

1 EASTERN INTERIOR FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
3
4 PUBLIC MEETING
5
6 VOLUME I
7
8 Fairbanks, Alaska
9 February 24, 2010
10 8:30 o'clock a.m.
11
12
13 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:
14
15 Sue Entsminger, Chairman
16 Grafton Biederman
17 Lester Erhart
18 Andrew Firmin
19 William Glanz
20 Frank Gurtler
21 Virgil Umphenour
22 Donald Woodruff
23
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27 Regional Council Coordinator, Robert Larson (Acting)
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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Fairbanks, Alaska - 2/24/2010)

(On record)

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, good morning everyone. Welcome to the Eastern Interior RAC meeting. So to get my head all focused here, I want to welcome everyone and we had an interesting meeting yesterday and it -- I hope that we can all be respectful and do a good job for the resource and for the people that use the resource.

Now I'd like to ask you all to stand right now and Frank Gurtler to give the invocation. Did you chicken out?

(Laughter)

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're it. You're it. Come on Frank, you can do this. Okay. Yes. Turn your mic on.

MR. GURTLER: I ask the Father to give us strength in these meetings and come out with positive thoughts on this and on -- and for the people of the fisheries and game. And hope everyone is -- have this in mind. In the Lord's name, amen.

Thank you.

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Amen. Thank you, Frank. Okay. So the roll call. And that -- and I want to introduce Robert Larson, he is our coordinator, he's filling in for the position until they hire someone. He actually is the regional coordinator for Southeast, he's the only coordinator that does not work for OSM, he works for the Forest Service. And I guess they put him in that position because most of the land in Southeast is Forest Service land is my understanding.

MR. LARSON: That's right.

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, uh-huh. So I'll introduce you all to Robert and he can do our roll call.

MR. LARSON: Good morning. Susan Entsminger.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Here.
2
3 MR. LARSON: Andrew Firmin.
4
5 MR. FIRMIN: Here.
6
7 MR. LARSON: Grafton Biederman.
8
9 (No response)
10
11 MR. LARSON: Lester Erhart.
12
13 MR. ERHART: Here.
14
15 MR. LARSON: Andrew Bassich.
16
17 (No response)
18
19 MR. LARSON: William Glanz.
20
21 MR. GLANZ: Here.
22
23 MR. LARSON: Frank Gurtler.
24
25 MR. GURTLER: Here.
26
27 MR. LARSON: Donald Woodruff.
28
29 MR. WOODRUFF: Here.
30
31 MR. LARSON: Virgil Umphenour.
32
33 MR. UMPHENOUR: Here.
34
35 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair, we have a
36 quorum.
37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
39 you, Robert. So now it's the introduction of the Agency
40 Staff and honored guests. And I guess the best thing to
41 do is just -- Salena, do they need to come up?
42
43 REPORTER: It's fine, I'll turn one of
44 these on out here.
45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I guess not,
47 okay, she can take care of it. Just go around the room
48 and introduce yourself and your position. Chuck.
49
50 MR. ARDIZZONE: Good morning. I'm Chuck

1 Ardizzone, I'm the lead wildlife biologist in the Office
2 of Subsistence Management. You're going to get sick of
3 hearing my voice today, but I'm here presenting a bunch
4 of your proposals.

5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Aren't you --
7 aren't you also the coordinator -- I don't know what the
8 position is, between the State.....

9
10 MR. ARDIZZONE: Liaison.

11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:liaison
13 between the State and the Federal?

14
15 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes, ma'am.

16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.

18
19 MR. PAPPAS: George Pappas, Department of
20 Fish and Game. I'm the fisheries liaison for the
21 Department of Subsistence Management.

22
23 MS. CELLARIUS: Barb Cellarius,
24 subsistence coordinator for Wrangell-St. Elias National
25 Park and Preserve out of Copper Center.

26
27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong. I'm
28 the chief of the anthropology division at OSM and filling
29 in for Liz Williams who was the anthropologist serving
30 this Council and she has moved down to -- back home to
31 Louisiana. So we have hired a new anthropologist and
32 I'll let you -- him introduce himself down at the other
33 end.

34
35 MR. JACKSON: My name's David Jackson,
36 I'm the new anthropologist for OSM. And I've been here
37 all of a week.

38
39 (Laughter)

40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Welcome.

42
43 MS. HYER: I'm Karen Hyer, I'm the
44 statistician for OSM.

45
46 MS. GRONQUIST: Ruth Gronquist, I'm a
47 wildlife biologist with the Bureau of Land Management,
48 Eastern Interior Field Office. Our offices are in
49 Fairbanks.

50

1 MR. SHARP: Good morning. I'm Dave
2 Sharp, Bureau of Land Management.
3
4 MR. RISDAHL: Greg Risdahl, I'm the
5 deputy manager of Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge.
6
7 MR. EASTLAND: Warren Eastland, I'm the
8 wildlife biologist for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And welcome
11 everyone, I'm sure we'll see some new faces during the
12 meeting and if people can help me we'll have them
13 introduce themselves as they come in.
14
15 All right. One second. As far as the
16 roll call is concerned, Andy Bassich is excused and
17 Grafton.....
18
19 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes.
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:is here.
22 So let the record show that Grafton is here. Good to see
23 you this morning, Grafton.
24
25 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes. Good morning.
26
27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Good morning.
28 Now it is time -- I think we're going to start with
29 Virgil, the Regional Council member concerns.
30
31 So, Grafton, you can think about this
32 because we'll -- it'll come to you at the end there.
33 Since you're a new member you can get a feel for things.
34
35 Virgil.
36
37 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you, Madam Chair.
38 While we've been addressing most of my concerns the last
39 couple of months the fishery issues on the Yukon,
40 specifically the chinook salmon, however I do have
41 concerns with the chum salmon as well.
42
43 The Area M fishery which is a purely
44 intercept fishery, they're not harvesting any local
45 stocks in the month of June and the first part of July.
46 That meeting was held last month, a State meeting and no
47 actions were taken, but it was -- I think someone said
48 this yesterday, I don't remember who, they caught or
49 harvested 1.7 million chum salmon in that fishery this
50 past year. Of that over 700,000 were in the June

1 fishery. There were a number of proposals before the
2 Board to expand that fishery by the people that
3 participate in it, however the Board did not -- they did
4 not have a full Board of Fisheries there, one of the
5 people left after a day and a half and so it was hard to
6 get any votes passed, and we were lucky, none of those
7 proposals passed.

8
9 However there was one proposal that had
10 been amended by a group of people that got together there
11 that I participated in, I was representing the Fairbanks
12 Advisory Committee at that meeting and we wanted to
13 restrict one gear group, the seiners, who caught over
14 half a million chum salmon in the Shumagin Islands and,
15 in fact, they caught more chum salmon than the targeted
16 species which is sockeye. And that fishery -- we wanted
17 to restrict that fishery, however because we were short
18 a board member nothing got done at that meeting
19 basically. But a lot of genetic data that was done back
20 in the '90s and studies that go back to the '20s,
21 indicate that at times as high as 25 percent of the fish
22 that they're harvesting there are Yukon River bound and
23 they're primarily our fall chums, not the summer fishery.
24 And so that's a major concern to me.

25
26 And my other major concern and this has
27 been addressed at every one of our meetings, is lack of
28 management of predators on federal lands. I know that we
29 can't really do much about it on the Park Service lands,
30 but we can on the other lands. I know Yukon Flats has
31 started the process for predator management there and I
32 would like to see all the wildlife refuges in the State
33 do the same thing.

34
35 Thank you, Madam Chair.

36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
38 Virgil.

39
40 Go ahead, Andrew.

41
42 MR. FIRMIN: Hi, my name's Andrew Firmin.
43 And a lot of the -- I know we -- fish has always been a
44 big issue for us and I recently went to the Board of Fish
45 meeting and it seemed like we actually made some headway
46 there. It was a real eye opener for me because I've I've
47 never been to a Board of Fish meeting before. But I'm
48 actually glad to talk about wildlife proposals for a
49 change at this meeting.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead, Frank.

4

5 MR. GURTLER: Yes, I have some concerns.
6 We had a discussion here yesterday about traditional use
7 and customary trade and, you know, they were talking
8 about one person getting so many fish and buying a new
9 pickup, you know. And I just heard that through the
10 grapevine, it's -- and I don't know if that's true or not
11 and here we're trying to base facts on that. And I
12 really don't think we should try and base facts on
13 hearsay unless they actually have a case against the
14 people that's doing it. And my concern is we get to
15 making these regulations against us, the people on the
16 Yukon, when the economy is so low and we're trying to
17 make enough money for a pot of coffee -- can of coffee or
18 some beans and rice. And we're having a hard enough
19 problem without anybody coming in and making laws on
20 customary trade or traditional use or whatever we did in
21 the past, we've been doing that for centuries. I
22 remember people selling bales of fish to the NC Company,
23 throwing them on the steamer Nenana, coming up the Yukon,
24 big barge loads of fish from all the villages. And
25 that's where they got their money to buy coffee and tea
26 and beans and it's still that way because this economy's
27 so bad out in the Bush right now we're -- they're having
28 a hard time and then we sit here and we talk about these
29 people and make regulations to hurt the -- what they're
30 doing.

31

32 That's all I have to say. Thank you.

33

34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Frank. I
35 just want to tell you all that we -- if I hear an agenda
36 item I'm writing it down, so a lot of your concerns I'm
37 trying to put it into the agenda.

38

39 So go ahead, Bill.

40

41 MR. GLANZ: My name's Bill Glanz. Like
42 Andrew here, I'm finally getting onto game and I'm kind
43 of weak when it comes to the fishing stuff, but game I'm
44 pretty much into. As a matter of fact as far as game,
45 we've worked with the Fortymile Herd with the Feds, the
46 State and all our ACs surrounding that area are involved
47 with caribou and we're trying to get something set up
48 where we don't have a slaughter they call it. And we had
49 a -- it's still open as a matter of fact in our area,
50 they had like eight or 12 caribou killed, I think our

1 subsistence only killed three and they're all over our
2 roads when I came in yesterday or Monday.

3

4 And we had a real problem last fall, they
5 shut us down for 25C with the Fortymile. And then so I
6 was driving down the highway and I see them killing
7 caribou at -- on the -- be the -- well, it would be
8 northwest side. So I called Roy Nowlin, says, Roy,
9 they're killing Fortymile Caribou. Oh, no, no, no, he
10 says, those are Steese White Mountain. So I got in my
11 airplane and I follow -- I went -- from my house I went
12 northeast towards Eagle and there was caribou from all
13 over the place, hundreds of caribou, thousand caribou.
14 And oh, no, no, those -- and they were going right
15 through the Steese Highway and they were being shot the
16 minute they stepped over the Steese Highway. And they
17 finally shut that down. But Roy would not believe me.
18 So then we had a AC meeting the other day and they came
19 to me, the biologist for the State says well, you were
20 right, Bill, those were Fortymile Caribou.

21

22 So that's -- I rest my case from there
23 guys, but -- and Ruth will -- Gronquist there, she's been
24 a big aid to us in the Central area, help with the
25 caribou deal.

26

27 So thank you, Ruth.

28

29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, go ahead,
30 Lester.

31

32 MR. ERHART: Oh, yeah, my concern is
33 mostly with the fish on the Yukon and I'm kind of like
34 Virgil, I'm worried about that Area M because we use a
35 lot of fall chums and I didn't hear about it until later
36 this winter. And so with the king salmon too. That's
37 mostly my concern.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Lester.
42 Go ahead, Donald.

43

44 MR. WOODRUFF: This is Don Woodruff from
45 Eagle. There was some discussion yesterday about
46 customary trade and I think I've got some ideas about how
47 to maybe facilitate some record of how that can function
48 in a proper fashion.

49

50 And bycatch for me is a big issue because

1 it seems to me that unless there's a -- and I know that
2 we're going to send a letter -- a joint letter from both
3 RACs, but if bycatch is as much as the subsistence catch
4 on the whole Yukon, which seems to be the case, then
5 that's one thing that we can actually facilitate to
6 control. We can't change the weather and a bunch of
7 other factors, but we can definitely try to cut back on
8 the bycatch.

9
10 And I know, Virgil, this Area M for the
11 chinook, there were -- they set up some saving areas that
12 they wouldn't target and maybe those islands that you
13 spoke of could also be set up as a saving area. That
14 would be something to consider. Or we can send a letter
15 to suggest that maybe if all the chum are hanging out
16 right in that area that they would just leave those
17 alone. I know when I was on the YRDFA Board they
18 definitely did some research in the area -- M area where
19 the chinook live all summer, you know, or all -- you
20 know, all spring. And so those Area M fishermen would
21 get a bunch of those chinooks. And there -- so there's
22 a bunch of research done on the Area M and I don't know
23 how much was done on the chum, but I'd imagine the chum
24 and the chinook kind of hang in the area -- same areas.

25
26 And I know there's some families around
27 where I live that are definitely interested in predator
28 control, whether positive or negative and so I have to
29 give some feedback to those folks about what the future
30 would be for predator control on Federal land.

31
32 Thank you.

33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Grafton. Just
35 give us some of your concerns.

36
37 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, good morning. My
38 name's Grafton Biederman. I'm with the Venetie --
39 Venetie and Arctic Village. I'm off from the -- on the
40 Chandalar, maybe about 50 or 70 air miles from the Yukon
41 -- from Yukon.

42
43 And our -- I was just discussing with the
44 -- with the tribal village chief and a few of their
45 members on their council in Venetie and please excuse me,
46 I -- that's the reason how come I came in a few minutes
47 late, I was just -- I was having a teleconference with
48 them to give the -- to give the Venetie Village Council
49 chiefs some brief discussions on the matters on a few of
50 the RACs that we've been dealing with since the past two

1 days. And so that there are some really solid issues
2 that we should be dealing with, as with the fish and the
3 waters and right-of-ways, whether if it's dealing with
4 issues with the roadways or right-of-ways, with the
5 Fortymile Caribou and with the chum and coho salmon so
6 that with the State and Federal so we don't have to deal
7 with so many issues with the regulations with fish. Down
8 there in the headwaters where we fish, I mean, we have to
9 -- we have to regulate our time with State with pulling
10 our nets, with the same thing that we have to do with Ft.
11 Yukon, when the Fish and Game stops by and says pull out
12 your nets everybody else is doing it so that factor and
13 plus that with the -- out there with -- I see with eagles
14 that they have to stop and put their guns back inside
15 their trucks and say, you know, you can't hunt today
16 because it's a -- there's a regulation hour or regulation
17 day.

18
19 It's not the same thing as with Venetie,
20 in Venetie we just jump in our snow-go's and go out and
21 go hunt when we want to, but except for that when we go
22 out and hunt or we go out and fish we do it just for --
23 primarily just for the village, it's not for the -- just
24 for the households, it's for the whole Venetie household
25 or for a traditional use as they would say it. So I
26 think that's maybe my -- our concern in Venetie is that
27 we give out almost everything that we have in our
28 freezers that we take from the land or from the water.
29 So primarily everything in Venetie that we do is all for
30 subsistence and we don't just keep everything in our
31 freezers at home.

32
33 So I'd like to say that's what they --
34 I'd like to say that yes, that's what we had done, we
35 recorded it on the -- on tape when we was having our
36 little teleconference this morning with the Venetie
37 Tribal Council. And they told me just to express that.

38
39 Thank you.

40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
42 Grafton. It's interesting how Alaska's tied together.
43 My son went to high school with his niece in Tok and he's
44 originally from Eagle so it's kind of fun to -- and you
45 actually went to high school in Tok for a few years?

46
47 MR. BIEDERMAN: (Nods affirmatively)

48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, so kind of
50 a small state in one sense of the way.

1 I see that two more people came in that
2 I'd like to have them introduce themselves. Or did --
3 yeah, Judy, I'll have Judy introduce herself first.

4
5 MS. PUTERA: Judy Putera, I'm the
6 wildlife biologist at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park.

7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Judy.

9
10 MR. JESS: And I'm Rob Jess, the Refuge
11 manager for Yukon Flats Refuge.

12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank you
14 guys. All right.

15
16 Next is my report. I went to a lot of
17 meetings here lately, I feel like I'm not getting any of
18 my work done. I was at the Federal Board meeting on
19 January 12th which it really only lasted one day, there
20 weren't any issues that were our issues, but if we had
21 Council concerns we had to go there. And then the -- I
22 brought up the thing with the predator control again.

23
24 And then we had this Chair's meeting with
25 the -- Pat Pourchot and the Secretary of the Interior for
26 the review of the subsistence program. And I --
27 yesterday we were handed out and you might not have it --
28 do you have that little folder, it's in there, there's a
29 review of the Federal Subsistence Program being done and
30 so all the comments, Pat put it on a list, there should
31 be a letter from Pat Pourchot, if you don't have it,
32 Andrew, I'll make sure you see it. And I guess I want
33 you guys to be reviewing that and considering if you have
34 any other things that you would add to that because we as
35 a Council could still talk about the review, if we see
36 anything that we need to change or suggest about the
37 Federal program that isn't in that thing, we might want
38 to do something from this Council.

39
40 And I guess the other thing that I asked
41 Pat about was there's a -- they're going to have a new
42 Chair and they took a list -- people had to put -- apply
43 for that. So I wanted to ask him yesterday and forgot
44 who -- is there a short list or whatever and if we could
45 -- the Councils could comment on it and he said we could.
46 So I don't have any new information on that, but I'd like
47 to -- maybe from Staff we'll figure that one out. No,
48 because it's through the Secretary of Interior. Yeah, I
49 might have to give him a call, but he -- I know that if
50 you guys have any interest in commenting on that, that's

1 what I learned.

2

3 We had two meetings actually, they had us
4 get together again. We had one meeting in December and
5 then we had the meeting at -- right after the Federal
6 Board meeting.

7

8 And then I'm on the SRC for the Wrangell-
9 St. Elias and I've been attending those meetings and I've
10 been attending the Upper Tanana Fortymile Advisory
11 Committee meetings to just try to keep up on all the
12 issues.

13

14 So that is all I have. If you guys have
15 any questions of me of anything that's -- any of these
16 meetings I'm attending, I know we're all -- you guys --
17 I wasn't able to go to the Board of Fish meetings and I'm
18 sure that -- that's awesome, Andrew, that you got to go
19 and get a heads up of what your future's like going to
20 meetings.

21

22 (Laughter)

23

24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So and
25 it's nice to -- for us all to share going to some of
26 these meetings because it gets overwhelming.

27

28 All right. We're now to the review and
29 adopt the agenda. And I just want to give you guys a
30 report that the Fish and Game biologist from Tok has
31 asked me for Friday morning to take up the -- his region
32 which is 20E. There's a Proposal 101 for moose in 20E
33 and Chisana Caribou, there's a Federal and State
34 proposal, and the Fortymile caribou -- which is 104 and
35 then the Fortymile Caribou is 105. So I -- we have a
36 pretty heavy agenda here and I'm thinking that if we come
37 to those we should delay them and do them when he's here.

38

39 And now do you guys have any corrections
40 or additions to the agenda, it's in your book on Page 2
41 and 3. And I actually put that review at the end of the
42 meeting before closing comments if we want to bring that
43 up and then see how we feel by then and if we have any
44 new information.

45

46 Virgil.

47

48 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I'd like to put on
49 the agenda the Board of Fisheries -- well, it's a court
50 case about Chitina. The State has -- had a court case

1 about Chitina and the judge ruled that the Board of
2 Fisheries in 2003 had misapplied criteria eight of the
3 eight criteria. Anyway the Board of -- so what has
4 happened is the court remanded this back to the Board of
5 Fisheries to come up with a definition of a subsistence
6 way of life.

7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. You don't
9 have to expound on it, we just put it in.

10
11 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. So I would like to
12 put that on the agenda to have a discussion on that.....

13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR:court case and what
17 happened.

18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I'm looking
20 at the place that it could go. Is there someone in the
21 audience that -- I mean, this would be the State and I
22 was looking at -- either at ADF&G under Agency Reports or
23 under Fisheries Proposals, where would you like to put
24 it?

25
26 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, it -- it doesn't
27 make any difference.

28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, let's just
30 do it at ADF&G and then maybe we can try to find someone
31 to help us -- give us information on that.

32
33 Anyone else have an addition to the
34 agenda.

35
36 (No comments)

37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
39 Under the National Park Service, I'm just going to give
40 you a heads up, we're -- there's going to be an ORV
41 report. Yeah.

42
43 Okay. Do I hear a motion.

44
45 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt the agenda.

46
47 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.

48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sounds like it
50 came over there, I must be losing my hearing. Okay. It

1 -- motion's on the floor.
2
3 MR. FIRMIN: Second.
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any discussion.
6 We have two seconds now, Andrew, I didn't hear that
7 either, but Donald seconded. Yeah. Okay.
8
9 MR. GLANZ: Call for the question.
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All in favor say
12 aye.
13
14 IN UNISON: Aye.
15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
17
18 (No opposing votes)
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
21 approval of the minutes. Are we comfortable, did
22 everyone read them. We don't want to do what we did in
23 Ft. Yukon because there was a correction after we adopted
24 them. Do you guys want to read them, has anyone read
25 them?
26
27 MR. UMPHENOUR: I've read them.
28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.
30
31 MR. UMPHENOUR: All right. I've read the
32 minutes and reviewed them and I could not see any
33 mistakes or corrections that need to be taken and so I
34 move to adopt the minutes.
35
36 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.
37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Seconded by
39 Bill. Discussion.
40
41 (No comments)
42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I believe I
44 heard the discussion from Virgil. Any other discussion.
45
46 (No comments)
47
48 MR. WOODRUFF: Question.
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's

1 been called for. All in favor.

2

3 IN UNISON: Aye.

4

5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed
6 for the record.

7

8 (No opposing votes)

9

10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now this
11 is our process. We're going to review all of these
12 Federal proposals and if you look at number 7 under
13 review and make recommendations on wildlife proposals,
14 the presentation goes as -- procedure for proposals one
15 through 9. So I do want to make one announcement. If
16 you guys see a proposal that you don't even want to take
17 up, I mean, we could -- this is how we've been doing it.
18 We hear all this stuff and then we go through the
19 analysis and then we vote. So we had discussed that if
20 there's a proposal you don't even want to vote on, we
21 could take a motion to take no action, I guess, is the
22 better way of saying it or no motion at all to take it
23 up.

24

25 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chair.

26

27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

28

29 MR. GLANZ: We've -- actually most of
30 these we went over already once or twice and modified --
31 I mean, it's -- unless somebody's got a problem with some
32 of them, I don't know how else to go about it. Maybe the --
33 I mean, some of -- the State or something may have a
34 problem with some of them, I -- that's the problem, if
35 you follow what I'm saying.

36

37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I think we
38 need to take them up and go through the ones that we want
39 to vote on. But.....

40

41 MR. GLANZ: All right.

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:if there's
44 one in there that you just flat don't want to take action
45 on we'd save some time by not going through the analysis
46 is what I'm trying to say. So just look at that as we go
47 through them and keep that in mind, we might take a short
48 break and talk about something and you can see then how
49 we're thinking to move things along.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Robert
2 wanted to make a short announcement.

3
4 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. I wanted to
5 remind the members of the audience that there's a sign in
6 sheet in the back. I would like to have, you know, all
7 the people attending this meeting to sign in on a daily
8 basis. We can keep track of that.

9
10 I would also like to remind them that
11 there are blue cards in the back, if anybody would like
12 to address the Council, if they could fill out a blue
13 card and give it to me, we'll make time at whatever
14 portion of this meeting that you want to address.
15 There's a place on the blue card to -- so we can put you
16 in appropriately or you can speak actually out of turn at
17 whatever you want. So that's the process for public
18 comments.

19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's probably
21 a little more formal than we're used to. We do allow
22 people often to raise their hand in a meeting and if the
23 Chair calls on them they can come forward. And that's
24 still -- it's what -- as long as the Council's happy with
25 that, that's how it will continue to do so. If -- any
26 objections.

27
28 (No objections)

29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're
31 kind of trying to change procedure and move to adopt
32 first, but I don't see that we're used to that, correct,
33 we want to do it at the end. I want a consensus from you
34 guys. Do you want to have a move to adopt first or at
35 the end of the -- all analysis, all the reports?

36
37 MR. UMPHENOUR: The end.

38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're
40 going for the end, I -- it's a consensus because Virgil
41 said so. Everybody agree?

42
43 (Council nods affirmatively)

44
45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
46 Great. We'll go ahead with number 1, WP10-01, definition
47 of drawing permit.

48
49 Chuck.

50

1 MR. ARDIZZONE: Good morning, Madam
2 Chair. Council members. My name's Chuck Ardizzone for
3 the record. I think you'll get tired of hearing me talk
4 today, but I'm going to be presenting some of the
5 statewide proposals and the first one is WP10-01, it's
6 found on Page 21 of your Council book.

7
8 Proposal 10-01 was submitted by our
9 office, the Office of Subsistence Management, and
10 requesting addition of a definition for drawing permit to
11 the Federal subsistence regulations. This is a statewide
12 proposal and will be reviewed by all 10 Councils.

13
14 Existing Federal subsistence management
15 regulations do not include a definition for drawing
16 permit, however because the term is used in hunting
17 regulations a definition should be provided in
18 regulations. So in several areas we do have drawing
19 permits, we just don't have a definition in the handy
20 dandy. So that's why this proposal was submitted, so we
21 have a clear understanding of what drawing permits are.

22
23 The Federal Subsistence Management
24 Program was used -- has used drawing permits as one way
25 to distribute permits among residents of communities that
26 are similarly situated relative to customary and
27 traditional uses of those wildlife populations.

28
29 The preliminary conclusion is to support
30 the proposal with modification and that modification can
31 be found on Page 22 of your book. And when we first
32 submitted this there was some -- I think the definition
33 was over complicated so we modified it to make it more
34 simple and it would read, drawing permits or drawing
35 permit. A permit issued to limited number of Federally
36 qualified subsistence users selected by means of random
37 drawing. And it's really kind of a housekeeping proposal
38 to get in definition what we've been doing in the past.

39
40 If there's any questions I can answer
41 those, Madam Chair.

42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions.
44 Bill.

45
46 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I have a question,
47 Chuck. Does this like Fortymile Caribou we have a
48 Federal and a State hunt, but we use the State permit.
49 Does this mean we're going to start a new, separate
50 permit drawing involved with hunting or I don't really

1 follow this one?

2

3 MR. ARDIZZONE: Well, this kind of arose
4 out of -- we have a couple drawing permits I think in 19,
5 Unit 19 and also Cordova's the perfect example. We do
6 Cordova moose permits by drawing, just Federal permits
7 only, and that's one of the reason we're trying to get a
8 definition in the book so people understand what it is.
9 It's not -- we're not planning on changing anything,
10 there should be no affects to anyone, there's no queue
11 for let's institute all these drawings permits, that's
12 not the case, it's just trying to clarify what we already
13 do.

14

15 MR. GLANZ: I understand it. Okay,
16 Chuck.

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It would be
19 helpful though to explain, because our little minds have
20 a -- what we got to do, right. The Federal system, is my
21 understanding, it should go to 804, but in the Cordova
22 moose there was an agreement by the Southcentral RAC to
23 allow some of the permits to go to the State and some to
24 go to the Federal. So that is different than in 804
25 where you -- your -- so you can expound on that?

26

27 MR. ARDIZZONE: I'm going to ask Helen to
28 step up, she can speak to that more directly. But --
29 I'll let her speak to it so I don't misspeak.

30

31 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong, OSM.
32 804 has been -- and this is for the people who are new,
33 Section 804 of ANILCA is what we implement when there's
34 a shortage of the resource. And so we look at all of the
35 customary and traditional use, people.....

36

37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Like the State
38 Tier II kind of?

39

40 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Kind of like the State
41 Tier II.....

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

44

45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:yeah, kind of.

46

47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

48

49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And in some areas
50 people have been hesitant to implement it depending on

1 how much Federal land there is because if you start
2 narrowing you can only -- for example, only people in
3 Cordova could harvest moose on Federal public lands and
4 then maybe the moose are really on the State land and you
5 close -- you have to close the State harvest on State
6 land. So, I mean, you have to close the -- I said that
7 wrong. You have to close the Federal lands. People have
8 chosen to not implement it in the same way, we've tried
9 to be flexible to make sure that the subsistence users
10 can benefit the most from the regulations. So in the
11 case of Cordova it has not been implemented. And they've
12 done a drawing permit and it's something the community
13 has worked out and it's worked quite well I think.

14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'd guess what
16 I'd like to find out because something's coming up just
17 like this on our proposals for the Chisana Caribou Herd
18 and I've worked with the AC locally on this. And there's
19 a -- they want a portion of the hunt for the State even
20 if it's one. So if -- what I'm trying to understand in
21 my mind is, you know, the legality of it, you know what
22 I'm getting at. So here we have let's say in Cordova
23 it's 25 percent of something goes -- the State issues
24 permits and then on the Federal side 75 percent or
25 whatever it is, the Federal side actually has a drawing
26 for permits. So it's limited, but it's still allowed a
27 State hunt on Federal land. Is there any State land down
28 there at all?

29
30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'd have to look at
31 the map.

32
33 MR. ARDIZZONE: I think it's about 75/25
34 percent, something like that, but I'm not exactly sure.

35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and see I
37 -- to me this is precedent setting because it's working
38 outside the box for trying to work with the people in the
39 area. So I just wanted that to be clear. That's what's
40 coming down, there's -- they set up a -- they already
41 actually have a drawing for -- on Federal land, for moose
42 hunting in Cordova. And this might be something that in
43 the future we all might want to work on, on different
44 areas to work outside the box so to speak. So and this
45 is like a housekeeping thing.

46
47 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes, Madam Chair. This
48 proposal in front of you is a housekeeping thing.

49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So they can put

1 it on the books.

2

3 MR. FIRMIN: I have a question.

4

5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

6

7 MR. FIRMIN: Why is it in your proposed
8 Federal regulation, the original one, not the modified
9 one, what exactly is the code of Federal regulations
10 there, I mean, could you elaborate a little on that where
11 it says the drawing permits are issued based on
12 priorities determined by?

13

14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The CFR.

15

16 MR. ARDIZZONE: The CFRs, that's the
17 Federal publication that all our regulations are in. The
18 handy dandy's not the official version of the
19 regulations, the CFR is the official version. So what
20 you see in the handy dandy is sometimes more watered down
21 than what's in the CFR.

22

23 MR. FIRMIN: Well, my question is what's
24 the difference between that -- what's -- what exactly
25 does that regulation.....

26

27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Say.

28

29 MR. FIRMIN:versus a random or a
30 lottery or a random drawing?

31

32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's a good
33 question.

34

35 MR. ARDIZZONE: 117. I'm thinking that's
36 speaking the same to you, but I'm not sure, I'll have to
37 check for you. I'll have to check.

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that this?
40 Is it in here?

41

42 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, that's the 36.
43 Yeah, it should be in there 100 dash -- well, actually
44 that's.....

45

46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 242.

47

48 MR. ARDIZZONE:242-17.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Actually you

1 probably know it better than me. I mean, that's a good
2 question, Andrew, what does it actually say.

3

4 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. If you give
5 us a second we'll check, I just don't have a copy of the
6 CFRs at the moment.

7

8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I mean that's a
9 really good question.

10

11 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. Mr. Pappas
12 gave me a copy so I can tell you what -- Section 17 is
13 the paragraphs that say determining priorities for
14 subsistence users among rural residents of Alaska. So --
15 or Alaska rural residents.

16

17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And your
18 attorneys didn't feel that -- I hate asking these
19 questions, sometimes you get yourself in trouble, that
20 these drawing permits were a problem?

21

22 MR. ARDIZZONE: No, ma'am, I think
23 basically 17 is -- if you look at it, it's speaking to
24 the 804 process on how we limit user groups.

25

26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It is, it is. That's
27 the 804 process.

28

29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's just part
30 of the 804?

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

33

34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

35

36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That defines what it
37 is. I wanted to clarify a little bit, I'm not sure I
38 said that quite right, about what happened in Cordova.
39 The problem there was that there are moose on State lands
40 and it's along the road system and people wanted to be
41 able to hunt there. So they didn't want all the permits
42 going to Federal lands because then they couldn't harvest
43 them on State lands. We -- we've had very different ways
44 of implementing this, like up in Unit 22 for musk-ox,
45 when we first started the musk-ox hunt all of the permits
46 went to the -- were Federal permits, but there's a fair
47 amount of State land and some of the musk-ox were on
48 State land. So then the villagers couldn't go and hunt
49 the musk-ox that were on State land, they had to go
50 farther in order to hunt on Federal lands. So they ended

1 up splitting the permits and then each community has
2 decided how they want those permits to be distributed.
3 So some of them do it -- it's not officially in the regs
4 as a drawing permit, but they just -- they go to the
5 community and they draw, some of them decide who the best
6 hunters and those people get the permits. So we try to
7 be flexible to allow people to do what's right for that
8 situation because we have different situations
9 everywhere.

10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. You're
12 working within the region.

13
14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.

15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Actually, you
17 know, I think we can ask a lot of these questions when
18 these other ones come up. If you've got -- do you have
19 any other questions, I look at it as a housekeeping
20 measure to -- so they can do this. Do you have any other
21 questions?

22
23 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, I have one more.
24 Maybe if you could just clarify me -- correct me if i'm
25 wrong. But basically your original proposal would have
26 gave -- under those code of federal regulations that
27 would have gave rural subsistence users priority over
28 just any random person and that was why it was changed or
29 I didn't -- I'd have to read that -- I'd have to read
30 that 804 page myself to get it.

31
32 MR. ARDIZZONE: It's not changing
33 anything, I think what happened is we threw a bunch of
34 language in there is how the process would work that
35 really didn't need to be in there and it got confusing as
36 you can see with your questions and we removed those --
37 that verbiage because we do it that way anyways. It's --
38 and it's not among -- you know, it's basically speaking
39 to the 804 process and it's just, like I said, more
40 confusing and that's.....

41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Delete it.

43
44 MR. ARDIZZONE:that's why we took
45 it out.

46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah, I see it as a
50 housekeeping proposal, but I remember when the musk-ox

1 deal happened and the State ended up canceling the hunt.
2 I was one of the people that applied for one of those
3 musk-ox permits and then the thing got thrown out because
4 the Federal system had issued Federal permits for all
5 available harvest. But -- and so the Board of Game and
6 that was when Lori Quakenbush was the Chairperson of the
7 Board of Game, but I know they met with the Federal
8 Subsistence Board and this thing got hashed out and I
9 assume the deal in Cordova's similar. But I see this as
10 a housekeeping proposal and a lot of work has went into
11 this and thought into this issue in the past. And so to
12 me I just see this as a housekeeping issue and to put the
13 actual words in there so the public can understand better
14 what is going on.

15

16 Madam Chair.

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
19 Virgil. Is everyone ready?

20

21 (Council nods affirmatively)

22

23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think I heard
24 a call for the question by a nod of the head.

25

26 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'll call for the
27 question, Madam Chair.

28

29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: This is why we
30 have coordinators, they help us stay in line. We're all
31 ready to move on, but I have to go through this process,
32 you guys.

33

34 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
35 comments. I apologize, thank you Robert.

36

37 Go ahead, George.

38

39 MR. PAPPAS: Madam Chair. George Pappas,
40 Department of Fish and Game. Two types of comments we
41 don't have comments for at these meetings, the Statewide
42 Proposals No. 1 through 5 and C&T comments -- C&T
43 proposals. We're going statewide collecting information
44 to present at the RACs, looking for new information
45 before we formalize and finalize our positions. So I
46 won't have any comments for those.

47

48 Thank you, Madam Chair.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All the

1 statewide?
2
3 MR. PAPPAS: Yes, 1 through 5 and.....
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All of the
6 statewide?
7
8 MR. PAPPAS: Correct. 81, 87.....
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
11 right. Thanks, George.
12
13 MR. PAPPAS:and 206.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And other
16 Federal/State/Tribal/Agency comments. Anyone. Go ahead.
17
18 MS. CELLARIUS: I have SRC comments.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay. Yeah.
21 InterAgency Staff Committee comments.
22
23 (No comments)
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Subsistence
26 Resource Commission comments.
27
28 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
29 For the record my name is Barbara Cellarius and I'm the
30 subsistence coordinator for Wrangell-St. Elias National
31 Park and Preserve and I'm going to be presenting comments
32 from the Wrangell-St.Elias National Park Subsistence
33 Resource Commission which is a group of local subsistence
34 users who advise Park managers on subsistence issues for
35 those of you who are new.
36
37 On Proposal No. 1, definition of a
38 drawing permit, the Wrangell-St. Elias SRC unanimously
39 supports the proposals as modified in OSM preliminary
40 conclusion with additional modification by the SRC. The
41 SRC amended the proposal to make use of a drawing permit
42 contingent on approval by the affected region. Drawing
43 permit hunts are a tool that can be used to distribute
44 permits among Federally qualified subsistence users,
45 however SRC members felt that the individual regions
46 should be able to decide whether they are appropriate to
47 use in their region.
48
49 That's the comment. Thank you.
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
2 Barbara. Any questions.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Fish and Game
7 Advisory Committee comments.
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And, you know,
12 I think I have some from the Upper Tanana here. They
13 accept the proposal as written. That's the Upper Tanana
14 Fortymile Advisory Committee.
15
16 Any other Advisory Committees.
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Summary of
21 written public comments and that's Robert.
22
23 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. We have no
24 written comments other than the letter from the.....
25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: AHTNA.
27
28 MR. LARSON: Yeah. Right. Other than
29 the letter from the AHTNA, Incorporated.
30
31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You could read
32 that, Proposal 1.
33
34 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. The comments
35 on Proposal FP10-1, we oppose FP-1 to add drawing permits
36 to the Federal regulations. Since drawing permits is
37 possibly only within two regions it isn't necessary to
38 have a statewide definition of a State concept and
39 terminology.
40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that's from
42 the AHTNA Customary and Traditional Committee --
43 Traditional Use Committee.
44
45 MR. LARSON: Okay.
46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now any
48 other public comments anyone in the room, public
49 comments?
50

1 (No comments)
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Now I -- we have
4 to have a motion on the floor.
5
6 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
7 WP10-01.
8
9 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That's
12 why I was thinking it would be nice to have it in the
13 front because it seems like it goes a little smoother.
14 Okay. Deliberation. I think -- go ahead, Virgil, you
15 might as well read it again.
16
17 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. I'd like to
18 reference my previous comments, Madam Chair.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
21 you. Any others.
22
23 (No comments)
24
25 MR. GLANZ: Call for the question.
26
27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
28 question's been called for. And, yes, Chuck.
29
30 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. For
31 clarification is that the modified language or original
32 language?
33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, we --
35 we're trying to get through this and we're getting too
36 quick.
37
38 MR. ARDIZZONE: I know, I'm just trying
39 to keep you straight.
40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, uh-huh.
42
43 MR. UMPHENOUR: I want to add on my
44 motion to adopt as amended.
45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does the second
47 concur?
48
49 MR. WOODRUFF: Yes, Madam Chair.
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So
2 there's no other discussion?
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
7
8 MR. GLANZ: Call for the question again.
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. All
11 in favor. The -- well, let me put it out. The -- this
12 proposal with the modification, I'm supposed to redo this
13 so I'm doing a lousy job. That the drawing permit -- the
14 permit issued to a limited number of Federally qualified
15 subsistence users selected by means of a random drawing.
16 All in favor.
17
18 IN UNISON: Aye.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
21
22 (No opposing votes)
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you want a
25 short break, we just got started. Okay. Short break.
26 Five minutes.
27
28 (Off record)
29
30 (On record)
31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to
33 give you guys a heads up, this next proposal probably --
34 it's recommended to be deferred so we probably wouldn't
35 have to take that up. And so I'm going to ask do I hear
36 any support to -- for a motion to bring this up?
37
38 (No comments)
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hearing none
41 we'll move on. So the next one is 10-03, revise
42 regulations on cultural educational permit.
43
44 Before we go along did I see some new
45 faces in the audience that weren't introduced? The
46 gentleman in the back, your name?
47
48 MR. PITKA: Doug Pitka, I'm originally
49 out of Beaver, I'm just trying to catch up.
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So you're
2 part of the public?

3

4 MR. PITKA: I am.

5

6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Cool. Nice to
7 have some public here. Okay.

8

9 Go ahead, Chuck. I'm sorry, Helen.

10

11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: This one I'm doing,
12 Helen Armstrong, OSM. Thank you, Madam Chair.

13

14 Proposal WP10-03 which is on Page 25 in
15 your books. This proposal was submitted by the Office of
16 Subsistence Management, it requests the addition of a
17 general provision in Federal subsistence management
18 regulations to allow the harvest of fish and wildlife by
19 participants in a cultural or educational program.

20

21 I want to emphasize too that this is
22 another housekeeping proposal. It's a measure just to
23 clarify how these permits are currently issued. Adoption
24 of the proposal will not change how OSM currently issues
25 the permits. Most requests for these permits come from
26 culture camps sponsored by non-native organizations.

27

28 The proposal puts into regulation the
29 guidelines the Federal program currently follows when
30 issuing the permits. It has -- the modified regulation
31 has four parts. First it defines a qualifying program.
32 A qualifying program must have instructors, enrolled
33 students, minimum attendance requirements and standards
34 for successful completion of the course. Second it
35 alerts the public that the Office of Subsistence
36 Management needs time to process the application while at
37 the same time it allows the Office of Subsistence
38 Management to accept a request for a permit at anytime
39 which is the current policy. So this is just putting
40 into regulation what we already do. Applications must be
41 submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board through the
42 Office of Subsistence Management and should be submitted
43 60 days prior to the earliest desired date of harvest.
44 Third the modified regulation gives direction to the
45 local field manager in the area where the harvest will
46 occur. And fourth, it gives direction on how to issue
47 follow-up permits which is that requests for follow-up
48 permits must be submitted to the in-season or local
49 manager and should be submitted 60 days prior to the
50 earliest date -- desired date of harvest.

1 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
2 support Proposal WP10-03 with modification to simply the
3 proposed regulation. And you'll find the proposed
4 regulation there with the modification on Page 29. I'm
5 not going to read through that. We just made it simpler.
6 After it got proposed we realized it needed to be simpler
7 yes so when you make your motion make sure it's with, you
8 know, the modification.

9

10 Any questions?

11

12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

13

14 MR. WOODRUFF: Helen, in the general
15 regulations on Page 26 it specifies 25 fish per cultural
16 program.

17

18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

19

20 MR. WOODRUFF: If the cultural programs
21 say that we've had in Eagle for YRDFA, that's a 25 fish
22 for say a whole month's program seems like a small
23 amount, does that -- is that part of your.....

24

25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: But not for fish, it's
26 only for wildlife.

27

28 MR. WOODRUFF: I mean you've got a bunch
29 of young people cutting fish.....

30

31 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

32

33 MR. WOODRUFF:25 fish you can use
34 them up pretty quick.

35

36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That -- I hear you and
37 I agree with what you're saying totally, but because --
38 but what we're adding is -- oh, I'm sorry. We are taking
39 out the fish regulations so that what we're doing is
40 making it more -- if you read.....

41

42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Page 29.

43

44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:on Page 29.....

45

46 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah.

47

48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:what it says,
49 there's no longer anything about 25 fish.

50

1 MR. WOODRUFF: Excellent. I just wanted
2 to get that on the record.

3
4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

5
6 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you.

7
8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
11 questions other than I like the KISS principle also.

12
13 (No comments)

14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Next Alaska
16 Department of Fish and Game comments. And none.

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other Federal,
21 State or Tribal Agency comments.

22
23 (No comments)

24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: InterAgency
26 Staff.

27
28 (No comments)

29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Subsistence
31 Resource Commissions.

32
33 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
34 The Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence Resource Commission
35 unanimously supports the proposal with modification. The
36 SRC modified the proposal as follows. One, the
37 requirement that applications be submitted 60 days in
38 advance is eliminated. Two, the permit be issued to the
39 camp, organizer or village council and that person would
40 be responsible for designating a legal hunter. And
41 three, the permit is a joint Federal permit -- a joint
42 State/Federal permit.

43
44 With regard to the first modification,
45 the SRC felt that the requirement to submit application
46 60 days in advance was not appropriate. Sometimes the
47 event plans do not come together until shortly before the
48 event.

49
50 The last modification is designed to

1 eliminate the need to obtain two permits when hunting in
2 areas with mixed land ownership.

3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I've got so much
5 paper up here right now I can't even find that.

6
7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Madam Chair.

8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Yes,
10 Helen.

11
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I just wanted to
13 address their first point about the 60 days. We actually
14 had a lot of discussion about that and for precisely the
15 reason that Barbara's bringing it up, that a lot of times
16 people don't have their plans in place. And we're -- we
17 have added the word or replaced the word must to should.
18 It was actually in our discussions to have must in there.
19 So if you look on Page 29 it says they should be
20 submitted 60 days prior, it's not a must. And what we're
21 trying to just relay to the public is that if you've got
22 your plans in place and you can do it 60 days prior, it's
23 nice to give us some extra time to do it, but we also
24 have never turned anybody down and we've have gotten
25 requests just, you know, two weeks prior. So we have
26 addressed that one in change -- in putting that language
27 should in there.

28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Helen,
30 could you also address the other two. What Barbara
31 Cellarius is reading from is -- should -- you guys got a
32 copy of this?

33
34 (Council nods affirmatively)

35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And I was
37 at that SRC meeting and there was great discussion about
38 this. So I guess it's to me to bring forth the people
39 from my region that -- how they feel, it's important to
40 go through this. And number 2 is the permit would be
41 issued to the camp organizer or village council. Do you
42 see that as something that can be done in the language
43 that's written here, Helen?

44
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If I'm not mistaken
46 there's nothing saying who it goes to. So and I almost
47 think that keeping it -- not defining who it goes to --
48 who the permit goes to, is better.

49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: For statewide?

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. Because that
2 gives flexibility.....

3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

5
6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:in how they're
7 done.

8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So if by region
10 you -- if somebody said it would be a good idea to do
11 that, is that something we'd have to put in here or.....

12
13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We -- I mean, we
14 usually do the permit, I believe, I've only been involved
15 in a few of these, but to whoever's organizing it. And
16 so we already do that. And I don't know that it needs to
17 be defined. I'm sort of wracking my brain here trying to
18 think of why it would need to be defined, but that
19 leaving open is -- gives some more flexibility.

20
21 In terms of making it a joint
22 Federal/State permit, I think that would be up to the
23 Council to decide if they wanted to do that or not. We
24 only have jurisdiction on Federal land so that's why we
25 would only have a Federal permit.

26
27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I see. Well, I
28 think it's important to hear what they have to say and I
29 don't know, we can go into deliberation on that. Any
30 other questions.

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. George.
35 The State didn't have anything, but they do now.

36
37 MR. PAPPAS: Madam Chair. Just an
38 example. Last summer at Anaktuvuk Pass a class up there
39 applied for a permit with the State as the State's
40 educational permits are good on all lands in Alaska
41 unless superseded by Federal regulation and they also
42 applied for a Federal permit, so they end up with two
43 permits so they can hunt anywhere. And that was for a
44 Dall sheet so that was an example of how it worked
45 before.

46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I guess the KISS
48 principle would say isn't it possible to do a joint?

49
50 MR. PAPPAS: I don't know, all I know is

1 that it's.....

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't know either.

4 I.....

5

6 MR. PAPPAS:simple to have a State
7 permit because it's good on all lands unless superseded.

8

9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But I know that
10 people they get a little, like us, wrapped up in too much
11 paperwork and then pretty soon it's why go through this
12 process.

13

14 MR. WOODRUFF: It's impossible.

15

16 MR. PAPPAS: I understand, just trying to
17 give you an example of what happens.

18

19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I understand.
20 Okay. That'll -- like again that'll go under our
21 deliberation.

22

23 So Fish and Game Advisory Committee
24 comments.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And we'll see it
29 in the minutes of the Upper Tanana.

30

31 Summary of the written public and that
32 would be Robert Larson from AHTNA Subsistence.

33

34 MR. LARSON: Yeah, Madam Chair, that's
35 correct. It's the only public comments we have regarding
36 03. The AHTNA Customary and Traditional Use Committees
37 said that they oppose 03 as it is written, we oppose the
38 60 day culture application process review by the Federal
39 Subsistence Board. It may be necessary for the first
40 time to have a 60 day process, but after five years of an
41 established culture education camp in place it is not
42 necessary to have a 60 day waiting period.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Other
47 public testimony.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now it's
2 our turn.
3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR: I move to adopt Proposal
5 WP10-03 as amended.
6
7 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
10 Discussion. Go ahead, Virgil.
11
12 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. What this proposal
13 would do, basically it's housekeeping so it kind of
14 clarifies the process to get these permits for cultural
15 and educational purposes. And I think this is a good
16 vehicle to use in actually passing down knowledge about
17 the subsistence way of life to the younger generations.
18 And so I support their proposal. And it will just
19 clarify the process for this doing this and make it so
20 that it's not quite as cumbersome.
21
22 Madam Chair.
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.
25
26 MR. WOODRUFF: I think that Helen is
27 correct that the should would cover that public comment
28 letter about the 60 day instead of the must. And I think
29 that that's good wording. And I think that the Park
30 Service's one, two, three is a lot more limiting in the
31 wording and the process. And I think the simpler the
32 process the more these camps and educational process will
33 move forward and therefore passing on the knowledge that
34 -- that's the whole purpose of these camps.
35
36 Thank you.
37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
39 discussion.
40
41 (No comments)
42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I would like to
44 just ask, this is a statewide proposal so it's for the
45 whole State. And any effort to doing a joint between the
46 State and Federal, I mean, on concept I'm going to ask
47 Staff can the concept of working with the State where
48 they can on joint, do we -- could I have it as concept or
49 would it have to go into regulation?
50

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I believe it would
2 have to go into regulation if we were allowing a joint
3 Federal permit, but I'm not a regulatory -- the
4 regulatory expert.

5
6 MR. ARDIZZONE: And the problem I see,
7 Madam Chair, with the joint is just the jurisdictional
8 issues, but we do have joint permits in other places so
9 anything's possible because we do do joint caribou
10 permits and things. But yeah, it would have to be
11 discussed by the Board and -- well, both Boards really.

12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I guess --
14 Virgil.

15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. There's actually
17 been court cases over this issue, the Kenaitze case is
18 one of them that I can think of that took place while I
19 was on the Board of Fisheries. And so this issue has
20 been addressed by the courts even. I -- I'm in favor of
21 the proposal to help clear this up and we do have a, I
22 don't know what they call it now, memorandum of
23 agreement, understanding, you know, between the Boards,
24 State and Federal that addresses issues such as this.
25 And so I don't know whether we need to really try to
26 involve ourself in that right now or not, but I'm in
27 favor of the proposal and I think it lends clarity to the
28 issue and the subject.

29
30 Madam Chair.

31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Helen.

33
34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I would think that
35 that's something that all of the Councils would have to
36 weigh in on, whether they wanted it to have a possibility
37 of a joint Federal permit and that it should probably be
38 a modification that would come through a proposal next
39 time around if that's what -- and all of the Councils
40 then could weigh in because they wouldn't be weighing in
41 on it, I mean, some of the Councils have already met. So
42 but I'm really not certain about that.

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I
45 appreciate your comments, Virgil, but again, you know,
46 sometimes it's I know these people and I live with them
47 and they brought this up and I feel like I have to bring
48 forth their concerns. And it was just, you know, trying
49 to keep things simple, you know, if you're the user out
50 there and you have a permit for Federal land and you walk

1 across here and it's State then technically they can
2 throw the book at you. So that's -- you know, I was
3 thinking that if it was possible for us to at least say
4 we recognize that when there's State -- Federal land that
5 there's some effort to work with the State on it so
6 people -- it's a simple process, not a difficult process
7 for them. And I.....

8

9 Rob has his hand up, can you give us some
10 insight to this? Okay.

11

12 MR. JESS: Madam Chair. Robert Jess,
13 Refuge manager, Yukon Flats.

14

15 What you're hitting on, Sue, is a -- is
16 a bigger issue between State and Feds as -- and there's
17 a lot of other areas in addition to this that both State
18 and Federal government can sit down and should sit down
19 to try to negotiate and compromise on some of these.
20 Harvest surveys or harvests, things like that we
21 sometimes go in different directions, predator control,
22 different directions because our mandates are different.
23 Cultural resources and -- such as our youth are things
24 where we very much marry and line up, but this is one of
25 a lot of things. And so a suggestion might be to the
26 Board here is that this is a simplification proposal here
27 and I think they're right on the mark as far as where
28 we're going with this. What you might do is to either
29 annotate or suggest to you that this and other topics in
30 a future date be sat down and discuss on where we can all
31 marry up and combine both Federal and State permits. And
32 this topic -- this discussion I've -- we've had with
33 Andrew Firmin, he's raised it in the -- at the last EIRAC
34 meeting and there are a good number of people on the
35 ground that are working towards this, where our
36 commonalities are at. So.....

37

38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So what you're
39 saying, Rob, is you think it can be done on the ground,
40 at the local level, is that what you're saying?

41

42 MR. JESS: I think if it comes from top
43 down it more than likely wouldn't work, but where you've
44 got biologists, Refuge managers, members of Tribal
45 Councils who are trying to sit down and find out where
46 our commonality is at both with this issue and a lot of
47 other issues, I think there's more than what you could
48 all tackle just in this alone.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I have a

1 question, Andrew or any of you guys. Have you been --
2 had to get these permits and have to get two, is it a big
3 deal or is it not, you know, to get two permits?

4

5 MR. GURTLER: I don't have any -- we
6 don't have anything like that around Manly, I'm not
7 familiar with.....

8

9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

10

11 MR. GURTLER:permits at all
12 for.....

13

14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You need to --
15 Frank, you got to turn that mic on.

16

17 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, I know it's never
18 really been a big problem around Ft. Yukon, but I know
19 some people are just leery of shooting a moose for the
20 youth camps are in the summer so they don't normally do
21 that, but there have been instances where they do go out
22 and take the youth -- take three boats and a bunch of
23 kids and go out moose hunting and they have been
24 successful in the past and.....

25

26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And do they get
27 a permit then?

28

29 MR. FIRMIN: Yes, they do.

30

31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: For both State
32 and Federal or how, just get a.....

33

34 MR. FIRMIN: No, I don't -- never been
35 involved on that level of it.

36

37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But you know
38 they gets permits and.....

39

40 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, I know that they do
41 report them and they do generally report them, you know,
42 not 60 days in advance I'm sure, but more of a last
43 minute thing. And on another note I'd like to.....

44

45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well.....

46

47 MR. FIRMIN:see it continue.

48

49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Lester,
50 do -- how's it work out there?

1 MR. ERHART: We don't have that in our
2 area.
3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR: They have youth fishing
5 ones though.
6
7 MR. ERHART: Yeah, we have youth fishing.
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So is there a
10 concern over State land versus Federal land, do you know?
11
12 MR. ERHART: No, I don't.
13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Well,
15 maybe it's not anything to spend a lot of time on. As --
16 if I end up going to the Federal Board meeting I guess I
17 would just state in our discussion we talked about the
18 confusion between the State and the Federal and I guess
19 let them deal with it and we can -- I mean, I'm willing to
20 vote on this as is, as a motion, I just feel like it
21 would be nice to say -- have that discussion with the
22 Board. Okay.
23
24 MR. JESS: Madam Chair. I would hope
25 that you wouldn't let go of this concept though because
26 you're right on the mark.
27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, no, I never
29 will. I'm like a wolverine.
30
31 (Laughter)
32
33 MR. JESS: It's very unfortunate -- with
34 lipstick, right?
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Without.
37
38 (Laughter)
39
40 MR. JESS: This issue is a big issue when
41 we're just talking both State and Federal lands and
42 subsistence hunting in general. We try to instruct
43 people in the seven villages on the Flats all the time of
44 the different seasons and we get on their radio, we do
45 everything and in spite of that we're still having to
46 issue tickets when it's clearly a violation. And it's
47 something that we want to avoid. So we would hope that
48 at some point your Board would continue to.....
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

1 MR. JESS:deal with this issue.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, we
4 definitely will. I think they're all like wolverine like
5 me.
6
7 Helen.
8
9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If I could suggest
10 that you also put that in your -- in the comments that
11 are in -- going to be in the book in writing.....
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
14
15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:in addition to
16 you bringing it up to the Board so that it's -- the Board
17 sees it long before.....
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You bet.
20
21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:you actually get
22 there and there can be some discussion about it.
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yep, I think my
25 right hand -- arm over here is -- can do a good job on
26 that.
27
28 So -- okay. Any other discussion.
29
30 (No comments)
31
32 MR. GLANZ: Can I call for the question?
33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
35 been called for. All in favor say aye.
36
37 IN UNISON: Aye.
38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed?
40
41 (No opposing votes)
42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Next. So
44 we comfortable doing the motion at the end? Sounds like
45 it. All right. Next is 04.
46
47 Chuck.
48
49 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. I hesitate
50 to say this is a housekeeping proposal, but it's

1 basically -- that's what it falls under, a category of
2 housekeeping proposal. Proposal 10-04 is on Page 32 of
3 your books.

4
5 It was submitted by the Office of
6 Subsistence Management and would remove a number of GMUs
7 from the areas for which the assistant regional director
8 for Subsistence Management has delegated authority to
9 open, close or adjust Federal subsistence lynx seasons
10 and to set harvest and possession limits. This
11 proposal's before you because the C&T is all rural users
12 so it's gone across the State. Lynx trapping seasons are
13 adjusted annually on recommendations determined using the
14 ADF&G tracking and harvest strategy for managing lynx.

15
16 The Alaska Board of Game has removed a
17 number of units from that strategy, Unit 6, 12, 20A, B,
18 C, 20D, 20E and they no longer use that strategy in those
19 units. And originally the Federal Board aligned with the
20 State, they wanted to use the same concept. So the State
21 removed those units so basically this proposal is to
22 remove those same units which the State's not using the
23 strategy for. So it would just make us in alignment
24 which was the original intent when this regulation was
25 passed. Over time like I said the State's removed a
26 number of units from the strategy, it would align State
27 and Federal regulations regarding lynx management in the
28 units stated. The season and harvest limits can still be
29 changed through special action or through a regular
30 proposal so there's still the ability to change lynx
31 seasons. There will be no adverse impacts to subsistence
32 users. Really the only thing affected by this proposal
33 is the authority granted to the assistant regional
34 director for the Office of Subsistence Management.

35
36 OSM's preliminary conclusion is to
37 support with modification, to basically delete the
38 regulatory language found in the CFR and just delegate
39 this authority via deletion of authority letter from the
40 Board to the regional -- to the ARD for subsistence. And
41 that letter is found on Page 54 and 55 in your -- excuse
42 me, 42 and 43 in your books. And all it's doing is --
43 the letter states these are the units for which the
44 assistant regional director for Subsistence can adjust
45 the lynx seasons without having to submit a proposal.

46
47 If there's any questions I'll try and
48 answer those.

49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions of

1 Chuck. Donald.

2

3 MR. WOODRUFF: Chuck, I've got one
4 question. Up on the Yukon we've got lynx trapping closed
5 after 30 days, just the month of November on 20E, but in
6 25B it's all the way until February. And I'm sure that
7 I'm catching lynx that are just walking across the river.
8 So why isn't there some, you know, consistency there
9 because the same rabbit cycle and the lynx are high and
10 they have been high for a while. I mean they're running
11 through my dog lot and scaring the dogs. So why aren't
12 the lynx cycle -- I mean, the lynx season in 20E and 25B
13 aligned?

14

15 MR. ARDIZZONE: Wow, that's weird. I
16 would guess that the strategy we've been using now only
17 had the units listed that you find on Page 32, 25's not
18 included.

19

20 MR. WOODRUFF: Right.

21

22 MR. ARDIZZONE: So we can't automatically
23 change those seasons so the season change would have to
24 be submitted as a proposal from the public. And that
25 would be the reason I'm sure they're unaligned.

26

27 MR. WOODRUFF: Okay. And just -- it's a
28 discrepancy when I was sitting there reading the regs and
29 I go well, if I just go across the river I can't trap
30 lynx over there, but I'm sure they're just walking across
31 the river and I'm catching them.

32

33 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right. Right. And I
34 understand that, but like I said we just haven't had a
35 proposal to change it.

36

37 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you.

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So, Donald, I'm
40 looking at the map.....

41

42 MR. WOODRUFF: Yep.

43

44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:is that all
45 Federal land that you're talking about or is there State
46 land on one side?

47

48 MR. WOODRUFF: Federal.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's all

1 Federal.

2

3 MR. WOODRUFF: It's all national park
4 lands.

5

6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I see. I
7 just wasn't sure what part of 25B because you're clear
8 down at Eagle, I see some State land down there.

9

10 MR. WOODRUFF: Yes, from Seventy Mile
11 River up to Eagle that's.....

12

13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

14

15 MR. WOODRUFF:State land and it's
16 State land on the other side of the river too.

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You just happen
19 to live in one of those places where there's a line.

20

21 MR. WOODRUFF: Well, the Feds restricted
22 in 20E to just 30 days of trapping, they close the season
23 really early on lynx which doesn't make sense to me
24 because the lynx cycle is very high and they mention in
25 this proposal that they were using a tracking system of
26 some kind.

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

29

30 MR. WOODRUFF: I'm confused about it.

31

32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I can
33 understand. Chuck.

34

35 MR. ARDIZZONE: I think part of the
36 problem -- I'm not sure what the State season is in that
37 area, but it's been -- over the course of years the State
38 has removed certain units from that strategy and that may
39 have been one of those units that was removed early. So
40 if they haven't been changing the seasons with that
41 strategy, we haven't been able to change those seasons
42 because we're not getting the input from them that hey,
43 we used the strategy, change the season and we haven't
44 had any request from the public to change it. So if we
45 can remove these units -- it's not going to help that
46 area, but a proposal would.

47

48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Frank.

49

50 MR. GURTLER: Well, I'm kind of sitting

1 here wondering why are they have all these regulations
2 and everything on just the lynx, are they just the start
3 of doing that for marten. I have no idea why you guys
4 have a -- talking about lynx, just lynx here, because
5 I've been a trapper all my life and when I have traps out
6 there I look. If I catch a lynx after the season is
7 closed it's my lynx, I mean, because -- just because you
8 guys make a law saying I catch that lynx, it's not going
9 to them, it's going to stay in my pocket because I spent
10 a lot of money trying to catch that.

11

(Laughter)

12

13
14 MR. GURTLER: I'm just trying to figure
15 out why you guys have a -- talking about lynx.

16

17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The lynx
18 strategy is what you're talking about, Frank.....

19

20 MR. GURTLER: Yeah.

21

22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:that
23 concerns you? Did you -- you're on the AC up there,
24 right?

25

26 MR. GURTLER: Pardon.

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're on the
29 Advisory Committee in -- up there in Manly, right, don't
30 you remember talking about this lynx strategy years ago
31 when they started the.....

32

33 MR. GURTLER: The strategy for that is --
34 lynx is a -- they come and go with the -- with the
35 rabbits, they come and go.....

36

37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

38

39 MR. GURTLER:with the birds. And
40 how are you going to control them, I mean.....

41

42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, you're not
43 is what you're -- that's what you're trying to get at.

44

45 MR. GURTLER: But you're still making
46 laws to try and control them.

47

48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. Well, I
49 think what's happened here, help me out, Chuck or Staff,
50 on this lynx strategy the biologists got the idea this

1 would be a better way to give the trapper more
2 opportunity, to open it, you know, I think it was
3 discretionary authority, correct?

4

5 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, Madam Chair, the
6 strategy would come up with recommendations and the
7 assistant regional director for OSM could open it, close
8 it, change harvest seasons more fluidly than.....

9

10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you could
11 meet the lynx cycle.....

12

13 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right.

14

15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:so you
16 could be trapping lynx is what the idea was behind it.

17

18 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right. And basically
19 what's happened over time is some of those units have
20 been removed from the strategy so we're just trying to
21 remove those units that they're no -- that strategy's no
22 longer used for. So this regulation's been in place
23 since 2001, it's not the.....

24

25 MR. GURTLER: Yeah, but how did it get
26 there. We -- a lynx is a furbearing animal and it's
27 money in our pocket. And anytime you -- you're trapping
28 for marten or whatever or wolverine and everything that
29 you're trapping for, you're out there to make money
30 because you can't afford to go out there anymore and just
31 trap for marten, you got to have big traps out there for
32 whatever you're going to catch. And if you catch a lynx
33 in there, what do you do with that lynx, give it to Fish
34 and Game or is it to.....

35

36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, you're
37 supposed to turn it in, Frank, if it's not -- but, Frank,
38 we'll continue on with your discussion on this, but I
39 just want you to -- we'll go through all of these other
40 comments and I want you to try to, you know, we'll -- in
41 deliberation you can talk some more about it. Okay.

42

43 MR. GURTLER: I'd like to talk about it.

44

45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
46 Let's -- if you have any questions of the Staff's
47 analysis, other -- anyone else have any questions of the
48 Staff analysis?

49

50 (No comments)

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now it's
2 -- and this is again a State proposal. Is there anything
3 from the Department of Fish and Game?

4
5 (No comments)

6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any other
8 State, Federal or Tribal Agencies want to comment on
9 this?

10
11 (No comments)

12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: InterAgency
14 Staff.

15
16 (No comments)

17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Now the SRCs.
19 And did I see the -- I think his name's -- is it Paul
20 Starr, you guys, that's for -- from the Denali SRC? I
21 think I've seen him come in and out. If you guys -- do
22 you know him, does anyone know Paul Starr?

23
24 MR. GURTLER: Yeah, I know him.

25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. If you
27 see him come in or out, he could comment to these if that
28 SRC has met on these proposals. So I told him not to
29 leave until -- he said he's going.

30
31 MR. GURTLER: (Indiscernible - away from
32 microphone).....

33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, yeah,
35 because more of it's in that region. Yeah, but.....

36
37 MR. GURTLER: (Indiscernible - away from
38 microphone).....

39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:Unit 20 in
41 the Denali is us, isn't it. At any rate just if you see
42 him let's make sure he can be part of the process.

43
44 Go ahead, Barbara.

45
46 MS. CELLARIUS: The Wrangell-St. Elias
47 National Park Subsistence Resource Commission unanimously
48 supports the proposal as modified in the -- by the OSM
49 Staff recommendation. There are no conservation concerns
50 associated with approving this proposal and it will not

1 adversely affect subsistence users or others.

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thanks,
4 Barbara. Any questions.

5

6 Now the Fish and Game Advisory Committee
7 comments, does -- do we have any?

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Summary of
12 written public comments.

13

14 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair.

15

16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Robert.

17

18 MR. LARSON: The only written public
19 comments we have are from the AHTNA Customary and
20 Traditional Use Committee and they are neutral on this
21 proposal. Their comments were that since Federal
22 subsistence management does not have biological data on
23 wildlife populations or harvest of lynx it must utilize
24 State's biological data and population counts. Funding
25 should be provided to conduct studies on Federal lands.

26

27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And now
28 do you have -- do you want to -- under other public
29 testimony or do -- did you say one of the other Councils
30 has met already?

31

32 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chairman, yes. The
33 North Slope Regional Council has met previously and they
34 supported the OSM preliminary conclusion for this
35 proposal.

36

37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now we're
38 ready for deliberation. Do I hear a motion.

39

40 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
41 WP-10-04 with the modification.

42

43 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.

44

45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Second by
46 Donald. Discussion. Okay. Frank, you -- you're having
47 heartburn, aren't you.

48

49 Andrew.

50

1 MR. FIRMIN: I just have a quick comment.
2 I -- if I'm reading this right I believe that I support
3 it because it's basically removing from sub-units or six,
4 seven units from being under this management program
5 hopefully because there's plenty of furbearing animals of
6 this species in that area. And I'm for it if that's what
7 its -- if I'm reading it correctly that's -- I'm pretty
8 sure I am, but yeah, I support this proposal with the
9 modification.

10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, because
12 what it's doing is removing Unit 6.....

13
14 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair, he's
15 correct.

16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, uh-huh.
18 Does everybody understand what it's removing?

19
20 (No comments)

21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any other
23 discussion. Bill.

24
25 MR. GLANZ: I'll call for the question.

26
27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. One
28 question, Virgil, did you say that it was a
29 housekeeping.....

30
31 MR. UMPHENOUR: I was about to. Yeah,
32 this is basically just a housekeeping proposal and so
33 I'll be in support of it.

34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And the
36 question's been called for. All in favor.

37
38 IN UNISON: Aye.

39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.

41
42 (No opposing votes)

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now we're
45 going into the Eastern Interior and it's 10-86 moose
46 season in 25C.

47
48 Chuck.

49
50 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. There's

1 still number 5 for statewide. I'd gladly skip it.

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm really
4 trying hard to get through this aren't I. Okay. It's
5 statewide 10-05. Clarify regulations pertaining to
6 accumulation of harvest limits. You guys are really
7 cleaning OSM up, huh.

8

9 Go ahead.

10

11 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes, Madam Chair.
12 Proposal 10-05 was submitted by the Office of Subsistence
13 Management and seeks to update, clarify and simplify the
14 regulations regarding accumulation of harvest limits for
15 both fish and wildlife. This is a statewide proposal and
16 will be reviewed by all 10 Regional Councils. The
17 analysis for this proposal is on Page 46 of your books.

18

19

20 The wording in the general Federal
21 subsistence regulation concerning accumulation of harvest
22 limits dates back to 1990 and 1994. While the Federal
23 Subsistence Board has addressed a number of area specific
24 proposals concerning accumulation of harvest limits over
25 the years, this part of the general regulations has not
26 been updated to reflect changes to unit and area specific
27 regulations and there is a need to update the wording.

28

29 Proposal WP10-05 addresses those
30 inconsistencies. The proposal does not affect fish and
31 wildlife populations, subsistence uses or other uses,
32 rather the proposal seeks to update, clarify and simplify
33 the sections of the general regulations which reference
34 accumulation of harvest limits. The proposed wording
35 changes retain the general prohibition of accumulation of
36 Federal and State harvest limits and point to unit and
37 area specific relations for details and exceptions. This
38 proposal does not change any unit or area specific
39 Federal subsistence regulations concerning accumulation
40 of harvest limits or the time frame, whether it be daily,
41 seasonal or regulatory year for harvest limits.

42

43 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
44 support this proposal. If there's any questions I'll try
45 to answer them, Madam Chair.

46

47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

48 Donald.

49

50 MR. WOODRUFF: I just have one statement

1 to say. When the joint BLM, Fish and Wildlife, the
2 Troopers and the Park Service showed up one day on
3 snowmachines and I asked them although they did ask me if
4 every one of my marten traps were shut down because it
5 was the 29th of February, they're all shut down, they
6 said that -- well, my comment was like we can get so many
7 beavers with a rifle hunting and on our trapping license,
8 but it says you can get one a day, but you can only have
9 so many in possession. And so I asked them so what is
10 considered in possession if it's -- and they said if it's
11 not processed. So I said so if it's gutted and skinned
12 and I'm hanging them on the porch is that a processed --
13 you know, it was confusing to me because if I get -- I
14 can get one a day, but if I can only have like two or
15 three in possession and I'm putting up meat for the
16 winter instead -- because I didn't get a moose. So it
17 was confusing that they didn't really know what the regs
18 were, you know, what in possession means because if it's
19 -- if it's not processed then it's that day catch. And
20 I just wanted to get it on the record that -- then I
21 asked them to come back when they came back through and
22 they were going back to Circle, what -- you know, what
23 were the regs and if they could stop and tell me and they
24 never did. So I'm just going on the assumption that if
25 it's skinned and gutted then that's been processed and
26 it's not allocated into your, you know, bag limit. Well,
27 anyway I just wanted to get that on the record.

28

29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That sounds
30 pretty logical to me.

31

32 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, and I wanted to get
33 that on the record, but the guy that was wanting to pull
34 his ticket out and, you know, write the ticket was
35 confused about what the reg was and obviously I was
36 confused. But I'm.....

37

38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're talking
39 Beaver is one a day?

40

41 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah. One a day and then
42 so many in possession.

43

44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You might want
45 to consider a formal review.

46

47 MR. WOODRUFF: You know and if you're --
48 say you're in a remote camp and you're hunting beavers on
49 five miles of the river then.....

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Why are they
2 doing that, do you know?
3
4 MR. WOODRUFF: Why?
5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, one a day.
7 We're off subject here.
8
9 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah.
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So.....
12
13 MR. WOODRUFF: Anyway so that in -- held
14 in possession under the proposed regulation, that needs
15 to be clarified, what is not processed or what is being
16 put up, you know.
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you're trying
19 to relate that to this proposal and.....
20
21 MR. WOODRUFF: I'm just getting on the
22 record that even the officers that wanted to ticket me
23 couldn't tell me what the reg was.
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, this
26 proposal is for.....
27
28 MR. WOODRUFF: Fish and wildlife.
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:fish and
31 wildlife for your -- that you can't take a -- help me out
32 here. Say you have a one caribou limit in 20E.....
33
34 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah.
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:and you
37 have a one caribou limit in another place.....
38
39 MR. WOODRUFF: Yep.
40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:that you
42 can't say well, I got my one caribou here and I got my
43 one caribou here and get two, you can only get one is
44 what it's doing.
45
46 MR. WOODRUFF: Right. So if I go.....
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So how does your
49 beaver thing relate to that?
50

1 MR. WOODRUFF: It does because if I go
2 across the river into 20E and go up to the Park Service's
3 little camp and shoot the beavers that are around all the
4 beaver ponds they're going to be real upset and they're
5 going to try and bust me.
6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Because that was
8 different than.....
9
10 MR. WOODRUFF: Because I'm moving them
11 from one district to the other.
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Boy, that line
14 thing's getting you in trouble.
15
16 MR. WOODRUFF: Anyway I wanted to get it
17 on the record that they didn't know what the regs were
18 and couldn't tell me what they were.
19
20 Thank you.
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, actually
23 you have some proposal changes in the future. But
24 getting back to questions of this proposal, if anyone
25 thinks I'm not addressing something here let me know
26 correctly for what he's saying, but this is just the --
27 I don't think it applies here, Donald. Yeah.
28
29 And any other questions of Staff.
30
31 (No comments)
32
33 MR. WOODRUFF: Well, I got a chance.....
34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I
36 appreciate that, Donald. Yeah, and I think it's -- in
37 our deliberation that's probably where we should have
38 that.
39
40 ADF&G comments.
41
42 (No comments)
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And none. Other
45 Federal, State or Tribal.
46
47 (No comments)
48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: InterAgency
50 Staff.

1 (No comments)
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm probably
4 going to run this quickly because I don't see them coming
5 up, but SRC.
6
7 And while Barbara's coming up I wanted to
8 have Rita introduce herself, there's a new face.
9
10 Rita, just introduce yourself and.....
11
12 MS. ST. LOUIS: I'm Rita St. Louis, I
13 work with Fish and Game in planning.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: In planning.
16 Okay. And she used to be a coordinator for ACs, which
17 some of you might have had Rita.
18
19 And in behind walked a public, I think,
20 named Mike Tinker.
21
22 MR. TINKER: Morning.
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And a AC member
25 for the Fairbanks AC.
26
27 MR. TINKER: For 200 years now.
28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You ain't that
30 old.
31
32 MR. TINKER: Maybe.
33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did I miss
35 anybody that wasn't introduced.
36
37 (No comments)
38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
40 right. Barbara with the SRC comments.
41
42 MS. CELLARIUS: Madam Chair. On WP10-05,
43 the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park Subsistence Resource
44 Commission unanimously supports the proposal as written.
45 This is a housekeeping proposal which is supported by
46 substantial data and will not result in conservation
47 concerns and will not adversely impact subsistence users
48 or others.
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,

1 Barbara. Summary of other written comments. And if
2 there's any RACs, go ahead and do it then to, Robert.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. The only
7 written comments we have are from the AHTNA Customary and
8 Traditional Committee and they are in support of WP10-05
9 and they think it would clarify harvest limit
10 regulations.

11

12 The North Slope Regional Advisory Council
13 voted to support the proposal as written.

14

15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you. Any
16 other public comment.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.

21 Virgil.

22

23 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal

24 WP10-05.

25

26 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Seconded by

29 Donald.

30

31 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.

32

33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

34

35 MR. UMPHENOUR: This is basically just a
36 housekeeping proposal and I'm going to be in favor of it.

37

38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Donald, I
39 hear what you were saying, I want to read something about
40 possession. Under Federal definitions means having
41 direct physical control of wildlife at a given time or
42 having both the power and intention to exercise dominion
43 or control of wildlife either directly or through another
44 person or persons. That's kind of muddy. That
45 looked.....

46

47 MR. WOODRUFF: That's clear.

48

49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't think
50 that's the KISS principle.

1 (Laughter)
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other discussion
4 on this proposal.
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 MR. WOODRUFF: Question.
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
11 been called for. All in favor.
12
13 IN UNISON: Aye.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.
16
17 (No opposing votes)
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now we're
20 moving into the Eastern Interior Proposals and the first
21 one being 10-86, revise the moose season in 25C.
22
23 Go ahead, Chuck.
24
25 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. This
26 proposal can be found on Page 52 of your Council book.
27
28 It was submitted by the Council and
29 requests that the fall season dates for moose in Unit 25C
30 be changed from September 1st through September 15th to
31 August 20th through September 30th to match the season
32 dates in the adjoining portion of the Yukon-Charley
33 National Preserve in 25B and 20E. The proposal would
34 benefit subsistence users by providing an additional 27
35 days to the season and would align the fall seasons in
36 all of the Preserve.
37
38 Survey data in the Preserve indicate that
39 the moose population has been relatively stable, however
40 there was a notable increase in 2009 compared to the
41 previous survey in 2006 which can be seen in Table 2 on
42 Page 54. The bull/cow ratios have been well above the
43 management objective of 30 bulls per 100 cows. Reported
44 harvest in Unit 25C between 1999 and 2009 has ranged from
45 45 to 73 animals and can be seen in Table 3.
46
47 If this proposal were adopted it would
48 provide a uniform hunting season throughout the Preserve,
49 an additional 27 days of hunting opportunity, however it
50 could lead to an increase in hunters in the area because

1 all rural hunters or, excuse me, all rural residents have
2 C&T for this area. Harvest could also increase due to
3 the season being extended into the rut when bulls are
4 more vulnerable. Therefore this hunt should be monitored
5 carefully.

6
7 However the OSM conclusion is to support
8 the proposal. The fall season dates would become uniform
9 within the preserve and the current population appears
10 health enough to allow a few more bull moose to be taken.

11
12 If there's any questions I'll try and
13 answer them.

14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions of
16 Staff. I have one question. What is the State one right
17 now, the season, is it -- it's in here I'm sure.

18
19 MR. GLANZ: I can answer that, September
20 1st to September 15, Madam Chair.

21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
23 right. We're going to go -- moving along.

24
25 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
26 comments.

27
28 MR. PAPPAS: Madam Chair. George Pappas,
29 Department of Fish and Game.

30
31 Let me just start off by saying that we
32 don't have wildlife Staff available here, we do have our
33 comments, they've been distributed to you and since I am
34 the fisheries liaison I'll just adhere to what we have
35 for comments here. If you have specific questions I can
36 record them and try to get ahold of someone. As you --
37 everybody knows they're preparing for the Board of Game
38 meeting that's happening here in a few days and we've had
39 some medical issues.

40
41 WP10-86, I'll be just picking from the
42 comments here, impacts on subsistence users. If this
43 proposal is adopted the opportunity for Federal
44 subsistence moose hunters in 25C will increase by an
45 additional 26 days, increasing the Federal subsistence
46 hunting opportunity in White Mountain-Steese National
47 Recreational Areas from 15 to 41 days. If adopted
48 Federal subsistence users would be allowed 10 days prior
49 to and after the State moose hunting season in 25C,
50 potentially reducing interaction or competition with non-

1 Federally qualified moose hunters. Also if adopted
2 liberalization of the road accessible Federal subsistence
3 moose hunt may attract other Federally qualified users
4 from other areas and regions resulting in competition
5 with other Federally qualified hunters.

6
7 Enforcement issues. Federal public lands
8 make up about 74 percent of Unit 25C, but a significant
9 portion of the easily accessible land is non-Federal and
10 in the State's non-subsistence use area and Federally
11 qualified hunters would need to be aware of the
12 boundaries.

13
14 Other comments. The expanded season,
15 creating additional differences between State and Federal
16 regulations is not necessary to provide for the
17 opportunity for Federal subsistence by rural residents on
18 Federal lands. Creating an expanded season for all rural
19 residents of Alaska creates a priority that is not based
20 on continued customary and traditional uses and cannot be
21 justified based on desire to reduce competition. Also
22 the moose -- as the moose population declines this
23 expanded season would create unnecessary impacts on other
24 uses.

25
26 The Department opposes. Thank you, Madam
27 Chair.

28
29 *****
30 STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
31 *****

32
33 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
34 Comments to the Regional Advisory Council

35
36 Wildlife Proposal WP10-86:

37
38 The Eastern Interior Regional Advisory
39 Council proposal would lengthen the federal subsistence
40 moose hunting season in Unit 25C from September 1 through
41 September 15 to August 20 through September 30.

42
43 Introduction:

44
45 The proponent submitted this proposal to
46 liberalize the Unit 25C federal subsistence moose hunting
47 season by changing the season dates to match the federal
48 subsistence moose hunting season dates for the federal
49 public lands within Yukon-Charlie National Preserve of
50 Units 25B and 20E. The 41-day federal subsistence moose

1 hunting seasons within Units 25B and 20E within the
2 Yukon-Charlie National Preserve are August 20 through
3 September 30, which is 26 days longer than the 15-day
4 federal subsistence moose hunting season in Unit 25C.

5

6 Impact on Subsistence Users:

7

8 If adopted, the opportunity for federal
9 subsistence moose hunters in Unit 25C will increase by an
10 additional 26 days (173%), increasing federal subsistence
11 hunting opportunity for moose in the White Mountains and
12 Steese National Recreational Areas from 15 days to 41
13 days. If adopted, federal subsistence users would be
14 allowed to hunt 10 days prior to and after the state
15 moose hunting season in Unit 25C, potentially reducing
16 interaction or competition with non-federally qualified
17 moose hunters. If adopted, the liberalization of this
18 road accessible federal subsistence moose hunt may
19 attract other federally qualified users from other areas
20 and regions resulting in competition with other federally
21 qualified hunters.

22

23 Opportunity Provided by State:

24

25 The state resident moose hunting season
26 in Unit 25C is from September 1 through 15 with a limit
27 of one bull. The state nonresident moose hunting season
28 in 25C is September 5 through September 25 with a limit
29 of one bull.

30

31 Conservation Issues:

32

33 None under existing regulations. This is
34 a bull-only hunt and hunter participation is relatively
35 stable.

36

37 Enforcement Issues:

38

39 Federal public lands constitute
40 approximately 74% of Unit 25C, but a significant portion
41 of the easily accessible land is non-federal and in the
42 state s non-subsistence use area. Federally-qualified
43 hunters will need to be aware of the boundaries.

44

45 Other Comments:

46

47 The expanded season, creating additional
48 differences between the state and federal regulations, is
49 not necessary to provide the opportunity for federal
50 subsistence by rural residents on federal lands.

1 Creating an expanded season for all rural residents of
2 Alaska creates a priority that is not based on continued
3 customary and traditional uses and cannot be justified
4 based on a desire to reduce competition. Also, as the
5 moose population declines, the expanded season will
6 create unnecessary impacts on other subsistence users.

7

8 Recommendation:

9

10 Oppose.

11

12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions of
13 the Department of Fish and Game.

14

15 MR. GLANZ: I have a statement.

16

17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: A statement or
18 a question?

19

20 MR. GLANZ: It's from the Central AC.

21

22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Turn it into a
23 question.

24

25 MR. GLANZ: I'll turn it into a question.

26

27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

28

29 MR. GLANZ: The question is they say it's
30 going to increase, I understand there'll be some people
31 coming in there. My question though is since caribou
32 season has been open in our area since oh, I don't know
33 when they -- it never closed, it never closed, the
34 December 1st season for Federal subsistence up there.
35 And we've seen no -- one caribou harvested by a non-area
36 resident, one caribou that's turned in. And there's
37 still -- the season's still open. We've had no impact
38 from that. And for the moose it's going to be the same
39 with the price of gasoline there's not going to affect.

40

41

42 And this law was really put -- was
43 mentioned by our Board to start because when you go on
44 the Yukon River you can hunt on the left side, but you
45 can't hunt on the right side until you get to Sam Creek,
46 then you can hunt on both sides. And we was trying to
47 get this -- it started off that way originally so that we
48 could have just -- so you know where to hunt. Right now
49 there's patchwork of crap as we call it for the
50 Federal/State. And we're surrounded, we got 75 percent

1 of our ground around us is Federal and 25 percent is
2 State. So most of the residents of Central, Circle and
3 Eagle don't even recognize the State because the hunting
4 seasons are mostly Federal for us, all of us around there
5 and that was the reason this was put in to make it
6 unified. And.....

7

8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What was the
9 question.

10

11 MR. GLANZ: The question was -- I was
12 just trying to answer his, why he -- why the State is
13 opposed to it. That's all of us, you know. So anyway
14 I'm open for questions.

15

16 (Laughter)

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I wanted
19 to talk to the Council here for a second. This is what,
20 you know, your mind, you hear all this stuff and then
21 it's like the discussion part, that's why it kind of
22 would be nice to have the motion on the floor in the
23 early part, that's why I was kind of pushing that. So
24 let's -- we'll go through this one, but the next one
25 let's put it on the floor unless you don't want it on the
26 floor. Okay That might work easier.

27

28 MR. UMPHENOUR: Like we did yesterday.

29

30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then you can
31 -- then we're discussing as we're -- as they're coming up
32 then we're discussing and I think that keeps it a lot
33 cleaner, correct, Robert? Excuse me a sec.

34

35 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair and for the
36 benefit of the rest of the Council, I would remind the
37 Council that until the motion's on the table that the
38 discussion phase needs to -- needs to be postponed. So
39 this first portion of the meeting where we have the
40 introduction of the proposal and the comments from the
41 State and the other Agencies, any interactions with the
42 Council should be directed exactly to those people that
43 are making the presentations. And any discussions about
44 the issue itself should be postponed for Council
45 deliberations. And that'll make things go, you know,
46 easier and smoother.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: See what happens

1 to us because we're just common folk, we just -- our
2 minds come up with these things and we want to discuss
3 it. So it's hard for me to -- how we should do this and
4 so that's why I'm a little more open sometimes and if --
5 somebody can hit me if they don't like it I guess. But
6 it is good for you guys to say things and I don't want to
7 get too wrapped around that, but at any rate his question
8 to you is why. And you said why, correct? Okay.

9

10 MR. WOODRUFF: Madam Chair.

11

12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

13

14 MR. WOODRUFF: I did have a burning
15 question or discussion to get into this and I realized
16 that like Chuck said -- Chuck?

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Robert.

19

20 MR. WOODRUFF: Robert said that I'm going
21 to hold off until it's on the floor.

22

23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

24

25 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah.

26

27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And please.....

28

29 MR. WOODRUFF: And I agree with Bill.

30

31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:keep -- you
32 know, don't lose that thought. Okay.

33

34 All right. I think next is other
35 Federal, State or Tribal.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: InterAgency

40 Staff.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: SRCs.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Fish and Game
49 Advisory Committees.

50

1 (No comments)
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.
4
5 MR. GLANZ: We had our AC meeting on
6 February 10th and it the motion was made to support this
7 and it passed unanimously.
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Summary
10 of all written comments. Robert.
11
12 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. There's no
13 written comments and the North Slope Council did not take
14 up this proposal.
15
16 I do have one general public comment that
17 a gentlemen would like read into the record. And because
18 it's -- this is the first proposal specific to the
19 Eastern Interior, this might be a good time for that.
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I think
22 Phillip Solomon, isn't that Jeep? Phillip Solomon,
23 remember.....
24
25 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chair. Phillip Solomon
26 was the young man at the meeting in Ft. Yukon which --
27 that had all the.....
28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
30
31 MR. GLANZ:quite a young.....
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. Right.
34 Okay.
35
36 MR. GLANZ: We need him on our
37 committees.
38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay. I
40 was -- I'm trying to keep this straight. Thanks.
41
42 Go ahead. He's going to read that.
43
44 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. This is
45 correspondence that was sent to the Council and it reads
46 as follows from Mr. Phillip Solomon. It reads as
47 follows.
48
49 The hunting trend is going against
50 regulations unless we get some help to

1 meet our subsistence needs. Do we want
2 people to be criminals to eat. I see
3 people coming in here with a lot of
4 emotions to get a point across, our
5 needs are not being met.
6

7 Please help us in any way possible to
8 change the view of the public on bycatch
9 in the ocean otherwise we'll be fishing
10 for white fish and salmon will be my
11 bycatch. The wolves are year round
12 hunters and we need to make them
13 criminals with a \$50 bounty.
14

15 Thank you for sitting here for two days
16 hearing us out. The Gwitch'in people do
17 appreciate your help. And this is -- I
18 haven't seen more people using dog food
19 during this season than ever before. I
20 think that's close enough.
21

22 So thank you, Phillip Solomon.
23

24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I think he
25 wrote -- I think he wrote that at the Ft. Yukon meeting
26 at the end and it was presented to the event so that's
27 appropriate to have that read. We get a lot of
28 involvement in Ft. Yukon. Okay.
29

30 Thank you. Phillip, I remember now.
31

32 So Regional Council deliberation.
33

34 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
35 WP10-86.
36

37 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's been moved
40 by Virgil and seconded by Donald. Discussion. Now you
41 get to say everything you like.
42

43 Donald.
44

45 MR. WOODRUFF: One thing I want to point
46 out is that I agree with what Bill had to say is that
47 they even -- that the regulation even specify the islands
48 are considered one side of the river or the other. So it
49 is confusing a lot of times and so if this can help align
50 the hunting season and it also gives us like it says an

1 extra 25 days and like Bill said, I don't care if our
2 area is all local rural residents for hunting in this
3 Federally protected area, but it -- we don't -- we're not
4 getting, you know, Federal subsistence people coming from
5 Juneau or that area.....

6

7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, they're not.

8

9 MR. WOODRUFF:or, you know, the
10 Southeast or any area coming in and hunting. That is
11 only during the statewide open season that we see that.
12 And so if more people from Eagle or Central can get meat
13 on the table with this extended period, I'm all for that
14 because it's -- to me what it's about is being able to
15 have a -- you know, eat something besides fish all winter
16 long. That's it.

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
19 discussion. Bill.

20

21 MR. GLANZ: Yes, the problem is there is
22 season -- and I've put up with this for almost 26 years,
23 the season opens September 1st and it's for residents the
24 first five days. And you'll never see them -- there's no
25 moose in August and they're right -- the Steese -- we can
26 go up on the Yukon-Charley and hunt in August and they're
27 not moving in August. They don't start moving towards
28 the 20th, 21st of September. When I go hunting for moose
29 I go on the Yukon-Charley and I go up there about
30 September 23rd and do a couple of cow calls and we get a
31 bull within -- within the next morning. And this -- so
32 this is what we're trying to do is open it up where the
33 locals can harvest some moose when they're moving is when
34 the season is. And actually you like GIs and you like
35 hunting with them, this is the place to come to September
36 1st through the 15th because there's sure a bunch of
37 them.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you like the
42 GIs, right? I'm sorry.

43

44 MR. GLANZ: I'm an ex-GI. Yeah, I like
45 them, they're okay. I just mean that they -- we're
46 inundated with that and pickup trucks, you know, you
47 almost need a -- and if you go to the mouth of the
48 Charley River on the Yukon River September 10th, you need
49 a traffic cop out there directing. And the mouth of
50 Kandik, you need a traffic cop because there is so much

1 boating activity that anybody in the Yukon-Charley can
2 attest to that that it really is a crowded mess.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
7 discussion. Virgil.

8

9 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, Bill, let me ask
10 you a question. You said that early in the season
11 there's all kinds of people over there and, you know, the
12 moose are all back in the words, you're not seeing them,
13 so why do you want to open the season earlier then?

14

15 MR. GLANZ: The only reason, Virgil, is
16 the August 20th opening on the Yukon-Charley. And I
17 wanted to keep it on the same -- if he comes down from
18 Ft. Yukon and he hits our area there he can hunt both
19 sides of the river. It's going to -- it's just a -- to
20 me it's like a bookkeeping error or something, get it
21 where it's uniform. I say these past works of you can
22 hunt here, I mean, I've had -- I turned in some people
23 one time because they shot a moose on September 16th on
24 the other side of the Sam Creek. And that was on --
25 State ground was closed so we turned them in. I mean,
26 you know, it was a couple military kids, but, I mean, you
27 know, they -- so we're just trying to -- trying to make
28 the seasons equal there. I don't care if they don't all
29 open up there until September 1st, but I wanted to make
30 it -- the original plan was from our AC was to let's get
31 this -- everything on the same footing. And now I'm
32 saying you can get -- sure if you want to go up in the
33 Steese-White Mountains and go back in there and hump a
34 moose out you can find one in September, they're all up
35 high in our area, they're up out of the bugs as anybody
36 in the Flats can probably attest, they have to go
37 someplace else to find a moose. But that's the only
38 reason I wanted to make it August 20th, make everything
39 unilateral so we can -- that's -- Virgil, that's it.

40

41 MR. WOODRUFF: Madam Chair.

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,
44 Donald.

45

46 MR. WOODRUFF: Virgil, I can answer that
47 question. There are some bulls that are residents, they
48 aren't necessarily up high all the time because I see
49 them in the summer when I'm fishing. And if say somebody
50 that has a job in the village, they can come down for

1 three or four days and get a moose, take it back and put
2 it in the freezer. Me, I'm going to hang the moose all
3 winter long. So I have to get it late in the season so
4 it'll freeze. It just hangs there. And just keep the
5 jaybirds off of it, that's all I have to do. But that
6 early season, the people that either have work or
7 seasonal work or whatever, can get off from the 20th or
8 the 24th, there was only a four day season for
9 subsistence people the way the regs read before. And so
10 you had to hunt for four days and then get the hell out
11 of there until the 1st of September. So it -- it's going
12 -- it's going to give more opportunity for people to put
13 meat on the table if they can find the meat.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chairman, and also that
18 Solomon he's written a couple of proposals he wants to
19 adapt. And that's the reason he wanted some of these
20 seasons because of his workload. And he only has a few
21 days to hunt, he'd like to be able to get his meat in in
22 the fall. So if he has to get it August 30th, that's the
23 way he wants to do it. And he's got a bunch of regs in
24 there also we're going to be getting to on black bear and
25 grizzly bear and so forth. And all them our AC voted 100
26 percent behind it, increase the harvest. So anyway we'll
27 get to them later, but that's another reason we want it
28 early so we could get like he -- like he stated, people
29 that are working or people that have no time to hunt in
30 September of whatever. But anyhow.....

31

32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I wanted to ask
33 you guys something about that C&T. You don't see it as
34 a problem right now, but do you see it ever becoming a
35 problem as people from other rural areas of Alaska say
36 hey, there's a moose season open until the 30th and they
37 go maybe I want to come up there and hunt a moose the end
38 of September.

39

40 MR. WOODRUFF: Madam Chair. I did talk
41 to the biologist pilot about that, to get a ruling on
42 that. But apparently the Park Service who are required
43 by mandate to protect subsistence, there's a stipulation
44 in there that they can't make a rural determination for
45 the Yukon-Charley because we -- it doesn't encompass a
46 village. The village is just on the outside edge of it.
47 And I don't understand that.....

48

49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That doesn't
50 make sense.

1 MR. WOODRUFF:but that's what I was
2 told in town at this meeting yesterday.
3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: By the Park
5 Service?
6
7 MR. WOODRUFF: By the anthropologist from
8 Yukon-Charley. And.....
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are they brand
11 new?
12
13 MR. WOODRUFF: By who?
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are they brand
16 new.....
17
18 MR. WOODRUFF: No.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:to Alaska?
21
22 MR. WOODRUFF: No, that's David Krupa,
23 he's also a subsistence coordinator. But I would -- I
24 mean, I'd do back flips if they made a C&T and they said
25 only local rural residents for our area, but that's not
26 going to happen apparently and I'm going to fight that
27 like a wolverine.
28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, you -- a
30 C&T can be put in by anyone.
31
32 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah.
33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then it's
35 analyzed. So I don't see -- I mean, for me personally we
36 dealt with this with caribou on the Fortymile. There's
37 no -- it's all rural residents and the reason it's all
38 rural residents is because they've never done a C&T
39 finding for those species in that GMU. So, you know, I
40 foresee in the future that they may need to be done.
41
42 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chairman.
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.
45
46 MR. GLANZ: We put in for C&T and they
47 says well, you guys are surrounded so much with Federal
48 ground it's not going to be issued. That was Laura
49 Tyrell, I have to get the paperwork, I didn't bring it,
50 but she -- we have it from years back when we applied for

1 one because I -- because it came up years ago and.....
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, now long
4 ago it might have been to the State and not to the
5 Federal.
6
7 MR. GLANZ: It was, yes.
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
10
11 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So it's a
14 different issue now.
15
16 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, Roy -- that's Roy
17 Nowlin, he says you need to, you know, and we are the C&T
18 there so we've been -- anyway, that's -- we'll redo it
19 then if that's okay, I didn't know whether it was
20 possible to redo it.
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, it would
23 have to be in a proposal the next cycle is the thing.
24
25 MR. GLANZ: Yes, it will. We'll do that.
26 Yeah, okay.
27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. But --
29 okay.
30
31 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think it's
34 worthy of discussion.
35
36 Barbara, I know you wanted to talk to the
37 Park Service.
38
39 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah, maybe I can address
40 this issue. With the -- on Park Service managed lands
41 there are sort of two separate, but somewhat overlapping
42 eligibility determinations of a sort. So C&T we use on
43 Federal land, Federal public lands throughout Alaska.
44 And that's certainly something that you -- that this
45 Commission or other users could put a proposal in to
46 establish a customary and traditional use determination.
47 The Park Service on lands that are designated as national
48 park or national monument has an additional kind of
49 determination that we call our resident zone and those
50 are done in regulation. There's some similarities to

1 C&T, but it's not the same as C&T. We don't have
2 resident zones for national preserves. And I think
3 that's probably what the confusion is, but you can
4 certainly put in a C&T determination proposal.

5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, because
7 since the Yukon-Charley is Preserve only, there is no
8 Subsistence Resource Commission and it's a different
9 situation. So it just goes like all other Federal land,
10 you just do C&Ts, there's no second thing to go through.

11
12 MR. WOODRUFF: Well, I think they heard
13 my concern and whether I do it in a proposal or if I talk
14 to the superintendent I think something can happen.

15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, somebody
17 up there's confused as far as I'm concerned. Yeah.

18
19 Go ahead, Helen.

20
21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If I can address the
22 C&T issue. In the regulations 25C, moose, it does say
23 all rural residents and that's because I'm -- I haven't
24 researched it, but most likely it was adopted -- we adopted
25 the regulations from the State in the beginning and if a
26 proposal has never come forward to change that so next
27 time around.....

28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's the exact
30 history that I.....

31
32 MS. H. ANDERSON:I hope you're
33 making notes, you can request a C&T determination for
34 that.

35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, it -- I
37 mean, that's just something that we should put on the
38 radar screen is what I'm saying. And it's actually for
39 both caribou and moose if there's a concern that it's
40 going to get over harvested, that's one of the areas that
41 you can work on it.

42
43 So let's speak to the proposal again.

44
45 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chair, if I may. One
46 thing we could -- Ruth Gronquist can -- is -- the
47 caribou, she can shut that down with one phone call to us
48 which she does. I mean, you know, so if there's an over
49 harvest we'll just shut -- the Feds can shut the season
50 down, there's no big deal, I mean, you know, as far

1 as.....

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: For moose, you
4 mean?

5

6 MR. GLANZ: For the moose, yes. I mean
7 just like she does for caribou, I mean, if it's -- I
8 would assume.

9

10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's let Chuck
11 speak to that EO I guess it would be.

12

13 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, Madam Chair. We --
14 we'd always do a special action to close the season if we
15 had to, yeah.

16

17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're looking
18 at it that closely then?

19

20 MR. ARDIZZONE: I don't think so, not at
21 this time, but, I mean, I -- it's just something to be
22 aware of, you know. We don't want to say here's the
23 season and all of a sudden have a big influx of hunters.
24 I don't say it's going to happen, it's just -- it's just
25 one of those issues we want everybody to be aware of.

26

27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It should be on
28 the radar screen though that if -- you know, if you saw
29 a tremendous amount of other non-rural -- I mean, rural
30 residents, not non-rural, but rural residents, that
31 really was a significant impact then it's something to be
32 looking at.

33

34 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chair. It's on our
35 radar all the time up there with the -- with the caribou
36 because there's some people that came up there and they
37 used to -- they grew up in that area so they were going
38 to come up and go caribou hunting. I don't think you
39 are. Go right ahead, we're going to call it in, you know
40 what I mean, so even the locals are watching.

41

42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, that would
43 be urban people, right?

44

45 MR. GLANZ: Yes, they're -- they grew up
46 in Central.....

47

48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's
49 different.

50

1 MR. GLANZ:and then they moved to
2 Fairbanks and then they come up thinking they can go
3 hunting subsistence. No, no, no, you know. So.....
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But what I'm
6 talking about is other rural residents.
7
8 MR. GLANZ: I agree. Even then we'll --
9 you know, Ruth Gronquist and us, we talk, our -- you
10 know, with different people up there and we talk with the
11 Fish and Wildlife.....
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I.....
14
15 MR. GLANZ:so, I mean, we monitor
16 it ourselves in those areas. So whatever.
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Other
19 discussion on the proposal.
20
21 Donald.
22
23 MR. WOODRUFF: I just found a bright
24 point like Fish and Game pointed out, they just did a
25 survey this November on the moose and the population is
26 on the increase. So I'm very positive about that and
27 it's come up significantly. So hopefully it keeps going
28 that. And we are definitely still getting all the bears
29 and the wolves we can to keep the population up. And
30 there's some proposals on bear trapping and bear baiting
31 coming up and I'm going to help discuss those.
32
33 Thank you.
34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
36 discussion. Andrew.
37
38 MR. FIRMIN: I really agree with this one
39 because plenty of people from the Flats, I can think of
40 four of the seven villages that travel through this area
41 just using the highway to get their winter supplies to
42 their houses and, you know, if they get lucky they get
43 lucky and if not then oh, well. And I think would, you
44 know, alleviate some of the low moose population in the
45 Flats and it would help out some of the local people
46 because if you look at Page 55, Table 3, there's 311
47 people hunting there last year and 22 of them were local
48 people. And that's a significant number, but it might --
49 if it helps people out there then I think that's a good
50 thing.

1 Thank you.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Excellent
4 comments, Andrew, you're really thinking it through.
5
6 Other comments or discussion.
7
8 (No comments)
9
10 MR. GLANZ: Question.
11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question has
13 been called for. All in favor.
14
15 IN UNISON: Aye.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.
18
19 (No opposing votes)
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. 10-
22 87.
23
24 MR. UMPHENOUR: I move to adopt Proposal
25 WP10-87.
26
27 MR. WOODRUFF: I'll second that.
28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I think
30 this is the one that Pat Valkenburg called me about and
31 he wanted to participate in. He did -- oh, doggone it.
32 So I pushed you to put it on the table and then here's
33 one that we might have to -- oh, bummer.
34
35 Did I understand, George, that Pat is
36 sick?
37
38 MR. PAPPAS: As of last Friday -- I heard
39 he wasn't going to make it as of last Friday. I can
40 go.....
41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Please do. You
43 know I apologize again because this is how I wanted to
44 deal with, but this happens to be the one that he had
45 requested that he wanted to be here for. That is the
46 Deputy Commissioner of Fish and Game, he wanted to talk
47 heavily to us about this because it would set season bag
48 limit.
49
50 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Madam Chair, we don't

1 have a phone line set up.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are we going to?
4
5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm not sure. I think
6 Tina's going to.....
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Because I gave
9 people that 800 number that was provided to me so they
10 could call in.
11
12 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'm not -- I'm not sure,
13 I think Tina's going to check. They were trying to get
14 it set up next door, but I don't know. We could move on
15 to another proposal if you want.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can I ask the
18 second to pull that and then we'll.....
19
20 MR. WOODRUFF: I'll withdraw my second.
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:go to the
23 next one. I'm sorry.
24
25 MR. PAPPAS: So we're going to postpone
26 this until we can talk to the Commissioner.
27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yep. I think
29 what he has to say is very, very important. So let's try
30 it on 10-88.
31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
33 WP10-88.
34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did I hear a
36 second.
37
38 MR. WOODRUFF: I'll second that.
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So, okay, we can
41 discuss this as we go. All right. But we'll try to get
42 through these comments, but we -- now we're -- we can
43 have some discussion.
44
45 88. Helen.
46
47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Just to update, George
48 couldn't get ahold of him, no answer.
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, we'll

1 continue to try.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Madam
4 Chair. Helen Armstrong, OSM. Proposal 88 is -- the
5 analysis is found beginning on Page 76.

6

7 This one was also submitted by the
8 Eastern Interior Council and requests that all edible
9 meat of the front quarters, hind quarters and ribs from
10 moose harvested in Unit 25 must remain on the bones until
11 the meat is removed from the field or is processed for
12 human consumption. At your winter and fall 2009 meetings
13 you all heard that the spoilage of meat -- moose meat in
14 the field is a problem.

15 The Council originally drafted this proposal to submit to
16 the State of Alaska, Board of Game to consider at its
17 February 26th, March 7th, 2010 meeting. The Council
18 submitted this proposal to the Federal Subsistence Board
19 because much of the land in Unit 25 is within the
20 boundaries of the National Wildlife Refuges. The Council
21 believes that the proposed regulations will make
22 enforcement of salvage regulations easier.

23

24 If the parallel Board of Game proposal is
25 adopted beginning July 1st, it would apply to moose
26 harvested on Federal public land. This would be true in
27 -- except for cases where the Federal public lands are
28 closed to the harvest of moose except by Federally
29 qualified users or when a Federally qualified subsistence
30 user is hunting moose on Federal public lands with a
31 Federal moose permit. Currently a Federal moose permit
32 is required in only one area, a por -- only one portion
33 of Unit 25, the Federal public lands in Unit 25D West and
34 in that area Federally qualified users hunting moose
35 would not be required to follow the new State regulation
36 because hunting is done under Federal permit. If the
37 proposal is adopted the regulation would apply to all
38 Federally qualified users hunting moose on Federal public
39 lands in Unit 25. This would require Federally qualified
40 users to leave all edible meat of the front quarters,
41 hind quarters and ribs on the bones of moose harvested
42 until the meat is removed from the field or is processed
43 for human consumption. If the proposal is adopted there
44 would be no effect on non-Federally qualified users
45 hunting on Federal public lands in Unit 25.

46

47 OSM preliminary conclusion is to support
48 the proposal with the modification to apply the new
49 regulation only before October 1st when warmer daytime
50 temperatures contribute to meat spoiling.

1 Thank you, Madam Chair. That concludes
2 my presentation.

3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

5
6 (No comments)

7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: ADF&G comments.

9
10 MR. PAPPAS: I'll be real quick, Madam
11 Chair. The Department comments, we're waiting to hear
12 what the Alaska Board of Game's action, what they take.
13 So we'll support what the Board of Game adopts here.

14
15 Thank you, Madam Chair.

16
17 *****
18 STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
19 *****

20
21 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
22 Comments to the Regional Advisory Council

23
24 Wildlife Proposal WP10-88:

25
26 This proposal would require that all
27 edible meat of the front quarters, hind quarters, and
28 ribs from moose harvested under federal subsistence
29 regulations in Unit 25 remain on the bones until meat is
30 removed from the field or processed for human
31 consumption.

32
33 Introduction:

34
35 Leaving moose meat on the bones until it
36 is removed from the field and/or until it is consumed by
37 humans is widely-practiced by state and federal
38 subsistence users in Unit 25. However, many other
39 hunters, including some federal subsistence users, remove
40 the meat from the bone at the kill site. The meat can be
41 successively salvaged for human consumption if proper
42 procedures are followed when using the boning
43 technique. The state has no quantifiable data from Unit
44 25 concerning the incidence of wasted meat resulting from
45 improperly boning moose meat and suggests it rarely
46 occurs. The proposal offers the alternative of adopting
47 state meat-on-the-bone salvage requirement regulations
48 for moose taken in Unit 25 under federal subsistence
49 regulation, and federal subsistence regulations already
50 adopt nonconflicting state regulations by reference.

1 Impact on Subsistence Users:

2

3 If this proposal is adopted, successful
4 federal subsistence moose hunters in Unit 25 will be
5 required to transport the meat attached to the bones out
6 of the field, resulting in more trips or heavier loads
7 per trip.

8

9 Opportunity Provided by State:

10

11 State regulations currently do not
12 require that moose meat remain on the bone in Unit 25.
13 The department assumes the proponent intended to
14 reference other near by Game Management Units with meat-
15 on-the-bone state regulation requirements (Units 9B, 13,
16 17, 18, 19A, 19B, 21, 23, and 24).

17

18 Conservation Issues:

19

20 None.

21

22 Enforcement Issues:

23

24 State enforcement officials generally
25 acknowledge that meat-on-the-bone requirements make it
26 easier to enforce meat salvage requirements. Adoption of
27 this proposal may introduce confusion in Unit 25 because
28 the state hunting regulations do not presently require
29 meat on bone salvage requirements for moose.

30

31 Other Comments:

32

33 The Eastern Interior Regional Advisory
34 Council submitted a parallel proposal (#106) to the
35 Alaska Board of Game. This proposal was deferred until
36 the February 26 through March 7, 2010, meeting.

37

38 Recommendation:

39

40 To be determined following Alaska Board
41 of Game action.

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Is there
44 another proposal relating this in the Board of Game, what
45 number is it?

46

47 MR. PAPPAS: Madam Chair. Eastern
48 Interior RAC submitted parallel Proposal No. 106 to
49 Alaska Board of Game proposal. The proposal was deferred
50 to February 26th.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
2
3 MR. PAPPAS: That's number 106.
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. This is
6 -- I'm thinking about trying to deal with State proposals
7 at the same time, where there's joint proposals like that
8 because we -- there's several here. So I don't want to
9 overlook that, George, if you can help me to -- as we go
10 through these where -- do you know what number that one
11 was again?
12
13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: 106.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So, Council
16 members, 106 should be -- we should have something here
17 that's all the Board of Game proposals for our region.
18 And if you go to 106 -- I think I got the wrong one.
19 Board of Game proposals. So is it the -- which one is
20 it? If you didn't bring your Board of Game book I
21 thought somebody -- we were provided with that. So we'll
22 look for that as we go through this process.
23
24 Rita, Fish and Game, did you have
25 something you would like to.....
26
27 MS. ST. LOUIS: It's Page 158 in the
28 green book.
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: In the green
31 book. If you have the green Board of Game book.....
32
33 MS. ST. LOUIS: Page 158 in the green
34 book, that's the Board of Game book.
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There should be
37 something in our packets that's -- dealt specific to our
38 region.
39
40 (Pause)
41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's just
43 continue, we're going to look for this paperwork.
44
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Madam Chair. I have
46 it the State Board of Game proposal, would you like me to
47 just read what it's asking?
48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's the same as
50 this proposal?

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's the same.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. I'm just
4 saying that we need to take them up together.
5
6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. And
9 so.....
10
11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And so as far as I'm
12 quickly looking at it it's exactly the same.
13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, okay. Did
15 -- okay. Does any -- it's the same wording is my
16 understanding, I haven't.....
17
18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yes, it is.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So if
21 anyone wants to see it, I -- we have copies in the room.
22 We're just going to try to deal with both of them at the
23 same time.
24
25 Okay. Now we're to the other Federal,
26 State and Tribal Agency comments.
27
28 (No comments)
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: InterAgency
31 Staff Committee.
32
33 (No comments)
34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: SRCs.
36
37 (No comments)
38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The Fish and
40 Game Advisory Committees. Did -- this is 25C. Did you
41 guys take it up? Would you like to speak to it, Mike.
42
43 MR. TINKER: We don't need to, we support
44 it.
45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
47 Fairbanks AC is supporting it, Mike Tinker. And you --
48 Mike is a member or an officer?
49
50 MR. UMPHENOUR: He's the Chair of the

1 Game Committee.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, there's a
4 Game Committee with the Fairbanks Committee.
5
6 MR. TINKER: I'm also a.....
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You need to come
9 up. Introduce yourself, Mike.
10
11 MR. TINKER: Madam Chairman, I'm Mike
12 Tinker and I'm a member of the Fairbanks Advisory
13 Committee, Chairman of their Game Subcommittee and also
14 appointed by the Committee to represent them at the Board
15 of Game meeting which is where you've gone with Proposal
16 106. We supported the meat on the bone concept in there
17 for all hunters without substantial comment, just that
18 that's fine. So what you do on the Federal side is fine
19 because we think it's consistent and that's good.
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Mike.
22 Okay. Now continuing on with our process, other Fish and
23 Game Advisory Committees.
24
25 MR. GLANZ: Yes. Our AC approved this
26 with modifications. They want to modify it with the
27 ribs, so they can take the meat off the rib, but they
28 want to leave the bone on everything else. But they want
29 -- because the ribs are almost worthless when you haul
30 them out and you let them sit around a couple of days is
31 what I found and if you bone the ribs out immediately you
32 have some hamburger meat.
33
34 But anyway that -- that's what we did.
35 We support it with modifications.
36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thanks,
38 Bill. Any other ACs take this up?
39
40 Now the summary of the written public
41 comments. Robert, do we have any.
42
43 MR. LARSON: There are no written public
44 comments.
45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And
47 public testimony, since we have very few public in the
48 room.
49
50 (No comments)

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't see any.
2 Now our discussion on the proposal and right now we have
3 on the table the Federal proposal. Do you guys want to
4 take them up jointly because they're worded -- are they
5 worded either -- they're worded exactly the same,
6 correct?

7

8 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes. I believe so.

9

10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do they --
11 Staff, does it -- I don't know how to ask this question,
12 but if they were taken up jointly is it -- the Federal
13 side affected differently than the State or not?

14

15 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. If you make
16 the same recommendation on them both it should be fine.
17 I mean there was that modification -- Staff made
18 modification to do it after 1 October, I'm not sure how
19 the wording went into the Board of Game, but that --
20 there is that small change.

21

22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
23 Anymore discussion. This is the time to talk about this
24 proposal.

25

26 Andrew.

27

28 MR. FIRMIN: I helped write part of this
29 proposal and I'm all for it, of course. And I think that
30 just it's a less of a waste for proper handling. And a
31 lot of the pilots that fly in and out of -- fly -- not
32 only guide, but they fly just -- I'd guess you'd call it
33 just a sole hunter, you know, on your own. They all
34 agree with this as well and that's part of where the idea
35 came from for it. And part of the reason is because in
36 Ft. Yukon I know that they -- they kind of have a bad rep
37 for flying, you know, non-resident hunters out and when
38 -- then they end up with a whole moose to give away, they
39 don't like giving it away, you know, it doesn't look good
40 for them to go give a bag -- big bag of mystery meat
41 covered in sand away. And it just -- it gives a public
42 a poor view of those -- of the non-resident hunters and
43 the people that accommodate them. And, I mean, if you
44 don't like -- if you want to cut the meat off the ribs
45 and -- or if you don't like carrying it out, I mean,
46 that's -- they're the easiest to cure and easy to process
47 and heck, give them away first.

48

49 And just on a footnote that after this
50 little fiasco in the newspaper this fall that maybe they

1 need some -- teach some people how to actually cut up
2 their meat before they just give anybody a knife. And I
3 don't know if -- you guys probably all read in the paper
4 about the -- loss of meat at the -- one of the places
5 here in town and that was all a big back and forth issue,
6 but let's not get off the subject, I guess.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Grafton.

11

12 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes. I was just talking
13 with -- excuse me, my name's Grafton Biederman. I'm
14 originally from Eagle, but I'm residing in Venetie, I've
15 been there since '83. I was come to this meeting this
16 morning and was supposed to be here at 8:30, but I was on
17 the teleconference with the village tribal office up
18 there with the Village Tribal Chief and the Chief for the
19 Council. And they -- I did speak with them for the meat
20 on the bone issue that with the people that do come up
21 there and go hunting on the State side and when they do
22 go up there and they -- whether if they're going up to
23 Arctic or they're going to Venetie, is that I -- I did
24 try to tell them to -- but they're taking call here and
25 have this issue on teleconference with them, but they
26 said that they're busy with some matters that were -- I
27 guess they're coming into town for a meeting with a Fish
28 and Wildlife so that issue should probably be brought up.

29

30 And I do support this ruling that -- but
31 there's a few issues that -- like Andrew was saying is
32 that -- I just go with the motion so I'd just like to say
33 that in my wording, you know, I'd like to support this.

34

35 Thank you.

36

37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm
38 hearing support, correct, Grafton?

39

40 MR. BIEDERMAN: (Nods affirmatively)

41

42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes. Okay.

43 Virgil.

44

45 MR. UMPHENOUR: I support this proposal,
46 it promotes better quality meat. A lot of people, I
47 don't know what's wrong with them sometimes, they aren't
48 thinking well or something, but I see lots of meat that
49 ends up getting lots of dirt on it and hair. And
50 especially if it's boned out when that happens then it's

1 practically impossible to really salvage the meat
2 properly, you use an awful lot of it. And so this
3 promotes better care of the meat and less spoilage and
4 waste.

5
6 Madam Chair.

7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Other
9 discussion. Other.....

10
11 MR. GLANZ: I myself, Madam Chair, I
12 don't -- I never even pull the hide off until I get it
13 home and hanging. I mean, you know, that way you don't
14 have to wrap it and so forth. So and it cools with the
15 hide on. And never lost any meat yet.

16
17 But so like I say I actually support this
18 even though my AC wants to have a mod, but I think --
19 support it just the way it is and it's making it simple.

20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And it's
22 actually -- I really appreciate your comments, Andrew,
23 you know, just like other -- what we did on this
24 statewide one, bringing forth some of the discussion. I
25 think your discussion about education, I think that needs
26 to go in our comments, would you guys all agree, because
27 I -- they're definitely, it's everywhere, it's not just
28 in your region, it's everywhere where there's problems
29 with care of meat. I've seen it myself over all the
30 years and it just breaks my heart to see the waste that
31 could be eliminated if they knew what to do with it. And
32 I often think it would be neat if they -- if they're
33 hunting in an area where there's native villages or rural
34 people that, you know, there's a way that they can share
35 with them that it isn't like you talk, a bag of sand and
36 -- peppered into the meat, I mean, that's terrible to see
37 meat treated like that because then the people are
38 willing to use the meat that haven't got something. And
39 that's a process that this education is working together,
40 I think it needs to be in our comments.

41
42 So I guess that's my feeling, if you all
43 agree with that as our comments. Okay.

44
45 Any other discussion. Donald.

46
47 MR. WOODRUFF: I also have a complete
48 agreement with this. And one aspect of it is that I see
49 happening sometimes is that there is a certain, I don't
50 know, percentage of cow harvest that people get with

1 their bull and if they bone it all out then they're just
2 going back to town with bags of meat and it's not
3 necessary a cow or a bull. And they run around all
4 hunting season with, you know, a skull in the boat.
5 And.....
6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But they're
8 supposed to have their.....
9
10 MR. WOODRUFF: Meat attached. Right. So
11 okay. So.....
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:the proof
14 of sex attached.
15
16 MR. WOODRUFF: Right. So they run around
17 with a piece of meat with a -- with testicles on it and
18 a rack.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You mean.....
21
22 MR. WOODRUFF: And they take two or three
23 cows and it's.....
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, if it was
26 a cow.....
27
28 MR. WOODRUFF:it's starting to
29 upset me that I see that happen. So I'm in favor of this
30 because they won't have bags of meat or around.
31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
33
34 MR. WOODRUFF: And I can ignore that a
35 tiny bit, but if it happens all the time and I see young
36 calves running around totally freaked out it kind of
37 pisses me off.
38
39 Thank you.
40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: To say the
42 least, 'eh. Okay.
43
44 Other discussion. Chuck.
45
46 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. I just want
47 to be clear -- I guess I'm not clear, are we talking the
48 original proposal or the modified proposal?
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The original.

1 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay. I just wanted to
2 make sure.
3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you know
5 what, it just beats my idea about having the motion
6 forward. We're in the learning process here.
7
8 Okay. What's your wishes, Council
9 members.
10
11 MR. GLANZ: I'll call for the question.
12
13 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: As written.
16
17 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, as written. Yes
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
20 question's been called for. All in favor.
21
22 IN UNISON: Aye.
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.
25
26 (No opposing votes)
27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Carries. Do we
29 need a break or do you want to continue.
30
31 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt State
32 Proposal 106.
33
34 MR. GLANZ: Second.
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Which is a joint
37 -- and who.....
38
39 MR. GURTLER: What page is that on.
40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Page 158 of this
42 book which we don't -- you don't have. And they provided
43 us with Board of Game proposals, but for some reason this
44 one's not in it. Like I said our paperwork's kind of
45 scattered here.
46
47 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.
48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But you know
50 what we're talking about, the language is the same, I'm

1 assured by Staff that it is the same.

2

3 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Pertaining to --
4 speaking to my motion to adopt State Proposal 106, State
5 Proposal 106 is basically a parallel proposal to the
6 Federal proposal that we just passed so I would like to
7 incorporate all my remarks to Federal Proposal WP10-88
8 and I will be voting in support of it.

9

10 Madam Chair.

11

12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you for
13 all that help, Virgil. Anything else to be added.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Call for the
18 question, huh, that's what I heard.

19

20 MR. GLANZ: Let's call for the question,
21 yes.

22

23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
24 question's been called for. All in favor.

25

26 IN UNISON: Aye.

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: None opposed.

29

30 (No opposing votes)

31

32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Passes
33 unanimous again.

34

35 So I need a short break. Okay. Five
36 minutes which always turns into.....

37

38 (Off record)

39

40 (On record)

41

42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's call it
43 back together. All right. We're back. And then Virgil
44 would like to say something before we start. Go for it,
45 Virgil.

46

47 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
48 WP10-89.

49

50 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
2 Introduction from the proposal and analysis.

3
4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Madam
5 Chair. Helen Armstrong, OSM. This proposal analysis
6 begins on Page 82 in your books. Proposal WP10-89 was
7 submitted again by this Council.

8
9 It requests the exclusion of residents of
10 Ft. Greely from the customary and traditional use
11 determination for caribou in Units 20D and 20E and for
12 moose in Unit 20D. The Council states that this action
13 is necessary due to the temporary nature of their
14 residence on Ft. Greely which does not allow for the
15 establishment of a long term consistent pattern of use.
16 The current customary and traditional use determinations
17 in these units include all residents of the entire Unit
18 20D sub-unit which includes Ft. Greely. In Unit 20D it
19 should be noted that there are virtually no Federal
20 public lands and there are no Federal open seasons for
21 caribou or moose. So without the -- with no Federal
22 public lands and no seasons, you know, essentially it's
23 a moot point. In 20E there's 24 percent Federal public
24 lands.

25
26 When the Board assumed management of the
27 subsistence uses of wildlife on Federal public lands in
28 1990 it adopted State of Alaska customary and traditional
29 use determinations including the existing ones for
30 caribou in Units 20D and E and moose in 20D. The Board
31 did not exclude -- the Federal Subsistence Board did not
32 exclude Ft. Greely from these customary and traditional
33 use determinations. And I was actually around at that
34 time and there was a lot of discussion on the part of the
35 Board and Staff whether or not they should exclude it.
36 So it wasn't something done in a vacuum where somebody
37 forgot. While some determinations adopted from the State
38 do exclude residents from military bases, generally the
39 Board has not made it a practice to exclude residents of
40 military bases from C&T determinations.

41
42 MR. UMPHENOUR: Have not or have?

43
44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Have not. They have
45 included, they generally have included military bases.
46 And the reason I -- I'm -- I'm not getting off track, but
47 the reason really is because there are people on military
48 bases who are permanent residents. For example residents
49 of the Coast Guard bases in Units 4 and 8 are not
50 excluded from any of the customary and traditional use

1 determinations in Units 4 and 8.

2

3 Harvest data indicate that residents of
4 Ft. Greely have harvested caribou in Units 20D and 20E
5 and moose in 20E since recording began in 1983.

6

7 There are a couple of important points --
8 other points to make. Only permanent residents of Ft.
9 Greely are Federally qualified to harvest caribou and
10 moose under Federal regulations. This means that Ft.
11 Greely must be their permanent, primary home for one
12 year. Those Ft. Greely residents who have not
13 established permanent residency can only hunt under State
14 regulations for non-residents.

15

16 Ft. Greely also is considered a rural
17 community, that's another important thing to remember.
18 When the Federal Subsistence Board conducted its rural
19 review in 2006 Ft. Greely was grouped with the Delta
20 Junction vicinity and the Federal Subsistence Board
21 retained its rural status. So as recently as 2006 the
22 Federal Board has reviewed whether or not Ft. Greely
23 should be considered rural.

24

25 And just as an aside, that revisiting of
26 the rural determinations is coming up in the near future
27 now that we've -- we're doing the census this year, the
28 Federal government's doing the census.

29

30 If this proposal is not adopted Ft.
31 Greely residents who have established permanent residency
32 would still only be able to harvest moose and caribou in
33 Unit 20D under State regs because there is no Federal
34 land and no open season.

35

36 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
37 oppose Proposal WP10-89 because Ft. Greely residents have
38 a history of harvesting caribou in Units 20D and E and
39 moose in 20D and there is no evidence to support
40 exclusion of permanent residents of Ft. Greely from the
41 existing customary and traditional use determinations.

42

43 Other points in that justification were
44 that it's a rural -- considered a rural community.

45

46 And that concludes my presentation.

47

48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions,
49 Council members of the Staff analysis.

50

1 I've one question. In the Federal book,
2 Page 67, moose, 13B. This is a C&T for moose in 13B.
3 Rural residents of 13, 20D, except Ft. Greely, Chickaloon
4 and -- except Ft. Greely, then it says -- then Chickaloon
5 and Slana, they're not accepted or -- I can't talk.
6 They're not excluded, Chickaloon and Slana, just --
7 except Ft. Greely under 20D. How did you do that C&T.

8

9 MR. GURTLER: What page are you on?

10

11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Page 67. We actually
12 had a fair amount of discussion about this, this one did,
13 this whole proposal did generate a lot of discussion by
14 the anthropologists and with our management Staff. And
15 we did talk about that, where it's in one place and
16 really what happens is -- happened is that that one -- a
17 C&T determination proposal came forward for a unit and
18 whoever did the analysis back when it was done determined
19 that Ft. Greely didn't have -- it didn't meet the eight
20 factors. In this case they already have the C&T and it
21 didn't -- it was felt that the bar needs to be higher to
22 exclude a community rather than -- I mean, they already
23 have it, then to take it away it should be higher. And
24 they ought -- we have evidence that they've been
25 harvesting it and there was concern about people who
26 probably live there who are permanent residents and to
27 exclude them, and they may just be as rural and as
28 permanent as any, you know, as some people here, that --
29 was that the right thing to do since a lot of the people
30 in the military aren't there very long so they wouldn't
31 even get C&T anyway, I mean, they wouldn't qualify under
32 our Federal regs. So.....

33

34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, wouldn't
35 they after one year?

36

37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: After one year. But
38 they.....

39

40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And most of them
41 stay more than a year.

42

43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Maybe two or three.

44

45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, so they
46 would qualify.

47

48 MR. WOODRUFF: Yes, the whole base would
49 qualify.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald, when you
2 say yes and all that you got to push your mic.

3
4 MR. WOODRUFF: Yes, the whole base would
5 qualify. I was raised as an army brat and we never went
6 anywhere except for three year stints. So I would be
7 considered a resident of Ft. Greely and I could come to
8 20E where I live and shoot moose, all of them.

9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So it's
11 interesting that they were excluded in 13B and what the
12 Staff analysis is coming up with since they were already
13 included, you're taking a stronger.....

14
15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The -- taking the view
16 point that to take something away from someone or from a
17 community, you -- that you're saying -- you're coming in
18 and saying you need to be excluded as -- it should be a
19 higher bar than not -- than if you were doing the
20 analysis from the beginning. I mean and this is -- you
21 -- this is all -- I think they're rural, it's a wild,
22 renewable resource, it's -- as long as there's enough of
23 a resource then they should be able to harvest it. If
24 there's a shortage then -- I mean, obviously if there
25 were a shortage and you did an 809, Ft. Greely would
26 probably be the first community to be cut out, I mean, I
27 think that would be probably a given.

28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is it 809 or
30 804?

31
32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I mean 804, sorry.

33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We'll just
35 continue with all these comments and I -- I would -- I'll
36 have some deliberation later.

37
38 ADF&G. No comments.

39
40 (No comments)

41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Just for those
43 in the audience and the -- this is what I'm to go by and
44 you have it in your book, we're going to probably skip
45 some of -- I'm going to say all together, Federal, State
46 and Tribal, InterAgency Staff will -- has no comments on
47 any of them at this time I'm told.

48
49 Any SRC.

50

1 (No comments)
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Fish and Game
4 Advisory Committees.
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I gave --
9 and Robert's going to read the Upper Tanana.
10
11 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. We have the
12 Upper Tanana Fortymile Advisory Committee and they
13 support FP10-89 and the AHTNA Subsistence Committee
14 supports WP10-89. They comment that they do -- the
15 community does not have long term historical use of the
16 resources and they do not practice in a custom --
17 customary and traditional use lifestyle.
18
19 Thank you.
20
21 Madam Chair, there's one other public
22 comment from Mr. Dan Quarberg and he is in support of 10-
23 89.
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And where's Dan
26 from? I know him. I know where he's from, he's from
27 Delta, Delta Junction. He actually serves on an Advisory
28 Committee there.
29
30 MR. LARSON: Yeah, that's.....
31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did.....
33
34 MR. LARSON:correct, Delta
35 Junction, Alaska.
36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Are there
38 any more, Robert, did the Delta AC take it up?
39
40 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. The Delta
41 Advisory Committee also supports FP10-89. Their comments
42 were that residents of Ft. Greely cannot receive
43 subsistence permits anyway, but they do notice that the
44 housing on Ft. Greely has changed since the post was an
45 active army installation as regular public individuals
46 are not allowed to rent houses.
47
48 Thank you.
49
50 MR. UMPHENOUR: I need to ask a question.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil would
2 like to ask a question.
3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR: How many actual military
5 are at Ft. Greely and how many are basically civilian
6 contractors' employees?
7
8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We don't have that
9 broken down. It -- 700 people including military,
10 civilian and contractors. Well, it says the 2009
11 resident population was 700 and then there are 1,400
12 people who are the total workforce on the base. So there
13 are people -- I mean, you can be military and not live on
14 the base.....
15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR: Correct.
17
18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:right and which
19 is another point we discussed, what about those people
20 who are military and don't live on the base. So you have
21 -- it's kind of a complicated situated where you've got
22 non-military who are permanent residents who live on the
23 base and you've got military who aren't -- who may be
24 there only three years who don't live on the base. It
25 gets complicated.
26
27 MR. WOODRUFF: Madam Chair, if I may.
28
29 MR. UMPHENOUR: Let me clear this up a
30 little bit, I think.
31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Virgil
33 then.
34
35 MR. UMPHENOUR: Given my extensive
36 military background and what little I know about Ft.
37 Greely, which I don't know a lot about it, it -- I know
38 what it used to be. It's not -- basically it's not
39 really -- it's a missile defense thing is what it is.
40 And so the majority of the people that live on Ft. Greely
41 I believe are civilians, I don't think they're military.
42 Now if a person works at Ft. Greely and is a resident of
43 Delta Junction or Dot Lake or anyplace else, they're a
44 resident of that place, they're not a resident of Ft.
45 Greely because they just -- that's their work place. And
46 so those people would still qualify. The people that
47 would not qualify would be the people that are like
48 civilian contractors that have housing supplied on Ft.
49 Greely which used to be military housing, but the
50 military's gone basically except for maybe a few officers

1 and technicians. And so I'm in favor of the proposal
2 because I think the majority of these people are
3 scientists and people like that. I gave a kid hit --
4 that was hitchhiking a ride from the airport not too long
5 ago and he was from back east someplace and his parents
6 are both engineers and work there and he got a job
7 working there. And so they're basically transient
8 people, they're scientists and technicians and whatever
9 else they are that are -- if they're living on Ft. Greely
10 they're not going to ever probably become residents of
11 the State anyway because their domicile is someplace else
12 otherwise they wouldn't be living on the base in the
13 housing that's on the base. The people that actually
14 work there and don't live on base are more than likely
15 Alaska residents that live in Delta Junction or someplace
16 near there that would qualify as Federal subsistence
17 users.

18

19 So I think our proposal is appropriate
20 and I'll be supporting it.

21

22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

23

24 MR. GLANZ: Yes, Madam Chair. When we
25 wrote this up it was post office box at Ft. Greely, I
26 don't see it anywhere in that proposal, but I remember
27 that the Delta Junction people and we all got together
28 with them when we did this and it was supposed to read
29 that anybody that has a post office or uses a post office
30 in Ft. Greely or the telephone system out there is a non-
31 subsistence user, but I don't see it in here when we --
32 when this is written up. And I'm in support of this
33 also.

34

35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: How -- can you
36 respond to that, if.....

37

38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, our regulations
39 are written residents of, not people who get their post
40 office box. So I think there's somewhat of an assumption
41 that you get your mail where you live, but that may not
42 be completely true.

43

44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know I
45 attended the Upper Tanana Fortymile Advisory Committee
46 just to listen in and actually they were in support of
47 putting this forward and I think I brought it to the
48 Council to bring forward because they don't understand,
49 you know, why it's in the books like we discussed earlier
50 and they figure if that precedent was set here and maybe

1 a concern of the winter caribou hunt in the Fortymile
2 being taken by people that probably don't really have a
3 healthy C&T in the area. So that's why that proposal was
4 put forward and I don't know how else to put on the
5 record to explain intent, but.....

6

7 Bill.

8

9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: One other thing,
10 I believe if you look in the harvest of migratory
11 waterfowl they're excluded in that also from harvesting
12 I understand.

13

14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I see Helen
15 shaking her head to agreement of that. Not?

16

17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, it was a shaking,
18 okay, I'm making a note of it.

19

20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

21

22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Sorry.

23

24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any other
25 discussion. Andrew.

26

27 MR. FIRMIN: I have a quick comment. I'm
28 kind of neutral on this, but I'd just like to by the
29 tables they put out here, they got a 20 year history of
30 the moose harvest and out of those 20 years they've only
31 had like a 16 percent success rate. And those aren't a
32 whole lot of numbers. The caribou is a little bit more
33 higher, but, I mean, they don't have a whole -- a good
34 list of the history of the permits and the harvested
35 animals, but I kind of look at that and I'm not so sure
36 those guys are actually effecting too much of the hunting
37 season, but that could change in a quick minute with the
38 fluctuation of base personnel over the course of a year.
39 But like I said, I'm neutral on the subject.

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did -- Donald
42 did you say -- have something?

43

44 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, I'm in favor of this
45 just like the Upper Fortymile Tanana area is. And
46 corollary to that would be if I was of hunting age and I
47 was stationed on a base, and I was stationed on a base in
48 Germany and Japan, so if I was of hunting age in Japan
49 living on a base I would be considered a resident after
50 one year, I could go get whales. So the corollary is if

1 I was a resident kid, say 16 or 18 or 20, still living
2 with my parents on the base I could go get moose and
3 caribou in the area where I'm living. So I'm in favor of
4 this.

5

6 Thank you.

7

8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'd also like to
9 point out again probably, this data that you presented us
10 goes '83 to '04 and I'm not sure what year the military
11 base ended and it went to a missile site. So it's -- the
12 status of Ft. Greely has changed significantly of what it
13 -- who -- the people that are there.

14

15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: In the -- under
16 community characteristics on Page 84 it says in 1997 Ft.
17 Greely was listed for closure under the Department of
18 Defense Base Realignment and Closure Program and it was
19 downsized and then identified as a potential missile
20 defense site and became the site of a U.S. missile
21 complex in 2004.

22

23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But then you
24 have the current population of Ft. Greely for '09 as 700
25 plus?

26

27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

28

29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So I
30 would just like to point out that I think the people in
31 our region would say -- I'm concurring with all of the
32 discussion here and they would agree with a lot of that
33 discussion.

34

35 So any other. Can we help you out,
36 anything else, Andrew, do you have any questions?

37

38 MR. FIRMIN: No, I'm fine.

39

40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

41

42 MR. GLANZ: Question.

43

44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to
45 support it as the people from my region also support it.
46 And I hear the question's been called for. All in favor
47 of this proposal say aye.

48

49 IN UNISON: Aye.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
2
3 (No opposing votes)
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And then
6 we'll have the reasons that were stated on the record.
7 All right. I didn't -- sorry, we can survive.
8
9 We will -- an hour and 15 minutes so 1:15
10 we come back.
11
12 (Off record)
13
14 (On record)
15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
17 We're trying to get ourselves organized here.
18
19 Council members, Pat Valkenburg, the
20 Deputy Commissioner of Fish and Game said he can be on at
21 2:30. So we're going to try to maybe take this -- the
22 comments up first and but we'll continue on today. And
23 I also had a request on 95 to take it up this afternoon
24 because the young lady with Denali Park, she's going to
25 have a chance to go out on a trapline and we think that's
26 pretty doggone important. So she wanted to do that today
27 so she could go back and go out on some trapper's
28 traplines there.
29
30 Okay. Let me pull up my list.
31
32 If we're on the topic of something when
33 we call him, we just lay it on the table and then take up
34 that proposal. So currently we should be on.....
35
36 MR. UMPHENOUR: 90.
37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, 90 looks
39 to me like a crossover proposal, do we care about it
40 coming up now?
41
42 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's our proposal.
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, okay.
45 Well, we can put it in, it's just that it's a -- it's a
46 C&T and a crossover. All right. Let's go ahead and take
47 it up.
48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
50 WP10-90.

1 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Staff.

4

5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Madam
6 Chair. Helen Armstrong, OSM. Proposal WP10-90 is found
7 on Page 88 of your books. It was submitted, again, by
8 your Council, it requests the addition of Unit 12
9 residents of the Tok cutoff road between Milepost 79 to
10 110 and there is a map on Page 89 that shows real --
11 really clearly what area we're talking about. To add
12 those residents to the customary and traditional use
13 determination for caribou in Units 13B and 13C.

14

15 The Council stated that the residents of
16 this area have subsistence permit patterns similar to
17 those of Slana and Mentasta Lake which are included in
18 the customary and traditional determination for caribou
19 in Units 13B and C and that residents of this area
20 harvest other subsistence resources in the Copper Basin
21 and find it confusing to have customary and traditional
22 use determination for moose in this area, but not for
23 caribou. The Federal Board previously determined that
24 the residents of Unit 12 generally exhibit the eight
25 factors for caribou and has made causative customary and
26 traditional use determinations for the residents of Unit
27 12, including the residents of the proposed area for
28 caribou in all or parts of Unit 11, 12, 20D and 20E.

29

30 The question for this analysis is not do
31 these Unit 12 residents between these mileposts exhibit
32 a customary and traditional pattern of use of caribou, we
33 already know they do, they already have C&T for caribou,
34 the question is did it occur within the boundaries of
35 Units 13B and C.

36

37 The problem we had for doing this
38 analysis is this is a very small sub-area of Unit 12 and
39 so there's not specific information about those
40 communities. The households are disbursed along the road
41 system between communities and mailing address only
42 indicates communities in which hunters pick up their mail
43 and not where they actually live. And our understanding
44 is that -- and we would welcome more information from
45 you, Sue, on this, is that most -- that not everybody
46 picks up their mail in the same place perhaps, but you'd
47 have to be able to tease those -- that information out
48 and we get information for the whole community of, for
49 example, Slana or Mentasta Lake and we don't have
50 specific information for those communities.

1 There was a study done in 1987 of this
2 area and at that time there were 26 people living in 11
3 households in the proposed area. There's no specific
4 census data at this time for the area and how many
5 residents live there today is not documented. And if the
6 Council has information on that we'd welcome more
7 specific information.

8
9 The -- while the Board has never
10 specifically discussed the uses of residents residing in
11 the proposed area, but they did do Unit 12 in a holistic
12 manner, but it didn't look at those particular residents.
13 At the time when it did the C&T for Unit 12 residents,
14 which these people live in Unit 12, the Unit 12 overall
15 residents didn't have use of caribou in 13B and 13C which
16 is why these residents don't have it. But it was based
17 on the premise that the Unit 12 boundary is not only a
18 boundary of management units, but also a boundary between
19 native cultures and harvest areas. As we know the Unit
20 12 residents are not limited only to Athabaskan
21 residents. The people living in the proposed area are in
22 close proximity to Slana and Mentasta which you can see
23 and they're very close to them in Unit 13 and our
24 conclusion was that they should not be excluded from
25 being eligible to hunt in the same area, the areas that
26 Slana and Mentasta Lake use just because they live along
27 the road and not actually in Slana or Mentasta Lake.

28
29 Therefore we recommended to support, our
30 preliminary conclusion is to support Proposal WP10-90.

31
32 Thank you, Madam Chair.

33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions of
35 Staff now.

36
37 (No comments)

38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. ADF&G has
40 no comments.

41
42 (No comments)

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I'm down to
45 SRC.

46
47 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
48 On Proposal 90 the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park
49 Subsistence Resource Commission unanimously supports the
50 proposal for the reasons stated in the justification for

1 the preliminary OSM conclusion.

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
4 Barbara. And Fish and Game Advisory Committee. I'm
5 going to do that all at once. Fish and Game Advisory
6 Committee and other written comments and have Robert do
7 that.

8

9 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. The AHTNA C&T
10 Committee supported this proposal as well as Upper Tanana
11 Fortymile AC, they were in support of this proposal.

12

13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
14 Robert. Okay. We are now into deliberations. So since
15 it's my region I guess I need to take the lead on this.

16

17 What was it -- information that you were
18 asking that you needed?

19

20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, I was curious if
21 you know how many households and how many people live
22 there currently and it -- not that it's, you know,
23 critical, but it would be nice to have updated
24 information.

25

26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Pretty close to
27 what it was in your report.

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

30

31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, because I
32 -- in my mind I started going up and down the road. And
33 what happens is there's in -- private land along the road
34 and it can't change because it's surrounded by Native
35 land and State land. So there's really no opportunity
36 for -- and I've lived there for 33 years and it's pretty
37 much the same amount of people that live there. We've
38 lost two elders out of there, actually Edith Smith, she
39 was raised in Wiseman, she's on Bartel Creek which is
40 just across the border. And then there's the Nabesna
41 Road. So and the reason that the proposal was put at 110
42 is because it parallels a sheep proposal for Unit 11. So
43 keeps it all kind of clean.

44

45 And what other information did you say.
46 Oh, the post office you mentioned. Most of the people
47 have a mail box on the road and it's through the Tok post
48 office. I have two mail boxes on the road, one's a
49 Gakona address because the mailman comes from Gakona and
50 delivers so you can get your mail coming up from Gakona

1 or you can get it coming back as he returns from Tok. So
2 I found that it was quicker to get mail with my Gakona
3 address from someplace in Southcentral so I use that
4 address for that. And there's just a few of us that do
5 that in that area. And then there's a -- maybe just a
6 small portion that has a post office box, like a couple
7 households might have a post office box in Tok. And I
8 know that in Unit 13 from Mentasta Pass into the village,
9 along the road system their post off -- or their address
10 would be Tok also. So it doesn't say Mentasta, but they
11 have -- it would have the 99780 Tok address, that's how
12 it has to be for the mail purposes if that helps you.

13

14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, it just confirms
15 that because the harvest data in the State -- ADF&G
16 harvest data base is done by zip code then you're being
17 recorded -- all your harvests are being recorded as being
18 Tok harvests. So.....

19

20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Actually what
21 had happened, I'll tell you this, in the first C&T in the
22 '80s that was done, I think it was '83 or '85, we were
23 included in Mentasta, the people along the road. And
24 then the next one, I think it was '87, we were pulled out
25 and called Mentasta Pass. So the data should be there
26 for Mentasta Pass on the second subsistence. I have that
27 book at home if you guys.....

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I know what you're
30 saying, true, but any harvest that you had that, you
31 know, if you turn in your permits, anything that gets
32 recorded in the data base like, you know, any of
33 these.....

34

35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I see.

36

37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:that's being
38 recorded as being a Tok harvest.....

39

40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I see.

41

42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:because they go
43 -- it goes by your zip code. So that's what I'm saying
44 is we couldn't actually look and see well, where are the
45 people who live there.

46

47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I see, yeah.

48

49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The only way you could
50 do it is if you did a house -- household survey. But I

1 don't know that it's -- it -- you know, is it that
2 important. I think when you look at the map and you see
3 how close you live to them and, you know, I think it's
4 pretty clear that.....

5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

7
8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:you could have
9 the same uses that they have.

10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think you did
12 a very good job of saying that we have the similar uses
13 of Mentasta Lake and Slana Lake or Slana. And that's
14 very good, very well done.

15
16 So, Council members, any questions.

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 MR. GLANZ: Can I call for the question.

21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
23 question has been called for. And we do have it on the
24 floor. Okay. All in favor.

25
26 IN UNISON: Aye.

27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.

29
30 (No opposing votes)

31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Moving
33 along to the next one.

34
35 MR. UMPHENOUR: I move we adopt Proposal
36 WP10-91.

37
38 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that also.

39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's been moved
41 and seconded. Go ahead, Chuck.

42
43 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. For the
44 record and Staff lunch, Chuck Ardizzone. This proposal
45 can be found on Page 97 of your Council books.

46
47 WP10-91 was submitted by Phillip Solomon
48 and requests that the annual harvest limit for brown
49 bears be increased from one to three bears per year. The
50 proponent believes that this change would provide

1 additional opportunity to harvest brown bears and they --
2 there are a high number of brown bears in the area and it
3 would also help compensate for low moose and salmon
4 numbers.

5
6 The brown bear population in Unit 25A,
7 25B and 25D is based on the 1993 estimate of
8 approximately 1,200 bears. Density estimates vary by
9 unit, 2.8 bears per 100 square miles in 25A, 2.2 bears
10 per 100 square miles and 1.3 to 2.6 bears per 100 square
11 miles in Unit 25C. Brown bears do not successfully
12 reproduce until they are older than five years and they
13 also have smaller sizes and therefore are managed
14 conservatively.

15
16 Brown bear harvest is currently close to
17 the management objectives which are 30 bears harvested in
18 25A, 29 bears harvested in Units 25B and 25D and six
19 bears harvested in Unit 25C. If this proposal is adopted
20 brown bear harvest limits would increase from one to
21 three bears every regulatory year in Unit 25. Over
22 harvest is likely to increase or harvest is likely to
23 increase, excuse me. An increase of this magnitude may
24 lead to over harvest based on management objectives.

25
26 Therefore the OSM preliminary conclusion
27 is to support with modification, to increase the harvest
28 limit to two bears versus one which is more conservative
29 than jumping all the way to three immediately.
30 Increasing the harvest limit from one to two bears would
31 provide more opportunity for user -- Federal users,
32 however it would also allow us to see what the harvest
33 rates will be and conservatively manage brown bears in
34 the area.

35
36 If there's any questions I'll try and
37 answer them. Thank you.

38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We'll continue
44 then with the Fish and Game comments.

45
46 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
47 George Pappas, Fish and Game. Summarizing our comments.

48
49 Impacts on subsistence users. Adoption
50 of this proposal will provide the opportunity for Federal

1 subsistence grizzly bear hunters to harvest more than --
2 more animals per year. Communities in Unit 25 engage in
3 primary hunting practices where specific community
4 hunters often harvest for multiple families.
5 Conservation issues, there are none. The additional
6 harvest would likely be low because only Federally
7 qualified users would be able to take more than one
8 grizzly bear per year and only on Federal public lands.
9 And Unit 25D, an estimate of 387 bears inhabit the region
10 with an allowable harvest of 19 bears annually at a 5
11 percent harvest rate. One to five bears are harvested --
12 are reported harvested in 25D annually and harvest by
13 local residents is not reported. And they make take an
14 estimated additional five to eight bears annually
15 therefore there is room for additional harvest. Also
16 hunters would need to know that they are on Federal
17 public lands if they intend to take more than one bear
18 annually.

19

20 And the Department is neutral until more
21 information is acquired at this meeting. If the bag
22 limit is increased, modification is needed to improve
23 harvest monitoring or reporting in order to assure
24 harvests do not exceed sustainable levels.

25

26 Thank you, Madam Chair.

27

28 *****

29

STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

30

31

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

34

35 Wildlife Proposal WP10-91:

36

37 Increase the bag limit for grizzly bears
38 in Unit 25 from 1 bear to 2 3 bears.

39

40 Introduction:

41

42 The proponent requests the harvest limit
43 for grizzly bear be raised because the current federal
44 subsistence harvest limit of one bear per year does not
45 meet the traditional subsistence uses and user needs.
46 Residents of Unit 25D have previously requested higher
47 grizzly bear bag limits in state proposals for 2 reasons:
48 1) to help reduce predation on moose and 2) some hunters
49 would take and utilize more than 1 bear annually.

50

1 Impact on Subsistence Users:

2

3 Adoption of this proposal will provide
4 the opportunity for federal subsistence grizzly bear
5 hunters to harvest more animals per year. Communities in
6 Unit 25 engage in primary hunter practices, where
7 specific community hunters often harvest for multiple
8 families.

9

10 Opportunity Provided by State:

11

12 The current state bag limit Unit 25 is 1
13 grizzly bear every regulatory year.

14

15 Conservation Issues:

16

17 None.

18

19 The additional harvest would likely be
20 low because only federally qualified users would be able
21 to take more than 1 grizzly bear per year and only on
22 federal public land. In Unit 25D, an estimated 387 bears
23 inhabit the region with an allowable harvest of 19 bears
24 annually (5% harvest rate). One to 5 bears are reported
25 harvested in Unit 25D annually. Harvest by local
26 residents is not reported, and they may take an estimated
27 additional 5 8 bears annually. Therefore, there is room
28 for additional harvest.

29

30 Enforcement Issues:

31

32 This regulation could cause enforcement
33 issues because of land ownership patterns. Hunters would
34 need to know that they are on federal land if they intend
35 to take more than 1 grizzly bear annually. Unit 25 has
36 a complicated patchwork of land ownership making it
37 extremely difficult for hunters to know when they are on
38 federal public lands or on non-federal lands.

39

40 Recommendation:

41

42 Neutral until more information is
43 acquired at the Regional Advisory Council. If the bag
44 limit is increased, modification is needed to improve
45 harvest monitoring or reporting in order to assure
46 harvests are not exceeding sustainable levels.

47

48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions of
49 George.

50

1 (No comments)
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now, Fish
4 and Game Advisory Committees.
5
6 Go ahead, Bill.
7
8 MR. GLANZ: Our Central AC had a meeting
9 on this here too and they'd prefer it be three bears, but
10 they would settle for two bears being taken. Due to the
11 intensive management we're having now with the moose and
12 caribou. So we -- and they are a big predator of what
13 we're trying to build up there in our area. So we'll
14 settle for two bears, that was our vote.
15
16 MR. WOODRUFF: Bill, did you say two or
17 three?
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Two.
20
21 MR. GLANZ: Our Committee wished it would
22 be three, but they said they would settle for two if
23 that's the consensus of Fish and Game and everybody. So
24 we'll settle for two.
25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: This is in Unit
27 25 so I don't think there's any SRCs affected.
28
29 Any other Fish and Game Advisory
30 Committees meet on this?
31
32 (No comments)
33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you have any
35 written comments?
36
37 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. We have no
38 other Advisory Committee or written public comments.
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
41 Deliberation, discussion.
42
43 Andrew.
44
45 MR. FIRMIN: I also support this with a
46 modification to go to two bears, three is a bit much.
47 And I'll probably be repeating myself on the next
48 proposal as well, but a lot of this -- say for example
49 out of 100 people go hunting, maybe 10 are targeting
50 bears and only five are successful, but maybe those guys

1 are doing it better than the next guy so this will just
2 free up the individuals that are actually taking bears
3 legally would allow them to actually take more than one.
4 And that's -- my feeling on it is that that would help
5 the people that are actually out there hunting them to
6 pick up slack for people that don't even -- don't even
7 care to shoot at bears.

8

9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

10

11 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you, Madam Chair.
12 I move to adopt the agency's modification, so I want to
13 amend it to a two bear limit.

14

15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's a motion
16 to amend. We could actually ask the second to concur and
17 eliminate.....

18

19 MR. UMPHENOUR: The second will.....

20

21 MR. GLANZ: I'll concur on that as the
22 second.

23

24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that
25 eliminates a lot of -- uh-huh. So now the motion on the
26 floor is to go with OSM's preliminary conclusion with the
27 modification to two bears. That is what the discussion
28 is about right now.

29

30 Any other discussion. Virgil.

31

32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah, I'll support the --
33 I'll support the proposal with the two bear limit.
34 There's other areas in the State such as Unit 22A in
35 Norton Sound where that is in State regulation, I don't
36 know as it's in Federal regulation or not, but they did
37 increase the limit to two grizzly bears there per year
38 and at the same time they had totally closed the moose
39 season. It's re-opened this last year on a permit only
40 basis. And so this would be doing what has already been
41 done in other regions of the State that have severe
42 problems with calf survive -- moose calf survival.

43

44 Madam Chair.

45

46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I appreciate
47 those comments, but I'd also like to hear some comments
48 regarding eating the meat.

49

50 MR. GLANZ: I'll make a comment.....

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

2

3 MR. GLANZ: Sorry, Don. I'll make a
4 comment on that. We got a real nice one this fall over
5 there and we took the hams off and we had a heck of a
6 nice feed with them. And then we ground up a bunch for
7 hamburger. And I don't know what anybody else thinks
8 about grizzly meat, but I'll tell you it's my -- I like
9 prefer it over black bear. So that's just me personally,
10 but we eat it and the hide we have that processed also.
11 So.....

12

13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

14

15 MR. WOODRUFF: Madam Chair. I think
16 grizzly bear meat's fine meat as long as they haven't
17 been into fish and on the Yukon since the water's so
18 cloudy, they're not traditionally fish hunters or fish
19 fishermen or fishing bears. And so anytime that I've
20 gotten a bear that had blueberries either in its mouth or
21 the other end, they were always very good tasting.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and I'd
26 like to add to that, Virgil. You made some hot dogs out
27 of my grizzly bear I got last and they were delicious and
28 it was taken on Federal lands.

29

30 Virgil.

31

32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Now contrary to what
33 people -- a lot of people believe and you hear people say
34 this, that they wouldn't eat grizzly bear, but we eat
35 grizzly bear every year. Of course I guide for grizzly
36 bears and -- but we eat spring bears as well and there's
37 nothing wrong with a spring bear as long as it's a good,
38 clean kill and the bear is properly taken care of there.
39 Actually my hunting clients are surprised when they try
40 the bear meat, they can't believe how good it is. And so
41 contrary to what a lot of people think, grizzly bear is
42 good eating.

43

44 Madam Chair.

45

46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and I'd
47 like to add to that. My years whenever I had a lot more
48 time, not going to meetings, I rendered out the fat and
49 I used it for baking and cookies and all kinds of things.
50 And even when it got old, boot grease. So and then I'd

1 roast and I know you have to cook it well, but I have fed
2 like you -- you know, my Native friends some of them eat
3 bear meat and some do not, and I remember Katie's oldest
4 daughter, my friend, she said don't let mom eat bear
5 meat, but she said we always ate it when I was growing
6 up, her dad always ate it. So it's interesting the
7 differences in the areas. But in the Yukon River,
8 Andrew, I'm sure you can testify that they eat bear meat.
9 Go ahead and.....

10
11 MR. FIRMIN: Yes, they definitely do,
12 especially black bear meat. And actually if you want to
13 hear a funny story, my grandfather asked him about 10
14 years ago whether or not you could eat grizzly bear meat
15 and he said that his older brother used to eat bear meat
16 all the time and was real proud of it and bragged about
17 it. And then he said they -- a trapper died on his
18 trapline and they left him on top of the cut bank, you
19 know, until the ground thawed out so they could bury him
20 and he said when they went to pick up the body a bear
21 already ate the guy and drug the sled off. So he said
22 his brother stopped eating bear meat then. He didn't say
23 it was good or bad though, he said that -- that was all
24 he had to say.

25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, sometimes
27 the superstition gets hold of you. Yeah, because I think
28 Katie quit eating it, she told me a long story of how a
29 bear actually charged her and her two youngest ones when
30 they were really little and that kind of cured her of it
31 also. But that -- and again that's -- still they
32 actually utilize it and it's important to put that in the
33 record.

34
35 Any other discussion.

36
37 (No comments)

38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
40 question.

41
42 MR. GLANZ: I'll call the question.

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. All
45 in favor.

46
47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that is with
50 the modification for two bears. Okay. Anyone opposed.

1 (No opposing votes)
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
4 Moving on.
5
6 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
7 WP10-92.
8
9 MR. GLANZ: I'll second.
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's been moved
12 and seconded. We'll go into Agency analysis.
13
14 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. The
15 analysis for WP10-92 can be found on Page 103 of your
16 Council book.
17
18 WP10-92 was submitted by Phillip Solomon
19 and requests that the annual harvest limit of black bears
20 in Unit 25 be increased from three to five bears per
21 year. The proponent states that the current black bear
22 population is high and that an increase in the harvest
23 limit would help compensate for low moose and salmon
24 numbers in the area. Black bears are abundant in Unit
25 25, however there is uncertainty over accurate population
26 numbers for much of the unit. Bear densities are thought
27 to range between .2 and .7 per square mile. Black bears
28 have low productive rates and the age of first
29 reproduction has been documented at between five and
30 seven years of age. Household survey data indicate that
31 black bear harvest for the Yukon Flats area has ranged
32 between 32 and 68 bears per year. Currently ADF&G and US
33 Fish and Wildlife Service are conducting a study to
34 obtain density estimates in a 500 square mile area within
35 Unit 25D where a large portion of the black bear harvest
36 occurs and most of the villages are located. Results of
37 this study are expected in August of 2010. If this
38 proposal is adopted overall harvest may increase, however
39 we'd like to get some more input from the Council at this
40 meeting because we don't have a lot of good data.
41
42 So the preliminary OSM conclusion is to
43 oppose the proposal for several reasons. The first
44 reason being that Fish and Game and the Fish and Wildlife
45 Service are conducting that study and results are
46 expected in 2010, that'll give them some time to complete
47 their study before this is passed. And secondly there's
48 already ample opportunity in the unit to harvest black
49 bears, there's a liberal harvest regime right now, three
50 bears a year, and there's also a community harvest that

1 can be taken advantage of under the State regulations
2 which has not been, I don't think, taken advantage of at
3 all at this point. So like I said currently our
4 conclusion is to oppose this proposal at the moment.

5
6 Madam Chair, if there's any questions
7 I'll try and answer them.

8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions,
10 Council members. Andrew.

11
12 MR. FIRMIN: I have one -- more of a
13 statement, but I know -- I think we discussed this at our
14 last meeting, but I think the community harvest thing is
15 widely unknown in the communities because I think that
16 was the first I heard of it was at our last meeting other
17 than being able to get a permit to go hunt for an elder
18 or something that was -- Madam Chair.

19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, we'll just
21 continue on with comments and -- because I have a lot of
22 questions there or a few.

23
24 Fish and Game.

25
26 MR. PAPPAS: George Pappas, Fish and
27 Game. Current bag limit is three black bears annually in
28 all of Unit 25D under State regulations. Also in Unit
29 25D there are additional opportunity to obtain a
30 community harvest black bear permit so the hunter can
31 harvest more than three annually as long as the total
32 number of animals taken by the hunters in the groups does
33 not exceed the combined bag limits of the people who
34 signed up. The community harvest regulations allow a
35 group of people to combine their individual bag limits
36 into a group bag limit. To date no black bears have been
37 harvested under this community harvest black bear permit.

38
39 Conservation issues, none. There are
40 numerous black bears in 25D and the additional harvest
41 likely would be low to moderate. Most hunters currently
42 do not take three bears annually. And in other parts of
43 the State when the opportunity to take five black bears
44 annually was available, it did not result in an increase
45 in harvest. The Department is implementing an intensive
46 management program in portions of 25D and additional
47 harvest of black bears may help reduce predation on moose
48 calves.

49
50 The Department is neutral. The

1 Department supports providing additional opportunity for
2 subsistence users when resources are sufficient. The
3 current Federal and State hunting regulations provide the
4 opportunity necessary for subsistence on Federal public
5 lands. If and when populations decline in the future,
6 for example, an expanded bag limit when the population is
7 high should not be used in the future to unnecessarily
8 expand the meaningful preference required for Federally
9 qualified subsistence users on Federal public lands.

10

11 Thank you, Madam Chair.

12

13

14

STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

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

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Wildlife Proposal WP10-92:

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Increase the hunter bag limit of black
bears in Unit 25 from 3 bears to 3 5 bears per year.

Introduction:

The proponent is requesting
liberalization of the annual federal subsistence black
bear harvest limit for Unit 25. The proponent
indicates the current federal subsistence limit of
three black bears per year does not meet his
subsistence needs, and he would prefer to harvest and
eat more black bears per year.

Impact on Subsistence Users:

If adopted, federal subsistence users
could harvest an additional two black bears per year in
Unit 25.

Opportunity Provided by State:

The current bag limit is 3 black bears
annually in all of Unit 25. In Unit 25D, there is
additional opportunity to obtain a Community Harvest
Black Bear Permit so that a hunter can harvest more
than 3 bears annually as long as the total number of
animals taken by hunters in the group does not exceed
the combined bag limits of the people who signed up.
The community harvest regulation allows a group of

1 people to combine their individual bag limits into a
2 group bag limit. To date, no black bears have been
3 harvested under the Community Harvest Black Bear
4 Permit.

5

6 Conservation Issues:

7

8 None.

9

10 There are numerous black bears in Unit
11 25D and the additional harvest would likely be low to
12 moderate. Most hunters currently do not take 3 bears
13 annually. When the opportunity to take 5 black bears
14 annually was available in some other parts of the
15 state, it did not result in an increase in harvest.

16

17 Enforcement Issues:

18

19 Differences in federal and state
20 regulations resulting from adoption of this proposal
21 create enforcement problems in areas with mixed land
22 ownership. The boundaries between federal and state
23 lands are not marked and often difficult to locate on
24 the ground.

25

26 Other Comments:

27

28 The department is implementing an
29 intensive management program in a portion of Unit 25D,
30 and additional harvest on black bears may help reduce
31 predation on moose calves.

32

33 Recommendation:

34

35 Neutral.

36

37 The department supports providing
38 additional opportunity for subsistence users when
39 resources are sufficient. The current federal and
40 state hunting regulations provide the opportunity
41 necessary for subsistence on federal public lands
42 if/when populations decline in the future; i.e., an
43 expanded bag limit when the population is high should
44 not be used in the future to unnecessarily expand the
45 meaningful preference required for federally qualified
46 subsistence users on federal public lands.

47

48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions.

49

50 (No comments)

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thanks,
2 George. I think we're down to the Fish and Game
3 Advisory Committee comments, are there any?

4
5 Go ahead, Robert.

6
7 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. There are no
8 Fish and Game Advisory Committee or public comments on
9 this proposal.

10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're
12 into deliberation. I just had one quick question and I
13 should have asked you that first, Chuck. I have a
14 little heartburn when I hear that black bears have a
15 low reproduction rate. Where I live I see black bears
16 with four cubs and three more often than two. And I'm
17 sure it's every three to four or five years. So that's
18 almost a bear a year.

19
20 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. I'm not
21 going to argue with you, you live out there. It's just
22 in general.....

23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, why do
25 Staff say that.

26
27 MR. ARDIZZONE: I'm not sure, I didn't
28 write this.

29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, I guess --
31 I don't appreciate it myself, I don't know about the
32 rest of you guys, but I get a little heartburn over
33 that. But, I mean, I've often seen four so.....

34
35 MR. ARDIZZONE: Well, Madam Chair, I'll
36 -- when I get back to the office I'll look at this some
37 more. Okay.

38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. How
40 about you guys in your area?

41
42 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chair. This spring I
43 believe there was like seven young bears shot around
44 our neighborhood. So we get -- you know, it was just
45 getting into everything and anything. So and that's
46 almost every year we have five or six taken that come
47 in their raiding our houses and our dog yards and
48 everything else. So.....

49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But, Bill, I'm

1 actually asking do you -- how many cubs do you see with
2 females at one time?

3

4 MR. GLANZ: Oh, I -- just usually one
5 or two in the tree up above her, you know. I mean you
6 know she'll put them in a tree.

7

8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, I'm --
9 when.....

10

11 MR. GLANZ: That's the most I've seen.
12 But I don't know how many, I mean, there's no way I
13 keep track.

14

15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, no, I'm
16 asking a sow with cubs. I've seen sows with, you know,
17 always twins and most times three and sometimes four is
18 what I'm seeing.

19

20 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, I've only seen a few
21 threes, but a lot of deuces, two of the, yeah.

22

23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

24

25 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair.

26

27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

28

29 MR. ARDIZZONE: I -- this was boiled
30 down. I can actually read the paragraph that's out of
31 the analysis, it's more -- it's better than what I
32 stated on the record. So.....

33

34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

35

36 MR. ARDIZZONE: It says the age of
37 first reproduction for black bears has been documented
38 at five to seven years of age. Recruitment interval,
39 which is the time taken for separation of cubs from the
40 female is two to seven or two to 2.7 years and a
41 reproductive interval of one to four years so they'll
42 have cubs, you know, ranging from one to four years.
43 And then although black bears often have two cubs, cub
44 survival has been documented to be .5 to -- no, .45 to
45 .5. So annual recruitment is estimated at 175 to 350
46 bears in the area. So I think that's what they're
47 saying is you may see a sow with lots of cubs, but all
48 of those cubs aren't going to make it and it takes a
49 number of years for her to reproduce again.

50

1 So I think that's where the low
2 recruitment comes in, the low reproductive rate.

3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't want
5 to take a lot of time, but the same -- on the black
6 bears, the one that we saw four, we had -- there were
7 four different colors of bears and one was extremely
8 blonde, a black bear that was like straw colored. We
9 saw them all survive because we could identify them
10 from -- you know, when we saw them like little
11 footballs to when they left their mother. So they all
12 survived. So, I mean, we see that a lot. My husband
13 and I spend a lot of time talking about how often we
14 see and actually my husband is pretty strong
15 opinionated about he hates hearing also like I the low
16 production rates on black bears or even grizzlies for
17 that matter because actually where we live and hunt we
18 see a lot of sows and cubs that look like they're all
19 making it.

20
21 Anyway getting back to the proposal.
22 Deliberation. Looks like what we have before us is you
23 made the motion to adopt which would be five.

24
25 Discussion on that. Andrew.

26
27 MR. FIRMIN: I notice also in here it
28 says that this resource is under utilized and I believe
29 that's more just under reported. Again there's
30 certainly a handful of people that hunt them
31 religiously and that's probably where a lot of it goes.
32 And annually there are black and brown bears and heck,
33 even polar bears show within two miles of town in the
34 winter and the summer and the spring and the fall. And
35 I don't really agree with the five bear bag limit, I
36 think this community harvest is the way to go. And I
37 think that we actually should table this until that --
38 their study's complete, because he said in August it
39 will be complete and then go over it again in our next
40 meeting.

41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you would
43 rather table it than take no action.....

44
45 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.

46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:or, I
48 mean, even vote on it.

49
50 MR. FIRMIN: Yes.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
2 discussion.
3
4 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chair. That's my
5 thought exactly, what Andrew's saying, to table it
6 until next fall or whenever we want to bring it back
7 up.
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald, did
10 you want to say something.
11
12 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, I just wanted to
13 get on the record that I think I would take two or
14 three bears rather than take a big old stinky moose
15 late in the season because the bear meat is so sweet
16 tasting at that time of year. So I would definitely
17 try to get three if I saw them all together.
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. I
20 understand what you're saying. But speaking to the
21 proposal.....
22
23 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, I know it's three
24 or five.
25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, this
27 proposal would make it five, the limit five.
28
29 MR. WOODRUFF: Right.
30
31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I hear
32 what Andrew's saying.....
33
34 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah.
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:that they
37 have that opportunity through the State system and it's
38 something you guys weren't aware of.
39
40 MR. WOODRUFF: And I know Ft. Yukon is
41 intensively trying to build their moose population.
42 And I -- they can't do that if they don't get more
43 bears out of the way.
44
45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.
46
47 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you.
48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I have a
50 question here. Robert. He's going to help me out here

1 on this procedural process.

2

3 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. The process
4 at this point is you have a motion on the table to
5 adopt this proposal. You could have a secondary motion
6 at this point to defer and that would -- if that is
7 adopted then it would take precedence over the original
8 motion. However the original motion is still on the
9 table.

10

11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do we have to
12 get rid of that first?

13

14 MR. LARSON: You don't have to get rid
15 of it, what you need to do is you can alter it with a
16 motion to defer action to some future date or you can
17 vote it up or you can vote it down.

18

19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What's the
20 pleasure.

21

22 MR. UMPHENOUR: We can defer to a time
23 certain which would be until after the study is complete,
24 I so move.

25

26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And did I hear
27 a second.

28

29 MR. GLANZ: Oh, I'm sorry. I'll second
30 that to do it that way.

31

32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Chuck.

33

34 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. With this
35 two year cycle this makes things a little more
36 difficult, I guess I'm not sure when it would get
37 deferred to. Because if it got deferred to your next
38 meeting and you took action on it, the Board probably
39 wouldn't take action on it until the next wildlife
40 meeting.

41

42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, let me
43 ask you this procedural question. If we -- we now have
44 a motion to defer. If we took no action based on
45 wanting to wait until we hear the study, which -- what
46 do we want to do, Council, defer or -- do you see what
47 he's saying that.....

48

49 MR. UMPHENOUR: The study's going to be
50 done in a year.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The study's
2 going to be done in one year?
3
4 MR. ARDIZZONE: Uh-huh. The study, I
5 think, is projected to be done August of this year,
6 Madam Chair.
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What's the
9 pleasure of the Council, defer and not be concerned
10 about its being two years? Okay. Now are we ready for
11 -- to vote?
12
13 MR. WOODRUFF: Question.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
16 been called for. All in favor of the motion before us
17 to defer.
18
19 IN UNISON: Aye.
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
22 opposed.
23
24 (No opposing votes)
25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Moving
27 on. Now let's see, we got 10 after 2:00 and I think
28 we're going to actually make it to that number 95. So
29 let's continue here.
30
31 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
32 WP10-93.
33
34 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Go
37 ahead, Chuck.
38
39 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. WP10-93
40 can be found on Page 108 of your Council books.
41
42 WP10-93 was submitted by Phillip
43 Solomon and requests that the fall moose season dates
44 for Unit 25D remainder be changed from August 25th
45 through September 25th to August 1st through October
46 1st to allow for 30 more days of harvest opportunity.
47 The proponent stated that due to extremely low moose
48 densities, high fuel prices -- high food prices and the
49 need to work, the extended season would allow more time
50 for local residents to harvest a moose. The most

1 recent moose surveys were conducted in 2007 in 25D East
2 and in 2006 in Unit 25D West. The estimated moose
3 population was 1,600 to 2,700 animals in Unit 25D East,
4 with a density of 1.5 to 2.5 moose per square mile and
5 900 to 1,500 animals in Unit 25D West with a density of
6 .14 to .22 moose per square mile. Moose harvest in
7 Unit 25D West between 1997 and 2000 range from 11 to 30
8 moose per year. That can be seen in Table 3.

9

10 If this proposal is adopted it would
11 provide an additional 30 days of harvest opportunity
12 which would likely lead to an increase in the number of
13 moose harvested which could lead to some conservation
14 concern. The early August season could also lead to
15 increased meat spoilage.

16

17 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
18 support it with modification, to only extend the end of
19 the season by the requested six days at the end which
20 would make the season August 25th through October 1st.
21 The six day increase at the end would provide some
22 additional opportunity for harvest consistent with the
23 proponent's request while addressing conservation
24 concerns and meat spoilage concerns over the 30 day
25 increase starting in August.

26

27 If there's any questions I will try and
28 answer them at this time, Madam Chair.

29

30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Fish and Game.

35

36 MR. PAPPAS: Madam Chair. Summarizing
37 from our comments. The impact on subsistence users.
38 If adopted the Federal subsistence moose hunting
39 opportunity in 25D would -- remainder would double.
40 Federal subsistence moose hunters could
41 opportunistically take moose early in August while out
42 in the field conducting other activities.

43

44 Conservation issue. There may be
45 conservation concerns for moose in Unit 25D due to its
46 low density moose population, but at present there's no
47 conservation issues extending the season through the
48 end of September for the bull only hunt for Federally
49 qualified users based on current harvest levels. There
50 may be some concerns about meat spoilage during the

1 first 25 days of August, but the subsistence users are
2 usually skilled at meat harvest and transport without
3 spoilage.

4
5 Other comments. The Department and the
6 Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge will examine moose
7 regulations in 25D during the next year at the request
8 of the Eastern Interior RAC in an effort to align and
9 simplify regulations between the Federal public and
10 non-Federal lands. The Department intends to involve
11 all communities in 25D and submit proposals to both
12 Federal and State Boards in the future. The Department
13 recommends to defer until the State and Federal
14 analysis of the moose regulations is completed as
15 requested by the Eastern Interior Regional Advisory
16 Council.

17
18 Thank you, Madam Chair.

19
20 *****
21 STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
22 *****

23
24 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
25 Comments to the Regional Advisory Council

26
27 Wildlife Proposal WP10-93:

28
29 Extend the fall portion of the moose
30 season in Unit 25D, remainder from August 25 through
31 September 25 to August 1 through October 1.

32
33 Introduction:

34
35 The proponent requests liberalization
36 of the Unit 25D Remainder fall federal subsistence
37 moose hunting season from a 31-day season to a 61-day
38 season. The proponent indicates liberalizing the
39 federal subsistence moose hunting season dates will
40 assist meeting Fort Yukon residents needs.

41
42 Impact on Subsistence Users:

43
44 If adopted, federal subsistence moose
45 hunting opportunity in Unit 25D Remainder will double.
46 Federal subsistence moose hunters could
47 opportunistically take moose earlier in August while
48 out in the field conducting other activities.

49
50 Opportunity Provided by State:

1 The state resident moose hunting season
2 is from September 10 through September 20 and February
3 18 through February 28 as either a general season or by
4 permit CM001, and the limit is one bull. The state
5 nonresident moose hunting season is September 10
6 through September 20, and the limit is one bull with
7 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on
8 at least one side. Additionally, residents may obtain
9 a community harvest permit for moose.

10

11 Conservation Issues:

12

13 There may be conservation concerns for
14 moose in Unit 25D due to its low density moose
15 population but, at present, there is no conservation
16 issue extending the season to the end of September for
17 a bull-only hunt for federally qualified users based on
18 current harvest levels. There may be some concerns
19 about meat spoilage during the first 25 days of August
20 but subsistence users are usually skilled at meat
21 harvest and transport without spoilage.

22

23 Other Comments:

24

25 The Department and Yukon Flats NWR will
26 be examining moose regulations in Unit 25D during the
27 next year at the request of the Eastern Interior
28 Regional Advisory Council in an effort to align and
29 simplify regulations between federal public and non-
30 federal lands. The Department intends to involve all
31 communities in Unit 25D and submit proposals to both
32 federal and state boards in the future.

33

34 Recommendation:

35

36 Defer until the state and federal
37 analysis of moose regulations is completed, as
38 requested by the Eastern Interior Regional Advisory
39 Council.

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.
42 Andrew.

43

44 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, I spoke with Mr.
45 Jess and Mr. Bertram (ph) on this subject and that was
46 what we did decide to do was to defer this to a
47 committee until -- for the study, but I don't know
48 exactly when that study will be complete.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. This is

1 your area, Andrew, so -- maybe let's finish this and
2 then we'll go into that. Okay.

3
4 Are there any written comments, any
5 other comments.

6
7 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. There are no
8 written public or Advisory Committee comments.

9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are any public
11 testimony people here.

12
13 (No comments)

14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
16 Deliberation with the Council. Now how do you want to
17 proceed, Andrew?

18
19 MR. FIRMIN: Well, I'd like to stick
20 with our -- the Council's original decision to stay and
21 wait for the study. I mean, do you know when the study
22 will be complete, Rob? I think we spoke -- I spoke
23 with Rob in October after our last meeting.

24
25 MR. JESS: Yeah, Rob Jess, Refuge
26 manager, Yukon Flats. Yeah, we spoke in October, Mark
27 Bertram, we also spoke with the State biologist, Beth
28 Lenard and Jason Sickowski who are over that area. And
29 we -- our proposal essentially is this, is that based
30 on Andrew's guidance and discussion is that we are
31 going to kind of start from ground zero, if we could
32 scrap all boundaries and hypothetically all laws, what
33 would the villages want as far as seasons and boundary
34 lines so that there's not a conflict between State and
35 Federal open and closed seasons relative to the moose.
36 Now we have a moose population study going on as well
37 and preliminarily that will be done hopefully the
38 spring of next year. And we -- in conjunction with
39 that we'll be going out to each of the respective
40 villages to get tribal to tribal or government to
41 government consultation with each of the respective
42 villages to get input from the ground up rather than
43 continuing to band-aid these policies that we have on
44 record right now.

45
46 And I think that was the direction you
47 wanted us to go in, Andrew.

48
49 MR. FIRMIN: Yes. And on another note
50 I also like the idea of the -- of the sound of resident

1 zone or corridor as we spoke of before. However until
2 -- you know, that's going to be a long time away along
3 with the black bear one we just tabled or deferred, but
4 on a personal note I do like the idea of the
5 modification with just the six days added to the end
6 because I know that -- I think the 22nd this year
7 dumped six inches of snow on us and then it was warm
8 for the rest of the month. And that would have allowed
9 some people to maybe have better luck, but I'm -- like
10 I said I'd stick by -- I'd just as soon stick by my
11 guns and leave it the way it is, and stick by with
12 actions taken at our previous meeting.

13

14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

15

16 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. At our last RAC
17 meeting when we were in Ft. Yukon we were given a
18 little bit of a briefing about a study on how many
19 moose the wolves were eating over by Beaver. Do you
20 have any information on that?

21

22 MR. JESS: We've got some preliminary
23 information, we'd be happy to provide that to the
24 Board. But it's again, Virgil, it's very preliminary.
25 We've collared -- I believe we collared eight different
26 groups of wolves -- packs of wolves. Just as an
27 interest one note, we had one pack of wolves, there
28 were five in the pack and the collars went dormant,
29 they were eaten by a pack of 12. So it is a violent
30 world out there.

31

32 (Laughter)

33

34 MR. JESS: They're self-regulating, I
35 guess. So but we can get that information to you.

36

37 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
40 Andrew, so I guess you're -- you kind of gave me two
41 thoughts there, one kind of like the six days, but then
42 you wrestled in your mind that you would prefer just
43 deferring right now?

44

45 MR. FIRMIN: Madam Chair. I think if
46 you -- if the Council would like to vote on it. I'm --
47 I support the 6 day increase and then we can rewrite
48 these laws and change them around in two years or a
49 year and a half when we get back to them, when we have
50 better information.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.
2
3 MR. WOODRUFF: Is Ft. Yukon and
4 Chalkyitsik in D or B?
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: They're in 25D.
7
8 MR. WOODRUFF: So why are they --
9 aren't they listed here under the number of permits
10 where it says proposed regs, they left out Ft. Yukon
11 and Chalkyitsik, it just says Beaver, Birch Creek and
12 Stevens Village.
13
14 MR. FIRMIN: The Birch Creek River
15 delineates the space between 25D West and Ft. Yukon and
16 Chalkyitsik is 25D remainder.
17
18 MR. WOODRUFF: Right.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does that
21 answer your question?
22
23 MR. WOODRUFF: So basically these are
24 boundary areas that they're putting giving a specific
25 number of permits in to?
26
27 MR. FIRMIN: Yes, down south of Birch
28 Creek and towards Beaver and Stevens they're allowed a
29 certain number of permits. And that was one of the
30 things Rob Jess and I discussed with the other fellows
31 was to maybe subdivide 25D again to change the regs in
32 certain areas.
33
34 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you.
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Chuck.
37
38 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. I just
39 want to be clear that we didn't change any numbers,
40 that's the current regs. The only things we changed on
41 Page 115 is the date. So those are what they currently
42 have now.
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you know
45 why Phillip put in to get rid of the August season?
46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR: He wanted to extend the
48 August season, he wanted it to start on the 1st.
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, 1st of

1 August. Oh, I misread that. I thought it was to get
2 rid of it. So okay. I guess there should have been a
3 three in front of that. I see.

4
5 So in order to add the six days on the
6 end we would have to amend or have a concurrence
7 between the maker of the motion and the second that it
8 be modified as OSM staff recommended. And that was
9 Donald and Virgil. Oh, Bill, Bill seconded that one.

10
11 MR. GLANZ: Yes. Yes, I did. Do we
12 want to withdraw it and -- Madam Chair, do we want to
13 withdraw it again or do you just want to.....

14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's what
16 we're kind of leading towards.

17
18 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'll make it easier. I
19 move to amend to the OSM modification.

20
21 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.

22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
24 Speaking to the amendment that means we got to vote
25 twice, Virgil. I'll let you do that.

26
27 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.

28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Speaking to
30 the motion to make the season six days longer, any more
31 discussion other than what Andrew has brought forth and
32 we've heard from OSM?

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Looks like
37 there's no more discussion so calling for the.....

38
39 MR. GLANZ: Question.

40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
42 been called for. All in favor of the amendment to
43 extend it six days -- as to the modified, say aye.

44
45 IN UNISON: Aye.

46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone
48 opposed.

49
50 (No opposing votes)

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So now
2 we're to the same motion being the same thing
3 basically. We're supporting the proposal with the
4 modification to extend the end of the season by the
5 requested six days.
6
7 Anymore discussion.
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 MR. GLANZ: Question.
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
14 been called for. All in favor.
15
16 IN UNISON: Aye.
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Opposed.
19
20 (No opposing votes)
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. It
23 passes. You know here's what I'd like to do possible.
24 I believe we're going to get to your proposal, yeah.
25 Let's take up the one with -- that would bring on the
26 Commissioner's office.
27
28 MR. UMPHENOUR: We have Pat Valkenburg
29 at 2:30.
30
31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. I
32 would like to start this so we're talking about and
33 then call him at 2:30 if that's okay with you guys.
34
35 MR. UMPHENOUR: Which one is that,
36 that's.....
37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 87. And then
39 we'll have some stuff -- you know, comments on it
40 already and then we'll call him at 2:30. And the
41 procedure is going to be -- you're going to call him or
42 do you want the OSM to call.
43
44 MR. PAPPAS: I'll -- we can use the
45 cell phone.
46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. OSM can
48 also do that, George, if you want it on the Federal
49 dime.
50

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Doesn't matter.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Doesn't
4 matter. Okay. Motion.
5
6 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
7 WP10-87.
8
9 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Donald has
12 seconded. Okay. Page 107. No wait a minute, sorry.
13
14 MR. UMPHENOUR: Page 60.
15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Page 60, yeah.
17
18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Madam
19 Chair. Helen Armstrong, OSM.
20
21 Proposal WP10-87 was submitted by the
22 Eastern Interior Council and it requests black -- that
23 black bear be added to the species list for furbearers
24 for Units 12, 20 and 25. And for those of you might be
25 newer and not -- and less familiar that's under the
26 definitions in the book, the proposal book and it's on
27 Page 134 in the back so there's a whole list of
28 furbearer species.
29
30 The Council submitted this proposal for
31 a number of reasons including that currently there's a
32 loss of opportunity to harvest black bear in Units 12,
33 20 and 25 because trapping bear is not legal. Trapping
34 black bear was a traditional harvest practice against a
35 wide area of Alaska. Being listed as a furbearer would
36 allow harvesters to sell the hid and would provide
37 income that would help cover the costs associated with
38 other subsistence activities. Adopting the proposal
39 would provide additional opportunity for subsistence
40 uses and once again permit people to use traditional
41 trapping methods for black bear. And adopting the
42 proposal would decrease the high rate of bear predation
43 that currently limits moose and caribou populations in
44 important hunting areas in the Eastern Interior Council
45 Region.
46
47 As those of you who have been on the
48 Council for a while know, the Federal Subsistence
49 Management Program's policy is to not validate, that is
50 not consider proposals that have a stated purpose for

1 being predator control because our program doesn't --
2 we don't do predator control, that's something that's
3 managed by the individual agencies. However because
4 the proposal also requested that trapping of black bear
5 be legalized, we went ahead and considered the
6 proposal. So if had only been stated -- if the only
7 reason stated that it was because -- for predator
8 control we wouldn't have considered it. It's just good
9 to kind of know.

10

11 It's important to note that Federal
12 subsistence regulations specifically do not allow the
13 harvest of bear with a trap and if this proposal is
14 adopted Federally qualified users still would not be
15 allowed to harvest black bear with a trap on Federal
16 public lands unless the proposed regulation was added
17 to unit specific provisions for Units 12, 20 and 25.
18 In other words all it did was ask for a change in
19 definition, it didn't ask for a change in the
20 regulation of trapping.

21

22 There is an extensive history of
23 regulation in this issue that's included in the
24 analysis under Appendix A. I'm not going to go through
25 that, and it's summarized in the analysis. Currently
26 the Federal and State black bear hunting seasons in
27 Unit 12, 20 and 25 are open year-round and the harvest
28 limit is three black bear per person each regulatory
29 year. Since the analysis for the proposal was written,
30 the State of Alaska has adopted a regulation change
31 parallel to this request so this is something that's
32 not in your analysis, that this has been since the book
33 came out. Black bear was added under State regulations
34 to the species list for furbearers statewide in State
35 wildlife regulations. But because no trapping season
36 or harvest limit was adopted it continues to be illegal
37 to trap a bear under State wildlife regulations except
38 in predator control areas. The effect of the change is
39 that beginning July 1st all parts of a legally
40 harvested black bear may be sold except black bear
41 trophies and gallbladders. Beginning July 1st this
42 would apply to black bears harvested on Federal public
43 lands except in those area where Federal public lands
44 are closed to the harvest of black bear except by
45 Federally qualified users or when a Federally qualified
46 subsistence user is hunting with a Federal black bear
47 permit. If in those two situations using a Federal
48 permit or where Federal public lands are closed, the
49 hide and meat of a black bear for human use has to be
50 salvaged for human use and cannot be sold.

1 If this proposal is adopted Federally
2 qualified users would be allowed to sell the raw fur or
3 tanned pelt of a black bear legally harvested on
4 Federal public lands in Units 12, 20 and 25 including
5 the above two situations.

6
7 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
8 oppose WP10-87. The justification for this is that
9 there is already significant opportunity to harvest
10 black bear in Units 12, 20 and 25, the hunting season
11 is year-round and the harvest limit is three black bear
12 per person. It does not appear that those limits are
13 even being reached and the addition of trapping as a
14 method of harvesting black bear does not appear
15 necessary to increase harvest levels at this time.

16
17 In addition trapping black bear was not
18 commonly described in ethnographic description of
19 Athabaskan harvesting activities. Black bears have low
20 reproductive as Chuck was discussing earlier in the
21 previous proposal when compared to other furbearing
22 animals and trapping is a highly efficient harvesting
23 method. Using larger traps and snares necessary to
24 harvest black bear also would allow the trapping of
25 sows, cubs and ungulates. These factors have been
26 taken into consideration in the OSM preliminary
27 conclusion and they have also led to black bear being
28 classified as big game in Federal regulations, limiting
29 the legal harvest method to firearms.

30
31 Thank you, Madam Chair. That concludes
32 my presentation.

33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
35 Helen. Any questions. Donald.

36
37 MR. WOODRUFF: So what -- basically
38 what your summary is that the bears can be taken for
39 parts to be sold. but not trapped, right, that's your
40 summary?

41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Chuck.

43
44 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, Madam Chair, if
45 this proposal is adopted and black bears were made
46 furbearers, under current Federal regulations you could
47 sell the parts, but you wouldn't be able to trap it
48 because of other regulations that aren't addressed in
49 this proposal.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Because
2 there's no seasons and bag limits that.....
3
4 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you.
5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:correct?
7
8 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. There's
9 no season and bag limits and there's also a regulation
10 that says you can't trap bears in this -- in our
11 regulations.
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: In the Federal
14 regs?
15
16 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes.
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Where's that?
19
20 MR. ARDIZZONE: I'll have to find it
21 for you, give me a second.
22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I
24 didn't know that, but there's a lot of things I don't
25 know.
26
27 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. It's in
28 the CFRs, it actually says.....
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: CFRs.
31
32 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah. Except for
33 special provisions found in paragraphs N1326, the
34 following methods and means of taking wildlife for
35 subsistence uses are prohibited. Using a trap to take
36 ungulates or bears or taking a bear cub or sow
37 accompanied by cubs. So that's in Section 26 of the
38 CFR.
39
40 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And that appeared in
41 the analysis on Page 61.....
42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
44
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:under -- kind
46 of in the middle of the page under the existing Federal
47 regulations under 26, subsistence taking of wildlife.
48
49 MR. WOODRUFF: Question.
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm
2 going to tax all our memories here, but do you guys
3 remember when -- this came up at Tok and that's why we
4 put the proposal for and I thought we were only putting
5 a proposal in to change black bears to furbearers. Is
6 that what you guys remember?

7
8 Bill.

9
10 MR. GLANZ: Yes, Madam Chair, we did, I
11 do remember that because we was trying to classify it
12 like it's a wolf where you can shoot it or trap it as a
13 furbearer. But the reason.....

14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But there
16 weren't any seasons and bag limits and I'm wondering if
17 our coordinator -- I don't remember us coming up with
18 these to trap or to keep -- I don't know, that's my --
19 I'm having a hard time remembering what we were.....

20
21 MR. GLANZ: Yesterday was bad enough
22 for us anyway so remembering. But.....

23
24 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. I do
25 believe the proposal was just to change it as
26 furbearers. I think the trapping was maybe part of the
27 write up and so it was just addressed in this analysis
28 that even if you change it as a furbearer it really
29 doesn't change the status, you can just sell more parts
30 basically.

31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

33
34 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, you're correct I
35 believe. I think the.....

36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I guess
38 that was the intention to start with so now it looks
39 like we're into this big trapping thing. So -- and
40 that isn't something that -- I kind of -- when I saw
41 this at first I'm like whoa, I don't know about you,
42 but that kind of blew me away for a second and then I
43 realized that hey, well, if you're asking it to be a
44 furbearer then I guess you need a trapping season. So
45 that's where -- is that how you guys interpreted it
46 then, that's why it came up this way?

47
48 MR. ARDIZZONE: I think that's how it
49 got interpreted, you know, furbearer, must people want
50 to trap furbearers and, you know, without a season

1 there are limits.

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Robert
4 just says that he doesn't see methods and means in the
5 proposal, right?

6

7 MR. LARSON: Right.

8

9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But that --
10 we're discussing that in your analysis, correct.

11

12 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right. I think it's
13 kind of a tangent, I mean.....

14

15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We got on a
16 tangent.

17

18 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, I think so.

19

20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We'll
21 probably get on a bigger tangent here in a minute. So
22 it's time to call the Deputy Commissioner and we're
23 going to hear what he has to say and then we can -- and
24 actually what he's saying might end up under -- I'm not
25 sure, we'll let him tell us. And so the attempt to
26 make the phone call -- so I think once we get him on
27 line and he tells us everything he's thinking we're
28 really going to be confused, but it's really good
29 information and, you know, Council members, let's just
30 discuss this as they're doing that.

31

32 The State has now voted -- the State
33 Board of Game under their State regulations has
34 classified -- can you explain it better than me,
35 Virgil, they passed it so we can sell bear hides.
36 Okay.

37

38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right.

39

40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. And
41 then I asked Pat Valkenburg so does that mean I can
42 make my bear hats with the claws attached under State
43 law and he said that was his interpretation which
44 would.....

45

46 MR. GLANZ: What was the answer to
47 that, yes or no.

48

49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.

50

1 MR. GLANZ: Okay. That's what I
2 thought.
3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's a --
5 that would be a plus on the State side. I failed to
6 put the -- I would have put that proposal in to do that
7 under handicrafts and it got done under the sale of
8 bear hides instead. So he did tell me there was one
9 thing that couldn't be done and I -- we're on a
10 technicality, I don't remember exactly what that was, I
11 think something.....
12
13 MR. GLANZ: No sale of gallbladders.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There was no
16 sale of gallbladders, yeah.
17
18 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, I see in 1994 is the
19 Federal.....
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Turn your mics
22 on, yeah. And that's no joke, it's true, for personal
23 use.
24
25 MR. GLANZ: I see the federal
26 regulations changed in 1994 to prohibit trapping of
27 black bears on Federal grounds, right here. Gives the
28 number and all that.
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What page is
31 that on?
32
33 MR. GLANZ: It's on Page 63.
34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
36
37 MR. GLANZ: But a half -- a quarter of
38 the way -- eighth of the way up the page.
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: While they're
41 trying, do you guys have any other discussion.
42 Actually let's go ahead and.....
43
44 MR. LARSON: You can go ahead with
45 comments.
46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, let's go
48 ahead and do the public comments.
49
50 Robert.

1 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. The
2 Fortymile Upper Tanana Advisory Committee is in support
3 of this proposal. The AHTNA C&T Committee is not in
4 support.

5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that's all
7 you had.

8
9 MR. LARSON: Yes, Madam Chair, that's
10 the only comments we have.

11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Patrick, this
13 is Sue Entsminger, the Eastern Interior RAC meeting.
14 Are you hearing us okay?

15
16 PAT VALKENBURG: I can hear you Sue,
17 okay, yeah.

18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We just
20 put on the table our proposal regarding 12, 20 and 25.
21 We've discussed the analysis from our -- the Federal
22 side which you may have read and understand their
23 position; is that correct?

24
25 MR. VALKENBURG: Yeah, do you have the
26 Department's position on any bear snaring proposals
27 there in front of you?

28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. The
30 Department's -- just one second, Pat. You're talking
31 about the Department's position?

32
33 MR. VALKENBURG: Let me just tell you a
34 little bit about this. You know as with some of these
35 proposals our original analysis and recommendations
36 sometimes change between the time we write them up and
37 the time of the Board meeting and that has happened in
38 this case. You know we were following the proposals
39 that were submitted both to the statewide meeting and
40 into the Interior Region meeting for the Board of Game
41 and it looked like the Interior RAC proposal to
42 reclassify black bear as furbearers, that was one of
43 the reasons why we decided to take that issue on at the
44 statewide meeting and do it statewide.

45
46 And that was more or less a direct
47 result of your proposal and your suggestion to do that
48 for all the Interior units. Rather than do it for all
49 the Interior units we decided to recommend to the Board
50 of Game to do that for all units and that is done. And

1 then the next question that comes up after that is, you
2 know, what's the main purpose or why did we recommend
3 that and all of that.

4

5 And I think the answer there is the
6 Department of Fish and Game would like to provide
7 people with more tools to manage bears without getting
8 into predator control programs. For example, the Yukon
9 Flats Unit 25D is a very good example of that where we
10 don't necessarily want to write a predator control plan
11 for every Village on the Yukon Flats, but if we could
12 come up with some structured seasons and bag limits for
13 bears, it would provide people with the tools they need
14 to mitigate bear predation on moose calves around their
15 villages and having bears declared a furbearer would do
16 that. Then it becomes a simple matter for the Board of
17 Game to open a bear trapping season.

18

19 So that's kind of what we had in mind
20 and there is quite a bit of interest in doing that at
21 this upcoming Board meeting, but there's some problems
22 that arose with that and one is right now according to
23 the Board's policy we will only have bear trapping in
24 areas where we have bear control programs. And so to
25 just start bear trapping seasons on the Yukon Flats or
26 anywhere else right now would not be consistent with
27 the Board's bear management policy. That -- that's one
28 of the problems. The other problem is under the
29 existing regulations that we have now, 92.115, it says
30 that if we do predator control on Fish and Wildlife
31 Service land or Park Service land we will obtain their
32 approval first. And so in some of these areas around
33 the villages there are little inclusions of Fish and
34 Wildlife Service land, et cetera, and so the only way
35 we'd really be able to do that now and be consistent
36 with our own regulations and the bear policy would be
37 to restrict it to private lands.

38

39 And that's what we're considering doing
40 at this upcoming Board meeting, in other words taking
41 -- I think it was Proposal 97 and Proposal 6, or -- one
42 or the other and saying okay, we will ask the Board, we
43 recommend an amendment to these proposals to allow bear
44 foot snaring on private lands in Unit 25D. And, you
45 know, we were open to other sub-units as well, with the
46 possibility of 24, Allakaket's got a real serious
47 problem as well. But anyway for all the reasons I just
48 described what we decided to do is delay that
49 suggestion to the fall Board meeting and that would
50 mean asking the Board of Game for an agenda change

1 request to consider bear trapping proposals at the
2 November meeting. And that's kind of the way we're
3 leaning now. There were some people who were
4 uncomfortable with the idea of having bear trapping
5 just on private lands, but there's no way to get around
6 that now with the way our regulations are written.
7 There is a proposal in this Board meeting to change
8 92.115, so, you know, we might try to do that.

9

10 Can you guys still hear me?

11

12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We heard you
13 great.

14

15 MR. VALKENBURG: Yeah, okay. Yeah.

16

17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, we got
18 that mic on that thing so we can hear you really good,
19 Pat. 115, what is that?

20

21 MR. VALKENBURG: What was that, Sue?

22

23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That 115 you
24 referred to, that wasn't a proposal, that was something
25 in your regulation?

26

27 MR. VALKENBURG: That's -- well, no,
28 92.115 is the -- that's the section of the State
29 regulations pertaining to predator control on bears.

30

31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So what
32 you're do.....

33

34 MR. VALKENBURG: The proposals that --
35 the proposals at the State Game Board meeting that we
36 were talking about recommending an amendment to would
37 be Proposal 97 and I think Proposal 6. One of them is
38 your Eastern RAC proposal, I think the other one is a
39 Yukon Flats AC proposal.

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, we have
42 -- I have a copy of 6 and it is our proposal. There
43 probably is another one from that.....

44

45 MR. VALKENBURG: So the one question I
46 had for you guys was, you know, you in your proposal,
47 you included Units 12 and 20 E as well. And I think,
48 correct me if I'm wrong, but last year when the
49 Department recommended to the Board of Game to get rid
50 of the bear control program in Game Management Unit 20E

1 because it had no chance of success, what I did tell
2 the Tok Advisory Committee was that if you came back to
3 the Board of Game with a proposal that was more
4 structured and more around areas where people could use
5 moose if you were able to protect them from bear
6 predation and we would consider that. And it -- you
7 know, maybe that was an attempt to do that, but I
8 don't know how the Board would view that.

9
10 I think if we ended up with a bear
11 trapping season in 12 and 20E what we'd end up with is
12 bear trapping along -- basically along the highways and
13 I'm not sure that would do much good. So what I'd
14 suggest if you still are interested in getting some
15 sort of a bear trapping program for 12 and 20E, work
16 with the Department, work with Jeff Gross and come up
17 with some sort of a program that makes sense that we
18 can work into our long term bear management programs
19 for, you know, all of these kinds of areas that are
20 having trouble with bear predation on moose calves and
21 see if we can come up with a proposal that we can take
22 to the Board at the November meeting.

23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Pat. I
25 want to tell you that when we talk about what goes
26 before the State, we are talking about maybe something
27 that will give opportunity to harvest bears that might
28 help moose, but under the Federal system we have to
29 talk about just the -- we can't talk about we're having
30 -- we put a proposal in specifically for bear
31 predation.

32
33 MR. VALKENBURG: Yeah. Yeah, so I --
34 you know, and as a practical matter I don't know that
35 the Federal Subsistence Board can really help us a lot
36 with these bear management issues because as you know,
37 you know, most of the land around the villages and
38 communities where some relief from bear predation on
39 moose calves is needed, that's all private land so
40 that's the purview of the Board of Game. And then, you
41 know, if look at a lot of the other areas there's a lot
42 of State land mixed in there with the same problem.

43
44 So I just don't know right now that the
45 Federal Subsistence Board can help us with this nor do
46 I think the Federal Subsistence Board is inclined to
47 pass anything like a bear snaring or trapping proposal.

48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're
50 probably correct. But this is really good discussion

1 and as a Eastern Interior RAC we can take up State
2 proposals so it's good to have this type of discussion.
3 So, I guess, I thought maybe you guys were planning on
4 taking this up more at this next meeting starting on
5 Friday, but you say you're going to postpone it until
6 the November meeting. Did you hear that?

7
8 MR. VALKENBURG: Yeah, I can hear you.
9 Yeah, and I think that would be a good thing to do, you
10 know, and whether you -- whether you come up with that
11 proposal to the State Board meeting as the Eastern
12 Interior RAC or the Advisory Committees really doesn't
13 make a whole lot of difference as long as we have a
14 proposal in there that the Board can work with.

15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I -- and
17 I want you to know the reason that this proposal went
18 forward for 12, 25 and 20 is because it's our region
19 and, you know, the -- on the Federal side we kind of
20 stick to doing proposals to our region. That's
21 probably not a very good way of doing things sometimes,
22 but that's the way it ended up.

23
24 MR. VALKENBURG: Yeah.

25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. And
27 so.....

28
29 MR. VALKENBURG: So I guess my
30 suggestion is, you know, you guys should try to work
31 with the Department to come up with a proposal that you
32 would like the Board of Game to consider at the
33 November meeting.

34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Sounds
36 like we got some committee work or something to do
37 here. I just wanted to ask you can you -- whenever the
38 Eastern Interior put the proposal in to change it to
39 furbearer on both the State and Federal side and now
40 the State has changed it to furbearer and.....

41
42 MR. VALKENBURG: That's right.
43 Bear.....

44
45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:all that
46 does is allow the sale.....

47
48 MR. VALKENBURG:as of.....

49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:correct?

1 MR. VALKENBURG: Yeah, as of July 1st
2 black bears will be classified exactly the same as
3 wolves and wolverines, they will be a furbearer which
4 means you can sell black bears.

5
6 The one prohibition the Board left in
7 there was that you could not sell gallbladders and that
8 you could not sell mounted trophies. So you can't
9 sell, for example, a full mounted bear or a bear head
10 coming out of the wall or a bear rug or something like
11 that, but you can sell tanned or untanned black bear
12 hides, claws on, claws off, you can sell individual
13 parts of black bears, you can sell claws of black bears
14 if you want to. So they are in every way like wolves
15 and wolverines under the State regulations now or they
16 will be as of July 1st except that you cannot sell
17 gallbladders.

18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Good.
20 I think that was a better definition of what we can and
21 can't do that we had earlier. Trophies and then you
22 and I talked and I wanted to specifically bring it up
23 again, but you can make handicrafts with the claws
24 attached now and my bear hats that I make would be
25 legal for me to sell as of July 1st?

26
27 MR. VALKENBURG: That's right, yep. So
28 when you -- you know, if you get a bear hide and you
29 cut it up and you use pieces of it on, you know, your
30 various fur garments or whatever, all the scraps you
31 can then sell.

32
33 And I should also add that the Board
34 made it absolutely clear that it doesn't matter if the
35 bear is taken under a trapping license by either
36 trapping or hunting or shooting and it doesn't matter
37 if the bear was taken under a hunting license either.
38 All bear -- all black bears will be legal to sell.

39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What about
41 black bears that were killed prior to July 1st?

42
43 MR. VALKENBURG: I -- they will be
44 legal to sell.

45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Okay.
47 Well, that.....

48
49 MR. VALKENBURG: Yeah, after July 1st
50 any black bear will be legal to sell.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
2 members, do you have any questions of Patrick.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I guess what
7 we're looking at, Patrick, is trying to work with the
8 Department in areas where we think it could work with
9 the involvement of people in their region that -- they
10 work with their Department and the Agencies and for the
11 future. And I guess -- so you keep us informed on
12 what's happening on your side, sometimes we're not
13 always going to all these meetings, that would be great
14 too.
15
16 MR. VALKENBURG: Yeah, I sure will,
17 Sue.
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thanks,
20 Patrick.
21
22 MR. VALKENBURG: Okay. You're welcome.
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you
25 feeling better, I heard you were sick?
26
27 MR. VALKENBURG: Well, I got a pinched
28 nerve in my right leg and I am a little bit better, but
29 I'm not all the way yet.
30
31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I
32 remember you told me now. All right. Well, take care,
33 I hope it works out for you and thanks for your time.
34
35 MR. VALKENBURG: Yeah. Okay. Thanks.
36 Bye.
37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, that
39 kind of puts things in perspective. All right. So now
40 we have this proposal before and OSM's recommendation.
41 And did we get the Department's comments on this yet as
42 far as.....
43
44 MR. PAPPAS: PatricK.....
45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Patrick I know
47 and that's it, right, you don't have any more?
48
49 (No comments)
50

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STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

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

Wildlife Proposal WP10-87:

This proposal requests that black bears be added to the list of animals defined as furbearers in Units 12, 20, and 25 to allow black bears to be trapped and sale of their parts.

Introduction:

The proponent requests black bears be listed as trappable furbearers in federal subsistence trapping regulations for Units 12, 20, and 25 to allow for continuation of traditional harvest practices, assist in area reduction of predation on local prey species, and allow the federal subsistence users to sell the hides from harvested animals.

Impact on Subsistence Users:

If adopted, federal subsistence users could trap any sex or age black bear and sell their hides and claws from Units 12, 20, and 25.

Opportunity Provided by State:

Black bears are not included under the definition of furbearer in state regulation, hence can be taken under hunting regulations, not trapping. Snaring black bears is allowed only under special permit in black bear predator control areas. The current hunting regulations for Units 12, 20, and 25 are no closed season and a bag limit of 3 (no cubs or females with cubs), with an additional provision for community harvest permits in Unit 25.

Conservation Issues:

The use of trapping to take black bears under state regulations is restricted to control programs only. These programs are restricted to use of bucket-foot snares and other tightly-controlled guidelines (including provisions for releasing brown bears in one control area) for the purpose of being as

1 selective as possible and to eliminate or diminish the
2 likelihood of taking non-target species. In the
3 absence of specific procedures required in control
4 programs, general trapping of black bears could result
5 in conservation concerns including non-target species.
6 Also, under the proposed regulation, it would be
7 necessary to allow the take of cubs and females with
8 cubs, which would inevitably be taken with snares.

9

10 Enforcement Issues:

11

12 The boundaries between federal and
13 state lands are not marked and often difficult to
14 locate on the ground. Additionally, regulations
15 allowing sale of high value bear claws create a market
16 for bear claws that is likely to mask illegal sales,
17 thereby compounding problems with international trade
18 of Endangered Species (CITES) and contribution to
19 illegal harvest, over harvest, and waste of bears in
20 other states and countries as well as Alaska. The
21 Department requests no expansion of sale of bear parts
22 be allowed until the workgroup completes its
23 recommendations for regulations to protect legitimate
24 subsistence users.

25

26 Other Comments:

27

28 Adoption of this proposal is not
29 necessary to provide the federal subsistence needs for
30 use of black bear.

31

32 In addition, the state conducts snaring of black bears
33 only in bear predation control areas under special
34 permit and recommends that trapping of black bears not
35 be expanded to general federal subsistence trapping
36 regulations. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game
37 will submit an Agenda Change Request to the Alaska
38 Board of Game to accept a proposal requesting black
39 bears be defined as trappable furbearers on a statewide
40 basis. If the Board of Game adopts the proposal,
41 trapping and snaring of black bears will only be
42 authorized in specific areas as identified by the Board
43 under specific guidelines.

44

45 Recommendation:

46

47 Oppose.

48

49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

50

1 Fish and Game Advisory. We handled all
2 of this, right, or did we, I can't remember.

3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR: I think we did.

5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We handled all
7 of this so we're in deliberation.

8
9 Council members, discussion. Virgil.

10
11 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, so it sounds like
12 under State regulations effective the 1st of July,
13 black bears will be basically considered furbearers
14 under State regulations and so being as they are under
15 State regulations, there's no reason why the Federal
16 regulations should be more restrictive for subsistence
17 users than State regulations. So I think we should
18 support our own proposal.

19
20 Madam Chair.

21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Clarification
23 there. Did -- you're saying support it because it's
24 our.....

25
26 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, we should always
27 support our own proposal anyway unless we get some type
28 of compelling science or compelling reason why we
29 shouldn't support our own proposal. So we have
30 compelling -- a compelling reason why everyone should
31 support our proposal.

32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
34 Well, the clarification I need though is this proposal
35 after you start reading it talks about trapping and all
36 we did was put in for -- to classify it as a furbearer.

37
38 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. I think
39 you'd be fine to support your own proposal, I mean, all
40 it is doing in reality is changing the definition,
41 adding black bears into the furbearer definition. None
42 of the other things that are talked about, trapping or
43 anything would occur unless there were other proposals
44 in the future.

45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Go
47 ahead, Helen.

48
49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And I -- we will
50 clarify, I'll have the analyst who worked on this

1 clarify in there that that was your intent -- your
2 intent was not to create a trapping regulation.

3

4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

5

6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And I don't know
7 without having the transcript here, but because it -- I
8 -- I'm assuming it came from some discussion, that
9 there was some discussion about trapping of black
10 bears. But we'll clarify that your intent was only to
11 change the definition and we'll change the analysis
12 to.....

13

14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

15

16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:to modify it
17 for that.

18

19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.

20 That's great.

21

22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No problem.

23

24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did I see that
25 Barbara I think had a comment for the SRC?

26

27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

28

29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go -- I'm
30 sorry if I overlooked that, I thought I handled it.
31 Come forward. In the effort of being efficient I
32 overlooked it, I'm sorry, Barbara.

33

34 MR. CELLARIUS: Sorry about that, I was
35 not paying as close of attention as I should have.

36

37 On Proposal 87 the Wrangell-St. Elias
38 Subsistence Resource Commission opposed the proposal.
39 The vote was zero in favor, six opposed and one
40 abstention. With only a few units being effected
41 there's a risk that people will illegally try to sell
42 hides from outside the region under the proposed
43 provisions. The SRC members also expressed concern
44 about not disturbing bears in the winter and that
45 snaring or trapping of bears could be hazardous for
46 both trappers and others who might be in the area.

47

48 And the other thing that I would add is
49 that the Park would concur with their recommendation.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And we didn't
2 really discuss -- I don't even know if I -- at these
3 meetings I get lost sometimes. That -- the intention
4 was only for the furbearer. You know what I'm saying,
5 because all of that analysis was talking about trapping
6 and then we ended up off on that subject and lost in
7 what we're talking about here. Yeah. Okay.

8

9 Any other discussion. I think Virgil
10 surmised it for us and it's been clear on the record
11 that we're just talking about furbearer.

12

13 Donald.

14

15 MR. WOODRUFF: I would like to concur
16 with Virgil, I think we should support this motion and
17 that if in the future that we decide that trapping is
18 the way to go we'll submit another proposal for that
19 and just leave this as a furbearer proposal.

20

21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

22

23 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you.

24

25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And
26 that is as written. Yeah. And I would like to just
27 make the statement too that the State of Alaska has
28 already done this even though it would do it in our
29 region, that's why we put forth, we just handle our own
30 region. So if other regions want to do it on the
31 Federal side, they can. They -- other -- they would
32 have the opportunity under State law currently as it's
33 setup.

34

35 MR. GLANZ: Question.

36

37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
38 been called for. All in favor.

39

40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41

42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone

43 opposed.

44

45 (No opposing votes)

46

47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.

48 Short break.

49

50 (Off record)

1 (On record)
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're going to
4 get started here. Our visiting session is over.
5
6 We are now on Number 94. Virgil.
7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
9 WP10-94.
10
11 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Moved and
14 seconded by -- oh, I guess I should have waited for our
15 recorder.
16
17 REPORTER: I'm here.
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you are,
20 okay, we're good.
21
22 (Laughter)
23
24 REPORTER: You bet.
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
29 right. It's been moved and seconded by Bill this time.
30
31 Go ahead, Staff.
32
33 MS. HYER: Hello, Madam Chair and
34 Regional Advisory Council members. My name is Karen
35 Hyer, I'm the statistician with OSM.
36 Wildlife Proposal 10-94 begins on Page 118.
37
38 It was submitted by Jack Reakoff and it
39 requests an extension of the harvest season in a
40 portion of 25A. It requests an extension from July 1
41 through April 20 -- excuse me, that's the existing
42 season. They're requesting an extension to July 1
43 through June 30th. It further requests only bulls and
44 antlerless cows be taken May 1 through June 30th. A
45 complementary proposal was submitted by the proponent
46 to the Alaska Board of Game. The complementary
47 proposal requests similar harvest season and bag
48 limits. And this change is requested also on State
49 lands in 25A. The proposed -- this proposal applies to
50 a small portion of land administered by BLM in the

1 northwest corner of 25A. The regulation would affect
2 the Central Arctic Caribou Herd, the population
3 objectives for the Central Arctic Caribou Herd are
4 between 18 and 20,000 caribou and the harvest objective
5 is for 600 to 800 animals.

6
7 If you turn to Table 1 on Page 120 it
8 -- you can see that since the mid 1970s the herd has
9 experienced tremendous growth. The herd population has
10 been within or above the population objective since
11 1991. The majority of the harvest occurs between
12 August and October and the reported level of harvest
13 from 2006 to 2008 was significantly lower than the
14 management objective of 3 percent.

15
16 So while harvest isn't a concern, one
17 concern this -- the area biologist raised was allowing
18 for the harvest of antlerless cows. It could have
19 unintended consequences as a small portion of
20 antlerless cows may be pregnant.

21
22 So OSM recommends supporting this with
23 modification. The first modification is to establish
24 the caribou hunting season from July 1 through June
25 30th, but restricting it to bulls only from May 15th to
26 June 30th. This would match what is in the State
27 proposal. In addition the language has been modified
28 in the proposal from what was originally submitted by
29 Jack to match the proposed language in the State
30 proposal.

31
32 So I can take any questions.

33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

35
36 (No comments)

37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. You're
39 off the hook for a second.

40
41 MS. HYER: All right.

42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It'll probably
44 happen though.

45
46 ADF&G.

47
48 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
49 Summarizing from our comments which you have there,
50 right down at the bottom there, other comments.

1 There's a very small section of Federal
2 public land along the Dalton Highway where Federally
3 qualified users would be able to take advantage of the
4 extended season. The size of the section of Federal
5 public lands is likely too small to support a Federal
6 subsistence hunt. Most of the remaining land is under
7 State jurisdiction.

8
9 Recommendation. Support with
10 modification to parallel portions of Proposal 99
11 submitted to the Alaska Board of Game which is to
12 restrict the harvest to bulls only from May 16th to
13 June 30th and to modify the proposed boundaries.
14 Proposal 99 requests regulation changes for Unit 25A
15 and those portions east of the east bank of the east
16 fork of the Chandalar River extending from its
17 confluence with the Chandalar River upstream to
18 Guilbeau Pass.

19
20 That concludes my comments.

21
22 *****
23 STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
24 *****

25
26 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
27 Comments to the Regional Advisory Council

28
29 Wildlife Proposal WP10-94:

30
31 Extend the caribou season in Unit 25A
32 within the Chandalar drainage and west of the Middle
33 Fork Chandalar River from July 1 through April 30 to
34 July 1 through June 30 (no closed season). However,
35 only bulls or antlerless cows may be taken during May
36 1 June 30.

37
38 Introduction:

39
40 The Central Arctic Herd has increased
41 substantially during the past 10 years and recent
42 harvest levels are below sustainable yield. The
43 proposal would allow hunters to harvest bull caribou
44 all year and antlerless cow caribou May 1 through June
45 30. These proposed liberalizations are to take
46 advantage of the increase in the herd. A companion
47 proposal was submitted to the Alaska Board of Game for
48 consideration at the February 26 through March 7, 2010,
49 meeting. The department will likely recommend adoption
50 with amendment to limit to bulls only May 16 through

1 June 30.

2

3

Impact on Subsistence Users:

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Opportunity Provided by State:

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Conservation Issues:

None.

Other Comments:

There is a very small section of federal public land along the Dalton Highway where federally qualified users would be able to take advantage of the extended season. The size of the section of federal public lands is likely too small to support a federal subsistence hunt. Most of the remaining land is under state jurisdiction.

Recommendation:

Support with modification, to parallel portions of proposal #99 submitted to the Alaska Board of Game to restrict the harvest to bulls only from May 16 through June 30 and modify the proposed boundary. Proposal #99 requests regulation changes for Unit 25A, in those portions east of the east bank of the East Fork Chandalar River extending from its confluence with the Chandalar River upstream to Guilbeau Pass.

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're not familiar with that one, are you.

MR. PAPPAS: I don't believe so.

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

(No comments)

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Other
2 Federal, State and Tribal Agencies, InterAgency Staff,
3 Subsistence Resource Commission in that area, Fish and
4 Game Advisory Comments, are there any.

5
6 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. There are no
7 Fish and Game Advisory Comments or other public
8 comments.

9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
11 you, Robert. Now we're in deliberation. Did -- and
12 this is on the floor. Discussion.

13
14 MR. FIRMIN: Madam Chair.

15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

17
18 MR. FIRMIN: Who submitted the
19 proposal?

20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jack Reakoff.
22 Jack is the Chair of the Western Interior and he's
23 extremely passionate about this caribou thing. As Andy
24 was -- not you, but you missed yesterday's meeting,
25 Andrew, over the Yukon fish.

26
27 So did you have some more questions
28 about the proposer?

29
30 MR. FIRMIN: No, I was just also --
31 just from looking at it real quick, I'm not real
32 familiar with this one, but I'm kind of preferable to
33 the -- OSM's recommendation of the bull only instead of
34 the bull and antlerless cow.

35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Other
37 discussion and questions. Go ahead, Virgil.

38
39 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, actually Jack's
40 proposal if you look in the State book, it would have
41 only been antlered -- antlerless cows, I think. Let me
42 -- let me look real quick.

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Antlerless
45 cows.

46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah, only velvet
48 antlered bulls and antlerless cows is what he would
49 have and for those of you that don't know it, the
50 pregnant caribou maintain their antlers until after

1 they give birth and so the antlerless cows would be
2 cows that did not get pregnant for some reason or
3 another was what Jack's was. And then, of course, the
4 modification is to limit it only to bulls which would
5 be bulls with -- that are in velvet, depending on what
6 part of the -- you know, when you got them, the early
7 part that have small antlers, towards the end that have
8 big antlers.

9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Conducting
11 this meeting is hard sometimes, I was thinking of moose
12 when you said antlerless cow. So I was like -- okay.
13 But now I'm on track, I'm on caribou.

14
15 We need some more discussion here.
16 Virgil.

17
18 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. What Jack wants
19 to -- what he -- I know that I -- I guess I must have
20 talked to him about this at one time or another.....

21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

23
24 MR. UMPHENOUR:because he thinks
25 that the barren cows, which for some reason they don't
26 get pregnant, that we may as well harvest them because
27 they're not contributing any to the -- as far as the
28 herd goes, they're just excess barren cows is what they
29 are and that's what he would like people to be able to
30 harvest and to give people more harvest opportunity.
31 And I know the State's proposal, Proposal 99, the
32 State's preference is -- somehow I didn't -- they want
33 to parallel portions of Proposal 99 and restrict the
34 harvest to bulls only. And so basically that's what
35 the OSM recommendation was. So OSM's recommendation is
36 to go along with the State's recommendation is to limit
37 it to bulls only. And I still -- I agree with Jack as
38 far as the barren cows go, but I'm not necessarily tied
39 to that.

40
41 Maybe I'll -- I'd like to hear what
42 some of the other Council members think.

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council
45 members. Bill.

46
47 MR. GLANZ: Yes, Madam Chair. As far
48 as I'm concerned that was one of my biggest things in
49 the Fortymile Herd was elimination of the cull harvest.
50 And I'm never -- I've never harvested a cow and I don't

1 believe it's ethical, regardless what kind of cow it
2 is. So I go along with Virgil and make it bulls only
3 also.

4

5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I remember
6 Jack discussing something to me about the Porcupine
7 Caribou Herd and do they end up here?

8

9 MR. WOODRUFF: Can we ask Jack to come
10 over before this closes?

11

12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's up to you
13 guys. This is the Central Arctic. Yeah. Okay. I
14 should know all this, but I didn't.

15

16 REPORTER: Do you want me to see if
17 he's available?

18

19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: If you guys
20 want to hear? Okay. That would be great if that's
21 possible. So.....

22

23 REPORTER: I'll go ask.

24

25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, okay.
26 Just for discussion purposes here, the Porcupine
27 Caribou Herd are more up in this northern 25A; is that
28 correct.

29

30 MR. WOODRUFF: That's correct. Madam
31 Chairman, they're -- as far as I'm aware it's the Upper
32 Nation, Upper Kandik and north on the border crossing
33 back and forth and up to the ocean as far as I'm
34 concerned.

35

36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And the --
37 just to get our brain wrapped around this proposal
38 then, his proposal is for 25A and the land status is --
39 okay. Why don't you guys -- I guess it would be easier
40 if Jack were here.

41

42 REPORTER: He'll be over in a couple
43 minutes.

44

45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

46

47 REPORTER: He just wants to finish up
48 their current discussion.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,

1 Salena.

2

3 You gave such a short presentation that
4 I'm not -- I'm not following you real well.

5

6 MR. WOODRUFF: Madam Chairman, on Page
7 117 of our wildlife book, there's a good map that shows
8 this. And basically up the border from Eagle north is
9 where the Porcupine Herd winters and where they summer,
10 who knows.

11

12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, my
13 husband's up -- been up there hunting before.

14

15 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, Madam Chairman,
16 I'd like to speak on the -- for the caribou that.....

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sure.

19

20 MR. BIEDERMAN:the Porcupine
21 Herd.....

22

23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

24

25 MR. BIEDERMAN: is probably may
26 be a separate caribou herd that's.....

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It is.

29

30 MR. BIEDERMAN:from the Fortymile
31 Herd.

32

33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It is.

34

35 MR. BIEDERMAN: The Porcupine Herd
36 migrates from up to the Arctic between Venetie and
37 Arctic Village and they sort of go towards Cannon
38 Village or towards the Canadian side. So it's -- so
39 they -- they go across the Porcupine River.

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

42

43 MR. BIEDERMAN: And so that's the
44 reason why they call it the Porcupine Herd. And I'm
45 not really familiar with the Fortymile Herd in Tok or
46 towards Chicken area. So I never -- I never hunted
47 there before. But just the herd in Venetie and Arctic
48 Village I hunted there -- up there, but not close to
49 Arctic Village where this is saying it's at. It's on
50 the east and west fork of the Chandalar.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.
2
3 MS. HYER: This is a very small portion
4 of land and what would happen is -- it probably can't,
5 as the State says, sustain its own harvest, but they
6 hunt across it into State land. And so it allows
7 people to hunt from the Dalton Highway and connect
8 right into State land. And so
9
10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That's the
11 northwest corner.
12
13 MS. HYER: Yeah, the northwest corner.
14 And so aligning State and Federal regulations would
15 make it easier for the users.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's
18 important.
19
20 (Pause)
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Other
23 discussion as we're waiting for Jack, does anyone have
24 any other questions of Staff.
25
26 Virgil.
27
28 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. How much of the
29 land is Federal land in this part, because it's just
30 going to be from the middle fork of the Chandalar River
31 to the west so.....
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I have this
34 map.
35
36 MR. UMPHENOUR:it looks like most
37 of it's State land.
38
39 MS. HYER: It is. It is this part
40 right here we're talking about, right there.
41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, so it's
43 just that little.....
44
45 MS. HYER: Yes.
46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Who owns that
48 land?
49
50 MS. HYER: BLM.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So it's BLM on
2 that far western corner if you look at your book, if
3 you have the federal regs.
4
5 MR. UMPHENOUR: What does that --
6 right?
7
8 MS. HYER: This is all State.
9
10 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's all State.
11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jack.
13 Welcome. Who is that Jack Reakoff anyway I'm asked.
14 Come on and.....
15
16 MR. REAKOFF: Well, I'll step up here
17 to this mic.
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. There's
20 some questions for you here.
21
22 Andrew, this is Jack Reakoff and you're
23 welcome to ask questions if you have some now.
24
25 MR. FIRMIN: My main question was I was
26 just wondering who he -- I recognized the name and I
27 wasn't sure if you were -- who you were and I thought
28 maybe you were a fly in guide or something like that
29 at.....
30
31 MR. REAKOFF: Oh, no. I've -- I am a
32 resident of Wiseman village and that's in the central
33 Brooks Range, right on the northern edge of Unit 24 and
34 25A is right next to us. And so we had caribou in Unit
35 25A routinely on the Chandalar shelf area. The
36 Department of Fish and Game has been -- has a Proposal
37 104 before the Board of Game to increase bag limit and
38 season dramatically. And so to provide additional
39 harvest opportunity I've made State proposals that are
40 similar to this proposal, 64 I think it is.
41
42 MR. UMPHENOUR: 94.
43
44 MR. REAKOFF: 94. 94. And then I made
45 this proposal as -- on the west -- on the Federal side
46 also, basically a mirrored proposal. And so my
47 position on the proposal is that they -- there's a
48 additional harvest opportunity. I'm very afraid of the
49 five caribou bag limit that the State is proposing,
50 increase 150 percent more bag limit in Unit 26B, I'm

1 very afraid of that. I'm very afraid of move --
2 they're also moving harvest into September 1 for cows,
3 any caribou, bulls, cows, everything. Most of the
4 hunters on the Haul Road and off -- and air taxis
5 flying people out, harvest caribou in August and
6 September so they're going to open the season for cows
7 in September. There's going to be a huge increase in
8 harvest of female caribou and caribou are very low
9 productivity. And so I'm very concerned about that
10 State proposal. So I feel that we can spread
11 additional harvest opportunity, but we can target --
12 harvest at different times of the year.

13

14 I don't want to see the State increase
15 bag limit to five caribou. In reflection of what
16 happened in Mulchatna Caribou Herd, exactly the same
17 scenario, they kept upping the bag limit, they went
18 into harvesting cow caribou. The herd went from
19 200,000 to 28,000 in 12 years. I'm concerned that
20 that's going to happen so I'm making proposals to have
21 additional subsistence harvest opportunity and harvest
22 opportunity for residents of Alaska in 26B. Harvesting
23 caribou -- antlerless caribou cows, those are cows that
24 are old, they drop their antlers, they're old, they're
25 not going to be productive anymore. We can kill those
26 cows. That's a definition, when they lose antler in
27 May that means they're not going to have a calf, you
28 can shoot those. If they've got soft antler as the
29 proposal says, those are bulls growing antlers. So if
30 they're a real young bull that's lost it antler you can
31 shoot it, if it's an old cow you can shoot it. It
32 needs to be taken out of the population anyway, it
33 makes sense to harvest those animals to me. And it
34 provides additional harvest opportunity for subsistence
35 users in Unit 25A. And so that comes before your
36 Council and so that's where we're at at this point.

37

38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

39

40 MR. UMPHENOUR: So basically the only
41 place you're wanting to hunt and where it would be
42 applicable is right along the -- right on the Chandalar
43 shelf then?

44

45 MR. REAKOFF: Well, that would be the
46 Federal lands that would apply on the Federal side, but
47 because it's a mirrored proposal on the State side the
48 definition of the hunt area's the same. So on the --
49 if the State Board of Game adopts the proposal then it
50 would include the whole definition. That's why the --

1 that has such a large area. And it seemed to be
2 confusing because it's only a small Federal area, but
3 you have to have a Federal hunt if you're going to have
4 the same harvest opportunity as the State side. We
5 have to have a Federal hunt to be able to harvest -- if
6 there is a State hunt in concurrence, we can't hunt
7 under Federal -- we can't hunt on the State regulations
8 with a firearm in the Dalton Highway corridor. So we
9 have to have a Federal hunt. That's the reason for the
10 submission of that proposal.

11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And there were
13 people in the State that didn't even realize that the
14 Federal allowed the use of a firearm.

15
16 MR. REAKOFF: Really.

17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I remember,
19 yeah, that at one of the Federal Board meetings because
20 I think it was some Federal thing with the Pipeline
21 that they put it to no firearms.

22
23 MR. REAKOFF: Well, there's a statutory
24 closure north of the Yukon River, five miles on each
25 side of the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area,
26 it's closed -- statutory closure to firearm use and all
27 terrain vehicle use. The only advantage that
28 subsistence users have in the Dalton Highway Corridor
29 that live in Allakaket, Alatna, Anaktuvuk Pass,
30 Bettles, Evansville and Wiseman can use snowmachines in
31 winter for trapping and subsistence harvest uses and
32 firearm. That's the only -- otherwise our seasons are
33 almost identical and would remain identical if this --
34 if these proposals pass.

35
36 Further questions.

37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
39 questions of Jack. He probably needs to get back to
40 his meeting.

41
42 MR. REAKOFF: We have a meeting going
43 on.

44
45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I know
46 you do. You're getting nervous here, you're getting
47 handwringing.

48
49 MR. REAKOFF: Yeah, handwringing.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I think
2 you did a good job, I think we understand it a lot
3 better now. So thanks, Jack.

4
5 MR. REAKOFF: Thanks for your
6 deliberation on the proposal. I enjoyed my meeting
7 with you yesterday.,

8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We look
10 forward to seeing that resolution.

11
12 MR. REAKOFF: They've made one
13 insertion and you'll see the -- on the.....

14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
16 right. I think I understand it a lot better now that
17 he -- I forgot about that firearm thing, that's why he
18 put that in. So I -- we have -- is it 105 that's the
19 joint one, that's the only thing I didn't ask him as he
20 was leaving. I'm pretty -- no, it's not 105. This is
21 put in by -- no, he's in the State -- I'd like to take
22 care of the State one as soon as we're done with the
23 Federal and we need to figure that out.

24
25 MS. HYER: He said 104 and I have in my
26 notes it was 100.

27
28 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, it says 100 in the
29 book.

30
31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Because
32 I don't see his name on it. Yeah, 100. Yeah, 25A,
33 that's it.

34
35 All right. We need some more
36 discussion, we are on the Federal proposal which is
37 number 94. Do we need anymore -- do you have any more
38 questions.

39
40 MR. WOODRUFF: I have a question.

41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

43
44 MR. WOODRUFF: Are we voting on the --
45 on Page 118 on the Federal proposed regulation or are
46 we -- I'm not sure how we're going to vote.

47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, the
49 motion before us as Virgil put it on is as written,
50 correct.

1 MR. WOODRUFF: And.....
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: As written so
4 it does not have the OSM's modification.
5
6 MR. UMPHENOUR: As written at the
7 bottom of Page 118.
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let me see.
10 The answer's yes with the help of Staff here.
11
12 MR. WOODRUFF: OSM's preliminary
13 conclusion and their assessment was on 121.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Correct.
16
17 MR. WOODRUFF: So I assume that we're
18 voting on it as it's written on Page 118 at the bottom?
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's right,
21 that's what's on the table right now.
22
23 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you.
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And just for
26 the record you -- or just for my brain I should say,
27 your modification is changing.....
28
29 MS. HYER: OSM's modification is to
30 change to one bull which matches the State proposal and
31 also to change the wording. It's a different
32 description of the same area and it's the wording that
33 is in the State's proposal as well.
34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh.
36
37 MS. HYER: So it.....
38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So it would be
40 the same wording as what's in the State's?
41
42 MS. HYER: Right. It's the same area,
43 it's just the wording that the State uses.
44
45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh.
46
47 MS. HYER: So we just wanted to align
48 that wording for -- to make it easier for the user.
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I definitely

1 like that.

2

3 MS. HYER: And then the one bull is
4 also to align with the State.

5

6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. What's
7 the wishes of the Council. I definitely like the
8 wording change, I'm always -- I'm always a proponent of
9 making it simpler for the people on the -- the users,
10 the people in the field doing this that it's not so
11 different. But he wanted to make it to where you could
12 do this -- just added opportunity, that's why he wrote
13 it that way. So we have to ask ourselves which way do
14 we want to go, with it as written, that's on the floor.

15

16 (Council nods affirmative)

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I hear -- I
19 see a head shaking over here and I -- and more -- I see
20 several heads shaking on that as written. Virgil, I
21 heard just ahhh, what does that mean?

22

23 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I was just going
24 to make sure everyone understands what we're voting on.
25 Jack's proposal is to -- the difference between what
26 OSM recommended with their modification, the difference
27 is is that Jack's would allow you to shoot the cows
28 that are not pregnant, that's the main thing.

29

30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Additional
31 opportunity.

32

33 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. It -- well, it
34 -- both of them extend the season from April 30th to
35 June -- make it basically year-round with the.....

36

37 MS. HYER: There is also the -- you're
38 correct in that they both extend the season. The dates
39 are a little bit different also from what Jack
40 proposed. And that again is to align with the State
41 proposal. I think there's a five day difference in
42 there. It's the 15 days.

43

44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

45

46 MS. HYER: Jack asked from July 1st to
47 June 30th and we have May 15th to June 30th. Oh, yeah,
48 you're right. The original was from May 1st to June
49 30th and OSM is from May 15th to June 30th. And again
50 that was to match with what the State put in for their

1 proposal.

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, he had
4 to go back to his meeting. So I -- you know,
5 personally like for the wording of the language of the
6 area, to have them look the same in regulation books to
7 me is very important.

8

9 Yes. Go ahead.

10

11 MR. EASTLAND: My names Warren
12 Eastland, I'm the wildlife biologist for the Bureau of
13 Indian Affairs. And I've heard a couple things here
14 that I'd like to point out that they're not completely
15 accurate. Excuse me. The first is that the antlerless
16 cows are not necessarily old cows. Prior -- antlerless
17 cows immediately prior to calving are indeed barren,
18 they're not going to drop a calf that year. As
19 somebody noted earlier caribou -- in fact, I believe it
20 was Jack, caribou are really a low productivity animal,
21 no matter how good their nutrition, they're going to
22 drop a singleton, they don't twin like caribou do.

23

24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Don't twin
25 like caribou do.

26

27 MS. HYER: You mean like moose.

28

29 MR. EASTLAND: Or like moose, thank
30 you.

31

32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay,.

33

34 MR. EASTLAND: They don't twin like
35 moose or deer, they just drop singletons. And if for
36 some reason they don't gain enough weight during the
37 summer with nutrition problems, insect, whatever, the
38 caribou doesn't come into estrous in the fall. And it
39 goes into alternate year reproduction. So the
40 antlerless cows in May, prior to calving, are not
41 necessarily old, in fact, what they've done is they
42 will be the most likely to get pregnant that fall
43 because they haven't expended the fat and the nutrition
44 necessary to bring off a calf, provide it with milk and
45 so forth.

46

47 Then the other -- so there's that
48 issue.

49

50 And then another issue are the dates,

1 the -- for -- in the original proposed regulation. It
2 says antlerless cows may be taken between May 1 -- May
3 1st and June 30th. Cows -- one way that you tell when
4 cows have calved is they drop their antlers, within
5 three or four days of dropping their calf they drop
6 their antlers. And so one way that we tell when peak
7 calving has occurred is just simply by how many antlers
8 are missing. You can fly the calving area and see all
9 kinds of antlered females, go out two days later and
10 they're all dropped and, you know, uh-huh, peak calving
11 has gone by. Calving occurs in the first week of June
12 and with the weather changes and plasticity and
13 gestation, there's variations, but call it the first
14 week of June.

15

16 So if you are following Jack's idea and
17 hunting antlerless cows in late June, what you're doing
18 is killing lactating females.

19

20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, you
21 could say that.

22

23 MR. EASTLAND: That may have been a bit
24 confusing, are there.....

25

26 MR. GLANZ: No, I'm.....

27

28 MR. EASTLAND: Okay. Thank you. Very
29 good. Thank you. Thank you.

30

31 MR. GLANZ: Like I said, bulls only.

32

33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We know where
34 Bill stands. Let's get more discussion. Council
35 members, how do you feel.

36

37 MR. FIRMIN: Madam Chair.

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andrew.

40

41 MR. FIRMIN: I -- with Bill, like I
42 said, bulls only. I mean I don't doubt their -- the
43 skill of any hunter until you see it firsthand, but, I
44 mean, there's just that -- that same chance that -- how
45 sure are they that they're shooting the right cow. I
46 mean, regard -- after what Warren said, that was even
47 more -- but that was my main thing with the bulls only
48 is, you know, how do you know which cow you're really
49 shooting until you kill it and walk up to it and look
50 at it, you know.

1 There's always that chance.
2
3 And I agree with Bill, just bulls only.
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So now
6 we're to bulls only.
7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, we have to make
9 it official we're to that. So I.....
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well,
12 discussion first.
13
14 MR. UMPHENOUR:I move to amend
15 Proposal 94 to the modification by OSM.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do I hear a
18 second.
19
20 MR. GLANZ: Definitely second.
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
23 Speaking to the motion which is the amendment.
24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Speaking to the
26 motion, I don't know when those caribou calve up there,
27 I know that 20A caribou calve usually the last week of
28 May.
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: And so that would --
33 that would cause people to be out there shooting -- if
34 they were shooting antlerless caribou in June, then
35 they would be shooting caribou that have calves. So
36 and that would not be good. So I'll be supporting the
37 amendment.
38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
40 discussion on the amendment.
41
42 MR. WOODRUFF: Madam Chairman.
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.
45
46 MR. WOODRUFF: On 121 at the bottom, I
47 assume that's the OSM's preliminary conclusion with
48 modification. It does not say only bulls, it says
49 however -- okay, it does. Only bulls may be taken. So
50 yes, I'm in agreement with that.

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Let's

4 clarify the other differences in the amendment than

5 what Jack has.

6

7 MS. HYER: The other differences --

8 Jack proposed bulls and antlerless cows be taken May

9 1st through June 30th.

10

11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

12

13 MS. HYER: And in the OSM proposal it's

14 bulls which we just went over from May 15th to June

15 30th. So there is a time period change. The reason

16 for the 15 day delay is it matches the State

17 regulations. And then the third issue is just the

18 wording.....

19

20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

21

22 MS. HYER:which the State

23 provided to me, but it's the same area.

24

25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I

26 really appreciate that dialogue with the State.

27

28 Andrew.

29

30 MR. FIRMIN: I have another question if

31 somebody can answer that. Is there any other places in

32 the State where you can actually hunt caribou during

33 calving season?

34

35 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes.

36

37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Probably the

38 Porcupine.

39

40 MR. ARDIZZONE: And Northwest Arctic.

41

42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm pretty

43 sure there is, especially Northwest Arctic for the

44 State. You want to know that under the State system or

45 the Federal system or you just want to know?

46

47 MR. FIRMIN: It doesn't matter, I just

48 want to know. I mean know that generally that's just

49 kind of a no no for most caribou, you don't go out and

50 shoot them while they're dropping calves because that's

1 just kind of a high stress environment for an
2 animal.....
3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.
5
6 MR. FIRMIN:if you're shooting
7 the father right next to the calf and cow.
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, they're
10 -- are they -- I don't know that they're always
11 together like that, when they're calving they're
12 usually separated out.
13
14 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chair. By looking at
15 this Federal book in 25, everything is shutdown March
16 31st, April 30th.
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're looking
19 at 25, right?
20
21 MR. GLANZ: In 25, yes, caribou, yeah.
22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We were just
24 looking at the Arctic Western to see.....
25
26 MR. GLANZ: Well, we -- that's what I
27 was talking about there. The -- that be a part --
28 that's the Porcupine I'm looking at.
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.
31
32 MR. GLANZ: Okay.
33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're looking
35 at the Porcupine.
36
37 MR. GLANZ: 26 we'd be at then, huh, or
38 24. Wait a second.
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think it's
41 -- 22 is bear east. And your concern -- yeah, I see
42 your concern, Andrew, it's very valid actually. But I
43 think that -- did we find one, did we find a season
44 that was.....
45
46 MR. FIRMIN: Madam Chair. The ones
47 that I found are -- it's just -- to quote, the season
48 only closes from the same dates in here for cows only.
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Say that

1 again.

2

3 MR. FIRMIN: From the dates mentioned
4 in here like May 15th to June 30th, those are -- seem
5 to be common dates that it's closed for cows. And
6 so.....

7

8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And this is
9 closed for cows under this amendment.

10

11 MR. FIRMIN: Yes, under the State
12 regulations. And under this amendment it would mirror
13 those.

14

15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
16 discussion.

17

18 MR. GLANZ: Call for the question.

19

20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
21 been called for. All in favor of the amendment as
22 OSM's preliminary conclusion.

23

24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25

26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.

27

28 (No opposing votes)

29

30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now
31 speaking to the main motion which is basically the same
32 thing. I don't think anyone.....

33

34 MR. GLANZ: Call for the question.

35

36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
37 been called for. All in favor.

38

39 IN UNISON: Aye.

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No one
42 opposed.

43

44 (No opposing votes)

45

46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now
47 moving on. We're at number 95.

48

49 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
50 WP10-95.

1 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Donald
4 seconded.
5
6 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes, he seconded.
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. All
9 right. Starting with Chuck.
10
11 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. Proposal
12 95 can be found on Page 108 of your Council book.
13
14 Proposal WP10-95 was submitted by the
15 Denali National Park Preserve and requests that the
16 harvest limit be reduced for wolf hunting in that
17 portion of Unit 20C within Denali National Park and
18 Preserve. This proposal is co-sponsored by the Denali
19 Subsistence Resource Commission. If this proposal is
20 adopted the Federal harvest limit for wolf hunting
21 would be reduced from 10 per year to six in that
22 portion of Unit 20C that is within the Denali National
23 Park and Preserve. Under Federal subsistence
24 regulations hunters would be allowed to take one wolf
25 from August 10 through October 31, an additional five
26 wolves from November 1st through April 30.
27
28 This proposal affects Federally
29 qualified subsistence users from the four communities
30 listed on Page 125 and those that have 13.440 permit to
31 hunt in that portion of the Denali National Park that
32 was established on December 2nd, 1980. These same
33 subsistence users are represented by the Denali
34 Subsistence Resource Commission which is requesting
35 this regulatory change.
36
37 Therefore the preliminary OSM
38 conclusion is to support this proposal.
39
40 If you have any questions I'll answer
41 them.
42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.
44
45 (No comments)
46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Department of
48 Fish and Game.
49
50 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

1 Summarizing from our comments. One of the points in
2 our comments, the proponent indicates adoption of this
3 proposal will result in continuation -- continuing
4 significant commercial value to the wolf viewing
5 tourist industry which if impacted by Federal
6 subsistence harvests may result in unfavorable and
7 increased pressure on National Park Service to curtail
8 Federal subsistence activities.

9
10 Data do not indicate that the viewing
11 opportunities are diminished under current Federal and
12 State regulations.

13
14 Additionally the recommendation is to
15 oppose. This restriction is not necessary to provide
16 for conservation of the wolves, it would unnecessarily
17 restrict Federal subsistence opportunity without
18 achieving the proponent's desired benefit to non-
19 consumptive uses.

20
21 Thank you, Madam Chair.

22
23 *****
24 STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
25 *****

26
27 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
28 Comments to the Regional Advisory Council

29
30 Wildlife Proposal WP10-95:

31
32 This proposal, submitted by the
33 National Park Service, would restrict the federal
34 subsistence hunting bag limit for wolves in Unit 20
35 from 10 wolves to 6 wolves and establish bag limits
36 within two specified periods within the season. The
37 proposed bag limits and season dates are 1 wolf during
38 August 10 through November 1 and 5 wolves during
39 November 2 through April 30 remainder of the season.

40
41 Introduction:

42
43 Though the proponent and the federal
44 subsistence proposal book were not clear regarding what
45 portion of Unit 20 the proposal addresses, the
46 department assumes the proposal was intended to focus
47 on the portion of Unit 20 C within Denali National Park
48 in the Kantishna area near the Denali Park Road
49 frequented by wolf viewing tourists. The proponent
50 indicates the proposed bag limit reduction and bag

1 limit seasonal distribution will protect federal
2 subsistence hunting and trapping by limiting the
3 opportunities for incidental harvest of non-prime wolf
4 hides. Hide value depends on what the wolf will be
5 used for. Hides that are not prime are suitable for
6 making warm items for personal use, consistent with
7 subsistence uses.

8

9 Additionally, the proponent indicated
10 adoption of this proposal will result in continuing
11 significant commercial value to the wolf viewing
12 tourist industry, which if impacted by federal
13 subsistence harvests, may result in unfavorable
14 publicity and increased pressure on National Park
15 Service to curtail federal subsistence activities.
16 Data do not indicate that viewing opportunity is
17 diminished under current federal and state regulations.

18

19 Impact on Subsistence Users:

20

21 If adopted, federal subsistence wolf
22 hunters will have their opportunity to harvest wolves
23 in the autumn and fall significantly restricted to one
24 wolf. In addition, the federal subsistence wolf hunt
25 bag limit would be reduced by up to 50% during the
26 November 2 through April 30 portion of the season.
27 Data are needed to indicate what the customary and
28 traditional subsistence needs are by federal
29 subsistence users on federal public land.

30

31 Opportunity Provided by State:

32

33 The current state wolf hunting season
34 and bag limit in all of Unit 20 is five wolves during
35 August 10 through May 31.

36

37 Conservation Issues:

38

39 None.

40

41 Enforcement Issues:

42

43 A divided federal season with period
44 assigned bag limits will create enforcement issues in
45 areas with mixed land ownership and cause confusion
46 among the public.

47

48 Other Comments:

49

50 The earlier part of the season in which

1 only one wolf may be taken should be from August 10
2 through October 31 to avoid a one-day overlap with the
3 November 1 through April 30 portion of the season.

4

5 Recommendation:

6

7 Oppose.

8

9 This restriction is not necessary to
10 provide for conservation of wolves and would
11 unnecessarily restrict federal subsistence opportunity
12 without achieving the proponent s desired benefit to
13 non-consumptive users.

14

15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions
16 of the State.

17

18 Chuck.

19

20 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. I just
21 wanted to say that we did have this discussion about
22 restriction to subsistence users in the office, however
23 it was -- this proposal is basically sponsored by the
24 subsistence users of that area to reduce the limit. So
25 they're actually requesting to reduce their own
26 harvest. Just so it's clear.

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Yeah, I
29 can probably add to that, but I want to go on.

30

31 Subsistence Resource Commission
32 comments. Vince, did I miss you for some reason. Are
33 you the other Federal and State and Tribal Agency that
34 I overlooked?

35

36 MR. MATHEWS: No, I just -- since you
37 took advantage of Jack being present here, the Chair of
38 the Denali SRC is right next door, Ray Collins.

39

40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and I
41 spoke to him last night.

42

43 MR. MATHEWS: Oh, you did. Okay.

44

45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

46

47 MR. MATHEWS: Just so that if you
48 needed further information, that's all.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Well,

1 we're going to see what we learn here from -- Paul
2 Starr is also here. He's our Eastern Interior
3 appointment to the SRC. So I'm calling them forward
4 now. Introduce yourself.

5
6 Go ahead and introduce yourself, Paul.

7
8 MR. STARR: My name is Paul Starr and
9 I'm at the Denali Subsistence Resource Commission. We
10 have a letter here.

11
12 The Denali Resource Commission held a
13 meeting on November 4, 2009. The
14 Commission voted to support the
15 proposal to restrict wolf hunting
16 season and/or bag limits in order to
17 minimize the chance of excessive
18 opportunistic harvest of wolves in
19 early fall, before hides are prime. In
20 particular the intent was to limit the
21 potential of taking large numbers of
22 wolves in conjunction with the
23 subsistence moose season in the
24 Kantishna area of Denali National Park.

25
26 Proposal WP10-95, the result of that
27 vote, would establish a limit of one
28 wolf in that portion of GMU 20C within
29 Denali National Park from August 10th
30 to October 31st and then raise the
31 limit to five wolves for the remainder
32 of the winter. The proposal would not
33 affect regulations pertaining to wolf
34 trapping which is a primary means of
35 subsistence and general harvest of
36 wolves in GMU 20C.

37
38 In past discussion no member of the
39 Denali SRC has expressed an interest in
40 taking wolves in September or October
41 and no subsistence hunters obtaining a
42 permit to drive the Denali Park Road to
43 hunt at Kantishna has expressed an
44 interest in taking wolves in
45 conjunction with that hunt.

46
47 To the best of our knowledge, no wolves
48 have ever been taken by subsistence
49 hunters during the subsistence moose
50 hunt in the GMU 20C. The proposed

1 regulation would provide a limited
2 opportunity to take wolves
3 opportunistically during that hunt
4 while restricting the bulk of wolf
5 harvest to the winter period when wolf
6 hides have much greater value. The
7 proposed regulation would not curtail
8 any historic pattern of use and would
9 protect future patterns of subsistence
10 use in Denali.

11
12 We believe that this regulation would
13 best serve the needs of subsistence
14 users.

15
16 Sincerely, Ray Collins, Chairman.

17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You can stay.
19 Council members, any questions from the SRC. And then
20 I'd like to ask you do you feel comfortable answering
21 all the questions, do you feel like you need to have
22 Ray Collins here, he's the Chair?

23
24 MR. STARR: He's the Chairperson.

25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.
27 Council members, do you have questions.

28
29 MR. FIRMIN: I was just wondering like
30 kind of more just to summarize what you just said, so
31 you basically just don't -- you want to hinder
32 exploitation of the wolves during moose season so you
33 can trap them in the winter when their fur is better,
34 you'd rather do that?

35
36 MR. STARR: We voted to establish
37 limits at one wolf in the moose season, hunting season,
38 for the purpose of -- the discussion the wolves were
39 not primed through August and October, the wolf skins
40 were not primed.

41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

43
44 MR. FIRMIN: Yeah, thank you. I
45 understand.

46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you want
48 to come up?

49
50 MS. CRAVER: Sure.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Chuck
2 doesn't mind musical chairs.

3
4 MS. CRAVER: For the record this is --
5 my name is Amy Craver and I'm the coordinator for
6 cultural resources and subsistence for Denali National
7 Park and Preserve. And really this is -- this proposal
8 is -- we've got people that are going down to -- in
9 Kantishna moose hunting and we're just trying to be
10 proactive. And we do have a pack of wolves out there
11 and since the hides are not in their prime, we just
12 want to take proactive opportunity to -- you know, to
13 provide for subsistence purposes, but also to --
14 knowing that they're not in their prime.

15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So any other
17 questions.

18
19 MR. GLANZ: This is not backed by
20 Defenders of Wildlife, because it usually backs these
21 propositions for -- are you, I mean, serious because it
22 seems like every Fish and Game Board meeting I go to
23 the Defenders of Wildlife are trying to put this
24 boundary in and this boundary in, can't hunt them here
25 and it's been quite a cantankerous issue since I've
26 been messing around with Game Board stuff since the mid
27 '80s. So it.....

28
29 MS. CRAVER: No, this isn't --
30 Defenders of Wildlife isn't involved in this proposal
31 at all. This is really the -- there -- we have no
32 evidence that subsistence users in that area have ever
33 taken a wolf. And so our concern is just to protect
34 their hunting opportunities. So they -- no Defenders
35 of Wildlife, this is subsistence users.

36
37 MR. GLANZ: Okay. It's just it always
38 upsets me when I see the wolf protection hanging out
39 down there because usually there ulterior motives
40 behind any movement and push there that I've seen
41 anyway.

42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

44
45 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madam
46 Chairman. I can't understand why you want to take one
47 wolf out in August when they're not prime, I mean, it's
48 not food, nobody there needs to eat the wolf, nobody's
49 that hungry, they don't taste that good, I know that.
50 And so I don't even know why you want to let them take

1 one, they should all be hunted from November on when
2 they're prime or mid September when they're prime. So
3 the regulation, August 10th,

4
5 I don't know if that's just a give me
6 or what.

7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It probably
9 was what was in the books already.

10
11 MS. CRAVER: No, the intent is we want
12 to provide -- I mean, this is what the SRC wants, they
13 want to be able to at least provide opportunity for
14 subsistence users. If for some reason
15 opportunistically if they're out moose hunting and if
16 for some reason they want to shoot a wolf, then we want
17 to provide for that opportunity. So it's -- we don't
18 want to not provide for that opportunity so that's why
19 we are -- we put in for one moose or one wolf.

20
21 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you.

22
23 MR. GLANZ: And a question again,
24 what's the deal here between the reducing from 10
25 wolves to five wolves in -- from November 1st to August
26 -- April 30th?

27
28 MS. CRAVER: Well, generally speaking
29 at Denali, most people are trapping wolves, that's the
30 preferred method for harvesting wolves. And so we just
31 felt that five wolves was enough to -- for subsistence
32 purposes.

33
34 MR. GLANZ: That's a lifetime, I mean,
35 all the hunters shoot five wolves anyway assuming, you
36 know.....

37
38 MS. CRAVER: Exactly.

39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, even the
41 10 is like -- but I hear you're trying to -- they're
42 trying to be a little more proactive and kind of meet
43 maybe what kind of objection they might have down the
44 road from the people that view those wolves, is that
45 part of this?

46
47 MS. CRAVER: Exactly.

48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So it's
50 kind of a -- little bit of a perception thing on the

1 viewing of wolves in the Park. And if the SRC is in
2 favor of it, I'm certainly can go with what they're
3 proposing. And we have to keep in mind this is just
4 the hunting portion, not the trapping portion. So and
5 currently under the State regs, 20C does have an August
6 10 opening. So -- okay.

7

8 Other discussion.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 MR. GLANZ: Question.

13

14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. I
15 think the question's been called for. All in favor.

16

17 IN UNISON: Aye.

18

19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone

20 opposed.

21

22 (No opposing votes)

23

24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Paul, thank
25 you for coming. We appreciate seeing you. Okay. Now
26 you can go trapping, 'eh. Okay.

27

28 (Laughter)

29

30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Have fun. 96.

31

32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Move to adopt

33 Proposal 10-96.

34

35 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.

36

37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Before
38 we go any further, did I hear that we have to be out of
39 here by 4:30 today?

40

41 MR. LARSON: Tomorrow.

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's not
44 today, it's tomorrow. Salena, tomorrow?

45

46 MR. LARSON: It's not tomorrow -- it's
47 not today, it's tomorrow.

48

49 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)

50

1 (Laughter)

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well,
4 god darn it, I had something I have to deal with at
5 5:00 because I can't get my head straight on this
6 scheduling. So hopefully we can stop at 5:00.

7

8 All right. Go ahead.

9

10 MS. HYER: Okay. Wildlife Proposal 10-
11 96 begins on Page 131.

12

13 WP-96 was submitted by Miki Collins and
14 it requests a Federal hunting season for muskrat on
15 Federal public lands within Unit 20 remainder with a
16 harvest limit of 25 muskrat per season. The
17 proponent's intent is to establish a hunting season in
18 order to provide opportunity to harvest muskrat with a
19 firearm while trapping in Denali National Preserve.
20 The Federal subsistence trapping regulations prohibit
21 the taking of free-ranging furbearers with a firearm in
22 National Park Service lands under the trapping license.
23 A hunting season in Denali National Park and Preserve
24 would allow for harvest of muskrat during the trapping
25 season. And it is not necessary to apply this
26 regulation beyond Denali National Park and Preserve in
27 Unit 20 because individuals can currently harvest
28 muskrat within -- with a firearm in the rest of Unit
29 20, excluding National Park Service land and currently
30 Yukon-Charley River National Preserve also has a
31 hunting season to take care of that on that Park land.

32

33 Anecdotal information suggests that the
34 muskrat population is slowly rising from a long term
35 low and beginning to occupy habitats that it hasn't
36 occupied since 1970. Unfortunately published
37 information on populations is not available and most of
38 what you get is from either talking to the hunters or
39 talking to the wildlife biologist with the State. And
40 so this proposal would reestablish a traditional
41 practice of harvesting muskrat with a firearm for food
42 and hides while people are hunting.

43

44 OSM supports this with modification and
45 the modification is to address the land that it needs
46 to be applied to and add that the portion is within
47 Denali National Park and Preserve. So that's the only
48 change and again it's just to clarify what land this
49 regulation needs to apply to.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No. Boy, that
6 line's working over there. Okay.

7

8 ADF&G.

9

10 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madam Chair,
11 I'll make this short.

12

13 The Department's recommendation is to
14 support with modification. The Department recommends
15 support with modification to establish a season
16 November 1 through 10 in that portion of Unit 20C
17 within Denali National Park and Preserve with a harvest
18 limit of 25 muskrat.

19

20 Thank you, Madam Chair.

21

22 *****

23 STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

24 *****

25

26 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
27 Comments to the Regional Advisory Council

28

29 Wildlife Proposal WP10-96:

30

31 This proposal would establish a hunting
32 season of November 1 through June 10 for a bag limit of
33 25 muskrats in Unit 20 remainder exclusive of the
34 Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve where there is a
35 September 20 through June 10 season with no bag limit.

36

37 Introduction:

38

39 This proposal was submitted to
40 establish a federal subsistence hunting season in Unit
41 20, within Denali National Preserve, allowing take of
42 muskrat as a free-ranging furbearer with a firearm,
43 which gear-type is currently prohibited by National
44 Park Service regulation with a state trapping license.

45

46 Impact on Subsistence Users:

47

48 If adopted, all federally qualified
49 rural residents statewide will have the opportunity to
50 harvest muskrat with a firearm in Unit 20 remainder

1 portions of Denali National Preserve. (There is no
2 federal C&T finding of communities that have harvested
3 the affected muskrat populations, so federal
4 subsistence use is open to all rural residents.)

5

6 Opportunity Provided by State:

7

8 There is no hunting season for muskrats
9 under state regulations. However, firearms may be used
10 to take muskrats under a state trapping license with no
11 limit September 20 through June 10 in Unit 20E and
12 November 1 through June 10 in the remainder of Unit 20.

13

14 Conservation Issues:

15

16 None.

17

18 Enforcement Issues:

19

20 Differences in federal and state
21 regulations resulting from adoption of this proposal
22 will create enforcement issues with mixed land
23 ownership. Only a small portion of Unit 20 is federal
24 public lands, and the federal lands area under
25 consideration for this proposal is within Unit 20C.

26

27 Recommendation:

28

29 Support with modification.

30

31 The department supports modification to
32 establish a season from November 1 through 10 in that
33 portion of Unit 20C within Denali National Park and
34 Preserve with a harvest limit of 25 muskrat.

35

36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other Federal,
37 State, Tribal Agencies.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did the SRC
42 speak to this one.

43

44 MR. GLANZ: We need three chairs up
45 there.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think so,
50 Chuck probably likes the exercise.

1 MR. ARDIZZONE: Let's me get away from
2 the table.
3
4 (Laughter)
5
6 MS. CRAVER: The Denali SRC unanimously
7 supported this proposal.
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: As written?
10
11 MS. CRAVER: As written, yes.
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
14 Fish and Game Advisory Committee or written comment.
15 Robert.
16
17 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. The AHTNA
18 Customary and Traditional Use Committee supported this
19 proposal as written.
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. No
22 other public testimony.
23
24 (No comments)
25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
27 Deliberation, discussion. Question from Andrew and
28 then Donald.
29
30 MR. FIRMIN: Does the modification,
31 that's just to align the current State seasons?
32
33 MS. HYER: The modification is to --
34 for clarification because under -- the only place they
35 cannot use a firearm is on the Park lands, everywhere
36 they're already able to do that under a Federal
37 subsistence hunting permit. So it's only necessary to
38 apply this to Denali and Yukon-Charley already has a
39 hunting season to take care of it in their lands.
40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.
42
43 MR. WOODRUFF: She's correct, I hunt
44 muskrat in Yukon-Charley and the population is high and
45 I suspect that they're just as high over there in Lake
46 Minchumina.
47
48 Thank you.
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any -- oh,

1 more addition. Okay.

2

3 MR. PAPPAS: I have to recall, I made a
4 mistake there, I meant November 1 through June 10, not
5 November 1 through 10 as I stated earlier. Through
6 June 10.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that's the
11 same as -- yeah. Uh-huh, that's what I was trying to
12 get in my brain.

13

14 MR. PAPPAS: Yes.

15

16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So the State
17 and Federal agree here.

18

19 (Laughter)

20

21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wow. Okay.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MS. HYER: The State's also match the
26 State and Federal hunting season. I -- excuse me,
27 trapping season.

28

29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
30 other discussion.

31

32 MR. GLANZ: Question.

33

34 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to amend the
35 Proposal 10-96 to the modification done by OSM.

36

37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do I hear a
38 second.

39

40 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.

41

42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald
43 seconded it. Discussion on the amendment.

44

45 Go ahead, Virgil.

46

47 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. It would only
48 apply to the National Park Preserve, Denali National
49 Park and Preserve because that's the only place it
50 needs to apply to.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
2
3 MR. UMPHENOUR: Madam Chair.
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
6 discussion.
7
8 (No comments)
9
10 MR. FIRMIN: Question.
11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
13 been called for. All in favor of the amendment.
14
15 IN UNISON: Aye.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.
18
19 (No opposing votes)
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now
22 we're speaking to the main motion. So.....
23
24 MR. GLANZ: Question on that.
25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
27 been called for. It's the same wording as OSM
28 preliminary conclusion. All in favor.
29
30 IN UNISON: Aye.
31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.
33
34 (No opposing votes)
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. It
37 passes.
38
39 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt WP10-97,
40 98, 99 and 100.
41
42 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's been
45 seconded by Bill.
46
47 MR. GLANZ: No.
48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay. But
50 your mic was on. By Donald. Yeah, okay. Chuck.

1 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. This
2 suite of proposals can be found on Page 135, they're
3 analyzed together.

4
5 So Proposals 97 through 100 were
6 submitted by the Defenders of Wildlife in conjunction
7 with Alaska Wildlife Alliance. They seek to shorten
8 wolf seasons and/or lower harvest limits for wolves in
9 20A, 12 and 25A. The wolf populations in those units
10 are thought to be healthy. Wolves are prolific and
11 survival of young is generally high. The wolf
12 population in these units is thought to be regulated
13 more by natural factors than by the harvest of hunters
14 or trappers. If adopted these proposals would decrease
15 the opportunity for Federally qualified subsistence
16 users to harvest wolves in those units.

17
18 Wolves are an important subsistence
19 resource in this area and therefore the preliminary OSM
20 conclusion is to oppose these proposals.

21
22 Thank you, Madam Chair.

23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: A lot of data
25 is in the book that you didn't need to go over.

26
27 ADF&G.

28
29 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
30 For these four proposals our comments and by reference
31 will put them in the record. They are detailed by
32 area, limits, survival rates, mortality rates, what
33 have you. If you'd like me to read through them I can
34 or I can say that our position at this time is to
35 oppose.

36
37 Thank you, Madam Chair.

38
39 *****
40 STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
41 *****

42
43 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
44 Comments to the Regional Advisory Council

45
46 Wildlife Proposals WP10-97, 98, 99, and
47 100:

48
49 These proposals would reduce the
50 federal subsistence wolf trapping seasons in Units 12

1 and 20A by 61 days and 30 days, respectively; reduce
2 the wolf hunting season in Unit 20A by 112 days and bag
3 limit from 10 wolves to 5 wolves; and reduce the wolf
4 hunting bag limit in Unit 25A from no limit to 10
5 wolves.

6

7

Introduction:

8

9

10 These proposals incorrectly assume
11 federal subsistence wolf hunting and trapping bag
12 limits and season lengths are part of a predator
13 control program. Predator and prey management is the
14 responsibility of the State of Alaska. Federal
15 subsistence regulations are authorized by ANILCA for
16 the purpose of providing a continued customary and
17 traditional subsistence use by rural residents on
18 federal lands. The federal subsistence regulations
19 provide August openings for wolf hunting and trapping
20 that are traditional, allowing federal subsistence
21 hunters the opportunity to take a wolf while hunting
22 for other big game in the fall and closing April 30
23 after mild spring weather that made travel conditions
24 easier. In fact, April seasons are traditional,
25 allowing federal subsistence users the opportunity to
26 take a wolf while trapping for other furbearers. These
27 proposals fail to recognize that hide value depends on
28 intended use; e.g., hides taken in early fall and late
29 spring are suitable for making warm items for personal
30 use, consistent with subsistence use of this species.

31

32

Impact on Subsistence Users:

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

Opportunity Provided by State:

47

48

49

50

In Unit 12, the state provides an October 15 through April 30 trapping season with no harvest limit. In Unit 20A, the state trapping season

1 is November 1 through April 30 with no harvest limit
2 and the state hunting season is August 10 through May
3 31 with a 5 wolf bag limit. The state wolf hunting
4 season in Unit 25A is August 10 through May 31, with a
5 bag limit of ten wolves.

6

7 Conservation Issues:

8

9 None.

10

11 As described for each unit below.

12

13 Unit 12: The current federal
14 subsistence season and bag limits for wolf trapping in
15 Unit 12 have virtually no impact on wolf numbers. Wolf
16 numbers and total harvests have been relatively stable
17 in Unit 12 for many years, and there are no current
18 conservation concerns. Since 1999, an average of 41
19 wolves per year have been harvested by all methods in
20 Unit 12, including a total of 4 wolves that were taken
21 in the Upper Yukon Tanana predation control area in
22 northern Unit 12. The current fall wolf population
23 estimate in Unit 12 is 179 192 wolves (7 7.5
24 wolves/1,000 km²). Despite active wolf reduction
25 efforts in a portion of northern Unit 12 and in
26 neighboring Units 13 and 20E, the minimum fall
27 population of wolves residing entirely within Unit 12
28 has changed little since 1998. Harvest rates in Unit
29 12 have been <24% since 1998, well below annual harvest
30 rates of more than 30% needed to preclude wolf
31 population growth. Wolf numbers, particularly in
32 northern Unit 12, have benefited from high numbers of
33 caribou since 1997 and from the snowshoe hare cycle
34 highs in 1998 2001 and 2007 2009.

35

36 The proposer suggests that adjacent
37 Units 13 and 20E have very low wolf densities due to
38 active predator management. While wolves have been
39 reduced in these units in recent years, it was not by
40 80% as the proposer suggests. The Unit 12 wolf density
41 estimate of 7 7.5 wolves/1,000 km² indicates that this
42 population was unaffected by wolf control in adjacent
43 units. Shortening the wolf trapping season in Unit 12
44 at this time would have no effect on the conservation
45 of wolves.

46

47 Unit 20A:

48

49 Current season and bag limits for
50 federal subsistence wolf hunting and trapping in Unit

1 20A have little impact on wolf numbers in Unit 20A.
2 While annual harvest by all methods averaged 50 wolves
3 during 2004 2008, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
4 research indicates that interspecific competition is a
5 substantial cause of mortality in this wolf population.
6 Shortening the federal subsistence season to end on the
7 proposed date of March 30 is not warranted.

8
9 The proposer cites wolf control during
10 1976 through 1983 as a reason to restrict current
11 seasons and bag limits in Unit 20A. However, as the
12 proposer points out, moose responded to reduced wolf
13 numbers and are now abundant throughout Unit 20A. Wolf
14 numbers have also recovered in Unit 20A, reaching
15 current fall densities of 14 wolves/1,000 km², the
16 highest wolf density in Interior Alaska, indicating
17 that previous wolf control in Unit 20A has benefited
18 the wolf population as well as the moose population and
19 federal subsistence hunters.

20
21 The proposer suggests that density-
22 dependent effects in the moose population cannot be
23 reduced without increasing the wolf population. On the
24 contrary, the department is managing hunter numbers in
25 Unit 20A in order to effectively manage this moose
26 population.

27
28 Unit 25A:

29
30 Wolf population numbers and total
31 harvests have been relatively stable in Unit 25A for
32 many years. Current federal subsistence and state bag
33 limits for wolf hunting in Unit 25A have virtually no
34 impact on wolf numbers. There is no danger of
35 overharvest, and there are no current conservation
36 concerns. The current fall wolf population density
37 estimate in Unit 25A is 230 277 wolves (4.2 5.0
38 wolves/1,000 km²). Since 1999, an average of 7 wolves
39 per year have been shot in Unit 25A, and the harvest
40 rate by all methods is less than 9% of the population,
41 well below a level needed to preclude wolf population
42 growth. Decreasing the wolf hunting bag limit in Unit
43 25A at this time would have no beneficial effect on the
44 conservation of wolves in Unit 25A.

45
46 Other Comments:

47
48 It is unlikely that all adult wolves
49 would be taken out of a pack by the federal subsistence
50 hunting and or trapping seasons and bag limits

1 addressed in these proposals. Adults have learned to
2 avoid man through experience and are the most difficult
3 pack members to take, while pups are the most
4 vulnerable pack members to harvest. Pup starvation is
5 unlikely even if some adults are taken. Wolves have
6 evolved and thrived under natural conditions where
7 adult mortality occurs regularly through intraspecific
8 competition. Also, it is the older adults, including
9 pregnant and lactating females, that do the killing of
10 large prey, thus are subject to injury and death during
11 attempted predation. In cases of natural adult
12 mortality, the pack social structure provides support
13 to pups.

14

15 Recommendation:

16

17 Oppose.

18

19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and we
20 have those comments in front of us.

21

22 MR. PAPPAS: Yes, you do.

23

24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, uh-huh.
25 So are there any questions of Fish and Game regarding
26 the wolves.

27

28 (No comments)

29

30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Next
31 would be -- of those people that comment would be the
32 SRC, I think. Did you guys take that up. This is --
33 this is a lot of areas.

34

35 Barbara took off, huh. Okay. Judy's
36 -- go ahead and introduce yourself, Judy.

37

38 MS. PUTERA: Okay. I'm -- for the
39 record I'm Judy Putera, wildlife biologist for
40 Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. And I'm
41 reading the -- well, this is for Proposal 99 to revise
42 the trapping season for wolf in Unit 12. So I'm just
43 going to comment on 99 because it pertains to Unit 12.

44

45 The Wrangell-St. Elias National Park
46 Subsistence Resource Commission unanimously opposes the
47 proposal. The proposal would adversely affect
48 subsistence users by reducing subsistence opportunity
49 and there's not a conservation concern.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Judy.
2 Fish and Game and other written -- Fish and Game
3 Advisory Committees and other written public comments.
4 Robert.

5
6 MR. LARSON: Yes, Madam Chair. The
7 Alaska Professional Hunters Association is opposed to
8 these proposals as well as the AHTNA Customary and
9 Traditional Use Committee, the Fortymile Advisory
10 Committee, the Delta Advisory Committee and we have
11 some communication from a Mr. Dan Quarberg who
12 specifies specifically 97 and 98 he's in opposition to.

13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
15 you, Robert.

16
17 Discussion, Council members.

18
19 Virgil.

20
21 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you, Madam Chair.
22 I refer to the justification presented by OSM on their
23 opposition to the proposals and that is the wolf
24 populations in these areas are considered healthy.
25 Wolves when they have plenty of prey average around
26 seven pups per litter and we just heard from the Refuge
27 manager from Yukon Flats, which Unit 25 is in Yukon --
28 or Yukon Flats is in Unit 25, that they had these
29 wolves collared and one wolf pack of 12 killed another
30 wolf pack of five.

31
32 And so -- anyway I'm opposed to the
33 proposal.

34
35 Madam Chair.

36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

38
39 MR. WOODRUFF: I agree with Virgil, I
40 think it's a bad precedent to cut back on the
41 subsistence use of the wolves. And I'm going to oppose
42 this vehemently.

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other
45 discussion.

46
47 (No comments)

48
49 MR. GLANZ: Question.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
2 been called for. All in favor.
3
4 (No aye votes)
5
6 MR. FIRMIN: Aye.
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wrong -- are
9 you sure about that.
10
11 (Laughter)
12
13 MR. FIRMIN: I agree with the opposed.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All opposed.
16
17 IN UNISON: Aye.
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Andrew,
20 you changed that, right. For the record you were --
21 you were voting opposed.
22
23 MR. FIRMIN: I was agreeing with the
24 proposal.
25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
27 right. And that was from Andrew. He's getting.....
28
29 MR. UMPHENOUR: I move to adopt
30 Proposal WP10-101.
31
32 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's been
35 moved and seconded by Donald.
36
37 101. Staff.
38
39 MR. ARDIZZONE: Staff of one today.
40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know what,
42 I'm not very quick here. It was -- I was asked by the
43 biologist from Tok that he could be here for that. And
44 I mentioned that earlier, but it got -- I'm not very
45 fast. Could I request that you withdraw your second
46 and motion and we'll take this up with the area
47 biologist when he's here, will that be all right?
48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR: That sounds good to me,
50 Madam Chair. He spoke to me also about this.

1 MR. WOODRUFF: Yes, Madam Chair.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
4
5 MR. WOODRUFF: Is -- do you think Bronk
6 will be here to support this amendment?
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No. No, he
9 won't be here.
10
11 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chair. May I say
12 something here before we go further?
13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
15
16 MR. GLANZ: The WP10-102 which is
17 coming up next, that has to do with the Fortymile
18 Caribou Herd and we've changed all of that since this
19 has been written. We can vote on this one here if we
20 want, but it's going to.....
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But see he --
23 I've been asked -- oh, did -- 102, it says Nelchina
24 Caribou. Are you talking.....
25
26 MR. GLANZ: No, Upper Tanana, there's
27 the.....
28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, yeah,
30 yeah, yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Yeah, that's the one --
31 all of those that pertain to that region, we should
32 probably wait for the biologist.
33
34 Is that what you're suggesting, Bill?
35
36 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I would like to. And
37 plus we're going to have meetings with Mike Tinker
38 tomorrow.....
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
41
42 MR. GLANZ:with the Fortymile
43 management and so forth so we'll be -- probably a lot
44 of stuff will be changed around, I hope. So.....
45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: See our
47 meeting isn't until tomorrow night.
48
49 MR. GLANZ: Right.
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Board of Game
2 starts Friday and Jeff said he'd be here Friday
3 afternoon and Rita would like to be here and she has to
4 do Board Staff work and can't be here on Friday.

5
6 MR. GLANZ: Yes, Madam Chair, they've
7 also asked that us and the Fortymile Herd be there
8 Friday morning because of the -- I said we'll only be
9 done here maybe, I mean, you know, so that's the
10 confusion.

11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We've been
13 asked to be -- to testify Friday morning?

14
15 MR. GLANZ: Yes, first thing. That's
16 what the -- Jeff down there in Tok wanted.

17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you sure,
19 he said he was going to be here.

20
21 MR. GLANZ: Well, I'm just going by
22 what I was told by the Forty -- Department of Interior
23 there, so I don't know.

24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I saw your
26 hand up.

27
28 MS. HYER: I just wanted to clarify.
29 102 and 103 are Nelchina and 104 is Chisana and 105 is
30 Fortymile.

31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're
33 correct. And whenever these proposals come up for --
34 it's in Unit 12 even though -- so they share the -- you
35 know, the biology on -- between that and the Glennallen
36 office. Yeah, so.....

37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR: When is she going to be
39 able to be here?

40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil is
42 asking me when is Jeff going to be able to be here.
43 Rita -- I talked to Rita before she left here today and
44 she said that she was going to contact them and see if
45 they couldn't do it Thursday afternoon, but that would
46 be too soon to do the Fortymile based on a meeting
47 taking place that evening. So we don't need to get --
48 let's see now, what do we got going here. We have 20E,
49 then we've got 12, 12, 12 and then we've got -- so all
50 of the next proposals have to do with.....

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: 220.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
4 Actually we're -- we -- one of the things that we
5 overlooked that I'd like to do, but staying on that
6 thought, I wouldn't mind ending early tonight.
7
8 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair.
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
11
12 MR. ARDIZZONE: If you would like we
13 could skip forward to crossover proposals, I think you
14 could knock those out fairly quickly.....
15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We
17 probably.....
18
19 MR. ARDIZZONE:and we would have
20 these rest -- the rest of these that you're discussing
21 for tomorrow or.....
22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. Yeah,
24 and that's what our choice is and -- but I wanted to --
25 before we move on any further while it was fresh in our
26 minds was it Proposal 100 that I have in front of me on
27 the State proposal book that Jack had put in that joint
28 proposal?
29
30 MS. HYER: It is proposal 100 that
31 matches the one for the Central Arctic Caribou Her.
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think we
34 should take it up while it's fresh on our head. So
35 instead of having to go through it again. So -- and
36 you know, it's really hard because as your Chair I'm
37 supposed to make sure you have a copy of this stuff and
38 I just quickly looked through the book, I didn't have a
39 lot of time, and I don't know, I went through the front
40 of the Forest book and I saw where they're taking up 12
41 and 20E and I saw the numbers, but somehow or another I
42 didn't do a very good job of making sure all of those
43 proposals were copied to you. So unless you have the
44 State Board book, I think we -- this one might not be
45 in our -- a copy of stuff.
46
47 Can I take just a minute to look at
48 this.
49
50 MR. UMPHENOUR: Madam Chair.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to
2 step down for a second and look at this.
3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR: See look at here, we've
5 got 97, 98, 99 and 100 all in one.
6
7 (Pause)
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're
10 going to move along. We are just now getting a draft
11 joint resolution from the Eastern Interior, Western
12 Interior and YK-Delta RACs regarding the meeting
13 yesterday on our resolution on the Yukon River chinook
14 salmon. Boy, they're getting technical here, they've
15 got little footnotes.
16
17 All right. You can review that, but in
18 the meantime we're back in session and Virgil says he
19 can hear me half the time. Maybe it's a little more
20 than that.
21
22 But, Virgil, could you make that motion
23 regarding the State proposal.
24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Move to adopt
26 State Proposal 100.....
27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: As.....
29
30 MR. UMPHENOUR:and at the same
31 time I want to amend it to.....
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You don't have
34 to amend it, just state the motion as what we adopted.
35
36 MR. UMPHENOUR:and to amend it to
37 what we adopted for WP10-94.
38
39 MR. ARDIZZONE: And, Madam Chair, for
40 clarity that's on Page 121 of your RAC book so
41 everybody's on the same page.
42
43 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. I would like to
44 withdraw that, I didn't get a second yet. What I want
45 to do, I want to substitute the language found on Page
46 121, OSM preliminary conclusion, for State Proposal
47 100.
48
49 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Second,
2 Donald. Okay.
3
4 Discussion. Virgil, you think you
5 could probably deal with that really quickly.
6
7 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. What we're doing
8 is in State Proposal 100 was -- the same proposer as
9 Federal Proposal 94, requesting the same thing and so
10 what I did was I made the motion to bring -- to put the
11 language found on Page 121 which was what we voted to
12 support in the Federal proposal onto the table to
13 substitute for Proposal 100.
14
15 Madam Chair.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: For the same
18 reasons.
19
20 (Council nods affirmatively)
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
23
24 MR. UMPHENOUR: And I -- and my
25 recommendations are as far as State Proposal 100 would
26 be to replace it with the amended language found on
27 Page 121, that would be amending Proposal 100 to that
28 and I'll be in favor of that. And I also would like to
29 say that the State's recommendation for the State
30 proposal was the same as the recommendation found in
31 our book on Page 121 by the OSM Staff.
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So the motion
34 is under State Proposal 100, the same language as we
35 had adopted under the Federal side with the support --
36 the modification. Is that understood or clear as mud?
37
38 (Council nods affirmatively)
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's
41 understood. Okay. There's probably no need for any
42 other discussion. I'm hearing.....
43
44 MR. GLANZ: Call for the question.
45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
47 been called for. All in favor.
48
49 IN UNISON: Aye.
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.
2
3 (No opposing votes)
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now
6 we've got a lot done by doing the State ones and --
7 along with the Federal ones. So we'll just go ahead
8 and go to -- start with some crossover proposals. And
9 the first one being 27.
10
11 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt WP10-27.
12
13 MR. WOODRUFF: What page is that?
14
15 MR. UMPHENOUR: 183.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: On Page 183.
18
19 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That
22 was Donald again.
23
24 MR. GLANZ: Bill.
25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You guys'
27 voice are very similar.
28
29 MR. WOODRUFF: Talk like this then.
30
31 (Laughter)
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's have
34 this meeting a little longer, it might get more fun.
35
36 Okay. Go ahead, Chuck.
37
38 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. As was
39 stated this can be -- the analysis starts on 184, Page
40 184.
41
42 Proposal WP10-27 was submitted by the
43 Paxson Fish and Game Advisory Committee and requests
44 that the harvest limit of two caribou in Units 13A and
45 13B and the harvest limit of two bulls in Unit 13B or
46 excuse me, 13 remainder, be changed to one caribou for
47 all of Unit 13. In addition the proponent requests
48 that the authority delegated to the Glennallen field
49 office manager to announce the sex of the animals to be
50 harvested be rescinded. The proponent is concerned

1 that once lands are conveyed, more lands will be open
2 to subsistence harvests which will create the potential
3 for harvest beyond sustainable yields or sustainable
4 levels.

5
6 For 2009-2010 season the State Nelchina
7 Tier II subsistence hunt was eliminated and two hunts
8 were added. A Tier I hunt, Alaskans only, and a
9 community harvest hunt for residents of Gulkana,
10 Cantwell, Chistochina, Gakona, Mentasta, et cetera, and
11 the harvest limit for each is one caribou. Sex to be
12 announced annually. The season dates running from
13 August 10 through September 20th and October 21st
14 through March 31st with a harvest limit of all -- for
15 all that community harvest area of 300 caribou.

16
17 From 2001 to 2007 the fall population
18 estimates for the Nelchina Caribou Herd have remained
19 relatively stable, with the herd estimated size being
20 between 30,000 and 39,000 animals. You can see that in
21 Table 1. In June of 2007 the post calving census
22 estimated the Nelchina Caribou Herd to be approximately
23 33,569 caribou. In June the census estimated about
24 33,146 caribou. More recent productivity measures show
25 an average of 34 calves per 100 cows which is below the
26 management goal of 40 calves per 100 cows. In 2007 the
27 sex and age composition survey estimated ratios of 35
28 calves per 100 cows and 34 bulls per 100 cows. And the
29 fall survey in 2008 showed 40 calves per 100 cows and
30 39 bulls per 100 cows. During the most recent fall
31 survey in 2009 it showed 29 calves per 100 cows and 42
32 bulls per 100 cows. Between 2001 and 2008 the State
33 Tier II subsistence hunt was a primary source for
34 harvest of the Nelchina Caribou Herd and accounted for
35 74 percent of all harvest. That can be seen in Table 2
36 and in Figure 1. Between 2001 and 2008 there was an
37 annual harvest of 421 caribou with a range of 273 to
38 615 being harvested. Between 2003 and 2007 an average
39 of 138 hunters harvested two caribou and 165 hunters
40 reported taking one caribou.

41
42 So currently the State of Alaska was
43 required to submit the final statewide land selections
44 to BLM by September 30th, 2009. However BLM was -- has
45 not processed the final selections to date, making this
46 proposal premature since final conveyances could take
47 more than a year to process. Furthermore because the
48 over selected lands are statewide, to date it is not
49 known which specific areas will become unencumbered.
50

1 I'm going to stop reading this bullets
2 here, confuse me. Basically what happened is someone's
3 concerned about the selections, you know, the State
4 made a number of selections in the area and currently
5 everything hasn't been finalized, land selection hasn't
6 been finalized and this individual wants to curtail
7 harvest or limit harvest down because he thinks that
8 once everything's conveyed there'll be more Federal
9 lands and that will lead to more Federal harvest. And
10 that's the reason why he wants the harvest reductions
11 in this area.

12
13 And our conclusion is to oppose this
14 proposal because it's premature, we don't know exactly
15 what lands will get turned over to the State and which
16 will come back to the Federal system so it's a little
17 bit too early to worry about this at this time.

18
19 That's all I have, Madam Chair.

20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Short versions
22 are good. I just want to point out that here's the
23 other one that I forgot about on -- when you look at
24 the analysis on Page 185 and it goes down and says
25 about the C&T determinations for caribou and then 13B
26 for caribou except Ft. Greely is also in there because
27 that -- that's in addition to that moose one that I
28 brought out earlier. But we don't need to go down that
29 path.

30
31 Fish and Game, Department of Fish and
32 Game's comments. Unless you guys had questions?

33
34 MR. GLANZ: No.

35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Go
37 ahead, George.

38
39 MR. PAPPAS: Yes, Madam Chair. I
40 believe that the yellow comments, number 27, you'll
41 have copies of them. Definitely some opportunity
42 provided by the State's changed here recently.
43 Beginning in 2009 the State provided two alternative
44 Tier I hunts open to all State residents, but geared
45 towards two separately recognized uses. One is local
46 and two is community -- local community oriented
47 subsistence uses and number 2 is non-local, much more
48 individually oriented uses.

49
50 Tier I community uses provided by

1 creation of a system that allows harvest under the
2 community harvest permits as requested by local
3 subsistence users. Up to 300 can be harvested under
4 this hunt. And again based on input from local users,
5 readily taken caribou are counted against that total.
6 Under community harvest permits, a few communal hunters
7 may harvest on behalf of the entire community up to the
8 total amount of the participants who sign up to partake
9 in the program so there's effectively a large potential
10 bag limit for communal hunters.

11
12 There are other unique subsistence
13 oriented advantages to the system including the ability
14 to hunt throughout nearly all the traditional hunting
15 territories of all villages currently participating
16 under a single permit. The ability to preserve
17 customary and traditional practices and applicability
18 on all Federal and non-Federal lands.

19
20 The other Tier I hunt is a drawing type
21 opportunity that is designed to provide participants
22 with a permit about every four years to harvest a
23 single bull caribou so long as doing so is consistent
24 with established yearly harvest objectives for the
25 Nelchina Caribou Herd.

26
27 And at the time the Department supports
28 this proposal.

29
30 Thank you, Madam Chair.

31
32 *****
33 STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
34 *****

35
36 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
37 Comments to the Regional Advisory Council

38
39 Wildlife Proposal WP10-27:

40
41 This proposal would reduce the bag
42 limit for federal subsistence permittees in Unit 13
43 from two caribou to one.

44
45 Introduction:

46
47 Annual federal subsistence caribou
48 harvests in GMU 13 have been as high as 600 animals.
49 Total Nelchina Caribou Herd harvest quotas in recent
50 years ranged from 1,000 2,000 caribou. The amount of

1 land open to federal subsistence hunting in GMU 13 is
2 about 2% of the unit. The federal subsistence hunt can
3 currently exceed 50% of the yearly harvest quota. With
4 increasing federal land ownership, federal subsistence
5 harvests could significantly impact the caribou herd
6 north of Denali Highway and could also impact
7 opportunity for subsistence by federally qualified
8 users hunting under the state s community harvest
9 system.

10

11 Impact on Subsistence Users:

12

13 An average of 138 individuals (range =
14 84 204) from 2003 2007 reported taking 2 caribou.
15 Federal subsistence regulations allow any federal
16 hunter to be a designated hunter, so multiple caribou
17 could be harvested in households with 2 or more
18 hunters.

19

20 Opportunity Provided by State:

21

22 Beginning 2009, the state provides for
23 two alternative Tier I hunts open to all state
24 residents but geared towards two separately recognized
25 uses: (1) local, community-oriented subsistence use,
26 and (2) nonlocal, much more individually-oriented use.

27

28

29 The Tier I community use is provided by
30 creation of a system that allows harvesting under
31 community harvest permits, as requested by local
32 subsistence hunters. Up to 300 caribou may be
33 harvested under this hunt; and, again based on input
34 from local users, federally-taken caribou are counted
35 against this total. Under community harvest permits, a
36 few communal hunters may harvest on behalf of their
37 entire communities, up to the total amount of
38 participants who sign up to partake in the program, so
39 there is, effectively, a very large potential bag limit
40 for communal hunters. There are other unique,
41 subsistence-oriented advantages under this system,
42 including the ability to hunt throughout nearly all of
43 the tradition hunting territories of all villages
44 currently participating under a single permit, the
45 ability to preserve customary and traditional
46 practices, and applicability on all federal and non-
47 federal lands.

48

49

50 The other Tier I hunt is a drawing-type
opportunity that is designed to provide participants

1 with a permit about every four years to harvest a
2 single caribou bull, so long as doing so is consistent
3 with established yearly harvest objectives for the
4 Nelchina Caribou Herd. This opportunity was based on
5 input and requests from nonlocal users. Federally-
6 taken caribou will also count against the total number
7 of animals available in this hunt, but the nonlocal
8 users who are most likely to participate in this hunt
9 will generally not qualify as federal subsistence
10 users, so their federal take is likely to be very
11 small. In other words, the more caribou taken under
12 federal regulation, the fewer will be available for
13 both communal hunting and individual hunting, but
14 because communal hunting is limited to 300 animals and
15 communal hunters are the most likely to also harvest
16 under federal regulations, communal hunters may face an
17 early state closure if they take too many animals under
18 federal regulations. Thus, the higher federal bag
19 limit may lead to an overall decrease of subsistence
20 opportunity for the local, rural users it is designed
21 to protect and to short-circuit the broad, carefully
22 negotiated and locally-oriented subsistence hunting
23 system adopted by the Board of Game for this region, as
24 requested by the users and applicable on all federal
25 and nonfederal lands in the area.

26

27 Enforcement Issues:

28

29 Enforcement of the herd harvest quota
30 is difficult with the federal program authorizing
31 multiple bag limits. Also, emergency orders closing a
32 season are less effective when hunters can take more
33 than one animal, especially when animals are abundant
34 during fall migrations near highways.

35

36 Recommendation: Support.

37

38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions of
39 the State. Donald.

40

41 MR. WOODRUFF: So as I understand it
42 you want to oppose this for the -- or, I mean, support
43 this reduction because the herd is -- can't tolerate a
44 two caribou harvest; is that correct?

45

46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I can see
47 that Donald found it. Ours isn't yellow, it's blue.
48 So, uh-huh.

49

50 MR. WOODRUFF: Yep.

1 MR. PAPPAS: I'm looking through the
2 justification, our comments. It looks like for
3 opportunity provided by the State should be sufficient
4 to meet folks' needs and the Federal subsistence hunt
5 is also included when they designed the new State hunt.
6 And the Department does support the reduction.

7

8 Thank you, Madam Chair.

9

10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think the
11 short answer was yes.

12

13 MR. WOODRUFF: Yes.

14

15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, uh-huh.
16 Yeah. Other questions.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know, I
21 have something. At the SRC meeting it was brought up
22 that the Nelchina Caribou was --wasn't doing as well,
23 can anyone address that?

24

25 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. I do
26 believe the herd has declined somewhat, but it's not a
27 drastic decline.

28

29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. I
30 think we're all getting tired.

31

32 MR. GLANZ: I know that -- Madam Chair,
33 with all of our caribou stuff with the Fortymile Herd
34 and the biologists, they said that the Fortymile Herd
35 is the only one right now that's being stable, all the
36 rest are on a decline is what they said, the biologists
37 for the State of Alaska.

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Really. Hmmm,
40 that's interesting. Except the Chisana. No, I jest.
41 I mean, I don't think we should kind of generalize that
42 much. I'm just going to point out when I -- at the SRC
43 meeting it was interesting that when we talked about
44 the Mentasta Caribou going over in -- I mean,
45 Nelchina's going over into Unit 12 that they were --
46 didn't want to see that many Nelchina's shot because
47 the herd was decreasing. And I'm thinking well, how do
48 you justify two in one place and -- yeah.

49

50 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. If you

1 look on Page 188, Table 1, the estimate of the herd
2 size is the second to the last column. And you can see
3 it's varied from 33,000 to 36,000 and it's estimated at
4 33,800 at the moment. So it's not a huge decline and
5 it's -- there's variation over the years since 2001
6 just so you're clear on where the population's going.
7

8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Actually it
9 looks fairly stable in my mind.
10

11 MR. ARDIZZONE: Well, that.....
12

13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: When you start
14 at 33,000 in '02 and then down here it's 33 again in
15 '10, and then it fluctuates up a little bit and a
16 little bit down over that, it -- I don't know, as a
17 biologist would you say that's fairly stable and not
18 declining?
19

20 MR. ARDIZZONE: I guess I would say
21 there's not a drastic decline. I'd have to run the
22 numbers, but it's hard to tell.
23

24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So it's kind
25 of hard to heard the word decline.
26

27 MR. ARDIZZONE: Correct.
28

29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: If you know
30 what I'm saying. Yeah, it doesn't sound like we should
31 use the word decline when you see these kind of
32 numbers. So.....
33

34 Other questions.
35

36 (No comments)
37

38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Fish or Game
39 or staff.
40

41 (No comments)
42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't hear
44 any so going on to -- we have the SRC.
45

46 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
47 For the record, Barbara Cellarius, from Wrangell-St.
48 Elias. And on Proposal No. 7 the Wrangell-St. Elias
49 National Park Subsistence Resource Commission
50 unanimously opposed the proposal. The proposal would

1 adversely affect subsistence users by reducing
2 subsistence opportunity. Conservation concerns are
3 minimal and can be addressed through the current
4 delegation of authority for in-season management.

5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 27, I think
7 you said 7.

8
9 MS. CELLARIUS: That was the comment on
10 2-7, 27.

11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. Uh-
13 huh. Okay. Any questions.

14
15 (No comments)

16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We go
18 onto public -- Fish and Game and public -- on ACs.

19
20 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. We do not
21 have any AC comments on this proposal. We do have one
22 comment from the AHTNA Customary and Traditional Use
23 Committee and they oppose the proposal.

24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You should
26 have something from the Upper Tanana. 27, no action.
27 Okay. Oh, that's how they handled it. Yeah. I'll
28 tell you why they took no action, because they were
29 waffling between the two and the one and they thought
30 that well, if we vote for or against this we'll affect
31 their proposal later so that's why they did that.

32
33 Any other discussion.

34
35 (No comments)

36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What -- can --
38 Chuck, what does the -- I mean, I'm trying to get this
39 on the record. Just briefly tell us what the harvest
40 is over the last 10 years. Is that on Page.....

41
42 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. If you
43 look at Page 189.....

44
45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

46
47 MR. ARDIZZONE:Table 2, RC 513
48 and 514, those are registration permits for caribou
49 under the Federal system. You can see what the total
50 harvest is, it, you know, ranges from, you know, 270 up

1 to a high of, you know, 615 between '01 and '09.
2 That's Federal harvest.
3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The total --
5 where -- which column is it?
6
7 MR. ARDIZZONE: So if you look on Page
8 189, it's the center row which is RC 513 and 514 and
9 the very last column it says total harvest.....
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
12
13 MR. ARDIZZONE:that's the Federal
14 harvest.
15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The total
17 harvest -- the Federal harvest is the one that says
18 total harvest on the right-hand column?
19
20 MR. ARDIZZONE: So if you go in the
21 right-hand column in the middle row, that's the Federal
22 harvest. It starts at 501, 363, all the way down to
23 273.
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That is the
26 Federal harvest right there?
27
28 MR. ARDIZZONE: That's the Federal
29 harvest for caribou. If you look up above that's the
30 State caribou harvest up above.
31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then the
33 total of both is below there where it says total for
34 all permit hunts?
35
36 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yes.
37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So now the
39 Federal harvest has gone from -- it's actually kind of
40 down in '08-'09 compared to what it had been. And then
41 the State harvests are similar. That's interesting.
42
43 MR. GLANZ: That's a pretty healthy
44 herd.
45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. Okay.
47 Frank, do you have something you'd like to ask?
48
49 MR. GURTLER: Well, when I worked out
50 of Paxson I worked for the State down there, there was

1 -- there was a lot of caribou down there. And I had
2 some concerns back then about how many caribou they
3 were allowed and who was hunting them. They had the
4 military down there hunting them then and they'd get
5 five caribou apiece and they didn't do anything with
6 the caribou except shoot them and leave them lay.

7

8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Boy, that was
9 a long time ago, what years was that?

10

11 MR. GURTLER: Yeah, that was back in
12 '61, '62.

13

14 (Laughter)

15

16 MR. GURTLER: And, you know, we told
17 them, we said you can't do -- let them do that because
18 they -- the military was furnishing the equipment and
19 the all terrain vehicles for them to go hunting in so
20 they could shoot out.....

21

22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So they could
23 go hunting.

24

25 MR. GURTLER: Go hunting, yeah, just
26 like they did with the buffalo outside, I guess.

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, that's
29 good trivia, we should know that. But I think you
30 could add to that why it's down to a one for the State.
31 Yeah.

32

33 Any other discussion.

34

35 (No comments)

36

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

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did we get
40 enough on the record here on how we might be feeling,
41 Chuck, do you think so?

42

43 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. I believe
44 so.

45

46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
47 right. The question's been called for. The proposal
48 will limit it from one caribou to two caribou or from
49 two to one. Okay. Do you understand the -- now that I
50 messed it up. So all in favor.

1 (No aye votes)
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All opposed.
4
5 IN UNISON: Aye.
6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
8 motion is opposed. The next proposal -- do you want to
9 whisper in my ear?
10
11 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, I'm just going to
12 show you what time it is.
13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, it's 10 to
15 5:00. I just have to accept a phone call at 5:00 so if
16 you guys -- do you guys want to continue for the rest
17 of the day or do you want to end it?
18
19 MR. UMPHENOUR: The rest of the day's
20 10 minutes unless you're going until 6:00.
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, how long
23 do you want to go today?
24
25 (Laughter)
26
27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Madam Chair.
28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
30
31 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I -- 29 and 30 which
32 I know we can get done in four minutes.....
33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's take it
35 up.
36
37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:maybe.
38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. All
40 right.
41
42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Oh, Chuck wants to
43 get 28 done, do you want to do 28 first?
44
45 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. It
46 doesn't matter to me, but 28 is.....
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: As easy?
49
50 MR. ARDIZZONE:basically the same

1 as the last proposal except addressing moose. They
2 want to reduce the harvest in moose for the same
3 reasons, land selections.

4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well,
6 let's just take it up because it's chronological.
7 Virgil.

8
9 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt WP10-28.

10
11 MR. GLANZ: And I'll go ahead and
12 second that.

13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill seconded
15 it. Chuck.

16
17 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. I'll be
18 quick.

19
20 Proposal 28 was submitted by the Paxson
21 Fish and Game Advisory Committee and requests that the
22 harvest limit of one antlered bull moose be changed to
23 one antlered bull per household for Unit 13B and that
24 the season be changed from August 1st to September 20th
25 to August 20th through September 30th. Once again the
26 proponent is concerned that once land are conveyed,
27 more lands will be open to subsistence harvest which
28 will create the potential for a moose harvest beyond
29 sustainable levels in Unit 13B.

30
31 And, you know, basically land
32 selections from the State of Alaska have not been
33 finalized therefore an accurate estimated of the
34 conveyed lands and the affect of the changing land
35 status on the moose population in Unit 13 are unknown
36 at this time. Once the land conveyance has been
37 achieved, the resultant effects can be evaluated at
38 that time therefore our preliminary conclusion is to
39 oppose this proposal similar to the last proposal.

40
41 Thank you, Madam Chair.

42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Fish and Game.

44
45 MR. PAPPAS: Yeah, Madam Chair, George
46 Pappas, Department of Fish and Game. The -- let's see
47 here. Existing regulations limit the take to one
48 antlered bull moose in 13B from August 1 to September
49 20th in Federal regulation and this proposal would
50 limit the Federal subsistence to one bull per household

1 as in the Federal regulations for Unit 13E.

2

3 The proposal would also shift the
4 Federal moose season in 13B from August 1 through 20th
5 -- September 20th to August 20th through September
6 20th. And the proposal requests an any bull per
7 household Federal subsistence regulation restriction
8 harvest to antlered bulls.

9

10 Impacts on subsistence uses. The
11 reduction of the bag limit would not impact Federal
12 subsistence users. During the five years from 2003 to
13 2007 only six families took two Federal subsistence
14 moose and one family took three. If this proposal is
15 adopted however, the 10 day season extension from
16 September 20th to September 30th would negatively
17 affect the moose population and reduce the future
18 subsistence hunting opportunities on Federal public
19 lands.

20

21 For conservation issues, an any bull
22 bag limit for a general hunt occurred in Unit 13 in
23 1979. Heavy hunting pressure under any bull bag limit
24 greatly reduced the bull/cow ratio as low as five to
25 100 in heavily hunted areas. As the amount of Federal
26 public land is increasing, if this proposal is adopted
27 the bull ratios can be expected to decline. Currently
28 the amount of Federal public lands open for subsistence
29 in Unit 13 is small and over harvest of bulls is not a
30 conservation issue because of the limited land open to
31 Federal subsistence hunting. Additional protection is
32 also provided for small bulls under the State spike
33 four -- 50 inch antler spread require or four bow tines
34 for bull moose hunting antler restriction regulations.
35 As additional large parcels of Federal lands become
36 available for subsistence harvest, any bull bag limit
37 coupled with increasing hunting pressure of extending
38 the season after September 20th to September 30th is
39 expected to greatly reduce the bull/cow ratios on these
40 lands. The decline would be extenuated because the
41 moose are extremely vulnerable during the hunt after
42 September 20th when leaf fall increases visibility and
43 breeding behavior of the bulls during the rut makes
44 them more vulnerable.

45

46 The recommendation. The Department
47 supports with modification to change the bag limit to
48 one antlered bull moose per household as proposed in
49 the Federal regulations for Sub-unit 13E, but modify it
50 to apply to all 13 -- Unit 13 that is. This will

1 reduce impacts of Federal regulations on future
2 subsistence opportunities of the majority of the
3 Federally qualified users in Unit 13. And we oppose
4 shifting the moose season into the rut and the
5 remainder of the proposal.

6

7 Thank you.

8

9

10

STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

11

12

13 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
14 Comments to the Regional Advisory Council

15

16 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
17 Comments to the Regional Advisory Council

18

19 Wildlife Proposal WP10-28:

20

21 Change the bag limit, antler
22 restrictions, and season dates for the federal
23 subsistence moose hunt in Unit 13B.

24

25 Introduction:

26

27 Existing federal regulations limit take
28 to one antlered bull moose in Unit 13B August 1 through
29 September 20. This proposal would limit federal
30 subsistence users to one bull per household as is in
31 federal regulations for Unit 13E. The proposal would
32 also shift the federal moose season in Unit 13B from
33 August 1 through September 20 to August 20 through
34 September 30. (The proposal requests one any-bull per
35 household; federal subsistence regulations restrict
36 harvest to antlered bulls.)

37

38 Impact on Subsistence Users:

39

40 The reduction in bag limits would not
41 impact federal subsistence users. During the 5 years
42 from 2003 to 2007, only 6 families took 2 federal
43 subsistence moose and one family took 3. If the
44 proposal is adopted, however, the 10-day season
45 extension from September 20 through September 30 would
46 negatively affect the moose population and reduce
47 future subsistence hunting opportunity on federal
48 public lands.

49

50 Opportunity Provided by State:

1 The state provides a 20-day moose
2 season for spike or fork, 50 inch antler spread, or
3 four brown tine bull moose throughout Unit 13. In
4 addition, a community harvest hunt for eight Unit 13
5 rural villages is administered by Ahtna, Inc., that
6 provides for 100 any-bull and an unlimited number of
7 spike or fork, 50 inch antler spread, or four brown
8 tine bulls with a 20-day longer season from August 10
9 through September 20. There are also any-bull drawing
10 hunts available in parts of Units 13A, 13B, and 13C,
11 though only in areas where the moose population can
12 sustain this additional pressure.

13

14 Conservation Issues:

15

16 An any-bull bag limit for a general
17 hunt occurred in Unit 13 in 1979. Heavy hunting
18 pressure under an any-bull bag limit greatly reduced
19 the bull:cow ratio as low as 5:100 in heavily hunted
20 areas. As the amount of federal public land is
21 increasing, if this proposal is adopted, the bull
22 ratios can be expected to decline. Currently, the
23 amount of federal public land open for subsistence in
24 Unit 13 is small and over harvest of bulls is not a
25 conservation issue because of the limited land open to
26 federal subsistence hunting. Additional protection is
27 also provided for small bulls under the state spike or
28 fork, 50 inch antler spread, or four brown tine bull
29 moose antler restriction regulation.

30

31 As additional large parcels of federal
32 land become available for subsistence harvest, the any-
33 bull bag limit, coupled with increased hunting pressure
34 of extending the season after September 20 through
35 September 30, is expected to greatly reduce bull:cow
36 ratios on these lands. The decline would be
37 accentuated because moose are extremely vulnerable to
38 hunting after September 20, when leaf fall increases
39 visibility and breeding behavior of the bulls during
40 the rut makes them more vulnerable.

41

42 Enforcement Issues:

43

44 Extending the federal season after the
45 state season closes will increase risk of enforcement
46 on nonfederal land. Current federal subsistence moose
47 harvests are in excess of 2% of the total take in Unit
48 13 despite only 2% of the land being open to federal
49 moose hunting. Moose do not congregate on federal
50 public lands, therefore it is highly likely that some

1 current take already comes from adjacent state lands.
2 This change could create additional enforcement issues
3 for state and federal law enforcement.

4

5 Recommendation:

6

7 Support with modification to change the
8 bag limit to one antlered bull moose per household as
9 proposed and in federal regulations for subunit 13E,
10 but modify it to apply to all Unit 13. This will
11 reduce impacts of federal regulations on future
12 subsistence opportunity of the majority of federally
13 qualified users in Unit 13. Oppose shifting the moose
14 season into the rut and the remainder of the proposal.

15

16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Only six
21 families took two Federal subsistence moose and one
22 family took three during a five year period. Are any
23 of them families the same families?

24

25 MR. PAPPAS: I don't have that
26 information. Sorry, Madam Chair.

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Not as
29 easy as I thought. Next would be -- did you have
30 something to add.

31

32 MR. ARDIZZONE: I was just going to
33 point you to a few tables, Madam Chair. If you look at
34 Table 3 on Page 201 you can see that the moose
35 population has been increasing. And if you look at
36 Table 4 on Page 203, Federal harvest is actually quite
37 low, it ranges from 30 to 37 moose total in this unit.
38 So just some more food for thought.

39

40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. Okay.

41 SRC.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did they vote
46 on this? Okay. And neither did the Fortymile AC. Any
47 other ACs vote on this?

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Now this is
2 more of my region. This is crossover proposals.
3
4 Summary of written comments and public
5 testimony.
6
7 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. The only
8 public testimony we have is from the AHTNA C&T
9 Committee and they oppose this proposal.
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
12 discussion now. Andrew.
13
14 MR. FIRMIN: I oppose this also just
15 simply because there's not a whole lot of people
16 actually hunting the moose so why cut the people that
17 are hunting them back.
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
20 discussion.
21
22 MR. GLANZ: I oppose it also. I go
23 along with keeping the antler restriction in place if
24 they're trying to get them going. Because with low
25 moose and bull counts in there by this.....
26
27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other.
28 Donald.
29
30 MR. WOODRUFF: I concur with Bill about
31 the antler moose restriction.
32
33 MR. GLANZ: No cows.
34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There was that
36 no cow under the breath over here.
37
38 Okay. Any others.
39
40 (No comments)
41
42 MR. GLANZ: Question.
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
45 been called for. All in favor of this proposal to
46 limit it say aye.
47
48 (No aye votes)
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All opposed.

1 IN UNISON: Aye

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. It
4 passes. Did we do that?

5

6 MR. ARDIZZONE: Told you this would be
7 a fast one.

8

9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know, if
10 it's -- if the phone rings I'll recess and we'll come
11 back to it, okay, because I have a -- you know what, I
12 have a feeling it's turned off.

13

14 Go ahead, Helen.

15

16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Proposal WP10-29 and
17 30, found on Page 207. The reason this one is going to
18 be quick is it's very similar to the previous one I did
19 for the same area, map on Page 208, the people who live
20 on the Tok Cutoff Road. It includes people who live
21 along the Nabesna Road. So it's a little addition, but
22 same kind of issues.

23

24 So this proposal was submitted by the
25 Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence Resource Commission and
26 it requests a positive customary and traditional use
27 determination for brown bear and black bear in the Unit
28 11 remainder area for the Unit 12 residents of the Tok
29 Cutoff Road from Milepost 79 to 110 and Nabesna Road
30 from Milepost 25 to 46. This is all very similar where
31 these people have uses more similar to Slana and
32 Mentasta Lake and would like to be included in the C&T
33 in Unit 11 remainder for that reason. And the were
34 excluded because the original C&T had been done for
35 people in Unit 12, all the same issues we went over
36 before. The only addition is that -- and I talked
37 about how many -- we talked about how many people lived
38 on the Tok Cutoff Road, this includes the Nabesna Road
39 where there are about -- in 1987 there were 37 people
40 living in 13 houses along the road there.

41

42 The only other additional piece because
43 this deals with the Park is that because the Park
44 requires that they're -- the subsistence users live
45 within the Park's resident zone or have been issued a
46 subsistence permit. And the Tok Cutoff Road between
47 Slana and Tok are resident zone communities. And he
48 Nabesna Road between Slana and Nabesna are also
49 resident zone communities. And if that's the case then
50 it indicates that the Park Service has indicated that

1 they have customary and traditional uses.

2

3 So our conclusion is that the proposal
4 should be -- the proposals 29 and 30 should be
5 supported because they live in close proximity to Slana
6 and Mentasta Lake in Unit 13 and shouldn't be excluded
7 for that reason.

8

9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Fish
10 and Game.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. No
15 comments from Fish and Game. SRC.

16

17 MS. CELLARIUS: The Wrangell-St. Elias
18 Subsistence Resource Commission unanimously supports
19 Proposals 29 and 30 consistent with the justification
20 for the OSM preliminary conclusion along with public
21 comments presented at the SRC meeting.

22

23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Other
24 AC or written comments.

25

26 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. The AHTNA
27 Customary and Traditional Use Committee supports the
28 proposal, the Fortymile Advisory Committee supports the
29 proposal. And I believe that is all of the comments
30 that we have.

31

32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
33 Deliberation, discussion.

34

35 MR. UMPHENOUR: I move to adopt
36 Proposal WP10-29 and 30.

37

38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You mean we
39 didn't do that.

40

41 MR. GLANZ: Second.

42

43 MR. FIRMIN: I already thought we did
44 that.

45

46 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, we didn't.

47

48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We failed to
49 do that. We're getting too anxious. Okay.

50

1 MR. GLANZ: Question.
2
3 (Laughter)
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, let's
6 just say based on what we did for the last C&T for 13
7 Caribou that this would be the reason we're voting that
8 way. So all in favor.
9
10 IN UNISON: Aye.
11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.
13
14 (No opposing votes)
15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
17
18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I told you four
19 minutes.
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did we do it?
22 All right. Okay. I think we should quit for the
23 evening and then tomorrow morning is it 8:30 again?
24 8:30 work for everybody?
25
26 (Council nods affirmatively)
27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. See you
29 at 8:30 in the morning.
30
31 Thank you.
32
33 Thank you, everybody.
34
35 (Off record)
36
37 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

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Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 9/16/10