

00198

1 EASTERN INTERIOR REGIONAL SUBSISTENCE
2 ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3

4

5 VOLUME III

6

7 Circle Hot Springs, Alaska

8 February 27, 2002

9 8:30 o'clock a.m.

10

11 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

12

13 Sue Entsminger

14 Allen Stevens

15 Virgil Umphenour

16 Tricia Waggoner

17 Jim Wilde

18

19 Regional Coordinator, Donald Mike (ACTING CHAIR)

00199

1 PROCEEDINGS

2

3 (Circle Hot Springs - 2/27/2002)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN MIKE: I'm calling this meeting
8 back to order. Yesterday we were on agenda item number --
9 it's in Item No. 8 on customary trade and we went through
10 Section 11 and the Council did a work session last night at
11 7:00 o'clock and just a little housekeeping today. There's
12 some people that need to catch some earlier flights, Sue
13 Entsminger will leave earlier today. Is there anybody
14 else? I know Don Rivard, Ida Hildebrand, Tim Jennings,
15 Dave Wiswar got to catch this morning's flight. Do any of
16 you have any presentations that you need to make?

17

18 MR. BERG: Donald, I think Ida already
19 left.

20

21 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Oh, she's left.

22

23 MR. EASTLAND: Ida's been going since
24 Monday or Tuesday or yesterday morning or something.

25

26 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay, that takes care of
27 that. And there's another earlier flight I think leaving
28 at 9:40, you need to see the lady at the front desk. If
29 you have any agency presentations you need to make please
30 speak up now.

31

32 We have about seven more agenda items to go
33 over and there's a couple of action items that the Council
34 needs to act on. The resolution that was developed by the
35 tri-Council. We need to review the annual report, that
36 needs action. And another action item is the Council
37 charter and review. So I prioritized the list on the
38 remaining agenda. Customary trade is first today. We need
39 to get that done. The Council charter review. And
40 elections. I prioritized those as number 2 just in case --
41 I'd certainly like to get done by 12:00 o'clock today. The
42 next priority on my list is the annual report review, the
43 resolution review and agency reports. Are there any people
44 from the agencies that need to catch a flight early today.

45 So that's the priority list I have. And future meeting
46 dates and correspondence sent and received.

47

48 So we'll go through, what does the Council
49 think of that priority list? So we'll start off with

50 customary trade and get that business done and we'll get a

00200

1 short report from Jeff Adams and then we'll get into the
2 Yukon Flats. And after that we'll do our review of the
3 annual report and review the resolution and get the
4 remaining agency reports completed.

5

6 What do you guys think?

7

8 MS. ENTSMINGER: Sounds great.

9

10 CHAIRMAN MIKE: All right.

11

12 MS. ENTSMINGER: Let's go.

13

14 CHAIRMAN MIKE: So let's get started,
15 customary trade, if you can you get that language on the
16 screen again. Thank you.

17

18 And I think I'll have Tricia or Virgil or
19 Sue or any of the Council members lead off the discussion
20 of when we had our work session last night. Who would like
21 to lead off the discussion?

22

23 Sue.

24

25 MS. ENTSMINGER: Once it gets up there. We
26 had a long discussion last night, over two hours and beat
27 up a lot of issues and so we ended up coming up --
28 everything in red are things that we discussed that we were
29 thinking along the lines of. And I think what our idea is
30 to possibly just send this out and let some of the other
31 Councils look at it. And we might consider
32 teleconferencing and making some more changes or ideas to
33 it ourselves. So that was my understanding.

34

35 MR. JENNINGS: We don't have this as a
36 handout, we really do need to read this into the record so
37 we have it in our record. It will just take a few minutes
38 but as you note the changes, if you could also give some
39 backgrounds in terms in what the rationale was behind some
40 of the changes. It will take about five minutes to do
41 that. I think it will strengthen our record because it
42 will be captured by the court reporter.

43

44 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Sue, can you do that?

45

46 MS. ENTSMINGER: So I have to practice my
47 reading.

48

49 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yes.

50

00201

1 MR. BERG: Do you want to start with 12?

2

3 MS. ENTSMINGER: We might as well start at

4 11.

5

6 MR. BERG: 11, all right.

7

8 MS. ENTSMINGER: Yes, for the record, let's
9 see if we got the name of this thing, Proposed Rule for
10 Regional Councils. It's Part D, under subsistence taking
11 of fish and wildlife into Subpart D, 36 CFR, Part 242 and
12 50 CFR Part 100. And this is 27, subsistence taking of
13 fish. As before us in our manual is some language that was
14 drafted and we were looking at so in No. 11 of that
15 language -- is it important that I read the entire thing or
16 just the changes?

17

18 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)

19

20 MS. ENTSMINGER: Everything, okay.
21 Transactions between rural residents, the exchange between
22 rural residents and customary trade of subsistence harvest
23 fish and parts and we have excluded eggs, legally taken
24 under the regulations in this part and that's got something
25 I can't -- unprocessed or processed using customary and
26 traditional methods is permitted. And we're adding, I
27 believe, right?

28

29 MS. WAGGONER: Uh-huh.

30

31 MS. ENTSMINGER: The egg exception does not
32 apply to whole fish. And then in No. 12. Transactions
33 between a rural resident and others, customary trade for
34 fish, their parts, except eggs, legally taken under the
35 regulations in this part from a rural resident to
36 individuals other than rural is permitted as long as it is
37 used for personal or family consumption of the individual
38 who purchases the fish and does not exceed \$200 per person
39 per year in sales. That was not perfectly clear of what --
40 we don't have -- I mean that isn't something we are
41 hardcore on there. As a matter of fact, it created a lot
42 of discussion.

43

44 Okay, these are our discussion points. One

45 version discussed by the Council is this, when the
46 preseason forecast indicates that a run will not provide
47 for escapement and full subsistence harvest, even with
48 residents on non-subsistence uses, the customary trade on
49 the run will be prohibited, as with the Yukon River chum
50 runs for 2002. And our secretary's doing a good job here.

00202

1 This can be modified based on in-season run assessment.

2

3 The next one, however, some of the problems
4 were identified with this language. The Council discussed,
5 at length, the idea that a certain particular low levels of
6 run strength, customary trade should be prohibited and all
7 subsistence harvest reserved for family consumption. It
8 was recognized that the terminology for this is not easily
9 identified, like a stock of concern, yield concern, et
10 cetera.

11

12 It was also recognized that assessment of
13 run strength, preseason, early season, mid-season pose a
14 technical problem for applying this idea.

15

16 The Council also discussed the idea that
17 harvest for customary trade should not be the primary goal
18 of subsistence harvest. Fish exchanged in customary trade
19 should be an incidental part of the total harvest of a
20 household. There was discussion of thresholds, say 50
21 percent or less than 50 percent, I see you have there, and
22 less than 25 percent, to identify the incidental level.
23 And that's of their total harvest.

24

25 Okay, No. 13. No purchase by fisheries
26 businesses. If you are required to be licensed as a
27 fisheries business under the Alaska Statute A.S. 43.75.011
28 you may not purchase or receive for commercial purposes or
29 barter or solicit to barter for subsistence taken fish,
30 their parts or their eggs. And then we have suggested to
31 add, any person with an Alaska State business license who
32 runs commercial dog teams are not allowed to buy and feed
33 subsistence caught fish or salmon to dogs. And as I'm
34 reading it, I'm wondering if it should be fish. But at any
35 rate, the Council also discussed the idea that the
36 prohibition on purchase by fisheries businesses should
37 apply to those outside of Alaska as well. In Paragraph 12,
38 the Council deleted reference to non-fisheries business in
39 order to eliminate all customary trade to businesses.

40

41 The Council also discussed the idea that
42 the prohibition should equally limit sale to a business as
43 well as purchased by a business.

44

45 And then definition of a commercial dog
46 team. A business that leases, rents, races or otherwise
47 provides services with their dogs or dog team for money or
48 enumeration, services other than money, including -- or
49 excluding, excuse me, excluding amateur events.
50

00203

1 And then this is black, what do we got
2 here?

3
4 MR. BERG: It should be red.

5
6 MS. ENTSMINGER: Okay. This must be
7 another point. If a higher dollar value is allowed under
8 12, then a permitting system similar to a catch or seller
9 permit in the State system should be in place. And these
10 are all ideas. Nothing was really set in stone.

11
12 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tim.

13
14 MR. JENNINGS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
15 appreciate you reading that into the record, Sue. You'll
16 recall yesterday that, procedurally, you did vote on
17 Paragraph 11 and that was a unanimous adoption of the
18 language to exclude the sale of eggs and there was -- it
19 was statewide except for Southeast.

20
21 Okay, so now procedurally it would be good
22 to know your wishes in terms of the language that was
23 discussed, either for Paragraph 12 or for Paragraph 13 if
24 you want to forward that to the Board as discussion items
25 with no recommendation or vote for both paragraphs or if
26 you feel like on Paragraph 13, for instance, you could go
27 ahead or on 12 and finalize some recommended language, that
28 would be the next step to finalize your work on customary
29 trade. So we'd just like to know, clearly, for the record,
30 how you want the Board to treat Paragraph 12 and 13.

31
32 You've got some discussion items, you could
33 forward all of that onto the Board for discussion or you
34 could say among these discussion items we feel we could --
35 you could have a vote and recommend particular language.

36
37 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you, Tim. What is
38 the wish of the Council? Virgil.

39
40 MR. UMPHENOUR: I think part of Paragraph
41 12, the part that we deleted, we deleted the eggs so they
42 couldn't sell eggs and we did -- that was part of our vote
43 when we voted on Paragraph 11. But then we also wanted to
44 eliminate the rural resident to commercial entities other

45 than fisheries businesses and I think we pretty much had
46 agreement -- everyone agreed to that. Does anyone object
47 to that?

48

49 (Council shakes head negatively)

50

00204

1 MR. UMPHENOUR: So we did have agreement on
2 that as well, that we don't -- on Paragraph 12,
3 transactions between a rural resident and others, that we
4 wanted to exclude commercial entities other than fisheries
5 businesses and then we also wanted to -- in Paragraph 12
6 that these transactions would be for the personal and
7 family consumption of the individual that was buying the
8 fish. I think we all had agreement on that, that we didn't
9 want people buying the fish and then the whole intent of it
10 to be to resell those fish and make a profit because that
11 would constitute a commercial enterprise. And my feelings,
12 personal feelings, that would constitute a significant
13 commercial enterprise because they would be buying the fish
14 with the intent to resell the fish to make a profit.
15

16 And as far as the \$200 per person per year
17 in sales, we did not reach agreement on that. We have
18 different ideas. And one of the ideas that we had, which
19 we address a little bit later down there was that if we
20 have a stock of concern, that maybe there shouldn't be any
21 sales to others. If we have a serious conservation problem
22 like -- like we have on the Yukon River right now,
23 currently and we also have the same kind of problem on the
24 Kuskokwim River, we have the same kind of problem in Norton
25 Sound as well, but there's other places throughout western
26 Alaska -- well, even in Bristol Bay they have that problem
27 with some of their fish stocks and so there's places all
28 over the state where we have that problem and -- and I
29 think -- well, that's one of the things we discussed and
30 had a lot of support. And I'd like to get some of the
31 other Council members comments on that.

32

33 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.

34

35 MS. WAGGONER: I think we're -- on Paragraph
36 12, we all seemed to be -- oh, you took it off, okay. The
37 way Paragraph 12 reads as it sits right now, I think we
38 were all in agreement and I think we could make a motion
39 and adopt that language but saying that we don't have --
40 we, you know, couldn't come to consensus on a value, but I
41 think it would be good to adopt the language that is to
42 that point. So I make a motion we adopt Paragraph 12
43 through individual who purchases the fish and then forward
44 the intent of the remaining ideas.

45

46 MR. RIVARD: Read the whole thing.

47

48 MS. WAGGONER: Okay. I move that we adopt

49 Paragraph 12, transactions between a rural resident and

50 others. Customary trade for fish, their parts, except

00205

1 eggs, legally taken under the regulations in this part from
2 a rural resident to individuals other than rural res -- it
3 should say residents after rural the second time is
4 permitted as long as it is used for personal or family
5 consumption of the individual who purchases the fish.

6

7 MS. ENTSMINGER: Second.

8

9 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Where did you want to.....

10

11 MS. WAGGONER: It should say residents
12 right there between rural and is.

13

14 CHAIRMAN MIKE: There's currently a motion
15 on the floor and seconded. Sue, did you second that
16 motion?

17

18 MS. ENTSMINGER: I did, yes.

19

20 MR. UMPHENOUR: Question.

21

22 CHAIRMAN MIKE: And the question's been
23 called. All those in favor of the motion stated by Tricia,
24 all those in favor of that say aye.

25

26 IN UNISON: Aye.

27

28 CHAIRMAN MIKE: All those opposed same
29 sign.

30

31 (No opposing votes)

32

33 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Motion passes to approve
34 the language on the customary trade for Section 12.
35 Tricia.

36

37 MS. WAGGONER: Okay. And then as for the
38 other items that we discussed on 12. My suggestion last
39 night was that OSM or some other agency do a study to look
40 at what a dollar value percentage or a harvest number to
41 get some actual data so the Councils can have some data to
42 work with to make that decision. And then the intent of
43 the preseason forecast and how to develop the tracking
44 mechanisms.

45

46 MR. JENNINGS: We had quite a discussion
47 last night about what data was available. I think your
48 request that OSM conduct a study to determine an
49 appropriate dollar amount is not something that we believe
50 is feasible because of the data and different viewpoints --

00206

1 or the lack of data and then different viewpoints on what
2 would be appropriate. For a regional basis, the Board is
3 looking to the Regional Councils, primarily, and other
4 public input for what an appropriate limitation -- if it's
5 dollar amount or if it's pounds of fish or number of fish.
6 So I don't want you to leave here today thinking that
7 there'll be a study that will come back and say, well,
8 here's -- here's the magic amount or the appropriate
9 amount. It's not going to happen that way.

10

11 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil.

12

13 MR. UMPHENOUR: One of the things we
14 discussed last night, the problem with the dollar amount is
15 that the salmon prices and fish prices, in general, are
16 super depressed right now due to the current glut of farm
17 salmon that's on the market. So one of the things that we
18 discussed last night was that even if you had what was
19 given to us, which was a thousand dollars per household
20 member for rural residents for customary trade, that if you
21 did that in an average family of say four or five people,
22 that would be four or \$5,000 per family, we pointed out
23 that that would be more money than if we had healthy runs
24 currently right now and we had a normal commercial fishery
25 taking place, that that would be more money allowed for the
26 subsistence sale under customary trade than what the
27 average commercial fisherman on the Yukon River would make
28 and so what that basically would be doing would be creating
29 a new commercial fishery that had priority over the
30 commercial fishery that's in Statute, authorized by the
31 state of Alaska in Statute, and it would basically
32 eliminate the commercial fishery that is in Statute because
33 the priority would go to customary trade of rural residents
34 and it would totally eliminate the commercial fishery
35 because the allocation or the number of fish that could be
36 sold at current fish prices would be -- more fish could be
37 harvested and sold under customary trade than what the
38 entire harvestable surplus for all users would be, even
39 with a healthy fish run.

40

41 And maybe we could ask one of the peoples
42 that's involved in commercial fisheries, we have the
43 manager for the Yukon here in the room, if that probably
44 wouldn't be the case. But that's one of the things that we

45 did discuss last night and I wanted to make sure that
46 that's on the record, because the price of fish is so low
47 right now and even if the price was just a halfway
48 reasonable price, you figure a dollar for a chum salmon,
49 regardless of where it's caught on the Yukon, more than
50 likely you're not going to get that much money for it or

00207

1 any more than that. And so at a thousand dollars per
2 household member, a household of five could catch 5,000
3 chum salmon and sell those 5,000 chum salmon, you multiply
4 that by all the families up and down the Yukon River and
5 that's more chum salmon than the commercial fisheries ever
6 caught, I would think.

7

8 Mr. Chair. Maybe, we could get a comment
9 from the Staff to see if they think I'm kind of on the
10 right track here.

11

12 CHAIRMAN MIKE: State Staff.

13

14 MR. BERGSTROM: Yeah, this is Dan
15 Bergstrom. I'm not exactly clear what Virgil's main
16 question was. But on the point that if, obviously, the
17 average value in the commercial fishery like, say in the
18 1980s, '90s was maybe 10,000 in the lower river and then
19 probably about half that further up river. And then I do
20 recall last night people were talking, too, about whether
21 the dollar value is the way to go or maybe it's numbers or
22 pounds of fish, too, so I think everybody's agreed it's
23 real difficult to figure out what that number is. I'm not
24 sure how you can address it unless just looking at maybe
25 what does happen in the commercial fishery and trying to
26 figure out what kind of averages are in there and maybe
27 that's something you could look at in the future for, what
28 would be an appropriate number for maybe subsistence type
29 sales. But obviously if you get -- I think one of the
30 things I was thinking about myself on that and the average
31 in the commercial fishery would usually be maybe 150 fish,
32 too, kinds, in the lower river. And upriver, I think,
33 depends on permits, too, how many fish and stuff. So none
34 of these numbers are really easy to come up with.

35

36 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil.

37

38 MR. UMPHENOUR: Just a little bit of follow
39 up and what Mr. Bergstrom just brought up is a very good
40 point. Because we all, you know, we couldn't reach any --
41 we really discussed this last night, trying to explore
42 every option there is and one of the things that we
43 discussed that Mr. Bergstrom just brought up was numbers of
44 fish instead of a dollar value. And I do know that if you

45 divide the number of permits by the allocation, the
46 commercial fishery in the Lower Yukon is allowed about 98
47 king salmon per permit. If everyone that has a commercial
48 fishing permit fished and you divided up what the
49 allocation is and I know that in District 6, on the Tanana
50 River, it's only 18 fish per individual if you divide out

00208

1 the number of permits and, in District 5 -- this is king
2 salmon now and, in District 5, I think it's between 28 and
3 30 fish per permit, that's king salmon per year is all that
4 they're allowed to harvest. And so that is kind of a -- I
5 think would be a starting point and something that could be
6 looked at, going at it in that manner.

7

8 And as far as chum salmon goes, of course
9 there's a summer fishery and a fall fishery, but the fall
10 fishery is the one that most people depend on for
11 subsistence uses and it was the one that was worth the most
12 money and the commercial fishery, it could be calculated
13 out in that manner, too, is what the harvest -- the
14 allowable harvest is if there is a commercial fishery and
15 what it would be at the low end and the high end of the
16 guideline harvest level and we could take a look at that
17 and maybe put fish numbers in instead of money.

18

19 Anyway, I'd like to hear from other Council
20 members, I just wanted to add on to what Mr. Bergstrom
21 said.

22

23 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Sue and then Tricia.

24

25 MS. ENTSMINGER: Thank you. I think
26 keeping things as simple as possible is very critical here.
27 And I just can't -- last night we got into some deep
28 discussion about the harvest level and we do have some data
29 that gives a pretty close harvest level. It's somewhat
30 consistent. And then we were told that there's a preamble
31 that says that they don't want -- the intent not to exceed
32 the current harvest level. And I guess -- excuse me.

33

34 MR. JENNINGS: That subsistence fishery
35 not become commercialized. I don't believe there's any
36 language in the preamble that says to -- well, it might
37 talk about to not increase harvest level substantially.
38 I'm not sure of the exact wording, but it's not -- it may
39 not be as tight as you've indicated.

40

41 MS. ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well, my
42 recommendation would be to look at that and say that that's
43 what our intent is. And then if it, for one year, it goes
44 up 75 percent like it did in the '70s, then there's a

45 problem and you need to get back there and address it. But
46 right now, you know, somewhat what it is and we have this
47 -- I don't think we should deal with dollar amount and I
48 don't think you can really deal with fish, but -- because
49 each household might do something a little differently.
50 But you can do something with this -- and actually I don't

00209

1 even know, I guess I wouldn't even care if they chose to
2 take 100 percent of their harvest and they felt like they'd
3 rather have the money than the fish, I mean if that current
4 level stays the same then I don't see that there's a
5 problem. And it's keeping things in a simplistic manner
6 because that's what the people are used to living.

7

8 So I guess, I would -- Council members, I
9 would say -- look at this paragraph and say we're looking
10 at, you know, your level -- the level of harvest, if we
11 don't see any big spikes then we don't really have a
12 problem and then it's either 50 percent, 25 percent or put
13 nothing in there would be my suggestion.

14

15 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.

16

17 MS. WAGGONER: I agree, Sue. And I mean
18 the intent, you know, I'm sure Jerry would have some issues
19 with enforcement and how they would enforce but actually
20 getting back to what I was going to say. Jill, is customary
21 trade on YRDFA's agenda at their annual meeting?

22

23 MS. KLEIN: Yes.

24

25 MS. WAGGONER: Okay. So that will be some
26 good input to the Council and to the Board also. I mean we
27 did the dollar figure, the percentage, the number -- that's
28 such a hard one to grapple with and I agree with Sue, in
29 that the overall intent is not to increase a subsistence
30 harvest and not to develop a commercial enterprise, you
31 know, above and beyond what it currently is.

32

33 How you word it and how you enforce it is
34 beyond me, you know. I mean the intent's there. I don't
35 know if we're the ones that can develop the actual wording.

36

37 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tim.

38

39 MR. JENNINGS: I wanted to offer an
40 observation that I have is, I think that through the
41 language that you've adopted on 12 and I'm presuming you're
42 going to adopt some language on 13, I think you've made
43 some significant strides in terms of limiting the potential
44 for commercializing a subsistence fishery. We've deleted

45 the sale of eggs; you've deleted commercial entities out of
46 Paragraph 12 so now it's only rural residents to
47 individuals and those individuals that purchase have to use
48 the fish for personal or family consumption only and they
49 can't resell it. To me, that looks like it's going to be
50 fairly self-limiting. And then if you exclude the sale to

00210

1 the licensed fisheries business, I think the risk for these
2 activities really blossoming into a commercial enterprise
3 from what you've done would be fairly limited and the risk
4 would be low, as an observation.

5

6 And then as Sue has mentioned, I think
7 you've also mentioned, Tricia, if we see a problem, either
8 it's an enforcement action that hopefully they'll be able
9 to take care of and if there's something in the language
10 that doesn't make it enforceable or we haven't realized a
11 potential -- as I mentioned, these come up on an annual
12 basis, we can come back and take a look at it. So that
13 would be my observation, I think you've made some strides,
14 some significant strides.

15

16 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil.

17

18 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. And to go along
19 with that, in Paragraph 13 where we address under our --
20 what we discussed, where we put any person with an Alaska
21 State business license who runs commercial dog teams are
22 not allowed to buy and feed subsistence caught salmon to
23 dogs, maybe we should amend that and say fish. And the
24 reason I say that is because there's other fish that we can
25 have conservation problems with such as pike, that are a
26 long lived species and also white fish. They're very
27 desirable to feed to competitive dog teams. And so I think
28 we should add those in there. And with that in there and
29 then with our definition of commercial dog team, I think
30 that makes a significant improvement. And I want to add
31 that of the fish that are caught to feed to dog teams,
32 probably 95 percent or 90 percent or somewhere in there --
33 of the fish, are caught by less than one percent of the
34 people. When I say that, I mean maybe a half a dozen
35 people or so are the ones that are doing that and they're
36 catching probably at least, in excess of 80 percent of the
37 fish and maybe Mr. Bergstrom could comment on that.

38

39 MR. BERGSTROM: I'm not sure, Mr. Umphenour
40 how many specifically that would go to dog food but we've
41 kind of looked at, I think, fall chum in the past, it's
42 like maybe 10 percent -- or five to 10 percent take about
43 half the fish of the whole subsistence harvest so it's like
44 five to 10 percent of the households take a really large

45 percentage of the overall harvest. And we assume and then
46 we have some information on the use for dogs and it's
47 basically that's what those are taken for.

48

49 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Sue.

50

00211

1 MS. ENTSMINGER: Thank you. I'd like to
2 kind of move along here. There's one other thing, I think,
3 should be a point that -- and hopefully the Council members
4 will agree with me, and within the Federal government,
5 Susan Matthews was a refuge manager in the Tok area for the
6 Tetlin and she had worked on something out west on the
7 gathering of duck eggs when there were four species that
8 were in deep trouble. She worked out, she was explaining
9 to me, some educational program by actually going into the
10 field and talking to the people and saying, I know you can
11 take these eggs but it's really important that we don't
12 take these eggs because of the species. And if you --
13 whatever process that the Fish and Wildlife Service or
14 whoever is in the field can work out as an educational
15 problem -- or educational thing to the people, I think that
16 should be an added thing as us, as Council members, would
17 strive for the government to do.

18

19 And I had one other issue. Virgil, I was
20 looking at this, any person with an Alaska State business
21 license who runs commercial dog teams, well, that would not
22 eliminate somebody in Germany or somebody in the Lower 48,
23 so I wonder if you should add or any other commercial dog
24 business? Because these people wouldn't have to have a
25 state license, somewhere else in the world.

26

27 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, that's correct. But
28 I think under our definition of the commercial dog team,
29 that that would catch those people. Maybe we could put
30 that up there and.....

31

32 MS. ENTSMINGER: Or just have our intent go
33 forward that that's what we want.

34

35 MR. UMPHENOUR: Or put that definition
36 right below that part of it.

37

38 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Do we have any comments or
39 thoughts from the remaining Council members? Jim or Jay,
40 do you guys have any thoughts.

41

42 MR. STEVENS: I'm still absorbing.

43

44 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Go ahead, Tricia, and then

45 we'll move on to 13.

46

47 MS. WAGGONER: I have some reservations
48 about it -- oh, are we still on 12 or are we moving to 13?

49

50 MR. UMPHENOUR: We're on 12.

00212

1 MS. WAGGONER: Oh, okay, then never mind.

2

3 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yeah, we're done with 12,
4 we'll go to 13 now.

5

6 MR. UMPHENOUR: Did we vote on 12?

7

8 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yes. Yes, there was a
9 motion on the floor and it passed, unanimous.

10

11 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's what I thought, so
12 then we're on 13.

13

14 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.

15

16 MS. WAGGONER: I have some reservations on
17 13, I think there might be some issues that come to light
18 that we haven't thought about here. But, like we
19 discussed, this gets an annual review. And so based on
20 that, that we know we can review this in a year, I move to
21 adopt the language of 13. Do I need to read it?

22

23 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yes.

24

25 MS. WAGGONER: Paragraph 13, no purchase by
26 a fisheries businesses if you are required to be a licensed
27 as a fisheries business under Alaska Statute A.S.
28 43.75.011, you may not purchase or receive for commercial
29 purposes or barter or solicit to barter for subsistence
30 taken fish, their parts or their eggs. Any person with an
31 Alaska State business license who runs a commercial dog
32 team are not allowed to buy and feed subsistence caught
33 fish to dogs. And the definition of a commercial dog team
34 is a business that leases, rents, races or otherwise
35 provides services with their dogs or dog team for money or
36 enumeration, services other than money, excluding amateur
37 events.

38

39 CHAIRMAN MIKE: There's currently a motion
40 on the table -- floor.

41

42 MR. UMPHENOUR: One part they typed up
43 there while you were reading it, also applies to non-Alaska
44 businesses. We discussed that extensively like they could

45 ship caviar or fish straight to Tokyo if they wanted, from
46 Fairbanks real easy, or the places in the Lower 48. I think
47 we wanted that in there, too, as well.

48

49 MR. BERG: Do you want to put it right in

50 13 somewhere?

00213

1 CHAIRMAN MIKE: There's currently a motion
2 on the floor.

3

4 MR. UMPHENOUR: Yes.

5

6 MR. JENNINGS: And as maker of the motion
7 is that okay?

8

9 MS. WAGGONER: Yes.

10

11 MR. JENNINGS: While they're doing that,
12 the motion has not been seconded yet, but while you're
13 doing that, I want to just reemphasize what we talked about
14 last night. The lead in language under a different part of
15 our regulation says you cannot participate in customary
16 trade or do customary trade unless specifically authorized
17 in these other parts. And as we talked about last night,
18 the only two parts of these paragraphs that we're allowing
19 customary trade is Paragraph 11 and 12. Paragraph 13
20 really becomes another way to emphasize some of the things
21 we don't want to have happen in terms of sale, it's a
22 prohibition that just sort of -- it's duplicative of the
23 earlier part of our regulation. So I do want to just
24 remind you of that discussion last night.

25

26 So that part of the regulation would
27 already prohibit sales to Tokyo or Tacoma if it's a
28 commercial entity.

29

30 MR. UMPHENOUR: So that this does,
31 basically, is puts out the intent of the regulation and
32 what's basically prohibited so that the public will be --
33 when they read it they'll be able to understand it and they
34 won't -- and say, well, they'll be thinking of loopholes,
35 ways they can get around this and this will point out that
36 this has already been considered so.....

37

38 MR. JENNINGS: Right.

39

40 MR. UMPHENOUR: Anyway, I'm in support and
41 I'll be voting yes.

42

43 MS. ENTSMINGER: You need a second.

44

45 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, second then.

46

47 CHAIRMAN MIKE: There's a motion on the
48 floor for Section 13 as stated by Ms. Waggoner and seconded
49 by Mr. Wilde -- or Mr. Umphenour.

50

00214

1 (Laughter)

2

3 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Sorry. All those in favor
4 of Section 13 as stated by Ms. Waggoner say aye.

5

6 IN UNISON: Aye.

7

8 CHAIRMAN MIKE: All those opposed, same
9 sign.

10

11 (No opposing votes)

12

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE: It's unanimous. Section 13
14 is adopted.

15

16 MS. ENTSMINGER: Do we have to do the whole
17 thing or just one by one?

18

19 MR. BERG: What about the.....

20

21 MS. ENTSMINGER: What about the motion of
22 -- to -- for this to be the whole.....

23

24 MR. JENNINGS: She read the definition.

25

26 MR. BERG: She did, okay.

27

28 MS. ENTSMINGER:for the whole state
29 except southeast, that was the motion on the floor, wasn't
30 it?

31

32 MR. JENNINGS: For Paragraph 11 it was read
33 in as statewide except for southeast. We didn't make any
34 distinction on these last two paragraphs. This is
35 statewide regulation unless you otherwise specify.

36

37 MS. ENTSMINGER: Just for the record, I'm
38 not necessarily in favor of this being statewide. I -- I
39 look at this as going out as something that other Council
40 members can maybe alleviate all these hours of discussion
41 that we had and come up with something good or better and
42 we look at it again. That would be my intent.

43

44 MR. JENNINGS: So do you want to clarify

45 for the record, in particular, Paragraph 12 and/or 13, if
46 you wanted it to be Eastern Interior only or we had a
47 discussion last night that we need to look on a drainage-
48 wide basis, for, say, the Yukon River drainage.

49

50 MS. ENTSMINGER: I don't think we need to

00215

1 do anything. I think that this is going out -- we, as
2 Council members, do not have this hard and fast in our
3 minds what we want so I'm just saying, for the record, that
4 I'm not necessarily -- I'd like to see what the end product
5 is. I don't think we need to spend any more time on it.

6

7 MR. UMPHENOUR: And I kind of agree with
8 Sue. This going to go out to all the other Councils for
9 them to take a look at what we did, I hope, and then to the
10 Board. And we put out some pretty good discussion points
11 there for everyone to take a look at, statewide and see how
12 they respond to all that and then it will be up to the
13 Board to make the final decision. But one of the things,
14 you know, in Paragraph 12 and 13, there's conservation
15 reasons throughout the state for not allowing sale -- you
16 know, there's all kinds of different ramifications of
17 everything such as Salmon Treaty ramifications with the
18 Canadians with king salmon that, you know, go all the way
19 -- you know, the ramifications go Oregon, Washington,
20 British Columbia, Alaska. There's all kinds of complicated
21 agreements in our treaties with the Canadians and the
22 different allocation plans between users and throughout the
23 state such as in Southeast, Alaska and such as in Cook
24 Inlet and all over the place that apply and so each region
25 is going to have to take a look at what we've written and
26 apply that to their region and then the Board will have to
27 make a decision as to whether they make that just a total,
28 you know, everything that applies statewide is a state
29 regulation and then they have individual regional
30 regulations such as the State system has. But I think
31 that's how it's going to have to go. But as far as a
32 starting point for discussion, I think we've come up with
33 as good as we're going to get.

34

35 And I just want to make sure that it gets
36 sent off to all the other regions so that -- because we
37 spent a lot of time examining this so that they can benefit
38 from the process that we went through here in the last
39 couple of days.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you. And with that,
44 we can move on. We'll get to.....

45

46 MR. JENNINGS: I'd like to say one more
47 thing.

48

49 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Go ahead, Tim.

50

00216

1 MR. JENNINGS: I just want to say that I
2 appreciate the effort that you all spent on this difficult
3 item. And the workshop last night, I thought, was
4 beneficial to really air some different viewpoints and
5 different ideas. And it's been a long discussion but it's
6 also one of the most important topics, I think, before you
7 at this meeting and it is an important topic for the Board
8 when they meet in May. And we're very appreciative of the
9 time that you spent because I think you had a good effort
10 here. You have some good ideas and it's appreciated that
11 you did spend the time that you did on this.

12

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay, we're getting a
14 presentation by Jeff Adams. Jeff. Jeff is going to be
15 presenting the Yukon Panel, right. Whenever you're ready
16 Jeff we can get started.

17

18 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Council.
19 I'd just like to take a minute or two to -- there's a
20 handout that's going around. And it's strictly for your
21 information. On the one side it just has a list of the
22 projects that Fish and Wildlife Service will be conducting
23 in the Yukon River drainage in 2002. The first part about
24 salmon and the last part's about other species, including
25 some harvest surveys and such, so basically to give you a
26 feel of what goes on in the summertime on the Yukon.

27

28 On the reverse side, as Cliff Schleusner
29 alluded to there's a planning process being conducted with
30 the Joint Technical Committee of the Panel of the Yukon
31 River Salmon Treaty. And again, this is just for your
32 information to see that there's a planning process going
33 and there's these representatives that can act as liaisons
34 for the Council, if needed.

35

36 So that's all I had Mr. Chair.

37

38 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you, Jeff. Any
39 questions. We can move onto the Yukon Flats Planning
40 Committee Moose Management Plan. And who is going to be
41 the primary presenter? Randy Rogers.

42

43 MR. ROGERS: Thank you, Donald and thanks
44 to members of the Council. I'm happy to be here to give a

45 little bit of an overview of the effort we've had on
46 developing a Yukon Flats Moose Management Plan. On behalf
47 of the whole planning committee, I would like to stress
48 that I've been planner Staff to the committee but it's
49 really the folks that have been involved that have played
50 the key role in developing the plan.

00217

1 Hopefully, all of you had had a chance to
2 take a look at the draft plan that I passed out and I had a
3 couple extra copies for folks in the audience to look at.
4 Also we've got our most recent edition of the Yukon Flats
5 moose planning newsletter that maybe you've had a chance to
6 look at by now.

7

8 The Department of Fish and Game, Division
9 of Wildlife Conservation, has been working cooperatively
10 with representatives of Yukon Flats villages, the Yukon
11 Flats National Wildlife Refuge and others for over a year
12 to develop this draft management plan. We've worked with
13 CATG. Donald's attended several of our meetings. And
14 recently we've been trying to reach out to all the village
15 councils in all the Yukon Flats area.

16

17 I guess I'm going to -- because of all the
18 time, try to keep my presentation relatively short here.
19 I'd like to give some of the other folks that have been on
20 the planning committee a chance to say a few words if
21 they'd like to, too. I'd like to point out that Paul
22 Williams, Sr., has been the chairman of our planning
23 committee over the last several months and he has really
24 been playing a very active role in this. And, you know, he
25 is really the number 1 mover behind this plan right now.
26 Of course, early on, for several years, we worked towards
27 getting to the point of initiating this planning effort and
28 had a number of people involved in advocating that the
29 Department of Fish and Game take on this project, and that
30 would include folks from Steven's Village, CATG, even Trish
31 was involved in pushing us towards getting going with this
32 project.

33

34 So members of the planning committee are
35 listed at the front of the newsletter and there's just been
36 one recent change, Joel Tritt has taken the place of Clint
37 Peter at Arctic Village.

38

39 We've had a series of approximately six
40 two-day meetings over the last year plus to develop the
41 draft plan. Last November, the planning committee agreed
42 on the draft plan to present for public review. And I'm
43 going to try to hit just a couple of the key portions of
44 the plan here to highlight for you. First of all we agreed

45 on the overriding purpose of the plan and that is to
46 protect and enhance the Yukon Flats moose population and
47 habitat, maintain traditional lifestyles and provide
48 opportunities for the moose resource. The plan is designed
49 to increase the moose population with several key methods.
50 One is improve moose harvest reporting to better document

00218

1 subsistence needs and improve management. Reduce predation
2 on moose by increasing the harvest of bears and wolves.
3 Minimize illegal cow moose harvest and reduce harvest of
4 cows for ceremonial purposes so that more calves are born.
5 Inform hunters and others about the low moose population on
6 the Yukon Flats and ways people can help in the effort to
7 increase moose numbers. And use both scientific
8 information and traditional knowledge to help make wise
9 management decisions.

10

11 The plan recommends working with tribal
12 councils and organizations like CATG to establish harvest
13 monitoring and enforcement programs for tribal members and
14 increasing local enforcement and management. I think in
15 this regard the emphasis that we're placing on working
16 through local organizations, tribal councils and others is
17 probably unique among plans that the State's developed.
18 The draft plan, as it sits right now identifies three
19 alternate alternative hunt management systems that could be
20 applied in Unit 25(E) east, and these are, continue the
21 general harvest tickets, establish a registration permit
22 hunt and there's actually a proposal submitted to the Board
23 of Game to do that. And the other alternative is to
24 require use of Federal subsistence permits and/or State
25 Tier II permits similar to the harvest management in place
26 in 25(D) west right now.

27

28 In order to have something into the Board
29 of Game we had to have a proposal in so the planning
30 committee recommended the registration permit approach as
31 kind of the middle ground and we wanted to go out and talk
32 to folks about what they thought would really work out
33 there. One of the things that we have to keep in mind in
34 the State regulatory process is that we're in a situation
35 where the harvestable surplus of moose out there is very
36 close to what the amount necessary for subsistence is. And
37 so it's kind of in an area where the Board of Game may have
38 discretion as to whether Tier II is applied or not. But
39 it's certainly in a situation that could be triggered.

40

41 We have several other proposals in there
42 and I'm not going to read through every one of them. But
43 we have some that are relatively minor changes to the moose
44 hunting regulations in the planning area. We have several

45 proposals to increase opportunities for harvest of bears
46 and wolves. We're not looking at any active predator
47 control, we're not considering that to be a real feasible
48 alternative within, you know, present State and Federal
49 policies out there.

50

00219

1 One of the proposals related to black bears
2 is to establish a community harvest program for black bears
3 where residents could pool bag limits and that way key
4 hunters could take more than the current limit of three
5 black bears. In certain communities that might be
6 attractive. But if that proposal goes through it would be
7 up to each community or group of hunters in the Flats to
8 decide if they wanted to get involved in that type of
9 program. One of the things that we're trying to emphasize
10 there is improving the harvest monitoring of bears also and
11 getting a ready of how many are being taken.

12

13 We have one proposal in there that would
14 extend the hunting season for grizzly bears in 25(D) to
15 match the current year-round Federal season. We started
16 the public review process for the draft plan by mailing out
17 the summary of draft plan that's enclosed in the
18 newsletter. We mailed that out to every post office box
19 holder on Yukon Flats and all the hunters who had
20 registered to hunt in the area in the last several years,
21 plus people that had expressed interest in our planning
22 process.

23

24 Next we discussed the draft plan and these
25 regulatory proposals at the Yukon Flats Advisory Committee
26 meeting which was held in Venetie at the end of January.
27 And then the following two weeks we held meetings in
28 Stevens Village, Beaver, Fort Yukon and Chalkyitsik. Last
29 night we went over to talk to folks at the Circle Village
30 Council. Friday, we're hoping to have a teleconference of
31 our planning committee to discuss the input we've gotten.
32 We've gotten somewhere on the order of 30 written comments
33 in response to the draft plan and we need to assess the
34 feedback we've gotten from the village councils in our
35 discussion.

36

37 I'd say overall we've received good support
38 for the idea of increasing moose on Yukon Flats, but also
39 people understand that it's not going to be an easy project
40 at all. This is really, you know, a long-term effort that
41 we're looking at. I think one of the things that's been
42 most encouraging in the meetings that we've had is people
43 have said, oh, I got your newsletter and I hadn't realized
44 how many moose calves were taken by black bears and now

45 that I know that I may take a bear next time I have a
46 chance. Or people really didn't understand the
47 implications of cow moose harvest and what that did to the
48 productivity.

49

50 So, you know, as I see things developing

00220

1 here -- and this plan, it's perhaps safe to say that the
2 regulatory proposals that we have are really not the most
3 important aspect of it. What is most important is
4 continuing to share information with folks out there and
5 get information and thoughts and also what role local
6 people decide that they'd like to have. What do they want
7 for the future of the moose population out there.

8

9 It's been really difficult to discuss some
10 of these complex hunt permit systems in these village
11 meetings. You know, we have relatively short time, often
12 times we haven't been in those villages for awhile. People
13 take a little while to be familiarized with what this is
14 all about. What Fish and Game does, what Fish and Wildlife
15 Service does and to go into a village and expect them to
16 understand the ins and outs of Tier II and registration
17 permits is just really more than we were able to
18 accomplish.

19

20 So I think that it looks like we will need
21 to have a continuing discussion on that. I don't know what
22 the planning committee will recommend in our teleconference
23 but it appears likely that we may recommend withdrawing the
24 proposal for the registration hunt and, you know, hoping
25 that we can focus more on the educational side and working
26 with tribal councils. And, again, as I pointed out,
27 though, the Board of Game has discretion in this matter and
28 I think we'll hope to recommend that at this point they
29 support the educational side and that we, perhaps, will
30 need to review this in the next Board cycle and see, you
31 know, at that point what's going on with the moose
32 population. And if we get to the point where people
33 understand registration systems and/or Tier II and if it
34 gets where that becomes necessary to do that.

35

36 You know, one of the real problems with
37 some of these complex systems is a real -- an objective of
38 the plan and working with folks out there is to try to set
39 up legal hunting practices, that people can come within the
40 State and Federal systems to hunt legally and, you know, as
41 they adapt to that that, you know, we can maybe work at
42 other systems as become appropriate. But it really might
43 be counterproductive at this point in time to put on a Tier
44 II or system like that which might result in non-compliance

45 with these systems and maybe loss of support for the
46 overall effort.

47

48 So that's the concern that we have.

49

50 Now, as I've said, if this effort doesn't

00221

1 succeed, it is possible that in the near future, if the
2 population continues to decline, that Tier II may be
3 required. As we move forward with this process and we see
4 what regulations are actually adopted by the Board of Game,
5 it may be unnecessary to develop Federal proposals to try
6 to align the seasons as closely as possible. I mean
7 obviously that's one of the things we'd like to do is keep
8 it as simple as we can but in the situation out there with
9 25(D) west, for example, where we have a dual State/Federal
10 permit system right now, it's really difficult to figure
11 out how you can come up with a single system that's going
12 to accommodate everything and I guess we haven't succeeded
13 in that regard yet.

14

15 I guess, in conclusion of my own remarks,
16 you know, I'd just like to say that we'd welcome any
17 feedback, comments, suggestions, improvements that members
18 of this Council might have or any support that you might
19 want to lend to this effort as we move along.

20

21 Another point which Donald mentioned is
22 that Craig Fleener was very active involved in getting this
23 going and he was our link to the Eastern Council. And now
24 that he's off on other business it might be appropriate to
25 see if you want to have another representative on there and
26 since Jay has been involved with that, he seems like the
27 logical choice. We're not really looking at having as
28 intense series of meetings as we have in the last year.
29 And, you know, how often this group will continue to meet
30 we're not sure of. For the most part, we'd like to defer
31 most consideration of this to the existing advisory
32 committees but I think there could be still a role in the
33 planning committee, at least, conducting an annual review
34 of how the moose population is doing and serving to help,
35 you know coordinate the input of all the different villages
36 and advisory committees that are outside the villages. We
37 have had, you know, a fair amount of interest expressed
38 through the Central Advisory Committee. They chose to not
39 have a full-time representative but have given several
40 comments which have been helpful.

41

42 So I guess I'd like to close for now and
43 see if maybe Paul Williams, Sr., would like to make a few
44 comments on what he feels is really the essence of the

45 plan. Bob Stephenson is our biologist and he really knows
46 the biological and regulatory questions much better. Mark
47 Bertrum has been our representative with Yukon Flats
48 Wildlife Refuge and he's not here but there is Refuge
49 personnel.
50

00222

1 So would you like to make a few comments,
2 Paul?

3

4 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Paul

5

6 MR. WILLIAMS: I don't say very much but
7 every time somebody asks me to speak I jump at the chance.

8

9 (Laughter)

10

11 MR. WILLIAMS: You know, sitting back and
12 listening to some of the things in regards to what you're
13 doing, it's really good but something like the moose
14 planning committee's efforts to go out to the people and
15 talk with them about the low moose numbers in the Yukon
16 Flats, we're making regulations and those other people out
17 there they sometimes don't understand regulations but they
18 understand their way of life and they do it, you know, a
19 lot of times they don't know about the regulations but they
20 know sometimes when something is wrong but they continue to
21 do it because that's their way of life, their traditional
22 lifestyle.

23

24 Before I got hired by the Fish and Wildlife
25 Service, you know, I used to be one of the biggest
26 lawbreakers over there, you know, as far as Alaska State
27 regulations on game, especially moose in the wintertime,
28 out of season, I know that, you know. Because what else
29 was I going to do. You know, nobody offered me a job and
30 jobs are hard to come by, I got to feed my family. You
31 know, when I first got married I never think about my
32 future very much, you know, because I just -- I don't know
33 you know, by the time we got the first kid and the second
34 kid, you know, we started needing more food so, you know,
35 that's kind of a place where I was and started to wake up
36 and say, you know, gee, I got to have work.

37

38 We try to do a lot of things for economic
39 developments so people don't have to rely on moose and
40 other sort of moneymaking opportunity like possibly selling
41 subsistence fish and salmon strips. You guys are
42 struggling with how much money a person should make, you
43 know, and talk like this, that all is well and good, you
44 know, but people will continue to live out there.

45

46 So we're having a meeting up there in
47 Circle and other villages and I told them that, you know,
48 if we cooperate and co-managing moose in the Yukon Flats on
49 the local level, you know, get people to get more involved
50 with it like we were a long time ago, then possibly maybe

00223

1 we could do something that way by having local people
2 organizing into committees like trapping and hunting
3 committees that would pretty much look after one another
4 and kind of plan out how much moose you're going to use
5 during the course of the year, you know, and what purpose.
6 One of the suggestions was that do like we did a long time
7 ago, was to get the moose in the falltime before mating
8 season begins and put that away for the winter, you know,
9 when you're going to have potlatches for New Years and
10 other holidays and stuff like that. We should be doing
11 that. We do that with fish and ducks, you know, we used to
12 eat ducks a long time ago because we did that, but we
13 didn't have no refrigerators in them days, you know, but we
14 did that anyway.

15

16 So you know, these are kind of important
17 things that we're going to go back in order to preserve and
18 bring up the number of moose back up to the level that we
19 think that's going to be comfortable and manageable.
20 Because you know, there's a lot of people out there that
21 are going to continue to do what they're doing today.

22

23 So I'm just telling you what I think as a
24 Native person. On my next birthday I'm going to be 66
25 years old and I remember back in the '40s, you know, how
26 they live, early '40s, I remember World War II, I remember
27 the Korean War, all that. I remember what conditions were
28 like, you know, and what people did to manage the game.
29 Because, you know, people living out there in the land,
30 that's where they get their food, so they're careful about
31 management, you know, on the local level. Of course, the
32 Chief and the Council in them days, they pretty much said
33 things that's going to be done and it was done, you know,
34 and people who acted otherwise were -- well, there were no
35 people like that, everybody had to fall in line in them
36 days, you know, it's life or death.

37

38 Hopefully, as time goes along and we start
39 to have management things in place and people start
40 cooperating with both the State and the Federal agencies
41 and among themselves that we would capture and harvest more
42 bears and wolf and cut back on harvesting cow moose the
43 numbers will raise, you know. And as far as our planning
44 the Yukon Flats Moose Management Planning Committee exists

45 into the future, I think we may be able to recommend that
46 we kind of stick together to see how our work has
47 progressed. You know, maybe another year or two into the
48 future as we do our yearly moose survey and to see if our
49 work has any good results.

50

00224

1 If you have any questions for me I would be
2 glad to answer, if not, thank you.

3

4 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you, Paul. Any
5 questions. Got anymore comments from the State, Randy.
6 Okay, thank you, Sue. Sue has to leave, she has to catch a
7 plane.

8

9 MR. BRELSFORD: Donald, Jay had a comment.

10

11 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Jay.

12

13 MR. STEVENS: Yeah, I wanted to add to what
14 Randy was saying earlier, we have a couple of proposals
15 that we kind of passed over last night that tie into what
16 we're trying to do here and those were Proposals 72 and 83.
17 If we wanted to look into that and take a look at those.

18

19 CHAIRMAN MIKE: What's the wish of the
20 Council, do you want to review Proposals 72 and 83?

21

22 MR. WILDE: We covered 72 yesterday, didn't
23 we, opposed it?

24

25 MR. STEVENS: We were going to wait until
26 he came in.

27

28 MR. WILDE: Oh, excuse me, sorry. I thought
29 we covered it.

30

31 MR. STEVENS: And you said you were
32 thinking of withdrawing 71?

33

34 MR. ROGERS: Jay, are you talking about the
35 numbers in the State Board proposals?

36

37 MR. WILDE: Yes.

38

39 MR. STEVENS: Yes.

40

41 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Excuse me, if the Council
42 would like to hold the election of officers before Sue
43 Entsminger leaves or we can defer until later on?

44

45 MR. STEVENS: She left a note and wanted to
46 add that she was in favor of liberating seasons for bears
47 and wolves. For the record.

48

49 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yeah, my question to the
50 Council was whether or not we should hold the elections

00225

1 before Sue Entsminger leaves -- election of officers, I'm
2 sorry.

3

4 MR. BERG: She'll be back in a couple of
5 minutes, she might be upstairs.

6

7 CHAIRMAN MIKE: While we're waiting, are we
8 going to be discussing 71 or 72?

9

10 MS. WAGGONER: 71, yeah.

11

12 MR. ROGERS: You know, I don't know that
13 it's necessary to have a detailed discussion of any of
14 these proposals. If you do want to go on record to support
15 them to the Board of Game at this point, that would be
16 great. But what we had in mind was going through the Board
17 of Game process and then if we needed to align State and
18 Federal regulations, if there's opportunities to do that
19 then we'd bring Federal proposals through you to do that.
20 You know, any comment on any of these proposals to the
21 Board of Game is, of course, you know, the Council's option
22 and we'd appreciate support. It's No. 80, actually, is the
23 registration permit that we will likely withdraw.

24

25 MR. STEVENS: Okay.

26

27 MR. ROGERS: So just so you're aware of
28 that. The rest, you know, the planning committee will be
29 meeting to discuss final recommendations to the Board by
30 teleconference Friday. We don't have any indication that
31 we'll change any of the other proposals so far. So I think
32 they will go, as is, to the Board of Game. And I guess
33 I'll just mention that as Sue gets here we'll be ready to
34 step aside for a minute so you can deal with that.

35

36 Actually, what may be the most important
37 right now would be, if you've had a chance to actually look
38 through this plan and have a feel, you know, where there's
39 places it could be improved, places that you particularly
40 like, dislike, general support or opposition, that may be
41 the most important at this stage of the game.

42

43 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.

44

45 MS. WAGGONER: Yeah, I'd like to really
46 congratulate, you know, you guys, Paul and Jay and Craig
47 and everybody that's been involved on this. I know we
48 spent a lot of time, you know, laying the groundwork before
49 the planning team came together and I'd just really like to
50 congratulate you guys and, you know, give my support to

00226

1 what you have done. And the way you have gone about
2 pulling it together and getting it out to the communities
3 and increasing the education, you know, which Paul is very
4 much a part of. And, you know, just lend general support
5 to the process and to the overall, you know, goals and
6 objectives of the plan.

7

8 CHAIRMAN MIKE: I guess while we're waiting
9 for Sue, maybe we can get on Proposal 71 if that's the wish
10 of the Council. Randy, can you briefly introduce Proposal
11 71 for the Council members.

12

13 MR. ROGERS: Yeah, I think it might
14 actually be better to let Bob do that, he's more familiar
15 with that proposal. So I'm going to step aside for a
16 moment here.

17

18 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Bob, can you give a brief
19 introduction of Proposal 71?

20

21 MR. STEPHENSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
22 Proposal 71 deals with brown bear seasons. And the issue
23 here -- I guess the reason the proposal came out is that,
24 one, people on the Yukon Flats seem to encounter brown
25 bears more often during the summer than any other time.
26 The current brown bear season is September 1 to May 31.

27

28 MR. WILDE: Black bear?

29

30 MR. STEPHENSON: Oh, I'm sorry, I was
31 looking at 74. I'm sorry, 71 -- okay, black bear. We
32 discussed a number of options, a number of ways that might
33 allow an increase harvest of black bears, including
34 increasing the individual bag limit, et cetera. And we
35 decided that a community harvest permit which is a
36 management -- or local kind of management system we
37 developed for moose could apply to black bear. And all
38 this system does is allow people to pool their bag limits
39 and let key hunters take more than the individual bag limit
40 of three black bears. So we're proposing to set up the
41 system and if people want to they can apply for a community
42 harvest permit for black bears.

43

44 But I think we need to move on.

45

46 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you, Bob, for that
47 introduction. Now, we'll switch over to elections of the
48 Council. We need to elect the Chair, vice-Chair and the
49 secretary. So the nominations are open for Chair. Jim.

50

00227

1 MR. WILDE: I'd like to nominate Gerald
2 Nicholia for Chair.

3

4 MR. STEVENS: I'll second it.

5

6 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Jim Wilde nominated Gerald
7 Nicholia for Chair and seconded by Jay. All those in favor
8 of the motion for Gerald Nicholia to serve as Chair, say
9 aye.

10

11 IN UNISON: Aye.

12

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Those opposed, same sign.

14

15 (No opposing votes)

16

17 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Gerald Nicholia is the
18 Chair. I'll open the nomination for vice-Chair.

19

20 MR. UMPHENOUR: I nominate Sue Entsminger.

21

22 MS. ENTSMINGER: I want to decline.

23

24 CHAIRMAN MIKE: The nomination is still
25 open for vice-Chair.

26

27 MS. ENTSMINGER: I nominate Chair. Can you
28 explain to me, Craig will be with us?

29

30 CHAIRMAN MIKE: I'm sorry, the Council
31 members, Craig Fleener, his seat expires in 2002 and he did
32 not submit his application to be renominated to his duties
33 with the military and his term expires in 2002. Tim.

34

35 MR. JENNINGS: A point of clarification.
36 He will be here for the next two meetings. His term will
37 not end until the end of 2002. So if he's available he
38 will be here at the fall meeting only, excuse me, one more
39 meeting.

40

41 CHAIRMAN MIKE: That's correct.

42

43 MS. ENTSMINGER: My nomination stands. I
44 don't believe we need a second, correct?

45

46 MR. WILDE: Second.

47

48 MS. ENTSMINGER: I make a nomination for
49 Craig Fleener for vice-Chair.

50

00228

1 MR. WILDE: I second it.

2

3 MS. ENTSMINGER: Okay, I'll move
4 nominations be closed.

5

6 CHAIRMAN MIKE: I'm sorry, we still have
7 the nomination for the secretary seat.

8

9 MS. ENTSMINGER: For vice-Chair.

10

11 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Oh, vice-Chair nomination.

12 The nomination is closed and Craig Fleener is the vice-
13 Chair. Do we need to vote on that?

14

15 MR. UMPHENOUR: No.

16

17 CHAIRMAN MIKE: No, okay. I open the
18 nominations for -- I open the floor to nominations for the
19 secretary seat.

20

21 MS. ENTSMINGER: Would you give us the
22 duties of a secretary here?

23

24 MR. WILDE: Call the roll every meeting.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yeah, basically the
29 secretary calls the rule when we meet and usually -- like
30 some -- like Western Interior they have a secretary and
31 usually the secretary will help develop resolutions or any
32 action items.

33

34 MS. ENTSMINGER: So paperwork.

35

36 CHAIRMAN MIKE: But basically the secretary
37 takes the roll call during the meetings.

38

39 MS. ENTSMINGER: I nominate Tricia.

40

41 MR. WILDE: Second.

42

43 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay, Tricia's been
44 nominated for secretary. Anybody close the nominations.

45

46 MS. ENTSMINGER: I move we close nominations
47 for secretary.

48

49 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Nominations are closed

50 so.....

00229

1 MR. BERG: Was there a second on that?

2

3 REPORTER: Yes, Jim.

4

5 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia is the secretary.

6 Okay, the Chair is Gerald Nicholia, vice-Chair is Craig

7 Fleener and our new secretary is Tricia Waggoner. And I'll

8 give Tricia Waggoner the opportunity to take over the

9 Chairman position.

10

11 (Laughter)

12

13 MS. WAGGONER: You're doing a very good

14 job, let's just leave it.

15

16 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay, we'll continue onto

17 Proposal 71.

18

19 MR. BERG: That was a good try, though.

20

21 (Laughter)

22

23 MS. WAGGONER: Just remember, Sue, I know

24 where you live.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 MS. ENTSMINGER: I won't be home.

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 CHAIRMAN MIKE: What's the wish of the

33 Council on Proposal 71? Virgil.

34

35 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I would support

36 Proposal 71. I'd like to ask a question -- I should have

37 asked this awhile ago, has this planning team thought up

38 anymore methods to make the hunters more efficient in

39 hunting black bear, other than the bear baiting one that

40 you've got in there?

41

42 MR. STEPHENSON: Mr. Chair, not

43 specifically I don't think. There is a lot of, I think,

44 people rethinking their hunting effort and what they're

45 going to do, you know, as far as hunting bears in the
46 future. I mean there's a change in interest in it. And a
47 lot of the -- the key part of the plan -- or one of the key
48 parts is we're not going to try to tackle the whole unit of
49 25(D), it's about 17,000 square miles. One of the first
50 things we'd like to do is see if they can improve moose

00230

1 survival in the key hunters closer to communities by
2 harvesting bears and wolves in those places rather than the
3 whole unit. But, no, I don't think I -- if I understand
4 you right, I don't think of any -- I can't think of
5 anything else.

6

7 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.

8

9 MR. STEPHENSON: Do you have any
10 suggestions?

11

12 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. I have one good
13 suggestion. Bears are nocturnal when there's a lot of
14 human activity, especially around villages and stuff --
15 well, where there's human activity and if you're going to
16 bait them then you should be able to shoot them at night
17 and use an artificial light or artificial site if you
18 really want to be effective in shooting -- baiting black
19 bears and shooting them because they are nocturnal. And in
20 that fall season where you want the extension for baiting
21 it doesn't -- basically it may not do you any good because
22 no bears will come to bait in the hours of daylight so you
23 can't shoot them anyway.

24

25 And I say that from personal experience on
26 the Koyukuk where you can bait them in September now. I
27 was involved in that process. I fed lots of bears last
28 fall with good bacon fat that I smoked up myself and lots
29 of dog crunchies and popcorn makes them bears fat but never
30 even got a shot at one of them in the daytime.

31

32 Mr. Chair.

33

34 Do you want to respond to that?

35

36 MR. STEPHENSON: Not really.

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 MR. STEPHENSON: I guess we could try a
41 proposal along those lines. I don't know if -- you know,
42 how much local -- the local people would be interested in
43 doing that. There's not a lot of bear baiting right now
44 locally. We're just trying to put together every, you

45 know, feasible option that might, in some incremental way,
46 increase harvest. So there's a lot of small things rather
47 than any big things. And this is just one more opportunity
48 we'd try to open up for fall baiting. But it makes sense.
49 I imagine you're right.
50

00231

1 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.

2

3 MS. WAGGONER: I move that we support
4 Proposal 71 to establish a community subsistence harvest
5 area for black bears within Unit 25(D) and support the
6 State proposal for that.

7

8 MS. ENTSMINGER: Second.

9

10 CHAIRMAN MIKE: There's a motion on the
11 floor to support Proposal 71 as stated by Tricia and
12 seconded by Sue. All those in favor of Proposal 71 say
13 aye.

14

15 IN UNISON: Aye.

16

17 CHAIRMAN MIKE: All those opposed, same
18 sign.

19

20 (No opposing votes)

21

22 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Proposal 71 is adopted in
23 support of 71.

24

25 MS. WAGGONER: I move we support State
26 Proposal 72 to allow bear baiting in Unit 25(D).

27

28 MS. ENTSMINGER: Second.

29

30 CHAIRMAN MIKE: A motion to support
31 Proposal 72 and seconded by Sue. All those in favor of the
32 motion say aye.

33

34 IN UNISON: Aye.

35

36 CHAIRMAN MIKE: All those opposed same
37 sign.

38

39 (No opposing votes)

40

41 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Motion passes to support
42 Proposal 72.

43

44 MR. STEVENS: I got a question of the

45 Chair, being how I'm a part of this moose management
46 committee and sitting here, is it a conflict of interest
47 for me to be voting on this at all?

48

49 MR. WILDE: No.

50

00232

1 MS. ENTSMINGER: I don't think so.

2

3 MR. STEVENS: Okay, thanks.

4

5 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Is there any more proposals
6 that the Council wishes to review?

7

8 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I think Proposal 73
9 is a pertinent proposal. All that would do is extent the
10 brown bear season to June 15th or I think that's what it
11 would do from taking a quick glance at it.

12

13 MS. ENTSMINGER: Is that a motion to
14 support?

15

16 MR. UMPHENOUR: Right. Proposal 73 is
17 for.....

18

19 MR. WILDE: I don't have a 73.

20

21 MR. UMPHENOUR: I have a 73 in my booklet
22 here.

23

24 MS. WAGGONER: That's not part of the
25 Flats.

26

27 MS. ENTSMINGER: Well, you have it in the
28 State.....

29

30 MR. WILDE: Oh, that's -- okay, sorry.

31

32 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's Proposal 73, when I
33 read it it says, extend the season dates in Unit 25(A) as
34 follows: September 1 and it was May 20th to June 15th and
35 that's for residents and non-residents both for brown bear
36 in Unit 25(A) and that would align it with Unit 24, which
37 is what -- Unit 24 and Unit 21(D) and for the same reason,
38 the problem with moose predation by the bears and a lot of
39 times break up may not be until May 25th, May 26th so you
40 can't really travel on the river until then and so you get
41 four or five days that you can actually hunt grizzly bear.

42

43 MS. ENTSMINGER: Is that a motion?

44

45 MR. UMPHENOUR: So I move that we support
46 that proposal?

47

48 MS. ENTSMINGER: Second.

49

50 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Motion on the floor to

00233

1 support Proposal 73 and seconded by Sue. All those in
2 favor of in support of Proposal 73 say aye.

3

4 IN UNISON: Aye.

5

6 CHAIRMAN MIKE: All opposed same sign.

7

8 (No opposing votes)

9

10 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Proposal 73 is passed in
11 unanimous vote to support. Jay.

12

13 MR. STEVENS: Proposal 83 deals with the
14 bag limits of wolves from five to 10, so with that I'll
15 move to support this proposal, 83.

16

17 MS. WAGGONER: Second.

18

19 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Motion to support Proposal
20 83 and seconded by Tricia, all those in favor of Proposal
21 83 -- in support of Proposal 83 say aye.

22

23 IN UNISON: Aye.

24

25 CHAIRMAN MIKE: All those opposed same
26 sign.

27

28 (No opposing votes)

29

30 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Motion is passed to support
31 Proposal 83. Sue.

32

33 MS. ENTSMINGER: I want to make sure from
34 the Department, any liberalized seasons for predators of
35 the moose, have we covered them all?

36

37 MR. STEPHENSON: I think there's one other,
38 74, I think which has to do with the grizzly bear season
39 which I started to talk about mistakenly earlier.

40

41 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.

42

43 MS. WAGGONER: Okay, so basically 74 is to
44 make year-round brown bear season in the flats and I know

45 there was issues but there was lag time here so I'm
46 catching up. So under the Federal regulations it was moved
47 to year-round and now this is aligning State with Federal
48 regulations on the Flats?

49

50 MR. STEPHENSON: Right. This would align

00234

1 our season with the Federal season in 25(D). The
2 difference being that our season would apply to non-unit
3 residents as well rather than just unit residents on
4 Federal land. So it's a bit of a change. I don't think
5 it's going to really attract a huge amount of non-local
6 hunting pressure because they're not interested in summer
7 bears but it will, hopefully, allow better reporting and a
8 lot of bears that are taken, sort of -- around fish camps
9 and different things, during the summer, could be reported
10 under this system. So it's kind of a complicated issue,
11 really, but that's what it would do.

12

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.

14

15 MS. WAGGONER: And the tag exemption fee is
16 still in place?

17

18 MR. STEPHENSON: Yes.

19

20 MR. UMPHENOUR: So what this would amount
21 to is someone that would shoot a grizzly bear and pitch him
22 in the river because he was tearing down his smoke house
23 that otherwise wouldn't report it would report it; is that
24 the intent of it?

25

26 MR. STEPHENSON: That's certainly one
27 component, right.

28

29 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. I'll be in
30 support of it.

31

32 MR. STEVENS: I'll move to support Proposal
33 74 -- is that Proposal 74?

34

35 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yes.

36

37 MR. STEVENS: Yeah, 74.

38

39 MS. WAGGONER: Second.

40

41 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Motion to support Proposal
42 74 and seconded by Tricia, all those in favor of supporting
43 -- in support of Proposal 74 say aye.

44

45 IN UNISON: Aye.
46
47 CHAIRMAN MIKE: All those opposed same
48 sign.
49
50 (No opposing votes)

00235

1 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Unanimous vote in support
2 of Proposal 74. And I think that concludes the proposal
3 process as far as the Yukon Flats Management Plan is
4 concerned. So the Council can move onto the plan itself,
5 what is the wish of the Council on the plan? We'll take a
6 five minute recess and be back in -- well, make it 10:15.

7

8 (Off record)

9

10 (On record)

11

12 CHAIRMAN MIKE: I'll call the meeting to
13 order. We got done with the wildlife proposals, the Board
14 of Game that affect the Yukon Flats region and we're into
15 Council -- what is the wish of the Council on the Yukon
16 Flats Management Plan?

17

18 MR. STEVENS: Well, I'd move to support the
19 plan but it's up to the rest of the Council members.

20

21 MR. UMPHENOUR: I would second that. And I
22 would say that being as we have one of our members that's
23 an active participant in the planning, that we'll more than
24 likely be kept updated on the progress of the plan. But
25 any time when we get all the people in the local area
26 working together to address a problem like this, that there
27 is a much better success of -- or better chance of having
28 more responsible management when you have the active
29 participation of all the local people in the area and the
30 various other user groups that are involved in the harvest
31 of the various species to overcome the problems that cause
32 low abundance, like in this case.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 CHAIRMAN MIKE: There's a motion on the
37 floor to support the plan and seconded by Virgil. All
38 those in favor of supporting the plan say aye.

39

40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41

42 CHAIRMAN MIKE: All those opposed same
43 sign.

44

45 (No opposing votes)

46

47 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Unanimous to support the
48 Yukon Flats Cooperative Moose Management Plan. Let's move
49 on. Thank you.

50

00236

1 The next item on the agenda - or my
2 prioritized agenda I developed this morning to help the
3 Council move on is the annual report review. What the
4 annual report is it's the report for the Regional Advisory
5 Councils to address issues, either subsistence or other
6 issues outside the regulatory process. At our last fall
7 meeting we had a couple of items that the Council brought
8 up and this is just a draft annual report for 2001. The
9 annual report topics were developed at the fall Council
10 meeting and Jim Wilde was there, too.

11

12 So the Council still felt that the Regional
13 Advisory Council, that their compensation needs to be
14 further addressed. One of the main reasons behind the
15 compensation request was to -- Council members were
16 concerned about lost wages while attending the RAC
17 meetings. And as you heard a couple days ago from Tim
18 Jennings, we had a letter from the Secretary's office,
19 Griles, I think, stating that the compensation issue --
20 they cannot compensate any further other than per diem and
21 the cost of travel is covered.

22

23 Another annual report agenda item was the
24 continuation between the Office of Subsistence Management
25 and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, to continue to
26 work together as a group to provide biological data. That
27 the Council relies heavily on historical and biological
28 data in support of the partnership with the Federal
29 Subsistence Staff and the State Staff to continue providing
30 technical data for the Council to use when they're
31 deliberating on fish and wildlife issues.

32

33 So those were the two main annual report
34 items that were brought up. And does the Council wish to
35 go ahead and submit these two annual report items? Go
36 ahead, Tricia.

37

38 MS. WAGGONER: I understand the
39 compensation issue and I've read the letters. The only
40 other suggestion I would maybe make that would help
41 alleviate some of the problem would be some way through the
42 Federal system of more -- maybe a more timely payment. I
43 mean I know like right now I'm sitting on a huge sum of
44 money that's owed to me to cover transportation -- not just

45 from this meeting but from other things that I attend that
46 are paid two, three, four weeks down the road. And it does
47 add up when you're involved in several things. So maybe
48 not, you know, this issue of -- you know, the increase in
49 stipends and, I understand from that one letter, that
50 that's not possible, but maybe some way for the government

00237

1 to more timely reimburse RAC members, maybe would be a
2 suggestion to add in there.

3

4 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. Usually when we --
5 prior to our meetings we try to get per diem checks out to
6 the Council members prior to our meetings. We usually
7 request the advance, at least a month ahead before our
8 meetings and we get a check for -- a per diem check for the
9 Council members and I had planned on getting to Fairbanks a
10 little earlier so I can meet up with all the Council
11 members and get the per diem checks cashed. But any
12 incidental expenses that the Council members have, you
13 know, you have these vouchers, you can claim it on your
14 voucher and you'll get reimbursed for that. And usually
15 we'll try to get the vouchers processed in a timely fashion
16 and get your reimbursement claims directly deposited into
17 your account.

18

19 So, Jim.

20

21 MR. WILDE: Well, the same thing. My last
22 settlement was four months. And by that time I forgot
23 everything. I know it was a little short but it needs to
24 be more timely. Something has to be done.

25

26 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yeah, if the timeliness,
27 you need -- the Council members will help us a lot if you
28 get your travel vouchers filled out as soon as possible or
29 if you have time at the end of the meeting you can fill it
30 out or the day after the meeting, just fill it out and send
31 it to our office. You know, I can help move the process
32 along and that's the best I can do and usually our process
33 is handled outside our office.

34

35 MS. WAGGONER: Yeah. My comment being
36 like, you know, the gas money to get up here is, you know,
37 an expense and then I attended a meeting -- the focus group
38 meeting, you know, which was another expense and those, you
39 know, like Jim said, you're waiting for a month or two
40 months and when you start doing these, they add up. So if
41 there's some way to, at least, even get part of that
42 transportation money up front it would help the RAC
43 members.

44

45 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yeah, like I said earlier,
46 your -- part of your incidental costs was covered under
47 your advanced per diem check. So -- and like I said, I
48 wanted to meet up with everybody in Fairbanks so you could
49 get your per diem checks so -- and that would help cover
50 your cost.

00238

1 Jim.

2

3 MR. WILDE: Yeah, I'm sorry to -- I meant
4 to talk to Don before we left and I didn't even think about
5 it until now. You mentioned the focus group. I had a call
6 last week one day and I was out and so she said she'd call
7 back the next day and I stayed around and never heard.
8 They just forgot it or what?

9

10 CHAIRMAN MIKE: The focus group, and maybe
11 we're getting off the subject but I'll just help Jim Wilde
12 out, the focus group was to sit into -- the rural/non-rural
13 determination project that the ISR got the contract to do.
14 I spoke with Gerald Nicholia and ISR had contacted me
15 wanting some names to possibly sit on the -- possibly sit
16 in on the focus group and Gerald Nicholia submitted three
17 names, one of them was you, Tricia and Virgil. So -- and
18 ISR, I guess called.....

19

20 MR. WILDE: That's good. I didn't need
21 another meeting.

22

23 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Right.

24

25 (Laughter)

26

27 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay.

28

29 MS. WAGGONER: That's grocery shopping day
30 for me.

31

32 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tim -- or Dan.

33

34 MR. LaPLANT: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I just
35 wanted to add a few comments here about your travel and per
36 diem checks. We are, in the Office of Subsistence
37 Management, aware of the problems that have existed in the
38 past and we're working trying to resolve that and make
39 things go a little more smoothly for you. The rules allow
40 us, I think, it's 85 percent that we can issue in advance
41 and our goal is to bring those checks to the Council
42 meetings to provide those to you at the beginning of the
43 meeting. And the remainder of your travel expenses are a
44 result of submitting the claim. And whether that claim

45 comes in a timely manner is dependent upon how soon you
46 complete the travel voucher and then how soon we are able
47 to process it in OSM. And admittedly, we have been falling
48 behind in processing those vouchers in the past.

49

50 Of course, we have 10 Councils meeting at

00239

1 the same time so it's, you know, over a 100 claims that our
2 administrative people have to work with. We have a new
3 administrative program leader in the Office of Subsistence
4 Management, she just began here, I think the beginning of
5 last week, Barbara Massey, and that's one of her top
6 priorities to address this concern. So hopefully, the
7 combination of Council members submitting their vouchers as
8 soon as after traveling as possible and we'll try and
9 improve our efforts and our effectiveness in getting the
10 things processed.

11

12 Again, we're aware of the problem and we're
13 working on it.

14

15 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you, Dan. Tricia.

16

17 MS. WAGGONER: Well, I guess, maybe I don't
18 understand here. Now, like I had transportation to get up
19 here and that was not forwarded as part of the 85 percent.
20 Is that for -- you know, for mileage. Now, that is a
21 behind expense for me as a RAC member; is that right?

22

23 MR. LaPLANT: Yes. Those people traveling
24 by air, we provide those tickets in advance. But if you
25 don't have airline transportation then you have to claim
26 your mileage on your voucher. So, again, as soon as you
27 can get those vouchers into us after you've completed your
28 travel -- you know, those traveling by airline, if you have
29 taxi expenses in town, other unanticipated expenses, you
30 get those on your vouchers and we'll try and get those
31 processed as fast as we can.

32

33 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay, thanks. We'll get
34 moving on here. But if you need help with your travel
35 voucher or you got any questions, just give me a call or
36 anybody from our Staff. So as far as the Regional Council
37 compensation on the draft annual report, you guys want to
38 read that in there and add more language like you stated
39 earlier?

40

41 (Council nods affirmatively)

42

43 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. Jay?

44

45 MR. STEVENS: (Nods affirmatively)

46

47 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. The next annual
48 report item is the coordination between the Office of
49 Subsistence Management and the Alaska Department of Fish
50 and Game. Basically it's just the Council wishes to see

00240

1 the continuing cooperation between the State and Federal
2 biologists to provide biological data. Keep that as an
3 annual report item? We'll keep it in?

4

5 (Council nods affirmatively)

6

7 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil.

8

9 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, it's obvious from
10 this meeting the coordination that's went between the
11 various agencies in the presentation of the information
12 that was presented to the Council, it's very obvious that
13 there was lots of coordination done. All the various
14 monitoring projects on the fisheries side of things, you
15 can tell that there's a great big coordinated effort
16 between the State and the other various agencies in the
17 Federal arm of -- between the -- like the Department of --
18 the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Park Service and
19 everyone, they have all these various joint projects that
20 they're cooperating in doing and sharing information. So
21 that's a very important aspect of this when we have such
22 overlapping jurisdictions in there region.

23

24 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. Moving on on the
25 annual report. I think looking at it -- some of the
26 Council members approached and said -- I got these comments
27 from Sue Entsminger, new Council members need training of
28 at least one or two days prior to the first meeting, a
29 training session. The subsistence program is unique and
30 incredibly complicated. At this meeting we had over 40
31 agency people, all with reports. This requires so much
32 time from any -- so much time from one's life --
33 compensation should be given to members for more per diem.

34

35 And she goes on to say continued efforts for the
36 State and Federals to work together, much better for the
37 user. Simplify -- simplify -- I can't read her writing
38 here -- process -- but anyway, the last note she wrote was
39 in regards to the coordination between the Office of
40 Subsistence Management and -- and.....

41

42 MR. STEVENS: Yeah, I agree with the
43 training idea she brang up there. If I wasn't -- if I
44 hadn't of been through some of these different board

45 meetings before or been familiarized with it at all or the
46 process, that first day, minus the customary trade, I mean
47 I would have been lost. I mean for someone new to come in
48 here and gain that kind of knowledge or even an
49 understanding in three hours is crazy.

50

00241

1 MR. WILDE: I agree wholeheartedly with
2 him. I'd still like to have the training which I never
3 got. I didn't get one of those operational booklets for
4 the first year and a half so.....

5

6 (Laughter)

7

8 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.

9

10 MS. WAGGONER: I was going to say, I mean,
11 with the four new members, you know, I totally agree with
12 Jay, if I had not been involved in this process prior to
13 being appointed, you know, or in Virgil's case, being on
14 the Board of Fish and understanding boards and how the
15 regulatory issues work, you know, yeah, you need the
16 training. You need to understand how it works and what it
17 does and the importance of the work that we are doing. So
18 I wholeheartedly agree that you need three hours of
19 training prior to your first meeting.

20

21 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. Virgil, you got any
22 comments?

23

24 MR. UMPHENOUR: No, I concur with what's
25 been said. We have, well, just our region here is probably
26 bigger than a lot of states in the Lower 48 in square miles
27 and when you consider all the diverse users and uses and
28 resources that are addressed and the dependence of the
29 people on these resources, and how complicated the actual
30 regulatory processes are that have to be integrated, then
31 if a person's thrown in that hasn't been involved in this,
32 then -- and they haven't had some kind of a training
33 session, they're going to be just sitting there wondering,
34 you know, really -- really, it could be something that
35 could be extremely confusing to them and it would be good
36 to have -- maybe a good 16 hour session or something,
37 training session to get people familiarized with the
38 process because it is very complicated.

39

40 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you. So we'll add
41 training for new members on the annual report as one of the
42 agenda -- topics for the annual report for 2001. Are there
43 any other annual report topics that the Council would like
44 to see? Okay, I'll get these comments included on the

45 annual report and I think I'll just work with our secretary
46 and then, Tricia and I will hash out the language on the
47 final draft annual report and send out a copy to all the
48 Council members for further comments.

49

50 Okay, moving on. Review of the resolution

00242

1 from the last tri-Council meeting and that's in your books
2 under Tab E.

3

4 MR. WILDE: It's in Tab F.

5

6 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tab E as in everybody.

7

8 MS. WAGGONER: I have too much paper here.

9

10 MR. WILDE: F.

11

12 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Oh, Tab F, sorry Jim.

13

14 MR. WILDE: I know I'm hard of hearing but
15 I know the difference between E and F.

16

17 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Did everyone have a chance
18 to review the resolution?

19

20 This is Draft Resolution -- the Regional
21 Councils would like to hear comments on -- from our winter
22 meeting here and Jim was at our fall meeting and Jerry,
23 maybe you can help me out here in a little bit and -- and
24 the draft resolution requests the North Pacific Fisheries
25 Management Council partnership with the rural subsistence
26 users to address by-catch waste of Alaskan salmon.
27 Basically, the tri-Council is looking for in support of the
28 resolution or if there's any comments or make any changes
29 to the resolution, the tri-Council would certainly like to
30 hear that.

31

32 Council members. Virgil.

33

34 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you. I'd like to
35 bring everyone's attention to a handout we got, it's called
36 an overview of salmon by-catch in Alaska, groundfish
37 fisheries by David Witherell, David Ackley and Cathy Coon.
38 If you could get that thing out I want to just point out a
39 couple of things to everyone that it says.

40

41 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil, that's a good
42 point. Jerry Berg was going to present a short
43 presentation on that, but if you got something to.....

44

45 MR. UMPHENOUR: Okay.

46

47 CHAIRMAN MIKE:add, go ahead.

48

49 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, let me just point out

50 what it says in here. If you turn to Page 6 of it.

00243

1 MS. WAGGONER: I don't think I got it.

2

3 MR. UMPHENOUR: Everyone was given it.

4

5 CHAIRMAN MIKE: It's in your packet I
6 handed out the first day.

7

8 MS. WAGGONER: Oh, okay, that makes sense.

9

10 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Sorry, I should have
11 mentioned that.

12

13 MS. WAGGONER: Jim, didn't get one because
14 he wasn't here.

15

16 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Here Jim.

17

18 MR. WILDE: I might have that one.

19

20 CHAIRMAN MIKE: You got a copy of it Jay?

21

22 MR. STEVENS: Yeah.

23

24 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, one part of it I
25 can't find real quick, because I -- I've reviewed this
26 previously as a Board of Fisheries member. Anyway, it says
27 in here that the Bering Sea pollock fishery is worth about
28 \$300 million. And then it says, on Page 6, down at the
29 bottom, it's actually the third line up on the right, it
30 says, an adult equivalent by-catch of 14,580 adult chinook
31 salmon equates to about 2.6 percent of the 550,000 fish
32 minimum run size estimate for western Alaska. And then
33 over here on Page 7, down at the bottom, it's talking about
34 how they computed what this by-catch is worth in money and
35 it says -- it's on the left-hand paragraph up five lines,
36 it says, this is the king salmon or chinook salmon caught
37 on the by-catch of the Bering Sea trawl fishery, it says,
38 ex-vessel value of about \$382,000 and then it says, the
39 trawl fisheries also generate millions of dollars in state
40 of Alaska fish taxes and they're talking about all that
41 kind of stuff. But then if you turn over to Page 9, Table
42 3 says adult equivalent by-catch of chinook salmon from
43 western Alaska stocks taking in BSAI, Bering Sea Aleutian
44 Island trawl fisheries based on average annual by-catch

45 amount suggested for proportion from western Alaska age
46 composition and natural mortality. And it shows how they
47 computered all this. But it says -- if you look at the
48 first one it says, total annual contribution to Yukon River
49 from intercepted chinook salmon, 5,342 chinook salmon that
50 are by-caught in this Bering Sea Aleutian Island trawl

00244

1 fishery.

2

3 So 5,342 they consider were bound for the
4 Yukon River. If we consider that --- because they consider
5 that this 2. something percent is an insignificant amount,
6 to me that's not insignificant because the entire high end
7 of the commercial fishery allocation for the Upper Yukon
8 River is right at 5,000 king salmon. So their buy-catching
9 of Yukon River origin an amount that's equivalent to the
10 entire commercial allowable harvest for the Upper Yukon.

11

12 And then you get down to Nushagak River
13 component Bristol Bay of western Alaska chinook. They've
14 got 9,239. They're talking about how, in this report, that
15 the Bering Sea pollock fishery is worth in the neighborhood
16 of \$300 million. The sportfishery in Bristol Bay is worth
17 in the neighborhood of \$150 million to the state of Alaska.
18 The total allowable catch in the sportfishery for the
19 Nushagak River of king salmon is only 5,000 fish. So
20 they're by-catching, they estimate 9,239, which is almost
21 double what the total allowable sportfish harvest is for
22 this \$150 million commercial sportfishery or guided
23 sportfishery in Bristol Bay and so I don't consider that
24 insignificant.

25

26 And I also want to point out that just last
27 -- well, about two weeks ago, Robin Samuelsen, who is an
28 outgoing member of the North Pacific Fisheries Management
29 Council, he's been on there, I don't know, nine years or
30 so, but he has one more two meetings left, he put a motion
31 on the floor that the Northern Gulf of Alaska, that salmon
32 will be considered a prohibited species and that -- and
33 they directed the staff of the council to go through their
34 policies and procedures, the way they go through things, to
35 come up with by-catch limits and amounts for both chinook
36 salmon and chum salmon for the north gulf and that did pass
37 10 to 1.

38

39 But that's just additional information that
40 you wouldn't have -- but I've already been through this
41 process. I spent a day with the Council, I think the 4th
42 of February, the Board of Fisheries and the Council met
43 addressing this issue and I just wanted to point out those
44 things because they're kind of the highlights of this

45 report and what took place. And to show the difference of
46 opinion of what the trawl -- how the trawl industry feels
47 about by-catch. They think that these amounts are
48 insignificant when they're actually killing more than
49 what's allowed by some of the in-river users. And they're
50 claiming that their money is more -- well, their money is

00245

1 more important to them than it is to us and every
2 individual user group -- they feel that their use of the
3 fish is more important maybe than someone else's.

4

5 But I just wanted to point out the
6 differences. They say their fishery is worth in the
7 neighborhood of \$300 million but I do know for a fact that
8 the sportfishery in Bristol Bay generates about \$150
9 million and those guys kill almost double the number of
10 king salmon than the sportfishery is allowed and call them
11 by-catch.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 I support this resolution.

16

17 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yes. I got some notes from
18 Sue Entsminger. She's also in favor of the resolution.

19

20 Did you want to hear a brief presentation
21 on the by-catch issue, the paper that Virgil just discussed
22 from Jerry Berg? What's the wish of the Council?

23

24 MS. WAGGONER: Yeah, I'd like to hear from
25 Jerry. But, you know, I -- no, I'll wait.

26

27 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Jerry.

28

29 MR. BERG: Thank you, Donald. Well,
30 actually I was going to -- this issue of by-catch was
31 discussed in some detail at the fall meeting at the tri-
32 Council. There were representatives from the National
33 Marine Fisheries Service there and they gave a very good
34 presentation. There were also people at that meeting that
35 gave presentations on some of the health -- fish health
36 concerns and some of the studies that are being done
37 related to that on the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers. And
38 there was a great interest in the Council. The Council
39 really appreciated the NMFS people being there and they
40 want to work more closely with those organizations. And
41 that's kind of where this resolution came out of, was to
42 try to strengthen that and say we appreciate the efforts
43 made at that meeting and we want to continue that. So I
44 think that's where the resolution came out of.

45

46 And as a result of a lot of the concerns

47 being raised on by-catch and what not, we put together a

48 number of studies and plans that are being -- that are

49 taking place -- impact the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers.

50 There's about 10 different reports that I've made copies of

00246

1 here. One of them is the one that Virgil just spoke of and
2 you already have copies of that. I've put together kind of
3 just a short paragraph summary of each one of these so that
4 you can kind of get a broad view of what each one of these
5 represents without having to read the entire thing before
6 you get into it.

7

8 The first issue that I brought was actually
9 one that Virgil also mentioned and that was that the North
10 Pacific Fish Management Council did pass a motion earlier
11 this month and basically the first sentence of that second
12 paragraph kind of outlines what motion did. They took a
13 motion that would initiate an analysis of alternatives that
14 would control by-catch in the gulf of Alaska ground fish --
15 trawl fisheries. Now, the report that Virgil just went
16 over does talk about the gulf of Alaska some, but there is
17 less data, I guess, available on by-catch in the gulf of
18 Alaska than there is in the Bering Sea so that report that
19 he went over has better information on the Bering Sea by-
20 catch than it does gulf of Alaska. And I think that's why
21 they passed this motion to do more specific studies on the
22 gulf of Alaska. And then I outline a few of the specifics
23 there in their motion. And I tried to get a copy of the
24 newsletter that the North Pacific Fish Management Council
25 puts out prior to coming here to give to you but I was
26 unable to get that. If you'd like to get those
27 newsletters, we can get you on their mailing list to keep
28 up to date on their actions.

29

30 Part of their motion also in the bottom
31 paragraph in that first section also suggests that they're
32 going to be looking into some of the genetic stock status
33 information that's related to the by-catch. So it's a
34 pretty comprehensive set of alternatives that they want to
35 look at to try to get a better handle on what the by-catch
36 really represents.

37

38 So that's it for the North Pacific Fish
39 Management Council.

40

41 The next paragraph talks about the over --
42 it's an overview of the by-catch in Alaska groundfish
43 fisheries and that's actually an overview of the report
44 that Virgil just went over.

45

46 I guess when I first read that report I was
47 struck by the information they have, and they quite clearly
48 state in there that a lot of the escapement numbers that
49 they're using in there aren't complete and they're trying
50 -- it's the best available information that they put in

00247

1 there. And they're using some assumptions that they have
2 to use because there isn't a comprehensive set of
3 information on escapements for all of western Alaska and so
4 they have to make some assumptions in there. So I think
5 that's something to be aware of, you know, that it's the
6 best information that's available now but it's not a
7 comprehensive look at, okay, this is what the impacts are
8 to western Alaska. It's the best information we have
9 available and they've done a good job of putting that
10 together.

11

12 The next paragraph talks about the AY-K
13 Coalition that Cliff talked to you about the first day.
14 And that's a group of organizations, Fish and Game, Fish
15 and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service,
16 Bering Sea Fishermen's Association, AVCP and TCC that are
17 working together to try to address -- to also try to
18 address some of the issues that are raising questions in
19 the Bering Sea and how they affect the AY-K and they've
20 been funded for \$5 million over a five year period to start
21 studying some of the impacts that are occurring in the
22 Bering Sea.

23

24 So this is just information for you,
25 because the Council has expressed interest in all of this
26 before.

27

28 I don't have a copy of anything for you to
29 review for the AY-K Coalition. They're still kind of in
30 the preliminary stages of kind of getting organized and
31 setting up their process that they're going to use so I
32 wasn't able to get anything from them at the time. But
33 we'll certainly be sending out updates as we get them to
34 the Council members, as Donald does send you things in the
35 mail periodically.

36

37 The BASIS survey that's described down at
38 the bottom of the first page, this is a copy of their draft
39 plan. And I didn't really bring enough copies for
40 everybody in the room. I basically brought copies for the
41 Council members. I didn't want to make a whole bunch of
42 copies. If you're not interested in it or if it's
43 something you think you might not be interested in that's
44 fine, too, but I just wanted to make it available to the

45 Council. It's a proposal that's been made. It's an
46 international plan to survey kind of the Bering Sea on a
47 more standardized basis. They haven't completely funded
48 the study but they have funded -- and I guess the nations
49 being represented are Canada, Japan, Russia and the U.S.
50 So it's good to see, I think, that there is some

00248

1 comprehensive planning being done by the various countries
2 to try to work together and try to figure out what's going
3 on in the Bering Sea. But for right now, they've all
4 agreed to fund developing a science plan and trying to come
5 up with a proposed budget that would fund the research
6 that's identified in that plan. So, you know, I don't want
7 to get into the details. I'm not an expert on it but I did
8 read through the document and it does -- it is a pretty
9 ambitious program and I think it's certainly something
10 that's needed. And we'll try to keep you up to date on
11 what happens with that proposed plan.

12

13 The next one is the North Pacific Marine
14 Research Program. And the goal of that program is
15 basically to also increase the understanding of the Bering
16 Sea and the adjacent waters. If you -- and they're
17 requesting proposals to fund various studies. If you read
18 through there, I think their budget for this year is just
19 to continue existing projects they've already funded
20 somewhere around the \$6 million mark. However, for the
21 fiscal year 2003 they have a budget of 10 to 12 million to
22 fund new studies and they're currently accepting new
23 proposals. And at the bottom of that, I've kind of
24 outlined where they are kind of going with a lot of their
25 studies. And that is the development and implementation of
26 long-term Bering Sea ecosystem observations which
27 ultimately include information obtained from scientific
28 measures, industry and Native Alaskans. So they are trying
29 to include traditional ecological knowledge into their
30 study plan.

31

32 So that's probably not a comprehensive set
33 of information that's all going on as far as Bering Sea
34 studies but that's as much as we could find prior to the
35 meeting to try to get before you. We just wanted to get as
36 much as we could in front of you. The rest of the
37 information I have here is related to fish health studies
38 that are being done. There are some concerns being raised
39 about different aspects such as ichthyophonus that Virgil
40 talked about yesterday and some contaminant studies are
41 being done on the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers. There's a
42 positive that we put up in the back for the room that Fish
43 and Wildlife Service is doing -- yeah, there's a handout
44 here that Donald has on that study that's being conducted.

45 So there's a fair amount of money being spent to try to
46 address the issues that are being raised on contaminants
47 and fish health in both the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers.

48

49 So I'll just pass around copies of these
50 reports. Some of them are complete reports and some of

00249

1 them are just the front copy of lengthy reports that we
2 didn't want to give you the whole report because it's a
3 fairly thick book but it tells you how you can get a copy
4 of the book if you want to. If you want us to call and get
5 a copy and have it sent to you we'd be willing to do that.

6

7 Yeah, Tricia.

8

9 MS. WAGGONER: This has changed.

10

11 MR. BERG: That has changed?

12

13 MS. WAGGONER: The meeting was held --
14 there was meetings held the week of the 4th through the 8th
15 in Anchorage. And so it's significantly changed.

16

17 MR. BERG: Okay. And do you know -- were
18 you at that meeting?

19

20 MS. WAGGONER: No. My -- the organization
21 that I work for is involved in the development of this
22 project and so -- yeah, let me see. Yeah, it's -- it's way
23 changed from what's in here. They've been -- there's been
24 multiple meetings and teleconferences and working and
25 reworking of the whole wild food safety program and so it's
26 continually evolving. You know, when you're trying to take
27 3.9 million and divvy it across the state of Alaska and try
28 to actually do something worthwhile and be fair and
29 everything, it's a difficult process. So just keep in
30 mind, you know, there's -- I know -- I'm pretty sure what's
31 in this one is what I saw at the beginning of the week
32 there in Anchorage but I know there was changes because
33 they had several meetings during that week.

34

35 MR. BERG: Would it still be beneficial to
36 the Council members to familiarize themselves with the
37 program itself?

38

39 MS. WAGGONER: Yes.

40

41 MR. BERG: Okay. So I guess just take that
42 into account, that Tricia said there's lots of changes, I
43 guess, in that program, if you want to make notes on the
44 front that that's been changed significantly.

45

46 And then I just have some copies of some
47 different reports on fish health issues in Alaska and I'll
48 just pass around copies of those for everybody. I have
49 four or five of these so I'll just keep passing them
50 around. But that's really all I have for you, just

00250

1 information update on -- kind of follow-up from the tri-
2 Council meeting last fall. If there's information that
3 you're interested in or processes that are going on that
4 you're interested in and you want us to follow-up on trying
5 to keep you up to date, please let us know and we will do
6 everything we can to get the information before you.

7

8 And that's all I have. Thank you very
9 much.

10

11 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you, Jerry. Yeah, I
12 think the resolution has a lot of background information
13 so.....

14

15 MS. WAGGONER: I'm just trying to figure
16 out which ones of these I have.

17

18 CHAIRMAN MIKE: So Virgil and Sue are in
19 support of the resolution. What's the wish of the rest of
20 the Council? Tricia.

21

22 MS. WAGGONER: I spent a part of a year as
23 a observer doing by-catch in both the pollock and part on
24 the bottom trawl fishery, I don't know what they're going
25 to do to limit by-catch other than stop fishing. But I
26 support the resolution. I support anything to lower, you
27 know, the by-catch out there. Personally, it was really
28 tough to see those salmon come up in the trawl and you know
29 they're dead because there's not a scale left on them, you
30 know and along with just the massive amount of biomass
31 that's being removed from the ecosystem. So I am
32 definitely in support of the resolution and anything that
33 can be done to further limit by-catch.

34

35 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you. Is it the wish
36 of the Council, I can draft the correspondence in support
37 of the resolution to the rest of the -- a letter to the YK
38 and the Western Interior Regional Advisory Council stating
39 that the Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council
40 supports the resolution or if you want to make a motion on
41 that we can do that.

42

43 MS. WAGGONER: I'll make a motion that we
44 support Resolution 02-blank.

45

46 MR. STEVENS: I'll second it.

47

48 CHAIRMAN MIKE: There's a motion on the
49 floor to support Resolution 02-blank and seconded by Jay.

50 All those in favor of Resolution 02-blank say aye.

00251

1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2

3 CHAIRMAN MIKE: All opposed same sign.

4

5 (No opposing votes)

6

7 CHAIRMAN MIKE: The motion passes to
8 support Resolution 02 and I'll develop draft correspondence
9 and send it out to the remaining Councils. Tricia.

10

11 MS. WAGGONER: Jerry, I didn't ask this
12 before you ran away. With the contaminants in salmon
13 study, what's the projected date to actually have some
14 analytical data?

15

16 MR. BERG: I can't actually remember. I
17 think Keith Mueller actually gave us an update at last
18 fall's meeting. They had coll -- I think they were done
19 collecting their samples and they were waiting for their
20 results back from the lab but I can't remember,
21 unfortunately. I don't know if there's anybody else in the
22 room here that's up to date on that. I actually haven't
23 read all of the poster that's back there and it may
24 indicate back there.

25

26 MS. WAGGONER: (Shakes head negatively)

27

28 MR. BERG: No, it doesn't.

29

30 MS. WAGGONER: That's why I asked.

31

32 MR. BERG: So I guess we can -- we'll try
33 and follow up with that and let the Council know what we
34 can find out from Ecological Services.

35

36 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you. Any more
37 questions, comments regarding the resolution or the other
38 information? If not, I didn't go through my priority list,
39 we skipped down -- we were supposed to go to Council
40 charter and review so we'll go to that next. And after
41 Council charter and review, we will go into 2002 fisheries
42 proposals.

43

44 The Eastern Interior Charters are under Tab

45 H. And every two years the charter is up for review and
46 changes. So last fall we didn't have enough Council
47 members to do a proper review and make any recommendations
48 for changes and they deferred the -- any action until this
49 winter meeting. So Tricia and, I think, somebody else had
50 concerns about the charter. And we can take comments for

00252

1 recommended changes on the charter so Council members.
2 Tricia.

3

4 MS. WAGGONER: Okay. Section 2, objectives
5 and scope of activities. The objective of the Council is
6 to provide an administrative structure that enables rural
7 residents. And I think we need to -- due to the FACA
8 letter and the make up of this Council, we need to change
9 that to residents of the region to encompass -- I don't
10 know what the term is here, but to encompass it, you know,
11 we're looking at both rural and urban residents within our
12 region and we have representation from both on this
13 Council.

14

15 CHAIRMAN MIKE: So that's a recommended
16 change you want to see?

17

18 MS. WAGGONER: (Nods affirmatively)

19

20 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Right?

21

22 MS. WAGGONER: (Nods affirmatively)

23

24 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. The other thing the
25 Council needs to consider is to have alternates on the
26 Regional Advisory Council. So we don't have any alternates
27 for Eastern Interior. There's some alternates for the --
28 the YK have alternates for their Council members. An
29 alternate Council member will be good in case we have a
30 last minute resignation then we can just bring on the
31 alternate. So I'll leave it up to the Council of whether
32 they want to have an alternate and see what they want to
33 do. Council members.

34

35 MS. WAGGONER: How do they select
36 alternates?

37

38 CHAIRMAN MIKE: We can select alternates
39 during our normal nomination cycle; is that correct Jerry?

40

41 MR. BERG: (Nods affirmatively)

42

43 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Jerry, can you speak on
44 that, please.

45

46 MR. BERG: Yes. Alternates -- all Councils
47 review their charters every two years. And I believe it
48 was in 1998 four of the Councils opted to have alternates
49 on their Council so that if a standing member wasn't able
50 to attend that they could fill in. And at that time the

00253

1 Eastern Interior Council chose not to have alternates but
2 certainly this is the time to review your charter. They
3 will be renewed next fall by signature by the Secretary of
4 Interior. So if you feel like you'd like to have
5 alternates added to your Council, that's certainly
6 something you could do at this time.

7

8 You can do it -- Councils have done it one
9 of two ways. They have said that they want alternates and
10 they'll be alternates at-large so they come from anywhere
11 in the region and then if anybody from the region is not
12 able to attend then they would sit in for that member.
13 Other Councils have wanted alternates to represent certain
14 areas. Maybe one half of the region and one from another
15 half of the region. They've done it by GMU boundaries or
16 they've done it by geographic areas and then they've stated
17 that if a Council member from that area was not able to
18 attend, then that alternate from that area would represent
19 that area.

20

21 Is that clear?

22

23 CHAIRMAN MIKE: So I guess under the
24 charter, under Item No. 9, members, I think we can insert
25 language in there to address alternates for the Eastern
26 Interior Council.

27

28 MR. BERG: That's right.

29

30 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yep, it's up to the
31 Council. And I'll help draft the language and work with
32 Tricia and the rest of the Council. Taylor.

33

34 MR. BRELSFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Is this in regards to the
37 charter?

38

39 MR. BRELSFORD: On the charter and the
40 composition of the Council. We heard yesterday that the
41 Board had convened a committee to look at some of the
42 questions of Regional Council membership and the selection
43 process. I think I'd like to mention to you that the Board
44 is looking at alternates and consistency all across the 10

45 Councils. So recognizing that four Councils currently have
46 alternates, some do not, I think there's a certain tendency
47 in this committee discussion to think that alternates might
48 be a good idea on all of the Councils and not just on a
49 few. So if you're inclined that way, I think that's maybe
50 a little bit in the future. You don't have to take action.

00254

1 Or if you had a difficulty with that, you could certainly
2 articulate your reasons. But I guess I'd like you to know
3 that I think there's a certain momentum towards having
4 alternates.

5

6 And the second item that I'd like to bring
7 to your attention, there's some discussion about increasing
8 the size of some Regional Councils. And, in particular,
9 looking at the Regional Councils that have very diverse
10 regions that they serve, including large non-rural areas as
11 well as diverse rural communities. Eastern Interior would
12 be one of the Councils that has a lot of diversity in the
13 area that you serve. And I think there will be some
14 discussion, although it will be a Board decision and I
15 don't want to predict an outcome, I do believe that the
16 question of increasing the size of the Southcentral Council
17 and the Eastern Interior Council is kind of on the table.
18 So if you guys have ideas about that, that would be good to
19 maybe give your thinking now and then when the Subsistence
20 Board committee finalizes recommendations and the Board
21 acts on Regional Councils, any ideas that you have would be
22 taken into account.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN MIKE: So it's -- we're on the
27 subject of membership. To either have -- include language
28 to have alternates and like Taylor was just mentioning,
29 about increasing the Council members. Jim.

30

31 MR. WILDE: Well, I'd like to see
32 alternates. But I'd mainly like to see a full Board. I
33 have a question, are the alternates selected on the same
34 criteria as the Board members?

35

36 MR. BRELSFORD: (Nods affirmatively)

37

38 MR. WILDE: Yeah. I'd definitely like to
39 see them because we can't seem to keep a full Board. Thank
40 you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yeah. And the YK have
43 alternates and I don't know if the alternates -- how many
44 alternates do they have, Jerry, two?

45

46 MR. BERG: (Nods affirmatively)

47

48 CHAIRMAN MIKE: And I guess with the
49 alternates, I think there's a requirement that they attend
50 some meetings, right, so that the alternates keep up to

00255

1 date as far as what's going on in the Council and the
2 region.

3

4 MR. BERG: Yeah, alternates, the way it's
5 been handled in the past is that alternates would attend if
6 a regular Council member was not able to attend. But we've
7 been trying to have alternates go to most every meeting so
8 they can stay up to date on the issues in the past couple
9 years.

10

11 If, I guess the program goes in the
12 direction that Taylor mentioned, that alternates may be on
13 every Council, I'm not sure if that would change to where
14 we would only indeed have alternates come to meetings when
15 a Council member couldn't attend or if they would still
16 come to every meeting so that they could stay up to date.
17 It's unclear as to how that would occur.

18

19 But anyway, currently they just come when
20 -- currently they come to stay up on all the issues so they
21 go to every meeting.

22

23 CHAIRMAN MIKE: What's the wishes of the
24 Council? Tricia.

25

26 MS. WAGGONER: I agree with Jim, I mean,
27 alternates would be great but when are we going to even
28 have a nine member board, when are the other two positions
29 going to be filled on our Board?

30

31 CHAIRMAN MIKE: We should have a full nine
32 member Board by the fall meeting at the earliest.

33

34 MS. WAGGONER: Well, I support adding two
35 alternates as a starting point for discussion.

36

37 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Further discussion. Again,
38 I can draft the initial language on the membership and I'll
39 work with Tricia. What about the possibility of increasing
40 the membership from nine, do you want to address that or do
41 you want to just keep it at nine?

42

43 MR. WILDE: it might be a good idea. I
44 don't know we seem to have lost some interior members to

45 the road system. I don't know, I just have that feeling
46 personally. If we increase the membership we could have
47 more off-road membership.

48

49 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.

50

00256

1 MS. WAGGONER: This is also a thought and
2 it's just for discussion you just brought up a really good
3 point. Should we maybe even go further and say, to
4 comprise a membership of four on the road system and four
5 off the road system and one at large or something to make
6 sure that we do have that equal representation.

7

8 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Jay.

9

10 MR. STEVENS: Well, if you did something
11 like that, if there was three good minds coming out of the
12 road system, depending on where it was, I mean the area's
13 so large you could be holding somebody with a lot of
14 knowledge back by limiting the amount of -- number of
15 people from the road system versus the non-road.

16

17 MS. WAGGONER: Just a thought Jay.

18

19 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Well, we can present these
20 as ideas for recommendations. Jim.

21

22 MR. WILDE: Maybe if we could increase to
23 11, I don't know, just an offset number and then had a
24 minimum of, you know, not make it six, five whatever.....

25

26 MS. WAGGONER: Yeah.

27

28 MR. WILDE:but have a minimum of
29 three on each -- I don't know, just a thought.

30

31 CHAIRMAN MIKE: We could include it in a
32 recommendation. Virgil.

33

34 MR. UMPHENOUR: A lot of times and I don't
35 know whether it's the case in this situation or not, but a
36 lot of times you might have trouble getting someone that
37 wanted to serve from a certain place, I don't know whether
38 that's been a problem or not but I know that that's a
39 potential problem. So there should be a diverse group of
40 people that represent all the various interests in the
41 region but specifically try to say that you'll have people
42 from A, B, C sometimes could be problematic. That's the
43 only thing I wanted to point out.

44

45 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Taylor.

46

47 MR. BRELSFORD: If I could. That's an
48 extremely valid point. We can, in a given year a third of
49 the seats are up and sometimes we will temporarily pick a
50 real strong and it will result in over representation in

00257

1 one part until the next year when the new candidates come
2 up. You can't always have absolute balance geographically
3 in a given year with a third of the candidates coming open
4 and it depends on who applies. So you try to achieve kind
5 of a running balance. That if you come strong in one area
6 one year you try and compensate the next year and hustle
7 extra candidates from the part of the region that's under
8 represented. So quotas or designated seats have not been
9 put into any of the Regional Councils to date and instead
10 there's guidelines and principles in the selection process
11 to try and maintain an ongoing balance between regions.
12 But as Virgil points out, in some particular year you may
13 not have candidates from a key area and you don't want to
14 leave a seat vacant, you want to go with strong people from
15 the pool you have and then catch it up the next year by
16 additional recruitment and things of that stuff.

17

18 So I think guidelines and principles help
19 us here and that designated seats or quotas can make it a
20 little more difficult as we work through the selections
21 every year.

22

23 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.

24

25 MS. WAGGONER: Thank you. Because that
26 alleviates those concerns and that make-up, and with Jay's
27 comment, you know, definitely we won't make any quotas or
28 restrictions. But I don't know, I think a nine member
29 board is sufficient right now. I mean, once we get a.....

30

31 MR. WILDE: If we can get nine.

32

33 MS. WAGGONER:full compliment I think
34 we'll be okay. If we can get nine and have nine on here
35 we'll be happy.

36

37 MR. WILDE: With two alternates.

38

39 CHAIRMAN MIKE: We're going to make a
40 recommendation to have two alternates under membership
41 under item nine. So we've addressed two and nine. Is
42 there anything else under the charter that the Council
43 would like to make recommendations for changes?

44

45 I'd like to bring up the official
46 designation, it's the Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence
47 Regional Advisory Council. That's a mouthful.

48

49 Well, I guess my point is that do we really
50 need to include Alaska under Eastern Interior Alaska

00258

1 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council? We can just simply
2 say it's the Eastern Interior Subsistence Regional Advisory
3 Council.

4

5 (Laughter)

6

7 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Taylor, is there a reason
8 why Alaska is in there?

9

10 MR. BRELSFORD: There is a reason and I'd
11 like to save you some trouble. There is a national system
12 of numbering for Advisory Councils. Every Advisory Council
13 appears on a list, there's actually a national website with
14 your minutes and membership, all this stuff renewed this
15 year so if it doesn't say Alaska it will not be visible at
16 the national level what kind of committee this is. So I'm
17 fairly certain that however you advise the national system
18 requires that these geographic e-signations stay in.

19

20 It is a nuisance on the sidelines, it's not
21 a matter that comes before you all the time. We know each
22 other as the Eastern Interior Council and that's it but I
23 believe that's a formality that comes as a cost of being
24 part of a national network of Federal Advisory Committee
25 Act committees.

26

27 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you, Taylor. We'll
28 strike that and go on.

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 CHAIRMAN MIKE: But it will be on our
33 correspondence on our letterhead, Eastern Interior Alaska
34 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. So moving on, is
35 there any other items that the Council would further like
36 to address on the charter? If that's it, I'll draft the
37 initial language and work with Tricia and then we'll pass
38 it out to everybody for their further comments.

39

40 We're going to -- I forgot to include the
41 fisheries proposal for 2002/2003 and Tom Kron will be
42 presenting -- now -- what we have to date on fisheries
43 proposals. Tom.

44

45 Whenever you're ready Tom we can start.

46

47 MR. KRON: Mr. Chairman, members of the
48 council. Again, I think we've pointed out in your briefing
49 meeting for three of the members that are here now, in the
50 morning, that, again, there's a fisheries cycle and the

00259

1 opportunity for proposals is open now. And it will be open
2 through I believe the 28th of March. If you would choose
3 to, you know, often Regional Councils submit proposals if
4 they have areas that they would like to address. You can
5 do them as individuals as well between now and the 28th.

6

7 I guess one I wanted to bring to your
8 attention in particular and at the top it's draft proposal
9 form. This was a proposal that the Federal Subsistence
10 Board had specifically asked that OSM submit for
11 consideration. Nat Good, who was formerly of this Council
12 from Delta Junction had sent in a letter saying that as
13 part of the C&T process for the Chitina subdistrict, that
14 he felt that it was appropriate to add Delta Junction to
15 that process and George points out to me that it should be
16 the Delta Junction area. But in any case, based on the
17 directions of the Board this would be one of the proposals.
18 It's still in draft form so we're looking for your comments
19 as well. But this would be one of the proposals that
20 basically OSM would submit to the process and you'll get a
21 chance to look at it in the fall.

22

23 So I wanted to give you an opportunity at
24 this meeting to see it in advance and, again, it's still in
25 draft but it's based on directions from the Federal
26 Subsistence Board to OSM to submit it. So you don't have
27 to take any action on it but I wanted to at least let you
28 know about it.

29

30 And I think Donald had another one that you
31 may or may not want to take action on. Again, it's in
32 draft proposal form and it relates to Birch Creek here.
33 This was something that the Councils looked at last fall.
34 But again, it's an annual cycle process. And I guess if
35 there are any others in your proposal book under Tab F,
36 there's a description of the cycle period, the deadlines
37 and again, proposal forms. So I guess the main thing was
38 just to let you know that the proposal period is open right
39 now. If you want to deal with any issues here when you got
40 a quorum you can do that or if you want to deal with them
41 between now and the 29th, it looks like proposals are
42 accepted through the 29th, you can fax them in, mail them
43 in. If you need help putting the information together for
44 a proposal, Donald and I can help you with that.

45

46 But anyway, just an informational item and

47 I guess I'll take any questions if anyone has any.

48

49 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Any questions. Concerns.

50 Are we ready to move on?

00260

1 (Council nods affirmatively)

2

3 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. Thank you, Tom. The
4 next item on the agenda is to go through the remaining
5 agency reports. Do we have any other agency that wanted to
6 give a report to the Council? Ted Heuer.

7

8 MR. HEUER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
9 know everybody's ready to go so I'll keep my remarks very
10 brief here. I did want to take this opportunity to
11 reintroduce a couple of people on our staff who serve as
12 primary contacts for issues related to subsistence on the
13 Yukon Flats Refuge.

14

15 And of course, you guys have already met
16 Paul Williams, Sr., from Beaver. Paul is our Refuge
17 Information Technician and serves as kind of a liaison
18 between the Refuge staff and local villages in the Yukon
19 Flats. And I think Paul knows everybody in the Eastern
20 Interior so it's probably more appropriate for him to
21 introduce me than me introducing him.

22

23 The other person I'd like to reintroduce is
24 Wennona Brown. Wennona is our new subsistence coordinator
25 for the Yukon Flats, Kanuti and Arctic Refuges. She took
26 Greg McClellan's place who left us last March. So that
27 position was vacant for about nine months and we're glad to
28 have Wennona on board.

29

30 Let's see we conducted a moose survey in
31 November in cooperation with Steven's Village and Beaver
32 and estimated about 670 moose in the western portion of the
33 Refuge. That's a density of about .3 moose per square
34 mile. The report is still being reviewed by some other
35 people so I don't have copies of it here but if anybody
36 would like to have a report, let me know and I'll make sure
37 you get a copy.

38

39 Now, that we have Wennona on board, we'll
40 be hiring a second RIT from the Yukon Flats region so if
41 anybody knows of people who might be interested in that
42 position, contact either Paul or Wennona.

43

44 We'll be having some steel-shot clinics

45 this spring. There's one scheduled for Arctic Village
46 right now, April 25th and 26th. And we're also looking
47 with Chalkyitsik, Venetie or Birch Creek to have an
48 workshop.

49

50 As far as Refuge activities this summer we

00261

1 have a couple of water fowl production studies that we're
2 doing. One on white wing scoter and one on lesser scoup,
3 so if anybody's interested in more information about those
4 you can contact me or our lead biologists Mark Bertrum.

5

6 And that's all I have unless there are
7 questions.

8

9 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Questions. Thank you.

10

11 MR. WHEELER: Good morning, Council
12 members. I'm Gary Wheeler, assistant manager with the
13 Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Richard Voss, the Refuge
14 manager couldn't make it so I'm here representing him and
15 the Refuge. I just wanted to let you know a little bit
16 about what Arctic Refuge has done over the past year and
17 what we have planned for this year.

18

19 We've got a written report that's in Tab G
20 so hopefully you've had a chance to look at that. I might
21 just summarize real quickly.

22

23 The Arctic Refuge has provided funding for
24 the Native communities of Arctic Village and Kaktovik to
25 participate in the Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge
26 Cooperative. And this is an association of Native
27 communities, co-management bodies and government agencies
28 and university scientists across the range of the Porcupine
29 Caribou Herd. And the goal of this knowledge co-op is to
30 monitor the ecosystem to see what's changing and why.
31 There are no management decisions or advocacy positions
32 taken by the co-op, but rather to share information for
33 decision-makers to use. The co-op hires locals to
34 interview local experts, to document their knowledge of
35 what's changing within their communities and around their
36 communities and then this knowledge is shared at the annual
37 meeting. This years annual meeting is taking place this
38 week in Ft. McPherson, Northwest Territory.

39

40 Our second project is the Arctic Village
41 Subsistence Fishery study and Old John Lake Traditional
42 Knowledge Workshop. Subsistence users in Arctic village
43 have expressed concern over the decline of harvest of
44 whitefish, lake trout and burbot in Old John Lake and other

45 areas near Arctic Village. And they're concerned that
46 their harvest may not be sustainable in the future. So
47 we've initiated a study to look at the current fishery and
48 establish a baseline of biological information for fish
49 harvested in the area.

50

00262

1 Much of this information will be gathered
2 from interviewing community members. And a local community
3 member will be hired to interview harvesters about when
4 and where fishing has occurred, the species taken, the gear
5 used and the relative success of fishing effort in
6 comparison with previous years. With permission from the
7 harvester, data will be collected from the fish that are
8 harvested including length, measurements, sex of the fish
9 and scales and otoliths will be taken for age and growth
10 determinations. And we would include hiring a couple of
11 local students to be trained in collection and gathering of
12 data.

13

14 In this past year, Joanne Gustufson, who's
15 a Park Ranger on our staff and who grew up in Arctic
16 Village organized a traditional knowledge workshop at Old
17 John Lake this past August. And so many community members
18 participated in that workshop practicing subsistence
19 fishing, identifying historical sites and talking about
20 fish biology and the Native allotments in the area. So
21 that was really a large success as well.

22

23 The Refuge conducted, this past summer, a
24 Porcupine River rafter survey, it was the 23rd consecutive
25 year for the survey and we found the highest number of
26 perrigen falcon nests that we've ever found so that
27 population seems to be continuing to increase, however, we
28 found no golden eagle nests along the Porcupine River and
29 this seems to follow the lower -- kind of the low end of
30 the snowshoe hare population cycle. So those were some
31 results from there.

32

33 We also, in cooperation with our Ecological
34 Services Office in Anchorage began a study looking at wood
35 frogs and deformities in wood frogs. This has been a
36 concern of scientists across the country, the deformities
37 they've seen in amphibians. And so this was the first year
38 we looked at that. Looked at wood frogs in 13 ponds in the
39 vicinity of the Fishhook Bend on the Porcupine River and
40 deformities were identified in eight of 352 young frogs,
41 about a 2.5 deformity rate and this was kind of a low rate
42 compared with other areas. So that's kind of good news.
43 We're unclear as to what's causing these deformities,
44 whether it's injury, predation, contaminants but we're

45 continuing to investigate that and that study will
46 continue.

47

48 The last thing I'd like to report on from
49 this past year is there were 596 commercially-guided
50 recreationalists on the Arctic Refuge in 2001. About a

00263

1 quarter of these visited the south side of the Refuge which
2 would be within Eastern Interior area. Most of these were
3 individuals floating the Sheenjek River. We don't have
4 good information on the non-guided recreationalists. But it
5 appears that we have probably fewer non-guided than guided
6 recreationalists. So we estimate probably between a
7 thousand and 1,200 recreationalists on the Refuge this
8 year. And this is the highest visitation we've ever
9 recorded on the Refuge, about 25 percent higher than the
10 previous 10-year average. So it's probably due to the
11 publicity that the Refuge has received and the potential
12 for opening the Refuge to oil and gas exploration and
13 development.

14

15 For 2002, we anticipate continued funding
16 for participation in the Arctic Borderlands Ecological
17 Knowledge Co-op. Just began a program for subsistence
18 hunters to take samples from Porcupine caribou from around
19 the Arctic Village area and submitting those samples for
20 contaminant analysis. So that's just now getting off the
21 ground and so we don't have any results from that yet but
22 that will be continuing into the future. The Arctic
23 Village subsistence fisheries study, again, will be
24 continuing and that's in partnership with the Fairbanks
25 Fisheries Resources Office. The Porcupine River raptor
26 survey will continue. The wood frog study. And we will
27 continue to put collars on Porcupine caribou cows and
28 Central Arctic caribou cows and track those in partnership
29 with the Department of Fish and Game. And we may start a
30 furbearer occurrence and distribution study in the area of
31 Big Ram Lake which is east of Arctic Village, a winter
32 track type survey, so that would be a new study that we're
33 initiating.

34

35 And that concludes my report. I'd be happy
36 to entertain any questions.

37

38 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Questions. Jim.

39

40 MR. WILDE: Is your caribou tracking on the
41 website?

42

43 MR. WHEELER: The caribou tracking for the
44 Porcupine Herd is on a website and I don't have that....

45

46 MS. WAGGONER: I got it.

47

48 MR. WHEELER:site with me but I think
49 it's through the International.....

50

00264

1 MR. WILDE: That's that Canadian one?

2

3 MR. WHEELER: Yes, it is.

4

5 MR. WILDE: Okay, I have that.

6

7 MR. WHEELER: Okay.

8

9 MR. WILDE: Also, we'd be glad to give you
10 some of our golden eagles to get them out of here.

11

12 MR. WHEELER: Okay.

13

14 MR. WILDE: They don't taste very good
15 either.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Jay.

20

21 MR. STEVENS: You said something about the
22 hunters gathering meat for testing, the caribou, is that
23 the only animal that you're going to be testing, is the
24 caribou?

25

26 MR. WHEELER: Yeah. That program, again,
27 is through the International Porcupine Caribou Herd Board.
28 And so the plan is to gather fat samples from subsistence
29 harvested caribou and the hunters themselves would collect
30 those samples and submit them for analysis. So yeah,
31 that's the only species that, you know, that we're sampling
32 right now other than, you know, the salmon programs that
33 you heard about earlier.

34

35 MR. STEVENS: Has there been any kind of
36 vegetative analysis at all on what they're eating or
37 anything?

38

39 MR. WHEELER: I'm not aware of any detailed
40 analysis but from what I've been told, in terms of range
41 conditions and so forth, our caribou biologists feel that
42 there's not a problem with range conditions. Now, I'm not
43 aware of any -- if you're getting at contaminants in the
44 foods that the caribou are eating, I'm not aware of any

45 analysis along those lines.

46

47 MR. STEVENS: Thank you.

48

49 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.

50

00265

1 MS. WAGGONER: This question is both to you
2 and Mr. Heuer, the Corps of Engineers has initiated a
3 Chandalar River watershed study and I was wondering if you
4 had any updates on that or what was going on on that.

5

6 MR. WHEELER: I'm personally not aware of
7 any.

8

9 MR. HEUER: Yeah, Tricia, I attended a
10 couple of the earlier meetings that they had but it must be
11 close to a year since they've had a meeting that I'm aware
12 of anyway.

13

14 MS. WAGGONER: Okay.

15

16 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil.

17

18 MR. UMPHENOUR: The caribou radio
19 transmitters, are they transmitting to satellites?

20

21 MR. WHEELER: The Refuge has not put any
22 satellite transmitters on caribou that I'm aware of,
23 however the Canadians have put some satellite transmitters
24 on. And I believe those are the ones that are found on the
25 website, so I think there's maybe half a dozen or so
26 satellite collars.

27

28 MR. UMPHENOUR: So you guys just have to
29 fly around to find them and then record it?

30

31 MR. WHEELER: That's correct, yeah.

32

33 MR. UMPHENOUR: You may and may not have
34 information on this. But I know there was supposed to be a
35 study being done and maybe it's a Park person and maybe
36 they're not here, over in the Charley river about Air Force
37 and their jet fighters and then all these foreigners and
38 their jet fighters buzzing the mountains, flying, you know,
39 what they call map of the earth and what concerns me is
40 about them scaring sheep over the side of cliffs and
41 caribous and grizzly bears. Do you know if anything's -- I
42 know they were doing a study because I video'd them a
43 couple of times doing it, my son and I have, which they
44 denied until we showed them the video, that they were doing

45 this, but do you have any information on that?

46

47 MR. WHEELER: I'm aware that there has been
48 studies done. And there was a meeting in Fairbanks about a
49 month ago on impacts of oil and gas on caribou, in
50 particular, and there was a discussion about some of the

00266

1 studies that have been on aircraft disturbance to caribou.
2 From what I can recollect, off the top of my head,
3 generally the reactions by caribou to aircraft overflight
4 were generally rather low. Low reactions from caribou.
5 There was no discussion about impacts to other species
6 other than caribou because that was the principal focus of
7 the meeting. So yeah, I'm not aware of information on
8 other species.

9

10 MR. UMPHENOUR: Thank you.

11

12 MR. WHEELER: And in case I forgot to
13 introduce myself, I'm Gary Wheeler, assistant manager for
14 the Arctic Refuge.

15

16 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you. Before we get
17 any further on agency reports, there's a couple of action
18 items that I need to bring to the attention of the Council,
19 appointments to Subsistence Resource Commission and Council
20 appointments to Coordinating Fishing Committees or any
21 other planning committees. So it's almost lunch and we can
22 try to meet until like 12:30 and that should give us time
23 to get all the business done that we need to get completed.

24

25 What's the wish of the Council? Move on?

26

27 MS. WAGGONER: Yeah.

28

29 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. Let's get to
30 appointments to the Subsistence Resource Commission. I had
31 Clarence Summers listed down as a speaker on the
32 Subsistence Resource Commission. But one of the roles and
33 responsibilities of the Eastern Interior Regional Advisory
34 Council is to appoint a member from the Eastern Interior
35 Council to the Subsistence Resource Commission,
36 particularly Wrangell-St. Elias. But if we don't have a
37 member from the Eastern Interior to serve on the
38 Subsistence Resource Commission, that individual can be a
39 local resident of the region or be on a local Advisory
40 Committee.

41

42 Chuck Miller, our past member was appointed
43 to the Subsistence Resource Commission for Wrangell-St.
44 Elias and since his resignation -- he's a local resident

45 and he's also on the Advisory Committee and his term does
46 not expire until 2003, so if it's the wish of the Council,
47 to keep him on the Subsistence Resource Commission of
48 Wrangell-St. Elias that would be fine. And Sue Entsminger
49 expressed an interest and wanted to be appointed to the
50 Subsistence Resource Commission for Wrangell-St. Elias.

00267

1 But since Chuck Miller's on the Advisory Committee for Tok,
2 I think he can continue to remain -- continue to serve his
3 remaining term for the Subsistence Resource Commission.
4 And I'll look to Park Service to see if I got everything
5 correct. If I stated something wrong, please correct me.

6

7 MS. WAGGONER: It's fine with me.

8

9 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay, so we can have Chuck
10 Miller serve his remaining term and then we can bring it up
11 next winter, I think. Is that good?

12

13 (Council nods affirmatively)

14

15 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. We have appointments
16 to the Coordinating Fisheries Committee and the planning
17 committee with the Yukon Flats. The Coordinating Fisheries
18 Committee deals with the Yukon fisheries on three regions,
19 Eastern, Western and YK. Currently we have Gerald Nicholia
20 serving on the Coordinating Fisheries Committee and Craig
21 Fleener's on the Committee also. So Gerald Nicholia
22 expressed continued serving on the Coordinating Fisheries
23 Committee so the Council can have him continue serving
24 since he's already appointed. But since Craig Fleener's
25 term won't expire until the end of the year and he's on the
26 Coordinating Fisheries Committee, which I doubt he'll make
27 the next meeting, we can either have him continued serving
28 until his term expires and we can appoint an alternate
29 right now and if he can't make it we can have an alternate
30 attend the Coordinating Fisheries Committee meeting or any
31 YRDFA meetings.

32

33 So Council members.

34

35 MR. WILDE: The obvious suggestion is if
36 you have the time would be Virgil.

37

38 MS. WAGGONER: There might be a conflict.

39

40 MR. WILDE: Nope.

41

42 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil.

43

44 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I think Mr. Kron

45 wants to say something.

46

47 MR. KRON: Just a comment with the YRDFA
48 meeting coming up at the end of March. The intent was for
49 subsistence management office help these six Yukon
50 Coordinating Fisheries Committee members to attend there

00268

1 and to coordinate with the YRDFFA board. And, again, given
2 my understanding of Mr. Fleener's schedule, you know, he
3 may or may not even be in the country at that time and
4 particularly, if he were not able to attend it would be
5 good for this region to have two members there. It sounds
6 like Gerald would plan to attend but it would be good to
7 make sure you've got representation at that meeting to work
8 with the YRDFFA board on salmon decisions for the upcoming
9 season.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil, are you willing to
14 serve as an alternate on the CFC?

15

16 MR. UMPHENOUR: I need the exact dates of
17 this -- of the YRDFFA meeting.

18

19 MS. WAGGONER: 25th to 27th.

20

21 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Go ahead, Tom.

22

23 MR. KRON: I guess, just kind of a follow-
24 up on the schedule, I remember Russ Holder commented that
25 he wanted to meet with CFC after the YRDFFA meeting as well.
26 You know it's 'my understanding they're going to -- the
27 plan is to complete their work by noon on the 27th so based
28 on what I understood from Russ Holder, you know, there
29 might be some additional meetings that afternoon or perhaps
30 it could happen late in the morning on the 27th. But
31 anyway, that's the general schedule. But it would be
32 really good to have two members there. Because I think
33 there will be two members there from Western Interior, two
34 members there from the YK, and again the plan is to have
35 the CFC working closely with the YRDFFA board to put
36 together -- to help provide input to the plan for the
37 coming salmon season.

38

39 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil.

40

41 MR. UMPHENOUR: I can do it if I'm here. I
42 don't for sure if I'll be here the 25th through the 27th of
43 March or not. I don't know that right this minute.

44

45 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.
46
47 MR. WILDE: You're going anyways.
48
49 MS. WAGGONER: I'm going to the meeting
50 anyway. I mean.....

00269

1 MR. WILDE: Make notes.

2

3 MS. WAGGONER: Yeah, so I mean, yeah, I
4 don't mind going and bringing the information back to the
5 Council, you know. But -- and we'll work out the details
6 later because I'm only there for part of the day.

7

8 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. So anyway, Tricia
9 will be an alternate to the alternate.

10

11 MS. WAGGONER: In case Virgil can't make
12 it.

13

14 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Yeah.

15

16 (Laughter)

17

18 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil, would you be
19 willing to serve as a Coordinating Fisheries Committee
20 member, be appointed from this Council to serve?

21

22 MR. UMPHENOUR: That's no problem to do
23 that. It's just that I have so many meetings and I don't
24 have a schedule with me and I might have a conflict, that's
25 the only thing I was pointing out. But otherwise, that's
26 fine.

27

28 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you. The planning
29 committee for the Yukon Flats, I guess we can appoint Jay
30 Stevens to sit on the planning committee from the Eastern
31 Interior Regional Advisory Council. Jay, you got any
32 comments?

33

34 MR. STEVENS: Yeah, that's fine with me.

35

36 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. And I saw our member
37 of the public raise his hand, if you want to testify,
38 please fill out a blue card. We're going to continue with
39 our agency reports so if our public wants to comment please
40 fill out a card and provide your testimony on any
41 particular item.

42

43 Connie.

44

45 MS. FRIEND: Mr. Chairman, it's now good
46 afternoon. I'm Connie Friend. I'm representing Tetlin
47 National Wildlife Refuge. And I have to apologize, I faxed
48 my report to Donald and I didn't check if he got it and so
49 I don't think it's actually in your book but I'll try and
50 be brief. While I'm talking you might want to look over,

00270

1 there's a fisheries proposal that we've recently written
2 and I can explain more about that.

3

4 And we just completed an oral history, it's
5 been a two year process that I started when I worked with
6 Tanana Chiefs and it was a cooperative effort with the
7 National Park Service and the anthropologist Don Calloway,
8 who works there. So you might just take a look at those
9 while I'm speaking and if you have questions or concerns
10 please let me know.

11

12 The Refuge staff completed an aerial moose
13 population survey in cooperation with the Alaska Department
14 of Fish and Game. The entire Refuge in the northeast
15 corner of GMU 12 was surveyed from October 29th through
16 November 15th, 2001. 80 units totalling 491.5 square miles
17 were surveyed. Relative to last year more moose were
18 observed during this year's survey. Numbers increased
19 along -- across all categories but the biggest jumps
20 occurred for yearling bulls, large bulls and cows with one
21 calf. Although the total number of moose observed nearly
22 doubled from last year, the population still remains low
23 density. And I was hoping that Craig Gardner could give
24 you -- he has, actually the complete survey report and I
25 guess he was unable to provide that to you but if you would
26 like a copy I can try and get that for you from him.

27

28 A community meeting was held in Northway
29 January 30th and this meeting served to inform the
30 community and particularly fire crews about the prescribed
31 burning and thinning project scheduled to begin this year
32 on Refuge lands and interfacing village lands. A total of
33 60-acres in Northway and 60-acres at Port Alcan are
34 targeted for fire protection. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife
35 Service will contract with Northway Council to do the work
36 locally. Two crews are expected to be hired from Northway.
37 This project has been designed by the Tetlin Fire
38 Management officer Mary Cort, to provide maximum protection
39 for areas specified by the Village of Northway and to
40 assist in building capacity for Northway residents. Those
41 individuals participating who have red cards will receive
42 training which will allow them to add soil status to their
43 cards, which will also benefit them on emergency fires.

44

45 The Tetlin Refuge has submitted a proposal
46 to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to begin a companion
47 study to Randy brown's whitefish study and this study will
48 focus on traditional knowledge of elders and other
49 knowledgeable persons in the Upper Tanana region and their
50 knowledge of subsistence fishing. Funding for the first

00271

1 year has been provided from a challenge cost share grant
2 and it's hoped that funding for the following two years
3 will be provided by the Fisheries Information Service
4 through the Federal Subsistence Board. We're excited about
5 this project because it, too, will be hiring locally and
6 will benefit the entire Upper Tanana region as well as the
7 Refuge. Local speakers and writers of Upper Tanana and
8 Tanacross Athabascan will be hired to interview, transcribe
9 and translate the words of the elders. The Alaska Native
10 Language Center is the cooperator and will be assisting in
11 documenting as much of the Native language as possible in
12 an effort to help preserve as much of the language as we
13 can as well as the traditional knowledge. The proposal
14 also allows for university credit to a graduate student
15 who's interested in documenting oral histories. And I'm
16 sure I will be coming back to you asking for a letter of
17 support at some point for this.

18

19 We'll be hiring a fisheries technician to
20 be working with Randy Brown and we haven't quite finalized
21 that because of this graduate student position but that
22 should be coming up real soon and we're hoping to hire
23 locally for that as well.

24

25 We'll be providing two steel-shot clinics.
26 We're planning one in Northway and one in Tanacross. I
27 believe the dates are 11th and 12th of April in Northway
28 and 13 and 14 in Tanacross. Northway has their own gun
29 safety education trainer but we'll likely be also adding
30 gun safety to the clinic in Tanacross.

31

32 We did open an antlerless bull caribou hunt
33 February 15th in cooperation with ADF&G, this Council and
34 BLM. That is to remain open until the end of April or
35 whenever snow cover leaves or in case of an emergency it
36 will be closed. There are not very many caribou on Refuge
37 lands and so we decided that -- our manager decided that
38 this would provide the only opportunity. It's not much and
39 a few people have come in to even apply for permits. There
40 just aren't that many caribou there. But probably under
41 permits have been issued by the time I left for this
42 meeting.

43

44 The Healy Book is the last thing on my

45 list. And that, as I said, was -- actually it came out of
46 when Healy Lake was applying for resident zone community
47 status with the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. And we
48 started doing interviews and there was just so much history
49 there that we decided that we didn't want to quit and so
50 Don Calloway and I wrote a small grant to the humanities

00272

1 form and the Refuge has really contributed a lot of time to
2 this and we just -- I just recently was able to get it
3 pulled altogether and published. We're real short of
4 copies so if the Council would like, that's our last copy,
5 you're welcome to it and I'm hoping to get it reprinted so
6 we could have more available.

7

8 That concludes my report and thank you for
9 your time.

10

11 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you. Questions.
12 Thank you, Connie. Do we have any other agency reports?
13 Hollis. While Hollis is coming up here we can move on
14 through the agenda but I'd like to bring to the Council's
15 attention to Tab I, it's basically correspondence sent and
16 received, just for the Council's benefit, just to bring
17 your attention to that item. Basically it just lists the
18 items that we've received and correspondence that we sent,
19 so any questions on Tab I?

20

21 Nope.

22

23 Okay, we can strike that out of the agenda.

24 Hollis.

25

26 MR. TWITCHELL: Council. I'm Hollis
27 Twitchell. I'm the cultural subsistence manager for Denali
28 National Park. I have five items that I'd like to bring to
29 your attention. None of them require any action on the
30 part of this Council so they're mainly just informational
31 items.

32

33 The first thing is to bring Paul Starr back
34 to your attention, he's your appointee to Denali
35 Subsistence Resource Commission. Paul Starr is from
36 Tanana. His appointment continues through February 2003 so
37 there's no action on his part. He's attended all meetings
38 and a very helpful contributing member to the SRC, just to
39 bring up to date on his position.

40

41 The SRC held a meeting last Friday, they
42 passed four -- or correction, they passed three motions
43 regarding hunting plan proposals and I turned a letter into
44 Donald yesterday, I don't know if you have it or not, but

45 their responses to Proposal 01, 16 and 17 are in their
46 record. So they'll be forwarded on to the Federal
47 Subsistence Board and the other two Advisory Councils that
48 Denali works with.

49

50 Another item that I'd like to hand out now

00273

1 is a subsistence user guide for Denali National Park and
2 Preserve. This came about as a request from the
3 Subsistence Resource Commission. They were concerned with
4 the complicated regulations, both with NPS and the Federal
5 program that there should be some summary user guide for
6 local people to understand uses in Park and Federal
7 management of subsistence. So this user guide was updated
8 in and we're just now in the process of sending it out to
9 all members in our resident zone and permittees.

10

11 Another item is as initiated by a request
12 from the Denali Subsistence Resource Commission was to
13 gather historical fisheries information for villages on the
14 north side of the range as well as to update community
15 subsistence use profiles. We'll be going into Nicholi with
16 concurrence from the Nicholi Tribal Council in April.
17 We'll be finishing up Talida and then moving into Lake
18 Minchumnia this summer. WE're in a cooperative effort with
19 the State subsistence division and working with the tribal
20 councils in those communities to update the subsistence use
21 profiles.

22

23 Another issue was the Cantwell resident
24 zone community. The Subsistence Resource Commission came
25 forward with a recommendation that there should be a
26 residency requirement for the Cantwell resident zone that
27 came before the Councils in their last meeting. The
28 Subsistence Resource Commission took into consultation the
29 comments that they received regarding that proposal and
30 took action on it in their Friday meeting and their
31 decision was to advance their recommendation on to the
32 Secretary and the Governor. Comments received on that
33 particular proposal Eastern, Western and Southcentral
34 Regional Advisory Council wrote letters in support of their
35 recommendation. Also the local Denali Fish and Game
36 Advisory Committee unanimously passed a motion to support
37 that proposal. And also the Cantwell Native Tribal Council
38 passed a resolution in support of it as well as the Copper
39 River Native Association. Comments that came in negative
40 were the State of Alaska. They did not support that
41 proposal. And there was an undecided from the Middle
42 Nenana Fish and Game Advisory Committee where they had a
43 split vote, three abstained, one opposed and one in favor
44 of the proposal. Sierra Club was the only other written

45 commenter. They were -- I don't know how best to describe
46 it, they weren't for or against the proposal but they
47 recommended an alternate tact and that was to review the
48 Cantwell resident zone to see whether there was still a
49 significant concentration of subsistence users there and if
50 not, to delete the resident zone and to go to individual

00274

1 permits for those traditional Cantwell user. Taking all
2 those comments into consideration the Commission decided to
3 continue and advance their proposal as written.

4

5 The last item I have to update you with is
6 that the Park will be continuing working with the Commfish
7 Division, State of Alaska to do the Kantishna River fall
8 chum salmon stock assessment. For the last two years we've
9 been working cooperatively with the Commfish Division
10 operating a recapture fishwheel on the Kantishna River.
11 The State operates two recapture fishwheels on the Toklat
12 River and data from those fishwheels generate the estimates
13 for fall chum salmon escapement into the Kantishna River
14 drainage. This year the Park Service will be funding the
15 Kantishna River fishwheel operation. And just of note, as
16 of September 28th, the estimate for the Kantishna River was
17 37,425 chum salmon plus or minus 3,300 fish.

18

19 That concludes my comments. I'll answer
20 any questions if you have any.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you, Hollis. Any
25 other agency reports or anybody from the Native villages.
26 State. BLM. BIA. If not we can continue. I don't see
27 any other agency reports. So there's a place on the agenda
28 where we give the opportunity for the Council members to
29 give a Regional Advisory Council member reports. The Chair
30 is not here. People that serve on Advisory committees with
31 the State, tribal or if they attend tribal village council
32 meetings and SRC meetings. So we have an agenda item to
33 give opportunity for the Council members to update other
34 Council members other activities they have attended or
35 other meetings they have attended. So if you got any -- do
36 you want to move on to the next item?

37

38 (Council nods affirmatively)

39

40 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. I think that pretty
41 much goes through our agenda items. The next item on the
42 agenda is future meeting plans, time and place of next
43 meeting.

44

45 Before Sue Entsminger left she wanted to
46 give her time -- first of all let's go under Tab J, that's
47 fall 2002 Regional Advisory Council meeting. A couple of
48 days ago I got a call from Peggy Fox, she's our deputy
49 assistant regional director and she informed me that the
50 meeting window opportunity has changed. It's not September

00275

1 16th through October 11th, the meeting opportunity dates is
2 now September 9th through October 11th. So that's the
3 meeting opportunity we have to look at. So let me offer
4 this, Sue Entsminger, her preference for meeting was
5 October 7th through 9th, her first choice, or the week of
6 October 1st, that's her second choice. And the rest of the
7 Council members, what do you think? Jim.

8

9 MR. WILDE: That last week would be fine
10 with me, October 7th through the 10th, whatever.

11

12 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Jay.

13

14 MR. STEVENS: Fine with me.

15

16 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil.

17

18 MR. UMPHENOUR: I think that's good for me.

19

20 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Tricia.

21

22 MS. WAGGONER: I'll make it work.

23

24 CHAIRMAN MIKE: So do you want a two or
25 three day meeting? Let's see if we can get some dates here
26 so we can send it out to the other Councils that are
27 meeting later on.

28

29 MR. WILDE: If we can do it in two, let's
30 do it in two.

31

32 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. What dates do you
33 propose?

34

35 MS. WAGGONER: Do we need to decide?

36

37 CHAIRMAN MIKE: I prefer during the middle
38 of the week or something or later on in the week, Wednesday
39 and -- Friday.

40

41 MS. WAGGONER: So why don't we shoot for
42 Tuesday, Wednesday, the 8th and the 9th.

43

44 CHAIRMAN MIKE: 8th and the 9th and we'll

45 have travel on the 7th and 9th and 10th will be travel,
46 possibly, so October 8th and 9th Eastern Interior Regional
47 Advisory Council meeting. And now we need to pick a place.
48 Tricia.

49

50 MS. WAGGONER: I want to throw three on the

00276

1 table because I was looking at the schedule since early
2 '99, three places, one would be Beaver, or one down towards
3 the Healy/Nenana or the last meeting down the highway was
4 in Delta in early '99, so maybe Tok, so you know maybe one
5 of those three general areas.

6

7 CHAIRMAN MIKE: What's the Council's
8 preference? The first one is Beaver, Healy/Nenana area,
9 third is Delta Junction and the fourth is Tok area,
10 correct?

11

12 MS. WAGGONER: No, drop Delta.

13

14 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Drop Delta.

15

16 MS. WAGGONER: Tok.

17

18 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Just Tok.

19

20 MS. WAGGONER: Yeah.

21

22 MR. WILDE: I'd like to go to Beaver and
23 see Paul.

24

25 MS. WAGGONER: Okay.

26

27 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Jay.

28

29 MR. STEVENS: I'm open for just about
30 anyplace we pick so I'm not too picky. You got a hot
31 springs?

32

33 MS. WAGGONER: Hot tub?

34

35 (Laughter)

36

37 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil.

38

39 MR. UMPHENOUR: It doesn't make any
40 difference to me.

41

42 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay the Eastern Interior
43 will meet October 8th and 9th, Beaver, then the alternative
44 would be Healy/Nenana area, right?

45

46 MS. WAGGONER: I was just throwing three
47 options but, yeah, we definitely need to have an alternate
48 to Beaver so, yeah, I would either heading down towards Tok
49 or over towards Healy.

50

00277

1 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Let's get a second
2 alternate so I can have something to work with in the
3 future. Tok, what do the rest of the Council members
4 think?

5
6 MS. WAGGONER: We don't have a hot springs
7 though.

8
9 (Laughter)

10
11 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Okay. The meetings will be
12 October 8th and 9th in Beaver and the alternative choice if
13 Beaver doesn't work out for some reason we'll go to Tok.

14
15 MR. STEVENS: Well, first off, we should
16 ask Paul if that would be fine with the community of
17 Beaver.

18
19 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Paul.

20
21 MR. WILLIAMS: We're having a meeting on
22 Wednesday so I'll put it on the agenda and they hardly ever
23 say no and I'm sure they'd be happy to see you. There's a
24 great place to have a meeting in Beaver, so I'm sure
25 they'll welcome you. And I'll let Donald know one way or
26 another by Thursday or Friday.

27
28 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Thank you, Paul. We
29 selected October 8, 9th in Beaver so that's the next time
30 and place of our meeting. So I'll leave it open for the
31 Council members if they want to bring up any topics or
32 issues of concern for our next meeting.

33
34 I take that as a no. So we'll go with
35 Council members closing comments and concerns. Jay, we'll
36 start with you.

37
38 MR. STEVENS: Well, first of all this has
39 been quite the last three days. This is a lot of
40 information for someone to get thrown into all at once. I
41 look forward to the challenge of being a Council member and
42 working with all the different agencies as well as the
43 other Council members. I work for the Resource Program in
44 Stevens so thank goodness for that I'm a little bit

45 familiar with some of the stuff. I think my one concern
46 would just be the training thing. I mean because getting
47 thrown into this like this, I mean that first couple hours
48 up here on Monday I felt -- I felt about this big, you
49 know. But I look forward to the challenge and if anybody
50 could provide any other suggestions to me I'm open, always.

00278

1 And I guess I'd like to welcome the other
2 new members to the Council as well. And I'd like to thank
3 Donald for walking us through this the last three days.
4 Donald, you've done a very good job. And as well as the
5 agency people out there who have done all the reporting and
6 stuff and come out here to report. I appreciate it.
7 Thanks.

8

9 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Jim.

10

11 MR. WILDE: You said it all. I know the
12 agency had a hard time coming up here to the hot springs.
13 And you're right, Donald you did a marvelous job and I
14 congratulate you again on your choice of new members and
15 welcome them all. I hope we got some fish this summer.
16 Thank you.

17

18 MS. WAGGONER: Again, Donald thank you.
19 You did a really good job. I told several people during
20 this meeting it's much harder to sit on this table than it
21 was out there. I do appreciate everybody's help and
22 information answering questions and I'm just really glad to
23 be here. I look forward to the work that we can all do
24 together and we'll see you this fall.

25

26 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Virgil.

27

28 MR. UMPHENOUR: Well, I'm glad to be here.
29 I like to participate in the process and try to help solve
30 some of the resource problems that we have and make sure
31 that we have reasonable opportunity for all the people in
32 the entire drainage to harvest their subsistence resources
33 and I appreciate all the cooperation of all the various
34 agency people that are here from both the State and the
35 Federal agencies. It's good to see everyone working
36 together to accomplish a common goal.

37

38 It's actually been a pretty good meeting, I
39 think. I think we had some real good discussion on some
40 contentious type issues, and this customary trade issue is
41 -- because we have so many uncertainties I think we had
42 some real good discussion and we've come up with some
43 discussion points that I think it will be good when it gets
44 to the other RACS and they can take a look at what we

45 addressed here and maybe look the problem right in the face
46 and try to get something done about it rather than beat
47 around the bush and ignore the issues.

48

49 But that's all I have and thank you.

50

00279

1 CHAIRMAN MIKE: I'd like to welcome the new
2 members one last time and I admire your work effort here
3 that even though you had less than four hours to jump into
4 the subsistence process that we have here. So I think you
5 guys did a great job and at our next meeting will have
6 Chairman Nicholia chair the meeting and I'll be sitting off
7 to the side, so good job.

8

9 I'm going to entertain a motion for
10 adjournment.

11

12 MR. WILDE: Second.

13

14 MS. WAGGONER: Call for unanimous consent.

15

16 CHAIRMAN MIKE: Unanimous consent, we're
17 adjourned. Thank you. Thank you all.

18

19 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

20

21

* * * * *

00280

1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2

3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

4)ss.

5 STATE OF ALASKA)

6

7 I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the
8 State of Alaska and Owner of Computer Matrix, do hereby
9 certify:

10

11 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 199 through 279 contain
12 a full, true and correct Transcript of the VOLUME III, EASTERN
13 INTERIOR FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING,
14 taken electronically by Salena Hile on the 27th day of February
15 2002, beginning at the hour of 8:30 o'clock a.m. in Circle Hot
16 Springs, Alaska;

17

18 THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript
19 requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by under
20 my direction and reduced to print to the best of our knowledge
21 and ability;

22

23 THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested
24 in any way in this action.

25

26 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 5th day of March 2002.

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 4/17/04