we'd be glad to hear it.
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Chuck.
48
49 MR. ARDIZZONE: I don't have a whole
50 lot to add. I just wanted to say that I did have a

1 number of concerned citizens from Eagle and Central
2 call me and ask about the hunt, and all I could do was
3 give numbers. I don't manage that hunt, but just, you
4 know, there was -- I bet I had a dozen phone calls from
5 the communities about that, and so there was a lot of
6 concern about this winter hunt upcoming.

7

8 MR. GLANZ: Okay, Chuck, what they did
9 to us is they've given us so far 40 subsistence animals
10 to cover the Central, Circle and Eagle, and that's far
11 from what -- we've got to iron that out, too, because I
12 know they -- in the figuring of this 850 per year
13 taken, there's a 15 percent above we can go and still
14 stay within our management plan. So we'll see what
15 they can do for us when we get there tomorrow. But
16 thanks, I'm glad you guys were covering it, too.

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andy.

19

20 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, just on the record,
21 numbers passed on to me was 13 percent of the harvest
22 was by local residents of the units. The rest of the
23 harvest was from, for lack of better terms, outside
24 hunters, whether they be.....

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Non-local.

27

28 MR. BASSICH: Non-local I guess I would
29 say. And so that there again just reaffirms what I was
30 referring to a little bit earlier with some of the
31 conflicts. And in our particular region, the thing
32 that hurts the most is that we rely on the winter hunt.
33 Not too many people in our area generally go out and
34 hunt that early hunt, because it's like going to a
35 shooting gallery. It's actually almost dangerous at
36 times. And so we rely on the winter hunt, and when
37 quotas are taken like this, and there's no winter hunt,
38 then a really important resource to us is taken away
39 from us. Fish and caribou, that's what we live on.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So that's going
42 to be a fun meeting tomorrow. Yeah. Okay.

43

44 What were we waiting on?

45

46 MR. GLANZ: On the Porcupine.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Oh, the
49 Porcupine. They're here and -- when do you expect
50 them?

1 MR. MATHEWS: Well, I don't know when
2 they're arriving. My understanding, Richard Foss was
3 going to come to talk about the Porcupine Caribou Herd
4 as well as the Arctic CCP.

5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. We'll go
7 through rest of the agenda and, please, we get a little
8 tired at these meetings sometimes, so if I fail to --
9 I'm sure somebody will remind me.

10
11 Next is the agency reports.
12 Organizations on wildlife studies, issues, and the
13 first thing was Randy Rogers and his update on the
14 wildlife planning efforts. Is that -- I think we have
15 time. Council members, you were going to do a short
16 presentation on the bison, is that.....

17
18 MS. LENART: I have one slight update
19 of what's going on, and then I have a few slides on
20 (indiscernible, away from microphone).

21
22 REPORTER: Can't hear you.

23
24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, I'm just
25 asking. Do you want to hear about the bison? There
26 isn't any new news, but I guess for me personally, do
27 you want to hear, see another quick update on the
28 woodland bison, or what the heck do you call them?
29 Yeah, the woodland bison. Do you guys want to hear the
30 report.

31
32 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I would love to hear
33 that. Perfect.

34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. She has
36 that. So Vince is going to get it set up. I'm going
37 to let you work on that, and then you have another
38 report, too, right?

39
40 MS. LENART: Madam Chair. I was just
41 going to update the Council and members in the
42 community on what we're doing with intensive management
43 around Beaver.

44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And I think
46 we'd like to hear about intensive management. So what
47 works for you? Can you talk about intensive management
48 first, and then get back to the bison report?

49
50 MS. LENART: I think the bison would be

1 easier.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Is it quick to
4 load there, Vince?

5

6 MR. MATHEWS: I hope so.

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I hate to take
9 a five-minute break which turns into 30 minutes.

10

11 MS. LENART: Madam Chair.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes.

14

15 MS. LENART: The wood bison actually
16 pretty easy to update.

17

18 First of all, we'd just like to think
19 the Eastern Interior RAC for their letter of support
20 this September supporting the wood bison project. And
21 we are working with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
22 right now to develop a proposed rule under the
23 Endangered Species Act to designate wood bison in
24 Alaska as a non-essential experimental population. And
25 what we hope this would do would maybe alleviate and
26 address concerns of Doyon and others about oil and gas
27 and other resource development so that then the project
28 can move forward.

29

30 However, if this rule is judged not
31 to be adequate, or have adequate protections for
32 resource development, then ADF&G may not be authorized
33 to release wood bison on the Yukon Flats or at any of
34 the other sites. So we still really need to wait and
35 see what happens with this rule.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And can you
38 give us a timeline on that rule? How does that work?
39 Do you know that process?

40

41 MS. LENART: I don't know that process,
42 no. But I could get back to you from Randy on that if
43 you'd like.

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Did you give us
46 -- you don't know the timeframe I mean?

47

48 MS. LENART: I know to they're working
49 on it this winter, because he's also planning to start
50 some site-specific planning, either pick one of the

1 three areas to start working with the communities as if
2 it was moving forward. And they hope that this will
3 all get down, and they'll be able to release bison by
4 early spring, 2011. So that's sort of.....

5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: It just amazes
7 me that all the money spent, and then all of a sudden a
8 roadblock comes up. The roadblock should have been
9 first and then the money spent.

10
11 MS. LENART: Several roadblocks.

12
13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: It just blows
14 me away. I'm sure it does the Council members also.

15
16 Okay. Any questions. Frank.

17
18 MR. GURTLER: Why do they want to put
19 the bison on endangered species, or what's the reason
20 for that?

21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Can you help
23 us?

24
25 MS. LENART: I'm not sure exactly how
26 that Endangered Species Act happens, except that there
27 aren't wood bison naturally in Alaska right now. And I
28 don't know if someone -- if Rob Jess can help with that
29 or not.

30
31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

32
33 MS. LENART: Or Mark.

34
35 MR. BERTRAM: Mark Bertram. And what
36 was your question again?

37
38 MR. GURTLER: Why do they want to put
39 the bison on the Endangered Species Act? Under that.

40
41 MR. BERTRAM: Well, they were.....

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Why does it
44 affect the Endangered Species Act is what he's asking.

45
46 MR. BERTRAM: Why are they on the
47 Endangered Species List; is that what you asked?

48
49 MR. GURTLER: Well, why do they want to
50 put them on there?

1 MR. BERTRAM: Why do they want to --
2 well, they are already classified an endangered species
3 over in Canada.

4
5 MR. GURTLER: That's Canada.

6
7 MR. BERTRAM: Right. And why do they
8 want to put them on the Endangered Species List for the
9 United States?

10
11 MR. GURTLER: In Alaska here.

12
13 MR. BERTRAM: I really can't answer
14 that. I don't know the answer to that.

15
16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: If I remember our
17 stuff, I'm going by memory here and it's hard
18 sometimes. I think the roadblock came up when the
19 development from Doyon wanted to occur.

20
21 MR. BERTRAM: Well, that's the latest
22 roadblock, yes.

23
24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay.

25
26 MR. UMPHENOUR: I have the answer, so
27 if you want to.....

28
29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Virgil is a
30 historian, and he has the answer.

31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. They're already
33 on the Endangered Species list in Canada. And so what
34 we want to do, or what we have to do before we can
35 release them, if we want to be able to hunt them, is we
36 have to get them declared or designated a non-essential
37 experimental population. They have to be declared
38 that.

39
40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Which is under
41 a rule called 16(b), is it?

42
43 MR. BERTRAM: That's a clause within
44 the Endangered Species Act that gets them around this.

45
46 MR. UMPHENOUR: It's part of the
47 Endangered Species Act. And so they have to do that,
48 we need to get that done first, because if we don't get
49 that done first, then there will be all these
50 restrictions on land use where they're at and all kinds

1 of different things which would affect any type of
2 development or any surface activity where they're at.
3 But if they get them declared a non-essential
4 experimental population, then that eliminates all these
5 special restrictions to the uses of the land where the
6 bison would be. That's the reason why.

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Frank.

9

10 MR. GURTLER: In other words, we've got
11 the restrictions with the bison?

12

13 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. If we just got
14 the bison, we'd have all these restrictions along with
15 the bison.

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And it's too
18 bad they didn't figure that out before they bought the
19 bison.

20

21 MR. GURTLER: Sell them back.

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We could eat
24 them. But, you know, I applaud the effort, and I hope
25 that it goes forward, and I hope there's no roadblock
26 that actually becomes a permanent roadblock.

27

28 So anyway, go ahead with your report
29 then.

30

31 MS. LENART: Next I would just like to
32 update the Council and members of the community on what
33 we're doing with intensive management on the Yukon
34 Flats. ADF&G is mandated by law to intensively manage
35 populations that have been identified by the Board of
36 Game. And Unit 25D was identified by the Board of Game
37 as an intensive management population, because it
38 provided food for lots of people. There's a criteria
39 there and they went through the criteria. And this
40 population was also at very low density, yet it exists
41 in very good moose habitat. So the belief is that, you
42 know, humans can influence a system to allow this moose
43 population to grow.

44

45 So what can an intensive management
46 plan do that we couldn't do in a regular moose
47 management plan, and that's sort of one of the
48 questions people always throw out there. Under the
49 State laws, sometimes an intensive management plan can
50 provide additional tools and funding, a different

1 source of funding, because there are some things that
2 the Board of Game can do to authorize under an
3 intensive management plan, such as wolf control or
4 selling bear hides in a predator control area. But
5 that would not be done, or not be allowed under normal
6 hunting and trapping regulations. So that's some
7 additional tools that an intensive management plan can
8 give us.

9

10 Oops, I went the wrong way.

11

12 So in the Yukon Flats, right now we
13 have what we're calling the Beaver intensive moose
14 management area. And to sort of orient folks with this
15 map, the black outline is Unit 25D. The green is the
16 Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge. And then that
17 orange and checkerboard orange are private lands or
18 corporation lands. And the blue is State lands. And
19 then are managed by State land -- or State.

20

21 And so in the Yukon Flats we decided to
22 focus intensive management to an area surrounding a
23 village for two main reasons. One was that Unit 25D is
24 about 17,000 square miles, and so it was just too large
25 of an area for us to influence. And the other one was
26 that because approximately 65 percent of the land is
27 within the Refuge, there may be some intensive
28 management actions that might be difficult to implement
29 on Refuge lands. So we thought if we could focus it
30 around private lands, we might be able to do more
31 things.

32

33 However, when we go down this path of
34 an intensive management plan around a village, it
35 really requires the community to support it and help
36 it. We can't get very far without that. And in the
37 past years the community of Beaver has shown
38 initiative. They've acquired wildlife grants. They've
39 had moose management meetings, and they've been really
40 making an effort to reduce predators in their area.

41

42 So ADF&G proposed doing the intensive
43 management area originally around Beaver to see if it
44 would be successful on a smaller area, and then maybe
45 we could move to other areas. And so we asked if
46 Beaver wanted to do that. And we talked to the
47 Advisory Committee and CATG and all these folks agreed
48 that starting in Beaver was good, because they already
49 had a grant and they were kind of already moving
50 forward in a lot of the areas.

1 I'd just note here that around Beaver,
2 you know, this is only about 500 square miles, so it's
3 not a huge area. But it gives us a little bit of room
4 to try to do some things. And so right now for some
5 biological work, what we're doing in there is we're
6 doing moose surveys in that 500 square miles, and this
7 year we'll probably do what we call a census and try to
8 estimate -- you know, count all the moose in the area.
9

10 And we're also doing a black population
11 estimate right around there. We want to know how many
12 black bears are in the area to help us determine how
13 many need to be removed or killed to make a difference
14 in the moose population. You know if there are so many
15 bears out there and we tell folks, well, you know, just
16 harvest 20 bears and it really doesn't really matter.
17 I want to give people in the community an idea of what
18 number we're looking at, and whether or not we'd even
19 have the ability to sort of address that issue, or we
20 should put our money and time somewhere else.
21

22 And both of these surveys were in
23 cooperation with the Yukon Flats National Wildlife
24 Refuge.
25

26 And in Unit 25D, kind of the
27 surrounding area, we're conducting with Yukon Flats
28 National Wildlife Refuge and CATG, we're conducting
29 harvest surveys, and we're trying to get an idea of how
30 many moose and bear and wolves are taken by local
31 hunters.
32

33 And I don't have it on this slide, but
34 we're also conducting wolf studies to get an idea of
35 where the wolf packs are in relation to the private
36 land. And Yukon Flats is also conducting a wolf
37 predation study that will help us figure out how many
38 -- well, I think they reported on that a little earlier
39 on how many wolves -- how many moose wolves are taking.
40

41 So we're working with the Refuge and
42 CATG and Beaver and the AC and hoping to be able to
43 figure out some of these questions.
44

45 However, the success of something at
46 this level really depends on the community, because
47 it's asking the community to provide the hunters and
48 trappers and to acquire grants. And what Beaver did,
49 they had an excellent grant administrator who kept
50 track -- it's a lot of paperwork. They have to report

1 on the monies that's coming in and what's going out.
2 And this individual did a great job. But some of the
3 things that they used the money for was to reimburse
4 fuel for two trappers, and so they -- this was a really
5 good thing. And we can't come in as an agency and just
6 give people money for fuel. We can't do that, so this
7 is a way to kind of work around that.

8

9 Folks have to maybe agree to kill only
10 bull moose, and also to give, you know, harvest data,
11 so we know how many are being taken by hunters versus
12 predators.

13

14 And that's where we are right now.
15 We're going into the second year of getting some more
16 data.

17

18 You know, it's still very difficult to
19 influence a very small area. We talked about, well,
20 it's on private lands. Could we have wolf control on
21 that. Well, 500 square miles is almost too small to
22 implement a wolf control program, because the wolf
23 packs aren't always on that private land. And to have
24 predator control hunters come out there, it's a long
25 ways from anywhere and the chances of them getting a
26 wolf is pretty slim. And even though there are a lot
27 of wolves out there, in relation to the land, it's a
28 somewhat low density of wolves, because they only have
29 moose to eat. So we didn't think trying to go down the
30 path of a wolf control program on private lands was
31 going to be successful, so we're trying to find other
32 areas, or other ideas to help trappers locate wolf --
33 you know, locate carcasses and target wolves that way.

34

35

36 And then if we have an idea of how many
37 black bears are in the area, whether or not we can
38 figure out something to do with that, you know.

39

40 And there's still things that are
41 happening on the State side that changes. And I can't
42 say right now whether or not we can do something more
43 aggressive than just, you know, counting animals, and
44 they're doing some things with bears elsewhere in the
45 State. And so if we have an idea of numbers, then we
46 might have an opportunity to do something in the
47 future, depending upon political whims.

48

49 So with that, that was all I had on the
50 intensive management.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
2 questions on the intensive management. Andy.

3

4 MR. BASSICH: Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I didn't have
7 my mic on. Sorry. Any questions. Andy.

8

9 MR. BASSICH: Thank you. Beth, can you
10 just enlighten me real quickly on how you do bear
11 surveys? Methodology.

12

13 MS. LENART: Yes. I may have Mark come
14 up. He was participating in this project, and my
15 assistant, Jason Sycoski (ph) is working on it.

16

17 It's a mark/recapture. They're radio
18 collaring bears, and then after -- they've already been
19 radio collared, and then we'll come out this spring and
20 fly these areas intensively and see how many bears with
21 radio collars that are located. You'll have another
22 airplane knowing which radio-collared bears in which
23 grid. And then run it through a statistical program,
24 and they come up with a population estimate.

25

26 MR. BASSICH: So wouldn't that be
27 affected pretty dramatically by your initial tagging
28 program? The outcome of that? How do you adjust for
29 that? I mean, if you've only collared two percent of
30 the bears in the area, how do you adjust for that? Or
31 how do you even know what your percentage is to start
32 with on your collared or tagged animals?

33

34 MS. LENART: That's a good question and
35 I don't know if I can answer it very detailed, except
36 that they went out and did some preliminary flights.
37 And in the Yukon Flats compared to anywhere else we've
38 done bear surveys, they're seeing a lot of black bears.
39 And so they did have to up their collaring sample to
40 address part of what you're saying. And so we ended up
41 -- I think actually the Refuge bought more collars to
42 deploy to address that concern. And then, you know,
43 they sort of run the preliminary numbers and the
44 statistician will tell us, well, you know, you're going
45 to need another 10 collars out there in order to get
46 your estimate, and tie your confidence intervals around
47 your estimate.

48

49 MR. BASSICH: Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andrew.
2
3 MR. FIRMIN: Where are you getting the
4 grants from to reimburse for the fuel and et cetera to
5 implement these programs? Are they from ADF&G or.....
6
7 MS. LENART: I didn't year you.
8
9 MR. FIRMIN: The grants. It says need
10 grants to reimburse for fuel and food. Where are you
11 obtaining those grants from?
12
13 MS. LENART: Those grants -- that
14 particular grant was a wildlife grant through the
15 Federal system, and the Village of Huslia had applied
16 for one and gotten one before Beaver and then Beaver
17 did it. And Wennona Brown with the Refuge, she was
18 helpful I think in getting that paperwork together. So
19 if Fort Yukon is interested in that, I think CATG was
20 kind of looking into that earlier for Fort Yukon. And
21 Venetie was also interested. There's deadlines when
22 the applications are due, but we could certainly get
23 whoever the person that knows about those connected
24 with somebody in the village if you wanted to apply for
25 those.
26
27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: To further that
28 question, did it help? Was there more take?
29
30 MS. LENART: I think -- is Wilma Pitka
31 here? Is she here today. Yeah. Wilma was the grant
32 coordinator. I don't know if she would like to come up
33 and make a comment, but it seemed like, you know,
34 there's -- it costs money to do those things, and so
35 any sort of help in defraying those costs I think is a
36 good thing. Whether or not if enough wolves are being
37 taken or enough bears.....
38
39 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That's what I
40 was asking.
41
42 MS. LENART: Yeah. And that we're
43 still -- that's a tough -- that's going to be a tough
44 thing to analyze. It may be tough to measure whether
45 or not we're successful in terms of less bears and
46 wolves out there, although that might be easier, or the
47 increase in the moose population. So other things for
48 us to look at in terms of success is are hunters
49 finding moose easier? Are they getting -- is it taking
50 them less days to get moose than it did before this, so

1 there's other ways to measure success other than just
2 directly counting animals.

3

4 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

5

6 MR. UMPHENOUR: Has the Department ever
7 considered using infrared in counting things like
8 bears?

9

10 MS. LENART: Yes, we talk about that
11 all the time, although then we'd never be out here.
12 But it's so cost prohibitive. I mean, that's pretty
13 guarded right now by the military, and right now it's
14 cost prohibitive. It may be in the future that we can
15 -- that's the way we end up counting things.

16

17 MR. UMPHENOUR: Has the Department
18 attempted to coordinate with the military to see if
19 they could get the military to do that as part of their
20 training?

21

22 MS. LENART: They used some of that for
23 polar bears, but -- I think kind of in that context,
24 but I don't know that we've pursued it beyond, you
25 know, for moose or black or grizzly bears. I think
26 there is still a little bit of a fine tuning that has
27 to be done between when you're counting moose or
28 grizzly bears because they can't -- or you can't -- the
29 infrared can't distinguish between that body heat,
30 because of the size of the animal, so you wouldn't know
31 whether it's a moose or a bear or what's out there,
32 except in the wintertime. Bears are supposed to be in
33 their dens. But I know they locate dens that way.

34

35 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. Madam
36 Chair.

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andrew again.

39

40 MR. FIRMIN: I like Virgil's
41 suggestion. Another one is like how about BLM AFS.
42 They've got a thermal imager on the front of their
43 plane that they look for hot spots for on fires all
44 summer all summer. That would be another option.

45

46 MS. LENART: These are all good
47 questions, and I think the future, it may be down those
48 lines, but this distinguishing between the different
49 body heats of what's on the ground, a mammal's body
50 heat level, is going to take a lot of fine tuning.

1 MR. FIRMIN: Couldn't they just look
2 out the window and tell the difference? Look, there's
3 a hot spot.

4
5 MS. LENART: Oh, and then go check it
6 out? Well, yeah, that sounds like more fun than
7 sitting at my computer in the office.

8
9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I'm just
10 curious, did the moose win?

11
12 MS. LENART: You know, I got that photo
13 from Bob Stephenson. I think so. I think the next
14 photo is the moose with her calf. She has a calf. And
15 the bear is sitting there looking at them. So I think
16 she won.

17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I
19 watched a black bear chase a calf moose and just kept
20 pounding into it, and finally the moose got rid of it.
21 It was a big black bear, too. The black bear got
22 underneath a spruce tree, and kept hammering into it,
23 and it finally gave up. But I don't think they always
24 win.

25
26 But I was just curious. When you guys
27 fly and look for -- and you say you're seeing increased
28 black bear. Do you have a lot of timber or is it.....
29

30 MS. LENART: They were seen among the
31 meadows out here.

32
33 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So you're
34 seeing them when they're.....

35
36 MS. LENART: Yeah, that's been my.....
37

38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER:in open
39 areas, and there could be so much more.

40
41 MS. LENART: No, you're right. And
42 that's definitely -- so when they do the surveys, it
43 will be -- it's supposed to be in May before leaf-out
44 to help address some of that.

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Any other
47 questions.

48
49 MR. GLANZ: I'd just compliment you
50 guys on your intensive management. For the Fortymile

1 Caribou Herd, it worked out fantastic.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes, it did.
4 But I guess you're having trouble trying to implement
5 something like that here on the Yukon Flats?

6

7 MS. LENART: Yeah, the land status is a
8 little more challenging. And just -- even with that,
9 based on earlier studies that the Refuge has done, Mark
10 Bertram, a lot of the moose calves are taken by black
11 bears. And even the State has trouble addressing black
12 bear predation, so that's pretty challenging, too.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

15

16 MR. GLANZ: One other thing, I know
17 that when I was working for the AFS in Fort Yukon here,
18 they tagged like 25 newborn moose calves, and I
19 remember we scrambled a helicopter every time they had
20 some kind of a signal come into us. And out of the 25,
21 1 drowned, and 24 were killed by black bears. They
22 were on the kill. So, I mean, it's a major problem up
23 here. I wish they'd implement an aerial black bear
24 kill like we do with the wolves.

25

26 And actually also, are you familiar
27 with the areas around Beaver and that, that would be a
28 real hard area to do wolf predation or control from the
29 area unless it would be a rotor wing. Fixed wing, it
30 would be almost impossible with the cover they've go
31 there to hide it.

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, thank you
34 for the report on the intensive management. I wish we
35 had more time, because I would like to, you know, hear
36 more I guess, or suggest that, you know, in these
37 Federal lands, where there's mostly Federal lands in an
38 area, and there's a real need for some type of control
39 efforts, that we'd pursue areas where we can actually
40 do something besides, like you said, you know, take
41 surveys, where there's actually, you know, whatever it
42 takes. Take more bears or take more wolves, whatever
43 it takes. And we need to find out what the problem is,
44 that we can do that. So I'd like to see that. I'm
45 sure the Feds and the State is working together on this
46 program?

47

48 MS. LENART: Uh-huh.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I

1 applaud that and continue -- and really hope it
2 continues and something good happens for everybody.
3 Thank you.

4
5 MS. LENART: Thank you.

6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So who's next.

8
9 MR. MATHEWS: Madam Chair. It might be
10 a good time. There's another presentation, it's just a
11 little bit down, which is the migratory bird
12 comanagement which you requested a presentation on.
13 They're here and, of course, the projector's running.
14 They have a program and that might fit in before lunch.

15
16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do we
17 need to take a short break to get loaded. Okay.

18
19 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Vince, can you
20 multi-task?

21
22 MR. MATHEWS: Can I?

23
24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. You're
25 doing that. Can you remember, didn't Andrew have a
26 proposal to this Council? Or did we put one forward?

27
28 MR. FIRMIN: I think it was already
29 just (indiscernible, away from microphone).

30
31 MR. MATHEWS: Was this a proposal for
32 migratory birds?

33
34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

35
36 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.

37
38 MR. MATHEWS: Well, that's what
39 precipitated them coming out, because you guys don't
40 have jurisdiction in this, but you deal with
41 subsistence, so we got Fred Armstrong out here and
42 another Staff person. I don't know which one you want,
43 that one?

44
45 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

46
47 MR. MATHEWS: And then -- well, let me
48 introduce Fred Armstrong. Weren't you the Chair of
49 the.....

50

1 MR. ARMSTRONG: Northwest Arctic.

2

3 MR. MATHEWS: The Northwest Arctic
4 Regional Advisory Council. So he understands the
5 complexities of Regional Councils, et cetera.

6

7 (Mr. Mathews and Mr. Armstrong
8 discussing running the projector)

9

10 MR. ARMSTRONG: By way of introduction,
11 my name is Fred Armstrong. I'm originally from
12 Buckland in the Kotzebue area. I grew up in Nome. And
13 I currently live in Anchorage I'm the program manager
14 for the Migratory Birds subsistence program. And we
15 develop regulations annually for the subsistence
16 harvest during the spring and summer season.

17

18 Anyway, back in 1914 when there was
19 discussion about creating a treaty between the United
20 States and Canada, they went through, because there was
21 a lot of harvest of birds and selling to restaurants
22 and selling to people who make hats and have the fancy
23 plumes. And it was getting out of hand, so they
24 created this treaty to conserve birds. But at the same
25 time they didn't realize that people in northern Canada
26 and Alaska Natives in Alaska used these on a seasonal
27 basis. And so what they did was in effect create an
28 illegal activity.

29

30 Back in 1962, I don't know if you've
31 heard about the famous duck-in in Barrow where an
32 enforcement officer cited a magistrate, of all people,
33 and the locals got upset and everybody went and shot a
34 bird and stood in line to say, well, you need to cite
35 me, too.

36

37 And then there was incidents in the Y-K
38 Delta, this was when the Service decided, we have to do
39 something. These people rely on these resources during
40 the spring and summer. So there was an attempt back in
41 the early 80s to modify the treaty to make it legal for
42 Alaska Natives and northern peoples of Canada.

43

44 That effort failed simply because they
45 hadn't brought in the conservation groups,
46 environmentalist and people who are worried about the
47 mice, the ducks, the geese and everybody and their own
48 thing. They contested that, because they weren't a
49 part of it.

50

1 So another effort back in late 80s and
2 early 90s, they brought everybody together, Audubon,
3 Ducks Unlimited, the Alaska Native working group, State
4 of Alaska, the Federal Government. And they worked on
5 language and actually negotiated an agreement which we
6 finally had passed and ratified by the Senate in 1997.

7
8
9 What I'm going to do is just give you a
10 brief overview of the program itself since its
11 inception. It's a relatively new program. We didn't
12 start promulgating regulations until since -- I mean,
13 back in 2003, so we only have about six years of
14 history.

15
16 Our program -- could you go to the
17 next? Okay. Right here is good.

18
19 There were three major initiatives or
20 mandates that the amendments focused on. Number one
21 was the conservation of migratory birds.

22
23 The second was recognizing the ongoing
24 customary and traditional activity that had been going
25 on for centuries. So they said, we want to legitimize
26 that and keep that activity going.

27
28 And the third mandate was, whatever
29 regime we created, we're not going to increase the
30 harvest levels. And that was kind of worrying for a lot
31 of people, because you're going to legalize a system,
32 and that would mean there would be more people involved
33 and they had the concept -- people were saying, well,
34 there's more people, more guns. But, you know, life in
35 rural Alaska is simply not that way. You know, people
36 hunt and they share a lot of the resources for people
37 who aren't able to hunt or the elderly or handicapped.

38
39 Our main -- in almost every society,
40 the main trait or the thing we do is share, you know,
41 regardless of what ethnicity or race. It's a common
42 thing.

43
44 Go to the next, please. When the
45 treaty was finally ratified, they included language in
46 there that was very specific, that we're going to
47 create a regional management -- or a statewide body,
48 and it's going to consist of the State of Alaska, the
49 Federal Government and Alaska Natives. And so that
50 came to some dilemma, and they said we're going to have

1 -- all three of you are going to be equals. And, of
2 course, a lot of people know the history between tribes
3 and the Federal Government, tribes and the State, the
4 Federal Government and the State. There was just all
5 this tension. People were worried about that. They
6 were -- you know, they had a hard time trusting each
7 other. But the treaty language says, whatever you do,
8 you're going to be equal partners in this whole
9 process. You're going to develop a statewide council
10 that will address and create a system of regulating the
11 spring and summer season.

12

13 Next, please. Since we had the Alaska
14 Natives and it's such a wide diverse state, we looked
15 at the 12 regions in Alaska and basically adopted the
16 ANCSA board as for each of the regions. So then we
17 wrote a letter to each of the regions saying, we need
18 you guys to send a representative to this council, and
19 we'll try to meet and form some bylaws and figure out
20 how we're going to operate.

21

22 So we got a bunch of people together
23 and went to Girdwood and developed bylaws. I think it
24 took -- we planned for two days, but I think we went
25 three and a half days, simply because everybody had to
26 come to agreement. And in those days, agreement was
27 pretty hard to come by. So we kind of just kept
28 everybody in one room and hashed out bylaws saying how
29 we're going to operate, what we're going to be called.
30 We're going to be called the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-
31 Management Council.

32

33 We're going to have three bodies, but
34 they're going to be as equals. So to figure out how
35 you're going to have 11 Native groups and two other
36 entities, and the State and Federal Government, so we
37 figured out each group would have one vote. So
38 whenever it comes to the Alaska Natives, if anything
39 comes to a vote, they would caucus and come back with
40 their vote. And that's been working very well. We
41 rarely vote, simply because we work by consensus. It
42 takes longer, but in the end everybody finally agrees
43 and there's buy-in.

44

45 I listed out some of the regional
46 management bodies, but basically non-profits from each
47 of the regions, except you look at the North Slope
48 Borough, it's a government. At the time their non-
49 profit wasn't up to par, and they were just trying to
50 get it organized, so in the interim we had the North

1 Slope Borough.

2

3 Next please. And this is just showing
4 you the regions that are involved in our program here.

5

6

7 Basically the treating said there will
8 be included areas and there will be excluded areas.
9 And I want to mention that carefully, because I
10 understand you talked about transport of birds from
11 Fort Yukon to Fairbanks, for instance. Fairbanks is an
12 excluded area.

13

14 Anything west -- north and west of the
15 Alaska Range, which basically covers this area,
16 including the Aleutian Islands and Kodiak, would be
17 considered included. The major boroughs, the Fairbanks
18 North Star Borough, Mat-Su, Anchorage Borough, would be
19 excluded. Southeast Alaska never did have a history of
20 participating in the spring and summer season. They do
21 their hunting -- with the exception of eggs.

22

23 And then, you know, Congress said,
24 well, we need a mechanism to get these guys involved.
25 So they wrote language in there that says, people who
26 live in excluded areas can petition for inclusion for a
27 specific activity. And then we just said, you know,
28 all they can do is petition us, show us that they have
29 a history of gathering eggs and, bam, you know, they
30 could be included by a recommendation from the council.

31

32 Next, please. We operate similarly
33 like the Title VIII program. We have an open season
34 for soliciting proposals. That period runs from
35 November 1st through December 15.

36

37 Our regulations are regional, meaning
38 Interior has their own season, their own list of birds
39 that they can harvest. And they have a 30-day closure
40 period. I'll explain a little bit about that 30-day
41 closure period.

42

43 When we were putting together this
44 program, we had to look at other treaties that the
45 United States had written treaties with. They had
46 written a treaty with Japan. They had written a treaty
47 with Russia. With Mexico. And what we had to do was
48 look at the restrictive language in each of those
49 treaties, and include them, integrate them into our
50 program.

1 So we looked at the Japanese treaty.
2 They had the closed season from March 10th to September
3 1st. Well, we had to figure out how we can implement a
4 closure within our period. So the group, the Alaska
5 Natives, the State of Alaska figured, well, 30 days
6 would be a minimum amount of days that we could close
7 the season, and that was -- it's basically during the
8 time when the birds lay their nests, which is their
9 most vulnerable time. And each region basically wrote
10 down the dates they think most of the birds in their
11 region started laying eggs. And then we compared it
12 with the biological data that our scientists had put
13 together, and lo and behold, every region coincided the
14 same thing. Everybody were kind of right on with the
15 closure period, when the birds started nesting. And so
16 we identified a closed period for that region.

17
18 We had the region list the names of
19 birds that they harvest. The Interior I think has a
20 list of 43 birds that they can harvest. Some of the
21 other regions have as far as 92, the coastal people,
22 because it not only includes game birds, which are the
23 geese and ducks, but it includes shorebirds and
24 seabirds that other regions rely upon for sustenance,
25 especially on the Y-K Delta and even up north on the
26 North Slope.

27
28 What happens is, once we get those
29 proposals, we send them out to 11 regions. We created
30 a regional management body in each of the regions. For
31 the Interior, the partner that works in our council is
32 TCC. So they've created a management body. It
33 actually hadn't been active for about three or four
34 years, and now they have a young gal that's overseeing
35 the program. I think her name is Lisa Kangas. She put
36 together this group of people from each of the regions,
37 subregions. And they meet twice annually. And go to
38 the statewide meetings and provide the recommendations
39 for regulations.

40
41 When we get these proposals, after
42 December 15 we send them out to all the regions. And
43 in April each year the statewide body meets and submit
44 recommendations to the Secretary of Interior to allow
45 them to make them into regulations. And we start to
46 publish the proposed rule and final rule.

47
48 We do something different. Could you go
49 one, please. What we do is we operate one year in
50 advance. For instance, we just met this last April.

1 And that is for the 2010 season. We operate one year
2 in advance simply because the timeframe, March 10
3 through September 1st doesn't fit the national system.
4 They hunt during that period -- I mean, the other
5 period, so September 1st to March 9 or something like
6 that. They have 107 days.

7
8 Well, one of the things, the treaty
9 with Mexico listed out the hunting period. You can't
10 have a season more than 100 -- four months. So we
11 figured that to be 120 days.

12
13 There was an interesting twist that
14 Washington, D.C. included. They said, well, we have a
15 crow season that runs 124 days, so they said, well,
16 we'll add a couple more days to you guys to make it
17 that much longer. Because, you know, I think they
18 realized that hunting is opportunistic in nature, that,
19 you know, we don't rely on dates. And a lot of times
20 they conflict. I'll get to that portion a little
21 later.

22
23 The sport regs deal with 50 CFR Part
24 20. Ours is 50 CFR Part 92. That little handbook I
25 got you is just an easy way of reading the regulations.
26 Our regulations usually are published in the Federal
27 Register, which is very small print, pica, and very,
28 very boring. So we try to put this handbook together
29 to make it so people could understand what our regs are
30 all about.

31
32 Go ahead, please. We also have to
33 recognize that, you know, we allow the hunt to occur,
34 but we have to look at which birds are having problems.
35 And listed here are the spectacled and Steller's eider,
36 the yellow bill loon, except on the North Slope they
37 use it for traditional purposes. What happens is they
38 put their nets out during the spring and summer, and
39 these loons, they see these nets as easy picking and so
40 they try to go and get the fish, and they get caught
41 and entangled in the nets and drown. Instead of
42 throwing them away, the regional Natives there, they
43 take certain parts of it and use it for their dance
44 regalia, you know, instead of wasting it.

45
46 There are some birds, the cacklers, we
47 closed them to the harvest of eggs.

48
49 Oh, yeah, by the way, this includes not
50 only game birds, seabirds, shorebirds, but the

1 collection of eggs. You know, we all collect eggs
2 during the spring time, so that was included, except
3 the cacklers and the black brant in the Y-K and the
4 North Slope regions.

5
6 Go ahead, please. I wanted to just
7 briefly touch on the Interior regs that are in
8 existence now. Our season runs from April 2 through
9 August 31st. And you have April 2 through June 14, and
10 then you have a 30-day closure from the 15th through
11 the 16th of July as your general season. You have May
12 1st through June 14th for egg gathering, and with a
13 closure from June 15 to July 15. So those are the
14 current regs for migratory bird hunting in the
15 Interior.

16
17 Next, please. There was a request to
18 modify the Fairbanks North Star Borough, to make it in
19 line with the State closure. The State has an Interior
20 closure, to expand that closure to include the Delta
21 Junction, Big Delta, Fort Greeley, Healy, Mt. McKinley
22 Park Village. They don't have a history of harvesting
23 during the spring and summer. They knew that. When we
24 had the hearings, they said, fine, go for it. So we
25 expanded the closure area based on a request from the
26 Interior.

27
28 Next, please. Right now we're working
29 on a subsistence harvest survey program. Whatever we
30 do, we need to monitor the levels of harvest. And it's
31 basically voluntary. Because we have 92 species total,
32 and a large state, it's very difficult to harvest -- to
33 monitor each household and so they've created a system
34 where some of the regions or a part of a region is
35 harvested one year, the next part another year. A
36 rotating panel system. And we're still working on
37 that.

38
39 There's a lot of problems that we have
40 of the State licenses and duck stamps. A lot of people
41 have said that this is not customary and traditional.
42 Of course, it wasn't. Everything was illegal then.
43 And we didn't have to buy nothing. But we didn't
44 impose this on the hunters. What happened was we made
45 all the regulations, and all of a sudden they says,
46 well, we have another act that Congress passed. It's
47 called Duck Stamp Act where everybody, I think it's 16
48 and older, has to purchase a duck stamp. And there is
49 an ongoing effort to lobby Congress to provide for an
50 exemption for Alaska, because, one, it's -- you know,

1 we haven't been doing this. The other thing is that
2 the duck stamp revenue that they get nationwide, Alaska
3 doesn't get any part of that. And that's -- you know,
4 that's another contentious part that we don't agree
5 with. I said, if they're going to collect revenue from
6 us, we should get a part of it, because every other
7 State does. So that's another thing we're working
8 about.

9
10 And the biggest that I've been dealing
11 with has been the endangered species, the Steller's
12 eider on the North Slope. We had an unfortunate summer
13 where there was 27 birds that were harvested. Twenty-
14 seven may not seem like a lot, but when you only have
15 500 birds left, you know, 27 is huge. So we had a big
16 campaign and did outreach. Everybody pitched in
17 locally. And one other things, they don't even target
18 Steller's eider up there. It's just too small, and
19 there's not very many. Everybody tells them, leave
20 them alone. And so no birds were harvested this
21 season, but we still have to monitor them manually just
22 to ensure that they continue on at least in their
23 existence.

24
25 The sad thing about this, they harvest
26 in and around Barrow, the City of Barrow. And with the
27 population growing, they're losing more habitat for
28 them birds. It's a very unfortunate situation. It's
29 really a lose/lose situation, but we have to try our
30 best to try to maintain what we have, or at least try
31 to increase them.

32
33 I want to touch on the issue of
34 transporting. I mentioned to you a while ago the
35 excluded areas. Anything north and west of the Alaska
36 Range, including the Aleutian Islands and the Kodiak
37 Islands there. There is a law that says that you can't
38 transport from included areas to excluded areas. It's
39 against the law. It's called the Lacey Act. We have
40 brought this to the Councils on several occasions, but
41 they have yet to respond. And I think what it's going
42 to take is just a simple proposal from a region saying,
43 we want to allow people to bring birds to your
44 relatives and friends in Fairbanks or wherever, and
45 make that legal. Because, you know, one of the traits
46 we have is sharing. You know, they don't get the
47 luxury of hunting in Fairbanks. And we want to be able
48 to allow them to carry those without any fear of
49 getting cited.

50

1 I did craft some language together. I
2 have yet for a region to pick up on that, but it's
3 becoming more and more of an issue, so, you know, I'm
4 going to send it out the regions again to see if
5 somebody will pick up on that, submit that proposal.
6 Everything's based on -- remember now, everything's
7 based on your customary and traditional life style.
8 What you have been doing, you know, 100 years ago still
9 applies. I mean, if sharing's been a part of it, hey,
10 let's make it legal.

11
12 This is a very basic program. We don't
13 determine C&T. We are, remember, mandated to take into
14 consideration traditional ecological knowledge in
15 whatever we do. Whatever regulation we create, we have
16 to incorporate or integrate traditional knowledge. So
17 it's a different slate from what you guys are used to
18 dealing with in C&T where they have to make that -- a
19 board has to make that determination. All we do is
20 show that it's a part of it, and it's documented. And
21 so it's a relatively simple program. We wanted to keep
22 it that way, because the more regs we get, the more
23 people won't understand. We want to make it and leave
24 it as basic as possible.

25
26 I'm the point person on there. Any
27 questions you have on this, the website address is on
28 the front there. It's got our regulations, it's got
29 our harvest survey data, got a copy of the proposals I
30 passed out to you. You know, whatever you guys want to
31 submit to make it legal, hey, you know, go for it.

32
33 That's kind of like my message. Any
34 questions.

35
36 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Questions,
37 Council members.

38
39 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I have a question.
40 Last meeting we had, there was a number of people from
41 this area here that was questioning. People that used
42 to live here and moved to Fairbanks 30 years ago, but
43 they still considered themselves subsistence and they
44 come out here and shoot 50 or 60 geese in the spring.
45 And with that regulation that's in place now, that
46 prohibits them from coming here, because they're going
47 to export them back to their hometown of Fairbanks.

48
49 MR. ARMSTRONG: Well, that's not quite
50 true. There is a mechanism in the treaty that says

1 that people like me, I live in Anchorage, you know. I
2 can go back to my hometown in Buckland and I can hunt
3 and I can eat the food, you know, the birds while I'm
4 there. I just can't take them back. That's the
5 prohibition there.

6
7 MR. GLANZ: Exactly. So by making the
8 amendments you want them to do, that would allow them
9 people to come here and hunt and haul them back to
10 Fairbanks then.

11
12 MR. ARMSTRONG: Right. And if you want
13 to do that, you know, the simple thing to do is submit
14 a proposal saying that we want to make this legal and
15 that sharing is a part of our culture, and, you know,
16 we're going to have to consider. It's just really that
17 simple.

18
19 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I have a
20 question.

21
22 MR. ARMSTRONG: Sure.

23
24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I'm a little
25 confused. So if you live in Anchorage, can you come to
26 Fort Yukon and get.....

27
28 MR. ARMSTRONG: No.

29
30 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: What ties you
31 to the area that you can hunt?

32
33 MR. ARMSTRONG: There's language in the
34 treaty that says only family, and it list outs
35 siblings, cousins and grandparents that, you know,
36 could back to their home town. If I don't have a
37 grandfather here, or if I don't have siblings here that
38 live here in Fort Yukon, then I can't come here.

39
40 But the other thing is anybody from --
41 like if you invited somebody from Ahtna to come up
42 here, that's legal. They're all included. It's just
43 from excluded areas that is prohibited.

44
45 So they tied it into -- and actually
46 the person that put this forward was Jonathan Solomon.
47 He wanted a mechanism in there to allow relatives to
48 come back. And the reason they allowed that and tried
49 to make it as specific as possible, they didn't want a
50 doctor from Chicago -- and this is the example they

1 used, a doctor from Chicago going back to Bethel to
2 hunt and being able to take those ducks back. They
3 didn't want that to happen. They just wanted to make
4 it where immediate family can come back, because it
5 would end up being wide open. That's the language in
6 the.....

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So does -- the
9 language just includes Alaska?

10

11 MR. ARMSTRONG: Exactly. It's only
12 within Alaska.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So can you
15 explain to me.....

16

17 MR. ARMSTRONG: The entire law is
18 specific to Alaska, not outside.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Okay.
21 So this -- the spring season and the way the regs are
22 situated does not include the fall season?

23

24 MR. ARMSTRONG: No, it doesn't. And we
25 actually just concluded a work session by the council
26 to address that simply because we hunt when the birds
27 are here. We hunt during the fall when they're there.
28 We don't stop hunting August 31 and we have to follow
29 new regulations September 1st, which are the Part 20,
30 which is the fall or sport regs. And currently as it
31 stands, we have to do that. We have to go from a
32 lenient customary and traditional hunt during the
33 spring and summer ending August 31st, the next day
34 they've got to have plug guns, they've got to have.....

35

36 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So that doesn't
37 apply for the spring season?

38

39 MR. ARMSTRONG: It doesn't for spring
40 and summer. There's no plugs.....

41

42 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: What about the
43 shot?

44

45 MR. ARMSTRONG:there's no bag
46 limits.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: What about the
49 lead shot?

50

1 MR. ARMSTRONG: Oh, led shot, it's been
2 illegal for quite a while.

3
4 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: For the spring
5 season?

6
7 MR. ARMSTRONG: For both.

8
9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm just
10 making sure I understand.

11
12 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. For both. Yeah.

13
14 MR. FIRMIN: I have a question. What
15 about the plug guns in the spring hunt?

16
17 MR. ARMSTRONG: There's no plugs. No
18 bag limits. In Barrow, because of the conservation
19 issues up there, the first -- this is the first, and
20 Barrow didn't recommend these shooting hours. The
21 Service through the Endangered Species Act, we had to
22 do consultation and we had to institute shooting hours.
23 And you know what, we just said, sure, go ahead and the
24 Feds were kind of confused. Why? Why are they not
25 fighting this? Well, heck, for most of the summer
26 Barrow has sunlight 24 hours a day. That was an easy
27 way around it. They only have shooting hours for 11
28 days. But, you know, by then most people up there,
29 they just hunt the king eiders in the falltime anyway.
30 So there are ways to get around things.

31
32 Any other questions?

33
34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Any other
35 questions?

36
37 (No comments)

38
39 MR. ARMSTRONG: I put a copy of a
40 proposal with each of your handouts and I left some
41 here. Our website's available for anybody. If you
42 guys need updates on changes, I mean, feel free to go
43 through Vince and we'll try to make ourselves
44 available. This is a new program, we have a lot to
45 provide the public in terms of outreach, you know. The
46 more the merrier.

47
48 MR. GLANZ: I think you guys are doing
49 a good job, that's all I can tell you, from what I've
50 seen and the reaction in the communities with the

1 spring hunt to get their ducks without having to hide
2 and get them.

3

4 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Oh, yeah. Yeah,
5 it's really good. It's kind of popular. The only
6 drawback is the duck stamp issue and the State license.
7 Of course, you know, State law says that everybody who
8 hunts has to have a license, so we couldn't get around
9 that one. The State does have an income level oriented
10 stamp, you know, where the not so fortunate can get a
11 stamp for \$5. Right now there are several
12 organizations within Alaska that are working towards
13 exempting the duck stamp in Alaska. How well they'll
14 do, I don't know. But, you know, that's only one way
15 we could change it. Congress made that law and they're
16 the ones who can change it.

17

18 Anything else.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Anyone else.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
25 you.

26

27 MR. ARMSTRONG: Sure. Thanks a lot.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Thanks for
30 coming to the meeting. Very informative.

31

32 Okay. So it's after noon, so we're
33 going to break for lunch for one hour and be back at --
34 I'm sure it will be like 1:30. So let's go to 1:30.

35

36 (Off record)

37

38 (On record)

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. The next
41 thing on the agenda is the meeting dates. Winter is
42 already decided. We're having a joint meeting with
43 Eastern and Western in Fairbanks. A three-day meeting,
44 23, 24, 25.

45

46 Andy, do you have something to say.

47

48 MR. BASSICH: What month? I'm sorry.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I'm sorry. If

1 you look in your Page 60, it's the month of February.
2 This was decided at our last meeting I believe.

3

4 MR. MATHEWS: No, it actually came up
5 since your last meeting because of the Board of Game.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So you're
8 telling us you guys decided for us and now we've got to
9 look at it.

10

11 MR. MATHEWS: Kind of.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.

14

15 MR. MATHEWS: No, actually you might
16 have selected those dates. I'd have to go back through
17 my notes or the minutes.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, whatever.
20 It's still on the calendar as the 23rd, 24th, 25th and
21 Western's probably aware of this.

22

23 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, because they wanted
24 to go to the Board of Game. That's why everything got
25 to a joint meeting.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I kind of
28 remember us talking about this.

29

30 MR. MATHEWS: I called you up on it,
31 but I'll have to look at the minutes.

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. So we
34 don't need to agree on this? No. Okay. So we're
35 looking at the fall meeting.

36

37 MR. MATHEWS: Right. If you look at
38 61, I can give you an update. Remember our policy is
39 not to have more than two Council meetings per week.
40 So right now the week of September 27th, Southeast is
41 meeting and Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta is meeting on
42 September 30th and October 1. Western Interior took
43 October 5th and 6th. So you can kind of.....

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Are you saying
46 Southeast and Y-K is the same dates?

47

48 MR. MATHEWS: No, Southeast is
49 September 28th and 29th.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And Western was
2 the 5th and 6th.
3
4 MR. MATHEWS: Right. So it looks like
5 if you want to stay within the window, go back to a
6 year from now, the same week.
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, you know,
9 the Interior folks are hunting through most of this
10 time that's on this calendar.
11
12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: How about October
13 12th.
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: October 12th is
16 one suggestion.
17
18 MR. MATHEWS: Is October 12th good?
19
20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And 13th.
21 Council members. How's that look?
22
23 MR. FIRMIN: That's good for me.
24
25 MR. GLANZ: Good for me.
26
27 MR. UMPHENOUR: Fine with me.
28
29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Me also.
30
31 MR. MATHEWS: And then you need to give
32 us a general location. Remember on location your hubs
33 are the road system or Fairbanks or you can petition
34 for another place and I just do a cost analysis, which
35 is how we got us here.
36
37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, I see. I
38 was just going to ask the question, how did we get
39 here. And that was a cost analysis. That means it was
40 cheaper to come here than be in Fairbanks. Or close to
41 being the same.
42
43 MR. MATHEWS: Close to being the same
44 and then I have to provide justification. And so
45 obviously there's strong reasons to meet in Fort Yukon.
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So, Council
48 members, any suggestions. There was a suggestion for
49 Central and how your answer.
50

1 MR. GLANZ: Okay. My answer is with
2 that school being -- maybe it's going to be closed,
3 maybe it's going to be open, I hate to book it again.
4 That's the only place we have to meet there. However,
5 I talked to the school superintendent. They said even
6 if they close the school, there will be power and heat
7 in that building for three years. So I'm open to that.
8 I mean, it won't be any problem regardless it's open or
9 closed. If it's open, it's even better, because then
10 -- the kitchen will be open regardless. We can open
11 the kitchen, but maybe hire a local cook just like
12 we're doing here with her or something.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Have we had one
15 in Central before?

16

17 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, we had one at the
18 Hot Springs, Circle Hot Springs.

19

20 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

21

22 MR. UMPHENOUR: It was that year in our
23 first meeting 2001.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Circle
26 Hot Springs.

27

28 MR. GLANZ: That's the one that got me
29 interested and involved with this stuff.

30

31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, I think
32 we should go there. Point of interest. You want to go
33 to Central first or -- no.

34

35 MR. GLANZ: I do have the keys for the
36 hot springs, but there's a safety issue there since the
37 fire marshall says you can't have anybody in there, you
38 know, because it's not open, and without the proper
39 fire protection and so forth and so on.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You have the
42 keys to Circle Hot Springs?

43

44 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, I've had them for
45 three years since the old man closed. I don't live
46 there, but, you know.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, so it's
49 closed now?

50

1 MR. GLANZ: It's been closed since '04.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I didn't know
4 that. Shucky-darn. Would they open it for us?
5
6 MR. GLANZ: Wish.
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. All
9 right. Well, we're back to Central as a suggestion,
10 and you said you're open for that?
11
12 MR. GLANZ: I myself am open to that,
13 if the rest of the Council agree to it. I'd be more
14 than happy to host it.
15
16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and then
17 we'd have to do a fall back. Council members, want to
18 agree to Central.
19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR: Central's fine with me.
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
23 objection.
24
25 (No comments)
26
27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Let's go
28 for a fall back. Any suggestions.
29
30 MR. MATHEWS: It would be a wildlife
31 meeting. We're struggling with this two-year cycle,
32 but.....
33
34 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Actually, no,
35 wildlife is the next.
36
37 MR. MATHEWS: So it would be fish? It
38 would be fish.
39
40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Say again.
41
42 MR. MATHEWS: It would be fisheries
43 meeting.
44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: No, it's a
46 wildlife.
47
48 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's Developing
49 proposals (indiscernible, away from microphone).
50

1 MR. MATHEWS: Oh, it would be fisheries
2 because you're submitting proposals at your next
3 meeting on fisheries, which would be taken up in fall.
4
5 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But you're
6 still -- it's a wildlife meeting.
7
8 MR. MATHEWS: Well, yeah, you guys.....
9
10 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So taking up
11 your wildlife proposals.
12
13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I think you're
14 taking up fishery proposals.
15
16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: You're taking up
17 wildlife proposals in the spring.
18
19 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, it's this
20 two-year thing that's blowing me away.
21
22 MR. BASSICH: Madam Chair.
23
24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay.
25
26 MR. BASSICH: Just a comment. I know
27 that we dedicate these meetings, you know, to fish or
28 wildlife as a general rule, but it seems to me we
29 discuss both issues.....
30
31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: At every
32 meeting.
33
34 MR. BASSICH: At every meeting. And so
35 I don't think that should really be a factor on where
36 we choose to meet or whatever.
37
38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: No, I agree.
39 Uh-huh. Go ahead.
40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR: As a back up why not
42 try Nenana or try Manley. They're both on the road.
43 Manley. We haven't -- I don't think we've -- well,
44 since I've been on the Council, we've never been to
45 Manley.
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Where's Manley
48 on the map?
49
50 MR. FIRMIN: I like the idea of Manley

1 or some place on the river system that you can hear
2 more from the local people that are right there on it.

3

4 MR. GURTLER: Well, one problem they
5 closed the lodge already early in Manley at that time.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Is there any
8 other place to hold it?

9

10 MR. GLANZ: Folks, there won't really
11 be a need for it unless the Federal agency would want
12 to change, because I guarantee I'll have it there in
13 Central as far as that goes.

14

15 MR. GURTLER: Yeah, there's a community
16 center there.

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, we were
19 just having a fall back.

20

21 MR. GLANZ: I understand, ma'am. Well,
22 let's just say Fairbanks for a fall back, because it's
23 not -- I don't think it's going to be necessary.

24

25 MR. FIRMIN: Vince, I know a few people
26 that are on the school board, and actually they said
27 that they wouldn't close the Central School until after
28 they do their head counts at the end of this month.
29 And one of the last things they want to do is close
30 that school, because if they open it back up, the money
31 to run it comes out of the pockets of all the other
32 schools in the district for three years until the State
33 will pick it back up again. So that's the last thing
34 they want to do. So we would find out for certain or
35 not by the end of the month whether or not whether or
36 not they're going to actually close the school in
37 Central.

38

39 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But even if
40 they do, it's.....

41

42 MR. GLANZ: Right. And even if they
43 do, they still have the heat and electric there.

44

45 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah.

46

47 MR. GLANZ: So we'll be good to go, and
48 the kitchen would be available. And there again like I
49 say, we would just have to get a local cook or somebody
50 that will be interested in putting out the meals.

1 There's also a bar and a restaurant there, too. I
2 mean, we can all eat there. They wouldn't have to take
3 care of us.

4
5 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Everybody
6 agreeable.

7
8 (No comments)

9
10 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So Fairbanks
11 was the fall back?

12
13 MR. GLANZ: That was my suggestion,
14 Madam Chair.

15
16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Sounds
17 good. That is the meeting then will be October 12th
18 and 13th in Central. Fall back Fairbanks.

19
20 MR. GLANZ: Okay.

21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right. Now
23 our annual report which always -- that's every fall
24 that we take this up, Vince, right?

25
26 MR. MATHEWS: Yes. Basically you can
27 see the written reply on Page 62, and then now you
28 generate suggested topics that we work on between now
29 and your next meeting and then you approve the final
30 annual report at your next meeting. And I usually note
31 annual report topics. Up to this point I haven't heard
32 any mentioned, but I'm sure there are some possibly
33 there.

34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Boy, I'll tell
36 you what, what I would put on there for -- is I'd like
37 to bring back up -- you know, we started something in
38 that December 2009 letter for intensive management on
39 Federal lands and we didn't follow it through. So I
40 think just as a topic I'd like to have that on the
41 annual report in the future.

42
43 MR. MATHEWS: That's the intensive
44 management?

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes.

47
48 MR. MATHEWS: I have not handed out the
49 copies to the Council members of the 2006 letter and
50 then the Secretary's -- well, that is the Secretary's

1 response to it.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. But is
4 there another place on the agenda that you had planned
5 to hand it out?
6
7 MR. MATHEWS: No.
8
9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. But
10 you're telling us right now this is the idea and then
11 we -- is a letter drafted for us to look at at the next
12 meeting, or we give you more ideas at the next meeting?
13
14 MR. MATHEWS: No, you give me ideas now
15 and then you get a draft annual report that you and I
16 work on over winter. And then at the next meeting you
17 guys look at it and say fine or change this word or
18 drop this topic.
19
20 You were starting to talk about
21 intensive management, and I know that both you and
22 Virgil were concerned about this letter from Birch,
23 Norton, Bittner and however you pronounce this law
24 firm. And your action as your former Chair, Gerald
25 Nicolai, on the issue of intensive management.
26
27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, so you had
28 that written down already as an idea?
29
30 MR. MATHEWS: Oh, yeah, I can do that.
31 I don't know what you want me to do with it though.
32
33 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Council
34 members. How do you feel about that one. A topic for
35 our annual report. Do you need more information, Bill?
36
37 MR. GLANZ: You're referring to the
38 letter that we have here regarding to the National Park
39 Service and managing.....
40
41 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah. Yeah.
42
43 MR. GLANZ: Okay. I believe I've read
44 that one. Okay. Yeah.
45
46 MR. MATHEWS: They haven't received it
47 yet.
48
49 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, I guess
50 I'm talking about the letter we wrote.

1 MR. MATHEWS: Right.
2
3 MR. GLANZ: I misunderstood.
4
5 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: December of
6 2009 is that the one.....
7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, it's not 2009.
9 It's not even.....
10
11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Or six, six,
12 six.
13
14 MR. MATHEWS: No, you don't -- they
15 don't have a copy of it.
16
17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Know what I
18 mean, not what I say. Okay. This one.
19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR: We need a copy it.
21
22 MR. MATHEWS: And I'm going to be
23 passing out copies.
24
25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And that's the
26 one you're handing out now?
27
28 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah. Your email came in
29 while I was in route.
30
31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I thought so.
32 I'm sorry, Vince, but I know how much -- you know, you
33 hear a lot of testimony over this over and over and
34 over again, and then hearing the report from Fish and
35 Game on the Flats about what they can and can't do on
36 Federal lands.
37
38 And, Virgil, you brought up that letter
39 or opinion of the attorney firm.
40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. From the
42 (indiscernible, away from microphone)
43
44 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right.
45
46 MR. UMPHENOUR: This is this one.
47
48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And that one's
49 there also?
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: Uh-huh.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay.

4 There's.....

5

6 MR. FIRMIN: Well, we requested both of
7 them.

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So really,
10 Vince, what's really hard for us is getting our brains
11 together on this annual report in seconds as it comes
12 up on the agenda. I don't now if -- there seems.....

13

14 Council members, do you see a better
15 way of doing this annual report so we're doing a good
16 job for our area than it just pops up on our agenda and
17 then we suddenly have to start thinking about what we
18 want on it. Do you feel my pain. Virgil.

19

20 MR. UMPHENOUR: I feel your pain. We
21 address the same issue year after year after year, the
22 same exact issues. And it's frustrating. And this
23 issue I think is probably -- the issue of the National
24 Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service, or the
25 refuge service, not allowing the manipulation of
26 predator populations to provide for a reasonable
27 opportunity for subsistence of the prey species. In
28 other words, allocating the food animals to the wolves
29 and the bears should be second priority. They should
30 be allocated to the humans, not the bears and the
31 wolves. And so basically that's all it is. It's a
32 priority in allocation and it's not in this letter
33 written by Horn, Bill Horn, just demonstrates that the
34 Park Service, and, of course, they didn't have national
35 wildlife refuges back then, that they used to
36 manipulate the prey species, i.e. wolves and bears and
37 everything else.

38

39 Because I can remember when I was a kid
40 and we were hiking out in the hills in Arizona, and
41 that was BLM land, and they had government trappers
42 back then, and hunters. They put out those cyanide
43 tubes with the .38 shell in them that shot cyanide into
44 canines' mouths. And the neighbor's dog bit one of
45 those damn things and it killed him. But I can
46 remember that.

47

48 And I know guys that were government
49 hunters and trappers here in Alaska. And I think as
50 late as in the 60s they were still actively out killing

1 wolves. And, of course, some of the methods they used
2 were not really that -- well, their efficiency wasn't
3 that good, because they didn't just get the target
4 species. That's why we didn't have very many bears
5 back then, too, because -- especially grizzly bears,
6 say in Unit 20A and the Alaska Range and places like
7 that, because the poison they were poisoning wolves
8 with also, you know, killed the bears and the eagles
9 and everything else.

10

11 But anyway I'm not saying they should
12 do that, but a good example of them -- I don't think
13 it's good faith to provide for subsistence when you
14 have places like the Yukon Flats and we get the Board
15 of Game to pass proposals where we can position
16 ourselves with snow machines or boats to take wolves,
17 and then they put right in the State regulation book
18 that you can do this except on National Park Service or
19 national wildlife refuges. So I don't think that
20 that's in -- that they're in good faith attempting to
21 provide reasonable opportunity for the subsistence
22 needs of the people.

23

24 I don't think it's in good faith,
25 because they do have the authority, it's just that it
26 might be unpopular with people in Washington, D.C. I
27 know they want an EIS study and all this other crap.
28 Well, we need to -- they need to get off the dime and
29 start the process and go through the process, the
30 public process if it has to go through the
31 environmental impact statement all the way back to, you
32 know, Washington, D.C. or whatever it has to do. It
33 should be started and done. And that would be
34 demonstrating in good faith that they are attempting to
35 provide reasonable opportunity for subsistence users
36 and to give the prey population an opportunity to
37 rebound back to what it's natural state would be if we
38 were overrun with wolves and bears.

39

40 Madam Chair.

41

42 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Well,
43 just in keeping in with what's on the agenda here, and
44 that is the topics on our annual report, you gave in
45 detail about intensive management. I'm looking for
46 solutions.

47

48 I think if I remember correctly, at the
49 Delta meeting and this letter came out -- this one from
50 the Secretary of Interior came after our Delta meeting,

1 but if you remember, the Park Service gave a report,
2 Fish and Wildlife Service gave a report, and I don't
3 know if BLM -- BLM must have gave a report. And then
4 they were supposed to have told us the process that we
5 go through to request this as I remember it. And there
6 is a process, and I think that we did not start that
7 process back then. And I feel like we don't want to
8 drop the ball, maybe start the process somewhere.

9
10 And I think what happened, if I
11 remember everything correctly, this letter, our request
12 was too broad, because it was saying do predator
13 management or intensive management on all of these
14 lands within our region. It was pretty broad. And
15 then we were supposed to come up with specific areas
16 where you wanted to have intensive management and be
17 specific of what you wanted to do. I believe or it was
18 what I remember. So I'm saying, because we're
19 volunteers, you don't always -- and the meetings
20 sometimes get pretty heavy, and you just end up not
21 doing -- following through with what you want to do.

22
23 So I was thinking in this letter or
24 report, maybe we could outline that problem and how
25 we'd like to be able to start a process. Park Service
26 lands, Fish and Wildlife Service land. Maybe there's
27 something her on the Yukon Flats that we'd like to do
28 to get started. But you've got to come up with
29 something is what I understand to start the process.
30 And we never did that, is my understanding.

31
32 It looks like Chuck has something to
33 add for us.

34
35 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah. I can't speak
36 for the Park Service, but I know there have been
37 discussions with ADF&G and Fish and Wildlife Service on
38 intensive management based on the Board meeting where
39 Greg Roczicka had brought up predator control. I know
40 there's an ongoing process. I can't speak to it,
41 because I haven't been involved, but I do know there's
42 been discussions between Fish and Game and the U.S.
43 Fish and Wildlife Service. But like I said, I can't
44 speak for the Park Service.

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But I guess
47 what I'm suggesting, because Vince needs to have a
48 letter for our annual report, we need to -- it's gotten
49 so complicated and our meetings are not long enough to
50 take up every one of these issues to be specific to the

1 detail, so we ended up having something, told it needs
2 to be narrowed, and we never did it. And I think we
3 need to show our frustration.

4

5 Okay. Virgil.

6

7 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Well, I'm
8 reading the response that we got from the Office of the
9 Secretary in Washington, D.C. And I'm just going to
10 read the last paragraph addressing the Fish and
11 Wildlife Service. It says, be assured that the Service
12 is giving serious consideration to the concerns you
13 have raised relating to the effects of predation on
14 subsistence uses. By copy of this letter I am
15 requesting that the Service's Staff in Alaska to
16 explore available options to conduct the studies
17 necessary to fully evaluate the need for and potential
18 benefits of predator reductions to refuge resources and
19 subsistence users, as well as alternatives to direct
20 agency-conducted reduction of predators. In this
21 evaluation the Service will closely coordinate and were
22 possible cooperate with the State of Alaska in its
23 efforts to provide sustainable, harvestable surpluses
24 for subsistence uses.

25

26 This says -- he says, by copy of this
27 letter, I'm requesting that this take place. So here
28 we are. That was December 19, 2006. We're almost
29 three years later. So our question should be, what are
30 the results of this request by, and the trouble is my
31 copy you can't read his name. But it's the Assistant
32 Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks at the
33 Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Mine says
36 Danny.....

37

38 MR. UMPHENOUR: So our question should
39 be what's the answer to paragraph? Does anyone have it
40 or even know that this took place or not?

41

42 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I think you did
43 a good job there, Virgil. You had a lot of good input
44 there.

45

46 Would all of you agree that that's how
47 we should deal with that in the annual report?

48

49 MR. GLANZ: I agree. I would stand
50 with Virgil on that. Also we need to put in there when

1 they'll be starting. He said in 2006 they would start.
2 So far nothing's went down other than what State action
3 has been.

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andy.

6

7 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. Madam Chair. I
8 think for me what would help would be to request and
9 outline of the procedure. I mean, I think what Virgil
10 is saying is accurate, and we should be asking for what
11 has been done, but my gut feeling is probably nothing's
12 been done. And if we want to see some follow through,
13 what we need is an outline of the actions that need to
14 take place, what entities need to take those actions,
15 and what order those actions need to be taken in so
16 that there's a clear outline of the process and the
17 procedures if we want to pursue this, to get a final
18 decision on whether it's a doable option or not.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, at that
21 meeting, this is what this letter also says, but I
22 don't know that we got written, what you're requesting
23 might not have been written, but they said that -- in
24 your Delta meeting, the BLM, NPS and Fish and Wildlife
25 Service, this would be the third paragraph on the front
26 page, they explained the legal requirements and policy
27 guidelines each agency follows when considering
28 requests for intensive management, including predator
29 control.

30

31 So my memory tells me I don't remember
32 getting written copies. So we would be requesting
33 getting written copies.

34

35 Go ahead, Andy.

36

37 MR. BASSICH: Yes, that and what seems
38 to happen oftentimes is many times things are left up
39 to interpretation by entities within whether it be the
40 State of Alaska or Colorado or whatever. A particular
41 refuge or a particular park or whatever. I've
42 oftentimes found out later that what was told to me
43 verbally was not necessarily what the law states. And
44 so I think there's oftentimes a little bit of, for lack
45 of better terms, kind of freelancing as far as the
46 interpretation of what the actual regs or law states.
47 And I think if we really want to get to the bottom of
48 this, we need to require a legal -- or ask for a legal
49 interpretation of what laws are on the books, with a
50 little bit of the history, and get right down to the

1 bottom.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That's very
4 good.

5

6 MR. BASSICH: And so I think that
7 probably has to come
8 from Washington, D.C. I don't think that's something
9 that necessarily comes from Alaskan agencies or
10 whatever, because I think every state's going to
11 interpret it a little bit different depending on where
12 their philosophical or whatever, their views tend to
13 lean. Everybody has a little bit of a.....

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But as far as
16 Federal, it might all be the same.

17

18 MR. BASSICH: I think at the level, you
19 know, in Washington, D.C., there should be a pretty
20 clear cut legal decision on what these laws mean.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes. I agree.

23

24 MR. BASSICH: So let's just ask for
25 that.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That's a great
28 idea also. So we have two ideas on the -- what Virgil
29 had said is to get an answer to the last and then what
30 -- am I getting this right, Virgil, you're asking them
31 so what evaluation did they do. And then now Andy's
32 saying, please send us the legal requirements and
33 policy guidelines from each agency. Okay.

34

35 MR. BASSICH: From the Federal
36 Government in Washington D.C.

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: From the
39 Federal Government, yes. Yes. Secretary of Interior
40 for BLM, National Park Service and U.S. Fish and
41 Wildlife Service. That was what our letter was
42 requesting then.

43

44 Virgil.

45

46 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. With this
47 letter, the response we got to our letter, because our
48 letter was asking, and we voted on this and had a big
49 discussion, that we wanted to start to do whatever you
50 have to do to do some predator management on the

1 refuges. That's what we wanted. But you read this one
2 sentence here in the response, it says, this person's
3 requesting, you've got to digest this, they're
4 requesting that the services' Staff in Alaska explore
5 available options, to conduct the studies necessary to
6 fully evaluate the need for and potential benefits of
7 predator reductions to refuge resources and subsistence
8 users as well as alternatives to direct agency-
9 conducted reduction of predators. And then he goes on
10 to talk about this evaluation.

11
12 So they've had almost three years to do
13 this evaluation, so I would like to see what the
14 results of this evaluation are.

15
16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I think that
17 was clear, wasn't it?

18
19 MR. UMPHENOUR: Pardon?

20
21 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I believe that
22 was clear. I just said it too briefly for you.

23
24 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. But I'd like to
25 know that. But you have to remember this, too, now. I
26 don't remember when, but several meetings back we were
27 given a predator management or predator control policy
28 of I think it was the Fish and Wildlife Service. I'm
29 not sure. Of someone.

30
31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes, Chuck, go
32 ahead. If you have something to help us out.

33
34 MR. UMPHENOUR: Anyway, go ahead and
35 explain that to us, but to me that was just a whole
36 bunch of writing that said they weren't going to do
37 anything basically. I mean, that was my interpretation
38 of what it said, the policy.

39
40 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right. The policy was
41 actually the Federal Subsistence Board's policy that
42 basically, like Virgil said, the Federal Board doesn't
43 conduct predator control. It falls to the agencies, so
44 then I think that's where some of these letters stem.
45 What is the agency policy, you know, Park Service, Fish
46 and Wildlife Service.

47
48 And like I said earlier, I know Fish
49 and Wildlife Service has been having discussions on
50 this topic with Fish and Game. I just haven't been

1 privy to the discussions, but, you know, it would be
2 good to ask, you know, where are we in the process,
3 because refuges has been discussing this with ADF&G. I
4 just don't know anything about it.

5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right. And we
7 are allowed to work with agencies on our
8 recommendations as a Council, even though the Federal
9 Board's not making a specific proposal, we can make
10 suggestions or recommendations, just like we do to the
11 State.

12
13 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right. Basically all
14 that policy said was the Board, you know, is not going
15 to go out there. They can make regulatory changes, but
16 they can't go and, you know, do like the State does and
17 do predator control. That's what that policy says.

18
19 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right, but what
20 Greg Roczicka had said at that meeting, and he got
21 everyone thinking, didn't he, that.....

22
23 MR. ARDIZZONE: He did. And that's why
24 there's been discussion with the State and Fish and
25 Wildlife Service.

26
27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right. Okay.
28 Yes, Andy.

29
30 MR. BASSICH: I think Vince or yourself
31 should call 202-208-5347 and find out who this person
32 is and ask for their assistance. Right at the end of
33 the thing there's a phone number right there that
34 says, if you have any further questions, feel free to
35 contact me at, and there's the number.

36
37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We might have
38 lost our window of time.

39
40 MR. BASSICH: Well, someone's got to be
41 at that number.

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, I know.
44 Different administration.

45
46 Yes, Vince.

47
48 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Yes, there is a
49 phone number there and et cetera. For you guys, I
50 think you're on the right track. You were made a

1 promise that there was going to be an evaluation.
2 You're asking for the status. Okay.

3
4 The question on the legal part, I've
5 been advised, because I don't work with the Secretary's
6 Office, but I've been advised that when the Secretary
7 writes these letters, they're run through the
8 Solicitor's Office. But we'd have to confirm that. So
9 that's one part that's.....

10
11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I just got
12 confirmation from the Park Service here. Nancy said it
13 is a fact.

14
15 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. And then Rob may
16 have some discussions on this, but I think also as your
17 coordinator looking at this generally, I think you were
18 on the right track when you first brought this up, Sue.
19 You asked for the whole world and they said, well,
20 here's how it all works and then walked away. Now you
21 may want to come up with the specifics, but I encourage
22 you to look at that paragraph there where it says what
23 the policy requires, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 on Page 2, look
24 at that and then run that through your areas. I know
25 where you're going to end up, but I want you to go
26 through that process.

27
28 Now, that's a quick thinking, so
29 hopefully Rob can walk you through this, but what you
30 need to do is you've got these agencies woken up that
31 you have an issue, you have a review on it. Now you've
32 got to give them an example. I'm trying to think of it,
33 a case study so they have something to chew on.

34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Rob, do you
36 have something to add to this.

37
38 MR. JESS: Yes, ma'am. Madam Chair.
39 Rob Jess for the record. If you go to Page 2 of the
40 document from the Secretary of Interior to.....

41
42 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Gerald Nicolai?

43
44 MR. JESS: Gerald Nicolai. You go down
45 where it says U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and then
46 it begins 1, 2, 3, 4. Just so that you know, there has
47 been action taken at the ground level. Now, there's a
48 difference of opinion on national, being the Washington
49 and the regional offices, on perspective relative to
50 predator control and predator management.

1 At the ground level we've been doing --
2 we have already done number 1. The most difficult part
3 of this, and long-term, is number 2. Number 2, we --
4 or number 1, we already understand the purposes of the
5 refuge and the mission.

6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And you're
8 specific to Yukon Flats.

9
10 MR. JESS: Yukon Flats, yeah. We live
11 and die by that.

12
13 Number 2 is the assessment of the
14 biological integrity. When we talked to you and told
15 you earlier, Mark was saying that we are working with
16 the State to do surveys, we are doing things with these
17 surveys. That's why we're working on moose, on wolf,
18 and on bear and collaring these animals. That gives us
19 our baseline information. We can't go anywhere without
20 having the facts in order as to what we have on the
21 ground and what is occurring. And you guys all well
22 understand that.

23
24 Number 3, we can work on that. Have we
25 worked on that? No. But it's not a hard thing for us
26 to do.

27
28 Number 4, consider the refuge's
29 importance to refuge ecosystem and then national and
30 international landscape scales. This is where the
31 difficulty of working with a national wildlife refuge
32 comes into play. People down in California, people in
33 Washington, D.C. have a say and an impact as to what we
34 do up here in Fairbanks and on the Yukon Flats and Fort
35 Yukon. And so there's the difficulty that lies. We're
36 accountable to a national basis.

37
38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, number 4
39 probably means EIS.

40
41 MR. JESS: It does mean EIS, but
42 opportunity is beckoning at the door here, because we
43 have not done our comprehensive conservation plan, our
44 CCP, which is a mandated EIS, and a 15-year living
45 document. It's a public process. We were slated to do
46 it this fall. We've been pushed back to October of
47 2010, which is fiscal year 2011. It's an opportunity.
48 And given the number of years that we've been going on
49 our baseline data for moose, bear and wolf, I think the
50 planets are going to line up for us all to really get a

1 serious run on this.

2

3 And just off record, I totally advocate
4 the direction that you guys are taking. It's a
5 management tool, that's all that it is, when we manage
6 for predators. And right now that tool is not in our
7 toolbelt, and so we're very limited in our ability to
8 deal wit these animals. We have to rely on the
9 villages to go out and harvest predators.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So this
12 brings me back to that North Pacific Fisheries
13 Management Council, why it takes four years to get
14 something down. Because if you read the last paragraph
15 there, starting at the end of Page 2, because predator
16 control of wolves or bears on national Wildlife refuges
17 is highly controversial, it would be considered a major
18 Federal action subject to National Environmental Policy
19 Act requirements, which would include preparation of an
20 EIS, or at a minimum an environmental assessment. I
21 like the minimum. But, you know, if we had to go
22 through the NEPA and the EIS, that's pretty lengthy,
23 right?

24

25 MR. JESS: Well, it's really one in the
26 same, one is the policy and then the EIS is the
27 mechanism as you well understand. And so it is
28 lengthy. It's very costly. We're going through one
29 right now with the Doyon land exchange. That one's run
30 about.....

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Hey, Rob, would
33 you answer this instead of going into great detail.

34

35 MR. JESS: Sorry.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: What's the
38 probability of it just being an EA? Next to none?

39

40 MR. JESS: About the equivalent to you
41 throwing a rock and hitting the moon on your first try.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I think I heard
44 Don Young say there's not a snowball chance in hell.

45

46 MR. JESS: Yeah. With the
47 controversial issue on a national basis that this is, I
48 mean, the reality is that people that come out of the
49 woodwork on this are people that don't realize meat
50 comes from cows. So we just have a lot of difficulty

1 here.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I think we'll
4 get into this more on these reports, but as far as this
5 report to the Secretary, I believe we've covered what
6 we need to cover on intensive management.

7

8 Are there any other issues that the
9 Council would like to see in our annual report.

10

11 And then, Vince, this is a draft. If
12 we miss something, we can add it at the next meeting.

13

14 MR. MATHEWS: Did you want to use Yukon
15 Flats as an example and use the State's effort on
16 private lands? I mean, I'm stepping way out here on
17 thin ice. Hopefully I won't crash through, but you
18 basically have if I understood Beth Lenart's
19 presentation, you have an intensive management action
20 going on.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That's an
23 effort that's ongoing between the Service and the
24 State. Yes, that's great, Vince.

25

26 MR. JESS: I hope that you do send a
27 letter of request -- sorry. I hope that you do send a
28 letter back to the Secretary, although it's a new
29 Secretary of Interior, new administration, they're very
30 favorable, not necessarily to predator control, but
31 they're very favorable to on-ground management through
32 the community and through partnerships, and now is the
33 time.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, that's
36 encouraging.

37

38 MR. GLANZ: Yes, it is.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
41 So, Vince, in hearing that, does that require another
42 letter?

43

44 MR. MATHEWS: I understand what you're
45 trying to do, and then we would get a draft to whoever
46 you want before your next meeting, and then you finally
47 approve it at your meeting, that topic, if that's what
48 you're asking.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But this

1 request for a letter, could that go out now?

2

3 MR. MATHEWS: Well, there's two ways of
4 doing this, and we didn't get into that. The annual
5 report's got that big process, it's kind of a bigger
6 wheel that turns. And then you have a letter process
7 that can be quicker, because you're targeting it to a
8 specific one. If you're going to target the Secretary
9 of Interior -- boy.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, why
12 not.....

13

14 MR. MATHEWS: I don't know how quickly
15 that turns around, but that's, you know, secondary.

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: It's going to
18 be quicker than this report probably.

19

20 MR. MATHEWS: What was that?

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Quicker than
23 this report.

24

25 MR. MATHEWS: Most likely. I mean, I
26 can't predict on that, but most likely. I mean, it --
27 yes.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: It's throwing
30 two stones and hoping you hit one.

31

32 MR. MATHEWS: Right. It just -- yes.
33 I mean, they're playing in a bigger arena, so it
34 probably would be quicker, but I don't want you to
35 think it's going to be.....

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that's
38 okay. I just like bombarding them I guess.

39

40 MR. MATHEWS: And we can do it either
41 way.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Council
44 members. How do you feel about this. First of all,
45 we're still talking about the annual report and what we
46 add to it, and secondly this second letter regarding
47 intensive management. Any input. Andy.

48

49 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, as far as the
50 second part of this, I would favor sending a letter

1 directly to the Secretary. Yeah. And I think that
2 would be the best course of action.

3
4 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. So do I
5 have an agreement to sending that letter. Bill.

6
7 MR. GLANZ: Yes. I would like to send
8 a letter, but also we need to include in that letter
9 about the dire straights the villages are in with no
10 food supplies going on.

11
12 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And the fish.

13
14 MR. GLANZ: And, yes, I'm talking with
15 the fish, and the intense amount of dog gone predation
16 we have on our stock here feeding on the omnivores or
17 whatever you might say.

18
19 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That's good.
20 Mention the economy. And Virgil.

21
22 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. I really favor
23 the letter to the Secretary. Now, we've got a good
24 example for Yukon -- or we got a response from Yukon
25 Flats basically. They're moving forward. We don't
26 know what the rest of the refuges are doing. WE have
27 the Arctic Refuge, we don't know what they're doing.
28 The Kanuti Refuge borders us, we don't know what
29 they're doing. The Gates of the Arctic borders our
30 region, we don't know what they're doing. And then we
31 have all these other refuges in the State and we don't
32 know what the hell they're doing. I know some of them
33 I don't think are doing anything.

34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And that's just
36 refuge land.

37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's just refuge land
39 we're talking about. And so we need a report on all
40 the refuges in the State, not just ours, that we can
41 share with our fellow RACs around the State. But I
42 think that needs to be done. So I favor that. And
43 then it can also be in our annual report as well.

44
45 And then, of course, I've said enough
46 about the salmon situation. That should be in the
47 annual report as well.

48
49 Madam Chair.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I'd like to
2 keep this annual report open is as things come up
3 during the rest of these reports, we might end up
4 coming up with some other things. So right now we've
5 just got one thing on the annual report. So as we
6 continue with the meeting, think about other items that
7 you'd have on it.

8
9 So we're all in agreement to what's on
10 it so far.

11
12 MR. GLANZ: I'm in agreement with that.

13
14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm
15 hearing no objection, we're all in agreement. Okay.
16 And that letter, also we're in agreement to send that
17 letter.

18
19 MR. MATHEWS: Madam Chair. Aren't
20 those one and the same, or did I lose you, that you
21 were mainly talking about intensive management, you
22 wanted a response from paragraph whatever it was from
23 the Secretary.

24
25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: One's an annual
26 and one's a letter to the Secretary regarding Yukon
27 Flats, right? Right? Am I missing something?

28
29 MR. GLANZ: No, I think that's exactly
30 what it is. Yeah.

31
32 MR. MATHEWS: All right. Okay.

33
34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
35 right. Next, OSM, Federal Subsistence Program,
36 schedule of key dates.

37
38 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. For the
39 record, Chuck Ardizzone.

40
41 If you turn to Page 65, there's a
42 little number of bullets showing key dates, upcoming
43 dates for our program. Currently we're in the Council
44 window, meeting window, and proposals close November
45 5th. There will be a meeting of the Board in January
46 to address special action regulations, the rewrite,
47 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Plan for 2010. And then
48 that third bullet should say an informational update on
49 wildlife closures which were reviewed in 2009. There's
50 not going to be a vote.

1 Then we get into January/March, that's
2 our next round of meetings. Excuse me, that's
3 proposals. And then February/March is our next round
4 of meetings. And then you can see the rest.

5
6 I don't need to walk you through all
7 these, but, you know, the important dates will be,
8 especially for your Council, I think the April meeting.
9 That's the deferred proposals on the Yukon. So that's
10 one date to keep in your head or on your calendars. So
11 you know what happens with those.

12
13 And that's basically all I have on
14 that. It's just kind of to keep you on track so you
15 know where we're going.

16
17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Any questions
18 of Chuck.

19
20 (No comments)

21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thanks,
23 Chuck. And then there's the next report.

24
25 MR. ARDIZZONE: I get to sit here for a
26 couple of things I guess. So the.....

27
28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You go through
29 them all there, right, under A is it?

30
31 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes. So on the next
32 page there's a written briefing on proposed changes to
33 special action regulations. There's no action needed
34 on this. I you look after Page 66, there's multiple
35 pages of what's going to go into the Federal Register
36 as proposed changes to the special action regulations.
37 It's basically there just to keep you informed on
38 what's happening in the program.

39
40 The changes are in response to comments
41 from Council members, the public and partially from a
42 recent litigation, the Ninilchik lawsuit we had. And
43 the primary purposes of the changes are to accommodate
44 the new two-year cycle, to hopefully improve clarity in
45 respect to the process of accepting and addressing
46 special actions, to update the public on new public
47 notice requirements. It's basically a lot of things
48 need to be done on line now, via the internet.

49
50 And then to bring clarity to the role

1 of the Regional Advisory Councils. Because right now
2 it's not really clear to the Council members what their
3 role is when it comes to a special action, so this new
4 regulation should hopefully address that.

5
6 And that's all I have on that. It's
7 just like I said, for information purposes. There's no
8 action needed. Comments will be made. It hasn't been
9 published in the Federal Register as of yet, but once
10 it's published, there will be a public comment period,
11 so we'll be taking comments on that. And that will be
12 voted on by the Board in January, but it's not under
13 the Board's authority to make that change. It's a
14 Secretarial change. It would have to go back to the
15 Secretary for his final approval.

16
17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Questions?
18 It's for your information. It would be good to read
19 that, especially the special action part.

20
21 Is there more, Chuck?

22
23 MR. ARDIZZONE: Well, there's a climate
24 change, just a little bullet that we wanted you all to
25 be aware of, that we are -- we do know that climate
26 change is occurring, and that we have taken actions in
27 the past, shifted seasons, changed -- you know shifted
28 them later, shifted them earlier depending on the
29 climate change. And that we're aware that it is a
30 concern of the people out in the villages, climate
31 change, and in the future that we may actually come out
32 with -- discuss it more with the Councils and
33 brainstorm on other things we might be able to do. But
34 currently right now, we can only make regulatory
35 changes. It's not like we can do anything else in our
36 program to accommodate climate change.

37
38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right.

39
40 MR. ARDIZZONE: We hear what people are
41 saying I guess is what we're here to say. We
42 understand.

43
44 And other than that, that's all I
45 should have.

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Any other
48 questions, Council members.

49
50 MR. BASSICH: Yes.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Andy.

2

3 MR. BASSICH: Chuck, going back to some
4 of our earlier discussion on the impacts of rural and
5 non-rural hunters on each other. Is there anything
6 within OSM, is there any entity within OSM that you
7 would envision would be able to help tackle that as far
8 as either an educational public, media or any other
9 resource available through OSM that we might be able to
10 tap into to help address that issue? I mean, I see
11 this as a money issue more than anything else.

12

13 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right.

14

15 MR. BASSICH: It takes money to get the
16 word out. It takes money to get public education out
17 there, whether it be through radio or programs or, you
18 know, documentaries, or even just news releases, that
19 sort of thing. So I think really for this to be an
20 effective pursuit in the future, it's going to need
21 some professionals to work on it, people that are
22 skilled at that type of media. And it also takes
23 funding to do that. And without that, I don't think
24 we're going to -- we could spend a lot of time on it,
25 but not get much result from it.

26

27 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right. I can't commit
28 funds, but I could say -- or I should say this would
29 probably be a good thing to put in your annual report
30 so Pete and Polly can hear your concerns. I mean, we
31 do do news releases and we do have a person on Staff
32 that's our public affairs person, and she does write
33 newsletters that we send out to the villages and
34 things, so to me it seems like a possibility. I just
35 can't commit. It has to go back to the office, but I'm
36 sure we should be able to help with something.

37

38 MR. BASSICH: Okay. The education has
39 to happen at the non-rural level I think primarily. I
40 mean, people out in the rural areas, they're the ones
41 that are being impacted by it, and I think they're
42 quite aware of what's going on. They would certainly
43 need to be interviewed to understand how they're being
44 impacted or what they feel would be the methods or
45 means to reduce those impacts. But, you know, I see it
46 primarily as almost a media campaign focused on the
47 non-rural areas of Alaska.

48

49 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right. And I
50 understand. I think we could probably work on

1 something.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: With the news
4 releases.

5

6 MR. ARDIZZONE: I guess I'm not the
7 person to make the decision, but we can bring that back
8 to the office.

9

10 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right. But I
11 like the annual report idea.

12

13 MR. ARDIZZONE: I think that would be a
14 good place to put it, because then it would, you know,
15 force OSM to respond.

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You could ask
18 the question in the annual report like you're asking
19 it, Andy. And one of the things I would suggest for us
20 as a Council is that to you guys, it goes out -- these
21 news releases that you put out, there's sportsmen's
22 organizations all over urban Alaska, and you just get a
23 whole bunch of names and start sending those to them.
24 Because some of our ideas, you know, about sharing and
25 all that.

26

27 MR. BASSICH: Sharing and it also goes
28 to what we've addressed in earlier Council meetings,
29 how to take care of and field dress and transport your
30 meat or fish for that matter. I mean, we've talked
31 about it quite a bit. It's pretty disrespectful to
32 many of us to see the condition in which much of this
33 game is taken care of. And so that's also a part of
34 it. That's a part of the impacts on rural communities.

35

36 But, anyway, I just wanted to kind of
37 pick your brain a little bit, because I've thought
38 about this a lot over the years, and the only solution
39 I see is it's just going to take money and people that
40 have the skills at that. I'm not going to be able to
41 do it, this Council's not going to be able to do it.

42

43 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right. Right. I
44 understand. We do have, you know, Staff that work with
45 the news media, so I think we could probably work
46 something out.

47

48 MR. BASSICH: The other thing I was
49 wondering is -- I mean, we have our Fisheries Resource
50 Monitoring Plan. Is there any equivalent to that to

1 wildlife?

2

3 MR. ARDIZZONE: No, currently we don't
4 have any equivalent to the Fisheries Resource
5 Monitoring Program. I wish we did. Because then we
6 would have a lot of funds available for research, but
7 we don't have an equivalent program.

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that's a
10 huge program.

11

12 MR. ARDIZZONE: That was a huge program
13 that when, you know, when Congress said, hey, we're
14 going to do fisheries, they set aside money and got the
15 program started, and then they never did that initially
16 with wildlife.

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But, Andy, to
19 take that concept and not drop the ball, are you
20 suggesting that we add that to our annual report, to
21 address the education problems between urban and rural
22 and suggest that possibly news releases to urban Alaska
23 via sportsmen's organizations?

24

25 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I mean I think that
26 goes to the letter that never got written that we
27 discussed, you know. I mean, obviously we have to
28 start the ball somewhere, and I guess I'm just trying
29 to figure out where we need to start the ball and which
30 directions to ask, because I've found you're always way
31 more productive if you can ask or tell somebody what
32 you need, not just throw out the question, come fix
33 this for me.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right.

36

37 MR. BASSICH: And I think I have a
38 clear enough vision of where I want to go. I just
39 don't know where the funding sources or where the
40 experts would be to take care of that. And so, you
41 know, I guess what I'm asking of you and Vince is maybe
42 you can help guide me a little bit when it comes time
43 for me to write this letter as to what entities within
44 OSM, Fish and Wildlife, or even ADF&G that I can
45 approach with this particular letter. Because I think
46 it should go to all three agencies.

47

48 MR. ARDIZZONE: Well, if you're going
49 to send it to OSM, it should go to Pete Probasco, or
50 ARD, and, you know, Polly Wheeler both, our deputy. As

1 far as the Service, I can't speak to the Service.

2

3 MR. BASSICH: No, I realize that. But
4 I just feel it needs to go to all three, because they
5 all three entities have public service and public
6 education departments. And, you know, the main thing
7 is trying to weed out where there's some funding that
8 might be available for this. Because I really do feel
9 this is a very serious issues, and one that's going to
10 just be exacerbated over the years as more and more
11 people are relying on the resources and resources are
12 depleted. There's going to be quite a bit more
13 tension, and the quicker we can get started on trying
14 to address some of that, I think the less problems
15 we're going to have in the future with it.

16

17 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right. I understand.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Vince.

20

21 MR. MATHEWS: Well, if you put this in
22 your annual report, you're hitting all agencies. All
23 agencies have -- they call it either outreach or
24 environmental education. They have all different
25 titles, so they have a mission to provide educational
26 materials. This is new, but you're going to be hitting
27 tops, and then from there go down. And then OSM is
28 involved in that whole review process, too. But it is
29 -- you're correct, it's a money issue in addition to
30 how do you actually do it to such a large clientele.
31 Because you're actually reaching out to them, not them
32 coming in and giving it. You're actually going out.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: The news
35 releases sounds like a first start, something that can
36 be done.

37

38 MR. BASSICH: So, Madam Chair, I guess
39 what I need a clarification on is what we need to do to
40 make this part of our annual report, and then I guess,
41 Vince, as far as writing a letter goes, I need to sit
42 with you and ask for your assistance in developing the
43 context of that letter and to whom it should go to,
44 what entities it should go to.

45

46 MR. MATHEWS: Well, my -- okay. Look
47 at the process. If you put it in your annual report,
48 it goes to all agencies, because their heads are at the
49 Board level. And then if you send a letter with a
50 similar topic to each agency, which one do they answer.

1 So you're back to that central question, is it best to
2 send a letter, you know, and not in the annual report,
3 or putting it in your annual report.

4
5 The advantage of the annual report, all
6 agencies review it kind of together. There could be a
7 synergy there or there or it could be everyone says no,
8 but I don't think that will be the case. Then when
9 they give you a response on your annual report, now you
10 have a track record, just like you got from the
11 Secretary here, that if they make a commitment, then
12 you make them accountable to it.

13
14 Does that make sense?

15
16 And then on another level, which I may
17 back you up on this other issue then, then at the level
18 that you're more comfortable possibly working with, is
19 each one of these units that are here, and say, well,
20 what do you guys do in this area? Do you know what we
21 could do? And I betcha somebody will raise their hand
22 and say there's this grant through whatever, with your
23 support maybe I can funding for this or something.

24
25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So, Vince, what
26 you're saying in short is you think just in the annual
27 report is sufficient without the letter?

28
29 MR. MATHEWS: Well, that's what I've
30 been advised to tell you, because if you look at it
31 from who you're sending it to, they've got to answer to
32 two things, and then they're going to go, well, we're
33 not going to answer until the Board answers, because we
34 don't want to get ahead of Forest Service or whatever.
35 So you kind of have to pick your target. Since your
36 issue is not just refuges and not just parks, I'm out
37 on a limb here. I would say it would be annual report.

38
39 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Andy.

40
41 MR. BASSICH: Madam Chair. I guess I'm
42 asking direction. Do you need a motion to have this
43 put into the annual report or is it something.....

44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I'd be happy
46 with a consensus, because.....

47
48 MR. BASSICH: Okay. Well, I'd just
49 like to put that out there then. I'd like to include
50 this topic in our annual report.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And you just
2 make sure all the language is in it that you want.
3
4 MR. BASSICH: Right. And I'm more than
5 available to sit down to sit down if you want -- you
6 know, when it comes time to putting that in the annual
7 report, I'd be happy to sit down with you, Vince, and
8 let's craft that.
9
10 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And I had to
11 make meeting take forever, but didn't we agree to write
12 that letter that you talked about? Who was it
13 supposed.....
14
15 MR. BASSICH: I was supposed to write
16 that.
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Who was it
19 supposed to go to?
20
21 MR. BASSICH: That's what I'm having a
22 brain fart on.
23
24 MR. MATHEWS: We'd have to look in the
25 minutes. I think it was to go to all the individual
26 agencies.
27
28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We're not going
29 to drop the ball on that letter unless it's redundant
30 as far as I'm concerned.
31
32 MR. MATHEWS: I mean, that's an option.
33
34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I don't feel
36 like it's going to.....
37
38 MR. BASSICH: Hurt anything.
39
40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I can't see how
41 it possibly can. If they're going to wait until
42 somebody else answers a letter, then we'll not do that
43 again.
44
45 What's you guys' feeling. I want to
46 hear from you. Do you want to do them both or do what
47 we said last meeting or not on this letter that Andy
48 suggested. We voted on that to do it, and I feel like
49 we might as well, just do it.
50

1 Vince, if it's going to the Federal
2 Board, then it's redundant, but if it's a separate
3 letter to something else, then we probably should have
4 a second letter.

5
6 MR. MATHEWS: Right.

7
8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We'll look at
9 minutes and make a decision then.

10
11 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah, I'll look at the
12 minutes. I'm sure it was outside the annual report,
13 because I would have had to get it done.

14
15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right.

16
17 MR. MATHEWS: So I just have to look at
18 your justifications for that.

19
20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Right
21 now we have a consensus that this topic will be on the
22 annual report.

23
24 MR. BASSICH: Yes.

25
26 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now the
27 next thing on the agenda -- I'm going to look into that
28 later.

29
30 Any more reports. Are we finished
31 with.....

32
33 MR. ARDIZZONE: (Nods affirmative)

34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Are
36 there any reports from the Native corporations, tribal
37 councils or others at this meeting.

38
39 (No comments)

40
41 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. I think
42 we covered all of that. How about Alaska Department of
43 Fish and Game.

44
45 MS. LENART: Madam Chair. Since Arctic
46 National Wildlife Refuge didn't make it, would you like
47 me to just update on the Porcupine Caribou Herd?

48
49 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. That was
50 what -- they did not make it. I wasn't aware of that.

1
2 Bye-bye. Thanks for the report.
3
4 MS. LENART: Vince, have you heard
5 anything? Are they still planning to come?
6
7 MR. MATHEWS: No, I've not. And then
8 the phones were down, and I haven't had a chance to
9 call them. But my understanding, they were on that
10 caribou, Porcupine, if that's what you're asking about.
11
12 MS. LENART: Do you want to just wait
13 and see?
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: If they show
16 up, we'll do it. And then you need to remind us by
17 raising your hand again, because I don't want to
18 overlook that. Thank you.
19
20 Now, is there any other Alaska
21 Department of Fish and Game reports that needs to be
22 done.
23
24 (No comments)
25
26 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. BLM.
27 Hi. Eastern Interior Resource Management Plan.
28
29 MS. COLE: Madam Chair and Council. My
30 name is Jeannie Cole. I'm with the Bureau of Land
31 Management in Fairbanks, Alaska.
32
33 And I just wanted to give the Council a
34 little update o the status of our planning efforts in
35 the eastern Interior. There's a written report on Page
36 77 of your book and there's a map on the wall behind
37 you that shows the planning area. It's basically all
38 the BLM lands south of the Porcupine and Yukon River
39 and east of the Steese and Alaska Highways over to the
40 Canadian Border.
41
42 And what we're doing is we're currently
43 updating our resource management plans which dictates
44 how we're going to manage BLM lands for that entire
45 area. It's going to cover the BLM lands, which are
46 basically the stuff in yellow on that map there. And
47 it includes four planing subunits. The White
48 Mountains, the Steese National Conservation Area, the
49 upper Black River, which is north and east of the Yukon
50 River there, and the Fortymile Subunit which is

1 basically everything from Fairbanks over to the border,
2 any BLM land in there.

3
4 And we had some meetings in 2008, we
5 call them scoping meetings. It's where we go out to
6 the public and ask them what they think the issues are
7 that we need to cover in our plan. And we've written a
8 report that summarizes the results of those meetings.
9 It's on BLM website. I also have some paper copies
10 that I could mail to people if they wanted a copy.

11
12 We also did a report called the
13 analysis of the management situation where we basically
14 look at all the BLM land in that area, what's the
15 condition of the land and the resources on it, what is
16 our current management, what is the current laws, the
17 current land status and then we write a summary report.
18 And that's also available on our website or I could
19 mail paper copies to people.

20
21 And right now we're developing the
22 draft resource management plan which is going to have
23 four different alternatives. And there's an
24 environmental impact statement that goes along with it.
25 We're scheduled to publish that draft plan and
26 environmental impact statement in February or early
27 March of 2010. And then at that time we'd have a 90-
28 day public comment period. During that timeframe we
29 would also have public meetings.

30
31 So I would -- if anybody on the Council
32 has suggestions on where we should have meetings on the
33 draft plan, or if you would like us to have a meeting
34 in your community, we'd be happy to discuss that with
35 you. I'd appreciate any help you could give me on
36 providing the right contact person in that community to
37 set up a meeting. Or any ideas on the best, you know,
38 time of day or day of the week or whatever to have
39 meetings. We'd like to get a good public comment on
40 our draft plan.

41
42 Once the draft plan is done and the
43 comment period is over, we would compile all the
44 comments and publish a final plan and final
45 environmental impact statement, and that would be done
46 sometime in 2011.

47
48 So I primarily just wanted to let you
49 all know that it's going on, it's still happening. We
50 hope to have a draft out soon, and we will be having a

1 public comment period. We'd like to get public input.
2 If the RAC is interested in giving us comments, we'd
3 appreciate that as well.

4
5 And I'd just like to answer any
6 questions you all might have about either that
7 particular plan or any other BLM planning processes.

8
9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Any questions,
10 Council members. Andy.

11
12 MR. BASSICH: I always have questions.

13
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, smiling
16 at yourself.

17
18 MR. BASSICH: I'm just curious. You
19 know, I spent a little bit of time today looking at
20 that chart, that map up there, and it often occurs to
21 me. I just often wonder, do any of the agencies and
22 landowners ever get together to try and simplify some
23 of the checkerboard of land ownership and that sort of
24 thing? Has there been any discussion between the
25 State, the Feds and private land -- or, I'm sorry, some
26 of the Native organizations to try and clean up that
27 map so that we don't have such confusing land ownership
28 in such a checkerboard?

29
30 MS. COLE: Yes, as a matter of fact.
31 In our land conveyance process when we're conveying
32 land to the State and the Native corporations, we can
33 force them to take small parcels that are surrounded by
34 State land, and we have done that. We do that at
35 times. So some of that's going to get cleaned up
36 through the conveyance process.

37
38 The plan will also have decisions in it
39 identifying lands, BLM lands that should be available
40 for disposal. We have a lot of little teeny parcels
41 right along the Alaska Highway that you can't even see
42 on that map that are not really manageable. So the
43 land's [sic] going to identify those types of parcels
44 for disposal.

45
46 We're talking to the State about
47 acquiring some State in-holdings within the Steese
48 conservation area.

49
50 The land's [sic] also going to identify

1 what we call -- we did a zoning system in the plan
2 where you have zone 1, which is lands we want to keep;
3 zone 2, which is lands we'd consider for either
4 disposal or acquisition to consolidate land ownership;
5 and lands that are zone 3, which are ones we definitely
6 want to get rid of. So we definitely want to get rid
7 of those little parcels, but the stuff in the Fortymile
8 that's really checkerboard and we don't really know for
9 sure which little checkers we're going to end up with
10 in the end, because the land conveyance is still going
11 on, we've identified those as -- or we plan on
12 identifying those in the plan as either available for
13 disposal or acquisition so that we could exchange lands
14 with a Native corporation or the State in order to
15 block up the land ownership.

16
17 MR. JESS: Madam Chair and Andy. Ass
18 far as the Refuge is concerned, we had villages such as
19 Stevens Village, for example, prior to the Doyon land
20 exchange process, that we were looking at negotiating
21 on tightening up boundaries. That got swallowed up
22 into the land exchange, and now we're in the process of
23 moving towards a record of decision on a no action
24 alternative with the land exchange, meaning that it's
25 not going to happen. We're working with Doyon on that.
26 Once we complete that, we'll enter into negotiations
27 again with each of the respective villages to try to
28 tighten up those land basis. It is very confusing to
29 them, to those, as to whether they are on State, Native
30 or Federal lands, and we do want to tighten it up for
31 all involved.

32
33 MR. BASSICH: Well, I mean everywhere
34 we go and everyone you ever talk to, you know, the one
35 you hear, or two comments, when it comes to hunting and
36 fishing, you need to be a bloody lawyer to understand
37 the reg books, and you have to be a bloody surveyor
38 with an accurate GPS on board to know what lands you're
39 on. And I really think that should be a strong focus
40 from all parties involved to try and clean that up for
41 the future. And I realize that's going to take
42 probably decades to do.

43
44 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I'm sure,
45 you know.

46
47 MR. BASSICH: But it should be an
48 ongoing focus, you know, to keep working at.

49
50 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andy, I think I

1 remember -- I was talking to some friends that are in
2 the mining business in the State of Utah, and the
3 railroad was checkerboarded, their land ownership. And
4 I think there's an old regulation that caused that to
5 happen so people don't -- you know, like the State,
6 they don't lose all the land from their management or
7 whatever. But there's got to be an old law in the
8 book, because this was back at the turn of the
9 18th/19th century also. So there's some law on the
10 books that creates that unfortunately.

11
12 So any other questions of BLM. Virgil.

13
14 MR. UMPHENOUR: Since you're not doing
15 your weir and your fish stuff any more, what are you
16 doing with your fish biologist?

17
18 MS. COLE: Well, our fish biologist for
19 the Eastern Interior this last summer's been doing a
20 lot of work up on the salmon -- up in the Salmon Fork
21 doing salmon surveys up in that area, in the upper
22 Black River area, because we are writing this land use
23 land, and we don't have a whole lot of data up there.

24
25 And I don't know if Dan could add
26 anything to that or not.

27
28 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, are you guys
29 going to do any more projects such as that Tozitna
30 weir, or do you have any idea?

31
32 MS. COLE: I believe this is the end of
33 that project, but I'm not 100 percent sure of that. If
34 you really want to know, it would probably be better to
35 talk to one of the fish biologists at our officer.

36
37 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.

38
39 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Did your hand
40 go up, Vince?

41
42 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, at your last
43 meeting, the presentation from BLM said it was going to
44 be the last year with the Tozitna. I can't remember
45 the gentleman that gave the presentation, but.....

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
48 other questions.

49
50 MR. GLANZ: Are they going to build a

1 boat launch on the wild and scenic river there for us
2 there at Birch Creek?

3
4 MS. COLE: I'm not sure, but that would
5 be a good thing to -- I know you brought that up
6 scoping, but.....

7
8 MR. GLANZ: Right. That's what I was
9 wondering about, yes. We utilize that part of the
10 river. Okay. Thank you.

11
12 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Is there any
13 meetings planned in Tok?

14
15 MS. COLE: Most likely. We haven't
16 actually planned the meetings yet, but we will have a
17 meeting in Tok I'm sure. During the scoping we had
18 them in Fairbanks, Delta, Tok, Chicken, Eagle, Central
19 and Chalkyitsik and Anchorage, and we're certainly
20 willing to go more places than that. A lot of the --
21 like Fort Yukon and Stevens Village, they weren't that
22 close to BLM lands so they didn't have a lot of
23 interest before, but now that we have a draft plan, I'm
24 expecting people might be more interested, because
25 there's something more concrete for them to look at.

26
27 MR. FIRMIN: I would expect more people
28 from Fort Yukon would be interested in that, because a
29 lot of people from this area utilize upper Black River
30 country. I mean, a lot of people. So I think they
31 would be interested in hearing more about it from your
32 organization.

33
34 MS. COLE: Okay. That's good to know.
35 And do you mind if I -- do you live in Fort Yukon
36 or.....

37
38 MR. FIRMIN: Yes, I do.

39
40 MS. COLE: Do you mind -- when we get
41 to planning the public meetings, do you mind if I call
42 you and ask you for some contacts here to organize the
43 meeting?

44
45 MR. FIRMIN: This tribal hall right
46 next door would be more than happy to accommodate you.

47
48 MS. COLE: Well, that's what I tried
49 last time, but we didn't -- we don't always get a lot
50 of response unless we have the right person to talk to.

1 MR. FIRMIN: Maybe the -- if not, James
2 Kelley in the back there would be. He's our natural
3 resources director at the moment, so he'd be another
4 contact person. If not, the executive director of CATG
5 is another good person.

6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Who is that?

8
9 MR. FIRMIN: Ben Stevens.

10
11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Do you have
12 those names?

13
14 MS. COLE: Yeah. Thanks.

15
16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay.

17
18 MR. BASSICH: Yeah. As far as -- I
19 know when you did your scoping in Eagle there was quite
20 a bit of interest there, and I'd be happy to be a go
21 through point of contact for

22 Eagle and/or if you contact the National Park Service,
23 they can certainly contact me or other people to get it
24 up and going. I know that there was a lot of interest
25 in our area. As you can see, we're quite
26 checkerboarded in our area, and there were some serious
27 concerns for access to the Seventymile region and such.

28
29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Anyone else.

30
31 MR. GLANZ: And, of course, you know,
32 me in Central, I'll be more than happy to help you
33 also.

34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right.
36 Anyone else.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
41 you very much.

42
43 Fish and Wildlife Service. Next is the
44 refuges. Arctic National Wildlife Refuge,
45 comprehensive conservation plan update. Is someone --
46 okay.

47
48 MR. BERTRAM: Arctic I don't think is
49 here.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So you're next
2 with the Yukon Flats.

3
4 MR. BERTRAM: Madam Chair, I'm Mark
5 Bertram, wildlife biologist for Yukon Flats Refuge.

6
7 And that handout has got two projects
8 that I'll talk briefly about. These are both
9 cooperative projects that we do with Alaska Department
10 of Fish and Game and with CATG.

11
12 And the first one is just an update on
13 our annual moose surveys. The last survey was
14 conducted last November, 2008. And of interest with
15 this particular survey, and if you look on the back
16 side of the front page, you'll see that we've recorded,
17 you know, what appears to be an increase from the
18 previous year's survey for the first time since '99.
19 We put a lot of effort into that survey, some extra
20 effort, so we had pretty high precision on the numbers,
21 so we feel pretty comfortable with that.

22
23 There were -- I guess the positive news
24 on that is that there was an increase in the number of
25 calves, the proportion of calves that were estimated in
26 2008. So we had what appears to be some good calf
27 survival. That may reflect, hopefully, on some of the
28 increased bear harvest that's been going on. So it's
29 hard to read that, you know, what the reasons are, but
30 that's one potential reason is that maybe the bear
31 harvest is having a positive impact on calf survival.

32
33 We have the next survey planned for
34 next month. And, you know, we can take a look at those
35 calves that survived last year who are going to be
36 yearlings this year, and we'll be able to have some
37 idea of what the yearling survival is this year. So it
38 will be interesting, I guess, this year to see how the
39 over-winter survival was for last year's calves.

40
41 The other project that I just wanted to
42 bring to your attention is on the second page. And
43 we've initiated a wolf kill rate study. We've collared
44 approximately 18 to 20 wolves on 8 different packs.
45 The map shows you where they're located. It's
46 basically around the Beaver area. And this is what I
47 would label a companion study with the bear study that
48 Fish and Game is taking the lead on. And again this I
49 see as the Refuge's effort to collect some good
50 baseline data information on predator populations on

1 the Yukon Flats so if there are intensive management
2 proposals on Beaver lands or Federal lands, we'll have
3 some baseline data that we can use to evaluate that
4 with.

5
6 This wolf study is going to continue
7 through this winter. We're going to be capturing some
8 more animals next month. The conclusions that we have
9 so far on the first year of data is -- one of the
10 things that we're trying to figure out is basically how
11 many wolves -- how many moose are being harvested by
12 the wolves each winter. And so the bottom line is that
13 we -- when we conduct this study, we go out and
14 intensively track the pack every day for a series of
15 anywhere from 8 to 13 days. And then we come up with,
16 you know, through direct observation, we figure out how
17 many wolves are actually -- how many moose are actually
18 being killed. And then we extrapolate that out to the
19 full winter.

20
21 And so the extrapolated estimate of how
22 many moose were killed last year between the middle of
23 April and the middle of -- excuse me, the middle of
24 October through the middle of April is 118 moose. So
25 this is 118 moose taken out of the study area. And the
26 study area is basically, if you were to look at the map
27 on the other side, and just draw a rough line around
28 where all these packs are living, that's how many moose
29 are coming out of that vicinity. And that's probably
30 -- you know, that's roughly -- I'm not sure if we've
31 got the numbers in here or not what that area is. It's
32 probably somewhere between 500 and 1,000 square miles.

33
34 This next month we're going to put some
35 satellite collars on wolves, and we hope to get even
36 more precise information.

37
38 The last project that I do have listed
39 on the back side of the last sheet is regarding avian
40 influenza. And Fish and Wildlife Service captured 14
41 or 15,000 birds last year. For the third straight
42 year, there's no cases of avian influenza in Alaska.

43
44 And that's all I have. Are there any
45 questions on the biological part of this.

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Any questions?

48
49
50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I have a
2 question of this picture, this caribou. Is it caught
3 in that? What is that?
4
5 MR. BERTRAM: No, that's a pintail.
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: It looks like a
8 caribou. Oh, I'm sorry. I guess I need bigger binocs.
9 I can't believe it.
10
11 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah, that's a northern
12 pintail. That's one of the swim in traps. We bait
13 that with corn down in the bottom. And the birds swim
14 into it, get trapped, and we capture them and put.....
15
16 MR. FIRMIN: Long day.
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I think I need
19 new bifocals.
20
21 Okay. Any questions. Andy.
22
23 MR. BASSICH: Approximately how many
24 wolves are comprised of -- I assume these are the
25 different packs here?
26
27 MR. BERTRAM: How many total wolves
28 there are?
29
30 MR. BASSICH: Yeah.
31
32 MR. BERTRAM: I think there's around
33 50.
34
35 MR. BASSICH: 50 between.....
36
37 MR. BERTRAM: Between those eight.
38
39 MR. BASSICH: Four packs or eight
40 packs?
41
42 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah. They vary from two
43 animals up to about 11.
44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Virgil.
46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I understand the
48 kill locations. That's the round circles. Then those
49 colored dots. Is that where the wolves were on a
50 specific day?

1 MR. BERTRAM: Yes, that's where they
2 were on a specific day when we went out and radio
3 tracked them.
4
5 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. So you can.....
6
7 MR. BERTRAM: So oftentimes the kill
8 locations and the tracking locations are one and the
9 same. If we went out and tracked them and they didn't
10 have a kill, the circle indicates where they were that
11 particular day.
12
13 MR. UMPHENOUR: So that's about a two-
14 week period, each one of those little places?
15
16 MR. BERTRAM: Yes. We had two tracking
17 periods. One was for 8 days and one was for 13 days.
18 So this is not a seasonal home range here. So they
19 actually cover a much larger area than this. This is
20 where they -- this would be their winter use area where
21 they're at between February and March.
22
23 MR. UMPHENOUR: So each one of those
24 dots is where the one with the collar of it was at then
25 on that specific day?
26
27 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah. And that animal
28 that was collared, each pack had one or more animals
29 collared within the pack, so there were up to three
30 collars in each pack.
31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Let me ask you
33 something. Have the wolves there been killing each
34 other? Because I know in 20A they have.
35
36 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah. I've.....
37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Any big fights between
39 the packs?
40
41 MR. BERTRAM: We haven't observed it
42 yet. We haven't observed it yet, and I think -- my
43 guess is we may not, just because we've got a much
44 lower density of wolves here, so they're not in each
45 other's face so much.
46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.
48
49 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andy, did you
50 still have more questions? Your mic is still on.

1 MR. BASSICH: Oh, sorry.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That's okay.
4 Okay. Frank.
5
6 MR. GURTLE: Is there anybody trapping
7 wolves up around there at all?
8
9 MR. BERTRAM: Yes, there's one active
10 trapper in Beaver who's actively trapping, and he's
11 been providing us some good information. We've been
12 reciprocating. He turns in collars and we -- and he's
13 also reciprocating. He's been giving us information.
14 He basically has been monitoring some of the kills for
15 us so we'll find out, you know -- part of the study is
16 trying to determine what type of a moose is being
17 killed, whether it's a bull or a cow or a calf. And so
18 some of these kills we're not able to get to in time to
19 determine that. He was actively trapping one of these
20 packs and was able to provide that information for us.
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Any other
23 questions.
24
25 MR. FIRMIN: How many different packs
26 did you say that you thought there were? Six?
27
28 MR. BERTRAM: Eight.
29
30 MR. FIRMIN: Eight?
31
32 MR. BERTRAM: Eight, yeah. And we're
33 going to be -- we'll be putting out satellite collars
34 next month and so we'll get very precise information
35 from those satellite collars. We're going to get
36 fixes. I think we're going to get two or three fixes a
37 day, and so we're hoping that that -- just putting the
38 satellite collar on the animal is going to help us
39 locate kills that we would normally miss, because we'll
40 be able to see the aggregation of where the animals are
41 concentrating.
42
43 MR. FIRMIN: And would those assist you
44 with more locating them in summertime as well?
45
46 MR. BERTRAM: We're probably -- I don't
47 believe these collars are going to have enough battery
48 life to last a full year. So they're probably going to
49 -- they'll probably wear down probably early fall. We
50 could get some good summer use information though.

1 MR. FIRMIN: Thanks.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Any other
4 questions.
5
6 MR. JESS: We did lose a couple
7 collars. We lost them. We found that the younger
8 animals were sitting next to each other and chewing the
9 collars off for one another. So we did have more
10 animals in the.....
11
12 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Out of
13 curiosity, is that public information where the kills
14 are when it happens?
15
16 MR. BERTRAM: Not when it happens, no.
17 No, we don't -- if somebody calls up and asks me for
18 it, I'd be obligated to give it to them, but -- because
19 it is public information, but I don't advertise it,
20 because it's kind of detrimental to the outcome of the
21 research.
22
23 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You want that
24 collar to stay alive?
25
26 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah.
27
28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
29 right. I was just curious.
30
31 Any other questions.
32
33 (No comments)
34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right.
36 Thank you. Okay.
37
38 MR. JESS: I've pretty well already
39 given you the update on the land exchange so if there
40 are other questions on that, I'd be happy to.....
41
42 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andrew.
43
44 MR. FIRMIN: I have a quick one. I
45 thought I saw something hanging up that there was going
46 to be no action whatsoever, and Fish and Wildlife just
47 dropped the whole subject altogether, or are they
48 still, you know, pursuing different options now?
49
50 MR. JESS: Well, essentially our

1 preferred alternative or the direction that we were
2 moving in with Doyon was to move forward with the
3 exchange. Through mutual agreement with Doyon, talking
4 to Jim Merry and Norm Phillips, we both came to the
5 conclusion that perhaps at this time a no action
6 alternative, meaning that we would do nothing, is the
7 direction that we are moving towards now. So we've both
8 come to agreement on that in this relationship, and
9 that's where we're going to move for our final decision
10 or the record of determination, the ROD per se. And we
11 will try to complete that at the end of -- we want to
12 complete it before December of 2011.

13

14 MR. FIRMIN: The other rumor on the
15 river is that a lot of the lands in this area that have
16 the highest potential for gas and oil development are
17 owned by the Birch Creek Council, or the Birch Creek
18 Village itself, and they plan to pursue development
19 anyway with Doyon. Is that anything that you know
20 about?

21

22 MR. JESS: I don't know a whole lot
23 about that. I've seen the geological survey data, but
24 that's again public information. And it does show
25 somewhat of a halo around Birch Creek. But we did
26 recently receive a request, I believe it was from Birch
27 Creek to put a fully developed road from Birch Creek, a
28 village of 27, all the way down to the Dalton Highway,
29 going through Victoria Creek. And we've been asked to
30 participate in that as well, so we will certainly
31 participate in that.

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
34 Also thank you guys for working with the State on what
35 we can do to make things better.

36

37 Okay. Tetlin. Oh, I'm sorry, Peter.
38 I was requested to take a break and I failed to
39 remember that. You're after break. Five-minute break.

40

41 (OFF RECORD)

42

43 (ON RECORD)

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Finally get to give
46 that report. Hang on just a second. Okay. For just
47 one second. Nancy. I keep asking who is that lady,
48 Bill.

49

50 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, I said, who -- yeah.

1
2 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: She is with the
3 Park Service. And that's in the regional office, and
4 there's InterAgency Staff.
5
6 MR. GLANZ: Oh, okay. I didn't know
7 that.
8
9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And she's the
10 InterAgency Staff for the National Park Service for
11 fisheries. Two of the entities, and that is BIA and
12 National Park Service, have two people for their
13 InterAgency Staff, one for wildlife and one for
14 fisheries. And Nancy's here with the Park Service on
15 fisheries. So she talks to her boss who is also a
16 Board member.
17
18 MR. GLANZ: All right. Nancy, what's
19 your occupa -- which occupation was there, and what --
20 okay.
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Well,
23 it's always good to ask, because we see a lot of faces
24 here and sometimes we don't know what hat they're
25 wearing, so.....
26
27 MR. GLANZ: And not to keep you going,
28 but when we see everybody only see twice a year, it's
29 kind of hard, you know.
30
31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes, it is.
32 Yeah. Uh-huh. And Nancy's having to depart from the
33 meeting early, because she has an early flight. Yeah.
34 Okay. And thanks for coming.
35
36 Okay. Now, Peter, it's your turn
37 finally.
38
39 MR. KELLER: Okay. I gave you all a
40 copy of our Tetlin moose report this morning. I'm not
41 going to go over that, because I went over it at the
42 spring meeting, the results from it anyway. There's
43 nothing changed. It's just in a formal report now. If
44 you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer them.
45
46 Well, our moose telemetry project,
47 we're still doing that. We lost another collar this
48 year. It actually deployed by itself the way it was
49 supposed to do two years ago, but failed to do. So we
50 only have 12 collared moose now. And three of the cows

1 produced twins, eight had one calf each. One cow
2 didn't produce this year. Which is roughly the same
3 production that we've had in previous years, so not
4 much change there.

5
6 Waterfowl production on the refuge this
7 year was significantly down for previous years. I
8 think it was the worst year ever in fact since we've
9 been doing the ground-based survey. I think a lot of
10 that had to do with fluctuations in water levels. We
11 had 8 to 10-foot fluctuations two or three times at
12 least on the Refuge where we went out, and so probably
13 nests were flooded and they didn't really get to get
14 much in the way of broods off.

15
16 We're partnering with the National
17 Phenology Network to test some new field protocols for
18 gathering phenological data on birds and mammals. This
19 has to do with climate change and relationships between
20 predators and prey and plant pollinators. Ultimately
21 the data may be used to predict migration times,
22 disease spread, and animal distribution.

23
24 Another large scale study related to
25 the effects of climate change focuses on rusty
26 blackbirds and the relationship between breeding
27 phenology and invertebrate abundance. Most of the
28 invertebrates we're looking at are dragonflies.

29
30 The Refuge is also collaborating with
31 the USDA subarctic agricultural research unit, the
32 University of Alaska and Alaska Department of
33 Transportation to test the efficiencies and persistence
34 of a couple of herbicides for the control of invasive
35 species on cold climates. We've been doing that for a
36 couple of years now. Just mostly effects of it on the
37 white sweet clover along the roadsides and trying to
38 eliminate any -- or minimize anyway potential spread
39 down the streams into the Refuge.

40
41 We hired four interns this year to do
42 anthropological and archaeological field work on Refuge
43 lands. We're working on developing an archival data
44 base of 10 years of cultural research and oral history
45 gathered by Refuge Staff. With the help of Debbie
46 Corbett, your Fish and Wildlife archaeologist, we're
47 able to begin archaeological surveys and commence work
48 on an updated cultural resource guide.

49
50 The Refuge is also working with several

1 elders and linguists to develop a traditional place
2 names data base and a strip map of traditional place
3 names from the Yukon Territory to Healy Lake. This map
4 will be used by both Natives and others as a guide to
5 speaking Athabascan and identifying permanent landmarks
6 along the Alcan in the original languages and English.

7

8 The Refuge contracted with the
9 Southeast Alaska Guidance Association to continue work
10 on a project to reconstruct a trail at Airs Hill near
11 the Al/Can border station. It's a slow project due to
12 limited time and funding and access. It snowed on the
13 trail crew this year when they were out there in
14 midsummer. The trail, it's about four miles long now
15 from the trailhead, and eventually the plan is to
16 extend it to Mirror Creek. It might take a little
17 while to do that.

18

19 Two wildfires on the Refuge this year.
20 Both were caused by lightening. One burned
21 approximately 1100 acres just north of the Black Hills.
22 The other occurred near the Canadian border,
23 approximately 10 miles northwest of Beaver Creek and
24 was immediately suppressed by Canadian fire crews.

25

26 We also just recently, last month, gave
27 a school presentation at Tetlin Village School in
28 cooperation with ADF&G on game management, ecosystem
29 management, and the importance of education in their
30 future lives.

31

32 That's about it. We've got a trumpeter
33 swan survey scheduled next year. We do one every five
34 years, and so 2010 is the next one.

35

36 That's about it.

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

39

40 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. You heard the
41 update from the Yukon Flats Refuge on what they're
42 doing as far as the process to maybe move forward on
43 predator management. Basically what is Tetlin doing in
44 that aspect?

45

46 MR. KELLER: We're basically at the
47 same point, at the same place. Those four or five
48 numbered things in the letter there. The first one had
49 to do with refuge goals and purposes and legislative
50 actions, and, you know, we're all -- most refuges are

1 pretty aware of what those are.

2

3 And the second one was the biological
4 -- getting all the biological information together as a
5 baseline. And that's -- that was really the biggest
6 hurdle. And it's something that we're all, all refuges
7 are doing as much as they can. So, I mean, our moose
8 surveys are certainly part and parcel of that.

9

10 We don't really have any data that I
11 know of of wolf or bear populations or predation on the
12 refuge.

13

14 MR. UMPHENOUR: You don't have any
15 projects going like they do to try to figure out what
16 the predation is by wolves or bears; did I hear you say
17 that?

18

19 MR. KELLER: That's correct.

20

21 MR. UMPHENOUR: Do they plan any in the
22 future that you know of?

23

24 MR. KELLER: I don't know of any
25 planned in the future.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But I will add
28 -- I'm sorry, the mic. I will add I don't remember if
29 it was in the 80s or early 90s, but it was when the
30 first refuge manager was there, and his assistant who
31 is since deceased. And I'm bad with names now. But
32 there was a study done in cooperation with Fish and
33 Game, and I remember they did a 30-day, collared each
34 pack of wolves. And there was a pack of one and a pack
35 of 17. And that study, I'm thinking there were so many
36 moose killed in a given time, and there were so many
37 caribou killed. And that was a pretty big study. And
38 I remember the Fish and Game biologist was David
39 Kellyhouse at that time. It might have been in the
40 late 80s or mid 80s. And are you aware of that one?

41

42 MR. KELLER: I don't know that one
43 specifically. I can certainly look it up and give you
44 a copy.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That would be
47 good, because there was some incredible information in
48 there.

49

50 There's a hand here.

1 MR. BERTRAM: I really don't have much
2 (indiscernible, away from microphone) I just know it
3 was done. I know Terry -- Mark Bertram with Yukon
4 Flats. Terry Doyle I think was the biologist. Dave
5 Sterns.....
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right. Dave
8 Sterns.
9
10 MR. BERTRAM: Steve Breezer (ph), all
11 those guys.
12
13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Steve Breezer,
14 yeah.
15
16 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah. And it was a
17 multi-year study, so there's some baseline data there.
18 I don't know that they've got density information, but
19 they probably have home range information on the moose
20 packs [sic] that they followed.
21
22 MR. KELLER: Wolf packs?
23
24 MR. BERTRAM: Excuse me on the wolf
25 packs. Yeah. What did I say?
26
27 MR. KELLER: Moose packs.
28
29 MR. BERTRAM: Moose packs, yeah. And
30 so.....
31
32 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I want a moose
33 pack.
34
35 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah. So I think there's
36 probably -- it's old information, but, you know,
37 there's.....
38
39 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, it's
40 really useful information.
41
42 MR. BERTRAM: It is, but it is
43 baseline, yes.
44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Was that
46 published, can you tell me that?
47
48 MR. BERTRAM: I don't believe it was
49 published, but I'm sure there's a Refuge report on it
50 at the very least. I mean, it's documented.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Do you have any
2 idea why it was not published?

3
4 MR. BERTRAM: I don't know that it was
5 not published, but I don't remember seeing it in the
6 literature.

7
8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, thee was
9 kind of a controversy over that at one -- and I didn't
10 know if it ended up published or not published, because
11 there was a lot of money spent to do that survey.

12
13 MR. BERTRAM: Yeah. I don't remember.

14
15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, Peter, if
16 you could look that up, that would be really useful for
17 us as a Council.

18
19 MR. KELLER: Sure. Yeah, I can do
20 that.

21
22 Another thing, I just want to point out
23 from the moose survey we did last year, the moose
24 numbers were the highest they've ever been since we
25 started doing the survey. They were 50 percent higher
26 than any previous year.

27
28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Do you guys
29 have any reason why it might be? The fall-back of the
30 predator controls just north of there?

31
32 MR. KELLER: It could be. It could be
33 also just an artifact of the survey, that we -- in
34 previous years we -- they didn't spend perhaps enough
35 time surveying each block, and we really concentrated
36 on increasing the time we surveyed each block.

37
38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So it's changed
39 a bit?

40
41 MR. KELLER: And so that we could have
42 just seen more moose, just because we took more time to
43 do it. So it could be because of that, or it could be
44 that the moose population is up. And I suspect it's a
45 bit of both.

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes. Any other
48 questions.

49
50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Thanks.
2 Probably have them, but we'll do them in Tok. Thanks,
3 Peter.

4
5 All right. Coming back to my page
6 here. Other program areas. What's that one, Vince.

7
8 MR. MATHEWS: That's just in case that
9 there's, you know, like fisheries is here, or Regional
10 Office, or different programs within Fish and Wildlife
11 Service if that's what you mean. And that other
12 program area, it's just a carry over in case there's
13 some agency that didn't make the list that we know.....

14
15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I assume
16 there's nothing here. If there is, please raise your
17 hand.

18
19 (No comments)

20
21 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: National Park
22 Service is next. Barbara.

23
24 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
25 For the record, Barbara Cellarius from Wrangell-St.
26 Elias National Park and Preserve. And I will actually
27 be doing reports for all three parks and the Regional
28 Office.

29
30 You have in your packet -- actually I
31 guess Vince is handing it out. I'm going to start
32 with Yukon-Charley, because that's what's next on the
33 agenda. And I'm not going to really go over the Yukon-
34 Charley report, but there is a report from Yukon-
35 Charley that covers both biological studies and more
36 subsistence and cultural resource studies. And there's
37 contact information for the wildlife biologist and the
38 subsistence coordinator.

39
40 Yukon-Charley, I believe that their SRC
41 meeting is going to be in Fairbanks on November 4th.

42
43 If there are questions, if there are
44 general questions, I might be able to try to answer
45 them.

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, help me
48 out here for a second. Vince is just handing out the
49 Wrangell-St. Elias one. So is there another one that's
50 for the Yukon-Charley?

1 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah, there's a
2 page.....
3
4 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That's in our
5 book?
6
7 MS. CELLARIUS:a page for Yukon-
8 Charley that Vince should have in his pile over there.
9 I brought copies with me and gave them to Vince. It's
10 a one-page handout. I have Vince a whole stack of.....
11
12 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We want the
13 Yukon-Charley, please.
14
15 MR. MATHEWS: I don't know if I have
16 Yukon-Charley.
17
18 MS. CELLARIUS: It should be there in
19 that stack.
20
21 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We might as
22 well have the report of the one we're talking about.
23
24 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah. So that's the
25 Yukon-Charley Report. Dave will try to be at the next
26 meeting. Oh, I'm sorry. Yes, Nancy. No, I was
27 confused. Yukon-Charley does not have an SRC. It's
28 the Gates of the Arctic SRC that I had on my mind.
29
30 And then Denali National Park, their
31 SRC meeting is also going to be November 4th at the
32 Murray Science and Learning Center at the park
33 headquarters. They'll be reviewing four proposals that
34 they're going to submit to the Federal Subsistence
35 Board. One is to create a winter moose hunt in the
36 Cantwell traditional use are with a combined fall and
37 winter community quota of 10 bulls. There's a proposal
38 to create a muskrat hunting season GMU 20C. A proposal
39 to change the back limit and season for wolves in GMU
40 20. And then an individual C&T proposal for moose and
41 caribou in GMU 13.
42
43 And so then in.....
44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Barbara, that's
46 also a report that he's handing out?
47
48 MS. CELLARIUS: Yes. Well, actually I
49 believe that the Denali report is in the green folder
50 at the back.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You're giving
2 us a lot information at once here.
3
4 MS. CELLARIUS: I'm happy to slow down.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: It's kind of
7 nice to see it as you talk about it.
8
9 MS. CELLARIUS: It's kind of like at
10 the end of the meeting it's not clear how fast or slow
11 I should go.
12
13 MR. MATHEWS: I don't think I put it in
14 the packet.
15
16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: What's this?
17
18 MS. CELLARIUS: But Nancy brought -- I
19 think Nancy brought copies.
20
21 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Denali National
22 Park and Preserve up dates for Eastern Interior.
23 That's it?
24
25 MR. MATHEWS: Oh, okay.
26
27 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah, that's it.
28
29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. So
30 it's in your green folder, the one on Denali. But you
31 said something that made me think of a question. And
32 that was, there's proposal by Denali who?
33
34 MS. CELLARIUS: So the Denali
35 Subsistence Resource Commission is submitting some
36 proposals this proposal cycle to the Federal
37 Subsistence Board. And unlike the Regional Councils,
38 my understanding is that there was public notice for the
39 SRC members -- meetings in the spring, and so those --
40 they've already developed their proposals. I mean,
41 it's possible that they will develop more, but that is
42 what they have developed thus far. So those are
43 proposals that will come before the Council at the next
44 meeting.
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And they have
46 yet to meet?
47
48 MS. CELLARIUS: They're going to meet
49 on November 4th.
50

1 And Amy apologizes for the fact that
2 her contact information is not on this handout, but
3 there's another handout in your packet about an
4 environmental assessment that the Park Service is
5 doing, and her phone number and email address are on
6 that handout.
7
8 MR. MATHEWS: She was able to get ahold
9 of me and I corrected it on the one in your notebook.
10
11 MS. CELLARIUS: Oh, okay. Great.
12
13 MR. MATHEWS: But if I didn't -- but
14 I'm sure I did.
15
16 MS. CELLARIUS: So that's the.....
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Are you telling
19 me that's in our notebook?
20
21 MR. MATHEWS: It's in your folder.
22
23 MS. CELLARIUS: The green -- the
24 handout in the green folder.
25
26 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: This one?
27
28 MR. MATHEWS: If not, I can get you the
29 phone number.
30
31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Or is there
32 another one?
33
34 MS. CELLARIUS: Well, it's on --
35 actually it's on the horns and antlers handout.
36
37 So can I move on to Wrangell-St. Elias?
38
39 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, let's see
40 if anyone has any questions regarding -- there's the
41 Yukon-Charley, we have a report in front of us, and
42 then there's the Denali National Park, and we have two
43 handouts I believe is all in front of us.
44
45 MS. CELLARIUS: So far, yes.
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So far. Any
48 questions on those. Okay. Andrew has a question.
49
50 MR. FIRMIN: I have a question on

1 Denali National Park on the grizzly bear monitoring.
2 Do you guys monitor those just due to the large influx
3 of tourists and people that you have go through there,
4 because it's more of a safety issue, or just is it a
5 study just to check -- or just a general bear study?
6

7 MS. CELLARIUS: If you'd like, I can
8 pass that question on and have someone get back to you.
9

10 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah. Because I was just
11 wondering, they've give us these updates, but I was
12 just wondering what the purpose behind it is. I mean,
13 I like reading about what they're doing and it's good
14 information, very educational, but what's the initial
15 project?
16

17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andrew,
18 unfortunately we don't have someone from the Denali, so
19 she can take that question to them and then get back to
20 you.
21

22 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, that's fine. Yeah,
23 or at our next meeting in the next report. I just was
24 wondering, you know.
25

26 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah, I can certainly
27 pass that question on and try to get you an answer.
28

29 MR. FIRMIN: All right. Thank you.
30

31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Do you want to
32 have a phone call in the meantime on that?
33

34 MR. FIRMIN: No, that's fine.
35

36 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Next
37 meeting is okay?
38

39 MR. FIRMIN: Next meeting, yeah.
40

41 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right.
42 Anyone else have any questions on those two reports.
43

44 (No comments)
45

46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. It looks
47 like they're consuming them still. Now the Wrangells.
48

49 MS. CELLARIUS: Okay. There are -- you
50 should have two handouts. So Judy has previously given

1 you a handout that included the wildlife report. So
2 you should have two other handouts.

3
4 One has a nice picture from some of our
5 weirs and it talks about fisheries on the front. On
6 the back it has a fire progression map for a wildfire
7 that we had this summer.

8
9 And then the second handout says at the
10 top, Nabesna ORV EIS. Vince is going to pass that one
11 out know.

12
13 So I've just got a few kind of short
14 things, and then I want to talk about the ORV EIS.

15
16 I don't plan to talk in any detail
17 about the fisheries report. Most of the fisheries
18 monitoring that we're doing is outside of the Eastern
19 Interior Region, but we wanted to provide you with the
20 information in case anyone was interested. There are
21 people in Unit 12, in your region, who have C&T for the
22 Copper River fishery.

23
24 And then there's some brief information
25 about a wildfire we had this summer. It was a 50,000-
26 acre fire. It's the biggest fire that we've had since
27 I've worked for the Park. And so there's just a real
28 report on that, and then a copy of the fire progression
29 map at the back.

30
31 Any questions about fisheries or the
32 fire?

33
34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

35
36 MR. UMPHENOUR: Has anyone said
37 anything to you about the Tanada Creek? We're getting
38 so many fish passed it. Why they think it did.

39
40 MS. CELLARIUS: I am not aware of the
41 kind of -- the analysis that has been done on the
42 returns this year. It's the highest return that we've
43 seen since the Park has been operating the weir.

44
45 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I'm fully aware
46 of that, but this RAC and others have had proposals to
47 the Board of Fisheries, and we have gotten restrictions
48 in the early part of the Copper River commercial
49 fishery. And then this year besides those
50 restrictions, they've got other restrictions right up

1 front. And the purpose of our previous proposals was
2 to put in that area, and it looks like that that
3 actually happened this year when the commercial fishery
4 got closed due to lack of fish overall. However, that
5 kind of demonstrates that those early run fish, that
6 that's where they're headed, which is what we had been
7 saying in the past. I just wanted to see if you had
8 any data or information or speculation on that.

9

10 MS. CELLARIUS: You know, and.....

11

12 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Barbara, I
13 might be able to help you, because I get fish off a
14 fishwheel in the Slana area, and it's definitely had an
15 impact as far as we're concerned. The fish are there
16 earlier. And there's a lot -- people are getting their
17 fish earlier now than they used to, and they're a lot
18 more bright, and it's just a lot better fish to be
19 putting in the jar like the gal showed, but it's not
20 quite as drastic as her analysis there.

21

22 And also, Barbara, do you remember,
23 they had the video. There's -- could it be a little
24 bit, too, because of the new technology? Remember,
25 they were physically standing there counting, and they
26 could see what goes by. And now they've got this video
27 and they can look at it any time and start counting,
28 and maybe it's they're getting a few more because of
29 the water was higher or whatever. It might be a little
30 bit of that.

31

32 MS. CELLARIUS: Well, I know that we
33 are using this underwater video camera, and what this
34 allows -- one of the things this allows is for
35 continuous fish passage. When we had to do manual
36 counts of the fish, we ended up closing the weir -- you
37 know, you try to be there when the fish are there, but
38 we couldn't staff it 24 hours a day, and so there was a
39 time when the weir was closed. Now with this
40 underwater camera, the weir is open 24 hours a day.
41 There's just a narrow chute that allows for fish
42 passage. And it's certainly -- you know, we're
43 certainly very pleased with how that has been working,
44 and the fish don't stack up because the gate is closed.

45

46 But in terms of exactly the numbers,
47 I'm simply not remembering kind of what the analysis
48 is. I can doublecheck with Molly and see if they've
49 had any kind of preliminary conclusions about that.
50 Let me write this down.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right.
2 While she's writing that down, this report was given to
3 us at the SRC meeting in September.

4
5 MR. UMPHENOUR: Talk a little louder so
6 we can hear.

7
8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, I'm sorry.
9 This report was given to us at the SRC meeting that I
10 attended September 29th. And I just remember seeing
11 that video. It's pretty impressive, that, you know,
12 they can just watch each fish pass by. One kind of
13 went in and backed out, and they asked, are you
14 counting that twice? But it's pretty cool to see that
15 kind of technology and how accurate it can be. Tanada
16 Creek. Uh-huh.

17
18 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah, and if you -- we
19 certainly could -- if this Council's interested in
20 seeing that little video clip, we certainly could bring
21 that to the next meeting.

22
23 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Virgil.

24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: So is the technology
26 they're using kind of based on the technology that got
27 developed at the rapids by Dave Dom at Fish and
28 Wildlife Service and Stan Zuray at Tanana?

29
30 MS. CELLARIUS: I would have to check
31 with the folks who run the weir. We've got a couple
32 folks who have been working on the weir or a long time,
33 and they've been experimenting with kind of different
34 technologies, and I'm not quite sure how much sort of
35 sharing of the information has taken place, but I can
36 certainly check on that.

37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.

39
40 MS. CELLARIUS: Okay. I just had a few
41 short things I wanted to talk about, and then I'd like
42 to talk about the ORV EIS a little bit.

43
44 I'm currently working on putting
45 together a community harvest assessment in the Copper
46 Basin communities, so again this is mostly in Unit 13.
47 The communities in Unit 13.

48
49 The Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence
50 Resource Commission has submitted two wildlife

1 proposals to the Federal Subsistence Board. They would
2 add two areas, the Tok Cut-off from Milepost 79 to 110,
3 and the Nabesna Road from Milepost 25 to 46 to the list
4 of communities and areas with a customary and
5 traditional use determination for bear in Unit 11
6 Remainder. One proposal is for brown bear and one
7 proposal is for black bear; otherwise the proposals are
8 identical.

9

10 Tentative date for the spring SRC
11 meeting is March 9th and 10th in Copper Center.

12

13 It sounds like the next Eastern
14 Interior RAC meeting is not going to overlap with the
15 Southcentral meeting, but I would mention that I try to
16 attend both of those meetings, and when they happen on
17 the same date, it's difficult for me to do so. So, you
18 know, I hope that there will be a little bit of
19 consideration of that when you're scheduling future
20 meetings. I realize it's really difficult, but I can't
21 be in two places at once.

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I didn't
24 realize that.

25

26 MS. CELLARIUS: Oh, the -- for those
27 who haven't heard, the new director of the National
28 Park Service in Washington, D.C. is John Jarvis who's a
29 former superintendent for Wrangell-St. Elias National
30 Park and Preserve, so it's somebody who has experience
31 in Alaska with a big park. So we're hoping that that
32 will be a good thing.

33

34 Okay. We have for a number of years, a
35 couple years, have been working on an environmental
36 impact statement considering the impacts and management
37 of off-road vehicles in the Nabesna District, so that
38 includes parts of Unit 12 as well as Unit 11. This is
39 in response to a lawsuit and settlement in 2006 and
40 2007. Based on public comment, and a need to address
41 resource impacts associated with degraded trails, the
42 park expanded the scope of the project to include
43 subsistence ORV use. So this is something that's new
44 that we want to make sure that you're aware of.

45

46 We've developed a range of alternatives
47 that are being analyzed in a draft EIS, and we hope to
48 have a public review draft of the EIS available for
49 review and comment for the public starting in March
50 2010. So it might be that your next meeting occurs

1 before that, but it may be possible to get the project
2 coordinator to your meeting if you're interested to
3 have him talk some more about the project.

4
5 There's five alternatives that are
6 being considered, ranging from basically no action to
7 permitting recreational use on all trails with no
8 change in subsistence ORV use to prohibiting
9 recreational ORV use on some or all of the trails, and
10 doing a variety of kinds of maintenance to improve
11 conditions of the trails. And there's kind of a range
12 that's laid out there for you.

13
14 It's the Park's intent to provide
15 access for sport hunting in the preserve, back country
16 recreational activities and subsistence activities on
17 good trails. Doing things like fixing up or rerouting
18 the most degraded trail segments will cost money and
19 cost time.

20
21 So I'll just conclude by saying that
22 under the current range of alternatives, there would be
23 no change in subsistence ORV use or access to the park
24 in signing the record of decision. Reasonable
25 regulation of subsistence ORV use would only occur if
26 monitoring over time shows that resource impacts
27 associated with degraded trails are increasing on
28 unimproved trails with only subsistence ORV use. So if
29 we close a trail to recreational use so that the only
30 use that's occurring is or subsistence and we see
31 continued degradation of the trail, we would take some
32 action. They would be targeted at the trail segments
33 where the impacts were seen.

34
35 NPS regulations allow reasonable
36 regulation of subsistence ORV use if resource damage is
37 occurring as a result of that use. The analysis in the
38 EIS will quantify impacts associated with ORV use.

39
40 So I'll stop there, if you've got any
41 questions, I'll try to answer them.

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Barbara, again,
44 or action items of the Council, what's the deadline for
45 us to reply to any action we might take for.....

46
47 MS. CELLARIUS: So we don't have any
48 document formally for public review right now. This is
49 kind of an update of for you on where we are in the
50 process. What the schedule says right now for the

1 draft EIS is March 2010. The meeting that you have
2 scheduled is February 2010. We'll certainly make sure
3 that you get copies. If you're interested, we'll see
4 if we can have Bruce Rogers come to your next meeting
5 and talk to you about it.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So
8 that's your question, is would you guys like to have
9 the person who is working on this EIS from Wrangell
10 Staff to come to our meeting and give us a report on
11 that?

12

13 That's actually my home region.
14 There's so dog gone many issues sometimes, you get real
15 used up, but to my understanding just being on the SRC,
16 what has -- what I'm hearing is in a national park,
17 subsistence use is allowed. The use of an ORV even in
18 a wilderness. So recreational use is not allowed in
19 wilderness, and there's many areas and these trail that
20 have dual status between wilderness and non-wilderness.

21

22 And so there's -- the public around our
23 area is very concerned about if they would close
24 subsistence use on ORV trails. And at first when this
25 EIS was started, it didn't appear that that was going
26 to be an issue, but now it is. So it wasn't -- we
27 thought we were protected by ANILCA, and from what I'm
28 understanding, as this EIS is going through,
29 subsistence has been drug in. So now it's an issue for
30 subsistence. We could feasibly have a trail closed.

31

32 I guess what I'm thinking, I'd just
33 like to hear from you guys, I'm willing to hear the
34 report. Do you guys want to indulge yourself in that
35 or let it go completely through the SRC?

36

37 MR. GLANZ: I don't think it would hurt
38 any of us to hear the report.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. So
41 that's your direction. You need to know if he should
42 come and attend that meeting.

43

44 Everybody agree? Okay. That's the
45 direction. Thank you, Barbara.

46

47 MS. CELLARIUS: And like I said, we may
48 not have the actual public document at the time, but I
49 think he'll be able to talk about kind of where we are
50 in the process.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And that time
2 it would just be a report. There still wouldn't be
3 action for us to take as far as.....
4
5 MS. CELLARIUS: It's not clear how
6 close we're going to be to having the public review
7 draft.
8
9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But that's
10 okay. We would like to hear the report.
11
12 MS. CELLARIUS: But by then I think
13 we'll have a pretty clear idea. And kind of when the
14 public review draft will be out and that kind of thing.
15 And the Council may want to comment on that draft. I'm
16 just not quite sure about the timing.
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Thank you.
19
20 MS. CELLARIUS: So I now have something
21 from the Regional Office.
22
23 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: More reports?
24
25 MS. CELLARIUS: More reports. You
26 should have a handout that has a picture of antlers
27 against a blue sky.
28
29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We're going to
30 look here.
31
32 MS. CELLARIUS: It did not make it into
33 the book, and we were assured by Polly that there would
34 be copies at the meeting.
35
36 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, I'm
37 looking here. Has anyone else located it in your
38 packet. Vince, do you recall.
39
40 MR. MATHEWS: I'll look. I don't
41 remember making it, because I would have recognized the
42 antlers on the front. So I'll look.
43
44 MS. CELLARIUS: We can make sure that
45 you get copies.
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Because
48 this is a for information, not an action item.
49
50 MS. CELLARIUS: Yes. So responding to

1 requests from the Gates of the Arctic Subsistence
2 Resource Commission and the Eastern Interior Regional
3 Advisory Council, the Park Service is considering
4 whether to allow the collection and use of plants and
5 shed or discarded horns, antlers, and bones by NPS-
6 qualified local rural residents in Alaska park system
7 units where subsistence is allowed. So currently
8 there's Park Service regulations that prohibit the
9 collection of shed or discarded horns or antlers that
10 are out on the landscape. And in terms of the
11 production of handicrafts from plant material --
12 there's also not an allowance for the sale of
13 handicrafts made from plant materials collected in park
14 areas.

15
16 So it has come to our attention that
17 these are things that subsistence users are interested
18 in doing, so we're going through a process to evaluate.

19
20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And that
21 process is an EA?

22
23 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah. And this process
24 is an EA. And so we hope to have a draft EA for next
25 meeting, and then you will be able to formally comment
26 on that draft EA. But we're still kind of in the
27 drafting stage. And so if you have -- and the scoping
28 stage. And so if you have comments, I could certainly
29 take them back to the project team.

30
31 In this it talks about some possible
32 alternatives, and these are not necessarily the final
33 alternatives. We're still talking over what the exact
34 shape of the alternatives that we're going to analyze.
35 We always have to analyze a no action alternative, kind
36 of the status quo. But in terms of the alternatives
37 that would allow the collection, we're still working
38 out some of the details about what we're going to
39 analyze.

40
41 I was in a meeting with the
42 superintendents last week and we talked about kind of
43 some of the options. Sue was at the SRC meeting where
44 I talked about, you know, a couple of the issues.
45 We've talked about our aircraft access in national
46 parks and who would be eligible in the national
47 preserves.

48
49 We have what's a resident zone for
50 eligibility for the national parks, so that's -- we

1 kind of have a system in place in terms of eligibility
2 for subsistence activities in national parks. But in
3 the national preserves we don't quite have the same
4 thing, particularly places like Yukon-Charley where
5 there is not an associated park with a resident zone.

6

7 So those are a couple of issues we're
8 king of struggling through.

9

10 So I don't necessarily -- this is not
11 something that I'm necessarily looking for action from
12 the Council, but if you had comments that you wanted me
13 to take back to the team, we certainly could do that.
14 And then like I said, we hope to have a draft EA for
15 you at your next meeting.

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I would like -- first
18 I'll ask the Counsel if they have any questions and
19 then I'll bring up one that came up at the SRC meeting.

20

21 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chair. I'd like to
22 have a copy of that myself. I can't find.

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We don't have
25 it. Yeah. It's going to, unfortunately, come to us.

26

27 You said there's no action items on it,
28 but one of the things that came up, Barbara, and don't
29 take it as we're picking on you. You remember when Don
30 Welty had asked, why doesn't -- when you pull up
31 ANILCA, why doesn't it include this. And I guess what
32 -- we didn't really get a clear answer, did we
33 from.....

34

35 MS. CELLARIUS: It's very clear on the
36 production and sale of handicrafts from plant material.
37 That's not something that's currently allowed. The
38 only provision that we have for handicraft in ANILCA is
39 the production and sale of handicrafts from the non-
40 edible byproducts of fish and wildlife harvested for
41 subsistence.

42

43 We have currently a national Park
44 Service regulation that prohibits the collection of
45 shed or discarded horns or antlers along with a variety
46 of other things, prohibit that activity in national
47 parks. It's a national regulation. There is not
48 currently a region-specific regulation that preempts
49 that. So we have a special section of the regulations
50 for Alaska parks, but we don't have a regulation about

1 that particular activity in the Alaska-specific
2 regulations. So that's kind of what we're talking
3 about doing.

4
5 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So let me get
6 this clear so that hopefully we can all understand.
7 What was read at the -- the part of ANILCA .803, what
8 subsistence use means, and it goes on, the customary
9 and traditional uses by rural Alaska residents of wild
10 renewable resources. And the question was why doesn't
11 these things qualify. And you're saying that the Park
12 Service regs preempt this portion of ANILCA?

13
14 MS. CELLARIUS: And there's still a
15 piece of this that I need to follow up with our
16 Regional Office Staff. I've been traveling since the
17 SRC meeting, and so I haven't had to sit -- chance to
18 sit down with my notes and say, okay, these are the
19 questions I needed to get answered.

20
21 Production and sale of handicrafts, all
22 that's currently allowed is non-edible byproducts of
23 fish and wildlife harvested for subsistence. So the
24 shed and discarded horns and antlers don't fit into
25 that category, nor do plants.

26
27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So the part
28 where it says, and selling of handicraft articles out
29 of non-edible byproducts of fish and wildlife resources
30 taken for personal or family consumption, that part
31 you're saying.

32
33 MS. CELLARIUS: Uh-huh. The shed horns
34 and antlers don't fall under that. It's my
35 understanding they don't fall under that, because it
36 wasn't fish or wildlife that were taken for
37 subsistence.

38
39 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So I guess
40 you'd have to say what is family consumption. Is it
41 use of handicraft or not, right? You see, I think
42 that's what.....

43
44 MS. CELLARIUS: So he.....

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER:Don was
47 trying to get at. It's hard for the mind to understand
48 why family consumption only means eating. Doesn't it
49 mean use of a byproduct that you find.

50

1 MS. CELLARIUS: I think the idea is
2 that you're harvesting a live fish or a live animal and
3 that you're using the non-edible byproducts from that
4 animal that you have harvested. That's my
5 understanding of the interpretation.

6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, so what
8 we'd like to -- I just brought that up because it came
9 up at our meeting, and we -- Barbara is going to try to
10 get a clarification of that, so we might have that at
11 our next meetings.

12
13 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah.

14
15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
16 Thanks.

17
18 MS. CELLARIUS: But my understanding is
19 that the regulations currently do not allow this, and
20 so we are trying to make Alaska-specific regulations
21 that more closely mirror what traditional practice is
22 in Alaska. But we have to go through this process,
23 because we're required to do that.

24
25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right. And
26 then we'll get an answer to some of these questions.
27 Yes. Okay.

28
29 MS. CELLARIUS: And I think -- well, I
30 have one more item, but it's actually the next thing
31 down on the agenda. So if there are any questions
32 about kind of Park Service reports. There's an
33 appointment that I need to talk to you about.

34
35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Any questions.
36 Bill.

37
38 MR. GLANZ: Barb, you say that national
39 parks are different than national parks and preserves
40 for some of the rules and regs? Or just maybe I didn't
41 hear you properly.

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that's
44 what she said.

45
46 MS. CELLARIUS: Say this again.

47
48 MR. GLANZ: You were stating that
49 national parks have different rules than national parks
50 and preserves, or did I misunderstand that?

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: As far as
2 the.....

3
4 MS. CELLARIUS: So when it comes to the
5 issue of eligibility, in order to harvest fish or
6 wildlife under subsistence regulations in lands
7 designated as national park, you need to live in the
8 resident zone for the park, have what's called a 13440
9 permit, or live within the park. That restriction does
10 -- that eligibility rule does not apply to national
11 preserves.

12
13 MR. GLANZ: Okay. That's just what I
14 -- that's why I wanted to clarify that. Okay. Fine.

15
16 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah, when you look at
17 Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, we have
18 both park and preserve. But, for example, if you look
19 at the C&Ts, which is a Federal Board process, not a
20 Park Service rule, then it kind of makes sense that,
21 you know, somebody who would hunt in the park might
22 hunt in the preserve. So customarily and
23 traditionally.

24
25 When you have some place like Yukon-
26 Charley, there is no national park. There is no
27 resident zone established, so then the question for us
28 becomes who should be able, who should be eligible to
29 harvest, to collect horns and antlers under the
30 provisions that we've been talking about in the
31 national preserve, particularly when we don't have kind
32 of a partner park that helps us perhaps get an idea
33 what might make, you know, a logical area for
34 eligibility.

35
36 You know, the simplest thing for
37 Wrangell-St. Elias would be to have the same
38 eligibility requirements in the park and preserve,
39 because people are used to those kinds of rules. And
40 I'm not saying that that's the final decision, but
41 that's one alternative that we've been discussing. We
42 don't have a resident zone for Yukon-Charley.

43
44 MR. GLANZ: And the other question,
45 the ORV use, can it be utilized for subsistence on
46 Yukon-Charley then?

47
48 MS. CELLARIUS: For Wrangell-St. -- so
49 what the regulation says is that you can use motor
50 boats, snowmachines, and other means of surface

1 transportation traditionally employed. So then the
2 question becomes for each individual park, are ORVs
3 considered to be a means of access that was
4 traditionally employed. And that is something, a
5 decision that's made on a unit-by-unit basis. It's not
6 something that is consistent across the Park Service
7 because of this traditionally employed question.

8

9 And for Yukon-Charley, I don't know the
10 answer.

11

12 MR. GLANZ: I was just inquiring
13 because I know they were definitely yelling at people
14 for being on there, fourwheelers and stuff. So, okay,
15 so I'll have to get that answered so I can take my D-9
16 Cat and go play. No, I'm kidding.

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I'd like to get
19 that answer. I'd like to hear the answer to that.

20

21 MR. GLANZ: Yes, me too, I'm sure I
22 would like to hear that answer.

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I
25 thought it was that way on all the parks, that
26 subsistence was guaranteed access.

27

28 MS. CELLARIUS: Well, in the regulation
29 there's a section, and I didn't bring my regulations
30 with me, but I know that it specifically says
31 motorboats, it specifically says snowmachines, I think
32 it -- oh, aircraft. Yeah, airplanes, so fixed-wing
33 aircraft. And then it says other means of surface
34 transportation traditionally employed. So then it
35 becomes a question for each park unit. Denali National
36 Park did a big analysis.....

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You're talking
39 about preserves right now, right?

40

41 MS. CELLARIUS: Park and preserve.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You just said
44 aircraft. I thought aircraft was.....

45

46 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah, for national
47 parks there's different rules about airplanes than the
48 preserve, you're right.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right. Okay.

1 I couldn't use.....

2

3 MR. GLANZ: The only reason I was
4 inquiring, because from my home I can go -- from my
5 home I can go cross country down through Birch Creek --
6 of course, I've got to cross the wild and scenic river,
7 but I do that for holly noses and then, yeah, I can get
8 on the Bealinberg (ph) trail and go right in the back
9 door the Yukon-Charley and be where we like to hunt.
10 So I'm going to check -- well, so I would request.....

11

12 MS. CELLARIUS: I mean, I could pass
13 the question on to Dave.

14

15 MR. GLANZ: Okay. Thank you.

16

17 MS. CELLARIUS: I simply don't know
18 what the Yukon-Charley rules are on that
19 particular.....

20

21 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. That
22 would be good to get back to us. Yeah.

23

24 Any other questions.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Barbara, you
29 know what, I have to ask the Fish and Game biologist
30 back here.

31

32 MS. CELLARIUS: Oh, sure.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You've got your
35 coat on. Must you leave now?

36

37 MS. LENART: Well, I'm on that 5:15
38 flight.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: She has a 5:15
41 flight. Can we take up the next one, and we'll take up
42 the Porcupine Caribou.

43

44 MR. MATHEWS: To help move this along,
45 you have some materials in your folder on the Canadian
46 portion of the planning process with the Porcupine
47 Caribou Herd. I'll try to find it to give you a
48 picture, but it's fairly lengthy, and I believe Beth is
49 going to be talking about it. She has one in her hand
50 that maybe she could show you.

1 MR. GLANZ: It's this one down here,
2 guys.
3
4 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I had to put
5 something away first. This one. Yeah.
6
7 Yes, go ahead. I forgot your name, I'm
8 sorry. Beth.
9
10 MS. LENART: Beth Lenart, Alaska
11 Department of Fish and Game.
12
13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Did you say
14 last name?
15
16 MS. LENART: Lenart.
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Lenart. Okay.
19 Go ahead.
20
21 MS. LENART: Okay. I'm not sure
22 exactly what ANWR was going to talk about, but I think
23 some what I think is important is what they would talk
24 about. And that's what's going on with the Porcupine
25 Caribou Herd right now.
26
27 We haven't had a photo census since
28 2001, and during the previous 10 years to that 2001,
29 that herd had declined from like 178,000 to 123,000
30 caribou in 2001. We collect come other biological
31 data, and we've done some other biological data and
32 we've done some modeling, and we estimate the herd's
33 around 100,000 caribou. And so we think it's still
34 slowly declining. And basically it's probably that
35 some adult mortality exceeds the recruitment.
36
37 There have also been some changes in
38 where they calve. Traditionally they've calved in ANWR
39 on the coastal plain, and in recent years that's
40 changed to where they're calving in Canada and they're
41 calving in the mountains, and they don't come out to
42 the coastal plan for very long. And they end up in the
43 mountains and it's been extremely difficult for us to
44 get a photo census. And we work cooperatively with --
45 it's ADF&G, the ANWR Staff, and we have Canadian
46 biologists that we work with, and we're all trying to
47 work together to manage this herd.
48
49 The Canadians have been -- have taken a
50 step, I think it's been about two years now, where they

1 started drafting a caribou harvest management plan,
2 which is this document here. And they started out on
3 this path to go to the different villages and start
4 working with their user groups on if we thought the
5 herd was declining, they wanted to get a handle on what
6 kind of harvest strategy could be implemented, because
7 when the caribou are in Canada, they're estimating 4 to
8 5,000 caribou are being harvested. When they're in
9 Alaska, we estimate 4 to 500 are being harvested. So
10 to some degree the burden is on Canada if we need to
11 figure out what we want to do for a harvest strategy
12 plan. So they were proactive and went -- started this
13 planning effort.

14
15 And they actually made really good
16 progress in a short amount of time. And just recently
17 as I understand it, they've actually restricted the
18 harvest to any bull caribou. It's been any caribou,
19 cows and bulls recently, but this year it sounds like
20 it's restricted to bulls only. And that is true no
21 matter where they're from.

22
23 We didn't think that could happen like
24 with First Nations, so the First Nation government had
25 to agree to this, because the Canadian government
26 doesn't have authority over -- they can't make
27 restrictions like that. The governments have to agree.
28 So it looks like they've gone down that path.

29
30 And what the Canadians have asked us to
31 do for both the Refuge Staff and the State of Alaska
32 is, you know, if we can start going down a planning
33 process.

34
35 When they initiated this one, they
36 talked about including Alaskans in the very beginning,
37 but they felt that they had enormous struggles just on
38 their side of the border to deal with before including
39 all of our political struggles. And so they just moved
40 forward and kept us informed. And they actually made
41 progress faster than we all thought they would.

42
43 So the Refuge Staff and Fish and Game
44 need to get together to kind of figure out what kind of
45 a planning process in Alaska we might want to do. You
46 know, it's a little bit challenging in the fact that we
47 haven't had a photo census in 10 years. And it's a
48 priority every year, and we're still trying to figure
49 out different ways to estimate that herd, because we'd
50 like to have a more recent number.

1 One of the things that we had in the
2 past was an International Porcupine Caribou Board where
3 there was a representative from the Department of the
4 Interior, the State of Alaska, and two local people
5 from the Gwich'in communities. And then there's some
6 from the Canadian side. And then this board was
7 supposed to be able to direct and help with funding.
8 And that had been pretty much inactive for the last
9 seven or eight years, and we're trying to reactivate
10 that. And that was what one of these letters, this
11 letter -- it's actually from the Porcupine Caribou
12 Management Board, which is in Canada. It's not the
13 same as the International Porcupine Caribou Board,
14 which we don't really have yet.

15
16 So they're asking us to participate and
17 help reactivate that board. And for the State of
18 Alaska, we have moved that up the chain of command on
19 our end, and have already talked to folks in
20 headquarters, and they have already decided that it
21 would be a representative at the Commissioner level.
22 And so now I was hoping to maybe find out from ANWR
23 Staff, you know, how far along they were in what they
24 needed to do to pick a representative, because it
25 probably has to come down through Washington, D.C.

26
27 And so we're trying to make progress in
28 that arena to get that board reactivated, and then
29 figure out how we want to go about for a planning
30 process in Alaska.

31
32 There's a couple of important things
33 for Alaska. What we think we really need to do is
34 document the use of the Porcupine Caribou Herd in
35 Alaska so that if we go to the table with Canada, you
36 know, they understand what the use is over here. And
37 so we're trying to get -- we would like to get really
38 good harvest information from particularly Arctic
39 Village. That's probably where most of the use is
40 occurring. And so that's one area that we need move go
41 forward in is getting that harvest information.

42
43 Unfortunately this year the Porcupine
44 Caribou Herd looks like they're going to winter all in
45 Canada. For the previous two years they've mostly
46 wintered in Alaska. So we may not be able to get that
47 kind of information this round.

48
49 And the other thing that the Department
50 of Fish and Game is planning to do, since we had just

1 heard about Canada restricting their harvest to bulls
2 only, is that we would submit a proposal to restrict
3 the non-resident harvest for bulls only for this March
4 2010 Board of Game, and start at least moving down a
5 path of trying to align some things. But that would be
6 for the non-resident hunt. There's very little non-
7 resident harvest right now on the Porcupine Caribou
8 Herd, but that would -- we have to kind of start at
9 that level before we can start restricting anything
10 else.

11
12 So that's kind of where we're at right
13 now. Are there any questions.

14
15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Council
16 members, any questions.

17
18 REPORTER: Microphone, please.

19
20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Council
21 members, any questions. I think we're getting tired.

22
23 MR. FIRMIN: Without a photo census,
24 you don't really have any real idea then what number of
25 caribou there are out there?

26
27 MS. LENART: We have calving -- we have
28 radio collared cows and we estimate parturition rate,
29 and we estimate early calf survival. And then the ANWR
30 Staff has been conducting an adult female mortality
31 study. So we have some numbers to kind of work it, but
32 it is modeling. And that's the part that's, you know,
33 very difficult if you wanted to start to restrict
34 harvest. And we can't get into it here, but if you
35 look at this harvest management plan that Canada has,
36 it's based on a number. You know, if there's 150,000
37 caribou, 175,000 caribou then it's any caribou and big
38 bag limit. And then as you start restricting, and so
39 if you're going to restrict, and you don't have a
40 number, you know, that's very challenging we think.

41
42 When Canada presented this plan to
43 their users, they did ask them if, you know, they could
44 use other biological indicators that we are able to
45 collect, but folks were really focused on a number,
46 because that's easier to deal with.

47
48 We're just having an incredibly -- a
49 challenge in getting that number in the last eight
50 years. You know, we're making some progress where

1 we'll have two photo planes versus one to maybe
2 accommodate them. But being in the mountains in the
3 Brooks Range, it's different than anywhere else. You
4 know, the Fortymile Caribou are in the mountains, but
5 it's not the kind of mountains that the Brooks Range
6 are in and so it's challenging.

7

8 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, it's tough.

9

10 MS. LENART: But we haven't -- we've
11 explored other ways to count caribou, you know. We
12 don't count moose the same way. But we felt like the
13 range that you would come up with would be so big, then
14 how are you going to come back to the table and come to
15 folks and say, well, we think it's between 50 and
16 100,000, so you can only shoot one bull.

17

18 And so we're really trying to put more
19 effort into still -- we think this is still the best
20 technique, and if we can figure out a way to pull it
21 off in the mountains, that's where we're putting our
22 efforts now. Both the ANWR Staff, ADF&G and the
23 Canadians, you know, we all work together. We have a
24 group of us that sort of work on all the techniques.
25 And that's where we're trying to stick with that one
26 right now.

27

28 MR. FIRMIN: What factors do you think
29 are attributing to this downward trend?

30

31 MS. LENART: Well, I think, you know,
32 large caribou herds go in cycles, especially those
33 migratory herds. So it could just be a function of a
34 cycle. But they are changing where they're calving.
35 Some biologists think it has to do with, you know,
36 changes in the weather and changes in when green-up is
37 occurring earlier, and so they're not being -- they're
38 not as, what's the word I'm looking for, as aggressive
39 moving onto their calving grounds. But we don't really
40 know, you know. We just don't know.

41

42 MR. FIRMIN: It doesn't have anything
43 to do with it's raining in December or anything like
44 that?

45

46 MS. LENART: You know, for where those
47 caribou are in the wintertime -- it could. I mean,
48 that's -- I'm not sure what the weather is when they're
49 wintering in Canada, but, you know, the changes in
50 climate all throughout may be influencing it.

1 I think their on a cycle and then the
2 changes in climate affect different things that they're
3 doing. You know, I think I was talking to James Kelley
4 about how they feel like, you know, fires are affecting
5 the routes that they take for their migratory routes.
6 So there's all these little nuances kind of playing a
7 role.

8
9 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, because I could
10 remember I think my grandfather telling me that they
11 used to cross and they used to shoot them out -- one
12 year in the 70s or the 60s they shot caribou in town in
13 Chalkyitsik. I mean, in the village.

14
15 MS. CELLARIUS: In Chalkyitsik.

16
17 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, so it's just their
18 routes I guess. Thank you.

19
20 MS. LENART: Can I have one more?

21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Sure.

23
24 MS. LENART: I think I would like to
25 hear back especially when the Yukon Flats has their
26 Gwich'in gathering, what you're hearing from your
27 Canadian relatives and how it's working for them and
28 what they think. I mean, a lot of folks already heard
29 about this from this area, because they were
30 communicating with relatives in Old Crow and different
31 places. So we'd like to be able to keep up on what
32 information or what folks over there are seeing, too.

33
34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Anyone else.

35
36 MR. FIRMIN: Well, I just have a quick
37 comment. I know that those routes are affecting a lot
38 of people. And I'll have to look into what our
39 aboriginal hunting rights are on that side of the
40 border. I heard their gun (ph) was non-existent, but I
41 know that even as young as, you know, 10 years ago they
42 used to be just -- I mean, literally, you can sit there
43 and watch them cross the Porcupine River at the border
44 just all day long, and I haven't seen that ever since.

45
46 MS. LENART: Uh-huh.

47
48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Really?

49
50 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah. I don't think I've

1 seen that since that time, you know, 12, 14 years ago.
2 Hopefully they'll move back down this way before long,
3 because I sure miss going and hunting them, too.

4

5 Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Well, I
8 was just -- I wanted to -- in my mind I thought I heard
9 something, and then I thought I heard it wrong. What
10 did you say the harvest was in Canada and the harvest
11 in the U.S.

12

13 MS. LENART: Okay. We're estimating, I
14 mean and Canada has, that when that herd is there,
15 because it's along the Dempster Highway, so it's a road
16 hunt in a lot of it, in large portions of it, they can
17 kill up to 4 to 5,000 caribou. And on the Alaska
18 side.....

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, no, wait
21 a minute. Did you say 4 to 5,000 or did you say.....

22

23 MS. LENART: Yeah, 4,000 to 5,000.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. That's
26 what I -- I thought I heard 45, and I'm like, whoa, how
27 can that be.

28

29 MS. LENART: No, 4,000 to 5,000. You
30 did hear that, I did say that. Yeah.

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Four to
33 5,000.

34

35 MS. LENART: Correct. And then 400 to
36 500 or more in Alaska, but it's mostly -- you know,
37 some folks for here, but most of that harvest occurs
38 around Arctic Village, and Arctic Village is only so
39 big, so they're not -- the influence isn't -- but we
40 need to still all work together on, you know, something
41 that works for everyone.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anyone
44 else.

45

46 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, I have one more.
47 Yeah, we was talking to our biologist who's watching
48 the Fortymile herd, and they say, oh, by stopping the
49 cow hunts, a lot of them would die anyway. It has
50 little value adding to the herd. I think they're B.S.

1 myself. I think the Canadians have got the right idea,
2 and that's what I'm going to press for in this meeting,
3 too, of the Fortymile. Stop the cow hunts. It makes
4 people be a little more selective when they have to
5 shoot a caribou. So anyway, thank you.

6
7 MS. LENART: Thank you.

8
9 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Very good.
10 Anyone else.

11
12 (No comments)

13
14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well, I
15 thank you.

16
17 MS. LENART: Thank you.

18
19 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Thank you for
20 hanging in there and putting your coat on and reminding
21 me. All right.

22
23 Hey, Vince, while we're on the
24 Porcupine, that letter, that was sent to me as a RAC
25 member. Did that get sent to the RAC members or just
26 me.

27
28 MR. MATHEWS: I think it was just sent
29 -- oh, did the entity send it to all the RAC members?

30
31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: No, no, no.
32 Did our RAC members see a copy of the one that was sent
33 to me?

34
35 MR. MATHEWS: No.

36
37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.

38
39 MR. MATHEWS: Because I pulled up --
40 the one I have is different than the one you have.
41 What I mean is mine is off the web, yours has got that
42 letterhead. So, no, I didn't send it out to the RAC
43 members.

44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: And then I
46 called you on that, and we were -- oh, yeah. I said to
47 put this on the agenda. Okay. So did you answer that?
48 Remember this letter? I think they were.....

49
50 MR. MATHEWS: No, I did not. I did not

1 answer the letter. But you wanted to know, was there
2 any Alaskan villages involved in the planning process
3 and that's why I pulled up that big, long report,
4 because it listed none in there. That would -- you
5 asked on the Canadian harvest plan. And it showed that
6 no villages or tribes in Alaska were part of that
7 process. So that's where I stopped. If that answers
8 your question. So I didn't respond to the letter of
9 June 12th, 2009.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. So at
12 any rate, I was just letting the Council know, I got
13 that -- this copy of this letter that you have, it was
14 sent to me as the RAC Chair. And then we didn't
15 respond to it. So if there's anything in it a Council
16 member thinks we should do an action item on, just let
17 me know, because that letter was sent to us as a RAC.
18 That letter was sent to us. Yeah.

19

20 MR. MATHEWS: Well, the only thing I
21 know of, and Beth touched upon it, and I was hoping
22 Refuge Staff was here, because a lot of issues go
23 through my mind, but all of them say the same thing,
24 that they wanted that international board to be
25 reactivated. And I didn't get the right name. I'll
26 have to dig through here, the right name, but there was
27 a feeling, and I think that had a relationship to the
28 question she brought up on funding. Not that this
29 board had any money, but it was to get that going again
30 so there could be some sharing of resources. But again
31 the Refuge is not here. I'm speculating on that, but
32 they both mention that, to get that international board
33 going.

34

35 And then you were interested in it,
36 because of the international component of the
37 Shashanare (ph). But how they got your address, I have
38 no idea.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, because
41 you're saying your letter is different than this, the
42 one I got?

43

44 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah. So I don't know
45 how they got your address. I think it's very good that
46 they're looking across the border at an entity that
47 covers the region. I think that's very good. But.....

48

49 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well,
50 it's just that if I get a letter that I don't realize

1 that you didn't get a copy of, then I think it's
2 important that the RAC members know I got that letter.
3 So if you see some -- well, when I call you on that, I
4 guess you need to make sure that they get a copy of it.

5

6 MR. MATHEWS: Okay.

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: They're getting
9 it now, but I'd just like to make sure.....

10

11 MR. MATHEWS: No, I understand.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER:that they
14 get a copy of it.

15

16 MR. MATHEWS: I understand. And that
17 way your records, your official records, like we're
18 digging back into 2006, and et cetera, on other issues,
19 then your records are current. It was easy when you
20 told me that you wanted that letter from the Secretary,
21 then I could find it, because it was in the files. If
22 this isn't in the files, then no one's going to find
23 it.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So do you need
26 a copy of this from me?

27

28 MR. MATHEWS: No, if this is the same
29 one. I'll look over your shoulder.

30

31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: It's the exact
32 same letter.

33

34 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah. Okay.

35

36 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
37 All right. I think we're back to bringing Barbara
38 forward again.

39

40 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
41 The Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence Resource Commission
42 is an advisory body similar to the RAC in that it
43 advises the management of Wrangell-St. Elias National
44 Park on subsistence issues. There are nine members of
45 the SRC. Three are appointed by the Governor, three
46 are appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, and
47 there's one member each appointed by the Southeast,
48 Southcentral and Eastern Interior RAC.

49

50 So I'm here today before you to request

1 action on your appointment to the Wrangell-St. Elias
2 Subsistence Resource Commission.

3

4 ANILCA is very specific about who is
5 eligible for RAC appointments. They need to be either
6 a member of the RAC, as your current appointee, Sue
7 Entsminger, is, or a member of a local AC. So there's
8 a very small pool of candidates.

9

10 I've talked to Sue and Sue's interested
11 in continuing to serve, at least the last time I talked
12 to her.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Things changed.

15

16 MS. CELLARIUS: And I do have a member
17 of the Upper Tanana Fortymile AC who would also be
18 interested in being a candidate in the position. I
19 actually did not prepare a whole lot about Sue's
20 background because you're very familiar with her.
21 She's a member of the SRC, I think you've -- it's one
22 term that you've done on the SRC and you've.....

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

25

26 MS. CELLARIUS:been on the RAC
27 for a number of years, and I don't know if you want to
28 say anything.

29

30 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I'm very
31 interested because this is an area where my family
32 participates. I've been attending the meetings,
33 Barbara, probably before you even came to the Park.
34 Because when ANILCA, or actually it started when ANILCA
35 started and I've been attending most of the meetings, I
36 didn't get to all of them and we're very interested in
37 what's happening. Did you say you have a question, I
38 see your hand raised there.

39

40 MR. BASSICH: I'd like to make a motion
41 to nominate Sue Entsminger to continue her position as
42 SRC member for St. Elias Wrangells.

43

44 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Any discussion.

47

48 MS. CELLARIUS: Madam Chair.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes.

1 MS. CELLARIUS: Do you want me to give
2 you three sentences about the other possible
3 candidates?

4
5 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Council
6 members.

7
8 MR. BASSICH: As part of the discussion
9 that's fine.

10
11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.
12

13 MS. CELLARIUS: Patricia Young was born
14 and raised in Alaska. She spent most of her early
15 years in the Upper Tanana Region. She left in 1999 to
16 start college in Oregon and eventually got a degree in
17 anthropology from UAF in 1997. She's the Tetlin
18 Village environmental coordinator. She serves as the
19 Tetlin representative on the Upper Tanana Fortymile AC.
20 She also participates in a number of traditional
21 harvests of local resources. She specifically mentions
22 whitefish and Copper River salmon, picking berries in
23 the Upper Tanana River valley and towards Mentasta.
24 And I'll stop there.

25
26 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Discussion,
27 Council members. Go ahead, Andy.

28
29 MR. BASSICH: I guess the only
30 discussion point that I have is I feel like since I've
31 been on the Council here we've gotten very accurate,
32 very good reporting from you and because you seem to be
33 very passionate about the game issues in that area you
34 seem to keep our positions alive there as well as
35 keeping us very well informed of what's going on in
36 that region. And I think you do a good job of it. I
37 also think that having an Eastern RAC member there
38 eliminates some of the cost of travel and other issues
39 that can sometime be associated with getting people to
40 meetings and I think it's very important to have these
41 reports come. And I'd like to talk to the other SRC
42 position after we're done with this.

43
44 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
45 other discussion.

46
47 MR. GLANZ: Call the question.

48
49 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Question's been
50 called for. I'm not voting. All in favor.

1 IN UNISON: Aye.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
4
5 (No opposing votes)
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Thank you. Go
8 ahead, Andy.
9
10 MR. BASSICH: The other issue that I
11 have is that I can't in recent time remember even
12 seeing or hearing from our SRC from Denali Park and I'm
13 wondering what's going on there and if we need to maybe
14 look at reappointing to someone who's going to show up
15 and give us a report or what's going on there.
16
17 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Since
18 Barbara's here for Denali I guess she's going to have
19 to take that back and bring us a report.
20
21 MR. BASSICH: Well, Madam Chair, I
22 guess, Vince, who's our SRC for Denali?
23
24 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. The history behind
25 that SRC for Denali is Paul Starr for Tanana. And the
26 reason Tanana was petitioning the Park Service was
27 petitioning the Park Service to become a resident zone
28 community so there's a long battle to get that done.
29
30 The other thing is, in defense of Mr.
31 Starr, he'd have to be funded by someone to come here.
32 So not being at their SRC meetings, I think the SRC's
33 probably thinking the Park Service is bringing that
34 information to you and I'm not sure the last time the
35 SRC met for Denali.
36
37 So anyway you need information back, I
38 don't know if Mr. Starr could pull that off to provide
39 his travel, for that part.
40
41 MR. BASSICH: Madam Chair. I think
42 that it's something that this Council needs to look
43 into. I seem to remember the very first Council
44 meeting that I attended, which I believe was in Wasilla
45 at the tri-RAC we voted, or reappointed that position,
46 and I can't honestly ever remember hearing any report,
47 certainly not in person from that member, so maybe it's
48 something we need to get addressed and get a little bit
49 better participation and reporting.
50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. And do
2 you feel the request to go to Denali is sufficient or
3 how would you like to deal with it?
4
5 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, just start there.
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay.
8
9 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I think that would
10 be appropriate, let's start there and get some feedback
11 and maybe at the next meeting we can have this as a
12 point on the agenda to talk about and make some
13 decisions for possibly reappointing that position.
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Go
16 ahead, Virgil.
17
18 MR. UMPHENOUR: Or if he's going to
19 those meetings but then they don't fund him to come to
20 our meeting, we should request that they fund to have
21 the person come to our meeting to participate.
22
23 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: The Park should
24 if they.....
25
26 MR. MATHEWS: It would have to be the
27 Park Service. It's real difficult, not the money part,
28 just figuring out how this all phases together.
29 Meaning -- I'll just leave it at that.
30
31 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: What we ought
32 to do, Andy, is look at the subsistence resident zone
33 community of that Park and look at if there's anyone on
34 our Council that can represent and then -- yeah, at any
35 rate if that's the case -- or the other thing, I think,
36 is look at the guy's participation, if he's
37 participating then he needs to have a means to be able
38 to get to us and if we have to do teleconference. I
39 mean you can see that our meeting is full of all kinds
40 of things and he would be just sitting here and then it
41 would just come up, a small portion of the meeting. We
42 just want to make contact with Mr. Starr, I think, that
43 we're very interested in hearing his, you know,
44 participation and what's going on at SRC.
45
46 Yes, go ahead, Vince.
47
48 MR. MATHEWS: I've already checked with
49 Amy and the Chair of the SRC, Ray Collins, because he's
50 the Vice Chair for Western Interior and Mr. Starr is a

1 regular attendee at the Denali SRC. I just don't know
2 he knows to communicate and then he has to be provided
3 means to do that.

4

5 So what you could do is we could
6 contact Mr. Starr -- I could contact him and.....

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Tell him that
9 we're real interested in what's going on at the SRC and
10 how it would work for him to participate with us. Go
11 ahead Andy.

12

13 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I think the
14 teleconference method is fine, I think that's a great
15 solution given the fact that it's difficult to ask
16 somebody to travel for many days for a 10 minute
17 presentation or whatever, and I'm very aware of that
18 burden on a lot of people. So I'd be happy with a
19 teleconference, but we need some follow through so that
20 we are getting reporting.

21

22 That's the only point I'm trying to
23 make.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Barbara.

26

27 MS. CELLARIUS: So I will pass this
28 message on to Amy as well.

29

30 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Great. Now,
31 did we miss anything on this agenda.

32

33 Vince, go for it.

34

35 MR. MATHEWS: We did, and my notes are
36 old, I had down here the Fortymile Caribou Herd working
37 group, you're already in that, you all are attending,
38 if they want some type of appointment to that it'll
39 come up at your next meeting, if they want a standing
40 appointment, I don't know how that's going to work that
41 harvest group.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But I guess I
44 was looking at -- what is it Virgil.

45

46 MR. UMPHENOUR: Board of Fish.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Report.

49

50 MR. UMPHENOUR: Madam Chair. We need

1 to have someone represent the RAC at the Board of Fish
2 meeting in Fairbanks in January and I will be
3 representing Fairbanks AC and Andy will be representing
4 the Eagle AC so we need someone else to represent the
5 RAC at the Board of Fish meeting.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Andrew,
8 are you willing to do this?

9

10 MR. FIRMIN: I can try and make it this
11 time.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay, what you
14 need to do is if you can't make it you need to let
15 Vince know so that there's an alternative. Okay.
16 Because that one down there at the National Marine
17 Fisheries, I might have tried to do that.

18

19 MR. FIRMIN: Well, I figured that out
20 last night. I didn't realize there was a holiday that
21 Monday, it was Alaska Day or something and it's still
22 -- it stuck up the mail process for a day and that was
23 why I wasn't able to go that morning, I just couldn't
24 see crossing two mountain ranges with \$10 in my pocket,
25 I was waiting for my paycheck.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. Yeah, so
28 if you'd give us a head's up soon enough it's possible
29 somebody else could go. And, Bill.

30

31 MR. GLANZ: I'll volunteer to be the
32 alternate for that meeting at the State Board.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That's great.
35 That's great.

36

37 Could you put a skirt on if that girl
38 doesn't show up.

39

40 (Laughter)

41

42 MR. GLANZ: And not to change the
43 subject, but I told the fellows I'd be willing to
44 donate and buy her airplane ticket if she'll go testify
45 because she's better than 30 of us being there, you
46 know.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: She would be
49 great. We need her name and number and we need to make
50 sure if she's going or not going and then figure out

1 how we can get her there.
2
3 MR. GLANZ: Like I said I'll buy her a
4 ticket, a round-trip ticket for her if she'll go.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So do you hear
7 that you guys from Ft. Yukon, we want to send
8 Deborah.....
9
10 MR. FIRMIN: Deborah Van Dyke.
11
12 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER:Van Dyke.
13
14 MR. MATHEWS: Deborah Van Dyke, okay.
15
16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That's so
17 powerful.
18
19 MR. FIRMIN: The number's in the phone
20 book.
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: How about a
23 picture. I can tell you her being there is so vital.
24
25 MR. GLANZ: Especially if we can get
26 her to cry a little bit just when she's doing it.
27
28 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Just like the
29 Lower Yukon 70 people also do.
30
31 (Laughter)
32
33 MR. UMPHENOUR: Area M always at the
34 meetings would be crying women and kids to the meeting
35 to cry to the Board, I mean break down in tears that
36 they're going to starve to death and they are going to
37 go broke and all this other stuff.
38
39 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Stop.
40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR: And the Lower Yukon's
42 not above that either.
43
44 (Laughter)
45
46 MR. UMPHENOUR: But the Area M
47 fishermen always did that, they'd take off their big
48 gigantic gold and diamond jewelry and everything first
49 though.
50

1 (Laughter)

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: You better be
4 nice, please.

5

6 (Laughter)

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We're just --
9 we're getting tired here. Andy.

10

11 MR. BASSICH: Just to maybe elaborate a
12 little bit on what Virgil just said, having spent a
13 week or two weeks at North Pacific Fishery Management
14 Council meetings, one of the most powerful testimonies
15 last year came from a women from Old Crow who spent the
16 time to come down to that meeting in Anchorage and
17 testify and she had a very -- although not a good
18 enough impact to make a change, I think the change was
19 already made before we all showed up, but I heard a lot
20 of people talk about her testimony, and other Council
21 members, they talked about her testimony. So it does
22 have an impact and it is important that Council members
23 and Board members see other faces other than the
24 regulars.

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes,
27 absolutely. Vince, you have something to add.

28

29 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, just real quickly
30 and maybe Virgil can help with this -- and I can
31 provide it too, but it's easier for you to do it. Is
32 that the evening before or time before the Board of
33 Fish all you get together, compare notes, come up with
34 a strategy, it's the Democratic process, that's what
35 the Lower River's done. If you listen, each of the
36 presentations had a different writing of it, but had
37 the same central messages, et cetera, et cetera, you
38 guys could strategize what to do. I can help you with
39 that, but it'd be easier to maybe meet at Virgil's and
40 go over -- because there'll be new information by the
41 time you come to that meeting, and Virgil is your
42 information hound so he could brief you. But I can set
43 that up too. But that would help Andrew because
44 there's a lot of last minute stuff.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
47 right, we took care of that. Do you have anything
48 else, Bill.

49

50 MR. GLANZ: Yes. Can more than one of

1 us go, but I'd like to go or can only one go from our
2 seat, or how do we do that?
3
4 MR. MATHEWS: Well, aren't you the
5 Chair of the Central Advisory Committee?
6
7 MR. GLANZ: That's right, yeah, okay.
8
9 MR. MATHEWS: Well.....
10
11 MR. GLANZ: I'll get them.....
12
13 MR. MATHEWS:you eat fish.
14
15 MR. GLANZ: Okay. No problem there, I
16 didn't know -- okay, that sounds good, that's who I'll
17 go -- if he can't make it I'll go represent us,
18 otherwise I'll go as the Central AC.
19
20 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I hope you can
21 go, that would be great, Andrew.
22
23 MR. GLANZ: I can go too.
24
25 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Bug, again,
26 let's make sure that we cover all our basis.
27
28 MR. UMPHENOUR: Sue.
29
30 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes. Virgil.
31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, is the Central AC
33 going to send anyone?
34
35 MR. GLANZ: I think they're sending me.
36
37 (Laughter)
38
39 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay, good.
40
41 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well,
42 that's.....
43
44 MR. GLANZ: Actually I don't know if I
45 could get anybody to go, half of them are so hard of
46 hearing they won't even go to meetings anymore other
47 than to -- all they say is uh, what, what'd he say.
48
49 (Laughter)
50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: What are you
2 telling us, that's a prerequisite to live there?

3
4 (Laughter)

5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
7 right.

8
9 MR. MATHEWS: The other appointment you
10 would have, if it's an appointment, is we have a
11 Federal Board meeting, which the dates escape me,
12 January 12th, 13th and 14th. I don't know, Western
13 Interior's not sending anybody, they didn't see any
14 real need for it. I'd have to pull up what the items
15 are on the agenda. I think -- well, it's the Fisheries
16 Resource Monitoring Plans, it's the special action
17 regulations.

18
19 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Didn't I hear
20 Chuck say that there was no action going to take place,
21 it was mostly reports.

22
23 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah, pretty much. But I
24 mean you could still go and that way you can talk to
25 the other Chairs. It's up to you. I'm not
26 discouraging you. I'm just saying what you've done
27 today is not going to be on that agenda.

28
29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: When's that
30 meeting again?

31
32 MR. MATHEWS: On the top of my head
33 it's January 12th, 13th and 14th. I'll have to look at
34 my calendar which is losing its power here. Page 65,
35 doesn't that lay it all out, I think it does.

36
37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: But the
38 calendar's not there to look at.

39
40 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, it's the 12th
41 through 14th, deliberations are on special action,
42 resource monitoring and vote on wildlife closures. So
43 it's up to you if you want to send somebody to there
44 and if you do I need to know who.

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay, Council
47 members, I do have a January calendar here. And those
48 dates again are.

49
50 MR. MATHEWS: January 12th through the

1 14th.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That's the
4 meeting.
5
6 MR. MATHEWS: That's the meeting.
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: January 12th
9 through the 14th.
10
11 MR. MATHEWS: That's the Federal Board,
12 and then of course you have the Board of Fish and then
13 you're going to have your RAC Meeting and then you're
14 going to have the Board of Game meeting.
15
16 MR. GLANZ: When's the fish meeting.
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: 12th to the
19 14th.
20
21 MR. GLANZ: The fish meeting, okay.
22
23 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: What fish
24 meeting are you talking about, you mean the Federal
25 Board?
26
27 MR. GLANZ: Yes. Yes.
28
29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, the 12th
30 through the 14th, right.
31
32 MR. MATHEWS: Yes.
33
34 MR. FIRMIN: That's the Federal
35 Subsistence Board.
36
37 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. And it's
38 really more just being able to talk to other Council
39 Chairs, I guess. So you say Western decided not to
40 send anyone?
41
42 MR. MATHEWS: Correct.
43
44 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Did any of the
45 other Councils decide not to send anyone?
46
47 MR. MATHEWS: I don't know, I didn't
48 get any input on that from the other regions. Western
49 was looking at balancing all these other Board meetings
50 and it being 30, 40, 50 below.

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Man your life
2 can get pretty used up as a volunteer.
3
4 MR. GLANZ: Just think if they paid us.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, they
7 could pay us big bucks. So do we want to send anyone,
8 question number 1.
9
10 MR. UMPHENOUR: To the Federal
11 Subsistence Board.
12
13 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: On the 12th,
14 13th and 14th of January when they're not taking any
15 action on anything, it's just going to be a sit in more
16 than anything.
17
18 Virgil, does that -- oh, I thought you
19 were ready to talk.
20
21 Do we want to send anyone.
22
23 MR. GLANZ: That's down in Anchorage,
24 though, probably.
25
26 MR. UMPHENOUR: It probably wouldn't
27 hurt for someone to go, but I can't go, I'll be out of
28 town doing something, I have previous commitments.
29
30 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: I wish there
31 was an airport by my house, it's a six hour drive for
32 me. I don't mind going when it's a lot of our issues.
33 Anybody else want to give up their life for that one.
34
35 MR. GLANZ: It's a many hour drive from
36 Central for me so.....
37
38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah, but you
39 could fly from Fairbanks.
40
41 MR. GLANZ: Well, I could fly my own
42 plane down there but you never know at that time of
43 year.
44
45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Well,
46 you think it doesn't hurt, Virgil?
47
48 MR. UMPHENOUR: I think it's good that
49 they see your face there.
50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
2
3 MR. UMPHENOUR: And they know that
4 you're keyed in to what's going on.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: It keeps them --
9 keeping your thumb on the pulse.
10
11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So that's a
12 three day meeting.
13
14 MR. MATHEWS: Yes. And we've, in the
15 past, have targeted a day and, you know, you wouldn't
16 have to be there all three days but that's an option.
17 If you're only going for the Chair's discussion that
18 would be the first day, January 12th. I mean it saves
19 everybody money if you don't go all three days, but if
20 you want to stay three days we have funding for it.
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Who am I saving
23 money for?
24
25 MR. MATHEWS: Well, for.....
26
27 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Us?
28
29 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah. Well, yes, it all
30 comes out of the same pot, the travel money. If you're
31 only there for two days, that's less than four days.
32
33 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: What are you
34 telling us, we're on a quota now, how much money we can
35 spend?
36
37 MR. MATHEWS: No, no, no, no, I'm just
38 saying.....
39
40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay, well,
41 then I guess it's not an issue then is it?
42
43 MR. MATHEWS: No, it's not, I'm just
44 saying.....
45
46 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: We're saving
47 the government money is what you're telling me?
48
49 MR. MATHEWS: I'm saying you don't have
50 to stay there all three days if there's not topics,

1 that's an option.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay. I guess
4 I'm telling you that I'm going to keep it open. I'm
5 willing to probably go down there.

6

7 MR. UMPHENOUR: Sue, I want to say
8 something.

9

10 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: As long if it's
11 not 50 below.

12

13 MR. UMPHENOUR: What I think, under the
14 Chair's concerns and comments, they're going to have
15 that. I think you should bring up the discussion we
16 had with that letter, you know, from three years ago
17 and then point out say with what the Yukon Flats Refuge
18 is doing and that we'd like to have a report on what
19 all these Refuges are doing to build a baseline so that
20 they could, you know.....

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right.

23

24 MR. UMPHENOUR:so that they're
25 participating in the process to eventually have -- be
26 able to manage predators on the Refuge so that we can
27 provide reasonable opportunity for subsistence.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: That wasn't the
30 wording for us. Ours is to provide opportunity, the
31 State is reasonable.

32

33 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay.

36

37 MR. UMPHENOUR: So the people can go
38 get stuff to eat.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Right.

41

42 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Well, that's a
45 good point, Virgil, I appreciate that. And yes I would
46 be -- I'm willing to do that. And if I see a need to
47 stay a couple days longer I might do that, but if not I
48 might just get in my car and go home. But to share
49 those concerns, that's very important to me and to the
50 Council and I'd be willing to do that.

1 So did we cover that?
2
3 MR. MATHEWS: Yes.
4
5 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay.
6
7 MR. GLANZ: One question. Me and Andrew
8 want to know the exact dates of the fish, when we got
9 to be in for that?
10
11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: The Fish Board
12 meeting?
13
14 MR. GLANS: Yes.
15
16 MR. MATHEWS: January 26th through the
17 31st. Virgil has it in that book right there, a couple
18 pages in, but it's January 26th through the 31st at the
19 Princess I believe.
20
21 MR. UMPHENOUR: Princess Hotel January
22 26th through the 31st.
23
24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: So basically
25 they only need to be there like how many days?
26
27 MR. UMPHENOUR: They need to be there
28 three days at least.
29
30 MR. GLANZ: Okay.
31
32 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andy, I'm going
33 to give you this unless you have one.....
34
35 MR. GLANZ: I have one at the house
36 already.
37
38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER:does
39 Andrew have one -- hand that one to Andrew because I
40 have -- okay for Bill and Andrew, the 26th is a
41 Tuesday, so Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, three days.
42
43 Okay.
44
45 MR. GLANZ: Okay, that's covered.
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Anything else.
48
49 (No comments)
50

1 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All right,
2 we're down to -- in your book there's correspondence
3 received and sent on Page 82 if anybody has any
4 questions on that they can talk to Vince on the phone I
5 think.

6
7 And now we're down to Council member
8 closing comments. Who would like to go first.

9
10 MR. GLANZ: I'll go ahead and go first.

11
12 (Laughter)

13
14 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay, and
15 then we'll go to Andrew.

16
17 (Laughter)

18
19 MR. GLANZ: Well, I didn't know if
20 Andrew wanted to go first.

21
22 (Laughter)

23
24 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay, go ahead.

25
26 MR. GLANZ: I'd just like to thank all
27 the Staff for showing up here and all the local
28 participation and also the hard leg work that Vince
29 Mathews has to put in for this meeting, it must be
30 pretty confusing, a lot of running around. And I think
31 we got a lot of stuff done and I hope we see more
32 participation at these local communities like we had
33 here at this one, which we have not seen, folks, in a
34 long time.

35
36 So thank you very much.

37
38 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

39
40 MR. FIRMIN: Well, as always these
41 meetings are very informational, educational. I always
42 learn a lot from them and I don't know I think we were
43 fairly productive this time. Set our sights for our
44 next meeting. And like Bill said, I appreciate the
45 local involvement. And like you said, too, it'd be
46 great to see more of that in the future.

47
48 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

49
50 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I want to thank

1 the people of Ft. Yukon for their hospitality and the
2 good snacks and food here that's been brought in and
3 the input. Thank the Staff for their participation and
4 input. I think we had a pretty productive meeting.
5 And I want to really encourage the people from Ft.
6 Yukon, they need to get a minimum of three people to
7 that Board of Fish meeting and they have to plan on
8 staying a minimum of three days, it'd be better if they
9 could stay at least four, so you could look those Board
10 members eyeball -- look them right in the eye, eyeball
11 to eyeball with them in the committee process and then
12 in deliberations, but that's very, very important.

13

14 That's all I have, thank you.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Andy.

17

18 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madam Chair.

19 I need to echo what Virgil just said and also thank the
20 people of Ft. Yukon and all their participation here.
21 It was very refreshing to see that turnout and to hear
22 the comments from the people and I know Mabel's not
23 here but we've got to thank Mabel for all the hard work
24 she's doing feeding us.....

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Yes.

27

28 MR. BASSICH:keeping us sitting
29 at the table with full bellies. And thank you to the
30 Staff, I know it's really hard for many of these people
31 to show up and sit and sit and sit for their 10 or 15
32 minutes, and a lot of them do it. Most of them have
33 baled by now, lucky for them, but it's.....

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: They're missing
36 all our comments.

37

38 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, but hopefully at
39 the same time they'll read them or hear them or get
40 them passed on to them, but I do appreciate how hard
41 that can be for them to do that.

42

43 So thank you.

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Frank.

46

47 MR. GURTLER: Yes, I'd like to thank
48 Ft. Yukon for putting us up here and feeding and the
49 hospitality and all of the -- I could see your interest
50 in your way of life, that you'd like to make it a

1 little easier on yourself with more food in the
2 freezer, more fish, a traditional lifestyle, a
3 traditional way of life, I don't call that subsistence,
4 you know, but I'm going to call it the traditional way
5 of life, a better way in future years. And thank the
6 Staff and everything for this meeting and I enjoyed it,
7 and I'm learning a lot and I've got a long ways to go
8 yet, but, thank you.

9
10 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Thank you. And
11 I want to reiterate all the comments also and actually
12 I would like to request that we send a letter, I think
13 we've done that in the past, to the Council and thank
14 Mabel and thank Hannah for cooking, she brought
15 biscuits twice, that was just so special, and for her
16 -- I don't know if we can send her a special little
17 thank you, maybe we could all sign it or something
18 because I just think that was a wonderful little touch
19 that she gave us here and it's greatly appreciated.
20 She's being our grandma while we're in Ft. Yukon, I
21 really appreciate that of her.

22
23 So I want to, again, Vince, you do a
24 great job and appreciate you keeping us -- all these
25 letters going and all this stuff that you need to do
26 for us and please keep doing it, you're doing a great
27 job.

28
29 Thank everybody. Thank you guys, you
30 guys are a great group to work with, I really
31 appreciate you all.

32
33 So I don't think I'm missing too much,
34 sometimes I do, but it's time to make a motion.

35
36 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adjourn.

37
38 MR. BASSICH: Second.

39
40 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: All in favor.

41
42 IN UNISON: Aye.

43
44 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay, we're
45 adjourned.

46
47 MR. BASSICH: You didn't ask if
48 anybody was opposed.

49
50 (Laughter)

1 MR. FIRMIN: Oh, I think you'd have a
2 hard time finding one.

3
4 (Laughter)

5
6 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Anybody
7 opposed.

8
9 (No comments)

10
11 CHAIRWOMAN ENTSMINGER: Okay, just for
12 the record.

13
14 (Laughter)

15
16 (Off record)

17
18 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public in and for the state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC do hereby certify:

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THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by under my direction and reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and ability;

THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 26th day of October 2009.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 9/16/10