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EASTERN INTERIOR FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

PUBLIC MEETING

VOLUME II

Fairbanks, Alaska
February 25, 2010
8:30 o'clock a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Sue Entsminger, Chairman
- Grafton Biederman
- Lester Erhart
- Andrew Firmin
- William Glanz
- Frank Gurtler
- Virgil Umphenour
- Donald Woodruff

- Regional Council Coordinator, Robert Larson (Acting)

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Fairbanks, Alaska - 2/25/2010)

(On record)

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Earth to Virgil. I said as you're walking to your seat, Virgil, did you go through the State Board of Game book and pick out your ones that you'd like to take up?

MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I was going to do that, but I didn't.

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I found it pretty overwhelming how many proposals are in there. So, Lester, did you have a chance to look at that book, are there -- if you're -- anything in that book as.....

MR. ERHART: You were hoarding them.

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I was hoarding them. The State was hoarding them.

(Laughter)

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, they came -- they came in last night just as we had broke, those books. So if you have anything in there that you want to take up here today.

What we're -- we discussed last night if it's okay with the Council, we're going to take up all the Fed -- all the stuff that the RAC should take up for our job here and take number 9, the call for the -- wait a sec, where is it, the review of the State proposals which is number 10 and we're going to put it at the end.

MR. UMPHENOUR: Do you want me to look outside, that's what I was doing, looking to see who wasn't in here, to see if someone's standing outside.

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I saw Frank.

MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah. Well, let me go get them. They're -- I think they're outside on the couch or.....

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They're on the couch. We wore them out.

1 (Laughter)
2
3 MR. UMPHENOUR: But that's why I didn't
4 sit down, I was looking to see if they standing up.
5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: Because I saw Frank on a
9 horse.
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That was -- hey,
12 Robert. Stop Robert. Robert. I want you to -- if
13 anyone doesn't know Robert Walker, he was missing at the
14 joint meeting. You were missing in action and now you're
15 back. Do you want to give a report of what you guys did.
16
17 (Laughter)
18
19 MR. R. WALKER: I got to do roll call.
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay. I'll
22 give the report for you.
23
24 MR. R. WALKER: Okay.
25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I just thought
27 I'd let you guys know yesterday that in absence of the
28 two Walkers, they reconvene -- I mean, they re-took up
29 the propose -- their vote and they're sending -- oh,
30 they're sending us a letter. Okay. But they -- I talked
31 to Jack and them and they explained to me that these guys
32 wanted it, they had read the -- all the analysis and
33 everything and they took it up and they discussed it
34 again and they voted eight to zero in favor of the seven
35 and a half inch. So Western and Eastern are totally
36 unanimous now. And I recommended to Jack that they send
37 a letter to Lester to -- because he was absent and that
38 would -- to me was unfortunate. But the weather kept
39 those two guys out and they came back and they gave their
40 report and talked to the rest of the people that voted
41 and they all decided that they were all in favor of it
42 because people along the river, I guess at YRDFA meeting
43 and stuff that were -- they had more information and the
44 people were comfortable voting eight to zero. So.....
45
46 Okay. Andrew's probably here, right, did
47 anyone see him this morning?
48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah, he was out there a
50 while ago.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh. Vince, is
2 Andrew out there, Andrew Firmin? Thank you for doing
3 that. And do you know Grafton, check on him too, he.....
4
5 MR. MATHEWS: Yeah, he was at the front
6 door. I did see him.
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Tell them
9 we're getting started. All right. I think -- now I
10 believe -- did everyone hear that we'll take up the Board
11 of Game proposals then towards the end, we'll take care
12 of our business first. And in the meantime all of you
13 look at the Board book, the Board of Game book and
14 prioritize what you would like to take up because there's
15 just so many in there. And I think I would ask you to
16 try to concentrate on places that have Federal land on
17 them. So.....
18
19 Okay. Should we start without these two
20 or do you want to wait, you guys?
21
22 MR. UMPHENOUR: If there's a quorum,
23 yeah.
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Should -- want
26 to go ahead and start?
27
28 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah.
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. Oh,
31 the -- another announcement is that Fish and Game from
32 Tok will be here at 1:00. Yeah, today. So we can take
33 up those last proposals other than these two crossovers
34 that are left. So, Virgil.....
35
36 MR. UMPHENOUR: We're on number 38.
37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.
39
40 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Move to adopt
41 Proposal WP10-38.
42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do I have a
44 second.
45
46 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Seconded by
49 Bill. Go ahead, Chuck.
50

1 MR. ARDIZZONE: Morning, Madam Chair.
2 Council members. For the record I'm Chuck Ardizzone.
3 Proposal 38 can be found on Page 221 of your Council
4 book.

5
6 Proposal WP10-38 was submitted by the
7 Defenders of Wildlife in conjunction with the Alaska
8 Wildlife Alliance. Proposal 38 requests that wolf
9 hunting not be allowed in Units 11 and 12 in the months
10 of August, September, October and April. Current wolf
11 populations in Unit 11 and 12 are thought to be healthy
12 and the population is regulated by natural factors other
13 than harvest by hunters and trappers. Wolves are an
14 important subsistence resource in Units 11 and 12. Only
15 a small part of the wolf harvest occurs in the months of
16 August, September, October and April. The opportunity
17 for hunters to take wolves in these months is important.
18 This proposal would make the Federal subsistence wolf
19 hunting seasons in Unit 11 and 12 shorter than the State
20 seasons.

21
22 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
23 oppose this proposal.

24
25 If there's any questions I'll try and
26 answer them.

27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.
29 Donald.

30
31 MR. WOODRUFF: Chuck, do you know they
32 didn't include October when the wolves are prime during
33 that time, they're the -- them and the foxes are the
34 first critters to get prime in the season.

35
36 MR. ARDIZZONE: I'm not sure why
37 Defenders did that.

38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any other
40 questions of Chuck regarding the analysis.

41
42 Okay. Fish and Game.

43
44 MR. PAPPAS: Good morning, Madam Chair.
45 George Pappas, Department of Fish and Game. This
46 proposal incorrectly assumes Federal subsistence wolf
47 hunting seasons opening August 10th are solely for
48 predator control. August openings are traditional,
49 providing Federal subsistence hunters the opportunity to
50 take wolf while hunting other big game. Hide value

1 depends upon what the wolf will be used for.

2

3 Conservation issues. Current season and
4 bag limits for wolf hunting in Unit 11 virtually have no
5 impact on wolf numbers, since 1999 an average of two
6 wolves per year have been taken. Hunting usually
7 accounts for 10 to 20 percent of the total wolf take in
8 Unit 11 and wolf numbers and total harvest have been
9 relatively stable in 11 for many years. And there are no
10 conservation concerns.

11

12 The proposal incorrectly suggests that
13 the adjacent Unit 13 have a variable wolf density due to
14 active predator management. While wolves have been
15 reduced in Unit 13 in recent years, it was not by the 80
16 percent as the proposer suggested. It is unlikely that
17 all adults will be taken out of hunting addressed in this
18 proposal. Adults have learned to avoid man through
19 experience and are the most difficult pack members to
20 take. While pups are the most vulnerable pack members to
21 harvest, pup starvation is unlikely. Even if some adults
22 are taken, wolves have evolved and thrived conditions
23 where adult mortality occurs regularly through
24 interspecific [sic] competition as identified yesterday,
25 also older large -- older adults kill large prey and thus
26 are subject to injury and death. In case of natural
27 adult mortality pack social structure provides support
28 for pups.

29

30 The Department opposes this proposal.
31 And our comments will be throughout the same -- will be
32 similar throughout these identical proposals.

33

34 Thank you, Madam Chair.

35

36

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STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

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

Wildlife Proposal WP10-38:

This proposal would shorten the federal
subsistence wolf hunting season in Units 11 and 12 by 113
days with season dates changed from August 10 through
April 30 to November 1 through March 31.

Introduction:

1 This proposal incorrectly assumes federal
2 subsistence wolf hunting seasons opening August 10 are
3 solely for predator control. August openings are
4 traditional, allowing federal subsistence hunters the
5 opportunity to take a wolf while hunting other big game.
6 Hide value depends on what the wolf will be used for.

7

8 Impact on Subsistence Users:

9

10 Adoption of this proposal would
11 unnecessarily restrict the opportunity to take a wolf for
12 subsistence while big game hunting.

13

14 Opportunity Provided by State:

15

16 The state provides an August 1 through
17 April 30 hunting season with a bag limit of 10 wolves.

18

19 Conservation Issues:

20

21 Current season and bag limits for wolf
22 hunting in Unit 11 have virtually no impact on wolf
23 numbers. Since 1999, an average of 2 wolves per year
24 have been taken. Hunting usually accounts for 10-20% of
25 the total wolf take in Unit 11. Wolf numbers and total
26 harvests have been relatively stable in Unit 11 for many
27 years, and there are no current conservation concerns.

28

29 Fall wolf population estimates in Unit 11
30 ranged from 78 to 122 since the mid 1990s. For the size
31 of the unit, this represents a very low natural density
32 of wolves. The annual harvest rate since 2001 has
33 averaged 19% (range = 12-24%), well within the range of
34 sustainability regardless of the long hunting and
35 trapping seasons. This stable low density pattern is due
36 to the low density dynamic equilibrium predator/prey
37 situation among wolves, moose, caribou, and sheep in the
38 area.

39

40 The proposer incorrectly suggests that
41 adjacent Unit 13 has a very low wolf density due to
42 active predator management. While wolves have been
43 reduced in Unit 13 in recent years, it was not by 80% as
44 the proposer suggests. For comparison, the controlled
45 wolf density in Unit 13 is actually higher than the
46 current Unit 11 density. The most recent spring density
47 of wolves in Unit 11 in 2008 was 2.2 wolves/1,000 km²,
48 considerably lower than in adjacent Unit 13 (3.8
49 wolves/1,000 km²). Shortening the wolf hunting or
50 trapping season in Unit 11 at this time would have no

1 effect on the conservation of wolves.

2

3 Enforcement Issues:

4

5 Differences in federal and state
6 regulations resulting from adoption of this proposal will
7 create enforcement issues in areas with mixed land
8 ownership.

9

10 Other Comments:

11

12 It is unlikely that all adults would be
13 taken out of a pack by the hunting addressed in this
14 proposal. Adults have learned to avoid man through
15 experience and are the most difficult pack members to
16 take, while pups are the most vulnerable pack members to
17 harvest. Pup starvation is unlikely even if some adults
18 are taken. Wolves have evolved and thrived under natural
19 conditions where adult mortality occurs regularly through
20 intraspecific competition. Also, older adults kill large
21 prey, thus are subject to injury and death. In cases of
22 natural adult mortality, the pack social structure
23 provides support to pups.

24

25 Recommendation:

26

27 Oppose.

28

29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,
30 George. Any questions of the State.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Okay.

35 Next we have SRC.

36

37 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

38 On Proposal 38 Wrangell-St. Elias National Park

39 Subsistence Resource Commission unanimously opposes the
40 proposal.

41

42 The proposal would adversely affect
43 subsistence users by reducing subsistence opportunity and
44 there is not a conservation concern. Although hides are
45 not necessarily prime during the months in question, they
46 can still be valuable for the harvester. The hides of
47 wolves harvested in April may have less undermat, however
48 they're not rubbed and can be used by skin sewers.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank

1 you. Fish and Game Advisory Committees and other written
2 comments. Robert, isn't it fun keeping this paper
3 straight.

4

5 (Laughter)

6

7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I can report for
8 the AC, the Upper Tanana took that up and it was -- they
9 opposed it. This proposal is not good for hunters.
10 Currently hunters have an opportunity to hunt wolves from
11 August 10th to April 30th. This would severely reduce
12 hunter opportunities for wolves, this reduces them,
13 there's no biological reason, current populations are
14 healthy and thriving.

15

16 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. We received
17 another communication from the Alaska Professional
18 Hunters Association and they are not in favor of this
19 proposal.

20

21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: How about the
22 Ahtna Subsistence or -- also?

23

24 MR. LARSON: They're not.

25

26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

27

28 MR. LARSON: And the Ahtna Customary and
29 Traditional Use Council is in opposition to this
30 proposal.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. No other
35 public comment.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
40 Deliberation. Virgil.

41

42 MR. UMPHENOUR: I note that the only
43 support for this proposal is by the proposers. All
44 Agencies and other people that have comment are opposed
45 to it. I concur with the -- all these groups plus the
46 Agency report and I will be voting in opposition.

47

48 Madam Chair.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,

1 Virgil. Anyone else.
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 MR. GLANZ: I'll call for the question.
6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And I
8 take it you agree with Virgil and his comments.
9
10 MR. GLANZ: I'm undecided, but yeah,
11 okay. Yes, I do agree with Virgil 100 percent. And we
12 took this up at our Game Board and I didn't bring it up
13 because they just said well, you know how we feel, so I
14 wouldn't -- they didn't even ask for a vote, guys.
15 So.....
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. The
18 motion is to favor or not favor 38, reducing wolf
19 seasons.
20
21 (No aye votes)
22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:
24
25 IN UNISON: Aye.
26
27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. It
28 passes.
29
30 MR. UMPHENOUR: I move to adopt Proposal
31 WP10.....
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wait. Wait. I
34 don't want you to take that up right now. We're going to
35 go to Staff analysis first and I'll tell you why.
36
37 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.
38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're going to
40 have -- just have you give a -- go through the process
41 because of what had -- the -- your recommendation. So
42 I'm going to call on Chuck first.
43
44 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, Madam Chair, WP10-
45 39 can be found on Page 228 of your Council book.
46
47 The proposal was submitted by the Alaska
48 Department of Fish and Game and requests that the Federal
49 subsistence regulations be clarified to show the
50 requirements for harvest, salvage, reporting and sealing

1 for Dall sheep in Units 11 and 12. The proponent also
2 states that if these rams are not brought in to be sealed
3 valuable information such as detailed size measurements,
4 age and genetic materials is not collected. These data
5 are used to assess population health and dynamics through
6 monitoring of age structure and harvest as well as to
7 support an ongoing genetic research by USGS in Wrangell-
8 St. Elias National Park and Preserve.

9
10 Federal regulations that have dealt with
11 Dall sheep horn salvage requirements have been in effect
12 since 1992, however they have not been consolidated into
13 one location within the public booklet of the Federal
14 regulations which make it difficult for Federally
15 qualified subsistence users to know the requirements.
16 Therefore it would be helpful to the Federally qualified
17 subsistence users to add a sentence in the public booklet
18 that states that Dall sheep horns must be sealed unless
19 not required through unit specific regulation. However
20 changing the Federal regulation in the CFRs to
21 incorporate additional language would be redundant and
22 would not provide additional clarification.

23
24 Therefore the OSM preliminary conclusion
25 is to revise the Federal regulation public booklet
26 accordingly to give clarity to the Federal subsistence
27 regulations for sealing requirements of Dall sheep, horns
28 and all relevant areas including Units 11 and 12. The
29 recommended text in the public booklet should read as
30 follows. A person who takes a Dall sheep ram under these
31 regulations in Units 7, 9, 11 through 16, 19, 20, 23
32 through 26, must possess a State harvest ticket and
33 comply with the requirements of that ticket including any
34 sealing requirement. Therefore our conclusion is to take
35 no action on this proposal and just add that sentence in
36 the public booklet to make things more clear.

37
38 If there's any questions I'll try and
39 answer them.

40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.
42 George, the State. Virgil had a quick question.

43
44 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. So the
45 recommendation is to take no action and just
46 administratively that would be a condition of the hunt
47 then to seal the horns?

48
49 MR. ARDIZZONE: Actually after
50 discussions with our Staff and solicitors, it's -- we

1 use State harvest tickets and they have a requirement
2 with their harvest tickets to get things sealed. And our
3 regulations say any requirements on that harvest ticket
4 should be done, you know. So if it said -- we usually
5 say harvest ticket it says it should be sealed, that's
6 what we should have been doing all along, it's just never
7 been clear. So all the sentence is is just a
8 clarification of what we should have been doing all
9 along. It's no real change to the regulation, it's -- so
10 it's just to add clarity.

11

12 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.

13

14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know, I wish
15 I could find the email that was sent to me. To answer
16 your question, Virgil, that affects us in our region and
17 it was my understanding that not quite the way you stated
18 it and Robert was thinking too that it was a little
19 different, there was some change in regulation under the
20 State and it kind of goes that way where they made a
21 change, I think, and then since it's on our harvest
22 report -- or we -- they get -- we get our general harvest
23 tag through the State, then their regulations apply to
24 us. So and I talked to Polly about this, she said if you
25 didn't want to seal sheep horns there you'd have to have
26 it be a Federal permit. And I think -- and it -- and
27 having simple, just one permit and not wondering which
28 you had to get, it's easier for the community just to
29 stick to the way it's always been done and then know that
30 they have to seal their horns.

31

32 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. If you have
33 your Federal handy dandy, on Page 16 it says subsistence
34 hunters and trappers are required to possess State
35 hunting and trapping license. Subsistence hunters are
36 also required to possess and comply with the provisions
37 of any permits, tags or harvest tickets required by the
38 State unless superseded by Federal regulations. So
39 basically we're using State harvest tickets, they require
40 sealing for sheep so we have to follow that unless our
41 regulations which in this case they don't.

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I think
44 that's what happened and the State regs changed to where
45 you have to have them sealed in 11 and 12.

46

47 MR. ARDIZZONE: Right. And that's --
48 that's what happened.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. Yeah.

1 That's how I remember it.
2
3 George.
4
5 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
6 Yeah, this is the Department's proposal, of course we
7 support it and he mentioned why in his analysis there.
8 So we still support adopting the regulation, but if it
9 can be addressed through a mechanism supported by --
10 recommended by OSM.....
11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
13
14 MR. PAPPAS:the Department still
15 supports the proposal.
16
17 Thank you, Madam Chair.
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any other
20 questions.
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
25 you, George. The SRC. They -- I think they took no
26 action, right? Yeah, uh-huh.
27
28 (No comments)
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
31 Others.
32
33 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. The only
34 public comment we have is from the Ahtna Customary and
35 Traditional Use Committee and they support the salvage of
36 Dall sheep horns.
37
38 Thank you.
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But the proposal
41 was to.....
42
43 MR. LARSON: They support the proposal
44 and.....
45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
47 Yeah.
48
49 MR. LARSON:that's the reasoning
50 that they gave. Thanks.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. All
2 right. So it's -- you know, just to help the Council out
3 that's how it works, you know. If we wanted to have it
4 to where we didn't have to seal sheep horns we'd have to
5 have a Federal permit and most people talked about it and
6 they're not that interested in seeing a different
7 permitting process. So people just make the effort --
8 Fish and Game in Glennallen is pretty good about people
9 that live out in McCarthy and don't get in that often,
10 they just make calls and they make an effort to get in
11 even if it's going to be over the 30 days, they're not
12 too picky about it, they just want the information. So
13 and I talked to the assistant biologist, Becky used to be
14 Kellyhouse now Shranky, she -- she said it was real hard
15 for the State to go through the harvest reports and see
16 where people didn't seal sheep. And then they'd have to
17 go back and look and see if they had, you know, in the
18 resident zone communities of the Park. So it -- that's
19 why they put it -- they were the ones that pushed it, the
20 State did. It didn't get communicated well to the public
21 though and now it is so I think it'll work out.

22
23 So any other discussion. Go ahead,
24 Donald.

25
26 MR. WOODRUFF: Madam Chairman, are we
27 going to take no action on that, is that what we're
28 considering?

29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We have no
31 motion on the floor so.....

32
33 MR. WOODRUFF: Are you considering no
34 action then?

35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's what I
37 would recommend, yeah. So we -- this is all for
38 information for us so you know in your area if something
39 comes up like that you're always going to have to look at
40 is there a State permit, a Federal permit or all of that.
41 It's just stuff to be thinking about and Preserve's
42 different than Park in some cases so it gets kind of
43 complicated. And I -- you know, my -- I think it's good
44 to talk about this to try to -- so we know that we like
45 to keep things simple, that's kind of where I come from.
46 So.....

47
48 Okay. Any other discussion or I should
49 say questions.
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: I move we take no action
2 on WP10-39.
3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
5
6 MR. GLANZ: I'll second it then if it
7 needs one.
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yep. And I
10 think we've discussed it pretty thoroughly. Any other
11 discussion.
12
13 (No comments)
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All in favor to
16 take no action.
17
18 IN UNISON: Aye.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
21
22 (No opposing votes)
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now we
25 will go to the rest of our agenda because we're going to
26 wait until 1:00 o'clock for those last four or five
27 proposals. And so we're going to review the annual
28 report. You should have a copy of this, everyone should
29 have a copy of this.
30
31 Since we lost our coordinator, Vince, he
32 probably wasn't part of this and I was told that Donald
33 might -- had to go through our transcripts and came up --
34 we only at the last meeting discussed two topics,
35 intensive management and impacts of rural and non-rural
36 hunter.
37
38 Now I don't know if you guys had a chance
39 to read it. Donald, did you get through it all?
40
41 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, I read it. The two
42 things.....
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.
45
46 MR. WOODRUFF: Madam Chair. The two
47 things that I wanted to add to this list was customary
48 trade and we can discuss that in detail I'm sure and the
49 RC 94, the PPA, which Andy had the heartburn about.
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Say that again.
2
3 MR. WOODRUFF: The PPA that.....
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh. What --
6 yeah.
7
8 MR. WOODRUFF:was passed out.....
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. Right.
11
12 MR. WOODRUFF:the protected pulse
13 action.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
16
17 MR. WOODRUFF: Those are the two things
18 that I made note of that would probably be beneficial to
19 go into the annual report.
20
21 Thank you.
22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So that's two
24 different topics, the pulse protection -- actually I had
25 some, but I think I want to hear from all of your first.
26 So yours is the customary trade and then the pulse
27 protection, you wanted to add those two topics. Can you
28 be a little more clear on how you -- how do you want to
29 -- what do you want to put in the customary trade,
30 Donald? Oh, I see you're busy there.
31
32 Yes, Grafton.
33
34 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, I was just talking
35 to Donald and on the -- on the subject of what we were
36 just discussing, not discuss -- it's not on the Board
37 yet.
38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you have
40 another topic. You have another topic?
41
42 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, the Federal and
43 State for the -- for this issue here is that it goes
44 regular -- with regulations with the Venetie Arctic
45 Village. And that I like to -- I like to discuss this
46 with them because they're at the.....
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The customary
49 trade.....
50

1 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes. That.....
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:or -- okay.
4
5 MR. BIEDERMAN: I was talking with him
6 this morning, they're all getting together right now so
7 I can go up to their room and have a group discussion
8 with them, with the elders too. And.....
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
11
12 MR. BIEDERMAN: So how would I -- how
13 would -- I would.....
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you mean the
16 way you would handle customary trade and your comments to
17 it. Okay.
18
19 MR. BIEDERMAN: And is that okay with
20 you, Madam Chairman.
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Man, I guess I'm
23 going to have to ask Staff how do you deal with something
24 like this.
25
26 Donald.
27
28 MR. WOODRUFF: As I understand from
29 talking to Grafton he wants to go up to his room and talk
30 to the village.....
31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
33
34 MR. WOODRUFF:before we get into
35 extensive discussion about customary trade. And he's --
36 he's just wondering when would be a good time during the
37 meeting for him to take a break, go talk to them, because
38 they're getting together now.....
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well,
41 they're.....
42
43 MR. WOODRUFF:and then -- and then
44 come back and bring that information back to us.
45
46 Thank you.
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I hate to
49 have him miss anything that we're doing. So you're
50 saying they're on line right now or just when you get

1 there?

2

3 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, Madam Chairman. I
4 just called up there and they're calling in -- they're
5 going to get back with me and my wife and.....

6

7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, it
8 probably would be good for you to hear some of a
9 discussion here now so you have something to tell them,
10 what's -- you know, what's happening with the people on
11 the Council. I would -- that would be what I would
12 think. So since we brought it up, let's have a
13 discussion a little bit amongst us here and then if
14 Grafton wants to go up there he can say what we're
15 thinking. So other cell phones, aren't they so much fun.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's called
20 vibrate. Okay. Other Council members, can you give us --
21 Donald since you brought it up do you have some thoughts
22 right now?

23

24 MR. WOODRUFF: On customary trade?

25

26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

27

28 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah. Yes, ma'am. On
29 customary trade I went through this little cheatsheet
30 that was passed out to us. And there's some good points
31 in it, but I crossed out the whole unprocessed part
32 because traditionally customary trade's not done with
33 fresh fish.

34

35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So what are you
36 looking at, you're looking at that.....

37

38 MR. WOODRUFF: This little cheatsheet was
39 handed out.....

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Gene Sandone.

42

43 MR. WOODRUFF:Gene Sandone.....

44

45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

46

47 MR. WOODRUFF:passed out to us day
48 before yesterday, yeah. And I crossed out the poundage
49 on number 3B and put in a dollar amount. I just said,
50 you know 500 bucks or 500, 1,000 bucks, whatever, just as

1 a working number. And my two bits for the whole thing
2 would be that they must require -- they are required to
3 get a permit to make any sales and they have to keep
4 track of the exact amount of money they make and keep an
5 exact count or records of the number of fish they use for
6 this customary trade so that they can be documented into
7 the total harvest and not get kind of lost in the
8 paperwork. Because I'm sure that all the managers want
9 to know exactly how many fish are used for that. And
10 then they can subtract them from the escapement or
11 whatever.

12
13 So my two bits is to get rid of the
14 unprocessed portion of it because the -- my perspective
15 is that dry fish is what traditionally was traded,
16 whether it be bundles of chum or dry strips or whatever
17 and requiring that a - track them with a permit and the
18 exact catch record. It doesn't seem like it's over -- to
19 much of a burden for the folks that want to do customary
20 trade to comply with these. And then if we keep track of
21 exactly how much money is used then we can find out if
22 it's a significant sale or not.

23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're a little
25 bit scrambling here because you are pulling up Gene
26 Sandone's -- yeah, so we're all scrambling for our
27 paperwork. I just found mine.....

28
29 MR. WOODRUFF: And one of the other
30 things it said.....

31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:I had it
33 tagged and still couldn't find it.....

34
35 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah.

36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So.....

38
39 MR. WOODRUFF: One of the other things it
40 said in it was not -- in Gene's handout, it was like the
41 very bottom, it says that the fish should not leave the
42 Yukon area. And I'm not an expertise about that aspect
43 of it, but I understand that somebody -- some people have
44 a heartburn about the fish being sold at conferences and
45 all throughout the State. I don't know anything about
46 that, but that's at the very bottom of this.

47
48 I'm sure Gene could produce a few more of
49 these copies or we could run some off.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, let's --
2 when Andy was present he said -- he threw out four ideas
3 and now I lost that piece of paper. I think I gave it to
4 Robert, but.....
5
6 MR. UMPHENOUR: Robert does have it. I
7 saw it a while ago.
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That one,
10 yeah. Thank you. You said require permit so that was
11 the one thing that Andy spoke of yesterday. And the
12 second thing that you said was.....
13
14 MR. WOODRUFF: Keep a accurate count of
15 the record of the fish count captured and used for that
16 process.
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, that would
19 be under the permit probably, right?
20
21 MR. WOODRUFF: I beg your pardon.
22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That would have
24 to go under the permit I would think.
25
26 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, but that's -- could
27 be a step of the -- exact.....
28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So a step of the
30 permit would be.....
31
32 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, an exact count of
33 the record -- record of the fish caught and the money
34 spent or received.
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And then
37 what was the second topic that you brought up?
38
39 MR. WOODRUFF: Well, the thing with -- as
40 I understand it customary trade was traditionally dried
41 salmon, not necessarily unprocessed salmon and that's the
42 way he has it on his little thing was unprocessed.....
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah,
45 you're.....
46
47 MR. WOODRUFF:which doesn't make
48 any sense to me at all.
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:you're

1 working on someone's suggestions and you're coming up
2 with your own.
3
4 MR. WOODRUFF: You're right.
5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And we're
7 just going to stick to what we as a Council are looking
8 at. You can look at that for your ideas.....
9
10 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah.
11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:but let's
13 come up with our own ideas. Okay. And your own
14 idea.....
15
16 MR. WOODRUFF: Is dry fish. You know
17 they mention fin fish, you know, as a customary trade
18 and.....
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you're
21 saying customary trade is dry fish.
22
23 MR. WOODRUFF: Yep.
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
26
27 MR. WOODRUFF: Because I know on the
28 sternwheelers when they pulled into the Biederman camp
29 they just piled on bales and bales and bales of
30 dry fish and went upriver or downriver, wherever they
31 went. That.....
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm writing this
34 down.
35
36 MR. WOODRUFF:fishwheel that was at
37 Biederman's camp was huge and all the miners kept their
38 dogs there all summer.
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So your -- just
41 one second. So you're saying only dry fish can be
42 traded?
43
44 MR. WOODRUFF: That's -- I'm not saying
45 only.
46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Mic.
48
49 MR. WOODRUFF: Not saying only dry fish,
50 but that's my perception of customary trade.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, is it --
2 okay. Customary trade is statewide. So and you're
3 talking about the Yukon, right?

4
5 MR. WOODRUFF: Yep. Yep.

6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But -- and this
8 is on our annual report so we just need to really keep it
9 simple, what we're working on. Okay. Because the other
10 suggestion that Andy had before he left was when --
11 remember Polly said that we could set -- make proposals
12 when it comes up to the Fisheries proposals and his
13 suggestion was to make a proposal for each topic so the
14 analysis could -- would have to be done for each topic.
15 So I'm just telling you what Andy's saying, okay.

16
17 And now I bet you have something to add,
18 Rich.

19
20 MR. CANNON: Madam Chair. I -- forgive
21 me for interrupting your discussions. I -- a number of
22 the other Staff wanted to be present while you discuss
23 this issue. And I just was wondering, I know you're
24 dealing with your annual report right now. Are you
25 planning to move into the Fisheries discussions after
26 this topic?

27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, we are.

29
30 MR. CANNON: Because I think they'd even
31 like to hear -- and they'd like to hear what you're
32 discussing right now as well. So I can alert them that
33 you'll be taking this up then.

34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

36
37 MR. CANNON: All right. Thank you.

38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

40
41 MR. BIEDERMAN: Madam Chairman. Yes,
42 this is Grafton.

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: His name is
45 Rich.

46
47 MR. BIEDERMAN: The -- yeah, the person
48 that was just talking -- speaking with a matter with the
49 traditional plus with the -- are we going back into the
50 Fish or are we discussing.....

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, for our
2 agenda?
3
4
5 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes.
6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, see on our
8 agenda, Grafton, if you look at your book, Page 3.....
9
10 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, I have it right here
11 in front of me, yes.
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. We're
14 right now -- this -- part of our job as a Council is to
15 do an annual report that we give to the Federal Board and
16 that's what we're working on right now. So we put down
17 important topics that we want to send to the Federal
18 Board in our annual report. And that -- this is part of
19 what we need to do as a Council. And this is -- we
20 probably ought to just keep it kind of simple for our
21 annual report and then when we talk about customary trade
22 we -- that would be under these Fisheries proposals.
23 Polly was explaining to me that we could put Fisheries
24 proposals in regarding this to the Federal Board. So
25 there's two topics, does that help you, first there's the
26 annual report and then second is we'll probably get into
27 it more extensively under proposals.
28
29 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, Madam Chairman. I
30 was just -- I was just on the that with the two Councils
31 up there. There's one Council that goes with the Federal
32 with Venetie, Venetie Tribal Council. And there's one
33 that goes with Venetie Council that goes with the
34 people's report. That's the reason why I was trying to
35 get across to this morning for -- before customary trade
36 that they didn't want me to -- I like document that this
37 -- that I wouldn't want to go and like we were saying
38 yesterday hearsay and go ahead and -- and go ahead and
39 say I'd like to vote for that. But proposals that we've
40 -- everything that we've been documenting for the past
41 few -- past couple of days, I've been putting this with
42 the Venetie Arctic Village.....
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh
45
46 MR. BIEDERMAN:Tribal Councils.
47 And so there's about -- maybe about 14 -- about 20
48 persons I've been talking to.
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that's

1 awesome that you can do that. And actually -- and so
2 what you're saying is you're uncomfortable until you talk
3 to them about some of these issues?

4

5 MR. BIEDERMAN: I could -- I can go ahead
6 and go up there and say a few words with them on the
7 discussions on the proposals like Proposals 110 to 100
8 and all these other issues.

9

10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

11

12 MR. BIEDERMAN: And they would -- and
13 what the people that are here to represent the Game Board
14 is that they can backtrack on that very slick or very
15 quick so it wouldn't take very much time.

16

17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, that's fine.
18 Well, let's get through this annual report because it
19 isn't -- it does not have to be -- you know what I'm
20 saying, because we're giving a report if Robert or
21 somebody on Staff could help me, the annual report can be
22 -- should be pretty simple.

23

24 Vince probably has some history he'd like
25 to share with us.

26

27 MR. MATHEWS: No. Madam Chair. Grafton,
28 I can help you -- what I think you're saying is you want
29 to report back to your Council, your Village Council
30 about the actions of this group. I can assist with that
31 because I need to work closer with Venetie. So I think
32 that's part of your question.

33

34 The other one, I think you're signaling
35 is the -- what your Chair is talking about is there'll be
36 some Fishery proposals, they're just proposals. So we
37 can make sure that Venetie Tribal Council, Arctic Village
38 Council gets copies of those and then they can empower
39 you to bring that in. These are new proposals, the ones
40 you talked about -- was it yesterday, whatever day it
41 was, those are behind you now and we can assist with
42 reporting it.

43

44 And then the one on customary trade,
45 that's -- that one I think there'll be an opportunity
46 here hopefully in time where you can call in to your
47 village and get some ideas on that, but I think your
48 Chair is signaling the annual report will be general
49 about your concerns on customary trade and then there's
50 going to be specific proposals, ideas, and when those

1 ideas come up, I know this group pretty well, they might
2 think boy, that was the best thing ever happened or they
3 might say boy, we didn't have it all together and then
4 they modify it or reject it.

5
6 So does that help you understand what's
7 before you now, I hope?

8
9 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, Vince. I knew I --
10 I spoke with you -- excuse you, Madam Chairman, I spoke
11 with Vince for I don't know about two or three years.
12 I've only -- I only spoke with him over the phone just
13 the first few days before we got to acknowledge to see
14 him before. But we -- we both acknowledge what's going
15 on. So.....

16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

18
19 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, I do.

20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I think he
22 did a good job of explaining to you that its -- when we
23 take up the next issue of proposals, it isn't something
24 that you're going to be voting on, it's just something
25 that we're going to make proposals to the next cycle of
26 the Board for Fisheries. So it isn't something that's
27 something you need to worry about right now, but later
28 when we take up those proposals that's when you would
29 want to talk to your Councils.

30
31 So let's try to get through this here.

32
33 Council members, is there any other
34 topics and maybe you could come up with some language and
35 maybe Staff could tell me how do you -- I mean, a lot of
36 times these -- this -- there's a draft before us and it
37 looks good and we just adopt it. But in the transition
38 we're -- there's a few things that didn't get on there
39 that I think should be on there. Would you like to help
40 there, Robert.

41
42 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. I can do that,
43 yes. Maybe a reminder of the role of the Council and
44 reasons why they would write an annual report. If you
45 would look on your.....

46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council manual.

48
49 MR. LARSON:Council manual, and
50 that's this book here, I don't know if you have that, but

1 on Page 34 it describes what's contained within an annual
2 report. And it is a -- it's a communication between the
3 Regional Council and the Board. The annual report has
4 options. You can identify current or anticipated
5 subsistence uses, you can provide an evaluation of
6 current or anticipated subsistence needs, you can
7 recommend a strategy for management of fish and wildlife
8 and you can recommend policies, standard guidelines or
9 regulations that need to be written to implement those
10 strategies.

11
12 So with that in mind what is most
13 efficient, I believe, is that a topic can be identified
14 by individual Council members and we would take an
15 opportunity for a select few, possibly one or two that
16 have an interest in that particular topic, they could
17 assist me in writing that and capturing the intent of
18 that topic. I would put them together in a form that
19 could be reviewed by the Council and then you would have
20 a Council vote on the package. And I think that if we
21 have a space between the time that the topics are
22 identified and the time that the annual report is
23 approved, that we could put some text on a piece of paper
24 for review by the Council.

25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: When does this
27 get sent out?

28
29 MR. LARSON: At the end of this meeting.

30
31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Yeah,
32 we're just behind the curve here from what we usually get
33 done. So -- well, I guess what I'd like to hear, Council
34 members, let's just get your -- what you want and then
35 let's not belabor on it and give the ideas to Robert to
36 -- and he'll write them up and then we'll finish it up.

37
38 Frank.

39
40 MR. GURTLER: Well, concerns with --
41 we've doing this for thousands of years, you know, and
42 what harm has it done so far, the way we've been doing
43 it. Customary trade.

44
45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you're talk
46 -- I was wondering about it, I thought you were talking
47 about the annual report, Frank. Sorry.

48
49 (Laughter)

50

1 MR. GURTLER: No. No, on this fishery
2 regulatory proposal. I have a hard time with that, you
3 know, we have this -- what they call subsistence,
4 whatever that is, regulated. You have no commercial
5 anymore and now you're digging into customary trade. And
6 what harm has it done, did it hurt the fisheries or is it
7 going to. I'd like to know what's going on with that and
8 find out from the people before we start making
9 regulations, rules and this and that on everything we do.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Frank, I
14 hear you. I know you're real passionate about this. So
15 what you're saying is maybe you wouldn't agree to see it
16 in the annual report, is that what you're saying.

17

18 MR. GURTLER: Yeah. Anytime you touch on
19 something like this that we've done for thousands of
20 years now, you think about it, the people think about it,
21 that it's our way of life, it's way of making a few
22 dollars here and there, out there in the Bush, especially
23 this day and age now too. In fact it's -- so I'd like to
24 know more about this and what the people think about
25 everybody making rules and regulations on everything we
26 do on our traditional way and our customary trade.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

31

32 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. This subject is a
33 demonstration of the upper river people being victims of
34 bureaucracy because of the way our -- you have to
35 understand the history of what happened and some people
36 in the room know the history and some don't. But
37 basically what has happened that has put us in this
38 situation that we're in is that when the commercial
39 fisheries first started in the Yukon River and in Alaska,
40 fish that were exported from the State to the Lower 48,
41 primarily put in cans, but some of there were dried and
42 salt cured or pickled, were counted as commercial. The
43 commercial that Don has spoken of about the bales of
44 dried fish and et cetera. Okay. Those fisheries were
45 not considered commercial fisheries by the United States
46 Department of Commerce, that's who regulated our
47 fisheries and our fur. And so being they were not
48 considered as commercial even though they were commercial
49 and someone -- one of the Staff mentioned after I spoke
50 about -- earlier in the meeting about -- a little bit

1 about the history of the fishery is that these -- it was
2 not considered commercial even though there were -- when
3 this analysis was done after the disaster of 1919 and
4 1920, two individuals made a complete tour of the Yukon
5 River that summer, the next summer, and they determine --
6 and then we had a guy, I think his name was Townsend,
7 that was a Federal fisheries manager for the Yukon in the
8 '20s an '30s and he would count how many -- we have these
9 old reports so let me back up a little bit. There's
10 these old fur and fish reports from the Department of
11 Commerce and they're available, I think Fish and Wildlife
12 Service has those somewhere, they have them out at
13 University of Alaska in Fairbanks in the history
14 department. Anyway you can get these old reports and
15 this guy Townsend what he would do is he would say how
16 many people were fishing, how many fishwheels were
17 fishing, how many people were fishing with nets and he
18 made a estimate of how many fish were harvested. And in
19 the Yukon River drainage there was an average of around
20 a million fish a year harvested. And I know that there
21 were some years where upwards of 400,000 fish were
22 harvested in the Tanana River.

23

24 Now these fish were not classified as
25 commercial fish even though they were commercial fish.
26 And I talked to Jack Coghill about this at length in
27 years past, he's the, as most of you know, our former Lt.
28 Governor. And his family, his father, had the trading
29 post and the general store at Nenana, they had two
30 warehouses that they stored dried fish in. The fishermen
31 would catch their fish in the summer, dry their fish,
32 take them to them, sell them to Coghill's and there were
33 other people that did this too besides Coghill's, but
34 they were the big one. And then later on in the winter
35 they would coming back and buying or trading and getting
36 some of their dried fish back to feed to their dog. But
37 like I stated earlier at Ft. Gibbon which was the fort at
38 Tanana if I'm not messed up on the name, I do know that
39 in 1920 because this is in one of those old reports that
40 that commander there ordered 44 tons of bacon because
41 they didn't get enough fish to feed the dog teams for the
42 army for that year. And so what ended up happening is
43 these fish were never considered commercial, but then we
44 had what drove statehood in the first place was the
45 fisheries being run out of Seattle and so that drove
46 statehood, but those people even today still have a giant
47 amount of influence of how our fisheries are prosecuted
48 in Alaska. So the big fish processing outfits from the
49 mouth of the river -- I'm doing it.....

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
2
3 MR. UMPHENOUR:but this is
4 important.
5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: The big fish processors
9 from the mouth of the river that were from Seattle what
10 they used to do and Larry Engle and I one time we gave a
11 report or we spent a couple days with Sportfish Division
12 in Fairbanks here, this was when I was on the Board of
13 Fisheries, they had kind of a seminar where -- about the
14 history and et cetera of the fisheries, Sportfish
15 Division did in Fairbanks. And so Larry Engle and I both
16 attended that and Larry gave a really good presentation
17 of the regulatory process and he went into what I've been
18 speaking about, about what happened and why the
19 commercial fisheries were allocated the way they were.
20 Back in the early days in the '60s when you'd go to a
21 Fish Board meeting, the big processors from Seattle would
22 be there, they would have a special room, a special
23 reception room and they would have prime rib, king crab,
24 anything you wanted to drink, all on the house for the
25 Staff and for the Board. And that is why that 89 percent
26 of the chinook salmon are allocated to the lower river
27 and 11 percent to the upper river. And so.....
28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're talking
30 about customary trade.
31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: We're talking about
33 customary trade and I'm getting to that. What.....
34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Short version
36
37 MR. UMPHENOUR:was -- what is now
38 called -- what is referred to as customary trade was
39 commercial, but it was not exported to the Lower 48, a
40 lot of it went to Canada, but it was not exported to the
41 Lower 48 so it was not considered commercial. And so
42 whenever they divided up all these commercial fishing
43 permits in the Yukon River, none of that history was
44 considered, that history was not considered. Those --
45 they did not consider those fisheries as commercial
46 fisheries. And that's what is given Frank's goat so bad
47 is because people in the upper river use customary -- it
48 was considered customary trade and called customary
49 trade, it was not called commercial even though it was
50 commercial. Now Bub Fate who some of you know and some

1 don't, that served three terms in the House, retired
2 dentist that's fished up on the Yukon for over 50 years,
3 he told me what he thinks should happen because there's
4 no difference in commercial and customary trade is we
5 should just have a quota of so many fish caught, whether
6 they're called subsistence or commercial, and whenever
7 that many fish are caught they should shut the damn
8 season down. But how we're going to resolve this I have
9 no idea because it would require the legislature to do
10 it. I don't know how we can do it, that's the State
11 legislature.

12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil, I'd like
14 to hear more from Frank, okay?

15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I'm just trying to
17 lay the background so that everyone in the room
18 understands why we're in the pickle that we're in.

19
20 Thank you.

21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That was
23 the short version.

24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes.

26
27 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Virgil, I
28 appreciate all that history.

29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I don't
31 think Frank was finished with what he was wanting to get
32 to, were you, Frank?

33
34 MR. GURTLER: Well, I see all these
35 things that they want to do.....

36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: This from.....

38
39 MR. GURTLER:the day the
40 (indiscernible) all this stuff doesn't mean nothing to me
41 because you know nobody's going to do that.

42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I kind
44 of.....

45
46 MR. GURTLER:and it's just another
47 law, another regulation.....

48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Exactly.

50

1 MR. GURTLER:and I -- I'm against
2 regulations anyway. And because it just makes you break
3 the law. Look at the subsistence, what they call
4 subsistence now. People are breaking the subsistence
5 laws because they got to get fish, but it makes you
6 illegal on everything you do. And commercial is against
7 the law completely on the river because they don't have
8 an opening. Now they want -- they cut subsistence off so
9 you can't catch the fish, now they want to go into
10 customary trade and regulate that too and I don't want
11 anybody regulating what we've done for thousands of
12 years.

13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So what you're
15 saying is you.....

16
17 MR. GURTLER: It's not hurting it.

18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:disagree
20 with Don's suggestion of getting a permit.

21
22 MR. GURTLER: Yes, I do.

23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that's what
25 we need to do, we need to come up with how we feel as a
26 Council and everybody's voice should be heard here. And
27 actually before -- Grafton, you had your hand up, but I
28 see he's busy, so I -- his hand was up first, but go
29 ahead, Bill.

30
31 MR. GLANZ: I think this thing here Donna
32 has, I think it can go all the way down to the person who
33 receives subsistence taken fin fish in exchange for cash
34 in a customary trade may not resell the fish and b) a
35 person may not sell subsistence taken fish to a fish or
36 a fishery business. That's all we need to do, those two
37 there. That's my opinion. And I -- that's what Frank
38 and Lester are concerned about is paperwork. Go to B, C
39 and D on number 3.

40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm think -- I'm
42 trying to absorb some things.

43
44 MR. GLANZ: I mean, that's -- I don't
45 know, is that what you agree with, Frank, if you -- you
46 can't sell it to a fish business.

47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. C
49 says a person who receives subsistence taken fin fish in
50 exchange for cash in a customary trade may not sell the

1 fish.

2

3 MR. GLANZ: Resell.

4

5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, resell. I
6 guess my reading glasses aren't that great anymore.

7

8 MR. GLANZ: Okay.

9

10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: A person may not
11 sell subsistence taken fish to a fish or fishery
12 business. That's the two that -- and -- that you guys
13 agree on that.

14

15 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, well, it -- it -- make
16 it simple, I mean, you know.

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Grafton.

19

20 GRAFTON: Yes, Madam Chairman. Yes, it
21 -- that definition has come up when Fish and Game first
22 -- was committed to the State is that the -- that the
23 people on the Yukon, from lower and upper Yukon, that
24 this issue has been brought up, in fact, before our time.
25 So it -- this discussion her is ongoing. It's like.....

26

27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I think
28 what I -- I'm sorry, Grafton, I didn't mean to -- did you
29 have some other things that.....

30

31 GRAFTON: (Shakes head negatively)

32

33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Hear me
34 out. I think what would be good, we're talk -- on the
35 agenda right now we're discussing the topics for our
36 annual report and I'm going to make a suggestion that
37 there really isn't a lot of concrete information about
38 this, but our suggestion -- my suggestion would be for
39 the Council to say that there needs to be more in depth
40 research done. And just let it go at that for the annual
41 report. And then when we get into the call for fisheries
42 proposals we might be a little more discussion and --
43 okay. So would we all -- let's just have an agreement,
44 anyone opposed to having that as a topic for the annual
45 report.

46

47 Bill.

48

49 MR. GLANZ: Well, it's also customary
50 trade for wildlife too, I mean, to me.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's true.
2
3 MR. GLANZ: I mean, you know, so.....
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we can say
6 fish and wildlife.
7
8 MR. GLANZ: Fish and wildlife, right.
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But we're talk
11 -- we're concerned about the Yukon -- well, just -- our
12 concern is about what the Yukon River and the customary
13 trade on it and we would like to have more information
14 regarding customary trade. Everybody.....
15
16 (Council nods affirmatively)
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:I see a lot
19 of heads nodding and I.....
20
21 MR. GLANZ: I think we all agree.
22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Then we
24 don't have to get into millions of discussion because I
25 know -- I hear you, Frank, I -- if I was in your shoes
26 I'd feel the same way, I know I would because I don't
27 like to see people over -- well, you're always making
28 laws for the bad guy and then who suffers, the good guy.
29 Yeah, uh-huh.
30
31 (Laughter)
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And then
34 the pulse protection, let me see if I can do this. We're
35 already going to take that up, we pretty much just have
36 to adopt the language that was put before us. Staff,
37 does that need to be in the annual report if we have a
38 resolution. We're adopting a resolution so I see that
39 that's not necessary to put in the annual report.
40
41 MR. LARSON: I would suggest that you
42 would.
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So put in
45 the annual report that we're sending a resolution
46 regarding the pulse protection and we'd all agree on that
47 one.
48
49 (Council nods affirmatively)
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
2
3 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. Except I want to
4 modify it.
5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, that will
7 be a -- he wants to modify it, but we -- that will be
8 separate than the report. We're just -- yeah, because
9 that'll -- then it'll be done when we -- okay.
10
11 MR. LARSON: Is there action?
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's no
14 action on this other than.....
15
16 MR. LARSON: In the resolution?
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is there action
19 in the resolution.
20
21 MR. LARSON: Does the resolution ask for
22 the Board to do something?
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can someone
25 answer that, does that resolution ask the Board to do
26 something. This one, the pulse protection. I got too
27 much paper in front of me right now.
28
29 MR. LARSON: Okay. Well -- okay. We'll
30 -- I'll type something.
31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry, I know
33 you can help us out here. Thank you.
34
35 MR. BUKLIS: Madam Chair. You asked the
36 question whether the resolution asked the Federal
37 Subsistence Board to do something. It doesn't ask them
38 to make new regulations, it's a statement of intent from
39 the Councils about how the fishery is managed with the
40 tools that are already in place. So it's an approach to
41 management, it's not a requirement for the Board to take
42 action. The State.....
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So is it
45 appropriate to be.....
46
47 MR. BUKLIS:and Federal managers
48 have the tools to do time and area closures to protect
49 pulses of fish and this is a statement from the Councils
50 as to how these Councils want those tools used. So it's

1 being addressed -- that footnote indicates it's to go to
2 the Federal Subsistence Board and the Board of Fisheries,
3 but also to the Federal and State fisheries managers.
4 And they're the ones that would exercise the tools during
5 the season to do this.

6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So it's
8 appropriate to put in there. Okay. All right. Council
9 members.....

10
11 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, Madam Chairman, I'd
12 just like to see whether the Board of Fish has any advice
13 on the subject that we're pointing to.

14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you have a
16 direct question to the State, is that what you're saying,
17 Grafton?

18
19 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, ma'am.

20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm not sure I
22 understood it either.

23
24 MR. BIEDERMAN: It's do they have any
25 regulations for -- do they have a -- something that
26 proposed to the people that he knows of that he should be
27 giving us information?

28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Regarding the
30 pulse protection? Do you remember the meeting with the
31 joint Western and Eastern and the managers talked to us
32 about.....

33
34 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, I do, ma'am.

35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Did you
37 -- do you still have a question for him?

38
39 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, I was just wondering
40 whether he has -- if he has any questions or answers that
41 -- what we're speaking about. Excuse me, I know his
42 name.

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: George is his
45 name, George Pappas, he's for -- with the State. He's
46 the liaison between the State and Federal Boards for the
47 State.

48
49 Go ahead, George.

50

1 MR. PAPPAS: Madam Chair. I do not know
2 if our Staff has actually received this, they were at the
3 meeting, they weren't part of the conversation there, but
4 I'm not sure if I could answer that question.

5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But regarding
7 the way it was managed last year, there was protection of
8 the first pulse. Yeah. So does that help you, Grafton?

9
10 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, I was just wondering
11 whether he can give the people a report or answers to
12 what we're speaking about. So from the -- from the year
13 before if there is a report that he'd like to give the
14 people so that we can hear it. If they -- if the Fish
15 and Game Board Committee with the year before for 2009,
16 I'd like to hear it because I've seen it on paper, but
17 I'd just like to see whether -- what kind of answers that
18 they submitted for last year.

19
20 MR. CANNON: Madam Chair. Through the
21 Chair to Grafton. I work with the OSM and so I'm not a
22 State employee, but I did attend the Board of Fisheries
23 meeting and a lot of the concerns that the people had
24 about the stocks were raised at that meeting. And the
25 one thing that people up and down the river agreed upon
26 when they talked about this in their committee process,
27 was that the action of not trying to catch the fish that
28 were coming up in the first pulse seemed to work well.
29 And people upriver and even into Canada saw more fish and
30 larger fish. And that was something people thought
31 worked pretty well. And that's why this pulse protection
32 plan is being supported. And that's why your Council can
33 as a -- through a public process can make its preferences
34 known. And in this case it would be coming from every
35 council on the river to the managers. And so I think
36 they would welcome getting that input.

37
38 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, I hear you on that.
39 Yet that discussion was on a paper except for that -- the
40 number of fish -- the fish that were preliminary reported
41 for last year has not been put on here. So I was just
42 saying that for anything like that for -- I know one of
43 our Board members is not here from Ft. Yukon, Andrew
44 Firmin, I know that we'd like to have a -- have those
45 numbers in front of us like here so that everyone in the
46 community would like to know then that. And I've been
47 with the -- on the last few days since our first few days
48 -- first day we was with the Western and I've been with
49 the Tribal Chief with the Venetie and Arctic Village and
50 with the Venetie Council. So I've been with 24 people

1 that I'm discussed -- all these discussions are going
2 through with me and that I've been discussing with them.
3 So I've been putting pretty much -- pretty much my time
4 with -- on the phone with them too. So with the -- with
5 Ft. Yukon Tribal -- Tribal Chiefs and with their Council
6 and Ft. Yukon so that it's been our regulatory like
7 community service that I've been doing for them. So
8 that's -- so that everything that is going on here is
9 being passed on.

10

11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you have some
12 numbers.

13

14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No, through the
15 Chair. No, I can get you the season summary for 2009.
16 You want something you can actually take back to
17 everybody to show what was caught and where it was caught
18 from last year for 2009. Now the 2010 they haven't their
19 YRDFA meeting to come up with the big plan, I think
20 they're all going to get together here pretty soon. So
21 the 2010 plan hasn't been totally figured out as I
22 understand. But I'll get you a copy of what happened in
23 2009 for numbers to be able to distribute. Will that
24 work, sir?

25

26 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes.

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

29

30 MR. BIEDERMAN: Madam Chairman, yes.
31 This is Grafton. Yes, I'd like to -- yes, that.....

32

33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.

34

35 MR. BIEDERMAN:that was the
36 question.

37

38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Great. So if
39 you ever have something that you need, keep going,
40 Grafton, that's how -- I like to see the participation.

41

42 Donald.

43

44 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, and I think he was
45 also referring to the preliminary report, the preliminary
46 run, the fish so that when he goes back to the village
47 they have some expectation of what's coming. I think
48 Fred probably has some of that.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you can get

1 that for him.

2

3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: 2010, the
4 preliminary report.

5

6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
7 Okay. I -- I'm trying to get through this annual report.
8 And I just was thinking about all the things that we've
9 talked about in the last couple of meetings. And the --
10 we -- now we just covered those two issues, we're going
11 to try to keep it -- our coordinator will be writing this
12 up for us. He says he could probably get something done
13 by the end of the meeting that we can look at. And do we
14 want to put in again about the bycatch, our support for
15 the lower cap?

16

17 (Council nods affirmatively)

18

19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That
20 would be the other issue so that's three on a list that
21 I have here. And then we had sent a letter requesting
22 that there be some changes on the seats of the North
23 Pacific Fisheries Management Council and I thought we
24 should refer to that letter also. And that's to have
25 some non-commercial people and we had said people from
26 our region on the Council. So just reference that letter
27 and we're all in agreement.

28

29 (Council nods affirmatively)

30

31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And there was
32 just one other topic that did not -- was not discussed
33 and it's the -- and it would come up under the Park
34 Service stuff on the Nabesna Road, there's in process an
35 ORV EIS. And it's in -- we -- you have the handout. And
36 I spent meetings with the Subsistence Resource Commission
37 and, you know, we all have so much stuff coming at us all
38 at -- all the time and that -- and it's this one to me is
39 vitally, vitally important because it might be precedent
40 setting. And about all I had for the Council without
41 getting deep into it is that it -- that EIS is supposed
42 to come out in April as a draft and then we only have 60
43 days after a draft comes out. So I thought in the annual
44 report that I'd like to state that we disagree with their
45 timeline, that they would work that EIS that we come up
46 with, we -- we're able to look at it again in our October
47 meetings. And that would help the SRCs to look at it
48 again also. So if.....

49

50 (Council nods affirmatively)

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I see nodding of
2 the heads again. So could -- would -- I would just like
3 to add that they delay the April draft and bring it out
4 to a point, even though they might not like hearing about
5 it, that's how we feel about it. So because I think
6 they've been working on it a long time, it's just that
7 it's too much stuff to absorb all at once all the time
8 and it's better if we get to look at it again. So if
9 everyone's in agreement with that, that would go in the
10 annual report.

11
12 Does anyone else have anything else that
13 he like to see in the annual report.

14
15 (No comments)

16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I would
18 say -- do you have a consensus, do I need a vote on this?
19

20 MR. LARSON: No, you don't need a vote on
21 this.....

22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

24
25 MR. LARSON:we need a vote on the
26 annual report when it's done.

27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. He's
29 going to -- he says -- he's typing away here and getting
30 it all ready for us by the end of the meeting. So we'll
31 look at it and vote on it then. So that is probably
32 unfinished business.

33
34 Now fisheries proposals. So if you want
35 Staff here, the -- there was talk about putting in the
36 stuff on customary trade as a proposal.

37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Why don't you ask if all
39 the Staff that wanted to be here is here, I don't think
40 they are.

41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is all the Staff
43 that wanted to be here here.

44
45 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes, Madam Chair.

46
47 MR. UMPHENOUR: I see one not missing or
48 missing, Tom.....

49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil thinks

1 one might be missing.
2
3 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, I know there is.
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Everyone's here
6 that wants to be here?
7
8 MR. UMPHENOUR: No.
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Who wants to be
11 here, Virgil, that's not here.
12
13 MR. UMPHENOUR: Some of the State people
14 want to be here and I think they called them -- for them
15 to go get them. George left the room.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: George is not
18 here.
19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. George left the
21 room. I think he's -- went out of the room so he could
22 make the calls to the Staff that -- here he comes, that
23 wants to be here so maybe he can tell us how long before
24 they're here and we can just take a break and then
25 address this issue.
26
27 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, Madam Chairman, I
28 was just -- I just go with Virgil and wait until the
29 State gets here, what he needs done.
30
31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: George, there's
32 other people that want to be here for this discussion of
33 customary trade from the State?
34
35 MR. PAPPAS: I'm it.
36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're it.
38 Okay. I don't think so.
39
40 MR. PAPPAS: No.
41
42 (Laughter)
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's just keep
45 going just a little bit longer here. Do you -- you want
46 to ask George something?
47
48 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right.
49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: George, could

1 you come up, please, and then we can take a break.

2

3 Virgil.

4

5 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Was -- Tom Taube
6 wanted to be here for some of this fish stuff, right?

7

8 MR. PAPPAS: Correct. I did receive an
9 email they're trying to get Dr. Simon too, talking about
10 the request you put on the agenda earlier on about the
11 Board of Fish redefining subsistence criteria. I'll call
12 him if you want him here.

13

14 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.

15

16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, right now
17 we're on customary trade. What is -- wait a minute.

18

19 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, we're going to
20 start talking about -- we're going to do customary trade
21 and we're going to start talking about fish, that's next
22 on the agenda, right.

23

24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's right.

25

26 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Then he wanted to
27 be here for the fish discussion. And so my idea was we
28 could take a break.....

29

30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

31

32 MR. UMPHENOUR:it won't take him
33 more than 10 or 15 minutes to get here probably and then
34 we can go into the fish stuff, fish portion.

35

36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're taking a
37 break.

38

39 (Off record)

40

41 (On record)

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Number 9 is the
44 call for 2010 and 2012 fisheries proposal. And we
45 started to discuss customary trade. I -- and Virgil in
46 our agenda change request requested something be brought
47 before the Council regarding the Chitina court case. And
48 there was a fisheries person asked to come in because
49 even though it's not in the call I had actually penciled
50 it in over -- under Agency reports, under Alaska

1 Department of Fish and Game. But the gentleman is here
2 and so is it okay that we get that report now. Virgil
3 assures me that it's short and that he won't take the
4 rest of the day on this.

5
6 Okay. So if it's okay with all, we will
7 listen to this report. Sorry, Larry. Okay. And Virgil
8 also mentioned to me he thinks it's very important
9 because it affects all of us. Okay.

10
11 MR. TAUBE: Thank you, Madam Chair. For
12 the record my name is Tom Taube, I'm the management
13 coordinator for Sportfish Division, Alaska Department of
14 Fish and Game here in Fairbanks.

15
16 There's two proposals going before the
17 Board of Fisheries here at the March meeting that were a
18 result of a lawsuit against the Board of Fisheries and
19 State regarding the Chitina fishery and actions the Board
20 took in 2003 when they found that -- they reversed their
21 previous decision from the 1999 meeting when the fishery
22 went from personal use of subsistence and then in 2003
23 they went from subsistence back to personal use. And the
24 lawsuit -- one aspect of the lawsuit was that the eight
25 criteria in the -- eight criteria the Board uses to
26 determine whether a fishery is subsistence or personal
27 use, did not correctly -- was not measurable and the
28 Board interpreted incorrectly. And the Alaska court just
29 determined that -- they ruled in favor of the Chitina
30 Dipnetters, Alaska Outdoor Council that filed the
31 lawsuit. And so the Board of Fisheries is addressing one
32 proposal that is redefining or defining the subsistence
33 way of life that is part of the definition in the eighth
34 criteria. And in front of you there should be a sheet,
35 two page, double side sheet that has Proposal 200 and
36 Proposal 201. And Proposal 200 is the -- what our
37 Department of Law has come up based on the legal ruling
38 from the Alaska courts with the definition of the
39 subsistence way of life and that is defined as a way of
40 life that is based on consistent, long term reliance upon
41 fish and game resources for the basic necessities of
42 life.

43
44 And so the this proposal is open for
45 public comment. The Board will have a -- deliberate,
46 take public comment on March 20th and 21st in Anchorage
47 for this. Once they adopt this version or a modified
48 version, they will then go through the eight criteria and
49 for a customary and traditional determination for the
50 Chitina sub-district State fishery down by Chitina, it's

1 the salmon fishery. And that's what the second proposal,
2 Proposal 201, is basically opening it up for that,
3 revisiting the customary and traditional use for that
4 fishery.

5
6 And that just in a nutshell is what these
7 two proposals do.

8
9 So I'll take any questions there may be
10 at this time.

11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

13
14 MR. GURTLER: Yes.

15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Frank.

17
18 MR. GURTLER: I have a -- I see they put
19 in here -- oh, just a minute, I was looking at that,
20 that's customary and traditional subsistence. Now I
21 don't know what subsistence means, traditional use and
22 customary trade but the word subsistence in there is not
23 what I want in there really. I don't think that's a
24 definition of anything, I don't know if they could even
25 define the word subsistence really, but I can define
26 traditional use.

27
28 But that's just one of the words that I
29 didn't like in that, the word subsistence, I never did
30 care for it.

31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Frank's been
33 sharing this with me.

34
35 MR. GURTLER: And I don't know what we
36 could do about it.

37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: He just really
39 wants to show his frustration.

40
41 (Laughter)

42
43 MR. WOODRUFF: Tom.....

44
45 MR. TAUBE: Yeah, the word
46 subsistence.....

47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Push -- turn
49 your mic on.

50

1 MR. WOODRUFF: Tom, could you -- could
2 you read what the.....
3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald, just --
5 please, just a minute.
6
7 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah. Sorry.
8
9 MR. GURTLER: The word subsistence, I
10 don't know where that came from, who stuck it in there in
11 the first place. And now it's in every book, every
12 sentence and now they're putting it in our traditional
13 use and traditional way of life and I -- I'd like to --
14 don't even want it in there.
15
16 Thank you.
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Unfortunately,
19 and you know it as well as I do, it's probably too late.
20
21 (Laughter)
22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But, I mean,
24 it's worth you giving your opinion and where I live
25 people would say I know who put it in there, they're
26 called the learned people.
27
28 (Laughter)
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. But yeah,
31 okay. I'm sure you can't really respond to that, can
32 you?
33
34 MR. TAUBE: Madam Chair. Mr. Gurtler.
35 I guess I don't know where I would start with that. But
36 sub -- I guess you're probably well aware there's, you
37 know, three fisheries or four fisheries that the State
38 recognizes, commercial, subsistence, personal use and
39 sport. And there's actually a fifth with education
40 fisheries that we also issue permits for. But the
41 definition of subsistence, I don't have the actual legal,
42 regulatory definition in front of me, I could probably --
43 give me a minute or two I could probably find it in the
44 regulation book, but that was set up to define fisheries
45 that aren't commercial, that you do not sell fish from,
46 and it supports basically as its one definition does, it
47 supports people's lives. And personal use is more for an
48 expansion when the -- when the State had to comply with
49 ANILCA and the rural preference was instituted, they
50 created personal use fisheries to provide for those

1 people that lived in the urban areas so that they could
2 have means of harvesting more fish than they could under
3 sport regulation.

4
5 So I guess that's just a brief definition
6 of the various fisheries that we recognize and so it's
7 just kind of class -- well, a fishery in the State.

8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I know you're
10 struggling with it Frank. So it's tough, I.....

11
12 MR. GURTLER: I could understand
13 traditional use really easy.....

14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

16
17 MR. GURTLER:but subsistence, I
18 still have a problem with that word.....

19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

21
22 MR. GURTLER:and I probably always
23 will.

24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, and you
26 should always be able to say that. So and if we see a
27 way that we can change it maybe we would do it, but I'll
28 scratch my head pretty thick here because I don't see a
29 way to change it now unless somebody can.....

30
31 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes,

32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Grafton.

34
35 MR. BIEDERMAN: The fort at -- I always
36 like to say that since I know that we're all from off the
37 Yukon, during this here we are all still on traditional
38 and we're all from the Alaska and I've been here for
39 what, 48 years and I'm still living off the Yukon and
40 customary trade and stuff like that. I'm saying that I
41 wish our other Board member was with us, he probably say
42 something too, Andrew Firmin, especially since we're both
43 from Fort Yukon and from -- originally from Eagle and I'm
44 living in Venetie since '83 until present now. I -- the
45 only thing I was trying to express is that I know since
46 the regulations with the Fish and Game, long before your
47 time, and it hasn't --there's never been an issue, but I
48 know it comes up for past present years it always comes
49 up when they say customary trade. And they always like
50 to improve it, since -- the only thing that they always

1 come up with the customary trade is they always put
2 policies, improvements, they always like to put
3 regulations, they always like put that into the motion
4 for the -- for the input for the Alaska Fish and Game.

5
6 And please excuse me, what part do you
7 represent?

8
9 MR. TAUBE: Madam Chair. Mr. Biederman.

10
11 I represent Sportfish Division, but our
12 division actually manages the fishery that this -- these
13 proposals are directed at down by Chitina, the Chitina
14 salmon personal use fishery.

15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: If I can help.

17
18 MR. WOODRUFF: He's with Fish and Game.

19
20 MR. TAUBE: With Fish and Game, yeah.

21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Grafton,
23 we're -- we aren't on trade just yet, I know it gets
24 confusing sometimes. We're just -- he's giving a report
25 on what's happening on the Board of Fish side regarding
26 a court case which really will affect the rest of the
27 State if I'm understanding this correctly, including the
28 Yukon River on the State side, not the Federal side. Do
29 you -- and the customary trade is not on the State side,
30 it's on the Federal side.

31
32 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, Madam Chair, I was
33 -- that's the -- an issue was just discussing on the
34 break I -- excuse me, before you were here. I was with
35 the 24 -- 24 of the members with Ft. Yukon, with Venetie,
36 with Arctic Village. I've been with the -- up there in
37 the room and having a -- my wife is up there, she's
38 having like a teleconference with all them. So that
39 they're -- they know all the -- everything that's coming
40 through here. So it's -- so it's -- I just need to just
41 let you know that there's more -- there's more to the
42 discussion that you see me -- I'm wearing quite a few
43 hats. So.....

44
45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. And he's
46 just wearing the State hat now, Grafton.

47
48 So, Donald, you had something or.....

49
50 MR. WOODRUFF: Yes, I do.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
2
3 MR. WOODRUFF: Tom, I wanted to ask you
4 that here on your definition of subsistence way of life,
5 it says here it's to provide substantial economic,
6 cultural, social, nutritional elements. So doesn't where
7 it says economic, doesn't that somewhat come into the
8 customary traditional trade or is that my bias?
9
10 Thank you.
11
12 MR. TAUBE: Madam Chair. Mr. Woodruff.
13 That's the language that's currently in regulation when
14 they refer to that. I guess economic could be, and this
15 is my interpretation of it. Economic could be, you know,
16 under State regulations you're allowed to barter with --
17 under subsistence. So that would be partly an economic
18 component of that. And I think that's how that's in
19 there.
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Vigil,
22 did you have anything else, I mean, you wanted this to
23 come up and you probably had a reason why you wanted this
24 to come up and maybe you want to just shortly tell us
25 why.
26
27 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. The reason I had
28 Tom come up because this is an important issue that
29 affects a lot of the people that live in the Eastern
30 Interior RAC area to -- not just the people in Fairbanks,
31 but people in Delta and Tok and Nenana and a lot of those
32 people go to Chitina. And so this affects those people.
33 And being I was the Board member that kind of really
34 pushed as hard as I could to get that positive C&T in '99
35 and the judge reverted the fishery back to subsistence,
36 you know, reversed the Board's decision that they made in
37 2003 where they changed it from subsistence back to
38 personal use.
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well.....
41
42 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'm real concerned about
43 this definition. And I just wanted our Council to be
44 aware of what was going on so that -- because it does
45 affect a considerable number of the people that live in
46 our region.
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well.....
49
50 MR. UMPHENOUR: And that's why I asked

1 Tom to come over and give us this report.

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And I
4 guess one of the things that concerned me just slightly
5 is I thought the Board of Fish and Game had to make those
6 type of decisions and I don't know where that -- that was
7 just because of the court that it was given to the Fish
8 Board?

9

10 MR. TAUBE: Madam Chair. This was
11 developed by our Department of Law and their
12 interpretation of the Board -- the judge's ruling.....

13

14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The court's.

15

16 MR. TAUBE:was that the proposal
17 was actually specific to the Board of Fisheries. So the
18 Board of Fisheries will -- whatever comes up with this
19 proposal, the final language, instead of using what's in
20 place now for the Joint Boards for criteria eight we'll
21 use this for criteria eight. I think the hope is at some
22 point they will be able to have a Joint Board meeting and
23 either modify this so the Board of Game would adopt the
24 same language so then they would have a central -- again
25 the eight criteria in location. But this was just
26 specific to the Board of Fisheries.

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I found that
29 interesting. Yeah, okay. Any other questions of Tom
30 regarding this -- these -- his report.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now we're
35 going to move rapidly along.

36

37 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, Madam Chairman.

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, Grafton.

40

41 MR. BIEDERMAN I just had a little
42 preclosing comment. With the -- all the other Board
43 members here, since we're all from the Yukon, is that --
44 has the Fish and Game -- I know that Paul Williams and
45 Larry and all them, I've been talking with them this
46 morning too, especially Paul from Beaver. Is there a --
47 has East and West, did they have a policy with the --
48 that's already been approved with for this -- for what
49 were discussions of. Do we have -- do we have an
50 amendment that goes with this or a policy?

1 MR. TAUBE: Madam Chair. Mr. Biederman.
2 There's opportunity for the public and the RACs to
3 comment on these proposals. That's basically what
4 they're out to the public for. And there's a -- the
5 timely public comment is I believe for this one March
6 5th. So if the RAC chose to comment on this they could
7 submit on both proposals or just one, whichever they so
8 choose. And after that March 5th then it -- it still
9 could be submitted up to the time the Board deliberates,
10 it just wouldn't be in their pre-meeting package of
11 material they get to review.

12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And to help the
14 Council out, you know, as your Chair it's hard to
15 determine what our priorities are and as he said we can
16 comment, there's two proposals before the Fish Board and
17 that's coming up in March and we can -- or whenever that
18 meeting is, but the comment period is the 15th of March.
19 And you have to think about this, on our agenda we have
20 all these other things so if you want to take this up you
21 need to let me know now. I guess I'm a little concerned
22 about our agenda, there was talk about trying to get
23 through things today and I don't see it happening if we
24 begin to -- I mean, and I think -- remember I asked you
25 all to look at the State Board of Game that's meeting
26 tomorrow, that -- how many of them do you want to take
27 up. So it's important to -- and these are -- these are
28 key issues, I know they affect us. So I want your input,
29 do you want to take up these two proposals, I guess --
30 and I'd have to put it at the end of the agenda right now
31 unless it's something that Staff is telling me it's out
32 of our purview right now.

33
34 Grafton.

35
36 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, the -- Madam
37 Chairman, I know it's my first year, but there's -- there
38 are quite a few issues other than the one that we're
39 pointing to Fish and Game Board. And I know that I -- I
40 know I'm representing the.....

41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

43
44 MR. BIEDERMAN:Venetie and Arctic
45 Village and there are quite a few proposals and other
46 things that I'd like to discuss with the Alaska Fish and
47 Game, with the Federal.....

48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: With the State.
50

1 MR. BIEDERMAN:with the State
2 waterways. And so there's.....
3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We just.....
5
6 MR. BIEDERMAN:I know that the rest
7 of the -- I know we can go on and on day and day for
8 every other issue that -- discussion that we have now.
9 But yes, it -- there.....
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
12
13 MR. BIEDERMAN:when -- the reason
14 I'll come out and say is that I will start speaking up
15 with discussions and proposals that Fish and Game would
16 like to express to tell us what else is going on.
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that's why
19 Virgil asked him to come forth. So we're getting a
20 report on what's going on in the State. And I think we
21 all do agree on that, that we like to hear what's going
22 on around the State because it does affect our lives no
23 matter which -- yeah. And now I think I'm getting an
24 answer to what I had brought up. No. Oh, okay.
25
26 Chuck, go ahead.
27
28 MR. ARDIZZONE: I just wanted to state
29 that -- I know you guys feel rushed. We have rooms for
30 tomorrow, you don't have to be done today. I don't want
31 you to rush through things, push things to the side. I
32 mean I know everybody wants to get home, but we do have
33 rooms for tomorrow for meetings so don't feel rushed to
34 get things done today.
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well,
37 we're scheduled to be here tomorrow, but I will say that
38 Lester has a -- he would have an excused absence tomorrow
39 because he has a very important thing to attend and that
40 is his son is racing his dogs at the Anchorage Fur
41 Rendezvous and I feel that's vitally important to him to
42 support his son. So and he would be excused if we go
43 into tomorrow. He's requested that. So just wanted
44 people to be aware of that.
45
46 And go ahead, George.
47
48 MR. PAPPAS: Madam Chair. George Pappas.
49 I just spoke to the Western RAC Chair about this issue,
50 if they wanted a presentation or discussion and they

1 cannot fit it into their agenda. So they're not going to
2 address this issue today.

3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Okay. So
5 let's -- just one second.

6
7 (Pause)

8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to ask
10 Robert to give this little report.

11
12 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. I just wanted
13 the record to reflect that I just printed the 2009 Yukon
14 River Season Summary that was from the Alaska Department
15 of Fish and Game's website. And it also has historical
16 catch information that he was looking for. So I'll
17 distribute that to him now.

18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Great.
20 All right. So any other questions.

21
22 Virgil.

23
24 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Not a question,
25 but I have some -- I would like to bring this back up
26 later so that we can comment to the Board of Fisheries
27 and I've already got prepared comments for that in
28 writing.

29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. So
31 what you're suggesting is that this -- we take this up
32 later.

33
34 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. We'll take this
35 up later and I really appreciate your coming over here,
36 Tom, to give us a briefing on those two proposals and the
37 court case.

38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And the rest of
40 the Council okay with that?

41
42 (Council nods affirmatively)

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Great.
45 All right. Thank you.

46
47 All right. Now let's -- the call for
48 fisheries proposals for Federal side. And there was --
49 I'm just going to reiterate what Andy had requested. And
50 so we have to vote on what proposal we would put forward.

1 And he -- and this has to do with the customary trade and
2 he wanted to see -- require -- that one of the issues was
3 require a permit and I'm hearing Frank doesn't agree with
4 that. So we need to look at is that something we would
5 put forth as a Council or not. And he wanted to put them
6 in -- different ideas in separately so they'd have to
7 analyze them all. So I'm just giving a report of what
8 Andy had suggested.

9

10 So now, Virgil, I see you have your hand
11 up or had.

12

13 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. Well, we have
14 differences of opinion on our Council as to what we
15 should -- how we should address this issue. One way to
16 address it would be the way that the Fairbanks Advisory
17 Committee attempted to address it before the Board of
18 Fisheries this last year or that -- you know, the meeting
19 that was held last year, which was to require a -- not
20 require a separate permit, but was to use the current
21 catch calendar that is sent out to all the villages as a
22 recording instrument to simply record what the harvest
23 was and to require people to record that, their harvest
24 and what they did with the fish, if they shared the fish
25 with other people in the village to just write down on
26 there I gave my next door neighbor half of my catch which
27 was 100 fish or whatever it was. That was all that would
28 do. And what that would provide though would be to
29 provide more accurate accounting of the number of
30 subsistence fish that were actually harvested. That's
31 all it would do. Plus it would -- if people didn't do
32 that then, of course, they would be in violation of that
33 regulation. There are some people that do abuse the
34 subsistence system which was spoken to earlier. And
35 whether those people would record what they actually
36 harvest or not is anyone's guess. However what it would
37 do is give Enforcement the vehicle if the person say had
38 a thousand -- you know, hundreds of king salmon and they
39 only recorded 10 or 15, I mean, that would be obvious if
40 they were checked. But that's the only -- that's one
41 approach.

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that required
44 now, this catch.....

45

46 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, the catch calendar is
47 a voluntary thing. And what happens is Commercial Fish
48 Division goes around after the season's over, they hire
49 people in the village or do it theirself, to go around
50 and collect the catch calendar. That's basically all

1 they do, but they do send these out to all the villages,
2 to the village store and the post office or the
3 individuals, they do send these things our currently,
4 they're all made up.....

5

6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

7

8 MR. UMPHENOUR:and they already do
9 this. So that would be just using the -- something that
10 they already do and just have people write down on the
11 catch -- make it -- put a requirement that they have to
12 do it rather than it being voluntary. That's all that
13 was -- would do.

14

15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But the sad
16 thing is.....

17

18 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah, but other.....

19

20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:if you're
21 a crook you're not going to tell the truth on your catch
22 calendar.

23

24 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. If you're a crook
25 you're not going to tell the truth on your catch
26 calendar, however if Enforcement catches you not telling
27 the truth then it would be a violation. That is the only
28 thing that would do. But it would I think -- it would
29 result in better -- a better count of how many fish are
30 actually used for subsistence. I think it would be more
31 accurate if people -- because it would cause people to
32 record it daily and keep it at their house or their fish
33 camp, wherever they were at. But.....

34

35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Lester.

36

37 MR. UMPHENOUR:that's the only
38 other thing that I could think of because what the lower
39 Yukon has put out.....

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can I let Lester
42 speak.

43

44 MR. UMPHENOUR:you know, the
45 commercial fishery I think is -- I don't agree with that.

46

47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Lester.

48

49 MR. ERHART: Well, the way I look at it,
50 say a guy catch five fish, he drops three off at his

1 girlfriend's house, he don't want to tell his wife so
2 you're not going to get a record -- a good count anyway.
3
4
5 (Laughter)
6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What do you know
8 that we don't know.
9
10 (Laughter)
11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you're
13 just.....
14
15 MR. ERHART: It happens all along the
16 river.
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Put your mic on.
19 What.
20
21 MR. ERHART: It happens all along these
22 villages.
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Maybe not
25 particularly that example, but it's forgotten about.
26 Okay. Well.....
27
28 Frank.
29
30 MR. GURTLER: Well, what's wrong with the
31 way it is right now, is it hurting anything, I mean, is
32 there a lot of people abusing it. Don't we have a lot
33 against abuse of fish, of selling subsistence fish
34 already, do we have all that.....
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's true.
37
38 MR. GURTLER:on the books. So why
39 are we making another.
40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So do you hear,
42 Virgil, I -- I can hear, I understand what they're
43 saying. And I understand -- you know, I think when --
44 there's a lot of data missing and I don't know. I guess
45 what we'd have to do, you guys, is decide if we really
46 want to put -- this is a suggestion from Virgil for
47 trying to catch the bad guy. And there was that other
48 permit requirement. I don't hear a lot -- I mean, it
49 sounds like the wheels of government work so bloody slow
50 that when you see a problem it never gets fixed until

1 it's sometimes pretty doggone late. So we just have to
2 determine what proposals we might submit and if you don't
3 agree with this one that's what I want to hear about.
4 Did I -- first of all did -- what was the -- well, let's
5 just stick to this one.

6
7 MR. GLANZ: Right. Okay. Well, we -- on
8 the proposal last year in Fort -- was it Ft. Yukon, no,
9 it was a year -- I can't remember, where we submitted to
10 the Board of Fish about a catch calendar, a catch sheet.
11 And they threw it out so I think that's a dead horse, I
12 think we get off of that and get onto this. I kind of
13 feel like Frank does, let's just it down -- is it against
14 the law, that's already against the law to sell
15 subsistence caught fish. I mean I don't know what else
16 we can do, I mean, you can't execute them for it. So if
17 they get caught they get caught looks like.

18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, can I
20 respond to that first, Virgil. Remember the discussion
21 with the Joint and Andy was so passionate about his
22 beliefs and he talked about education and enforcement.
23 So and were you referring to what Donald said just a
24 second ago when you were looking at that paper.

25
26 MR. GLANZ: I don't know what you mean,
27 Madam Chair. What I.....

28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, I saw you go
30 like this and I thought you.....

31
32 MR. GLANZ: No, I was just talking, yes,
33 about this one that -- the one.....

34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Gene Sandone put
36 out.

37
38 MR. GLANZ: Yes. Yeah.

39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And what were
41 you referring to when you said that.

42
43 MR. GLANZ: I thought we was one the
44 selling of the fish or whatever.....

45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. We are.
47 So.....

48
49 MR. GLANZ: Right. Yeah.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So what you --
2 what were you referring to so I know.
3
4 MR. GLANZ: Okay. On the front page of
5 it number -- you got number 3 and B, and I was referring
6 to C and D.....
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. C
9 and D as in dog or C and B as.....
10
11 MR. GLANZ: Charlie Delta.
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
14 right. And so would you read those two again, please.
15 C.
16
17 MR. GLANZ: A person who receives
18 subsistence taken fin fish in exchange for cash in a
19 customary trade may not resell the fish. D, a person may
20 not sell subsistence taken fish to a processor a fishery
21 business.
22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you think
24 that's the problem.
25
26 MR. GLANZ: Oh, if all these thousands of
27 fish they're talking about buying new Ford pickups
28 downriver, that's -- that would address it, you know.
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I'm not
31 aware what's going on so you're.....
32
33 MR. GLANZ: I'm not either, I'm just
34 going by the rumors and the -- you know, the allegations.
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, we
37 shouldn't go by rumors, we should go by fact. And that's
38 why we talked about earlier that just get some data,
39 let's have some hard data that proves what's going on.
40
41 Frank and then Virgil.
42
43 MR. GURTLER: Okay. Well, I think they
44 were talking about somebody from downriver that did buy
45 a pickup probably. I don't know anything about it, but
46 I don't know how many subsistence fishermen were involved
47 in that, whether there was all her relations or their
48 relations, and they just pooled all their catch and sold
49 it and didn't keep any money for themselves and bought
50 that pickup. If that was true because I know a lot of

1 people do that with buying it for their mom.

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: People work
4 together.

5

6 MR. GURTLE: Work together to do that.
7 And that's why I'm thinking it's -- this is hearsay about
8 oh, she bought a new pickup. Probably true. Might not
9 be either because I don't go on hearsay. But I'm trying
10 to explain that they all stick together, a lot of the
11 people to buy a vehicle. She probably needed a new
12 pickup, whether it was new or not I don't know, might
13 have been a used one. And so if they all pool their --
14 from helping her get these salmon strips and cutting them
15 and see there's a whole bunch of family and you can't buy
16 -- cut enough strips to buy a new pickup, there's no way
17 one person could do that.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Virgil
22 and then I want to ask you guys a question.

23

24 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Thank you, Madam
25 Chair. Our RAC addressed this issue six or seven years
26 ago. We had the assistance of Fish and Wildlife Service
27 Enforcement, we submitted what we thought was a good
28 proposal to the Federal Board, the Federal Board amended
29 our proposal and we're right back to where we started
30 from. We think we -- we thought we had addressed this
31 properly. The Federal Board changed what we did. We
32 spent a lot of time doing that. The proposal spoke to a
33 while ago, we supported before the Board of Fish, the
34 Board of Fish rejected it.

35

36 When I look at what Bill just brought up,
37 that first thing in their C is currently in the
38 regulation I think, I know we -- that was one of our
39 recommendations that I think they kept.

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think you're
42 right.

43

44 MR. UMPHENOUR: And -- I'm sure it is.
45 And D I know for a fact is in the regulation already.
46 And the problem is enforcement. And until Enforcement
47 get the moral courage to enforce the law, making new law
48 is a waste of time. Madam Chair.

49

50 MR. BIEDERMAN: Excuse me.

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Grafton.
2
3 MR. BIEDERMAN: Mr.....
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.
6
7 MR. BIEDERMAN: Virgil. That's the idea
8 and discussion that I was -- I was bringing up earlier
9 with the Fish and Game and working with their members and
10 that the -- that the thing that is in all our minds that
11 -- when they first came up with that and with Fish and
12 Game with their traditional uses or all the fish and with
13 our fathers and our forefathers and our grandmas that's
14 the -- that's the policy that they -- they've been
15 putting -- putting with.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you talking
18 to what Frank had said or what Virgil had said, are you
19 talking.....
20
21 MR. BIEDERMAN: Virgil.
22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Regarding
24 enforcement.
25
26 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes.
27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Enforcement.
29
30 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes.
31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Yeah.
33
34 MR. BIEDERMAN: Because since Fish and
35 Game Board has been there that's -- they -- all the
36 villages and -- I mean, all the Interior or the Yukon or
37 fish -- fishery users they -- when they first empowered
38 the act of putting regulations and proposals, that's what
39 my father and my mother, they put with the Fish and Game
40 and those kind of regulations.
41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. Yeah,
43 so everything -- Staff are we -- we're correct in saying
44 that it -- that's already in regulation, subsistence
45 taken fin fish in exchange for cash and customary trade
46 may not resell the fish.
47
48 Larry.
49
50 MR. BUKLIS: Madam Chair. Larry Buklis,

1 Office of Subsistence Management. In the fish regulatory
2 booklet on Page 20, there's a discussion of customary
3 trade regulations.

4

5 And it's -- it is very clear that the
6 point made on D as in David, a person may not sell
7 subsistence taken fish to a fish or fishery business.
8 That clearly is already prohibited on Page 20 in the
9 regulations.

10

11 I won't read it all, but it does describe
12 how you may not sell fish, their parts or their eggs, to
13 any individual, business or organization required to be
14 licensed as a fisheries business under and it references
15 the statute. So that's clear, you're correct. The part
16 you referenced under C as in Charlie, a person who
17 receives subsistence taken fin fish or fish in exchange
18 for cash in a customary trade may not resell the fish.
19 Well, actually on Page 20 it talks about transactions
20 between rural residents and transactions from rural
21 residents to other people. And in the discussion about
22 rural resident transactions, it doesn't say they can't
23 resell. In the paragraph in the regulations that talks
24 about transactions between rural residents and other
25 people, it talks about if the individual who purchases
26 the fish, their parts or their eggs, uses them for
27 personal or family consumption, if you are not a rural
28 resident you may not sell fish, their parts or their eggs
29 taken under these regulations. So if you're not a rural
30 person you must use it for personal or family
31 consumption, you can't sell under these regs.

32

33 But where it talks about transactions
34 among rural people, it doesn't get into that. So it
35 leaves it unaddressed so by inference you may, that's how
36 I interpret it.

37

38 And, Madam Chair, I had a few general
39 points about the call for proposals that might help you,
40 if I may.

41

42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You bet.

43

44 MR. BUKLIS: Thank you.

45

46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All the help we
47 can get.

48

49 MR. BUKLIS: Just a reminder, the
50 submission window for fishery regulatory proposals is

1 open. It closes March 24th, 2010. Proposals may be hand
2 delivered or mailed to OSM and there's a -- there was a
3 news release and an outline of the kinds of information
4 we need and that's meant to help the Council and the
5 public. And for the Council you could work through your
6 Council coordinator to submit them. And again there's
7 information on the kinds of information that would need
8 to be contained in a proposal. We are Staff to the
9 Councils and we can assist you if you have a proposal in
10 principle and then we can work with the Council
11 coordinator and Staff, we can develop that to run by you
12 before the closure deadline and make sure it is what you
13 meant and then we can get it submitted on time for you.

14
15

16 Couple of other points. Keep in mind
17 that any proposals you develop for the Federal
18 Subsistence Board are only applicable in Federal
19 jurisdiction and so activities off of Federal lands
20 wouldn't be under these proposals you're making. And
21 also remember that proposals can be submitted by the
22 Council, but also by individuals. So if individuals
23 raise ideas here and there isn't a consensus of the
24 Council to get behind it, they can submit them as an
25 individual. Other agencies and organizations can also
26 submit proposals by March 24th, it doesn't have to be
27 just the Councils.

28

29 And in terms of the issues around
30 customary trade, we are a technical resource for you, we
31 can help you develop your proposals once you have one in
32 mind if you do, but our involvement shouldn't be a sign
33 of support or opposition because we will later -- some of
34 the very people that might be helping you, would be
35 analyzing it and their analysis might not go in the
36 direction you had anticipated. They're a resource to you
37 to prepare a proposal, but then they may be an analyst
38 and the two aren't meant to be confused.

39

40 And then in terms of customary trade
41 there were a few areas where specific regulations were
42 made, that was mentioned the other day. One is Bristol
43 Bay and one is the Copper River. And in those places
44 they have introduced limits in terms of dollars and some
45 reporting requirements. But those are the two examples
46 we have of regulations that have been adopted by the
47 Board.

48

49 Thank you, Madam Chair.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's very
2 helpful. Thank you, Larry.

3
4 So I guess to move our meeting along, I
5 think we -- I'd have to have someone give me a motion, I
6 guess, for some -- some proposal. Maybe we should think
7 about it over lunch, I don't know, that you would put
8 forth that maybe we could all agree on. And if we can't
9 agree on a proposal like you said then it's going to have
10 to go in as an individual or an -- your AC or your Tribal
11 Councils or whatever you think. So do I -- how do you
12 guys feel.

13
14 Discussion. Grafton, did you have
15 something. I.....

16
17 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, Madam Chairman. As
18 he was saying, is that there are other discussions and
19 affiliations with the -- with -- well, I shouldn't even
20 say about villages, but villages yes, there's a few
21 villages that need to put in a proposal or for the
22 matters that you're speaking of. So that I know that
23 there is other people that are on the Fish and Game Board
24 that are going to go to the meeting tomorrow, but I know
25 that they probably maybe not hear their discussions now,
26 with their proposals, but I'd like to just make a little
27 brief summary that yes, there are villages on the Yukon
28 that like to make discussions and.....

29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And proposals.

31
32 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes.

33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So I
35 guess I want to hear from the Council now.

36
37 Did you have something you wanted to add,
38 Larry.

39
40 MR. BUKLIS: Thank you, Madam Chair. All
41 I would say in response to that, Mr. Biederman, is that
42 you or anyone else who has some proposals in mind in
43 concept, but may not be familiar with the system, you're
44 welcome to call us and our regulation booklets have toll
45 free numbers. You can call us and if it's fish or
46 wildlife, and right now it's the fishery cycle we're
47 talking about, when you call they can -- they can connect
48 you with someone in the fisheries program and we can help
49 you work through the information that's required. Again
50 not taking sides, but we can help you get the proposal

1 submitted. And that's what we're here for.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you.....
4
5 MR. BUKLIS: Not just here at the
6 meeting, but back at the office over the next month.
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. So you
9 can help any individual.....
10
11 MR. BUKLIS: Any individual.....
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:Council
14 member.....
15
16 MR. BUKLIS:Council members or the
17 Council or village groups. We are Staff that are charged
18 to help the public submit proposals.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
21
22 MR. BUKLIS: And we know the system and
23 we can help you.
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So.....
26
27 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, Madam Chairman, I'll
28 just -- I'll just answer him back with the -- who am I
29 speaking with. Oh, Larry Buklis, is that the people that
30 I'm in discussion over with the ones that need to make
31 it, the proposals, are from a regulatory committee with
32 the like Federal, like the -- there's a -- there's a
33 counselor for -- there's a council for the committee and
34 there's another council for Federal. So there's two
35 different types -- two different entities that
36 representing that I -- that I call back and I tell them
37 that they're going to be doing the proposals. So.....
38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So, Grafton,
40 just to help you out a little bit, I don't mean to
41 interrupt, but if you can work -- if you have proposals
42 that you would like to submit from your region and your
43 people that you're talking about, can you give him a
44 number and then.....
45
46 MR. BUKLIS: Yes, Grafton, I'll give you
47 my contact information and the toll free number during
48 the next break. I'll give you the contact
49 information.....
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And they will
2 help you.
3
4 MR. BUKLIS:so you can contact me
5 and the Staff I work with and we can help you and other
6 groups submit proposals by the deadline if you contact us
7 in time. It has to be before March 24th.
8
9 MR. BIEDERMAN: Yes, there is Grafton.
10 Yes, we'll do that and they'll probably even contact you
11 today or they'll probably even email or either do it by
12 fax.
13
14 MR. BUKLIS: Very good.
15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
17
18 MR. BIEDERMAN So that's since the last
19 few days that's the reason why I've been waiting for your
20 Agency to start speaking up about these kind of issues.
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Great. Okay.
23 Virgil.
24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. As far as the
26 customary trade goes, in order to write a proposal it's
27 going to require an awful lot of thought and an awful lot
28 of research and a lot of work and I think Andy was
29 prepared to do that. And if he writes a proposal then
30 our Council naturally just like we just did all these
31 game proposals, we'll review all the proposals and have
32 a discussion on it at that time. So I think that's what
33 we should do as far as customary trade goes. I do have
34 one proposal that I would like to put forward. And.....
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: From the
37 council?
38
39 MR. UMPHENOUR: From the Council And so
40 I.....
41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
43
44 MR. UMPHENOUR:if it's okay with
45 you I'd do that at this time.
46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.
48
49 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I would like.....
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then we'll
2 discuss it.

3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I would like to
5 put the same proposal that we took no action on forward
6 which is to require all drift gillnets larger than six --
7 six inch or larger mesh to be no deeper than 35 meshes
8 deep. And I need a second and then I'll tell the reason
9 why.

10
11 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.

12
13 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. The reason why is
14 because I've been informed by Staff that this report or
15 this study that was done several years ago on king salmon
16 and a guy named Eiler from -- I think he's from National
17 Marine Fishery Service. Anyway he's the guy that did the
18 study where they put all these radios in the king salmon
19 and they could tell -- they had a little micro chip in
20 them, they could tell what the water temperature was and
21 how deep the fish was swimming. Anyway he is not totally
22 finished with that report. I've been told by Staff that
23 this summer possibly the report is going to be available.
24 And he did this by -- kept track of the size of the king
25 salmon that the radios were in and so they'll be able to
26 tell how deep these fish were swimming. And so that'll
27 be new scientific evidence or a new scientific report
28 that will -- because currently there's no real scientific
29 reports on how deep the different size king salmon swim
30 and so this report is supposed to be out and maybe there
31 might be some more information available as well because
32 between now and the time that the Federal Board would
33 address this I -- this scientific report is supposed to
34 be available and there may be some other scientific
35 reports available as well. But that's why I want to put
36 the -- put this proposal back forward again.

37
38 Madam Chair.

39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to
41 take a roll call on this one. So I want to hear some
42 more discussion.

43
44 Donald.

45
46 MR. WOODRUFF: I'm aware of this radio
47 tagging process, he did it on chum up the Sheenjek River
48 when I was working sonar for them. And those towers,
49 some of the towers that he put up are still up. The ones
50 above Fortymile on -- in the Canadian side are still up

1 there, some -- there is one that kind of got blown over,
2 but I know that if -- they're going to do more science
3 information on those, there's -- a lot of the towers are
4 still standing and just a matter of putting some more
5 tags on fish. And I know that John Eiler didn't finish
6 all his science reports and I don't know if we have to,
7 you know, twist his leg a little bit or whatever to get
8 the last final draft of his reports in.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Larry.

13

14 MR. BUKLIS: Madam Chair, thank you.

15 I'll begin as Rich Cannon's supplement, my response.

16

17 It's not our place to debate your issues
18 as you're developing proposals, but if a technical
19 matter's raised I want you to have the complete
20 information we have on the subject. And so I know the
21 Councils in joint session didn't take up Proposal 09-13,
22 and so we didn't get into the details, but it is in your
23 written report and there is one graphic that shows the
24 tracking of a chinook, as an example, fish upriver and
25 it's not the entire body of the John Eiler work. And
26 it's correct that his work has not been published and
27 more, you know, will be forthcoming with the publication.
28 But to the extent we could consult from him what is
29 available, that example fish tracked did not show a
30 pattern of depth, it showed more of a response to the
31 depth of the river in the location that they were in.
32 And Rich Cannon has more information on that.

33

34 MR. CANNON: Madam Chair. Through the
35 Chair to Virgil Umphenour. The work that John Eiler had
36 done on the Yukon with the tagging basically as Larry
37 said is still being developed. And when I talked to John
38 Eiler about what we put into our analysis, I was given
39 permission from him as the principal investigator to
40 provide information that he could confirm at this point.
41 He's still doing analysis of the data. And one thing
42 that I asked him to consider doing in his final report is
43 to see if he had a sufficient sample size to break the
44 information down by size of fish. He said he would look
45 into that, but he didn't commit to it. But as a
46 researcher I'm sure he'll -- he would attempt to do that
47 if possible. One of the difficulties they have with that
48 kind of archival tag that they used is that it reports
49 the data by time not by necessarily location. And the
50 only location information he has he gets because it sends

1 a radio signal out to -- that these towers can pick up.
2 But because of that limitation you can't compare the
3 travel path of each individual fish to say that a bigger
4 one was necessarily swimming in a different one than a
5 larger one and because they all go on their own, you can
6 just look at these fish as individuals. And so that's a
7 limitation with his study.

8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you're
10 bringing it up because you feel like it has some
11 importance to the.....

12
13 MR. CANNON: It is because the -- I'm not
14 sure exactly what he's going to be able to do with his
15 data, I can't prejudge that. And so it's a new study
16 that's coming.....

17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. Well,
19 this is just.....

20
21 MR. CANNON:to an end.

22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:Virgil's
24 wanting to resubmit the proposal so I need to hear from
25 the rest of the Council. What is your feeling about
26 resubmitting this proposal.

27
28 Frank.

29
30 MR. GURTLER: I was just wondering what
31 he said and what you were talking about, does it change
32 your view on it now?

33
34 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, that doesn't change
35 my view because we don't know what that science is going
36 to say until he finishes it. If the science lean -- if
37 the science basically comes to the conclusion that most
38 people and most fishermen think, that the larger fish
39 swim deeper, then that's good, it'll be good for our
40 proposal. If it doesn't the worst thing that can happen
41 is that there's no new science available and so we do the
42 same thing we did this time. But if the science is
43 available then we can get something done otherwise we
44 have to wait two more years to do anything. That's why
45 I want to put it forward now because this science is a
46 good chance it's going to come out this summer and if it
47 does and the science indicates what I'm hoping it would
48 indicate, then we would have a very valid reason for our
49 proposal to get passed. If it doesn't then we're in the
50 same situation that we're in now, is that we don't have

1 bona fide, peer reviewed science that everyone can agree
2 on. But if we do then we'll be.....

3

4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

5

6 MR. UMPHENOUR:in good shape.
7 Otherwise we have to wait.....

8

9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other.....

10

11 MR. UMPHENOUR:two more years.

12

13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:council
14 members, I'd like to hear from you.

15

16 MR. GLANZ: Well, I believe in principal
17 what he's trying to do there, but I think it would be a
18 -- it's going to be a horrible, hard sale, I mean, with
19 the seven and a half inch net and in two years we come
20 back and say well, guess what, we're going to get six
21 inch nets now, you know, or six inch or less or you have
22 to cut the 10 -- the last 10 mesh off your net or
23 something. I'll go with whatever the Council wants to
24 do, I mean, it's -- if we don't submit it now like Virgil
25 said we're talking four years down the road and if we
26 submit it and it gets throwed out again at the next fish
27 meeting, the one they have here in the State, well,
28 that's what happens, you know. So I'd say let's just
29 resubmit it as it was written prior, that's my opinion,
30 and be done with it.

31

32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you do want
33 to do it?

34

35 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I would. Let's just
36 send it in. I mean it's going to be a horrible hard
37 sale, and I doubt if it'll ever get approved, but we
38 might -- but if it's not in there then two years from now
39 we say well, it should have been. I have to go with the
40 -- with both -- all three of these guys who are talking,
41 it's not science yet, but it may be.

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's -- this is
44 hard for me because we spend so much time on all this
45 and, you know, I actually like to see us work together.
46 And one of the things I heard, Virgil, at the joint
47 meeting is that, you know, this isn't the fix all, it's
48 more of this -- the way you harvest the fish and the
49 pulses and how you harvest them through. That might have
50 even more impact if I'm hearing everything correctly.

1 So, man, I don't know, are you -- you want to throw more
2 fuel to a fire or getting along with the people on the
3 Yukon River. I mean I look at it as might just -- I
4 don't know. Help me out, guys, I -- I'll -- you want to
5 resubmit the proposal?

6
7 MR. GLANZ: And I also wanted to do the
8 pulse proposal also too, I mean, we -- we've already done
9 that at the joint meeting I thought and so, I mean,
10 that's.....

11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We just got to
13 vote on this resolution here. And, Staff, do we have to
14 put in a proposal for this pulse thing?

15
16 MR. BUKLIS: Madam Chair. The resolution
17 as I said earlier was a statement of intent by the three
18 Councils or two at this point. And it doesn't require
19 regulatory action so it's not a proposal for regulatory
20 action.

21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But if -- does
23 it -- if we wanted to make sure it gets done, do we --
24 should it be a proposal or do we just work on the intent
25 that it's going to get done?

26
27 MR. BUKLIS: There could be regulatory
28 language that required that the first pulse not be
29 harvested. I'm not saying that can't be done. All I'm
30 saying is the resolution that was developed jointly was
31 intended to be a resolution of intent, as guidance to the
32 managers in the field.....

33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

35
36 MR. BUKLIS:as to how to use the
37 tools they now have. If the Council or anyone wanted to
38 submit a proposal to the Federal system that stipulated
39 a regulation that the first pulse of chinook salmon,
40 however you word it, may not be harvested anywhere in the
41 river, that could be regulatory language. Yes, that --
42 that's eligible for consideration. But my understanding
43 was that's not what the resolution was trying to
44 accomplish, it's simply a statement of intent for
45 management.

46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.

48
49 MR. WOODRUFF: Not to get confused, but
50 we're back on Virgil's proposals, not the PPA. And so to

1 get back on track the -- what I seconded is -- and I
2 agree with Bill it's going to be a hard sale, but if we
3 don't put it out there. And I think that the Eastern RAC
4 traditionally sees issues of conservation and they are
5 stepping up to the plate and trying to protect the whole
6 river even if some people don't even care. So I think if
7 we keep hammering away on these issues of if the fish are
8 swimming deep and we can let some of the big ones get by
9 by restricting the net to 35 meshes we should do that.
10 Even if everybody else can't even swallow it, we're still
11 showing our, you know, strong concern for that.

12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Lester, can I
14 get your opinion.

15
16 MR. ERHART: I agree with him.

17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

19
20 MR. ERHART: I agree with him.

21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.

23
24 MR. ERHART: Yeah. I think we
25 should.....

26
27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Frank.

28
29 MR. ERHART:put it in and restrict
30 it to 35 meshes.

31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Want to put it
33 forward.

34
35 MR. GURTLER: That's the seven and three-
36 quarter net, inch net?

37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: To six, he's --
39 that's -- this is.....

40
41 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, not to six.

42
43 MR. GURTLER: No, no, no, no.

44
45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wait a minute,
46 what did I miss.

47
48 MR. UMPHENOUR: You missed the depth.
49 The only thing we want to do is.....

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, right.
2 Right. Right.
3
4 MR. UMPHENOUR:the net cannot be
5 any deeper than 35 meshes deep. That's the only change
6 we've put forward.
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Our Proposal 13,
9 yeah.
10
11 MR. UMPHENOUR: It's any net that's six
12 inches or larger mesh cannot be any deeper than 35 meshes
13 deep.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
16
17 MR. GURTLER: Is that a proposal already
18 now?
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, we took no
21 action.
22
23 MR. GURTLER: Okay.
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So if want to
26 put it forward we got to write -- send it in again.
27
28 MR. GURTLER: What I'd like to see is the
29 seven and a half.....
30
31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well,
32 that's.....
33
34 MR. GURTLER:35 mesh deep, not the
35 six inch.
36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And then
38 -- I'm sorry to confuse you, Frank. So we're just -- he
39 wants to resubmit that proposal on the -- you describe
40 it, you do a better job than I.
41
42 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. What I want to do
43 is resubmit our proposal which was Proposal No. 13 and
44 the main reason for it is because we -- there's a good
45 possibility there's going to be new scientific
46 information out that's not currently out when it gets
47 addressed.
48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: If we would have left the
2 proposal we had in there that new scientific information
3 would not have been available for the Board to use in
4 considering the proposal. That's the reason why.
5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Grafton stepped
7 out so he is not part of this. I think he's on his
8 teleconference with his people So I don't think we
9 really -- is there anymore discussion to put this
10 proposal forward?
11
12 (No comments)
13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All in
15 favor of putting this proposal forward.
16
17 IN UNISON: Aye.
18
19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Nay.
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That's
22 the proposal that will go forward.
23
24 All right. Do we need a break or do you
25 want to continue.
26
27 MR. UMPHENOUR: We can take a short
28 break. I.....
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's take a
31 short break.
32
33 MR. UMPHENOUR: I think Lester had
34 something.
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh. Did you
37 have something, Lester, before we break?
38
39 MR. ERHART: No.
40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.
42
43 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chair. I did have one
44 thing. I was just thinking I know Lester -- I wonder if
45 we can give Lester an excused absence if he has to get
46 out of here by tonight to go down there with his son.
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, I already
49 gave it to him.
50

1 MR. GLANZ: Okay. Fine, I didn't know if
2 we had to do it legal or.....

3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, uh-huh.

5
6 (Off record)

7
8 (On record)

9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So this is an
11 announcement for lunch. The people at the hotel said
12 they're willing to make up some sandwiches and they're
13 four bucks apiece and then you pay them for it. Okay.
14 There's 25 on order so I don't know how to.....

15
16 Council members should go first, right,
17 so we can sit and la, la, la, la. Okay. All right. If
18 you guys would give us that luxury that would be great
19 because I think we like to sit here and
20 chat over lunch.

21
22 So, Donald. Oh, yeah, do I have a quorum
23 here. Yeah. All right. Now not to drag this whole
24 proposal thing. does any other council members have any
25 proposals they'd like to put forward. All proposals are
26 proposals and we can vote them up or down at the next
27 meeting. So does anybody have anything they want to put
28 forward besides what Virgil brought forward?

29
30 Okay. So if you have anything you have
31 until March 25th as an individual and Staff will help you
32 write the proposal.

33
34 Now let's -- we're going to go into these
35 Agency reports and get through as much as we can and
36 we're going to break at noon and we're going to be back
37 at 1:00. So because that's when the biologist is going
38 to be here.

39
40 Office of Subsistence Management, I can't
41 even say it, Frank, very well at times. Do you have any
42 Staff reports.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: None. Okay.
47 Then the next thing on the list is Native organizations
48 or Tribal Agencies. And I don't see any here for Staff
49 reports or Agency reports.

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And now it's the
4 Department of Fish and Game. Does the Department of Fish
5 and Game have any reports.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then Fish
10 and Wildlife Service. I don't know why they just listed
11 Yukon Flats because there is the Tetlin Wildlife Refuge.
12 Did you have a report for us.

13

14 MR. RISDAHL: Well, I do.

15

16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You can
17 introduce yourself and all the good stuff. You do have
18 a report. Great.

19

20 MR. RISDAHL: Madam Chairman, Council
21 members. My name is Greg Risdahl, I'm the deputy manager
22 at Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge. And one of our
23 biologists did produce a very short report just before I
24 left for Fairbanks. It simply states that we've been
25 working with upper Tanana Fortymile Advisory Committee,
26 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Wrangell-St.
27 Elias National Park, Yukon -- their conservation
28 department and the various Native organizations there to
29 develop a management plan for the Chisana Caribou Herd.
30 And at this time you know as much about that really as
31 the rest of us. We're looking at potentially having a or
32 introducing the idea of having a small hunt there that
33 would be split between the Yukon and Alaska. There's not
34 a whole lot of information really to give you at this
35 time, that's still being worked out, but this hunt would
36 be suggested only if the population is increasing or
37 stable as well as some other biological criteria being
38 met.

39

40 The Refuge is also still radio monitoring
41 moose, they put 20 collars on moose several years ago and
42 we're down to about 12 of those. And I don't know what
43 our biology crew expects to be doing with that
44 information. We haven't followed through with some of
45 the things that they had done in the past with the
46 previous biologist, they were working with young people
47 at Northway, getting them out and teaching them how to do
48 radio telemetry and getting them a better understanding
49 of moose ecology and what it means when you harvest cows
50 versus when you don't, how that affects your populations.

1 So we hope to be implementing a few more of those things
2 in the near future.

3
4 We are going to be hiring another
5 biologist sometime this year hopefully and that person
6 I'm going to make sure is going to be working more on the
7 game management and subsistence aspects of Tetlin
8 Refuge's program and hopefully we'll be working with
9 young people again and maybe we'll be calling some more
10 moose, I don't know what all we'll be doing, but we will
11 definitely be working on the subsistence issues that have
12 been not addressed in -- very satisfactorily we'll say
13 over the last few years.

14
15 The last thing that Peter had put on this
16 is that the Mentasta Caribou Herd which we are part and
17 parcel too monitoring, hasn't really been looked at very
18 much lately. So we did send our biologist out with our
19 pilot last month and did surveys around the Refuge and
20 found that, in fact, we do have Mentasta Caribou on the
21 Refuge while we're having a winter hunt. And I was just
22 reviewing with Judy the fact the Mentasta Caribou Herd
23 and it states any agency that is having a winter hunt is
24 primarily responsible for monitoring the mixing ratio of
25 the Nelchina and Mentasta to try to avoid harvesting
26 Mentasta Caribou. And the way it's -- the way it stands
27 now there's approximately 450 caribou in that herd.

28
29 And the harvest management objectives are
30 to harvest 15 to 20 percent of the recruitment rate in
31 the -- over the past two years and it appears that
32 there's somewhere around 20 to 30 calves being recruited
33 into the population in the recent years which would mean
34 that you could take say three to five animals as long as
35 there's at least 80 calves being produced. Well, we're
36 not producing 80 calves from the data that we have so in
37 that respect it appears that we probably shouldn't even
38 be having a hunt if we're really, really concerned about
39 not taking Mentasta Caribou. This affects you guys
40 because you are going to be looking at some proposals
41 that discuss the option of increasing the harvest limit
42 to two caribou on Tetlin Refuge to match what's going on
43 down around Glennallen.

44
45 Now the truth of the matter is we don't
46 harvest many caribou on Tetlin Refuge and we're taking
47 somewhere between 15 and 30 caribou. Last year was the
48 largest harvest that we've ever had, I think we took 27
49 caribou. Now what percentage of any of those might be
50 Mentasta is really unknown and at this point I can't give

1 you an answer should we be harvesting them at all or, you
2 know, is the mixing ratio so low that the likelihood of
3 taking a Mentasta Caribou is almost non-existent which is
4 the assumption that people have been going by. I don't
5 have an answer for you there, that's something that we
6 will be looking into more. We've decided now that this
7 has come to our attention that we do need to do some
8 surveys. It may mean putting radio collars on more
9 Mentasta Caribou, finding out just how many are on there.
10 We saw -- in two days flights we saw 15 -- we found 15
11 collared animals, five of those were on the Refuge, two
12 were very close to being on the Refuge and the rest were
13 all north of the Refuge, some of them as far as 50 miles
14 north. So they're still moving through the Refuge to
15 their traditional wintering grounds which are north of
16 the refuge.

17
18 So that doesn't give you guys a whole lot
19 to go on, but it's something to think about as far as the
20 Mentasta Herd.

21
22 So I'd be -- welcome any questions if
23 you've got something on your minds, but thank you for
24 your time.

25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you, Greg,
27 for hanging in there for a few days. And I -- any
28 questions.

29
30 Virgil.

31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR: The trans boundary
33 caribou you've got now, those are classified as mountain
34 caribou, right?

35
36 MR. RISDAHL: Well, technically there's
37 a lot of debate about that, right, Torsten. Maybe I'll
38 let Torsten, he's explained this more times than I have.
39 Do you want to.....

40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to
42 introduce you to the assistant area biologist for the Tok
43 office for Fish and Game and that's State. So I want to
44 also report that we -- they're working together really
45 well and that's something that I like to see happen. So
46 go ahead, Torsten.

47
48 MR. BENTZEN: Virgil, was your question
49 in relation to the Chisana Caribou Herd?
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: (Nods affirmatively)

2

3 MR. BENTZEN: In Alaska we've classified
4 that herd as a barren land caribou herd, the same as all
5 the other herds in Alaska. In Yukon they have a
6 different classification system for the same caribou.
7 They classify all their herds as woodland caribou except
8 for the Fortymile and the Porcupine Caribou Herds, those
9 are classified as barren ground caribou, the same as the
10 ones in Alaska. Of the woodland caribou they also
11 separate those into mountain -- mountain woodland
12 caribou.

13

14 In Alaska we haven't differentiated them
15 to that level, we've done genetic analysis on a number of
16 caribou herds including the Chisana Caribou Herd. And
17 from the genetics we can say that they are a distinct
18 herd, they're not part of the Mentasta Herd, they're not
19 part of the Fortymile or the Nelchina Caribou Herds so we
20 know that they're a distinct caribou herd, but we don't
21 -- we don't really know if they're very different from
22 other herds in Alaska or different from those mountain
23 caribou herds which they're classifying it as in Yukon,
24 Canada. What we can say is that they're somewhere in
25 between in their morphology and their behavior. They
26 don't have a huge migration, they don't group up very
27 much during calving, they spread out to avoid predators.
28 And that's more a mountain or a woodland caribou
29 behavior.

30

31 So I guess I haven't really answered your
32 question, but that is something that -- that caribou
33 hasn't fit very -- caribou herd has fit very well into
34 any specific category, it's kind of in this continuum
35 between your barren ground caribou herds and your
36 woodland caribou herds.

37

38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Thank you. You
39 know in the fish genetics I've, you know, studied a lot
40 about fish and the salmon genetics and they can
41 differentiate like Tanana River both chum and king salmon
42 from the ones that go to Canada or say that go up the
43 Koyukuk. And so but they have a tremendous baseline of
44 genetic samples that they've taken. And so have they
45 done this with caribou as well, you know, like in -- I
46 mean, when I saw with the salmon, hell, they have them
47 from, you know, from Siberia all the around the whole
48 Pacific Rim down to California in their baseline.

49

50 And so my question is have they done

1 something similar with the caribou and are there really
2 differences because Canada claims they have four
3 different kinds of -- four or five different kinds of
4 caribou, I'm wondering whether they do or not,
5 genetically that is.

6
7 MR. BENTZEN: Genetically all the herds
8 in Alaska and Canada are distinct from each other, but
9 trying to group them into these specific categories,
10 whether they're woodland mountain caribou, barren ground
11 caribou, that's much more difficult. So yes, there has
12 been genetic studies on all the caribou herds in Alaska
13 that differentiates the herds. There are groups of
14 single caribou herds that are in different places like
15 the Mentasta and the Chisana Caribou Herd are distinct
16 caribou herds, however definitely calling the Mentasta
17 Herd barren ground caribou herd and the Chisana a
18 woodland caribou herd has been based somewhat on
19 politics. The Canadians call them a woodland caribou,
20 their -- half of their range is in Canada. So for
21 simplicity sake they've often been called a woodland
22 caribou herd, but it's not quite that black and white.

23
24 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Thank you. And
25 one final question. The Mentasta Caribou Herd, the one
26 that's on the Refuge, how big is their range?

27
28 MR. BENTZEN: Off the top of my head I
29 don't know the actual like square miles. We do have
30 maps, in fact, I have a map here with me that I could
31 show you, pass around that would show you the size of the
32 area that they do travel out -- travel about in
33 throughout the year. But it is fairly sizeable. They
34 don't typically winter on the Refuge from what we can
35 tell, they're passing through, but we have a long winter
36 hunt and, you know, potentially they're -- there's an
37 opportunity for people to take one or two of those or
38 something because we don't know the mixing ratio. But it
39 is a large area and I've got a map I can pass over to you
40 if you'd like to see that.

41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil, if it's
43 okay I'd like you to look at that at break because I
44 think that we're going to get into a big discussion here
45 whenever these next proposals come up and all these
46 questions are all going to come up again and I think,
47 Judy, it'll come up then unless you -- because this is a
48 report from the Tetlin Refuge. If -- maybe you could
49 bring that comment unless you want to say it right now.

50

1 MS. PUTERA: Well, I just wanted to
2 say.....
3
4 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You need to come
5 up, Judy, and then introduce yourself.
6
7 MS. PUTERA: For the record, Judy Putera,
8 wildlife biologist at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park.
9 I just wanted to say that the Park Service has assumed
10 responsibility for monitoring and managing the herd
11 primarily.
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The Mentastas.
14
15 MS. PUTERA: The Mentastas for the last
16 several years. So I.....
17
18 MR. RISDAHL: Thanks.
19
20 MS. PUTERA:might be able to answer
21 questions about the Mentasta Herd in the range of maybe
22 more completely than Greg.
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. And.....
25
26 MS. PUTERA: And no offense to Greg,
27 but.....
28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, there's so
30 much -- it's so confusing to people.....
31
32 MS. PUTERA: Yeah.
33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:because you
35 have biologists in all the -- you know, the different
36 Federal things and then we have our State biologist. And
37 I guess what I like seeing is all the biologists working
38 together, it's important. So and you'll have a chance to
39 bring a report forward.....
40
41 MS. PUTERA: Right.
42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:as the next
44 thing. So.....
45
46 MS. PUTERA: Okay.
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:any other
49 questions of Greg for the Tetlin Wildlife Refuge report.
50

1 (No comments)
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Is there
4 any other wildlife refuge reports? There is one.
5
6 Vince.
7
8 MR. MATHEWS: There's two.
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
11
12 MR. MATHEWS: Thank you. I do work for
13 Arctic and Yukon Flats and we'll make this brief.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Why don't you
16 introduce yourself and your new hat.
17
18 MR. MATHEWS: Oh, I'm sorry, I'm Vince
19 Mathews, I got so many titles, Refuge subsistence
20 specialist for Arctic, Kanuti and Yukon Flats. So here
21 would be Yukon Flats and Arctic. And I won't belabor too
22 much on Yukon Flats. On Page 231 you have a brief report
23 on that and all the biologists are at a regional meeting
24 so I'm uncomfortable wearing their hat. So if you have
25 questions I'll carry it back to them, but you can look at
26 Page 231 on the wolf study and the moose management
27 planning effort. I believe Rob Jess talked about that
28 when you took up Proposal 93 so I won't belabor that.
29 But that is -- that is reflective of your Chairman's
30 wishes that State and Federal biologists work together to
31 come up with regulations that are a little bit more easy
32 to follow and that would be for the Yukon Flats.
33
34 In addition to what's on Page 231, I'd
35 like to report at your last meeting you talked about the
36 need for more village participation in Alaska Board of
37 Fisheries. And I believe you requested and the Refuge
38 manager offered to assist with that. We did assist with
39 that, we -- our number 1 goal was to have a face to face
40 meeting in Ft. Yukon, Beaver and Chalkyitsik. Weather
41 and everything collided on us so we had a teleconference
42 with Stevens, Chalkyitsik, Beaver and Ft. Yukon which was
43 quite productive. And then I can almost quote people
44 from downriver were saying that's the most representation
45 they've seen from upriver in years. And I think -- I
46 don't have my notes in front of me, but it was between 15
47 and 18 people from upper river. So it was a movement
48 forward on it, we tried to provide some general
49 background, how the Board of Fish worked and were there.
50 I'm sure Virgil can share more on how the Board of Fish

1 functioned. There was some concerns about how that
2 functioned. And I won't get into details on that.

3
4 But anyway so that was a productive
5 effort so we're going to continue with that I assume.

6
7 And then I am the field coordinator for
8 the waterfall, harvest survey for the Flats villages, so
9 those surveys will be conducted this coming season
10 through Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments. So
11 that's one of my other hats.

12
13 So is there any questions on Yukon Flats
14 at this point?

15
16 Okay. Now I got to put on the other hat
17 which would be Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. They're
18 in the throes of the -- what's called a comp --
19 comprehensive conservation plan. So if I slip and say
20 CCP I'm not talking about Russia or the former communist
21 party, I'm talking about a conservation plan. But
22 basically they're embarking on that and I'll have a
23 handout for you and I'll just briefly go over that. So
24 we'll get it handed around.

25
26 But basically you -- let's see, I don't
27 know where Tetlin's at on that so I apologize. But I
28 don't know if you've been in -- exposed to a conservation
29 -- comprehensive conservation plan, but it's basically a
30 long term document that outlines the management for the
31 Refuge. And this Refuge is unique, it was established in
32 1960. When it was established in 1960 it was for the
33 purpose of preserving unique wildlife, wilderness and
34 recreational values. So the thing I want you to focus
35 on, I know you're beautiful here, your senior members on
36 your Council, your leadership know, that you go to ANILCA
37 and then you build from there and you go from there. So
38 right in the middle of this handout gives the purposes
39 for the Refuge. And I won't go over those, but those are
40 important to know what the -- why the Refuge was
41 established.

42
43 The planning process is really asking the
44 three questions in the middle there, which is how should
45 the Refuge be managed to best meet its purposes. The
46 second one is how can the Fish and Wildlife Service
47 provide the public with the greatest freedom to use and
48 enjoy the Refuge while ensuring its unique values are
49 protected for the future so how can it manage looking for
50 future. And then the last one, what issues, concerns and

1 opportunities should be addressed.

2

3 Okay. There's going to be a series of
4 public meetings associated with this and they're going to
5 be done in Kaktovik, Arctic Village, Venetie, Ft. Yukon,
6 Fairbanks, Anchorage and Washington, D.C. And for those
7 that are interested in the internet you can get this same
8 information through the internet. I also will be
9 distributing it through other means for the area.

10

11 And I think the rest I'll just leave
12 there, but basically that's coming and you may be
13 interested in being involved with that individually or
14 the Council. I'm almost certain we'll be running the
15 drafts conservation plan before you.

16

17 So is there any questions on Arctic?
18 They're going to be very busy with this so give them
19 patience if you call them and they don't call back. And
20 I just did talk to Richard Voss so he's in the office,
21 but practically everybody else is scattered. So any
22 questions on Arctic Refuge if you.....

23

24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council members,
25 do you have any questions.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 MR. MATHEWS: And I'll be working closer
30 with Grafton because that's a village that's of -- a part
31 of the Arctic Refuge.....

32

33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay

34

35 MR. MATHEWS:and with Mr. Firmin on
36 Yukon Flats issues as well as others, but those will be
37 the key people that I'll be focusing on.

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

40

41 MR. MATHEWS: All right. Thank you.

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.

44

45 MR. MATHEWS: You let me off easy.

46

47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

48

49 MR. MATHEWS: Thank you.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There are so
2 many things that we are handed here to do, but yeah,
3 sounds good, the people affected will be part of the
4 process.

5
6 And next on the agenda for Agency reports
7 would be the National Park Service and I'll call the
8 Wrangell-St. Elias, I see them here. And, Judy, you
9 might want to come up too at this time.

10
11 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
12 And my name is Barbara Cellarius. As I mentioned earlier
13 I'm the subsistence coordinator for Wrangell-St. Elias
14 National Park and Preserve.

15
16 And there was just one thing that I
17 wanted to bring to your attention and Judy will have some
18 wildlife information for you. You have a handout, it's
19 a two page handout that I passed out yesterday. At the
20 top it says Nabesna ORV EIS and then the second page is
21 this table. And as Sue mentioned earlier we're working
22 on an environmental impact statement and management plan
23 related to ORV use in the Nabesna Road area. I can go
24 over this if you're interested. The one comment I wanted
25 to make, I talked to Sue about this earlier, you had --
26 she had suggested putting something in your annual report
27 about an interest in the comment period on the ORV EIS
28 and there might -- it might be a good idea to also send
29 a letter to the superintendent on that topic or get the
30 superintendent a copy of your annual report. I think
31 that would be a helpful thing to do.

32
33 So I'll go over some of this if you'd
34 like, but I want to see what you -- what your preferences
35 are.

36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Right now
38 I think we got handed the -- Judy's report. So, Council
39 members, what -- it's the Nabesna Road -- it's hard for
40 us to keep this all straight.

41
42 MS. CELLARIUS: Sorry, I just -- I hadn't
43 put my report in the back so I wanted to distribute one.

44
45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I know you want
46 -- I appreciate that, Barbara.

47
48 MS. CELLARIUS: Sorry about that.

49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's okay. It's

1 just that the -- have you guys found your Nabesna Road?

2

3 MR. GLANZ: I got it, but that's all I
4 got.

5

6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I haven't found
7 mine. So let me ask you this, Barbara, that analysis
8 that you did is in the second page of it?

9

10 MS. CELLARIUS: Yes, what Sue is
11 referring to is that under the provisions of ANILCA we
12 have to analyze the impact of Federal actions on
13 subsistence and so I have prepared a analysis of the
14 impact at the five alternatives that are proposed on at
15 least kind of this is -- this is sort of at a draft
16 stage, we don't quite have a draft out for public
17 comment, but I have done an analysis of the impact on
18 subsistence and that's the table at the back, it looks
19 like this, it's the second page of the handout. I see at
20 least a few folks have found this. And so if you would
21 like I could go over that handout. You -- in your annual
22 report you've requested an extension in the public
23 comment period on the actual draft EIS, but we could talk
24 about this and if you have sort of general comments about
25 the alternatives you could certainly write a letter about
26 that if you wanted to do that.

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Doggone it, too
29 many things. I haven't found mine, how many people have
30 found theirs?

31

32 MR. GLANZ: I thought I had mine, but it
33 was wrong.

34

35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You know this is
36 a total bummer because we're -- it's almost -- it's 10
37 minutes after 12:00. You know, I think what I would like
38 to suggest in the -- if we can -- we can look at it.
39 You're going to be here for -- or is it -- okay. I'd
40 like to find that and just quickly look at it and then
41 we'll make -- if we have any questions we can and.....

42

43 MR. UMPHENOUR: There's the thing.

44

45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's the one
46 right there.

47

48 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah.

49

50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. It's

1 the one that says Nabesna Road ORV. And then she had
2 attached to it just a -- your Chair has lost hers. I
3 can't find it. I had everything labeled so I could find
4 it too.

5
6 But, you know, just -- Barbara and I
7 talked at break and -- yeah, I just got a note lunch is
8 ready. You know, there it is labeled right where it's
9 supposed to be.

10
11 Just to help us out here, Barbara
12 suggested that -- and I think this is a good idea and we
13 should do it. Since we're putting in our annual report
14 that we want to see an extension to move this draft up so
15 we have more time to deal with it, that we just send a
16 letter to the superintendent. So in agreement with that
17 and if you have -- I know this isn't your region so you
18 probably don't feel like it's that -- if you want to
19 throw it away when you get home, but, you know, the ORV
20 use in Federal parks is pretty doggone important and I
21 would definitely suggest that you take a look at this and
22 they may or may not -- they probably won't listed to us
23 when it comes to extending the time frame that we can
24 comment on it. So if you really have near and dear
25 things in your heart about access into these parks, I
26 think this is real important to look at. So I really
27 encourage you to look at it.

28
29 MR. GLANZ: I agree with you 100 percent
30 because access is -- to me that's a slap in the face
31 against ANILCA, if you cannot access the ground -- oh,
32 yeah, you can walk in, but I'm 67 years old, I mean, and
33 I fought to try to eliminate boating on the Birch Creek
34 because oh, that's wild and scenic. Well, we got a
35 ruling we can put a motor in Birch Creek. So I believe
36 the courts are set up for to utilize if this is the case.

37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. Lunch
39 is ready. Do -- should we just bring them back or do you
40 guys.....

41
42 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah, let's do that.

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, let's do
45 that. Okay. And then we might just in the essence of --
46 yeah, we got to get your reports before we start those
47 proposals. So.....

48
49 MS. CELLARIUS: If you don't mind.
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, uh-huh.
2 Okay. We'll bring you guys back at break -- at 1:00
3 o'clock.
4
5 (Off record)
6
7 (On record)
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We have a
10 quorum.
11
12 MR. UMPHENOUR: Let's go.
13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. If they
15 show up they can vote, I just want to establish that
16 right off.
17
18 MR. UMPHENOUR: As long as we can vote.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, okay.
21
22 MR. UMPHENOUR: If they show up they can
23 vote.
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. You
26 -- okay. All right. If I could have Judy and Barbara
27 come up and finish the report and then we will move into
28 the proposals. This is with the Wrangell-St. Elias
29 National Park.
30
31 And go ahead, Barbara.
32
33 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
34 So the main thing that I had wanted to make available to
35 you is if you would like a presentation on -- a little
36 more information about the ORV EIS, I could do that, but
37 I'll leave that to your discretion.
38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But you had said
40 that you'd be here at -- later and we can continue on
41 with the Chisana Caribou so if we can do that.
42
43 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah, if you wanted to go
44 ahead and do the wildlife, I'll be around for a while.
45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And let's
47 just take care of this one subject before we go on. At
48 break we or just before break we talked about the
49 superintendent needing a copy of our wishes on the ORV
50 and the draft EIS. So if it's consensus with the rest of

1 you that that letter go forward to the superintendent of
2 the Wrangell-St. Elias regarding.....

3

4 MR. WOODRUFF: Extending.

5

6

7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:our wishes
8 of extending the draft to later on so we can comment in
9 the fall.

10

11 (Council nods affirmatively)

12

13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That's
14 understood and there's every -- all in -- anyone opposed
15 to it.

16

17 (No opposing votes)

18

19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Then,
20 Barbara, we might -- I'll talk to them, we might want to
21 talk a little bit more about that later.

22

23 So, Judy, could you go ahead with your
24 report.

25

26 MS. PUTERA: Okay. For the record my
27 name's Judy Putera, I'm a wildlife biologist at Wrangell-
28 St. Elias National Park and Preserve. And I -- I'm going
29 to just try to be fairly brief. The -- on the handout I
30 presented to you on Page 1 I've got a table with Chisana
31 Caribou Herd. Basically I just wanted to present the
32 results of the fall composition count that was completed
33 in October, 2009. And those results are at the bottom of
34 the table.

35

36 And then on the second page I have a
37 table of sort of a more recent population estimate that
38 we've -- that have been done for the herd. And why I was
39 presenting these was to just let folks know that we're
40 going to repeat this population estimate survey this
41 fall, in October, 2010. And I guess this -- we'll be
42 talking about the Chisana Caribou Herd in quite a bit of
43 depth when we bring up Proposal 104. There's also a
44 Board of Game companion proposal which is Proposal 18.

45

46 I've also presented some data for the
47 Mentasta Caribou Herd. And what I've just presented is
48 a recent poll composition count results. I did get a
49 sort of a more updated population estimate from 2008 and
50 that estimate is at 445 caribou. Getting a fall

1 population estimate for the Mentasta Herd's a little bit
2 more complicated. We try to do a June census, post
3 calving census and then we do a fall composition count in
4 early September. We work with both of those numbers --
5 well, let me back up. In June our composition or our
6 June census also involves using radio collared animals to
7 determine sightability and that's all sort of -- a little
8 bit of a complicated analysis to put all that together.
9 But and that's pretty much why I don't have a population
10 for 2009 yet, I'm just waiting for the results of those
11 analyses.

12

13 And we're also -- when we bring up
14 Proposal 102 and 103, that proposal does -- the proposal
15 is about the Nelchina Herd, but I'm going to come up and
16 just give a few comments because the Mentasta Herd kind
17 of enters into that discussion and that's kind of what I
18 think Greg was trying to speak to earlier.

19

20 But just really quickly to answer
21 Virgil's question, the Mentasta Herd spends -- basically
22 calves within Wrangell-St. Elias Park and Preserve. It's
23 a pretty big range, it's all the way from sort of the
24 western slopes of Mount Drum all the way around to, you
25 know, the north side of Mount Drum, north of Mount
26 Sanford all the way up to the upper Cooper River. So
27 it's quite a large area that they calve in. And it makes
28 it a little bit difficult to get those estimates, to do
29 those surveys. But then they do leave -- well, anywhere
30 from -- you know, 3 percent to 75 percent of the herd --
31 of the Mentasta Herd will leave the Park with the
32 Nelchina's beginning in mid September so they do mix with
33 the Nelchina's in the winter and then start moving back
34 to the Park in April, March/April to calve in the Park.

35

36 Anyone we can discuss that a little bit
37 more when these proposals 102 and 103 come up.

38

39 We can probably skip over the brown bear,
40 I left that in there accidentally, I guess. That's a study
41 that's just being conducted way down in 5A so doesn't
42 really pertain to Eastern Interior.

43

44 And then I just wanted to say that this
45 summer we planned to do a Park wide Dall sheep survey
46 using a transect technique to estimate the total number
47 of sheep.

48

49 And then also again this winter we'll be
50 doing our large scale moose survey. And that will be a

1 repeat of our large scale survey that was completed in
2 2007.
3
4 And that's as brief as I want to be or I
5 can be anyway.
6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
8 Thanks, Judy.
9
10 MS. PUTERA: You're welcome.
11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.
13
14 (No comments)
15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Because I think
17 like Judy said we're going to get into this in depth as
18 we go through these proposals. So okay.
19
20 MS. PUTERA: Okay. Great.
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And now we will
23 go back to the next proposal that we did not take up was
24 101. Let me whisper to my vice-Chair.
25
26 Virgil.
27
28 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
29 WP10-101.
30
31 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's been moved
34 and seconded by Donald. Okay. First will be the
35 analysis.
36
37 Go ahead, Chuck.
38
39 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. For the
40 record Chuck Ardizzone. WP10-101 can be found on Page
41 144 of your Council book.
42
43 And it was submitted by Bronk Jorgensen
44 and requests that the fall moose season dates be changed
45 to August 20 to September 30th for moose in Unit 20E
46 remainder on BLM lands to match the dates in the Yukon-
47 Charley National Preserve in Unit 20E. This proposal is
48 related to Proposal 10-86 which the Council addressed
49 earlier and supported yesterday. It's all in that suite
50 of season alignments.

1 The moose population in Unit 20E within
2 the Tok West and Tok Central survey areas, populations
3 can be found in Table 1 in your book. You can see that
4 the population at least has been fairly stable in those
5 census areas or survey areas. And then for the Preserve
6 the moose population in the preserve can be found in
7 Table 2. And according to that table you can see the
8 population's been increasing. So currently the moose
9 population in the area affected by this proposal is
10 considered healthy. Bull/cow ratios are varied across
11 the unit, but generally remain above 40 bulls per 100
12 cows which is above the State's management objective.
13 The reported moose harvest for the unit has averaged 140
14 moose per year with a range of 95 to 174 animals taken.
15 If this proposal is adopted it would make the moose
16 season in Unit 20E uniform throughout the unit, provide
17 an additional 22 days of harvest opportunity in the
18 affected portion in 20E. There could be an increase of
19 moose harvest due to extending the season into the rut
20 when bulls are more vulnerable. And additionally the
21 hunt area is road accessible. If this hunt is adopted it
22 should be monitored closely.

23
24 The preliminary conclusion for OSM is to
25 support the proposal as it would give uniform season
26 dates in all 20E and provide more opportunity for
27 subsistence as the population should be able to handle a
28 little bit more harvest.

29
30 That concludes my presentation.

31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions of
33 Chuck.

34
35 (No comments)

36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The next
38 would be ADF&G. George gets up and I'm sure that Jeff
39 would like to follow or you might just pull another chair
40 up there because I think we're going to be doing that all
41 along.

42
43 All right. George.

44
45 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
46 George Pappas, Fish and Game. Our comments are -- we'll
47 be summarizing our comments.

48
49 Impacts on subsistence users. Extending
50 the season in August would likely increase the Unit 20E

1 moose harvest by Federal subsistence users by a few moose
2 annually. Extending the season 15 days into September
3 could result in a substantial increase in harvest and
4 possibly lead to a reduction in the moose population
5 which would negatively impact Federal subsistence users
6 in the future.

7
8 Conservation issues. Extending the
9 season an addition 15 days in September when moose are
10 entering the rut and become much more vulnerable could
11 result in substantial increase in harvest and could
12 result in the decline of the bull/cow ratio and possibly
13 reduce -- a reduction in the moose population over time.
14 The State moose hunting season structure for this unit
15 was developed to maintain a minimum bull/cow ratio of 40
16 bulls per 100 cows. The proposed season extension would
17 more than double the moose season length in the road
18 accessible portion of 20E. This area has highway access
19 to much of the Federal lands and easy river or trail
20 access to the rest. And liberalizing the hunting season
21 lease could result in a significant increase in harvest.

22
23 Now we do have some important issues with
24 this proposal. The two primary issues are number 1 the
25 permit harvest ticket requirement. The current State
26 season is managed under a registration permit which is RM
27 865, while the Federal subsistence hunt is managed under
28 a green harvest ticket. This inconsistency is an
29 unfortunate issue. Also hunting conditions for the State
30 hunt do not allow a hunter to possess a moose
31 registration permit, RM 865, at the same time as a
32 caribou registration permit or RC 860. This requirement
33 was put in place to keep large number of caribou hunters
34 from impacting the moose population. The current Federal
35 subsistence season is managed under a State moose harvest
36 ticket. This inconsistency allows Federal subsistence
37 hunters to circumvent the hunting condition that does not
38 allow hunting for moose and caribou at the same time in
39 the road accessible portion of the unit. This
40 inconsistency is also an unfortunate issue.

41
42 The second unfortunate issue, different
43 Federal and State season dates. Having a Federal
44 subsistence season when a State season is close is an
45 unfortunate issue in areas of mixed land ownership and
46 increases the risk of enforcement actions for subsistence
47 users.

48
49 Other comments. The Department opposes
50 any season extension unless more strict -- stricter

1 reporting requirements are approved. Green harvest
2 tickets are currently used for Federal subsistence moose
3 season which results in very poor harvest reporting. The
4 Department recommends a joint Federal and State
5 registration permit for this hunt similar to the
6 Fortymile Caribou joint State and Federal registration
7 hunt in Unit 20E.

8
9 Now the Department does support this, but
10 it has modifications to offer. One develop and require
11 a similar joint State and Federal registration permit as
12 currently in place for the Fortymile Caribou Herd. This
13 would mean that a Federal subsistence hunter would be
14 required to hunt under Unit 20E moose registration permit
15 RM 865 in road accessible portions of 20E and so the
16 green harvest ticket. The current 20E State moose
17 registration permit which is RM 865 has strict reporting
18 requirements and would improve reporting and make
19 enforcement much easier in Unit 20E.

20
21 The second recommendation, adopt the
22 proposed extension in August as the action recommends as
23 it will not result in a major conservation concern.
24 Adopt a modified hunting season not to exceed September
25 20th for the next two years. This would represent a more
26 conservative approach compared to the proposed 15 day
27 extension. But the high level of uncertainty about the
28 potential increase in harvest with the late September
29 season extension, an extension to no later than September
30 20th -- okay. Let me make a correction there. Actually
31 it's the recommendation is through -- not to exceed the
32 September 25th, go through the 25th for the next two
33 years and this will give management a chance to assess
34 the change in harvest while minimizing the risk to the
35 risk population.

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 Proposal WP10-101:

47
48 This proposal would extend the moose
49 season in the road accessible portions of Unit 20E from
50 20 days to 42 days. The proposal would change the

1 current season August 24 through 28 and September 1
2 through 15 to August 20 through September 30.

3

4 Impact on Subsistence Users:

5

6 Extending the season in August would
7 likely increase Unit 20E moose harvest by federal
8 subsistence users by a few moose annually. Extending the
9 season 15 days in September could result in a substantial
10 increase in harvest and possibly lead to a reduction in
11 the moose population which would negatively impact
12 federal subsistence users in the future.

13

14 Opportunity Provided by State:

15

16 State residents may currently take any
17 bull in this portion of Unit 20E from August 24 through
18 28 and September 8 through 17 under state regulations.

19

20 Conservation Issues:

21

22 Extending the season an additional 15
23 days in September, when moose are entering the rut and
24 become much more vulnerable, could result in a
25 substantial increase in harvest and could result in a
26 decline in the bull:cow ratio and possibly a reduction in
27 moose population over time. The state moose hunting
28 season structure for this unit was developed to maintain
29 a minimum bull:cow ratio of 40 bulls:100 cows.

30

31 The proposed season extensions would more
32 than double the moose season length in the road
33 accessible portion of Unit 20E. This area has highway
34 access to much of the federal land and easy river or
35 trail access to the rest, and liberalizing the hunting
36 season length which could result in a significant
37 increase in harvest.

38

39 Enforcement Issues:

40

41 There are 2 primary enforcement issues
42 with this proposed change.

43

44 1. Permit/harvest ticket requirements:
45 The current state season is managed under a Registration
46 Permit (RM865), while the federal subsistence hunt is
47 managed under a green harvest ticket. This inconsistency
48 is an enforcement issue. Also, hunt conditions for the
49 state hunt do not allow a hunter to possess a moose
50 Registration Permit (RM865) at the same time as a caribou

1 Registration Permit (RC860). This requirement was put in
2 place to keep large numbers of caribou hunters from
3 impacting the moose population. The current federal
4 subsistence season is managed under a state moose harvest
5 ticket. This inconsistency allows federal subsistence
6 hunters to circumvent the hunt condition that does not
7 allow hunting of moose and caribou at the same time in
8 the road accessible portion of the unit. This
9 inconsistency is also an enforcement issue.

10

11 2. Different federal and state season
12 dates: Having a federal subsistence season when a state
13 season is closed is an enforcement issue in areas of
14 mixed land ownership, and increases risks of enforcement
15 action for subsistence users.

16

17 Other Comments:

18

19 The department opposes any season
20 extension, unless much stricter reporting requirements
21 are approved. Green harvest tickets are currently used
22 for this federal subsistence moose season, which has
23 resulted in very poor harvest reporting. The department
24 recommends adopting a joint state/federal registration
25 permit for this hunt, similar to the Fortymile Caribou
26 joint state/federal registration hunt in Unit 20E.

27

28 Recommendation:

29

30 Support as modified to:

31

32 1. Develop and require a similar joint
33 state/federal registration permit as is currently in
34 place for the Fortymile Caribou (RC860 and RC867) season.
35 This would mean that a federal subsistence hunter would
36 be required to hunt under the Unit 20E moose registration
37 permit RM865, in the road accessible portions of Unit
38 20E, instead of a green harvest ticket. The current Unit
39 20E state moose registration permit (RM865) has strict
40 reporting requirements and would improve reporting and
41 make enforcement much easier in Unit 20E.

42

43 2. Adopt the proposed extension in
44 August as this action should not result in a major
45 conservation concern. Adopt a modified hunting season to
46 not exceed September 20 for the next 2-years. This would
47 represent a more conservative approach, compared to the
48 proposed 15-day extension. With the high level of
49 uncertainty about the potential increase in harvest with
50 a late September season extension, an extension to no

1 later than September 20 for the next 2 years would give
2 managers a chance to assess changes in harvest, while
3 minimizing risk to the moose population.

4

5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm sure
6 Jeff has something to add.

7

8 MR. GROSS: Thank you, Madam Chair. I
9 have had a chance to take a look at some of the harvest
10 data and although it doesn't directly relate to a hunt in
11 late September like this one would be, I did look at some
12 of the periods when there was a Federal only hunt open in
13 20E which is the 1st to the 7th of September. And I
14 think it was the last four or five years we've only had
15 about one moose a year shot during that period when
16 there's only a Federal hunt open.

17

18 The primary concern I had, of course, is
19 because this is a road accessible -- would be a road
20 accessible hunt during the rut. Anytime you align those
21 two things, you know, a red flag kind of goes up. After
22 looking at the harvest data and carefully considering the
23 number of hunters and talking to a number of people in
24 the area about their feeling about the amount of
25 participation we could likely expect, I think September
26 20th would -- I don't think we would really see much of
27 an increase at all in harvest. We would probably see a
28 few more animals taken. I think the 25th which was the
29 recommendation for the absolute latest date, I think as
30 the long as the registration hunt was put in place and
31 with the idea that the managers -- the State and Federal
32 managers would keep a close eye on this, see if there's
33 an increase in harvest over the next two years. I think
34 that would probably be conservative enough that I don't
35 think we'd see any kind of impact to the moose population
36 even if there was pretty substantial participation. I'm
37 still pretty uneasy about going to the end of the month.
38 I feel like that's a pretty major jump to go for an extra
39 13 days right during the middle of the rut. So perhaps
40 something more middle of the line seems more reasonable
41 for conservation reasons.

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I want to get
44 something cleared, Jeff. In our -- the State's
45 recommendation did you -- a modified hunting season not
46 to exceed -- did I get this clear, it says September 20th
47 here, but you're saying the State's recommendation was
48 25?

49

50 MR. GROSS: Well, you know, it's been a

1 little while since I wrote this. I'm going to backtrack
2 here real quick here for everybody's information. My
3 name's Jeff Gross, I'm the Fish and Game area biologist
4 in Tok who is in charge of Unit 20E.

5
6 I think what I meant to say there was I
7 would -- at that point in my analysis with all of our
8 other Board of Game proposals, the amount of time I had
9 to put into it, when I wrote these comments, the 20th was
10 the conservative date that I felt like I could throw at
11 out that point as being not much of a concern and that I
12 would feel the 25th -- anything past the 25th would be
13 excessive I thought is what I had in my comments, but
14 reading that now it actually probably was meant to be the
15 20th. There's been so many comments I've written on so
16 many things in the last few months.

17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you mean
19 you're getting confused like the rest of us?

20
21 MR. GROSS: Yeah. But I guess.....

22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Let's
24 probably not worry about that so much, I think it's
25 clear. Conservative is the 20th and you can live with
26 the 25th is what I'm hearing from the State. Okay. So
27 can you tell us a little bit, the Fortymile Caribou Herd
28 has joint State registration and the State is here saying
29 that you would like to see the same for the moose, how
30 does it work, does it work well with the Federal to work
31 together on this, is this a easy thing to do for this
32 upcoming season?

33
34 MR. GROSS: Madam Chair. This is
35 actually already in place on the Yukon -- in the Yukon-
36 Charley Preserve. Their preference was when this was put
37 in place to include the Yukon-Charley under the RM 865
38 registration permit. So it's already required to hunt
39 moose on portions of Federal land in 20E within the
40 Yukon-Charley.

41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's a
43 joint.....

44
45 MR. GROSS: It is a joint State and
46 Federal hunt. So I don't think this would be a big jump,
47 it would just be a matter of putting some clarification
48 in the Federal regulations saying that it's a -- the RM
49 865 is required on all the Federal lands.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you foresee
2 it -- the permit that's out there already for the -- with
3 the Park Service, is that just for Park lands or is it
4 for all Federal lands?
5
6 MR. GROSS: It's actually for just Park
7 lands right now in the Federal regs. It's very unclear
8 in the Federal regs actually right now. But.....
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But the permit
11 looks the same.....
12
13 MR. GROSS: It does.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:and it
16 doesn't specify Yukon-Charley?
17
18 MR. GROSS: I actually brought copies of
19 the.....
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The reason I'm
22 asking that to make things simple is that if there's a
23 permit that already exists on the Federal side would it
24 just be the same permit that they get for the BLM land?
25
26 MR. GROSS: Yes, it would be. Well, I
27 mean, that would be my intention.
28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well,
30 there's a lot of other reports and comments that will
31 come up. Did you have anything else, Jeff, on this
32 proposal, because these are just the -- this is the
33 Department of Fish and Game's comments that we're
34 reviewing right now.
35
36 MR. GROSS: Yeah, I don't think so. I
37 guess the -- I did bring some maps. Ruth Gronquist and
38 Jim Heragus worked together to print out some maps of the
39 Federal corridors where the -- where this.....
40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
42
43 MR. GROSS:regulation would affect.
44 And I guess as far as the legal description, the RM 865,
45 the only other thing I would point out is it does include
46 a portion of the upper middle fork or it does exclude a
47 portion of the upper middle fork in Unit 20E. So it's
48 not 100 percent of 20E, the RM 865 hunt is not 100
49 percent of Unit 20E. And there is one small piece of
50 Federal land in the upper middle fork. And in that area

1 right now under State regulations hunters are allowed to
2 have a green harvest ticket. So this is one
3 complication, but I guess I would.....

4

5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Very.....

6

7 MR. GROSS:that for simplicity it
8 would be best to try to align the two seasons if we
9 could.

10

11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I think
12 that all of this is going to come out in our
13 deliberations. So any other questions of their comments
14 at this time.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The next
19 would be other Federal, State and Tribal. And I suspect
20 that BLM, Ruth Gronquist, might have something or not,
21 comments on this proposal or would you like to wait for
22 deliberations too. I don't -- it's okay. Do you have a
23 report, I mean, comments I should say.

24

25 MS. GRONQUIST: You might want to wait
26 until deliberation.

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's your
29 decision.

30

31 MS. GRONQUIST: I'm Ruth Gronquist. This
32 is the first that I'd heard about the possibility of
33 going -- having BLM join with the joint permit for moose
34 so I hadn't really thought about it. But it's worked
35 well for caribou it's -- I think it's really enhanced the
36 management and been a benefit to the subsistence users
37 that I think that might be a very reasonable amendment
38 among others.

39

40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I really
41 appreciate those comments. Yes. So and I think a lot's
42 going to come out here in our deliberation. We just have
43 to get the rest of the comments in. So you guys will be
44 playing musical chairs here for a minute.

45

46 I don't -- do we have any SRC comments at
47 -- oh, there's no SRC in that area. I don't -- I'm aware
48 of that now. Fish and Game Advisory Committee. I would
49 like to call the vice-Chairman up and have him give his
50 comments. This is the way this process works, this Leif

1 Wilson from the Upper Tanana. You can introduce
2 yourself, Leif. And do you have a copy of the minutes,
3 I'll give it to you if you don't because we've been going
4 by your minutes.

5
6 MR. WILSON: Madam Chair and the other
7 members of the Council. My name is Leif Wilson, I live
8 in Tok and I'm the vice-Chair of the Upper Tanana
9 Fortymile Advisory Committee.

10
11 On 101 we -- the main concern that we had
12 was going until the end of the month. Even though there
13 are other areas that have it until the end of the month,
14 those are areas that are not road accessible. And this
15 proposal would include a lot of pretty accessible areas
16 both by road and rivers. And we don't foresee a lot of
17 people going up there and hunting it, but there is going
18 to be increased harvest and with the accessibility of it
19 and as vulnerable as the moose would be, we thought the
20 25th would be plenty long. And we would like to make
21 sure that it's monitored closely. But that was our
22 comment on that proposal.

23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions of
25 Leif.

26
27 (No comments)

28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Leif, I was at
30 the meeting, but I do want to ask you, has anyone talked
31 about the joint State/Federal since the meeting?

32
33 MR. WILSON: As far as the moose?

34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

36
37 MR. WILSON: I guess I understood that
38 currently that that was the system we were in with the
39 RM, was it 865, I thin it is.

40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

42
43 MR. WOODRUFF: That's correct. That's
44 correct.

45
46 MR. WILSON: Yeah. And so that works
47 really well I know for people in our area. They don't
48 have to wonder where to go to get a permit, whether
49 they're hunting on State land or Federal land they go to
50 the same place, they get the same permit. And that's

1 definitely a system that works well in our area for this.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.
4
5 (No comments)
6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thanks,
8 Leif.
9
10 MR. WILSON: Thank you.
11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
13 written comments.
14
15 MR. GLANZ: Madam Chair.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go ahead,
18 Bill.
19
20 MR. GLANZ: The Central AC voted 100
21 percent behind this, passed it as written. And they --
22 I might -- must been going -- treading on going to jail
23 because I never carried a RM 865 all the years I've
24 hunted on the Charley River, I carried a green harvest
25 tag.
26
27 MR. WOODRUFF: State.
28
29 MR. GLANZ: The State, green harvest tag.
30 So I don't know where they're coming up with this in the
31 Feds, because we never had to do that that I know of.
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Now is that in
34 20E that you're talking or 20.....
35
36 MR. WOODRUFF: Yep.
37
38 MR. GLANZ: 20E, 25C on the Yukon River
39 and 25B across the river, yeah, we've never -- we just
40 carried the green harvest tag and the RC 860 for the
41 Fortymile, yes, we always had that on us. So.....
42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So your AC
44 supports this proposal as written for those.....
45
46 MR. GLANZ: As written.
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:for those
49 dates.
50

1 MR. GLANZ: Yes and no.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
4
5 MR. GLANZ: And may I add the reason why
6 is to make it all uniform is what we're trying to do.
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you -- yours
9 is Central. Name your AC, Central.....
10
11 MR. GLANZ: Yes, Central AC. Central AC.
12
13 MR. WOODRUFF: Okay.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
16
17 MR. GROSS: Madam Chair. We have one
18 additional public comment and that is from the Fortymile
19 AC. They recommend a August 20 to August -- to September
20 25th season date.
21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's Leif I
23 think.
24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's the address.
26
27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That was Leif.
28
29 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.
30
31 MR. GROSS: And that's the same.....
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The gentleman
34 that just.....
35
36 MR. GROSS: Okay.
37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Upper
39 Tanana Fortymile is the name of the AC.
40
41 MR. GROSS: And we have your comments on
42 file then, right?
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, uh-huh.
45 Okay. And that's it. Now we can go into deliberation
46 unless there's someone in the public that would like to
47 come up and address this one.
48
49 Okay. Now I think the best thing to do
50 is have the managers up here, State managers and the

1 Federal managers. And Council members, discussion.

2

3

Donald.

4

5 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, I do the RM 864, my
6 wife does the RC 860 and I have the yellow -- I mean, the
7 green moose tag. So because we're available to get a
8 moose or a caribou and I don't see that that wouldn't be
9 the case with hunt -- groups of hunters that go there.
10 I mean I do that because that's what's required of me.
11 If I see a moose when I'm hunting caribou I can get it
12 and if my wife sees the caribou she can get it and she's
13 a better shot than I am.

14

15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Girls are good,
16 huh?

17

18 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah. But -- and it's not
19 that confusing. So if BLM would -- I mean, if we can get
20 all the Federal land to get on this permit form then
21 there's going to be more recorded information and that's
22 what the managers want and that's what we want to maintain
23 a healthy herd.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, you know,
28 Council members I do like to keep it simple so let's --
29 you know, for permits and make it easiest for people. So
30 sorry, Bill.

31

32 MR. GLANZ: I am too.

33

34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It isn't that
35 easy then.

36

37 MR. WOODRUFF: Bill, you've been in
38 violation so long it's not even funny.

39

40 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. What's the -- what's
41 the permit, I -- oh, never mind.

42

43 (Laughter)

44

45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Maybe you've
46 been in Central too long. No, I'm joking. He lives way
47 out in the Kandik and he's getting it straight.

48

49 So we need to discuss this. On -- the
50 motion before us is to adopt as written. Unless we.....

1 MR. WOODRUFF: Without modification.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that's
4 what's on the floor. So there was two things spoke of
5 here, the joint permit and as your Chair I like it to be
6 simple, but I don't know that it's as simple as it sounds
7 this one since you have to get three to go hunting,
8 that's not real simple.
9
10 So discussion. Virgil.
11
12 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I know when I'm
13 moose hunting I really like it if it's on the second
14 hunt, you know, after the 16th of September if -- I
15 really like it when I see a moose swim a river or a pond
16 because it's much more pleasant butchering the moose when
17 he has all the urine washed off of him.
18
19 (Laughter)
20
21 MR. UMPHENOUR: And so I -- I'm in
22 support of the State's modification to end the season on
23 the 25th because those really ratty moose are -- there's
24 a lot more opportunity to contaminate the meat if you're
25 not super careful when you get that -- the hide against
26 the meat. And so plus they probably -- they are a lot
27 easier to shoot when they're thinking about love. Madam
28 Chair.
29
30 (Laughter)
31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I was
33 going to say something funny, but I better not. I'll let
34 you say it, Frank.
35
36 Okay. Other discussion. That's
37 discussing the season date ending at the 25th which would
38 require an amendment to our motion.
39
40 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to amend the season
41 date to close on 25 September.
42
43 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
44
45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Speaking
46 to the motion.
47
48 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'll speak to the motion.
49 The moose -- I don't know about the moose there, but I
50 know that in some areas of the State I've seen

1 Departmental reports where the moose are actually
2 starting to actually breed around the 25th of September.
3 And so they're going to be much more susceptible to
4 harvest and as I -- I want to reference my previous
5 comments as far as the quality of meat goes and -- or the
6 potential to contaminate the meat. And so I think it's
7 much better to harvest the moose prior to them going into
8 full rut.

9

10 Madam Chair.

11

12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other discussion
13 on the amendment. Frank.

14

15 MR. GURTLER: I agree with him.

16

17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
18 discussion on the amendment. Bill, do you have anything.

19

20 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I'm still looking where
21 it says I have to have that permit. I am. I am.

22

23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I mean,
24 that's probably.....

25

26 MR. GLANZ: I don't see it in this book.

27

28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I -- that's
29 relevant actually. Go ahead.

30

31 MR. GROSS: Madam Chair. At the same
32 time Bill was looking and I don't see that in our
33 regulations where a State permit is required.

34

35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's there's
36 a joint State and Federal.

37

38 MR. GROSS: That there's a joint -- yeah.
39 So I don't understand where that came from myself.
40 So.....

41

42 (Laughter)

43

44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So the Fish and
45 Game Manager confused himself. No. Jeff, what is that?

46

47 MR. GROSS: Madam Chair. That was just
48 the way I want it. No. Actually when I took over the
49 Tok fishing position in 2003 this was basically handed
50 down to me. And when we started looking into this this

1 winter and I talked to Don about it a little bit and
2 looked through it myself. Again it's a very confusing
3 point, but to my knowledge that's the way we've -- that's
4 the information that we've distributed to folks. I'm --
5 you know, I can't recall my conversations with Craig
6 Gardner, the previous biologist, about this real well,
7 but I remember discussions that the Park Service wanted
8 this on their lands. I think their.....

9

10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: A joint.

11

12 MR. GROSS: Yeah, they wanted the RM 865
13 for I think better reporting is -- is also the reason
14 that they want it the best I can recall. So that would
15 be the main reason that I would want to see it too is
16 because of the better reporting.

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. I think
19 this is an example of how confusing the two systems
20 become and, I mean, even if the managers have to look it
21 up every time, what do you think it does to the people in
22 the field, you know. So and.....

23

24 Bill.

25

26 MR. GLANZ: Okay. What Jeff's talking
27 about is if you Google the State book it says a permit's
28 available in Fairbanks and somewhere else. So I called
29 the Park's, what this deal with this. And this was like
30 five years ago when Jim -- Jim Wyle was looking for one.

31

32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

33

34 MR. GLANZ: And they said you guys don't
35 need one, you're under Federal. I says that exactly what
36 I told everybody. So everybody was arguing with me about
37 it. And so until we see it in black and white we really
38 can't go on the assumption because if you assume it makes
39 an ass out of you and me if you spell it. So anyway I
40 don't like assuming, I want to see it in black and white
41 before I provoke -- before I ever get one like you did.
42 I would not get one, Don, until I -- somebody really
43 proves to me in black and white I have to have one. It's
44 hard enough to carry that green thing.

45

46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That green
47 thing.

48

49 (Laughter)

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Let's
2 just keep it to the motion which is the 25th, okay, and
3 then we'll continue, okay, because I think that is
4 important that we discuss the.
5
6 Did I hear someone call for the question
7 on the amendment.
8
9 MR. GLANZ: I'll call for the question.
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And the
12 amendment is that the season would close the 25th. All
13 understand. All in favor of the amendment.
14
15 IN UNISON: Aye.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.
18
19 MR. GLANZ: Aye.
20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I assumed
22 you might do that.
23
24 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. I just like the
25 consistency in the season, not this BS.
26
27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And actually --
28 I don't know, I want to ask the question here.
29
30 MR. WOODRUFF: Bill, what.....
31
32 MR. GLANZ: Who's yelling?
33
34 MR. WOODRUFF: Me, over here.
35
36 MR. GLANZ: Oh.
37
38 MR. WOODRUFF: What I think you're
39 discussing is that in Yukon-Charley it goes to the
40 30th.....
41
42 MR. GLANZ: Right.
43
44 MR. WOODRUFF:and that you want to
45 align Yukon-Charley with all the Federal land?
46
47 MR. GLANZ: On both sides of the river.
48
49 MR. WOODRUFF: And out the road.
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
2
3 MR. GLANZ: I mean I would be -- I would
4 have no problem at all exempting the road system, five
5 miles off the road or something like that even on -- in
6 25C.
7
8 MR. WOODRUFF: Right.
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes. And I have
11 not voted and I would have to vote with Bill because I
12 like to keep things simple and consistent so my vote is
13 no also on the 25th.
14
15 I don't know what's going on up on the
16 Yukon-Charley where it's through the 30th, but it's been
17 like that for some time on Federal land.
18
19 Jeff.
20
21 MR. GROSS: Madam Chair. This proposal
22 would only affect the road accessible corridors. It's my
23 understanding it won't affect the Yukon-Charley.
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So.....
26
27 MR. GROSS: So we're not talking about
28 the Yukon-Charley.
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You better prove
31 that to us because if you look in the.....
32
33 MR. GLANZ: I'll go -- he's right.
34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:20E --
36 okay. The Yukon-Charley -- all right. And that would
37 make me change my vote.
38
39 Bill.....
40
41 MR. GLANZ: And the concern.....
42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:I think you
44 and I are confused.
45
46 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. And the concern -- the
47 area that I'm concerned about is the road accessible
48 area. The Yukon-Charley doesn't fall under the same
49 scenario of course as.....
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right now under
2 the Federal regulations for the point of clarity here,
3 20E, that portion drained by the -- where is it now, that
4 one? Oh, right there. That portion within the Yukon-
5 Charley, August 20 to September 30th, already in
6 regulations. So now we're just talking about the BLM
7 land.

8
9 MS. GRONQUIST: Madam Chair. Council.
10 That's correct. You're talking about 4 percent of land
11 in 20E and that's the BLM managed land.

12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. I
14 don't need to change my vote because it passed.

15
16 So moving rapidly along. Just let the
17 record reflect that there was some confusion there. I
18 think we're all trying to get our brain into this and
19 it's hard to get your brain wrapped around it sometimes.

20
21
22 So now we have the main motion being that
23 it's the 25th. The only other thing that was discussed
24 was this joint permit. Do you want to -- I mean, can
25 someone explain to me how easy that would be to make it
26 work.

27
28 MR. GROSS: Madam Chair. I just tell
29 everybody that that's what they have to do.

30
31 (Laughter)

32
33 MR. GROSS: It's actually -- you know, I
34 -- I'm feeling a little sheepish about this because I
35 actually don't know.....

36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you saying
38 you have discretionary authority to do that or what, what
39 are you telling us.

40
41 MR. GROSS: Well, again I think we're
42 talking about the Federal hunt here so I don't have any
43 authority at all over the Federal part of it. So
44 it's.....

45
46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I guess
47 what I'm asking is to the managers how easy is it to do
48 a joint hunt -- a permit.

49
50 MS. GRONQUIST: Madam Chair. Council.

1 It's easy for us because the joint hunts that we already
2 have with the State, the State administers them So I
3 don't want to ask them to do an undue burden unless
4 they're willing to do it and my read is they're willing
5 to do it because it gets all of us better data sooner and
6 more consistently.

7

8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Donald.

9

10 MR. WOODRUFF: Yes, in Eagle we don't
11 have to be able to read this book, we just go to the
12 store and we say what permit do we need so we can drive
13 out the road an hunt. And the store manager
14 or the person that's operating the store says you need
15 this RM 86 -- RC86, RM 865 and if you're going to go down
16 river later on you need the green slip. So, you know, a
17 lot of us don't study the book in and out, you know, over
18 and over and a lot of us haven't even graduated, you
19 know, that we can read. So we just go to the store and
20 say what do we need to go hunting and they hand us this
21 form and they help us fill it out because some of us
22 can't read the form to fill out for the permit. And it
23 works apparently.

24

25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Some of us.

26 Okay. Bill, I know you're.....

27

28 MR. GLANZ: Well, the deal is there
29 people call me what do they need and so forth and so on.
30 And one of our guys on our Game -- on our AC, secretary,
31 he went to the store and said I'm going to go caribou
32 hunting, what do I need. They give him the one where you
33 get five tags on it. So they stopped him and it cost him
34 like -- oh, I don't know, about \$1,400 with the court
35 costs. So you bet -- you need to know the rules if
36 you're going to go hunting.

37

38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, that's the
39 bottom line.

40

41 MR. WOODRUFF: Yes, I see.

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, you better
44 read your regs and know there's that one caribou limit.

45

46 MR. WOODRUFF: Oh, yeah. Well, no.....

47

48 MR. GLANZ: That's exactly right, but he
49 had the wrong harvest tickets.

50

1 MR. GROSS: Yeah, that was for the north
2 side of the road.
3
4 MR. GLANZ: Yep. No, it was for the
5 north side of the Yukon.
6
7 MR. GROSS: Yeah.
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, what do
10 you want to do about this joint State thing. I mean, I
11 -- this is what I've been preaching for a long time. So
12 I guess I've been.....
13
14 MR. GLANZ: I believe we already have it,
15 we got a green tag and we got RCH 60 in our pocket when
16 we hunt.
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Somebody want to
19 clarify that, what he just said. Say that again, Bill.
20
21 MR. GLANZ: Okay. The green tag is what
22 we use for resident moose hunting on Federal subsistence
23 ground or State ground. And the RCH 60 is the form we
24 use for the August 10th, September 30th caribou season.
25 And RCH 67 is what we use for the winter hunt for
26 caribou. Not that I ever issued any of them or know
27 anything about them. I myself personally would like to
28 keep it on the green tag, we report -- we mail them in as
29 soon as we get within three to days or whatever. And the
30 RCH 60 we have to call that in right away or they fine
31 you, you know, because.....
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: How's it being
34 done right now for the rest of the unit?
35
36 MR. GLANZ: If I go out moose hunting in
37 25 -- 28, I can carry both tags, the green and RCH 60.
38 And if I really want to, you know, like he does, his --
39 my wife can carry the RCH 60. But I would -- but
40 actually I'm not just trying to confuse you. What
41 they're wanting us to do is you can carry one or the
42 other, you cannot carry a caribou and see a moose, too
43 bad, you have to go back home and get your caribou tag --
44 moose tag. With the way it is now for Federal
45 subsistence we can carry both, we can carry our moose tag
46 and our green tag, I mean, our RCH 60 caribou tag and our
47 green tag. With this going into effect we can either
48 hunt one or the other, but not both. That's why I'm
49 against it.
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I just want to
2 clarify now. Currently in 20E they only need a green
3 harvest ticket on the Federal side for all of 20E.
4
5 MR. WOODRUFF: That's correct. As.....
6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
8
9 MR. WOODRUFF:Bill said it's in
10 black and white, yeah.
11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Virgil.
13
14 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I don't think Bill
15 -- what Bill's addressing is not applicable because this
16 is only applicable to the BLM land that's right on side
17 the road on the Taylor Highway; is that not correct?
18
19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible -
20 away from microphone).....
21
22 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. Good. I thought
23 I was correct.
24
25 (Laughter)
26
27 MR. UMPHENOUR: Now, the other issue
28 of.....
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wait a minute.
31
32 MR. UMPHENOUR:why you can't have
33 the two permits. Now I'm going to put something on the
34 record that I hope I don't have to write a letter of
35 apology for like I did once before. But there is one
36 ethnic group in the State that has zero conservation
37 ethic. And some of these are Federally qualified
38 subsistence users. Now they have invaded my son's
39 guiding area, everyplace that they go there are
40 conservation problems. That is one of the main reasons
41 why you cannot have -- hunt both things at the same time.
42 I guarantee you they already go up there, I know that for
43 a fact. And so you darn sure don't want to open the
44 window for those guys because they act like market
45 hunters and they have been the biggest -- they're the
46 reason why that we've had such a controversy over the
47 antlerless moose hunt in Unit 20A. And so I -- and some
48 of them from Delta made the newspaper just recently for
49 shooting 12 caribou.....
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
2
3 MR. UMPHENOUR:and leaving one to
4 rot, 13 and leaving one to rot which was nine over their
5 bag limit.
6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Let's stick to
8 the.....
9
10 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, that -- this is to
11 the issue, Madam Chair. That's -- I just wanted to
12 clarify that for the people that don't understand that.
13 That -- our AC has -- yes, our AC has had to address this
14 multiple times, Madam Chair, or this issue.
15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sounds like a
17 protection problem.
18
19 MR. GLANZ: As I was stating though, when
20 you're floating down the Charley River you can have -- if
21 you're a regular hunter you can have one or the other,
22 you cannot have both and I'm not -- I do not want to see
23 that happen to the Feds. That's just one more piece of
24 paper that they can bust your butt on.
25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Chuck.
27
28 MR. GLANZ: The roads.
29
30 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. I don't
31 mean to add confusion, but if you turn to Page 144 in
32 your RAC book. I think what Member Glanz says might be
33 true with the way it's written now, you'd have to be
34 clear on the record because if you see the proposed
35 Federal regulation it lumps everything together, Yukon-
36 Charley National Preserve and the BLM lands under one
37 regulation. You'd have to keep them separate to only
38 have that -- if you wanted a permit to apply to BLM lands
39 it would have to remain separate as they are in the
40 existing regs up above that. So just for clarity.....
41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wait a minute,
43 say that again.
44
45 MR. ARDIZZONE: So if you looked at
46 existing regs there's Yukon-Charley.....
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
49
50 MR. ARDIZZONE:and then there's

1 that 20E which is the BLM lands that we've been
2 discussing. But if you look at the proposed Federal
3 regulations below it does get lumped together. You'd
4 have to make sure you kept it separate if you didn't want
5 to have that permit in the Yukon-Charley.

6

7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. You guys
8 understand it better than me.

9

10 MS. GRONQUIST: Madam Chair. Council.
11 And Chuck can correct me if I'm wrong, but even with your
12 amendment to change the closing date for -- would your
13 closing date be just for the BLM lands of == the closing
14 date of the 25th of September or would it again because
15 this is lumped, would it apply to the entire.....

16

17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. What we
18 voted on.....

19

20 MS. GRONQUIST:game management
21 unit?

22

23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:was the
24 entire G-28.

25

26 MS. GRONQUIST: Yeah, but I'm not sure
27 that it was clear to all of the members of the Council.

28

29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I doubt it was
30 actually.

31

32 MR. WOODRUFF: It wasn't.

33

34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can someone help
35 me get through this because I don't know what to do now.

36

37 MR. UMPHENOUR: Call on Jeff.....

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jeff.

40

41 MR. UMPHENOUR:I know what to do.

42

43 MR. GROSS: Madam Chair. I guess I -- I
44 believe in my -- you know, my intention with my comments
45 was that the -- that the current regulations for Yukon-
46 Charley would remain and that my comments only applied to
47 the remainder of the Federal land in 20E which is the
48 road corridors and a few small blocks of remote land. I
49 guess I'd also like to point out that the concern I have
50 about reporting past follow-up phone surveys to hunters

1 have shown that harvest tickets, green harvest tickets,
2 are quite often -- we have 50 percent non-reporting where
3 with our RM 65 permit we get about 97 percent reporting.
4 So it's substantial, it's the difference between the data
5 really being useful and the data being actually quite
6 misleading.

7

8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're going to
9 take a five minute break and we're going to come back
10 smarter. Okay.

11

12 (Off record)

13

14 (On record)

15

16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. As your
17 Chair I'm going to -- I'm trying to sort ourselves
18 through this. I know you want to continue. I'm trying.
19 And as they're talking I'm going to say that about all we
20 accomplished here is more confusion. We didn't come back
21 that smart.

22

23 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.

24

25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So and I -- and
26 you know what I'm going to do, I'm going to request that
27 we table this and get the managers to figure it out and
28 then give us a report. And we're going to move on. I'm
29 going to request -- because it's gotten too confusing,
30 you know, it's -- and it's not -- we don't need to go
31 down that road right now until they figure it out.
32 So.....

33

34 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to table to a time
35 certain whenever the managers get it figured out.

36

37 MR. GLANZ: And whether -- granted I
38 myself would rather see it withdrawn and start over.
39 Right now whatever we do at Yukon-Charley already down to
40 the 25th if we read the -- read the deal there. So it
41 has to -- I say we withdraw this whole thing and.....

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Vote it down and
44 then we can still bring up a different amendment.....

45

46 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

47

48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:I mean, a
49 different.....

50

1 MR. GLANZ: Rather than going through all
2 of the blah, blah, blah because he -- Bob can read it to
3 you there, it's Yukon-Charley, now we're shortening the
4 season there the way we've got it written up.
5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Actually that's
7 a good idea.
8
9 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, if we table it and
10 we don't bring it up it's dead, we didn't do nothing. So
11 it's better to just table it, if they get it figured out
12 we can bring it up, if they don't it's dead. So I need
13 a second to my motion.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, then if we
16 bring it up we're going to vote her down, okay.....
17
18 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, right.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:to make
21 things easier.
22
23 MR. GLANZ: Yes, we'll do that and we can
24 start over. Okay.
25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, okay. All
27 right. So did I hear a second.
28
29 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
30
31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right in
32 favor of tabling it until a time certain.
33
34 IN UNISON: Aye.
35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
37
38 (No opposing votes)
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now
41 moving rapidly along as they say where I used to live, I
42 would go to meetings.
43
44 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
45 WP10-102.
46
47 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. It's been
50 moved and seconded. And now introduction by the Federal

1 Staff analysis.

2

3

4 MS. HYER: Good afternoon, Madam Chair
5 and Council members. I just wanted to say for the record
6 again I'm Karen Hyer with OSM and I'm the -- actually the
7 statistician. And we have two proposals before us that
8 are somewhat similar and I'm going to start with 10-102,
9 but I just wanted to mention 103 also. 102 and 103, both
10 apply to the Nelchina Caribou Herd. 102 is about the
11 harvest limit and 103 has to do with the authority of in-

12

13

14 So Wildlife Proposal 10-102 was submitted
15 by Terry Brigner on behalf of the Upper Tanana Fortymile
16 Advisory Committee. It requests Unit 12 remainder
17 harvest limit for caribou during the winter season which
18 is October 1st through April 30th be increased from one
19 caribou to two caribou. And I just want to guide you to
20 pages 154 and 155 in the book. For clarification there's
21 a fall harvest from September 1 to September 20th and
22 that's at the bottom of Page 154 and the harvest limit is
23 one bull. This reply -- this applies to the winter
24 season which is to be announced and it states that if you
25 harvest one bull in the fall season you can only harvest
26 one caribou in the winter season, but if you don't get
27 one caribou in the fall season then you could get two
28 caribou in the winter season. And that's the proposal
29 before us.

29

30

31 So the proponent requests the harvest
32 quota be increased in Unit 12 remainder to two caribou to
33 match what is currently available in Unit 13A and 13B, in
34 13A and 13B you can harvest two caribou. Both Federal
35 hunts in Unit -- or excuse me, they're both -- there are
36 two Federal hunts, one is in Unit 12 remainder and one is
37 in Unit 13A and B. The Unit 12 remainder hunt is on the
38 Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge, the Unit 13A and B hunt
39 is on BLM land.

39

40

41 Now if you go to Table 1 on Page 156,
42 this relates to the Nelchina Caribou Herb and it has
43 remained relatively stable since 2001. Currently the
44 herd size is a little below the management objective of
45 35 to 40,000 caribou for fall population. And then if
46 you then go to Table 2 on Page 158 you can see the
47 harvest. And the majority of the Nelchina Caribou are
48 currently harvested either in the State hunt or the
49 Federal Hunt in 13 -- in Unit 13. Until 2008 the Tier
50 II, the State Tier II hunt was a primary source of
51 harvest for the Nelchina Caribou Herb. And it accounted

1 for 78 percent of the overall harvest from 2005 through
2 2008. Then the Federal hunt in Units 13A and 13B
3 accounted for 21 percent of the harvest during the same
4 time period. In the Federal hunt which we're discussing
5 here in Unit 12 remainder accounted for 1 percent of the
6 overall harvest. And during the time period 2005 through
7 2008 an average of about 20 animals were harvested
8 annually during the Unit 12 hunt on Tetlin Refuge.

9
10 And OSM's primary conclusion is to
11 support this proposal. Given the small number of
12 Nelchina Caribou harvested in Unit 12 remainder since
13 2002 and increase in harvest limit from one caribou to
14 two caribou for the winter hunt is unlikely to have a
15 major affect on the Nelchina Caribou Herd.

16
17 I'll take any questions.

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

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Next is
25 the Department of Fish and Game comments. And I think we
26 challenged them to fix the other problem and now they're
27 not here to help us on this one.

28
29 George, we're on 102 and I'm sure that --
30 actually Torsten is -- are you here for Fish and Game on
31 that one because you're doing Unit 12.

32
33 MR. BENTZEN: Not specifically. I
34 probably could.

35
36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then we've
37 got other -- okay. Well, let's see how George handles
38 it.

39
40 MR. PAPPAS: Madam Chair. George Pappas,
41 Department of Fish and Game. For this proposal
42 summarizing from our comments.

43
44 The impact to subsistence users.
45 Federally qualified hunters in this area would have the
46 option of hunting the Fortymile Caribou Herd in Unit 20
47 as well as the Nelchina Herd in Unit 12. The reported
48 caribou harvest in the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge in
49 the Unit 12 during the last five years has ranged from
50 three to 28 annually and averaged 17 per year suggesting

1 low participation in this hunt. The Federal subsistence
2 regulations provide a widely used designated hunter
3 option which allows one hunter to harvest caribou for
4 several Federally qualified subsistence users. This
5 proposal if adopted would not likely impact meeting
6 subsistence needs.

7
8 One of the enforcement issues. The
9 Federal law enforcement is minimal during this hunt and
10 any increased hunting effort would create additional
11 enforcement issues for subsistence users and private land
12 owners.

13
14 Further comments or other comments.
15 Large amounts of land are being conveyed to BLM and to
16 Ahtna Native Corporation and the State of Alaska within
17 Unit 12 and 13. In Unit 12 recent conveyances to the
18 local Native corporations have removed most road
19 accessible hunting areas from Federal subsistence
20 management.

21
22 And the Department opposes this proposal.

23
24 *****
25 STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
26 *****

27
28 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
29 Comments to the Regional Advisory Council

30
31 Wildlife Proposal WP10-102:

32
33 Increase federal subsistence caribou bag
34 limit from one caribou to two on federal public lands in
35 Tetlin National Wildlife refuge in Game Management Unit
36 12.

37
38 Introduction:

39
40 This proposal seeks to increase the
41 federal subsistence caribou bag limit on federal public
42 land in Tetlin National Wildlife refuge in Game
43 Management Unit 12 from one to two caribou to match the
44 two caribou bag limit on federal public land in Unit 13.

45
46 Impact on Subsistence Users:

47
48 The federally qualified hunters in this
49 area have the option of hunting the Fortymile caribou
50

1 herd in Unit 20E as well as the Nelchina Herd in Unit 12.
2 The reported caribou harvest on Tetlin National Wildlife
3 refuge in Unit 12 during the past 5 years ranged from 3
4 to 28 annually and averaged 17 per year, suggesting low
5 participation in this hunt. Federal subsistence
6 regulations provide a widely used designated hunter
7 option which allows one hunter to harvest caribou for
8 several federally-qualified subsistence users. This
9 proposal, if adopted, would not likely impact meeting
10 subsistence needs.

11

12 Opportunity Provided by State:

13

14 Within Unit 13, two subsistence hunts are
15 offered for the Nelchina Caribou Herd. New this year, a
16 community subsistence hunt for residents of Cantwell,
17 Chistochina, Chitina, Kluti Kaah (Copper Center), Gakona,
18 Gulkana, Mentasta, and Tazlina as well as any other
19 Alaska resident with close ties to these communities was
20 established. Up to 300 caribou can be taken by this
21 community hunt. All other Alaska residents can apply for
22 a registration permit (permittees are selected from the
23 group with the highest points).

24

25 Local subsistence users can also
26 participate in a state administered fall registration
27 hunt for the Fortymile Caribou Herd in adjacent Unit 20E,
28 as well as a winter hunt. State regulations limit
29 caribou hunting in Unit 12 to one bull caribou west of
30 the Glenn Hwy (Tok Cutoff), but provide no caribou
31 hunting opportunity on Tetlin Wildlife Refuge.

32

33 Conservation Issues:

34

35 The Nelchina Caribou Herd was estimated
36 at 33,837 in 2009, which is below population objectives
37 (35,000-40,000). The herd is already managed at maximum
38 sustained yield. Interest in Nelchina caribou hunting
39 has historically been high, and the hunts have been
40 controversial. The Nelchina caribou harvest is managed
41 closely. Since 2000, state subsistence hunts have been
42 closed by emergency order 7 of 10 years prior to the
43 scheduled 31 March closure. State managers must estimate
44 potential take from long federal subsistence hunts both
45 in Unit 13 as well as Unit 12, which is has proven very
46 difficult given the potential for high harvests if
47 caribou congregate on federal public lands. Many years
48 the state winter hunt in Unit 13 is not opened because
49 the harvest quota for the herd has been reached or is
50 very close to being reached. Any additional harvest

1 above the annual harvest quota would negatively affect
2 the herd and would be expected to reduce opportunity for
3 all Nelchina caribou subsistence hunters in the future.

4
5 During fall and spring migrations, the
6 Nelchina and Mentasta caribou herds mix. Mentasta
7 caribou winter along-side Nelchina caribou in Units 12
8 and 20E. Hunters cannot distinguish between the two,
9 therefore any hunting during this period has the
10 potential to further impact the severely depressed
11 Mentasta Caribou Herd. Both the Mentasta Herd and the
12 Nelchina Herd have declined in recent years. When
13 caribou are available in Unit 12, they are migrating to
14 or from their winter range. The spring is a particularly
15 stressful time for these animals, and increased hunting
16 pressure using snowmachines during this time would be
17 expected to negatively affect the caribou, particularly
18 late term cow caribou.

19
20 In recent years, large numbers of the
21 Nelchina Caribou Herd have wintered in Unit 12 and 20E.
22 When much of their primary winter range in the vicinity
23 of the Taylor Highway burned, caribou began using
24 adjacent areas, as they do not readily use burns that are
25 less than 50 years old. Given lower than average fall
26 female calf weights the last 2 years (2008 = 114 and 2009
27 = 112 lb; average 118 lb), it is possible these fires
28 have forced caribou to use less than optimal habitat.
29 Additional harvest at this time is not recommended.

30
31 Enforcement Issues:

32
33 Federal law enforcement is minimal during
34 this hunt, and any increased hunting effort would create
35 additional enforcement issues for subsistence users and
36 private landowners.

37
38 Other Comments:

39
40 Large amounts of land are being conveyed
41 from the Bureau of Land Management to Ahtna Native
42 Corporation and the State of Alaska within Unit 12 and
43 Unit 13. In Unit 12, recent conveyances to local Native
44 corporations have removed most road accessible hunting
45 areas from federal subsistence management.

46
47 Recommendation:

48
49 Oppose.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council members,
2 any questions.

3

4 (No comments)

5

6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I do have one
7 question for you. You didn't mention about the presence
8 of the Mentasta Caribou that the State talked about
9 there, you might want to do that. I think I see it here
10 or not.

11

12 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
13 During the fall and spring migrations the Nelchina and
14 Mentasta caribou herds mix. Mentasta caribou winter
15 alongside of Nelchina caribou in Unit 12 and 20 E.
16 Hunters cannot distinguish between the two. Therefore
17 any hunting during this period has the potential to
18 further impact the severely depressed Mentasta Caribou
19 Herd. Both the Mentasta Herd and the Nelchina herd have
20 declined in recent years. When caribou are available in
21 Unit 12, they migrate to or from their winter range. The
22 spring is a particularly stressful time for these animals
23 and increased hunting pressure using snowmachines during
24 this time would be expected to negatively affect the
25 caribou, particularly late term cow caribou.

26

27 In recent years large numbers of the
28 Nelchina Caribou Herd have wintered in Unit 12 and 20E
29 which much of the -- which -- when much of their primary
30 winter range in the vicinity of the Taylor Highway burned
31 caribou began using adjacent areas as they do not readily
32 use burns that are less than 50 years old. Given the
33 lower than average fall female calf weights of the last
34 two years, in 2008 it 114 and in 2009 it was 112 which if
35 you average it -- well, averaging 118. It is possible
36 these fires have forced caribou to use less than optimal
37 habitat.

38

39 Additional harvest at this time is not
40 recommended.

41

42 Thank you, Madam Chair.

43

44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Next other
49 Federal, State or Tribal Agency comments.

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wrangell-St.

4 Elias.

5

6 MS. PUTERA: Judy Putera, Wrangell-St.
7 Elias National Park. Wrangell-St. Elias also has
8 concerns regarding this proposal. It's well documented
9 that the Mentasta Herd does mix with the Nelchina Herd on
10 winter range. And I also wanted to say it's not -- I
11 think it's entirely possible that in addition to moving
12 through the Refuge that Mentasta Caribou would also
13 remain on the Refuge through the winter.

14

15 The Mentasta Caribou Herd is of
16 conservation concern. Harvest has been closed since
17 1994. The Mentasta Caribou management plan talks about
18 minimizing incidental harvest on winter range. So we're
19 basically concerned over the potential increase in
20 incidental harvest of Mentasta Caribou when mixed with
21 the Nelchina Herd.

22

23 We are currently finalizing a monitoring
24 protocol for the Mentasta Caribou Herd and I'm hoping
25 that we -- this will bring more funding to the Park
26 Service and that we can start monitoring the herd with,
27 you know, more frequency and intensity in the winter and
28 try to get a little bit of -- better handle on the mixing
29 ratios between the two herds and how vulnerable Mentastas
30 are during this winter hunt.

31

32 I guess I would also like to say that my
33 concerns would be alleviated a little bit if the harvest
34 was limited to bulls only.

35

36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions of
37 the Wrangell-St. Elias biologist.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thanks,
42 Judy.

43

44 MS. PUTERA: Thank you.

45

46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Fish and Game
47 Advisory Committee -- wait a minute, SRC is next.

48

49 The SRCs.

50

1 MS. CELLARIUS: Wrangell-St. Elias
2 National Park Subsistence Resource Commission unanimously
3 opposes the proposal. Although the proposal would
4 benefit subsistence users through increased opportunity,
5 the SRC has significant conservation concerns with this
6 proposal. The Mentasta Caribou Herd which is a
7 conservation concern mixes with the Nelchina Caribou Herd
8 during the winter. Although managers make an effort to
9 adjust the season when Mentasta caribou are present, that
10 adjustment depends on the ability to conduct multiple
11 aerial surveys to determine the Mentasta distribution and
12 mixing ratios. Doubling the harvest limit would increase
13 the change of incidental harvest of Mentasta caribou. In
14 addition the low harvest reporting rate is a concern.

15
16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thanks
21 Barbara.

22
23 I will let you know that I was at that
24 meeting and that was a lot of discussion and the
25 Mentastas was the reason pretty heavily.

26
27 Okay. Fish and Game Advisory Committee.
28 Leif, do you want to go ahead.

29
30 MR. WILSON: Madam Chair. Members of the
31 council. Okay. In Unit 12 we're hunting the same
32 caribou that are down in Unit 13 and we're limited to one
33 for a Federal qualified subsistence user and down in Unit
34 13 their limit is two. And that is the problem, I guess
35 as we see it. They're the same animals and if there's a
36 conservation issue as far as the Nelchinas themselves go
37 then we would definitely if we can't go to two that they
38 should go back to one.

39
40 So beyond that the other issue is the
41 Mentasta Herd which we're -- we are fully aware that the
42 Mentasta herd mixes with the Nelchina Caribou when they
43 come north and come through the refuge and go north of
44 Tok there is where they currently are.

45
46 So if -- that's why when you look at the
47 numbers the Mentasta Caribou numbers somewhere between
48 200, I think, 200 to 300 animals and when they mix with
49 the Nelchina Herd of 40 to 50,000 animals you're talking
50 like a one in 100 chance of shooting a Mentasta caribou.

1 WE're -- we're presently taking average between -- looks
2 like between about 13 and a very high of 27, 28 animals.
3 So and in recognition of the Mentasta Herd mixing we're
4 saying in our area bulls only. So the odds of anybody,
5 Federal subsistence user, in our area, even if the limit
6 goes to two, of taking a Mentasta Caribou are very, very
7 small. And if we limit to bulls only then we wouldn't be
8 impacting the Mentasta Caribou in our -- in our view.

9

10 That's it.

11

12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any other
17 ACs comment on that?

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thanks,
22 Leif. Summary of written comments and other public
23 testimony.

24

25 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. The only other
26 public comments we have are from the Ahtna Customary and
27 Traditional Use Committee. That group opposes this
28 proposal. What they've communicated is that this herd is
29 fully utilized and it cannot sustain additional harvest.

30

31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The
32 motion's on the floor. Deliberation. Discussion.
33 Virgil.

34

35 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, from listening to
36 the Staff reports this is kind of like mixed stock
37 fishery and I've always hated mixed stock fisheries
38 because they -- you never know where were the fish were
39 headed that you're harvesting. And so in this caribou
40 hunt it's kind of the same thing, you don't know where
41 they're headed and we know that one stock has got
42 conservation problems that could be fairly major. And
43 also hunting caribou this time of year and it's mentioned
44 here as well, that it puts stress on the pregnant cows
45 because naturally they're pregnant and so if they get
46 scared from snowmachines and start running they can get
47 -- it could cause them to abort if they get chased and
48 ran enough. But anyway I'm going to opposed to this
49 proposal for conservation reasons.

50

1 Madam Chair.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Donald.
4
5 MR. WOODRUFF: I support Virgil in his
6 discussion.
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.
9
10 MR. GLANZ: I also, Madam Chair.
11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Lester. Frank.
13
14 MR. ERHART: I support him.
15
16 MR. GURTLER: I support it too.
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I'll have to
19 go on the record and say that I sat at their AC meeting
20 and I understood where they were coming from, but I also
21 share the conservation concerns of the Mentasta Caribou
22 and I told them I'd probably be voting against them.
23
24 So I think we probably don't have
25 anything else, any other discussion.
26
27 (No comments)
28
29 MR. GLANZ: Question.
30
31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
32 been called for. The motion is to support a two caribou
33 limit for that winter hunt in Unit 12. All in favor.
34
35 (No aye votes)
36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All opposed.
38
39 IN UNISON: Aye.
40
41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The next
42 one. And on -- I don't know -- just for the record I
43 think it's important that I -- something that bothered me
44 a little bit was that on that one they should always --
45 the argument about the Nelchinas having a concern should
46 also be where it was on the two caribou limit. It should
47 be discussed there also if that's a conservation concern.
48
49
50 MS. HYER: Right. Are you talking about

1 the Mentasta.....

2

3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that was
4 something that came to my mind.

5

6 MS. HYER:the -- you're talking
7 about the Nelchina Caribou Herd as a conversation
8 concern?

9

10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, whenever
11 it was two caribou in the southern end on that Unit 13.
12 You could talk about the same conversation there as you
13 do up north. If you understand what I'm saying.

14

15 MS. HYER: (Nods affirmatively)

16

17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
18 Next let's go ahead and take up this next one, 103.

19

20 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
21 10-103.

22

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

24

25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's been moved
26 and seconded by Bill. Go ahead.

27

28 MR. HYER: Okay. Proposal 103 was
29 submitted by Michael Cronk, it requests a winter Federal
30 subsistence hunting season for Unit 12 remainder, the
31 same hunting season we were talking about before, be
32 opened by regulation October 21st and remain open until
33 closed by the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge manager in
34 consultation with the other Federal and State and
35 Councils. And the harvest limit is to stay at one
36 caribou.

37

38 And the proponent requests the opening
39 date of the winter hunt to be put into regulation to
40 ensure the hunting season is opened prior to the arrival
41 of caribou on the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge. This
42 would give subsistence users a chance to harvest the
43 earliest caribou arriving on the Refuge. It would also
44 align the opening dates of the winter Federal hunting
45 season in Unit 12 with the opening dates of the winter
46 Federal hunting season in Unit 13.

47

48 And OSM opposes this proposal because
49 placing an opening date for the Federal winter
50 subsistence hunt would limit the ability of the Refuge

1 manager to manage the hunt on the Tetlin Wildlife Refuge.
2 Often the manager will delay opening the hunt until
3 enough Nelchina Caribou have migrated onto the Refuge
4 land to sustain a harvest. In addition the Refuge
5 managers then have the flexibility to open and close the
6 hunt in response to the presence of animals from the
7 Mentasta Caribou Herb because the caribou herd and the
8 Nelchina Herd mix as we have just discussed. And finally
9 the Refuge may also delay the hunt to ensure adequate
10 snow so that these animals can be hunted by snowmachine.
11 Not -- it -- that is dependent on how many animals have
12 congregated. But those are the reasons that the Refuge
13 manager may actually delay a hunt.

14

15 And so in order to provide maximum
16 flexibility in management, OSM opposes this.

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Fish and
23 Game comments.

24

25 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
26 Summarizing from our Department comments.

27

28 Currently the opening date for hunting
29 caribou in the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge is
30 announced between October 1 and April 30 by the Refuge
31 manager in consultation with the Wrangell-St. Elias
32 National Park and Preserve's superintendent, the
33 Department of Fish and Game berry biologist and the Chair
34 of the Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council and
35 Upper Tanana Fortymile Fishing Advisory Committee. This
36 allows the Refuge manager to delay the hunt to protect
37 Mentasta Caribou if large numbers are present in the
38 Refuge when the Nelchina Caribou Herd migrate up on the
39 Refuge. A set season opening date would presumably make
40 it easier for Federal subsistence users to plan their
41 hunting activities and improve their ability to hunt the
42 Nelchina herd while present in accessible areas of the
43 Refuge. However the opening date still would not be firm
44 because the Refuge manager would need to delay opening
45 the season if insufficient numbers of Nelchina Caribou
46 are present to sustain the harvest and to protect the
47 Mentasta Caribou and/or insufficient snow is present to
48 protect the Refuge habitat. There is significant hunting
49 pressure on the Nelchina Caribou Herd which forced the
50 State to implement a tiered system and community harvest

1 regulations to limit harvest. If the harvest of Nelchina
2 Caribou increases substantially in Federal subsistence
3 hunts in Unit 12 and 13, steps may be necessary to keep
4 harvests within sustainable levels.

5
6 This proposed regulation change retains
7 the Tetlin Refuge manager authority to close the season
8 if the Mentasta Caribou Herd are in the area. In recent
9 years few Mentasta Herd have been reported on the Tetlin
10 Refuge, however radio collars should continue to be used
11 to identify when the Mentasta Herd is accessible --
12 excuse me, in accessible hunting areas.

13
14 The Department is neutral. This proposal
15 is primarily a regulatory change with little substantive
16 change in providing subsistence and some possible
17 complications for administrators in assuring conservation
18 is sustainable in the Nelchina and Mentasta Caribou.

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 WP10-103:

30
31 The proposal would establish in
32 regulation the federal subsistence winter caribou season
33 opening date as October 21 on federal public land in
34 Tetlin National Wildlife refuge in Game Management Unit
35 12.

36
37 Introduction:

38
39 Currently, the opening date for hunting
40 caribou on Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge is announced
41 between October 1 and April 30 by the Refuge Manager in
42 consultation with Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and
43 Preserve Superintendent, Alaska Department of Fish and
44 Game area biologists, and Chairs of the Eastern Interior
45 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council and upper
46 Tanana/Fortymile Fish and Game Advisory Committee. This
47 allows the refuge manager to delay the hunt to protect
48 Mentasta caribou if large numbers are present on the
49 refuge when Nelchina caribou migrate on the refuge.

50

1 Impact on Subsistence Users:

2

3 A set season opening date would
4 presumably make it easier for federal subsistence users
5 to plan their hunting activities and improve their
6 ability to hunt Nelchina caribou while present in
7 accessible areas of the refuge. However, the opening
8 date would still not be firm because the refuge manager
9 would need to delay opening the season if insufficient
10 numbers of Nelchina caribou are present to sustain a
11 harvest, to protect Mentasta caribou, and/or insufficient
12 snow is present to protect refuge habitat.

13

14 Conservation Issues:

15

16 There is significant hunting pressure on
17 the Nelchina caribou herd, which forced the state to
18 implement Tier II and community harvest regulations to
19 limit harvest. If harvest of Nelchina caribou increases
20 substantially in federal subsistence hunts in Units 12
21 and 13, steps may be necessary to keep harvest within
22 sustainable levels.

23

24 Enforcement Issues:

25

26 Adoption of this proposal would not
27 reduce confusion over federal subsistence season opening
28 dates because the refuge manager would still need to
29 adjust the date to assure the presence of sufficient
30 Nelchina caribou, protect Mentasta caribou, and authorize
31 snowmachine use due to snowcover. In addition, adopting
32 an opening date in regulation would increase the
33 potential for early illegal harvest on non-federal lands
34 where the hunt remains closed.

35

36 Other Comments:

37

38 This proposed regulation change retains
39 the Tetlin refuge manager authority to close the season
40 if there are Mentasta caribou in the area. In recent
41 years, few Mentasta caribou have been reported on Tetlin
42 refuge, however radio-collars should continue to be used
43 to identify when the Mentasta Herd is in accessible hunt
44 areas

45

46 Recommendation:

47

48 Neutral.

49

50 This proposal is primarily a regulatory

1 change with little substantive change in providing
2 subsistence and some possible complications for
3 administrators in assuring conservation and
4 sustainability of Nelchina and Mentasta caribou.

5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you. Any
7 questions of George.

8
9 (No comments)

10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Other
12 Federal, State and Tribal Agency comments. So I think
13 we'll have several.

14
15 Judy, you want to go first.

16
17 MS. PUTERA: Wrangell-St. Elias National
18 Park and Preserve concurs with the OSM preliminary
19 conclusion to oppose the proposal.

20
21 Thank you.

22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
24 questions.

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does the Refuge
29 want to speak to this proposal.

30
31 MR. RISDAHL: Madam Chair. This is
32 another one of those proposals like the previous one
33 where there was a lot of discussion and we don't have
34 terribly strong feelings one way or the other however in
35 light of the fact that we haven't done our job very well
36 lately in monitoring those Mentasta Caribou along with
37 the Park, we feel like it still probably is a good idea
38 for us to have that ability to open and close the season
39 when we do start doing a little bit monitoring so we can
40 ensure that the harvest avoids as many of those Mentasta
41 Caribou as possible.

42
43 Thank you.

44
45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
46 questions.

47
48 (No comments)

49
50 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. Next

1 would be the SRC comments.

2

3 MS. CELLARIUS: Wrangell-St. Elias
4 National Park Subsistence Resource Commission opposes the
5 proposal. The vote was zero in favor, six opposed, one
6 abstention. The Commission is particularly concerned
7 about the potential incidental harvest of Mentasta
8 Caribou and believes it is important for the Refuge
9 manager to have the ability to open or close the season in
10 response to the presence of animals from the Mentasta
11 Caribou Herd.

12

13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
14 you. Next is Fish and Game Advisory Committees. You
15 don't want to do those, huh? Actually do you have the
16 copy of that, Robert.

17

18 MR. LARSON: I do.

19

20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They declined on
21 it, didn't they?

22

23 MR. LARSON: Yes, they did.

24

25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You commented on
26 it, Leif. It's 102

27

28 MR. WILSON: And, Madam Chair, the
29 Fortymile AC is in support of this proposal.

30

31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That's
32 the short version. And is there any other comments?

33

34 MR. WILSON: Madam Chair. There's one
35 additional comment and that is from the Ahtna Customary
36 and Traditional Use Committee and they are in opposition
37 to this proposal.

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.
40 There you have it. Discussion. Deliberation. Bill.

41

42 MR. GLANZ: I'm just -- I myself I'm
43 opposed to this also for conservation issues.

44

45 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

46

47 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. I'm opposed to it
48 based on the conservation issues presented by the various
49 Agencies. Madam Chair.

50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anything
2 else.
3
4 MR. GLANZ: Call for the question.
5
6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question has
7 been called for. And the proposal was to have specific
8 season dates on that Unit 12 hunt in the Refuge. All in
9 favor.
10
11 (No aye votes)
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All opposed.
14
15 IN UNISON: Aye.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The next
18 one.
19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
21 WP10-104.
22
23 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's been moved
26 and seconded by Bill.
27
28 Go ahead.
29
30 MS. HYER: Okay. Wildlife Proposal 10-
31 104 starts on Page 166.
32
33 This proposal is submitted by Leif Wilson
34 on behalf of the Upper Tanana Fortymile Advisory
35 Committee. It requests a joint Federal/State draw permit
36 for Chisana Caribou Herd to be established in Unit 12 for
37 the fall of 2011. The harvest quota would be in
38 accordance with the Chisana Caribou Herd management plan
39 and currently the plan is in draft form under development
40 and the harvest limit would be on bull. The hunting
41 season would be September 1st through September 20th. A
42 portion of the permits would be issued for a Federal hunt
43 and the rest of the permits would be issued for the State
44 hunt. The herd is a small herd inhabiting the Wrangell-
45 St. Elias National Park in Southwest Yukon Canada.
46 Currently the herd resides while in Alaska exclusively on
47 Federal public lands. The herd -- the lands that the
48 herd occupies currently are closed to Federal subsistence
49 hunters. Due to conservation concerns hunting on this
50 herd was stopped. All hunting on this herd was stopped

1 in 1994. And early last year in 2009 a planning process
2 began to develop a five year management plan for this
3 herd. And it's been a cooperative effort between State,
4 Federal and Canadian Agencies. And once this plan is
5 developed there will be a recommendation for a management
6 strategy and harvest guidelines for the herd.

7
8 So if you turn to Table 1 which on Page
9 168 you can see that surveys -- the most recent surveys
10 for estimating the herd size were conducted in 2005 and
11 2007 and the population appears to be stabilized around
12 700 plus animals. The next survey as Judy talked about
13 is scheduled for 2010. And once that survey is done
14 they'll have a better idea of the population. But if the
15 population remains stable, around 700 plus animals, it's
16 thought that a 2 percent harvest quota -- or they -- the
17 population could sustain a 2 percent harvest. And this
18 would result in somewhere around approximately seven
19 animals being -- excuse me, 14 animals being harvested
20 which would be divided between Yukon and Alaska. So
21 we're talking about a relatively small harvest if the
22 2010 census shows that that can happen.

23
24 And currently OSM's preliminary
25 conclusion is to defer this proposal until the management
26 plan is finalized and the census is done. Those two key
27 components needs to be completed before a hunt can be
28 established on this herd.

29
30 And so I can take any questions.

31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council members,
33 any questions. Bill.

34
35 MR. GLANZ: I have one. There's a
36 captive breeding stock of this herd then?

37
38 MS. HYER: There was in Canada. That has
39 come to an end and towards the end of that is when they
40 recommended the management plan be developed.

41
42 MR. GLANZ: Thank you.

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.

45
46 MR. UMPHENOUR: Has anyone figured out
47 how they're going to allocate these permits because I see
48 that it says that's it's based on harvest records, but
49 these animals haven't been hunted since 1994?

50

1 MS. HYER: The management plan speaks to
2 -- the draft management plan speaks to a general harvest
3 quota, but that is true and that is one of the issues is
4 there's not current harvest data on these animals because
5 they simply haven't been harvested.

6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hey, Virgil, if
8 we could get into that with some of the other people
9 that's been working on it because this is the Staff
10 analysis so that's -- your questions will be answered
11 regarding that.

12
13 MR. UMPHENOUR: Are those people present?

14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, well,
16 they're coming up and we'll go through all of that if
17 that's okay. Yeah.

18
19 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's fine.

20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, yeah, uh-
22 huh. ADF&G.

23
24 MR. PAPPAS: Madam Chair. Roy Nowlin is
25 next door testifying, but I believe he wanted to talk
26 about this one too with the RAC so we'll see if we can
27 work this out.

28
29 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

30
31 MR. PAPPAS: But from the Department's
32 comments, I can read through them.

33
34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

35
36 MR. PAPPAS: Establishing a joint and
37 Federal/State -- excuse me. Starting over. This is for
38 the introduction in the '80s and '90s. An average of 29
39 of the Chisana Herd -- caribou were harvested annually
40 with about 60 percent of the harvest taken by Alaska
41 residents. Upon the decline of the herd in the early
42 '90s the hunting in Alaska and Canada was stopped.
43 Between 2003 and '6 a captive breeding program was
44 conducted. The Yukon Department of Environment which
45 successfully increased the numbers of calves recruited
46 the population. The Chisana Caribou Herd management plan
47 is currently being drafted by the Yukon Department of
48 Environment, White River First Nation, Canadian Wildlife
49 Service, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife
50 Service and Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

1 For conservation issues, the draft
2 Chisana Caribou management plan recommends a 2 percent
3 bulls only harvest if the herd remains increasing or
4 stable. The bull/cow ratio does -- and the bull/cow
5 ratio does not fall below 35 to 100 and the calf
6 recruitment remains at 15 -- above 15 calves per 100 cows
7 over a three year average. It is unlikely that this
8 limited harvest would have any negative impacts on the
9 herd.

10
11 Further comments. The guidelines
12 establish a harvest in the draft management plan based on
13 a proposed 2010 census in which the herd must meet the
14 required population levels and the bull/cow and calf
15 ratios. Based on results from this census the earliest
16 possible season opening for the caribou herd would be in
17 2011.

18
19 The Department recommendation is to
20 support this proposal. Following the guidelines for a
21 limited harvest of Chisana Caribou shared between Alaska
22 and Canada as contained in the draft management plan and
23 using a joint State/Federal permit to monitor harvest in
24 Alaska.

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 WP10-104:

36
37 Establishes a joint federal/state draw
38 permit hunt for the Chisana caribou herd starting fall
39 2011, following recommendations in the Chisana Caribou
40 herd management plan currently being drafted by Yukon
41 Department of Environment, White River First Nation,
42 Canadian Wildlife Service, National Park Service
43 (Wrangell St. Elias), US Fish and Wildlife Service, and
44 Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The management plans
45 sets guidelines for opening a limited hunt on the herd
46 while protecting the herd from overharvest.

47
48 Introduction:

49
50 In the 1980s and early 1990s, an average

1 of 29 Chisana caribou were harvested annually with about
2 60% of the harvest taken by Alaska residents. Following
3 a decline in the herd in the early 1990s, hunting in
4 Alaska and Canada was stopped. Between 2003 and 2006, a
5 captive rearing program was conducted by Yukon Department
6 of Environment which successfully increased the number of
7 calves recruited into the population during the recovery
8 effort. From 2004 through 2008, the population was
9 stable and is estimated at 700-800 caribou.

10

11 The Chisana Caribou herd management plan
12 is currently being drafted by Yukon Department of
13 Environment, White River First Nation, Canadian Wildlife
14 Service, National Park Service (Wrangell St. Elias), US
15 Fish and Wildlife Service and Alaska Department of Fish
16 and Game.

17

18 Impact on Subsistence Users:

19

20 Access to the Chisana caribou herd is
21 difficult and is mostly limited to aircraft. Harvest by
22 federally-qualified subsistence users in Unit 12 averaged
23 less than 2 caribou between 1981-1983 and 1990-1993. A
24 joint federal/state drawing permit would ensure that a
25 portion of the harvest is available for federal
26 subsistence users on federal public lands.

27

28 Opportunity Provided by State:

29

30 State regulations limit caribou hunting
31 in Unit 12 to one bull caribou west of the Glenn Hwy (Tok
32 Cutoff) and have not provided any opportunity for
33 harvesting Chisana caribou since 1993.

34

35 Conservation Issues:

36

37 The draft Chisana caribou management plan
38 recommends a 2% bulls only harvest if the herd remains
39 increasing or stable, the bull/cow ratio does not fall
40 below 35/100, and calf recruitment remains above 15
41 calves/100 cows over a three year average. It is
42 unlikely that this limited harvest would have any
43 negative impact on the herd.

44

45 Other Comments:

46

47 The guidelines establish a harvest in the
48 draft management plan based on a proposed 2010 census in
49 which the herd must meet the required population level
50 and bull/cow and calf cow ratios. Based on results from

1 this census, the earliest possible season opening for
2 Chisana caribou would be 2011.

3

4 Recommendation:

5

6 Support, following the guidelines for a
7 limited harvest of Chisana caribou shared between Alaska
8 and Canada, as contained in the draft management plan and
9 using a joint state/federal permit to monitor harvest in
10 Alaska.

11

12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So Roy's
13 -- you think he's going to get tied up for a while there?
14 Well, we won't overlook it. Any questions directly to
15 George regarding -- that's just their official rubber
16 stamp position.

17

18 Okay. So we will -- do we -- you know,
19 this is the time, let's see for other -- the other
20 biologist, did you want to speak to this now or do you
21 want to wait until we deliberate.

22

23 MR. BENTZEN: If you have questions I'll
24 be happy to answer those.

25

26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. He stated
27 -- Torsten takes care of Unit 12 is my understanding for
28 Fish and Game as the assistant area biologist and Jeff is
29 the area biologist and he takes care of Unit 20. Is that
30 correct, guys?

31

32 MR. BENTZEN: Yes, more or less.

33

34 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: More or less,
35 okay.

36

37 REPORTER: What's your name.

38

39 MR. BENTZEN: I'm Torsten Bentzen, the
40 assistant area biologist for Fish and Game in Tok.

41

42 REPORTER: Thank you.

43

44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any
45 questions of the Fish and Game in Tok at this time.

46

47 Virgil.

48

49 MR. UMPHENOUR: Has there been any
50 thoughts as to how the allocation breakdown would be on

1 this hunt?

2

3

MR. BENTZEN: Well, we aren't able to really designate allocation. Mostly that's between the Federal Subsistence Board and the Board of Game -- State Board of Game. And there's plenty of concern over that because of the small harvest.

8

9

10

11

MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jeff.

MR. GROSS: This is Jeff Gross, the area biologist in Tok. It in part is going to need to involve our Subsistence Division. As I understand it there's going to be a need to develop a State C&T for this herd and possibly and ANS. And so as far as allocation, it's still -- obviously the -- because it's on Park Service land there'll be a Federal priority is the way I understand it. And if the Subsistence Board in their findings, I guess, decide that there's additional quota that can go to the State, then in the State process the Subsistence Division will be involved to determine if there's -- if there's State subsistence needs and then perhaps a general hunt open to all hunters after that.

24

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And so I would be 100 percent opposed to a high allocation to Federal subsistence users on a herd

1 like this which in here it says it's aircraft accessible
2 only. That is not really a very true -- that doesn't
3 mean the eight criteria very much as far as being an
4 economical way to obtain food. And so its primarily a
5 trophy hunt as far as I'm concerned.

6
7 So I wanted to put my comments on the
8 record.....

9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

11
12 MR. UMPHENOUR:as far as that goes.

13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We can do.....

15
16 MR. UMPHENOUR: Or that issue goes.

17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Virgil.

19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.

21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We'll just go
23 through these comments and I think all of this will come
24 out at the -- as we go -- work through it. We're right
25 now going through the comments and so when we -- you
26 know, and I think the Upper Tanana Fortymile will be able
27 to answer some of your question that you were asking what
28 their thoughts were which is important.

29
30 So, Donald, did you have something of
31 Fish and Game.

32
33 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah. I just wondered if
34 my math is correct that 2 percent of that harvest would
35 be like 14 to 16 caribou; is that correct?

36
37 MR. BENTZEN: Yeah, that's correct, but
38 that would also be split evenly between Alaska and Yukon.
39 So.....

40
41 MR. WOODRUFF: Okay. That's not just our
42 side.

43
44 MR. BENTZEN: That's -- no, that's both.
45 So the Alaska quota would be seven or eight caribou if
46 the population remains what it is now.

47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thanks,
49 guys, I think we'll be getting more questions here later.
50

1 So I have to go through this process and
2 the next would be SRC comments.

3
4 MS. CELLARIUS: The -- on Proposal No.
5 104 the Wrangell-St. Elias SRC took no action. After
6 public testimony and extensive discussion a motion to
7 defer the proposal consistent with the OSM preliminary
8 conclusion failed on a vote of four -- of three to four.
9 Three in favor, four opposed. Some SRC members supported
10 the proposal as written, some supported a Federal only
11 hunt, some supported the deferral and some opposed any
12 authorization of a harvest. The latter felt that it was
13 premature to be taking -- talking about authorizing a
14 harvest until more data were available and the herd was
15 larger.

16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

18
19 (No comments)

20
21 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you. Next
22 would be Fish and Game Advisory Committee comments and
23 Leif can speak to that, he's here.

24
25 MR. WILSON: Madam Chair and members of
26 the Council. The main reason that we went ahead and put
27 this proposal in was we were told by some members of the
28 Federal Staff that in order to get the process going, to
29 get the analysis going, as far as to -- whether there
30 could be a hunt, who -- what the breakdown of the
31 allocation would be, we needed to get a proposal in that
32 would go to both the Board of Game and the Federal
33 Subsistence Board to get the process started. And so
34 that's why we went ahead and did it even though we know
35 that we're still waiting on like the 2010 census. And we
36 only so far have a draft management plan for the Chisana
37 Herd, but that pretty much mirrored -- we mirrored that
38 pretty much with our proposal here. It is a very small
39 amount of animals that we're talking about and obviously
40 there's been a lot of talk and a lot of time spent on
41 those small amount of animals, but I think that they are
42 very -- the Chisana Herd is very important and if there
43 is no harvest of it and it goes on the back burner, then
44 people tend to not be as concerned about it and the
45 management, the monitoring of it goes away.

46
47 So our goal was to try to get as many
48 user groups involved in this as possible. The access is
49 by aircraft only, it's a remote area and that's pretty
50 much evidenced if you look at the historical harvest at

1 least the data that we do have that Torsten and Jeff have
2 put together, was largely a non-resident harvest with
3 small amount of subsistence harvest. And that was due to
4 the remote access and the guides in the area that can
5 access the area with both airplanes and horses where your
6 average subsistence hunter would have a very difficult
7 time in getting to the area, they'd need an airplane to
8 start with and they would have to pretty much have a
9 horse or something over there to go really realistically
10 hunt these animals.

11
12 So we have had a lot of discussion about
13 what would happen as far as the allocation of the animals
14 and we're definitely not, you know, going to fall on our
15 sword saying I've heard both -- from both ends of the
16 spectrum from different people, I heard from a guide that
17 operated over there for many, many years and they have
18 him sit -- tell us that well, if it doesn't all go to the
19 non-resident, it's not accessible to the non-residents
20 then I don't think there should be any harvest. We've
21 heard some subsistence users that if it doesn't all go to
22 Federally qualified subsistence users then we don't think
23 there should be any harvest. Well, we're of the opinion
24 that as many groups -- if we could get all three at least
25 an animal for all three groups we'd be better off. And
26 one of the ideas that we had was that one of the State --
27 if one of the animals was to be allocated to the State --
28 draw that that would possibly be a governor's tag like
29 they do for the sheep tag in the Tok area. And the
30 revenue from that would go to the monitoring and helping
31 the Chisana Herd. That seems to be successful at least
32 in the sheep area and in the existing -- the Chisana Herd
33 as it is now, there's definitely record book animals in
34 it. I don't think anybody that knows much about it, has
35 looked at it much would argue with you there.

36
37 So another idea that we've talked about
38 and we're agreeable to would be if they had -- even if
39 the concern was that the subsistence users would need to
40 come first, that the subsistence hunt could be done
41 first, start earlier. And then if the animals that were
42 allocated to the subsistence users weren't taken those
43 would be -- could be reallocated to the State users.

44
45 Those are all things that we've talked
46 about and we're agreeable to. And I think for the most
47 part I feel like our proposal's done what we intended to
48 do and that's to get the process going and get people
49 talking about it and thinking about it and hopefully get
50 some sort of a harvest on this herd sooner rather than

1 later.

2

3 That's it.

4

5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank
6 you, Leif. Any questions of Leif.

7

8 (No comments)

9

10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I have one.
11 Leif, the -- I think I heard at your AC meeting that
12 there was concern of it losing a State hunt period?

13

14 MR. WILSON: Yeah, we would like to --
15 that's definitely a concern that it would be all
16 allocated to Federal subsistence users only. And the big
17 concern would be that -- whether or not especially given
18 the remote and difficulty accessing the herd, whether
19 they would even be utilized. So we would like at a
20 minimum to have at least the one State permit in there to
21 start with and then maybe have a -- see how that goes and
22 as time goes on see what the needs are. That's one of
23 the things that the Federal people have talked about is,
24 you know, the herd hasn't been harvested since '94 and at
25 that time it was mostly harvested by non-subsistence
26 people, but things have changed and possibly there's more
27 people that may be interested in hunting the herd,
28 Federally qualified subsistence users. And so if we had
29 some sort of a set up where that could, you know, maybe
30 more of them would be allocated to those people first and
31 see what happens, the first couple years go by and if
32 they're not harvested they would go to the -- over to the
33 State draw. That was the big concern was we wanted to
34 make sure that that option was in there.

35

36 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, but you
37 never lose your State hunt.

38

39 MR. WILSON: Yeah.

40

41 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
42 And I think just to help Leif out in terms -- because
43 we're -- there's been a lot of meetings here, their
44 committee must have had what, three or four meetings and
45 you've taken it up hours at a time and then you go get
46 done talking and you go my god, we're talking about seven
47 caribou here. But I think what you're trying to say is
48 that if you don't start something, you looked at it as 20
49 years down the road if something would ever get done?

50

1 MR. WILSON: Yeah, we looked at is as,
2 you know, especially with the cycles of the Boards and
3 then being told that, you know, you have to -- there has
4 to be a proposal in order to get an analysis started and
5 we didn't know how long that was going to take and we --
6 you know, I personally talked to the USGS biologist who
7 did this study on the Chisana Herd from '03 to '07 or
8 '08, somewhere in there and talked to him about it and
9 he's told us that there's no reason you can't, it is at
10 this time anyway a stable herd and that there's no reason
11 why -- there is a sustainable amount of harvest that can
12 be taken from this herd and I think it would be best for
13 the health of the herd if we could get it started.

14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And one other
16 thing, there's a -- the confusion for the people in the
17 area was that when this hunt was closed it was totally a
18 State hunt so it was really hard for them to understand
19 why it's gotten so complicated. And that's -- you know,
20 it's something that I felt, you know, when I -- when I
21 tried -- I said you guys just deal with it, it's in the
22 Park land, you've got to think about all these things.
23 So it took -- it took a lot of time for them to wrap
24 their head around what they're up against.

25
26 So anyone else want to ask Leif any
27 questions. Virgil.

28
29 MR. UMPHENOUR: Did you guys do any
30 investigation on the governor's tag aspect, who might
31 sponsor it or whatever, auction it off?

32
33 MR. WILSON: Mr. Umphenour. No -- no, we
34 did not, we just actually came up with that idea at the
35 last couple of meetings and we just imagined -- I guess
36 this -- the Fed or the sheep one is given to the Safari
37 Club International or somebody like that.

38
39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It varies.

40
41 MR. WILSON: Varies.

42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It varies, you
44 have to apply to the Fish and Game and they give them out
45 to people that apply for them. So it's through the
46 Department of Fish and Game.

47
48 MR. WILSON: I think if it was marketed
49 a little bit and that there's -- I think pretty big
50 potential there for those caribou.

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, there could be a very
2 high potential. I know some -- well, it varies by
3 species, but some governor's tags go, you know, some
4 people are absolutely filthy rich and some of them go
5 over for 300,000. I had a hunter donate 200,000 once.

6
7 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: On which permit?

8
9 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, it was in Texas
10 believe or not.....

11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, which
13 permit.

14
15 MR. UMPHENOUR:for deer.

16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay. Well,
18 let's not get off too far.

19
20 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, I'm.....

21
22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

23
24 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, but I'm serious it
25 made -- a lot of people that aren't associated with the
26 guided hunting industry may not be aware of these type
27 things, but some people pay hundreds of thousands of
28 dollars for specific permits to hunt.

29
30 Thank you.

31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, like that
33 varies a lot because a 14C sheep tag, I'm aware that it
34 had gone for 200,000 the first year and then subsequent
35 years later it went down as low as 18,000. So it can
36 vary depending on how it -- what's available to them, if
37 somebody has a picture of something that's nice then
38 that's what really makes it, you know, worth money.

39
40 So okay, any other questions of Leif.

41
42 (No comments)

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. Roy
45 is here and we weren't going to overlook you, Roy, I
46 understand you wanted to talk to this proposal on the
47 Chisana Caribou Herd. Oh, I was wrong, I mean, what
48 happened, George.

49
50 (Laughter)

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You just wanted
2 to listen. Okay. I think I got her now. All right.

3
4 Now any other -- let's see now, I lost
5 track. We got the SRC, we got the Advisory Committee,
6 we're down to written comments.

7
8 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. There -- we
9 have one written comment and that is from the Ahtna
10 Customary and Traditional Use Committee. And they
11 adamantly oppose the proposal because they would not like
12 a State hunt, no State participation in that hunt.

13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now we're
15 into discussion through our deliberation.

16
17 Virgil.

18
19 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I support this
20 process. I strongly support the process and I think it
21 should go forward. The thing that pays for conservation,
22 a lot of people aren't really aware of it, but the latest
23 data is that 70 percent of the budget for wildlife
24 conservation comes from the sale of non-resident hunting
25 licensing and tag fees. A lot of the people in the State
26 aren't really aware of that. And a hunt like this would
27 provide opportunity for trophy class record book class
28 hunters or hunts, animals out there for a very small
29 amount of them. And this is -- these type hunts are what
30 finance the majority of our science. And if the proposal
31 -- if the process does go through and there are a few
32 tags allocated or permits allocated and if they did do a
33 governor's permit, it's possible to raise a substantial
34 amount of money and Roy can answer this, but I think that
35 money can't actually be dedicated to specific projects.
36 And so I think that I'm in full support of the process
37 and it -- you know, if the allocation's done properly,
38 even though it's only a small amount of permits, it would
39 give the opportunity for a few very lucky people to go on
40 a hunt of a lifetime.

41
42 Madam Chair.

43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil, the
45 motion is to support Federal, State draw permit hunt for
46 the Chisana Caribou Herd and you've heard a lot of
47 discussion here. So are you supporting what Leif talked
48 about, some of the things they talked about, are you
49 supporting this motion before us as written.
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'm supporting both,
2 Madam Chair. And I noticed here that the OSM conclusion
3 is to support with modification.

4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No.

6
7 MR. UMPHENOUR: I'm looking at the wrong
8 thing here, I've got to look at the next page. It says
9 to defer the proposal until the management planning is
10 finalized and the 2010 census is complete. And so I
11 support that.

12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You.....

14
15 MR. UMPHENOUR: Because you can't really
16 plan on anything until you finish the planning process
17 and.....

18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So the
20 motion.....

21
22 MR. UMPHENOUR:the census is part
23 of it.

24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The motion was
26 to support, it was not to defer. So let's just talk to
27 the motion right now which is -- help me out here.

28
29 MR. UMPHENOUR: The motion would be to
30 support.

31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Support a joint
33 Federal/State draw permit hunt for the Chisana Caribou
34 Herd to be established in Unit 12 starting the fall of
35 2011. The harvest quota would be in accordance with
36 recommendations of the Chisana Caribou Herd management
37 plan. The harvest would be one bull and the hunting
38 season would be September 1 through September 30. A
39 portion of the permits would be issued to Federally
40 qualified subsistence hunters for a Federal hunt and the
41 rest of the permits would be issued to the State --
42 Alaska residents and non-residents for a State hunt. That
43 is what's before us. So let's speak to this proposal.

44
45 Bill.

46
47 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I'll support it because
48 we're talking a year or two down the road there so
49 they'll have time to study and like what they want to do
50 over there at the Fortymile is get this ball rolling so

1 I think we'd be more than happy to help them.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Other
4 Council members. I see there -- I'd like your head to
5 nod on the record, Lester.
6
7 MR. ERHART: I support it.
8
9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All
10 right. Other Council members.
11
12 MR. GURTLER: This is Frank, I'll support
13 it.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
16
17 MR. WOODRUFF: I'll support also.
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. And
20 the reason you're supporting it is what I understand from
21 Bill that you'd like to see the process start. Okay.
22
23 MR. GLANZ: I believe that would help
24 immensely.
25
26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.
27
28 MR. GLANZ: I'll call for the question.
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
31 been called for. All in favor.
32
33 IN UNISON: Aye.
34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I say aye
36 too. So anyone opposed.
37
38 (No opposing votes)
39
40 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That was
41 a little easier than I thought it would be after what
42 we've been through.
43
44 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. Just for
45 clarity in my mind, you supported the proposal as written
46 or you supported the deferral.
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, we have a
49 motion on the floor that.....
50

1 MR. ARDIZZONE: Supported as written?
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's right.
4
5 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay. I just wanted it
6 to be clear.....
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
9
10 MR. ARDIZZONE:in my head. Thank
11 you, ma'am.
12
13 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh. And the
14 reason behind it was that they -- they want to help them
15 and to get something started, to get the analysis or
16 whatever it takes to get something started and keep the
17 managers working together. Okay.
18
19 Frank.
20
21 MR. GLANZ: How late are we going in this
22 meeting today?
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We can -- we
25 have to stop at 4:00 o'clock because this building is
26 going to be set up or this room's going to be set up for
27 a banquet tonight. So is that -- 4:00 o'clock's going to
28 give us enough time to -- yeah, okay. So do you want to
29 continue until 4:00 and then we can break.
30
31 MR. GLANZ: Yes, Madam Chair. I'd like
32 to have this next be 105 so we have the Fortymile
33 meeting.
34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Let's go
36 for it.
37
38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to adopt Proposal
39 WP10-105.
40
41 MR. GLANZ: And I'll support that also.
42 I'm.....
43
44 MR. WOODRUFF: I'll second it.
45
46 MR. GLANZ: Second.
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's a motion
49 to take up 105 and been seconded by Bill.
50

1 Staff.

2

3 MS. HYER: Okay. Wildlife Proposal 10-
4 105 starts on Page 173 of the reg book. It was submitted
5 by Terry Brigner on behalf of the Upper Tanana Fortymile
6 Fish and Game Advisory Committee in conjunction with the
7 Fortymile Caribou Herd Working Group.

8

9 And it requests the Federal Fortymile
10 Caribou Herd hunt manger be given discretionary in-season
11 hunt management authority. This includes authority to
12 modify or restrict harvest limits, season dates, methods,
13 means and access to the hunt in 20E and 25C. Currently
14 there is a Wildlife Proposal 14 submitted before the
15 Alaska Board of Game that requests harvest changes and
16 limits to prevent excess harvest of the Fortymile Caribou
17 Herd when it's migrating past the roads.

18

19 Both proposals were submitted with the
20 intent of aligning State and Federal regulations. And
21 this proposal was submitted before the working group had
22 finished their process. So what you see in the original
23 analysis and in the write up is what was submitted to us
24 because our process has to go that way. And then as we
25 worked through it there was an update because the
26 conclusions for the Fortymile Caribou Working Group
27 occurred after the deadline for our proposals. So we'll
28 just -- we'll kind of work through it.

29

30 But the first thing is the proposal
31 states that the Federal Fortymile Caribou Herd hunt
32 manger should be given authority to modify or restrict
33 bag limits, season dates, methods and means including
34 access and weapons. The Federal Fortymile Caribou Herd
35 hunt manager is the Bureau of Land Management from the
36 Eastern Interior field office and currently the --
37 through our process, a letter of delegation, not the
38 regulatory process, is the vehicle for granting the
39 management -- granting management authority. So as we go
40 through this you'll see on Page 174 we've crossed out the
41 season closure that refers to BLM, it's not because we're
42 taking away their management authority, we are now doing
43 that through a letter. So we'll have a letter of
44 delegation that will actually give that authority. And
45 the Federal subsistence manager and the Board cannot
46 regulate access to lands on -- for Federal subsistence
47 hunts, that is a function of the land managers so we're
48 only talking about methods and means.

49

50 So the Federal -- the Fortymile Caribou

1 Herd Working Group is a joint coalition and it submitted
2 a proposal with intent to improve field conditions that
3 have been caused by the overcrowding of hunters and
4 decrease the large harvest of the Federal -- excuse me,
5 the Fortymile Caribou Herd near the highway system. And
6 so submitted to the Board of Game is a request to reduce
7 the harvest limit to one bull for the State hunt. They
8 also are requesting the delay in the State hunt to
9 September 29th. And the working group made this
10 recommendation to be considered in conjunction with our
11 Wildlife Proposal 10-105 and it -- and they asked us to
12 align Federal subsistence harvest limits with theirs so
13 Federal harvest subsistence -- the Federal subsistence
14 harvest limit would be one bull for the fall hunt which
15 for Federal hunters is August 10th to September 29th and
16 aligning the State and Federal hunt. They also ask that
17 -- they requested a maximum allowable harvest before
18 August 29th not to exceed 100 bulls.

19
20 So the OSM preliminary conclusion was to
21 support with modification. To change the harvest limit
22 from one caribou to one bull and to limit the fall hunt
23 for the first 19 days to bring this proposal in line with
24 what was submitted before the State and meet the request
25 of the management working group. And again the authority
26 to close the hunt will be taken out of regulation and
27 will be put into a letter of delegation, but that will
28 still reside with the in-season manager.

29
30 Are there any questions.

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 MR. GLANZ: Oh, I have no questions, but
35 I have comments later on when it comes to it.

36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, okay.
38 Yeah. My head's still on that Chisana thing. No
39 questions then. We're going onto the Department of Fish
40 and Game.

41
42 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
43 Referencing our comments.

44
45 The early closure to the Fortymile
46 Caribou have been commonplace in the past five years. In
47 addition the harvest exceeds the annual the annual quota
48 set in the 2006 to 2012 Fortymile Herd harvest plan on
49 several occasions. In-season authority is necessary for
50 Federal subsistence delegate officials to make in season

1 adjustments to the hunt including the authority to modify
2 or restrict bag limits, season dates and methods and
3 means including access and weapon restrictions to help
4 manage harvest levels by Federally qualified subsistence
5 users within agreed upon quotas as outlined in the
6 harvest plan which was endorsed by the Federal
7 Subsistence Board in 2006.

8

9 For impacts to subsistence users. These
10 changes will allow for better conservation of the
11 Fortymile Caribou Herd resulting in more caribou
12 available to subsistence hunters and fewer early season
13 closures. Our restrictions may reduce the number of
14 caribou harvested by Federal subsistence hunters at
15 certain times. It is not anticipated to reduce the
16 overall annual harvest by subsistence harvest and will
17 spread the harvest throughout the seasons.

18

19 The opportunity provided by the State.
20 Currently the State season of the Fortymile Caribou Herd
21 is open to Alaska residents from August 10 to September
22 30th and December 1 through February 28 with a bag limit
23 of one caribou unless closed by emergency order. However
24 as mentioned earlier, a proposal's been submitted by the
25 Coalition to the Alaska Board of Game to reduce the State
26 season for Alaska residents from August -- to August 29th
27 through September 30th with a one bull bag limit.

28

29 Conservation issues. Excessive harvest
30 can occur when large numbers of Fortymile Caribou cross
31 the road -- cross roads. In addition seasons are often
32 closed early to prevent over harvest. Federal delegate
33 officials need the flexibility to modify various aspects
34 of the Federal subsistence Fortymile Caribou hunts just
35 prior to or during the seasons. Authorizing this
36 flexibility will allow Federally delegated officials to
37 react to unpredictable hunt conditions and caribou
38 movements which will in turn minimize the frequency of
39 early season closures to prevent over harvest.

40

41 Further comments. The 2009 proposal to
42 the Alaska Board of Game, the Fortymile Caribou Herd
43 Coalition supported continuation of the current Federal
44 subsistence Fortymile Caribou hunt with two recommended
45 changes and one recommended change mentioned earlier is
46 to change the bag limit from one caribou to one bull and
47 the second recommendation is to limit the Federal
48 subsistence harvest to no more than 100 bull caribou
49 during the August 10 through 28 portion of the Federal
50 season as agreed upon with Federal officials during the

1 development of the harvest plan.

2

3 The Department recommends supporting
4 authorizing authority to delegated Federal officials, but
5 also modified to address the two concerns just described
6 earlier.

7

8 Thank you, Madam Chair.

9

10 *****

11 STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

12 *****

13

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

16

17 Wildlife Proposal WP10-105:

18

19 This proposal gives discretionary
20 authority to federal delegated officials for the Joint
21 State/Federal Fortymile Caribou Registration Permit Hunts
22 (RC860 and RC867), which parallels the discretionary
23 authority granted Alaska Department of Fish and Game
24 under Alaska Administrative Code, 5 AAC 92.052.

25

26 Introduction:

27

28 Early hunt closures for the Fortymile
29 Caribou herd have been common place in the past 5 years.
30 In addition, the harvest exceeded the annual quota set in
31 the 2006-2012 Fortymile Herd Harvest Plan (Harvest Plan)
32 on several occasions. In-season authority is necessary
33 for federal subsistence delegated officials to make in-
34 season adjustments to this hunt (including the authority
35 to modify or restrict bag limits, season dates and
36 methods and means, including access and weapons
37 restrictions) to help manage harvest levels by federally
38 qualified subsistence users within agreed upon quotas, as
39 outlined in the Harvest Plan (endorsed by the Federal
40 Subsistence Board in 2006).

41

42 Impact on Subsistence Users:

43

44 These changes will allow for better
45 conservation of the Fortymile Caribou Herd, resulting in
46 more caribou available to subsistence hunters and fewer
47 early season closures. While restrictions may reduce the
48 number of caribou harvested by federal subsistence
49 hunters at certain times, it is not anticipated to reduce
50 the overall annual harvest by subsistence hunters and

1 will spread the harvest throughout the seasons.

2

3 Opportunity Provided by State:

4

5 Currently, the state season for the
6 Fortymile Caribou Herd is open to Alaska residents from
7 August 10 through September 30 and December 1 through
8 February 28, with a bag limit of 1 caribou, unless closed
9 by Emergency Order. However, a proposal has been
10 submitted by the Fortymile Caribou Herd Coalition to the
11 Alaska Board of Game (for their February 2010 meeting) to
12 reduce the state season for Alaska residents to August 29
13 through September 30, with a 1 bull bag limit.

14

15 Conservation Issues:

16

17 Excessive harvest can occur when large
18 numbers of Fortymile Caribou cross roads. In addition,
19 seasons are often closed early to prevent over harvest.
20 Federal delegated officials need the flexibility to
21 modify various aspects of the federal subsistence
22 Fortymile Caribou hunts just prior to or during these
23 seasons. Authorizing this flexibility will allow federal
24 delegated officials to react to unpredictable hunt
25 conditions and caribou movements which will in turn
26 minimize the frequency of early season closures and
27 prevent overharvest.

28

29 Enforcement Issues:

30

31 Misalignment of federal and state in-
32 season changes to hunting regulations can create
33 enforcement issues. By allowing federal delegated
34 officials authority similar in-season to that of state
35 managers, state and federal officials can work together
36 to implement parallel (applying to both state and federal
37 subsistence hunts) in-season changes to ensure quotas are
38 not exceeded.

39

40 Other Comments:

41

42 In a 2009 proposal to the Alaska Board of
43 Game, the Fortymile Caribou Herd Coalition supported
44 continuation of the current federal subsistence Fortymile
45 Caribou Hunt with 2 recommended changes. The first
46 recommendation is to change the fall season federal
47 subsistence bag limit from 1 caribou to 1 bull. The
48 coalition identified the problem of flock shooting as
49 the issue that would be addressed with this change in the
50 bag limit. Flock shooting refers to hunters shooting

1 into groups of caribou, without regard for hitting
2 multiple animals in the group. Some members in the
3 coalition feel that because hunters have been able to
4 take any caribou, they are not being careful about
5 picking out a single animal to shoot, but instead just
6 start shooting into a group hoping to get a caribou.
7 This can result in wounding loss. The second
8 recommendation is to limit the federal subsistence
9 harvest to no more than 100 bull caribou during the
10 August 10 through 28 portion of the federal season, as
11 agreed upon with federal officials during the development
12 of the Harvest Plan.

13

14 Recommendation:

15

16 Support authorizing authority to
17 delegated federal official but also modify to address
18 recommended changes described in Other Comments above.

19

20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions.

21

22 MR. GLANZ: I just like the way we read
23 it.

24

25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other
26 additional ADF&G.

27

28 (No comments)

29

30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Roy.

31

32 MR. NOWLIN: Yeah, Madam Chair. Council.
33 I'm Roy Nowlin, I'm the management supervisor for the
34 Division of Wildlife Conservation for the Interior.

35

36 We are very concerned about the short
37 seasons that have occurred with Fortymile Caribou. And
38 our -- have worked with this Coalition of Advisory
39 Committees to come up with some potential solutions and
40 at the same time within these solutions we're very
41 concerned that we continue to coordinate the State and
42 the Federal seasons and that we continue to have a joint
43 State/Federal hunt there. I think everyone no matter
44 what kind of user you consider yourself to be can benefit
45 from continuation of that. And so I appreciate your
46 consideration of this and we'll be going forward of
47 course with this Board of Game proposal as well so we're
48 optimistic that going into that if -- given that we have
49 this Coalition of Advisory Committee and if the Council
50 chooses to support this Federal proposal it will put

1 additional weight behind our efforts with the Board of
2 Game to try and solve the problem.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you, Roy.
7 Council members, any questions of Roy. Stay there, Roy,
8 because I'm not done with you.

9

10 Bill.

11

12 MR. GLANZ: Well, I should have addressed
13 this to our council earlier, do you think I'll have any
14 trouble getting 100 caribou limit out of our Council
15 here. What we agreed upon, Madam Chair and Board
16 members, is that there was a lot of concern with the
17 other non-subsistence areas that we'd have 25,000
18 subsistence hunters coming in here and knocking the
19 caribou out, you know, the whole four or 500, whatever we
20 agreed on for this fall hunt. And so we tried to
21 reassure them, me, Madam Chair and one of the members of
22 our Board from Eagle that we would maintain the 100.
23 That's what we're guaranteed under the State -- the
24 Federal whatever is, the ANILCA or whatever, 100 caribou
25 for subsistence. And I can speak real knowingly on this
26 and some of the -- we probably didn't exceed 25 and some
27 of them's probably from somewhere else down the road
28 rather than like in the Steese corridor or Eagle. I
29 don't think Eagle even got any subsistence caribou this
30 last fall. Yeah, they did, they got a couple. But and
31 so it's all outside hunting and part of the deal with
32 Jeff Gross is that this deal by August 29th the majority
33 of the caribou are going to be out of the area anyway,
34 it's not going to be a surround and drown. I've
35 witnessed 15 caribou being herded by a bunch of four
36 wheelers, push them down to a valley and just shoot until
37 there's none left, you know, and that's really
38 commonplace, I've seen that twice. And you'll never see
39 a local out there hunting on opening day of caribou
40 season because there's bullets ringing off the ground, I
41 mean, it's a nightmare, it's a real nightmare.

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

44

45 MR. GLANZ: And we've.....

46

47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

48

49 MR. GLANZ:if we don't have
50 anything for drawing, I don't want to keep it going

1 anyway. So.....
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I -- this
4 is our deliberation portion.
5
6 MR. GLANZ: Right.
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So we should ask
9 questions specifically to ADF&G.
10
11 MR. GLANZ: Okay. Well, I was just
12 addressing.....
13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you can
15 continue that thought, I.....
16
17 MR. GLANZ: Okay.
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:appreciate
20 that.
21
22 MR. GLANZ: Okay.
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I guess the
25 question that I had for Roy, you might have got my brain
26 off track. It -- it's coming back to me. Tonight we're
27 having a -- this -- the RAC -- I mean, the ACs are
28 meeting again. Do we have new information that's going
29 to change anything about the -- what we do today and
30 what's before us here today because what I -- I failed to
31 do what I wanted to do last proposal was take up the
32 joint one for the Chisana, but we must do that here, we
33 must take up the State Board of Game proposal and the
34 Federal proposal, you know, behind the other one. And I
35 failed to do that. And I want to do that here with these
36 two proposals.
37
38 So my question to you is do you foresee
39 some new information or some change tonight at the AC
40 meeting, AC, whatever the meeting of all of us?
41
42 MR. NOWLIN: Yeah. Madam Chair. I
43 believe the intent of the meeting tonight is to make sure
44 that we touch base -- the Coalition touch bases again --
45 touches base again before we get before the Board of
46 Game. And just to make sure that everybody's on the same
47 page. Now as far as any additional information, there is
48 some concern from our Subsistence Division that with the
49 short number of hunting days that we've had, particularly
50 in the fall, that there may be a question under the

1 State's subsistence law that -- a question about
2 reasonable opportunity for subsistence. And so that is
3 something that the -- our Subsistence Division is going
4 to come to the Board of Game with information about that.
5 And also the Board of Game may choose to -- and I don't
6 know whether they will, in fact, or not, but they may
7 choose to revisit the amounts necessary for subsistence
8 on the Fortymile Herd. Now I don't know whether they'll
9 go there or not, but these questions about reasonable
10 opportunity have been raised and the -- of course the
11 primary purpose of the changes that are being proposed
12 for Fortymile Caribou to try to get more opportunity by
13 making some changes to the season. So here we are, we've
14 had these short seasons and our inability to at least
15 certainly last fall to control the harvest and, you know,
16 witness that we blew past the annual quota last fall.
17 And so we've got to reestablish control of that harvest
18 and at the same time what we need to do is provide that
19 reasonable opportunity for subsistence.

20

21 Now if we are successful with measures
22 that have been proposed, then the result would be that
23 there will be more opportunity for subsistence. So this
24 is a -- I hope that's not confusing the way I presented
25 it, but if we can allow the herd to move away from the
26 road and if we can slow down the harvest a bit then the
27 hunting season can be longer and we won't have these high
28 harvests over such a short period of time and that make
29 it necessary for us to issue emergency orders and close
30 at least on the State side. I think the Federal season
31 has been longer in most cases.

32

33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

34

35 MR. NOWLIN: But it's this relatively
36 complicated question about reasonable opportunity for
37 subsistence that has been raised by our Subsistence
38 Division and I hope that we'll have Subsistence Division
39 people at that meeting tonight and they can talk about --
40 some more about what their concerns are.

41

42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, here's a
43 good example of the State/Federal being so differing that
44 we -- you don't know what to think half the time. But I
45 applaud a joint State and Federal work on the Fortymile
46 Caribou and I -- I mean, I think this Council would agree
47 that that's vital and the process we're going through is
48 it keeps everybody involved and the Subsistence Division
49 of the State, it's a little different than what works
50 with the Federal side so it's -- that's the part that's

1 hard for sometimes us to get things wrestled out in our
2 minds. So for new information what you're saying is --
3 now I attended some of those meetings, tonight at this
4 meeting to see any changes is just the question about
5 what's reasonable opportunity?

6

7 MR. NOWLIN: (Nods affirmatively)

8

9 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And the
10 amount necessary for subsistence under the State
11 regulations is what?

12

13 MR. NOWLIN: Yeah, the -- it's 350 to
14 400. And I -- like I say I'm not sure that the Board is
15 going to want to revisit that, but they might.

16

17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. How in
18 the heck do you guys determine who's subsistence, all of
19 them for 350 animals?

20

21 MR. NOWLIN: I'm in way over my head on
22 that way.

23

24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hopefully the
25 best thing is not to touch it.

26

27 MR. NOWLIN: There's a worksheet, there's
28 a subsistence -- Subsistence has these customary and
29 traditional worksheets that they do.....

30

31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

32

33 MR. NOWLIN:in each case and I
34 think that they are in the process of getting information
35 that if the Board chooses to go there they could be
36 looking at the history of use on that herd and who used
37 them.

38

39 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I.....

40

41 MR. NOWLIN: Those are important
42 questions.....

43

44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

45

46 MR. NOWLIN:that will have to be
47 considered if they do that.

48

49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think what we
50 -- I need to do is stick to the Federal side of things

1 then and not worry too much about that, that's, you know,
2 us as the users, we got to worry about both sides, but,
3 you know, you worry about your side and you worry about
4 your side, but we're out there trying to hunt a caribou
5 and by golly it's like what the heck's going on here,
6 these guys look at it this way and these guys look at it
7 that way, I'm just showing you that's tough for the
8 people in the field and us to make decisions on because
9 we're -- we get together and these management plans and
10 we try to come up with solutions. It's like oh, you
11 can't do it that way, you got to do it this way. And it
12 gets very hard.

13

14 Chuck.

15

16 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, Madam Chair, I was
17 just going to add to that, we don't use ANS on our side
18 in the Federal system so, you know, the State can change
19 ANS, it wouldn't affect what you do here or what we
20 do.....

21

22 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

23

24 MR. ARDIZZONE:it's just.....

25

26 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, we're
27 looking at this proposal and I guess you.....

28

29 MR. ARDIZZONE: Holistically.

30

31 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:the Federal
32 Staff was asking me if I felt like this meeting tonight
33 would change and we'd bring this back up again and I
34 suspect not, because there won't be any changes. So what
35 we do here now is going to be a done deal.

36

37 Any other questions of the Council
38 members to the Department of Fish and Game.

39

40 MR. GLANZ: No, I'm just -- so there's --
41 we got a 800 total harvest in the year and 400 for
42 subsistence. That's a little unbalanced it sounds like
43 to me really, but then again we -- I didn't set up the
44 book.

45

46 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That's
47 because you're looking at it through the Federal side
48 possibly or.....

49

50 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. Yeah. Oh, I know,

1 but, you know, it's just.....
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.
4 Let's -- any other questions of Fish and Game.
5
6 It sounds like you have something there,
7 Chuck.
8
9 MR. ARDIZZONE: I don't have a question,
10 I just wanted to.....
11
12 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Respond.
13
14 MR. ARDIZZONE:you know, respond
15 that subsistence under the State regs is all Alaskan
16 residents.
17
18 MR. GLANZ: I know that.
19
20 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah, it's.....
21
22 MR. GLANZ: I know that. So I mean, but
23 they have to have a permit too. So, I mean, you know,
24 you can just.....
25
26 MR. ARDIZZONE: I know. I'm just.....
27
28 MR. GLANZ: Oh, I know.
29
30 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're just
31 trying to make it easier for the user by working together
32 and I'm all in favor of that.
33
34 MR. GLANZ: I just wanted it specified
35 that the 100 we're talking about is 100 only for Federal
36 subsistence.
37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right. So let's
39 continue with our process.
40
41 MR. GLANZ: Okay.
42
43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Then next
44 would be -- I don't think there's any SRC comments to
45 this. The Fish and Game Advisory Committee comments and
46 I think yours did.....
47
48 MR. GLANZ: Yes, ours supported it 100
49 percent.
50

1 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
2
3 MR. GLANZ: That's Central.
4
5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I'm sure --
6 I'm just going to say that -- 100 percent because these
7 are the ACs that worked on it.
8
9 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So -- and
12 so did yours and you guys have voted on it. That's
13 Fairbanks.
14
15 MR. WOODRUFF: And Eagle.
16
17 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Eagle voted
18 on it so we've got three ACs on this RAC that are part of
19 that. So that is taken care of.
20
21 And now we have the summary of written
22 comments. Are there any other ones?
23
24 MR. LARSON: Did you mention the Delta
25 AC?
26
27 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I did not
28 mention the Delta AC.
29
30 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. We have two
31 additional public comments. One is from the Delta AC,
32 and they are in support of the proposal. We have a Mr.
33 Don Quarburg who is also in support of the proposal.
34
35 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And
36 Delta's another Committee that's on that group. Who am
37 I missing. That's all of them. Okay.
38
39 Did I skip over the Federal and State,
40 Tribal. Ruth, you -- I guess you have something. Sorry
41 about that.
42
43 MS. GRONQUIST: Madam Chair. Council.
44 I'm Ruth Gronquist with BLM again. And we manage a fair
45 bit of the land that would be covered by this hunt. And
46 we've been -- you -- many of you know the history of
47 this, I don't want to bore you with that, but just remind
48 everybody that the management of this herd has been joint
49 with users, the Federal agencies, the State, beginning in
50 1995. And I think that we can be really proud and

1 pleased of where we've gotten where this from the
2 grassroots beginning of this being a request from the
3 users.....

4

5 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

6

7 MS. GRONQUIST:to rebuild this
8 herd. So this is just another example of that same
9 spirit of working together to have the ACs and the RAC
10 involved in -- in putting forth continued management
11 solutions. And BLM certainly supports this and I am very
12 positive as well that the State will support it -- the
13 Board of Game will support this. And if something were
14 to -- were to change with this, it wouldn't make any
15 difference for you guys to support this, it would just --
16 you'd have the same opportunity. So.....

17

18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions of
19 Ruth.

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sorry about
24 that, Ruth. I was -- I ought to give my husband an atta
25 boy because I think he was one of the first ones to push
26 this to get started. Yeah, and my -- I thought it was
27 even before '95, I can remember going to a lot of
28 meetings.

29

30 MR. GRONQUIST: Yes.....

31

32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

33

34 MS. GRONQUIST:Sue, you're correct.
35 The first.....

36

37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think it was
38 '90.

39

40 MS. GRONQUIST:the first meeting
41 was in 1994 that I was invited to.

42

43 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That you
44 attended, yeah.

45

46 MS. GRONQUIST: So.....

47

48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

49

50 MS. GRONQUIST. But we really tackled the

1 problem starting in late '94, early '95.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I think we
4 should all be proud of that actually, that we worked
5 together on that.
6
7 So any other public or Staff comments?
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.
12 Discussion. Bill, go ahead.
13
14 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I'm definitely voting in
15 favor of it, it's been a lot of work by everybody. So
16 that's the only discussion I'll have.
17
18 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Frank.
19
20 MR. GURTLER: And I'll vote in favor of
21 that too.
22
23 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Virgil.
24
25 MR. UMPHENOUR: Move to amend to the
26 modification that is mentioned in Alaska Department of
27 Fish and Game and Office of Subsistence Management's
28 preliminary conclusion. And that would be that it would
29 be bulls only and there was something else. Okay.
30 Well.....
31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that's what
33 the group put -- yeah. Okay.
34
35 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yeah, from one.....
36
37 MR. WOODRUFF: Second.
38
39 MR. UMPHENOUR: It would be from one
40 caribou to one bull which is.....
41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.
43
44 MR. UMPHENOUR:bulls only and let's
45 see and I think that was it.
46
47 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you want to
48 read it, Virgil.
49
50 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I'll just read what

1 -- I'll read what it says in here.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Support.
4
5 MR. UMPHENOUR: It says -- okay.
6 Support.....
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: With
9 modifications.
10
11 MR. UMPHENOUR:with modifications.
12 To change the harvest limit from one caribou to one bull
13 for the fall hunt and to limit the number of caribou
14 harvested in the first 19 days of the Federal subsistence
15 hunt to 100 animals. In conjunction with these
16 regulatory changes it is also recommended that a letter
17 of delegation be issued allowing the Federal subsistence
18 manager the authority to modify or restrict bag limits,
19 season dates, methods and means. The closure authority
20 will be taken out of regulation, because that authority
21 is included in the letter of delegation. The access
22 portion of the proposal is not addressed because the
23 Federal Subsistence Board does not have the authority to
24 restrict access. Access to Federal lands can only be
25 addressed by the Federal agencies that manage the lands.
26
27 But that addresses both the State's
28 concerns and the Office of Subsistence Management
29 concerns as well.
30
31 Madam Chair.
32
33 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you for
34 reading that and I did hear a second and that was.....
35
36 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that, I'm sorry.
37
38 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:from Bill.
39
40 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.
41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Uh-huh.
43 Okay. Now speaking to the amendment to the motion. I
44 believe it's pretty much covered.
45
46 MR. GLANZ: Can I call for the question.
47
48 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. All in
49 favor.
50

1 IN UNISON: Aye.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And none
4 opposed.
5
6 (No opposing votes)
7
8 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now the
9 main motion.
10
11 MR. GLANZ: Call for the question on the
12 main motion.
13
14 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: For the same
15 reasons we're going to support it.
16
17 MR. GLANZ: Yes.
18
19 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're
20 supporting the Advisory Groups. Okay. All in favor.
21
22 IN UNISON: Aye.
23
24 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone opposed.
25
26 (No opposing votes)
27
28 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right. You
29 know, just housekeeping. Not -- it's 4:00 o'clock. Can
30 I have a few minutes to take up those two proposals,
31 those two joint proposals for the Chisana Caribou to the
32 State was number 18. Do you want to vote on them
33 separately, what would work or can we vote on them
34 together, Staff, that we support the State Board of Game
35 Proposal 18 for Chisana based on our Federal and then the
36 State one, 14, based on our vote of 105. I see you're
37 helping me here.
38
39 MR. GLANZ: All right. I'll make a
40 motion we adopt 14 and 18. Oh.
41
42 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Robert.
43
44 MR. LARSON: Madam Chair. Because of the
45 discussions we've had of these proposals being back to
46 back as they were and the discussion that's on the
47 record, I would think that a positive and because these
48 are mirrored almost exactly in the State regulations that
49 a motion to take them up together would be in order.
50

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's 18 and 105.
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. 18 and
4 14. State Proposal 18 for the Chisana, State Proposal 14
5 for the Fortymile.
6
7 MR. GLANZ: I'll make a motion to that
8 effect, 18 and 14 be taken up together.
9
10 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Based on
11 our.....
12
13 MR. GLANZ: Talking.
14
15 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: discussion
16 of the last two.....
17
18 MR. GLANZ: Discussion, yeah.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:Federal
21 Proposals.....
22
23 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.
24
25 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER:104 and
26 105.
27
28 MR. GLANZ: Right.
29
30 MR. GURTLER: I'll second.
31
32 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Frank
33 seconded that.
34
35 MR. GURTLER: Yes.
36
37 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go, Frank. All
38 right. Virgil.
39
40 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay. I would like to
41 refer to my comments on the two previous proposals for
42 these two proposals and call for the question.
43
44 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The question's
45 been called for. All in favor.
46
47 IN UNISON: Aye.
48
49 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any opposed.
50

1 (No opposing votes)
2
3 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We are
4 going to start at what time in the morning, 8:30. That
5 works for me.
6
7 Chuck.
8
9 MR. ARDIZZONE: Madam Chair. I just ran
10 next door. I'm not sure if their meeting's going to run
11 until tomorrow or not.
12
13 REPORTER: No, we're meeting here
14 tomorrow.
15
16 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay. Tina knows.
17
18 MR. UMPHENOUR: We don't have to meet.
19
20 MADAM CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We have to pull
21 all our stuff because there's going to be a banquet in
22 here tonight. So get all your stuff so they can set up
23 a banquet and then we've got to bring in tomorrow. So
24 we'll see you in the morning at 8:30.
25
26 (Off record)
27
28 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

