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SOUTHEAST ALASKA SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

VOLUME III

TELECONFERENCE
March 18, 2021
9:00 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Donald Hernandez, Chair
Larry Bemis
Calvin Casipit
Michael Douville
Albert Howard
Ian Johnson
Harvey Kitka
Cathy Needham
Harold Robbins
Robert Schroeder
James Slater
Frank Wright

Regional Council Coordinator, DeAnna Perry

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

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(Teleconference - 3/18/2021)

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(On record)

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8 MS. PERRY: Good morning everyone it is
9 9:00 o'clock. And this is the Southeast Subsistence
10 Regional Advisory Council meeting. My name is DeAnna,
11 I'm the Council Coordinator and we're going to take a
12 quick roll call for Staff to see who is with us this
13 morning.

13

14

Wayne Owen, have you joined us today.

15

16

(No comments)

17

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19

MS. PERRY: I think Wayne was going to
be hopping through meetings.

20

21

Greg Risdahl, are you with us.

22

23

24

MR. RISDAHL: Yes, DeAnna, I'm here.
Good morning.

25

26

MS. PERRY: Thanks.

27

28

Scott Shuler.

29

30

(No comments)

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33

MS. PERRY: Terry Suminski, I just
heard you.

34

35

Rob Cross.

36

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38

MR. CROSS: Yeah, I'm here. Good
morning, DeAnna.

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MS. PERRY: Good morning Robb.

41

42

Jake Musslewhite.

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45

MR. MUSSLEWHITE: Yeah, good morning
folks.

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47

MS. PERRY: Good morning.

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49

Susan Oehler.

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1 MS. OEHLER: Good morning.

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3 MS. PERRY: Good morning, Susan.

4

5 Justin Koller.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 MS. PERRY: Gregory Dunn. I know he's
10 the master behind the curtain so I know you're there
11 Greg.

12

13 Let's see Katya Wessels.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 MS. PERRY: Brent Vickers.

18

19 MR. VICKERS: Yes, good morning.

20 Sorry, mute. Good morning everyone. Good morning,
21 DeAnna.

22

23 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Brent. Good
24 morning.

25

26 Pippa Kenner.

27

28 (No comments)

29

30 MS. PERRY: George Pappas.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MS. PERRY: And I know George might be
35 listening in to the Board of Game meeting this morning.

36

37 Joshua Ream.

38

39 MR. REAM: Good morning, DeAnna.

40

41 MS. PERRY: Good morning, Joshua.

42

43 Pat Petrivelli.

44

45 MS. PETRIVELLI: Good morning.

46

47 MS. PERRY: Good morning.

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49 Melinda Hernandez Burke.

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1 MS. HERNANDEZ BURKE: (In Tlingit) I'm
2 here.

3
4 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Melinda.

5
6 Kevin Foley.

7
8 MR. FOLEY: Here.

9
10 MS. PERRY: Good morning, thanks,
11 Kevin.

12
13 Orville Lind.

14
15 (No comments)

16
17 MS. PERRY: Adam Durmish.

18
19 MR. DURMISH: Yes, good morning.

20
21 MS. PERRY: Good morning.

22
23 Ben Mulligan.

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 MS. PERRY: Mark Burch.

28
29 MR. BURCH: Good morning.

30
31 MS. PERRY: Good morning.

32
33 And I think several of the State folks

34 are probably wrapped up in the Board of Game meeting.

35 Do we have Robbin Dublin on.

36
37 (No comments)

38
39 MS. PERRY: Lauren Sill.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 MS. PERRY: Okay. Any Staff that I
44 haven't called that have joined us this morning.

45
46 MR. MCKEE: Hi, DeAnna. This is Chris
47 McKee with BLM.

48
49 MS. PERRY: I'm sorry, was that you

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1 Chris?

2

3

MR. MCKEE: Yes, DeAnna.

4

5

6

MS. PERRY: Okay. I didn't get your name but I recognized the voice.

7

8

MR. MCKEE: Right.

9

10

11

MS. PERRY: I'm glad you could join us. Any other Staff on the line with us this morning.

12

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14

MS. FLOREY: Hi. This is Victoria Florey, National Park Service.

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MS. PERRY: Hi, Victoria. Okay. And are there any tribal members or public members who have called in to join us today, if you could identify yourselves and what community, tribe or organization you're from.

21

22

23

MS. HANSEN: Cathy Hansen, Southeast Alaska Fishermens Alliance.

24

25

26

MS. PERRY: Good morning, Cathy.

27

28

MS. PHILLIPS: Patty Phillips from Pelican.

29

30

MS. PERRY: Good morning, Patty.

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MS. BAUSCHER: Heather Bauscher in Sitka.

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MS. PERRY: Glad you could join us Heather. And anyone else that has joined us this morning. I know we have some agency reports and folks will be joining us a little bit later today. But just want to doublecheck if there's anyone out there who would like to give public testimony this morning, if you could go ahead and identify yourself so that I could let the Chair know and then, of course, when we get to that point on our agenda, which will be one of the first things, the Chair will know who to call on. Is there anyone who would like to give tribal or public comment on non-agenda items.

47

48

(No comments)

49

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1 MS. PERRY: Okay. All right. I
2 will.....

3
4 MS. BAUSCHER: It's Heather here,
5 DeAnna.

6
7 MS. PERRY: Yes.

8
9 MS. BAUSCHER: I've got some documents
10 to share from the Sitka AC with the Southeast RAC and
11 I'll forward those to you but just a little mention
12 during public comment would be great. Thanks.

13
14 MS. PERRY: Okay, thanks, Heather.

15
16 (Pause)

17
18 MS. PERRY: Okay. I'm going to check
19 to see our Council members, if everyone is on
20 currently.

21
22 Ian Johnson.

23
24 MR. JOHNSON: Good morning, I am here.

25
26 MS. PERRY: Good morning.

27
28 Frank Wright.

29
30 MR. WRIGHT: I'm here.

31
32 MS. PERRY: Good morning, Frank.

33
34 Cal Casipit.

35
36 MR. CASIPIT: Good morning, I'm here.

37
38 MS. PERRY: Good morning.

39
40 Mike Douville.

41
42 MR. DOUVILLE: Good morning, I'm here.

43
44 MS. PERRY: Good morning, Mike.

45
46 Jim Slater.

47
48 MR. SLATER: Good morning, DeAnna, I'm
49 here.

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1 MS. PERRY: Good morning.

2

3 Bob Schroeder.

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5 MR. SCHROEDER: I'm present, DeAnna,

6 thank you.

7

8 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Bob.

9

10 Albert Howard.

11

12 MR. HOWARD: Good morning, I'm here.

13

14 MS. PERRY: Good morning.

15

16 Don Hernandez.

17

18 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I'm here.

19

20 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Don.

21

22 Harold Robbins.

23

24 MR. ROBBINS: Good morning, I'm here.

25

26 MS. PERRY: Good morning.

27

28 Harvey Kitka.

29

30 MR. KITKA: I'm here.

31

32 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Harvey.

33

34 Larry Bemis.

35

36 MR. BEMIS: I'm here, good morning.

37

38 MS. PERRY: Good morning.

39

40 Cathy Needham.

41

42 MS. NEEDHAM: Good morning, I'm here.

43

44 MS. PERRY: Good morning. I believe
45 Don Hernandez has returned to the Chair seat, so Mr.
46 Chair we have 12 of your 12 seated Council members
47 participating this morning. And I just wanted to let
48 folks know that if you are following along with us
49 since we're not in person and don't have meeting books
50

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1 out for the public to grab, I just wanted to remind you
2 to go to www.doi.gov/subsistence. If you go to the
3 regions tab there you'll find Southeast and then you
4 can see our meeting book materials there.

5

6 Mr. Chair, I'll hand it over to you.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, DeAnna.
11 Good morning everybody. I want to thank Cathy for
12 taking over yesterday and leading us through with a
13 very tricky part of the process there, developing
14 proposals and commenting on proposals. I appreciate her
15 taking the reigns there, she did a really good job,
16 better than I would have done I'm sure.

17

18 So for the remainder of the meeting
19 today DeAnna has sent out an email that kind of details
20 what we have to finish up. It arrived a short time ago
21 so if you have emails opened you can look at it. But
22 I'll say what we need to do.

23

24 We need to finalize our wildlife
25 proposals; that's an action item.

26

27 We need to review the Council charter,
28 also an action item. And I would encourage the Council
29 members to look at our charter. It's in the Council
30 book. We do have some suggested improvements to the
31 charter so take a close look at that.

32

33 We want to review the annual report.
34 That's also a draft of what we've put together so far
35 and is also in the Council book. I encourage the
36 Council members to take a look at that before we get to
37 that item.

38

39 We have an update on the Fisheries
40 Resource Management projects.

41

42 We have to confirm our dates and
43 locations for future meetings.

44

45 And we'll have agency reports. And
46 under the agency reports, those are generally short, 15
47 minute reports, but we have added under Native agencies
48 a report from the Womens Earth and Climate Action
49 Network, and I'm anticipating that being a lengthy
50

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1 discussion. I hope to allow significant amount of time
2 this afternoon to hear what they have to say and
3 discuss some pretty interesting developments that may,
4 you know, come before the Council here in the ensuing
5 years so I think I want to devote some time to that.

6
7 And then before we close out the
8 meeting we'll have to consider some correspondence that
9 we've decided to write. We want to respond to the
10 Sitka Kaagwaantaan's petition for extra-territorial
11 jurisdiction. And make some comment on the petition
12 for the Homelands Conservation. And we may also be
13 talking about establishing a couple work groups on
14 Forest Management and Homelands Conservation Rule
15 proposal.

16
17 So still a busy day. But as always we
18 start the morning with public comments on non-agenda
19 items and I know we just heard from Heather Bauscher
20 there in Sitka, she has something to say to us, and if
21 there's anybody else that's come on the line in the
22 interim that wants to give public comment this would be
23 the time. But we will start with Heather Bauscher.

24
25 MS. BAUSCHER: Good morning, thank you,
26 Mr. Chair. And thank you Southeast Regional Advisory
27 Council. Happy to be here again before you. I'm
28 actually before you today representing the Sitka AC.
29 I'm now the Chair of our local AC and there's a couple
30 of documents and developments I wanted to share with
31 you.

32
33 Also I wanted to say thank you for the
34 invitation for us to be part of this and I look forward
35 to greater collaboration and communication between our
36 AC and the RAC. Things that I've noticed that have come
37 up, and that are also things that we've been discussing
38 with the ACs, I'm always amused at hearing similar
39 conversations and hearing what issues are similar in
40 different communities across the region.

41
42 In the past couple months we've taken
43 some action related to Roadless and related to climate
44 and both of those things have come up again during this
45 meeting and so I wanted to forward and share with you a
46 letter that we drafted following up with the Roadless
47 process similarly to your group. We had a hard time
48 convening our committee in that last little window that
49 they gave us so we ended up finishing drafting a letter
50

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1 with our response and concern over the process but only
2 ended up finalizing that after the holidays because the
3 timeline changed. So I wanted to share that with you
4 to help reinforce some of our positions on the issue
5 and maybe ask for help in amplifying that up the chain.
6

7 And then the other document I have to
8 share with you, and I'll make sure all of these get
9 emailed to DeAnna, we, in response to AFN's climate
10 emergency. Some youths from Edgum came over to our
11 meeting and we collectively passed a climate emergency
12 resolution and asked for action to be taken to address
13 these issues because of the impacts they're having to
14 our resources. And so I wanted to share that with you.
15 And we also drafted a letter that's going to be sent
16 out to all the other ACs across the state encouraging
17 similar action.
18

19 So I know you all talk about climate
20 change a lot and I remember the last time we had a
21 meeting in Sitka that was a big topic of discussion.
22 I'm not sure if you're taking any action on that front
23 but happy to show you what we've done and help amplify
24 whatever regional work is being done.
25

26 Thank you, very much.
27

28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you,
29 Heather. Any questions from Council members for
30 Heather Bauscher.
31

32 (No comments)
33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Not hearing any
35 Heather but we'll look forward to seeing those
36 documents that you referred to there. And just a quick
37 question, do you still have your classes going on
38 government interactions -- I can't remember exactly
39 what it's called but the students that have come to our
40 meetings, are those classes still going on?
41

42 MS. BAUSCHER: They are paused at the
43 moment. I'll switch hats. I'm not the Chair of the AC
44 anymore, now I'm the community organizer for the Sitka
45 Conservation Society. We have a wonderful agreement
46 that was worked out right before Covid got crazy with
47 the Forest Service, so much gratitude to the Forest
48 Service for coming through and helping us with funding
49 for that program. There's funding for three years but
50

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1 we weren't able to hold the program the past year
2 because of Covid and the policies and procedures course
3 is -- for those who don't know, a dual enrollment
4 course through UAS with partnership where we take high
5 school students and explain the Federal Subsistence
6 Board process and take them to the meetings but so much
7 of the class is really focused around the experience
8 learning component of experiencing the meetings and I
9 was having a really hard time finding a way to make it
10 work for high school students to not have to sit on the
11 phone for three days. So hopefully this fall, if we
12 can have the meetings in person, I'm hoping to bring a
13 group of students to the next in person meeting that we
14 have, whenever that is, and so far we're good holding
15 on to the funding at the moment as far as I understand.

16
17 So that is pending and will be brought
18 back as soon as possible.

19
20 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Yeah, it's
21 understandable why it hasn't happened the last couple
22 of meetings. But actually we did have one student at
23 the last meeting. But we do look forward to meeting in
24 person in the fall and, yeah, we hope you can be there
25 with some more students, it's a great program.

26
27 Thank you.

28
29 MS. BAUSCHER: Thank you so very much,
30 and thanks for your support over the years on the
31 program. And I look forward to being back there with
32 you in person and bringing more young people to the
33 process.

34
35 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah. Anybody
36 else on the Council, any other questions.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Thanks
41 again Heather. We'll hopefully see you again soon.

42
43 MS. BAUSCHER: Sounds good. Good luck
44 today. Thank you.

45
46 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Has anybody
47 else from the public joined us that wants to give
48 public comment to the Council this morning.

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1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, I'm not
4 hearing anybody.

5

6 MR. FRANK: Mr. Chair, this is Kevin
7 Frank calling from Angoon.

8

9 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Ah, there's
10 somebody, Kevin Frank did you say?

11

12 MR. FRANK: Yeah. Yes, it is.

13

14 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead.

15

16 MR. FRANK: President of Angoon
17 Community Association.

18

19 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

20

21 MR. FRANK: What agenda item are you
22 presently covering?

23

24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Excuse me, is that
25 a question?

26

27 MR. FRANK: Yes.

28

29 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I'm sorry, I
30 didn't hear it, what was that again?

31

32 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, he's asking
33 where we're at on the agenda. We're on public comment
34 on non-agenda items.

35

36 MR. FRANK: Yes. Just have some
37 interest in one of the things that happened here in
38 Angoon, our crab is something that we've had a lot of
39 conversations in our meeting about and, you know, we'd
40 like to see it -- something that's regulated. I know
41 that in Angoon we -- I don't want to say, struggle, but
42 we live in a world that somebody would call a disaster
43 if somebody else was to live here, what's our nearest
44 store, what's -- do we -- we don't have barge service,
45 you know, the economics isn't what you call acceptable,
46 in my view, so one of the things we go through as far
47 as closing king salmon and our hunting and we cherish
48 the cockles and the (indiscernible - muted) as far as
49 our deer and our seal, you know, we've yet to have any
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1 -- anything that tells us that our deer and our seal
2 are acceptable to eat so -- but hopefully in the future
3 we would -- people with -- in power would recognize
4 that this community has, you know, are from what I
5 would say (indiscernible - muffled) ferry service isn't
6 happening as much anymore, it -- so -- but we're
7 following the same regulations as everybody else and
8 it's -- to me, that's, you know, I find that hard for
9 our community to accept.

10

11 That's just kind of my public comment
12 on how I'm feeling towards everything -- what Angoon is
13 up against so -- because we used to have thriving
14 fisheries, you know, we used to be able to -- when I
15 fished with my dad I go subsistence fish, used to go
16 get anywhere from 60 kings, sockeye and coho and that
17 would cover a lot of my summer and then make several
18 trips to get us through the winter so -- but from the
19 way I grew up and the way I lived it's -- I'd be
20 breaking the law so, you know, hopefully some people of
21 power can recognize what's going on here because it's,
22 you know, we have culture and we have life and I'd like
23 to see people recognize and support what -- recognized
24 as a government that needs to survive and I'm speaking
25 in support of Angoon Community Association having, you
26 know, having a lot more say in what goes on around
27 here, but I don't take anything away from my community
28 by recognizing some (indiscernible - muffled) regard
29 and we continue to do and, you know, it's just hard to
30 see a lot of my community go through what they go
31 through when they're out catching their king salmon and
32 they're told to -- and paying fines.

33

34 But thank you for listening.

35

36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
37 Mr. Frank. A lot of villages are facing the same
38 problems that you outline there for Angoon. Are there
39 any Council members with any questions or comments for
40 Mr. Frank.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Not hearing
45 any.....

46

47 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, this is Ian.

48

49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Ian, I think, yes,

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1 go ahead.

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MR. JOHNSON: Frank, hi. I don't have any questions but I just would like to thank you for calling in and making your testimony and, you know, I jotted down, I guess, one of your quotes, specifically, I hope some people of power can recognize what's going on here. Anyways, I know it takes courage to call in and thank you for doing so because this is an important issue.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Ian. Any other questions or comments on Mr. Frank's testimony.

MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chair, Mike Douville.

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Mike.

MR. DOUVILLE: I do appreciate him calling in and taking the time, you know, subsistence is really important, culture-wise also. And we do listen and, you know, we can only work via proposals or stuff like that but, you know, if there's something like that in the works but it does take some effort to do what Mr. Frank was doing, calling in and he's making his voice heard and I appreciate it.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes, thank you, Mike. Anybody else on the Council.

MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Frank.

MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, I appreciate his call too, you know. I know Angoon has a hard time because of the ferry system and then even in Hoonah to get on the ferry you have to stay in Juneau for a few days before you're able to get your vehicle back. But I think if proposals are put forward, I'm sure our Staff would be able to help put a proposal together on the crab issue or the deer hunting issues or anything that the community of Angoon depends on. And I

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1 appreciate the call.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.

6 Anybody else on the Council, a question or a comment.

7

8 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, this is

9 Albert.

10

11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, go ahead,

12 Albert.

13

14 MR. HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 President Frank and I spend a lot of time out in
16 Chatham. A lot of the locals, we have conversations
17 about what we see and one of the topics I had talked
18 about, and, again, during our meetings is the fact that
19 someone is coming in and checking pots. So one of the
20 pots I was talking about was President Frank's pot.
21 The guy just comes in to do bear hunting, it's the same
22 boat every year, it's no secret. We know now to watch
23 for them and take our pots out of the bay. But one of
24 the pots we've talked about, or I have mentioned was,
25 in fact, his pot. So there's a lot of conversation
26 between him and I about the resource and a lot of ideas
27 that I come up with come from him.

28

29 So that's local knowledge.

30

31 I grew up here. I remember fishing dog
32 salmon with his dad and seeing him and his brother up
33 to their shoulders in water holding the corks up so we
34 can get the fish. So just something we do for food.
35 It isn't -- like I said before, where the TV shows have
36 taken the word, subsistence, and glorified it, when, in
37 fact, it's something we do for a living.

38

39 So thank you, Mr. Chair.

40

41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Albert.

42 And Angoon's been fortunate, they've had some strong
43 representation on the Council over the years, both from
44 you and from Floyd Kookesh there for many years. So
45 yeah, anybody else on the Council.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, I don't

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1 think I'm hearing anybody else so once again thank you
2 Mr. Frank for coming before the Council and telling us
3 what the situation is in Angoon so we do appreciate it.

4
5 (Line lost)

6
7 MR. DECKER:here in Southeast.
8 I'm grateful that we could participate in this process
9 on subsistence and see how our company can better
10 assist, you know, the subsistence program and that,
11 items that we might be concerned about and be aware of
12 as we go forward and I'm grateful for the opportunity
13 to call in today and listen in and be a part of the
14 process and see how we can, as a company, and as guides
15 here in Southeast that we can better assist our local
16 communities.

17
18 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.
19 I'm sorry I didn't catch your name at first.

20
21 MR. DECKER: My name is Zack Decker.

22
23 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Decker?

24
25 MR. DECKER: Decker, D-E-C-K-E-R.

26
27 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right, thank you.
28 Okay, thank you Mr. Decker. I don't know if any of the
29 Council members would like to ask you any questions, if
30 you're willing I'll see if anybody on the Council has a
31 question for Mr. Decker.

32
33 MR. SLATER: Mr. Chair, this is Jim
34 Slater.

35
36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, Jim, go
37 ahead.

38
39 MR. SLATER: Yeah, Mr. Decker, could
40 you tell us a little bit about your guide business,
41 what kind of animals you pursue and where do you go and
42 so on?

43
44 MR. DECKER: Sure. Totally. So our
45 guide company has been around going on about 49 years.
46 My father-in-law started it many, many years ago. But
47 primarily we're in the northern part of Southeast, we
48 cover Admiralty, Baranof, Chichagof for brown bear and
49 deer, Kuiu, Kupreanof and the main land for black bear
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1 and the main land for mountain goat, and those are our
2 primary species that we guide for there. Then we also
3 do summer adventure tours and what not inside Glacier
4 Bay National Park because we're a historical operator
5 there. We're one of the few people that have, through
6 the Forest Service, that have some permits and use
7 dates in and around Angoon in the estuary -- in the
8 Kootznoowoo area and so that's -- yeah, we take groups
9 out. We're a second generation guide operator now, me
10 and my wife, and our two boys and, you know, we start
11 here coming up in April for spring black bear and we'll
12 move over to brown bear.

13

14 MR. SLATER: Thank you, very much.

15

16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, thank you,
17 Jim. Anybody else on the Council with any questions
18 for Mr. Decker.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I'm not hearing
23 any. Yeah, but, thank you Mr. Decker for calling in.
24 I'm glad you're listening in on our meeting and, yeah,
25 we appreciate you giving your thoughts so thank you
26 again. Thanks for answering questions. Is there
27 anybody else on the phone line this morning who would
28 like to comment to the Council.

29

30 MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Hernandez, this
31 is Patricia Phillips.

32

33 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Good morning,
34 Patty, go ahead.

35

36 MS. PHILLIPS: Good morning. Mr. Frank
37 from Angoon sort of poked my mind a little bit. Like
38 we're living with the consequences of decisions made
39 over the last 50 years and, you know, ANILCA has been
40 in place since, what, '79 and we're just getting to the
41 point of where we're actually advocating for our
42 Federally-qualified subsistence users. But I also want
43 to remind the Council, you know, I tend to look at
44 things holistically, that the impacts of decisions made
45 have consequences on our rural communities. And what
46 Mr. Frank mentioned was, you know, having no barge
47 landing, having no airport, and having limited ferry
48 service. Well, we have even more limited ferry service
49 than Angoon does and during the winter months we only

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1 get one ferry a month. And the current State of Alaska
2 Administration threatened to remove our ferry service
3 altogether because of the low revenues that it garners
4 coming out here. And shutting down non-Federally-
5 qualified harvesters could impact us during those
6 months when we really, really rely on the ferry service
7 to get our groceries out here. We work as a community,
8 when the ferry comes in, the one ferry a month, to off
9 load our groceries and get the ferry turned around as
10 quickly as possible because we're so thankful for that
11 service. So, you know, there are consequences to
12 actions and I just wanted to remind you to be thinking
13 holistically.

14
15 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16
17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, thank you,
18 Patty, for that reminder. Anybody on the Council with
19 a question or a comment for Patty.

20
21 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, this is Ian.

22
23 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I heard Ian, go
24 ahead, Ian.

25
26 MR. JOHNSON: Hey, Patty, I think
27 that's just a phenomenal point. And I guess while you
28 have the floor, I was curious, do you have any other
29 thoughts on potentially down the road -- or decisions
30 you've seen in the past or other things that you
31 consider to be possibly harmful, and the holistic
32 situation, just, yeah, I want to continue to ask you to
33 brainstorm with us, I guess, if you have other ideas.

34
35 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Ian.
36 Nothing's coming to mind right now but I know it'll
37 come back to me later, I'll have a thought, I should
38 have thought of that then. But I'll try to remember to
39 bring it to your attention, so, thank you.

40
41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thanks, Ian.
42 Anybody else on the Council. I thought I heard
43 somebody in the background there.

44
45 MR. SCHROEDER: Yes, this is Bob
46 Schroeder. I don't get a chance to say hello to Patty
47 very often anymore and on behalf of the Council, you
48 know, we so appreciate your so many years of service on
49 the Council and also being something of our in-house
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1 ANILCA expert, you're sorely missed. I know people
2 need to move on and we were all appalled you weren't
3 reappointed by the Secretary some years ago.
4

5 I think as, you know, you know ANILCA
6 really well, I think we're really talking about a food
7 security issue and a community -- a cultural continuity
8 issue and so I think we got some territory put forward
9 there and when you were on the Council we made great
10 strides in a number of areas in protecting subsistence
11 in rural communities and maybe we have some direction
12 to go on the issues that you just raised.
13

14 But thank you again on behalf of the
15 Council.
16

17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Bob.
18

19 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Robert.
20

21 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Anybody else with
22 a question or a comment for Patty Phillips while she's
23 on.
24

25 MR. BEMIS: Yes, this is Larry Bemis,
26 Yakutat.
27

28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Larry.
29

30 MR. BEMIS: Yes, I would like to make a
31 comment about this. You know, since we've had Covid
32 and the State is getting depressed on its income and
33 just really puts the whole thing in perspective about
34 just how our resources are getting squeezed, both
35 commercially and personally, as far as subsistence
36 goes, or just living in general. I think that we
37 should look -- get something -- a thought put in place
38 that, you know, these communities that depend on the
39 system getting cut off, a lot of times the reaction
40 time to get adjusted to it doesn't seem to move fast
41 enough. So I think that we've got to set up some sort
42 of model to react to these instead of letting the
43 paperwork drag out or another meeting or go through
44 this sorts of hoops to try to get something on. I mean
45 a lot of this is not going to get better until the
46 State gets better, you know. And that is -- we're just
47 slowly dragging backwards and we need to stay forward.
48

49 So my thought is, is this is a very
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1 important endeavor to address and proceed with because
2 it's not just going to be one community, it's going to
3 be another one and another one until things get better.
4 And I really think this is a very important part and
5 other organizations should look into.

6
7 Thank you.

8
9 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you for
10 those thoughts Larry. I don't know, any other comments
11 for Patty or from Patty.

12
13 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, this is
14 Albert.

15
16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Albert.

17
18 MR. HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
19 guess like Patricia kind of sparked a thought, I guess.
20 I know in the past I've mentioned every time they add a
21 new user group to an existing subsistence resource,
22 they should do the same EIS stuff they do for every
23 other project. What impact is this going to have on
24 the subsistence user, intended and unintended. Because
25 we feel the full effect of it every time a new user
26 group comes in and, wow, look at the resource they have
27 in front of Angoon, we're going to hammer it and take
28 it back to the cold storage so they can send it
29 overseas to someone else. That's the worst feeling in
30 the world when you're trying to feed your family and
31 community members and you see someone come in and put
32 their gear all over creation around here. It's like
33 someone coming to a person at Costco and emptying out
34 Costco right when you pull up to do your shopping,
35 that's the same feeling. So I think there should be a
36 mechanism that requires them to see what the impact's
37 going to be on the area they're allowing this to
38 happen.

39
40 I'll give you an example of what I've
41 been watching lately is now I'm starting to see kelp
42 becoming a resource so seaweed's going to become a
43 resource and that concerns me. I'll save enough gas to
44 get what I need and also help community members I know
45 that can't go get it for themselves. And sometimes you
46 burn up that gas and you come back with nothing.

47
48 So that's my thoughts, thank you, Mr.
49 Chair.
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1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
2 Albert. Is there anybody else on the Council who wants
3 to make a comment or a question.

4
5 MR. KITKA: Don, this is Harvey Kitka.

6
7 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I think I heard
8 Harvey.

9
10 MR. KITKA: Yeah, this is Harvey Kitka.

11
12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, go ahead,
13 Harvey.

14
15 MR. KITKA: I had one comment or a
16 question for Patty. Is basically knowing she knows the
17 book so well that we miss that on the Council, having
18 to bring a book out and read it and try to catch up on
19 what's going on. But I was wondering if she could help
20 us with what Larry was talking about, and kind of
21 setting up an emergency thing that would cut down on
22 the paperwork and how long it takes to get help to
23 these communities that suffer when we lose the ferry
24 system. I know that it can get really touchy at times,
25 knowing the price of the food and stuff, and Angoon and
26 Kake could jump real bad because when they lose the
27 ferry system and lose the food source, boy that's got
28 to be tough.

29
30 (Teleconference interference -
31 participants not muted)

32
33 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Harvey. I
34 think you could possibly address it in your annual
35 report and just keep hammering on it. And make sure
36 that the State of Alaska understands, you know, what
37 we're advocating for here and to not disregard our
38 needs out here.

39
40 But I would also say that, you know,
41 Albert, Council Member Albert Howard mentioned, you
42 know, gas, I mean we're paying 3.68 a gallon, I mean
43 how many times can you go out hunting when you got to
44 pay that much for fuel. You're not going out hunting
45 as much as you used to, it's just a fact of the matter.

46
47 But, anyways, thank you, I appreciate
48 it. I'm signing off.

49
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1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
2 Patty. Glad that you've been listening in and maybe
3 we'll talk to you again here.

4
5 Okay, was there anybody else on the
6 phone lines that's joined us since we started the
7 public comment who would like to comment.

8
9 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman, Mike
10 Douville.

11
12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Mike.

13
14 MR. DOUVILLE: I would just like to
15 make this comment that Albert touched on something that
16 is sensitive to us that we have -- he mentioned kelp
17 and kelp farms, and we have an application for a kelp
18 farm in an area that is sensitive to subsistence in
19 several different ways, hunting, fishing, and so on,
20 and that is in Real Marina, there's numerous seal
21 haulouts, subsistence halibut fishing going on there,
22 and the tribe is alarmed and opposed to it. We will
23 make comment but down the road, while kelp farms may be
24 fine, they do intrude on sensitive areas.

25
26 So that is my comment.

27
28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
29 Mike. Something else -- yeah, I know I've heard more
30 and more talk about kelp aquaculture around the region.
31 Definitely something to keep on the radar so thanks for
32 bringing that to our attention.

33
34 Is there anybody else from the public
35 who wanted to comment to us this morning.

36
37 (No comments)

38
39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I'm not
40 hearing anybody so I think we'll wrap up the public
41 comment period for this morning. And, you know, there
42 were some interesting conversations during that public
43 comment period and I got a feeling that we'll probably
44 be addressing some of those ideas this afternoon, we
45 might get into a topic of more cooperative management
46 agreements and holistic management and keeping our
47 villages intact and culturally strong. So a lot of
48 topics there that are up before us, I believe.

49
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1 But for now we'll get back to the
2 agenda items that are important to conclude for this
3 meeting and top of the list would be finalizing our
4 wildlife proposals from the Council.

5

6 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chair,
7 this is Calvin Casipit. I'd like to say a few words
8 before we launch off into the proposals -- the proposed
9 proposals. The proposed proposals.

10

11 (Laughter)

12

13 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cal.

14

15 MR. CASIPIT: Okay, thank you. This is
16 mostly in regards to our Unit 4 deer issues that we've
17 been working on. I haven't had a chance to really look
18 through all the proposals that the -- the write ups
19 that got sent out by DeAnna early this morning but
20 hopefully I can here soon, but I was up all -- I was up
21 and down all night thinking about this and I just got
22 to say it. And I apologize to Staff, in advance, if I
23 offend anybody.

24

25 But the first thing, in my mind, that
26 we need to be providing as a Council is a meaningful
27 subsistence priority. That's our job, is providing
28 that meaningful subsistence priority. And in Unit 4,
29 in general, you know, how do we provide that meaningful
30 priority. We no longer have the bigger bag limit
31 because the State, according to, you know, apparently,
32 unbeknownst to me, I apologize for being out of the
33 loop on it, but, you know, under State regs the bag
34 limit's back up to six deer. So what's the meaningful
35 priority for rural users in Unit 4. Basically
36 designated harvesting, which is good. And a January
37 hunt, that Staff can correct me, is less than five
38 percent of the total season harvest from the last
39 figures I remember. But maybe Staff can correct me.
40 So I'm concerned about how we're providing that
41 meaningful priority in Unit 4 in general first of all.

42

43 And then I have a concern about these
44 closures in regards to displacement of those non-
45 Federally-qualified users to other areas in Unit 4 that
46 would be open to them. And, you know, I'm thinking
47 sitting here in Gustavus and saying -- and I don't
48 disagree with the closures that we have proposed, I'm
49 not saying that, what I'm concerned about is the

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1 displacement of those non-Federally-qualified users to
2 places that are still open. And one of the places that
3 would still be open would be that shoreline on
4 Chichagof between Chicken Creek and Idaho Inlet that is
5 the core area for the users in Gustavus and all of a
6 sudden we're competing with people that have been
7 displaced from Juneau that were normally hunting on
8 West Admiralty and NECCUA and -- but, I don't have a
9 problem with that, you know, I hope that they would all
10 stay home but I know that's not going to happen. So
11 that's one of the things that I'm concerned about, is
12 that we'll just have this cascade of closures around
13 these core areas over the years to try to keep up with
14 displacement of these non-qualified users and wouldn't
15 it be better to just have -- if we were going to do
16 that, wouldn't be just better to just have a closure
17 everywhere.

18
19 So these are just some of my thoughts.
20 And like I said I don't want to say anything negative
21 about the closures around these communities that have
22 been asked for because I know they're needed.

23
24 And also, and I'm just going to close
25 with this, you know, I really want Staff to take these
26 -- we'll submit them, get Staff to do a really good job
27 of doing the analysis on them, make sure we have a full
28 discussion of some of those displacement issues, you
29 know, I'm not opposed to submitting these proposals.
30 But these are some of the kind of things, the grander
31 bigger things that kind of kept me awake last night.
32 And, you know, I kind of want to hear what the rest of
33 the Council thinks of that.

34
35 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, this is
36 Albert.

37
38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, just a
39 minute Albert. Okay, so, Cal, you kind of led us into
40 kind of a more broad ranging discussion here, not
41 necessarily related to specific proposals yet. I don't
42 know if there's some folks on the Council that would
43 like to make some comments along those lines now, I
44 guess that's okay. But let's not forget the fact that
45 we still need to do some work on these specific
46 proposals. And, you know, as Cal pointed out, all of
47 this gets brought back to us after analysis for our
48 deliberations and I know what Cal's doing, he's trying
49 to frame the discussion, but just got to remind folks
50

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1 we don't deliberate on the proposals in the proposal of
2 preparing them, you know, that does come later. But
3 just as a means to kind of frame the discussion if
4 anybody wants to add anything to what Cal said now
5 that's fine.

6
7 So Albert, go ahead.

8
9 MR. HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
10 I'll keep it short, I know you're trying to stay on the
11 agenda and on topic. I appreciate Cal's comments.
12 Keep in mind, Cal, that's what we live with every day
13 in Angoon, sleepless nights on how we're going to
14 provide for community members on the resources that are
15 diminishing in front of us and we have no say over it.

16
17 So last night you got a taste of our
18 daily lives in Angoon.

19
20 So, thanks, Mr. Chair.

21
22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thanks, Albert.
23 Any other Council comments on this.

24
25 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair.

26
27 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

28
29 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30 I appreciate where Cal is coming from and like he said,
31 my comments, I don't mean to offend any community and I
32 want the Council to know that as I sit on the Council I
33 always put Federally-qualified subsistence users first.
34 Like, Cal, I thought a lot about these proposals last
35 night and I think about our Council putting forward
36 these proposals and my question is slightly different
37 than his because I'm actually coming from a place where
38 I am a non-Federally-qualified user. And I think about
39 Unit 4 deer and I think we heard yesterday during the
40 testimony -- not testimony, but from somewhere in a
41 presentation, I cannot recall where, that there's not a
42 conservation concern for deer in Unit 4, however, there
43 might be some localized concerns in Unit 4. I'm really
44 hoping if these proposals go forward and we get to the
45 analysis stage we can explore that a little bit more
46 because I don't quite understand like deer numbers in
47 terms of these specific localized areas in all of these
48 places.

49
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1 I think as a Council we have to decide
2 -- we listen to our constituents and we hear testimony
3 from subsistence users throughout the region about
4 their concerns and then we can be a mechanism for them
5 to use certain tools towards finding more opportunity
6 or better opportunity and that's where we get to where
7 we can provide a subsistence priority for Federally-
8 qualified subsistence users in our region. And I think
9 that our Council does a very good job of this. And we
10 can be a very, very powerful tool. However, as a non-
11 Federally-qualified subsistence user I think about how
12 I may or may not be able to hunt in Unit 4, how other
13 non-Federally-qualified subsistence users may or may
14 not be able to hunt in Unit 4 and I hesitate on cutting
15 an opportunity off for non-Federally-qualified users
16 that are Alaska residents. It's going to make it very
17 difficult for myself and/or that portion of the
18 population in Southeast Alaska to even understand the
19 regulations that we're trying to potentially put
20 forward because we are sort of postage stamping --
21 basically taking that opportunity away before we even
22 attempt to try to reduce bag limits or have restrict
23 closures on non-residents of the state.

24
25 And so I just -- in the broader picture
26 of things, I'm wondering if we're doing or taking the
27 right course by submitting all these proposals. I
28 wholeheartedly respect that the community of Pelican
29 has spent some time at this meeting and through Ms.
30 Phillips at the last meeting testifying about this
31 ongoing concern. I try to compare this back to the
32 actions that we took in Unit 2, and I felt like in Unit
33 2 we still allowed non-Federally-qualified users some
34 opportunity, all we did was reduce the bag limit and
35 we've also taken past actions in reducing the season a
36 little bit, but non-Federally-qualified users from
37 Ketchikan can still go to Unit 2 and potentially
38 harvest deer. So I'd like for us, as we move through
39 these proposals to think about not necessarily taking a
40 very large step and drastic action, but to maybe think
41 about taking a little bit of a smaller step so that we
42 can still work towards providing a subsistence priority
43 and meeting the needs of the communities that may be
44 struggling because of the potential increase in
45 competition.

46
47 Again, I mean no disrespect to anyone
48 in my comments and I also understand that we can move
49 forward with putting these proposals in and doing the
50

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1 analysis, I think there's going to be a lot of
2 additional -- we're going to find out a lot more about
3 where this might go and I think we're going to hear
4 from a lot of public at our next meeting as these
5 proposals hit the Federal Subsistence Board.

6

7 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8

9 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
10 Cathy. Yeah, you brought up a number of good points
11 there and, yes, I guess we have to -- I know we
12 definitely have precedent that we don't necessarily
13 have to demonstrate conservation concern in every
14 instance, you know, local depletion that can affect the
15 -- you know the ability of the subsistence users to
16 meet their needs. Meeting subsistence needs is the
17 second part of justification for, you know, actions.
18 So that's definitely something we can look at. But
19 like you say, we also have to kind of take a broader
20 view sometime on the other effects of regulation, or
21 restrictions. So, yeah, all that needs to be
22 considered and like you say taking incremental action
23 is always an option.

24

25 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, this is
26 Albert.

27

28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I'll turn it over
29 to Albert. Go ahead, Albert.

30

31 MR. HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
32 To be honest and Cal hit everything on the head and he
33 shouldn't be apologizing for his comments, I totally
34 understand where Cal was coming from, and now he knows
35 what keeps us up at night in Angoon because it is
36 happening. He's looking to the future and what the
37 consequence of our proposal is. Now, listening to
38 Cathy and adding someone's ability to come out of
39 Juneau and hunt on the west side of Admiralty -- now,
40 keep in mind, I didn't throw the east side in there
41 because I realize Juneau residents use that side of the
42 island to hunt and we don't hardly get over there. So
43 they still have the opportunity to hunt that side of
44 the island. I have a hard time feeling bad because if
45 they have a bad day hunting they can go to Costco and
46 Fred Meyers. I have a bad day hunting, I could be
47 eating a bullhead for all you know.

48

49 You know taking little steps, we've

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1 tried that. Nobody heard us. Time and time again we
2 talked about our crab situation, but the person that
3 was caught pulling the crab pots, his answer to the
4 person was, oh, I'm friend's with these guys, but it
5 isn't their pot. So these are real daily things we're
6 living with in this community. If you want to
7 understand Angoon, come and live here for six months.
8 Leave your paychecks at home and come and live here.

9

10 Thanks, Mr. Chair.

11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Albert.

13

14 MR. SCHROEDER: Don, can you put me on
15 the list.

16

17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yep, go ahead,
18 Bob, I think you're up.

19

20 MR. SCHROEDER: Well, this is really
21 interesting discussion and I kind of go in -- I've got
22 three related things to say.

23

24 One is that I'm very proud of the work
25 of this Council and maybe Patty's off, but she was very
26 instrumental in helping our Council lead the Federal
27 Subsistence Program in the right direction -- what we
28 consider the right direction concerning customary and
29 traditional use and I think we have some ability in two
30 areas -- programmatic sounds like really boring but --
31 and, you know, who would want to do that, we want fish,
32 we want deer. But I think Cal is right on in talking
33 about a need for preference. And I think forwarding in
34 some way the proposals before us could help us get a
35 full discussion going on what meaningful preference
36 would mean for us and how we could create a position on
37 meaningful preference perhaps for our Regional Advisory
38 Council and help other Councils as well in the Federal
39 Program to figure out what that means.

40

41 The second point has to do with local
42 management. And, you know, really if we had
43 significant local management and comanagement of
44 natural resources perhaps the communities would feel
45 that they, in fact, have control over what goes on with
46 resources in their communities. Specific with respect
47 to the indigenous communities, their traditional
48 territories that were taken from them and their
49 traditional territory boundaries which were well known

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1 and respected before the Colonial rule. So in my dream
2 world we'd be making progress with respect to local
3 management and comanagement and we would develop
4 positions on those things.

5

6 With respect to the specific proposals,
7 you know, this Council should consider also pragmatics,
8 just what we can accomplish and what is likely to go
9 through the Federal Subsistence Board and how much we
10 need to both the balance between -- it's not a balance
11 -- how much we support the communities that come before
12 us, considering the likelihood of actually getting a
13 regulation that is really sweeping.

14

15 So those of us who were in the trenches
16 on the deer wars on Prince of Wales for years and years
17 we know it took years and years of communities coming
18 forward saying that they were having trouble getting
19 deer, years and years of data collection by Staff
20 showing that this was, in fact, the case, and years and
21 years of regulatory stuff to get relatively minor
22 restrictions on non-Federally-qualified users. So
23 that's kind of all in the pragmatic realm.

24

25 So I think we will definitely make --
26 potentially make a good deal of progress in working on
27 what we mean by meaningful preference, that isn't
28 something that we've considered in great detail. I
29 think we'll be spending some time thinking about local
30 management and comanagement. And then with respect to
31 the specific proposals I think an awful lot hangs on
32 support for communities and consideration of what we
33 actually are likely to accomplish through the Federal
34 Subsistence Board.

35

36 That's it, Mr. Chairman.

37

38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
39 Bob. Anybody else on the Council, anything to add.

40

41 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, this is Ian,
42 I'd like to add a couple things.

43

44 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Ian.

45

46 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, I can't help but
47 reflect that this is really -- the discussion that Cal
48 brought up is kind of hinges on what Patty spoke before
49 is that, you know, our decisions have consequences and

50

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1 that there's other things going down the road and one
2 of the things that I was thinking about last night is
3 thinking about these Unit 4 proposals is just ensuring
4 that we don't put ourselves into, I guess what I would
5 call language traps, and other things. I guess --
6 maybe if it's a little bit on my unfamiliarity, we're
7 submitting new proposals but I want to ensure that as
8 we design these Unit 4 proposals, that we don't limit
9 ourselves in the future in our language, what we're
10 asking for. And so I just want -- so, you know, I
11 guess I'm asking for a little bit of clarification on
12 what constitutes a new proposal, say in a new cycle and
13 how much of old proposals can be recycled into new
14 ones.

15
16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
17 Ian. We'll probably have that discussion when we get
18 back to the proposals themselves.

19
20 MR. SLATER: Mr. Chair.

21
22 MR. KITKA: Don, this is Harvey.

23
24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I heard Harvey.
25 Go ahead, Harvey.

26
27 MR. KITKA: I have just one question.
28 Are we talking about our proposals or are we talking
29 about the communities and helping the communities set
30 up their proposals. It seemed like when I mentioned
31 their needs not being met our Council kind of objected
32 to that but I really think that when we ask the
33 communities to do that it's best that they put it
34 forward, that their needs are not being met, and ours
35 is just kind of supporting what they say. Is that
36 right?

37
38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Well, yeah, thank
39 you Harvey. I guess the way I view this, you know, the
40 folks from Pelican, Angoon and Hoonah could all, you
41 know, submit proposals from their individuals or
42 communities, associations, whatever they have there and
43 they may. But we heard, you know, a lot of public
44 testimony from the folks in those communities and I
45 think it's kind of the responsibility of the Council to
46 respond to that and, of course, we have the ability to
47 put in our own proposals and our proposals might be
48 crafted a little differently than what a community
49 might propose. So yes I think we definitely have the
50

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1 responsibility, I guess would be the right word, to
2 respond to the public when they come before us and do
3 the best we can to put together a proposal to address
4 the issue. But they are certainly entitled to put in
5 their own proposals that they think would address the
6 issues. And when all the proposals come before us and
7 we get the analysis, all the impacts and legalities and
8 past histories and everything else then we choose one
9 or meld several together, we have all kinds of options
10 when it comes time for deliberations. So at this point
11 in the process I think we just have the responsibility
12 to put together the best proposal that we see fit to
13 address the problems that were brought before us, and
14 that's the way I view it.

15

16 I heard somebody else with a question
17 or comment besides Harvey.

18

19 MR. SLATER: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair,
20 this is Jim Slater.

21

22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, go ahead,
23 Jim.

24

25 MR. SLATER: Hi. I wanted to respond
26 to Cathy and I wanted to say, Cathy, I don't take
27 lightly the impact on non-Federally-qualified hunters
28 and it's something we agonize over. And I guess to
29 discuss it, there's not a lot of tools that we have at
30 our disposal from my understanding of how we can
31 approach this. And I wanted to make one comment on the
32 different use of tools, and we've talked about bag
33 limit reduction, we've also talked about restriction --
34 restricted dates. When it comes to affecting the take
35 by subsistence hunters, it's not only the number of
36 deer that are out there it's also the number of deer
37 hunters, especially in a place like Lisianski Inlet
38 which is one thin waterway. We kind of sit there and
39 we say, okay, let's go hunting and we usually see some
40 other boat heading up, you see that, okay, well you
41 know where they're probably going to go so we have to
42 change our hunting now. But when there's a stream of
43 two or three boats getting up there you know that
44 basically that whole area of the Inlet is not going to
45 be as productive as it should have been or would have
46 been. So we -- and a reduced bag limit may not -- it
47 may reduce the number of hunters but it may not and it
48 certainly won't do anything for the out of state
49 hunters who are only coming there for one deer. And,

50

0396

1 so, anyway, that was a comment I made.

2

3 And I wish we had a broader set of
4 tools that we could finesse an approach but we don't at
5 this point and this may be the beginning of the
6 discussion on can we -- either can we develop some more
7 precise tools that might effect our ability to protect
8 both the subsistence users and also give access to non-
9 Federally-qualified hunters during the whole season.

10

11 So, anyway, that's enough of my
12 comments.

13

14 Thanks.

15

16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Jim.
17 And I mean that is a responsibility of the Council is
18 we do -- we are required to consider impacts to other
19 users and so we do have to consider that in our
20 deliberations and recommendations to the Board.

21

22 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair.

23

24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Anybody else.

25

26 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

27

28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

29

30 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
31 think -- I appreciate everybody's comments and followup
32 and especially to my comments. I've been on this
33 Council for 12 years and I'm going to do what I feel is
34 right for subsistence users in that hat and my non-
35 Federally-qualified status is sort of not a hat that I
36 wear at this table necessarily. But I do want to say
37 that as a Council member I want to act responsibly
38 through the big picture and I think our Council should
39 consider, potentially, putting together a proposal to
40 the Board of Game under -- for their next wildlife
41 cycle that addresses this concern as well. It would be
42 our due diligence. I kind of feel like I understand
43 that we're trying to -- we're grasping tools right now
44 to use, and I'm not entirely convinced that this is our
45 best tool but I'm going to support providing
46 opportunities for Federally-qualified subsistence
47 users, especially if they are experiencing a hardship
48 and not able to meet their subsistence needs, but I
49 think we have other tools in our tool box before we

50

0397

1 just automatically go to cutting off one user group
2 completely, that's a user group that's a resident of
3 this state, that, in my mind, has a little more
4 precedence of being able to use that resources versus
5 non-residents from out of state. And so I'd like for
6 us all to be thinking of things in these proposals, how
7 we can also potentially put in proposals to the Board
8 of Game process that would reduce bag limits for non-
9 residents of Alaska, and reduce sport bag limits rather
10 than just cutting off one user group completely.

11

12 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, thank you,
15 Cathy. And, yeah, that's something that, you know, I
16 realize in solving this problem may require some action
17 on the State sporthunting regs and we can certainly put
18 in proposals to them. I don't know where the cycle is
19 now, it's a ways off I believe. But, yes, we do have
20 an opportunity to do that and if we could ever convince
21 the State to take some action, that could certainly be
22 helpful so let's keep that in mind as well.

23

24 Any other Council members with kind of
25 broad reaching comments or questions before we get into
26 the specifics here.

27

28 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman.

29

30 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Frank.

31

32 MR. WRIGHT: You know I realize my
33 responsibility on this Council is, you know, protecting
34 our rural and subsistence issue -- you know, and I take
35 that serious but, you know, I'm torn between two
36 worlds, you know, as the president of the tribe and
37 then I -- like the other day I talked about my family
38 that lives in Juneau that are non -- that aren't
39 qualified and hardships of our people that are --
40 because they have to move out of town being -- to
41 subsistence in Juneau at Costco and, you know, I belong
42 to the (In Tlingit) and (In Tlingit) from Sitka and my
43 dad is a Chookaneidi from Hoonah in the Kaagwaantaan
44 and Wooshkeetaan and T'akdentaan that live here in
45 Hoonah, so the people that are living in Juneau because
46 of the way it is here, no jobs and the like, you know,
47 so -- you know so being torn between two worlds of
48 taking care of the rural subsistence area communities
49 and being a Tlingit and trying to keep the culture of

50

0398

1 our people alive by even sending them some deer meat or
2 fish or halibut, you know, is kind of -- puts me, like
3 I said, in two worlds. And, you know, I have a hard
4 time by just thinking of my people when -- like I
5 always said you take one component away from a people
6 you diminish their identity. And right now the people
7 of the -- the indigenous people of Southeast Alaska are
8 having a hard time keeping their identity. You know
9 Hoonah school is lucky that, you know, my wife is
10 teaching the language here but, you know, the people I
11 know in my family and stuff like that in Sitka and in
12 Juneau are struggling too by trying to keep who they
13 are.

14
15 But I know my responsibility as a RAC
16 member, you know, I'm torn between two worlds and as
17 the president of the tribe I have to try to keep the
18 identity of our people alive, you know, and it's
19 troubling because our language is pretty much decimated
20 by -- even my mother went to Sheldon Jackson and she
21 was told she couldn't speak her language and even
22 though she was fluent she would never speak it in our
23 household because she went to Sheldon Jackson and they
24 took that away from her. My father was fluent.

25
26 I don't know if you guys can feel what
27 I feel but by having my family in Juneau and Sitka and
28 I have some family in Bellingham and I send them stuff
29 sometimes. So I'll try to be with my responsibility as
30 a RAC member as much as I possibly can.

31
32 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33
34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.
35 That was very well put and, yes, I mean one of our
36 responsibilities, you know, in the whole Subsistence
37 Program here is to preserve the culture and we always
38 have to keep that in mind and it requires a lot of hard
39 decisions sometimes so, yeah, good thoughts, and thank
40 you for that.

41
42 Is there anybody else with any other
43 comments they'd like to add before we get into the
44 discussion, specifics.

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

49
50

0399

1 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman, Mike
2 Douville.

3
4 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Mike.

5
6 MR. DOUVILLE: I would like to thank
7 Cathy for her comments. There's going to have to be a
8 lot of thought put into these proposals. It's a
9 difficult situation, particularly when there is no
10 conservation issue in at least most of Unit 4. And
11 hopefully the analysis will do all that, keeping in
12 mind that anything below the high water mark is State
13 land, so it comes under State regulations as well
14 private and State land in that unit. So all things
15 considered I guess we'll do our job when it comes time
16 but I do not look at things to be heavy-handed and I
17 think that as we go down the road we'll hopefully solve
18 these problems.

19
20 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
21 Mike. I'd like to get started into the proposals
22 themselves now. And I know DeAnna sent out an email
23 with proposed language. DeAnna, I don't know if you
24 also are able to put that up on the Teams screen or I
25 don't know if everybody's got access to email but it's
26 helpful to have some wording in front of us that the
27 Staff has prepared.

28
29 MS. PERRY: Yes, Mr. Chair. I don't
30 know which one you would like to start with first but
31 we can certainly put that on Teams. And I did want to
32 take a moment. We've had some great conversations with
33 this Council this morning and wonderful public
34 testimony, I just wanted to remind folks that as we go
35 through these proposals, if the Council is not
36 comfortable putting a proposal forward as a Council, it
37 is always appropriate for an individual to put in a
38 proposal. All of these proposals, whether they're put
39 in by the Council or individually, will come before the
40 Council in the fall regulatory meeting. And at that
41 time we'll have the analysis, we'll have data, we'll
42 have a lot more information, people will have had time
43 to talk amongst their community members about the
44 proposals once they come out in the proposal book. So
45 just kind of answering some of Ian's questions earlier,
46 everything doesn't need to be set in stone now, not
47 even the proposal, if the Council's not comfortable
48 putting forward a proposal on its own, an individual
49 can, but then the Council can still weigh in on that
50

0400

1 and make a recommendation in the fall.

2

3 So, anyway, I just wanted to maybe
4 provide some more information, especially to our new
5 Council members on the process so that they know there
6 are additional opportunities to look at a proposal,
7 amend a proposal and put a recommendation in on a
8 proposal.

9

10 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11

12 Whichever proposal you'd like to start
13 with first.

14

15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Well, I've got the
16 email up in front of me and the first one up there is
17 the elk proposal so if we'd like to start there maybe
18 we can look at a couple of the other proposals before
19 we get to those Unit 4 proposals.

20

21 MS. PERRY: So for those folks who got
22 the email, the file is named draft SERAC Unit 3 elk
23 draw proposal, and we have that up on the screen.

24

25 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. So if the
26 Council has that one up the first one is a proposal
27 that I suggested and this proposal would be to provide
28 a subsistence priority for the existing elk hunt. And
29 presently there is a drawing hunt for elk and similar
30 to what we did up in Berners Bay where they established
31 a number of elk that -- or moose that they'd like to
32 harvest we designated a certain percentage of those
33 permits drawn would go to rural residents, or
34 subsistence-qualified people to make sure that in a
35 broad drawing where there might be hundreds of names
36 and people from all over the country perhaps it assures
37 that the local folks would get a priority to have a
38 permit drawn. So I'm going to ask maybe whatever Staff
39 put the wording to that proposal, if they could maybe
40 run through it and describe -- there's a lot of
41 boundary lines set that probably corresponded to
42 existing State regulations I'm guessing and then maybe
43 explain the permit draw system.

44

45 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chair, this is Terry
46 Suminski, can you hear me all right?

47

48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, go ahead,
49 Terry.

50

0401

1 MR. SUMINSKI: Yeah, I threw this one
2 together and I'm sure it's not perfect. I would rather
3 spend a couple weeks on it. Basically what I did is,
4 is you're correct, I copied the hunt boundaries from
5 the State draw for these two drawings. I think that's
6 important to match up with the State draw because we
7 did the same thing in Berners Bay and we have that
8 stipulation where you cannot -- if you get a State draw
9 permit, you can't get a Federal permit. So to keep
10 everything consistent and lined up I used the same -- I
11 just pulled that language basically out of the State
12 draw supplement. I'm not super familiar with the area
13 so I didn't have time to go through and draw the lines
14 around there but I believe it's just Etolin Island.

15
16 I used similar language to what we used
17 for Berners Bay. In this case there would be two
18 drawings because there's two hunt periods. Harvest
19 limit one bull elk if you're lucky enough to draw a
20 Federal permit, only one elk per household. If you
21 receive a State draw permit you cannot get a Federal
22 permit for the same -- for elk.

23
24 So it'd have to be based off of the
25 harvest quota. When I looked at the State draw there
26 was 50 permits available in the last drawing for each
27 hunt so if we take 25 percent that's roughly 12 or 13
28 would go to Federally-qualified.

29
30 And then the last part is just
31 information that's also in the State drawing that would
32 aid in the management of the herd with some biological
33 samples and both of the antlers.

34
35 The rest of it, you know, the Council
36 can beat that up, we didn't get a lot of discussion
37 about that yesterday but kind of a quick overview.

38
39 Thank you.

40
41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
42 Terry. And I'd just like to reiterate that I brought
43 this up because, you know, elk are an introduced
44 species and that's the situation that's similar to
45 Berners Bay, where moose were introduced, they were not
46 found there naturally. Elk have been there for quite a
47 number of years now. Last year the Subsistence Board
48 accepted our proposal to declare that there was
49 customary and traditional use for elk in Southeast now
50

0402

1 because elk have been here long enough and I know I
2 don't know the specific numbers but, you know, a good
3 percentage of the folks that put in for those drawing
4 permits for elk do go to rural users and I'm pretty
5 sure that rural users have taken a fair amount of the
6 harvest of those elk so I felt it was appropriate that
7 we kind of institute that there would be a priority,
8 some kind of a meaningful priority for the harvest of
9 those elk.

10

11 And this concept kind of mirrors what
12 was done for Berners Bay once it was decided by the
13 Board that there was a customary and traditional use
14 for Berners Bay moose and there should be a Federal
15 priority for that hunt. So that's the idea and concept
16 for this proposal.

17

18 So now I guess maybe for any further
19 discussion if somebody on the Council would like to
20 make a motion to accept this proposal then we could
21 have further discussion.

22

23 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chair, Mike
24 Douville.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Mike.

27

28 MR. DOUVILLE: I make a motion that we
29 adopt this proposal.

30

31 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I think submit the
32 proposal would be the proper word there.

33

34 MR. DOUVILLE: Yeah, submit.

35

36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
37 Mike.

38

39 MR. KITKA: I'll second it, Harvey.

40

41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
42 Harvey. Okay. Any other discussion from the Council
43 or questions for Staff.

44

45 MR. KITKA: One question, this is
46 Harvey.

47

48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Harvey.

49

50

0403

1 MR. KITKA: Is this Federal property?

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I don't know, do
4 you want to answer that Terry.

5

6 MR. SUMINSKI: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Mr.
7 Kitka. I believe it's almost all Federal land. There
8 maybe -- maybe Robb Cross has that information but this
9 particular Federal hunt would only happen on the lands
10 within the -- the Federal land within that boundary.

11

12 MR. KITKA: Thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: And, Harvey, for
15 more clarification, the lines that are indicated there,
16 or the boundaries indicated in the proposal are
17 essentially Etolin Island. I think it -- and it
18 excludes some of the smaller islands kind of
19 surrounding Etolin Island and, yeah, to the best of my
20 knowledge all of Etolin is Forest Service Federal land
21 and there is also a Etolin Island Wilderness area
22 included on that island.

23

24 MR. KITKA: Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Any other
27 questions.

28

29 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

30

31 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

32

33 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
34 I don't have a question. But since we have put a
35 motion on the table to submit this proposal I would
36 just like to express that I would support this proposal
37 to be submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board. I
38 know that this Council has talked about potentially
39 putting a proposal like this forward but we took the
40 time during the last wildlife proposal in order to get
41 C&T determination for elk so we've taken a couple of
42 steps to move in this direction in order to provide a
43 little more meaningful subsistence priority for
44 subsistence users in getting this.

45

46 I also feel like we've discussed or
47 talked about, in the past, that it's a draw permit and
48 a number of those draw permits that don't -- they don't
49 necessarily get utilized and so, you know, I would

50

0404

1 support assuring that Federally-qualified users had a
2 little bit of a greater chance of being able to get a
3 draw permit because I know Federally-qualified users
4 would use that permit if they were to draw one and so
5 this provides that priority for them up front and gives
6 Federally-qualified subsistence users an actual
7 allocation out of the permit.

8
9 I'd like to say I really appreciate
10 Staff putting this together, digging through the other
11 regulations to give us some good language because I
12 don't think we could have gotten that far in this -- of
13 what they put together for us.

14
15 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

16
17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.
18 I think that's a good justification for support. Is
19 there anybody else on the Council with questions or a
20 comment.

21
22 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chair.

23
24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Frank.

25
26 MR. WRIGHT: Their numbers, like is
27 there a population count on the area that we're talking
28 about and would those numbers dictate how many permits
29 would be issued out?

30
31 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: That would be a
32 question for the Staff, I don't know if they know the
33 condition of the elk population there.

34
35 MR. SUMINSKI: Through the Chair. Mr.
36 Wright. What I can say is in looking at the draw hunt,
37 supplement from the State for this coming year, they
38 offered 50 permits for each of those time periods. I
39 don't know what that might look like next year.

40
41 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman. Did he say
42 50?

43
44 MR. SUMINSKI: Yes, Mr. Wright, 5-0.
45 Thank you.

46
47 MR. WRIGHT: Okay, thank you. That
48 seems like a lot but I don't know anything about elk.

49
50

0405

1 All right, thank you, Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.

4 Anybody else.

5

6 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, I'd like to
7 call for the question.

8

9 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
10 Cal. The question is being called for. Frank, you
11 want to go through the roll.

12

13 MR. WRIGHT: Yes, where's my list.

14

15 Cal Casipit.

16

17 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

18

19 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

20

21 MR. DOUVILLE: Michael Douville votes
22 yes.

23

24 MR. WRIGHT: James Slater.

25

26 MR. SLATER: Yes.

27

28 MR. WRIGHT: Bob Schroeder.

29

30 MR. SCHROEDER: Yes.

31

32 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

33

34 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

35

36 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

37

38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

39

40 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

41

42 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

43

44 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

45

46 MR. KITKA: Yes.

47

48 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

49

50

0406

1 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

2

3 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson.

4

5 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

6

7 MR. WRIGHT: Frank votes yes, motion
8 passed.

9

10 MR. BEMIS: Larry Bemis didn't vote.

11

12 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes, go ahead, is
15 that DeAnna.

16

17 MS. PERRY: I'm sorry I didn't catch
18 Larry Bemis' vote, sorry.

19

20 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

21

22 MS. PERRY: Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
25 Frank. Thank you, DeAnna. Let's go to the second elk
26 proposal that's next up in the email, and that's the
27 other elk proposal. So I'll just kind of give a brief
28 overview of this and when the State started having elk
29 seasons at some point the elk started migrating to
30 adjoining islands. Elk have been reported on Prince of
31 Wales, they've been reported on Kupreanof, probably
32 Mitkof, they definitely moved to Zarembo and Bushy and
33 Shrubby, some of the islands that are in the vicinity.
34 So it was kind of determined that the State didn't
35 think it was a good idea for elk to spread everywhere
36 from where they were originally introduced on Etolin
37 Island. And the history of the elk introduction was, I
38 mean they were brought to Etolin Island as a -- for the
39 sporthunting opportunity, basically. It was an attempt
40 to transplant elk to Southeast Alaska and then the
41 State's intention was that, you know, big game hunters
42 would come to Southeast Alaska and use guide services
43 to go elk hunting and -- anyhow once the elk started
44 leaving Etolin Island and spreading to adjoining
45 islands, at some point the State decided that maybe
46 that wasn't such a good idea for elk to start
47 populating elsewhere. There is some impact to habitat
48 from having large numbers of elk. They are capable of
49 out-competing deer for browse, you know, particularly
50

0407

1 during hard winters. So the State instituted a general
2 season for elk outside of their original area where
3 they were transplanted. And their regulation at the
4 time was from August 1st to December 31st, one elk,
5 doesn't necessarily have to be a bull, was available to
6 anybody on those other islands. And then I don't know
7 what year it was but for some reason the State decided
8 to rescind that regulation. And I don't know it's just
9 my feeling that -- I thought it was a good regulation.
10 I know I hunt areas where elk have been spotted and I
11 always felt if I ran across an elk I certainly would
12 want to shoot it and I am a little concerned about some
13 of the impacts to the habitat from, you know, a large
14 number of elk so that's why I proposed this regulation
15 that would essentially restore for Federally-qualified
16 people that general hunt outside of the area where the
17 elk were originally introduced.

18
19 So Terry, I don't know if you wrote up
20 this regulation as well. Maybe you could go through
21 the language a little bit and make sure everything I
22 said was proper and the language reflects that.

23
24 MR. SUMINSKI: Yes, Mr. Chairman, this
25 is Terry Suminski. Yeah, Rob Cross pulled this
26 together. He found the old language that you asked
27 for.

28
29 Something that we did put in here is to
30 keep Bushy, Shrubby and Kaskevarof Islands closed as
31 well, and that's to make it consistent with the draw
32 hunt proposal. You have to understand that this would
33 be -- we wrote it as a stand-alone proposal. It would
34 have to be modified a little bit if the draw, you know,
35 if the draw situation went into effect. But just
36 looking at this particular proposal with the way the
37 regulation would read, similar, you know, one antlered
38 bull outside of that closed area, and that's about it.

39
40 Rob did send me some harvest
41 information just for your -- just to help you out. The
42 chart from 1997 to 2010 which is the most recent. The
43 harvest ranged from 14 animals -- 14 harvested in 1999
44 to down to one animal in 2006. So even though they may
45 issue a lot of permits, it's a very difficult hunt so
46 not everybody's successful.

47
48 Thank you.

49
50

0408

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
2 Terry. I'm aware of the success rate on that hunt, it
3 hasn't been very great. And I don't think anybody
4 knows if anybody's harvested an elk off of those other
5 areas. I always hear rumors but nothing confirmed.
6 But I have seen elk sign on POW and on Kupreanof so I
7 know they're there.

8

9 Anyhow, maybe if the Council would
10 like, it's appropriate to make a motion on this
11 proposal now.

12

13 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, this is Cal
14 Casipit. I just had a couple of questions and maybe we
15 would maybe want to have Staff change some of this
16 wording. But anyway let me just launch into this.

17

18 I agree with your summary of the
19 history and impacts of elk in the Southeast Alaska
20 habitat. I know that when it was first being proposed
21 there was a significant number of people who were
22 interested in elk because you can have an industrial
23 timber program and a large ungulate to hunt at the same
24 time and you don't have to, you know, you don't have to
25 worry about impacts on Sitka black-tailed deer. I know
26 there was a lot of that talk going around too.

27

28 Anyway, as far as the area where we
29 would have the no close season with one antlered bull,
30 it says Unit 3 remainder, shouldn't we add, Unit 2 as
31 well, if you're noticing elk sign on north Prince of
32 Wales.

33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, oh, yeah,
35 you're right Cal. I kind of missed that.

36

37 MR. CASIPIT: But other than that I'm
38 totally okay with this proposal.

39

40 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. If we want
41 to change the wording I suggest that we -- let's see,
42 maybe we should -- I guess we should probably maybe
43 change the wording -- have a discussion on changing the
44 wording first and then make a motion, that might be
45 best. Maybe our Parliamentarian can weigh in here,
46 should we get it on the floor and then amend it or
47 amend it first and then bring it up.

48

49 Frank.

50

0409

1 MR. WRIGHT: Well, the way it's
2 supposed to go is it -- you're going to have to have a
3 motion made, the motion's got to be made and then
4 discussion on changing words and then it's amended.

5
6 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
7 Frank. I think I would agree with that. Let's get a
8 motion to bring it before the Council and then if we
9 want to amend it we can do that.

10
11 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, I move that we
12 submit this proposal for elk outside of Etolin -- yeah,
13 I guess that's all I need.

14
15 MS. NEEDHAM: Second. Cathy.

16
17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.
18 And thank you for that catch, Cal. The way that's
19 worded, Unit 3 remainder, that would include Kupreanof
20 Island but, yes, I would like to include Prince of
21 Wales and without having the research here before me,
22 there may also be some elk have migrated to the main
23 land as well and I think that's Unit 1B adjacent to
24 Etolin Island. So I'm thinking we may want to include
25 Unit 3 remainder, Unit 2, and maybe with a little help
26 from the Staff there, possibly Unit 1B.

27
28 I know the map's in our Council book
29 here if we look quickly.

30
31 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman, this is
32 Terry Suminski. I would just suggest Units 1 through 4
33 and cover your basis.

34
35 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Oh, I guess we
36 could do that.

37
38 MR. CASIPIT: I like that idea.

39
40 (Laughter)

41
42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Sure, who knows
43 maybe they'll end up on Admiralty some day. Okay, that
44 might simplify things, we could always make any changes
45 in the deliberation process but for now that might be
46 the best way to put it forward.

47
48 Cal, I believe you made the motion, if
49 you would want to amend it.

50

0410

1 MR. CASIPIT: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I'd like
2 to move to amend this to add basically instead of
3 saying Unit 3 remainder, say Unit 1 through 4 and the
4 remainder of Unit 3 or something like that. I would
5 leave it to Staff to write it the best way.

6
7 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: That's what we
8 would want to do, thank you, Cal. I don't remember who
9 the second was but they would have to second again.

10

11 MS. NEEDHAM: Second from Cathy.

12

13 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
14 Cathy. It's been amended, any further questions or
15 discussion.

16

17 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, this is Ian.

18

19 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Ian.

20

21 MR. JOHNSON: I was just wondering if a
22 primary goal of this is around control of a non-Native
23 species, if there's any opportunity to make the hunt
24 more liberal and include cows.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I don't know, I
27 don't -- it has two purposes, I guess I'd say. That's
28 one of them, I don't know if it's the main purpose. I
29 think the other purpose is to provide more opportunity
30 for subsistence hunters, I mean should they encounter
31 an elk. Like I said, I certainly wouldn't want to pass
32 it by because it wasn't legal. And I guess that kind
33 of brings up the question, well, if you would like to
34 maybe have a few elk around leaving a strictly bull
35 hunt might allow for, you know, some elk to continue
36 but not grow too much. I don't know.

37

38 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, certainly expanding
39 it to cows would increase subsistence opportunity as
40 well.

41

42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. Right.

43

44 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

45

46 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

47

48 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
49 For purposes of, you know, potentially controlling a
50

0411

1 species that is moving I definitely support the take of
2 cows but this proposal was crafted based on previous
3 State language and so I kind of question whether or not
4 there is reasoning why cows weren't included when the
5 State had a -- when the State had this type of hunt
6 open. And I doubt we can get the State to answer that
7 question since they're probably out at the Board of
8 Game meeting today. But I just wanted to throw that
9 out there as a thought.

10

11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. You know at
12 this point of the process, I'm tempted to just leave it
13 the way it is because I was attempting to mirror, you
14 know, previous State regs. And, you know, these kind
15 of topics are certainly addressed in the analysis and
16 when they come back to us we can consider all of these
17 questions and proposals can always be amended at the
18 time that we deliberate on them. So I think for now
19 I'd recommend just leaving it the way it is.

20

21 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, this is Cal
22 Casipit. And I kind of -- I would like to speak to
23 actually including cows. Number 1 because, again, like
24 the subsistence -- you know additional opportunity that
25 was said by Ian earlier, but also in my mind let's just
26 go ahead and ask for it. If Staff believes it's a bad
27 idea to include cows, we can always remove it next
28 fall, but if we don't ask for cows now they won't
29 analyze cows. So I'm of the opinion that we include
30 cows.

31

32 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cal.
33 That's a good point. I guess I can't argue with that.
34 So if you'd like to further amend the motion I guess
35 now would be the time to do that.

36

37 MR. KITKA: Mr. Chair, this is Harvey
38 Kitka.

39

40 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Harvey.

41

42 MR. KITKA: Are we talking general hunt
43 for Federally-qualified users or is this kind of a
44 subsistence hunt?

45

46 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Well, Harvey
47 seeing's how it would only be available to rural
48 residents I guess we'd have to call it a subsistence
49 hunt, yes.

50

0412

1 MR. KITKA: Okay, thank you. I had one
2 other comment. My son-in-law was up at Blue Lake just
3 outside of Sitka, up the mountain a ways and he swore
4 he heard an elk bugling up there so maybe they're
5 already swimming here and there.

6
7 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I wouldn't rule it
8 out, Harvey.

9
10 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, this is
11 Albert.

12
13 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Albert.

14
15 MR. HOWARD: That could be someone like
16 Albert with a bugler just running around.

17
18 (Laughter)

19
20 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Well, Cal, once
21 again I think you made the motion do you want to amend
22 it to include any elk.

23
24 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.
25 I think we have a motion on the floor for an amendment
26 already that we have not voted on.

27
28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I think you're
29 right, Cathy. So we can just add this to the
30 amendment, I guess, we haven't voted on it yet.

31
32 MR. CASIPIT: Okay. I would like to
33 amend my amendment, again, I guess, in the proposed
34 Federal regulation it would read, Unit 1 through 4 and
35 the remainder of Unit 3, one elk by Federal
36 registration permit and no closed season.

37
38 MS. NEEDHAM: The second concurs, this
39 is Cathy.

40
41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I think
42 we're good on the amendment. So now we have an amended
43 proposal before us. Any other discussion.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47 MR. KITKA: Call for the question on
48 the amendment, Harvey.

49
50

0413

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Frank, if
2 you want to read the roll on making the amendment, this
3 vote is on the amendment.

4
5 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

6
7 Cal Casipit.

8
9 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

10
11 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

12
13 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

14
15 MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.

16
17 MR. SLATER: Yes.

18
19 MR. WRIGHT: Bob Schroeder.

20
21 MR. SCHROEDER: Yes.

22
23 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

24
25 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

26
27 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

28
29 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

30
31 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

32
33 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

34
35 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

36
37 MR. KITKA: Yes.

38
39 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

40
41 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

42
43 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

44
45 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

46
47 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson.

48
49 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

50

0414

1 MR. WRIGHT: Frank votes yes. Motion
2 pass -- the amendment passes and now we're back to the
3 main motion.

4
5 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
6 Frank. Now we have the amended motion before us,
7 any.....

8
9 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

10
11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

12
13 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
14 Just to do our due diligence on the discussion, I just
15 want to add to -- I know you put this forward and
16 you've had a lot of time to give some justification but
17 I think we need to have it from other Council as well.
18 So I would support this regulation. I would support
19 that we submit this regulation to the Federal
20 Subsistence Board. I think that this, you know, that
21 there is a precedence for this type of hunt within the
22 region when the State had a hunt like this before and
23 then closed it and when they closed it that may have,
24 you know, reduced Federally-qualified users at that
25 time -- potentially Federally-qualified users at that
26 time. This opens that back up. I don't see that
27 there's a conservation concern with elk so I feel
28 pretty -- especially because they're being taken
29 potentially off of the areas that they were introduced
30 to for the sport hunt.

31
32 So, again, I think it's a good
33 opportunity for Federally-qualified users in our region
34 to be able to harvest an elk and I support it.

35
36 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

37
38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.

39
40 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, this is Ian.

41
42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Ian.

43
44 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, I'd say also in
45 support of -- just that the concern of elk competing
46 with deer is certainly an issue and so in my opinion
47 this is a proposal that provides opportunities for
48 subsistence users and also gives them some control over
49 local deer populations and mitigating that competition.
50

0415

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Ian.
2 Any other Council members want to weigh in on this
3 proposal.
4

5 (No comments)
6

7 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, if there's no
8 other discussion I call for the question.
9

10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.
11 Question's been called for on the main motion. Frank.
12

13 (No comments)
14

15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Frank you want to
16 do the roll call vote.
17

18 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, okay.
19

20 Ian Johnson.
21

22 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.
23

24 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.
25

26 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.
27

28 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.
29

30 MR. BEMIS: Yes.
31

32 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.
33

34 MR. KITKA: Yes.
35

36 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.
37

38 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.
39

40 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.
41

42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.
43

44 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.
45

46 MR. HOWARD: Yes.
47

48 MR. WRIGHT: Bob Schroeder.
49
50

0416

1 MR. SCHROEDER: Yes.

2

3 MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.

4

5 MR. SLATER: Yes.

6

7 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

8

9 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

10

11 MR. WRIGHT: Calvin Casipit.

12

13 (No comments)

14

15 MR. WRIGHT: Cal.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 MR. WRIGHT: Frank votes yes. Motion

20 carried.

21

22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
23 Frank. Maybe we better take a 10 minute break here and
24 collect our thoughts.....

25

26 MR. CASIPIT: I'm sorry, this is Cal.

27

28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ:a little.....

29

30 MR. CASIPIT: I'm sorry this is Cal. I
31 voted yes. I hit my hangup button instead of my mute
32 button, I'm sorry.

33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

35

36 MR. WRIGHT: Okay.

37

38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Let's take a 10
39 minute break. Everybody can kind of collect their
40 thoughts, stretch their legs and then we've got one
41 moose proposal and then we'll get into the Unit 4 deer
42 stuff, and I think we kind of need to take a little
43 break before we do that, so let's take 10 minutes and
44 come back at 11 -- let's say 11:15.

45

46 (Off record)

47

48 (On record)

49

50

0417

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Do you want to
2 check and make sure that the Council is all back.

3
4 MS. PERRY: Okay, I can do that.

5
6 Okay, Jim Slater, are you back on.

7
8 MR. SLATER: Yes, DeAnna, I am. Thank
9 you.

10
11 MS. PERRY: Thank you.

12
13 Robert Schroeder.

14
15 MR. SCHROEDER: Yes, Robert Schroeder's
16 here.

17
18 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Bob.

19
20 Albert Howard.

21
22 MR. HOWARD: Here.

23
24 MS. PERRY: Thank you.

25
26 Harold Robbins.

27
28 MR. ROBBINS: I'm here.

29
30 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Harold.

31
32 Harvey Kitka.

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 MS. PERRY: Larry Bemis.

37
38 MR. BEMIS: Here.

39
40 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Larry.

41
42 Cathy Needham.

43
44 MS. NEEDHAM: I'm here, thank you.

45
46 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Cathy.

47
48 Ian Johnson.

49
50

0418

1 MR. JOHNSON: I am present.

2

3 MS. PERRY: Thank you.

4

5 Frank Wright.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 MS. PERRY: Cal Casipit.

10

11 MR. CASIPIT: Here.

12

13 MS. PERRY: Thank you.

14

15 Mike Douville.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 MS. PERRY: And Don Hernandez, I heard

20 you.

21

22 Harvey Kitka, were you able to rejoin

23 us.

24

25 MR. KITKA: I'm here. I thought I had
26 it on speaker but it's on mute.

27

28 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Harvey.

29

30 Frank Wright.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MS. PERRY: Mike Douville.

35

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 MS. PERRY: Okay. Mr. Chair, you have
40 10 of your 12 members online. At present you have a
41 quorum.

42

43 MR. WRIGHT: Frank's here.

44

45 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Frank.

46

47 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I thought I
48 might like to go through the two other proposals that
49 don't deal with Unit 4 first. If we could maybe get
50

0419

1 those done then we can concentrate on the Unit 4
2 proposals because they kind of have a lot of the same
3 concepts.
4

5 Mike Douville, I don't think I heard
6 you back yet. I was going to ask you to introduce the
7 moose proposal, are you there?
8

9 (No comments)
10

11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Is that you Mike?
12

13 (No comments)
14

15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I'm not hearing
16 Mike. But we could go to the goat proposal and,
17 Harold, I think you were the one who brought that to
18 our attention, do you want to kind of introduce that
19 one and I don't know hopefully you had a chance to look
20 at the language there and see if it meets what you were
21 expecting.
22

23 MR. ROBBINS: This is Harold, thank
24 you. Yes, I have had a chance to look at it. And
25 basically what it does is just eliminates the minimum
26 of 4 goat harvest quota -- reserve for Federal-
27 qualified subsistence users basically because over the
28 last -- since '14 only two subsistence goats have been
29 taken and hardly anybody even applies for a goat permit
30 so it would just kind of clean up the regulation and
31 make it a little easier for the managers to -- instead
32 of having to stay on top of it and have an in-season
33 adjustment.
34

35 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
36 Harold. And then who on Staff wrote up the proposal,
37 if.....
38

39 MR. ROBBINS: I think.....
40

41 MS. OEHLER: Mr. Chair, this is.....
42

43 MR. ROBBINS:Susan Oehler wrote
44 that.
45

46 MS. OEHLER:Susan.....
47

48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Susan maybe
49 you can do a little more explanation on how it's
50

0420

1 worded.

2

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4

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MS. OEHLER: Sure, this is -- for the record this is Susan Oehler with the Forest Service, and through the Chair, sure I can speak to that.

Yeah, I think Council Member Robbins just kind of gave the summary of it and just the background. But this regulation has been in the language since 2002, you know, with good intentions for reserving a number of goats in the harvest for Federally-qualified users. But as Mr. Robbins spoke, you know, even going back as -- I went as far back as 2005, I mean there's been just very little effort for harvest on really either side, State or subsistence users. So it's just -- you know, we've just really never had to implement that minimum for users. We have not had to close, you know, close the season based on that or, you know, really implement. So it's just really cleaning it up. You know this was also put in before we had in-season management authority. Everything had to go through the Board but now we have that flexibility that if there are issues during the season the District Ranger can implement, you know, any changes as needed to, you know, serve the subsistence users.

So it's mostly just kind of simplifying the regulations.

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you Susan. Well, if somebody on the Council would like to put this forward as a motion then we'll have further discussion.

MR. ROBBINS: This is Harold, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Harold.

MR. ROBBINS: Yes, I would like to put this forward as a motion.

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Second.

MS. NEEDHAM: Second by Cathy.

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you, Cathy. So any further discussion or questions from the

0421

1 Council about this proposal.

2

3

4

(No comments)

5

6

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, not hearing
7 any questions but if somebody wants to put forward a
8 justification that'd be helpful.

9

10 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, this is Cal
11 Casipit. I'll take a shot at that.

12

13 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Excuse me, Cal,
14 what was that.

15

16 MR. CASIPIT: I said I'll take a shot
17 at providing that justification if you'd like.

18

19 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cal.

20

21 MR. CASIPIT: Okay. I will support
22 this motion. It basically cleans up regulations and
23 it's basically something that one of the Yakutat
24 Council members has worked with one of the local
25 managers with the Forest Service to come up with this
26 and it seems reasonable based on the information
27 provided. And it simplifies the regulations and it
28 doesn't appear that there is a problem with meeting the
29 subsistence needs in this area.

30

31 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, very good,
32 thank you, Cal. Anybody else from the Council with a
33 question or comment.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 MR. SLATER: Mr. Chair, Jim Slater.

38

39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Jim.

40

41 MR. SLATER: This just seems like a
42 very straight forward and common sense proposal. I
43 would vote to say yes. And that's it.

44

45 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Very good. Are we
46 ready for the question.

47

48 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, I will call
49 for the question.

50

0422

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.
2 Frank, do you want to run through a roll call vote on
3 this.

4
5 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, okay.

6
7 Ian Johnson.

8
9 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

10
11 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

12
13 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

14
15 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

16
17 (No comments)

18
19 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

28
29 MR. KITKA: Yes.

30
31 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

32
33 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

34
35 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

36
37 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

38
39 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

40
41 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

42
43 MR. WRIGHT: Bob Schroeder.

44
45 MR. SCHROEDER: Yes.

46
47 MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.

48
49 MR. SLATER: Yes.

50

0423

1 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

2

3 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

4

5 MR. WRIGHT: Calvin Casipit.

6

7 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

8

9 MR. WRIGHT: Frank Wright votes yes,
10 motion passed.

11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
13 Frank.

14

15 MR. BEMIS: This is Larry Bemis, I hit
16 the button wrong here. I vote yes also. Thank you.

17

18 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Larry.
19 We're all being challenged by the buttons this morning.
20 Okay, that proposal passes.

21

22 Mike Douville, I hear you're back, I
23 kind of wanted to go through the moose proposal that
24 you recommended, do you have that in front of you and
25 does the rest of the Council see the moose proposal. I
26 was going to ask you, Mike, if you want to just take a
27 look at it and introduce it and see if it's -- make
28 sure if it's what you had intended.

29

30 MR. DOUVILLE: Okay, I'm looking at
31 what's on -- that just came up on the screen and it
32 needs to scroll a little ways.

33

34 (Pause)

35

36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: So like I say what
37 I'm doing here is just kind of -- whoever suggested the
38 proposal I'm just kind of asking them to take a look at
39 it and make sure it's along the lines of what they were
40 looking for and then once we do that then we can make
41 it a motion and put it before the whole Council to
42 discuss. So that's what I'm trying to do here for
43 everybody when we get to the rest of them.

44

45 MR. DOUVILLE: Okay. Mr. Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Mike.

48

49 MR. DOUVILLE: I think what they're

50

0424

1 looking for is a Federal draw hunt for rural users in
2 Units 1 through 4 for rural -- let's not say any
3 particular units but for rural qualified hunters.
4

5 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. And I
6 think that's kind of implied being a Federal regulation
7 and our C&T determination is for all rural residents, 1
8 through 5, so under those conditions I think being a
9 Federal hunt would indicate that.

10

11 MR. DOUVILLE: Well, you can hunt but
12 what we're looking for is a Federal draw hunt for any
13 bull.
14

15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Ah, right, okay.
16

17 MR. DOUVILLE: You know I think it
18 would offer more subsistence opportunity without having
19 to like if you go hunting there now under current
20 regulations and not find a legal bull although there's
21 adequate numbers, there's no conservation issues or
22 anything, but it becomes kind of difficult to find the
23 exact right one.
24

25 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. So I'm
26 looking at the proposed language here and it doesn't
27 say -- make any mention of a drawing. It says, you
28 know, 20 bull moose, which in my understanding is any
29 bull moose, not necessarily the one antlered -- or
30 spike-fork 50 inch or three brow tine, all that
31 language, but it doesn't say by -- it says by Federal
32 permit but I think your intent was to have a drawing
33 for that permit, correct?
34

35 MR. DOUVILLE: That would be correct
36 although it would be adequate either way but I think it
37 would be more fair to have a draw hunt.
38

39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. I wouldn't
40 know how to do it otherwise actually so let's get --
41 let's get it before the Council as a motion and then if
42 we want to amend it we can do that.
43

44 MR. DOUVILLE: I will move to submit
45 this proposal.
46

47 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. All we need
48 is a second.
49
50

0425

1 MR. CASIPIT: This is Cal, I'll second.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cal.

4

5 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman, this is

6 Terry Suminski.

7

8 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, let's have

9 Terry explain what he's done here if you're the one who
10 wrote the proposal Terry.

11

12 MR. SUMINSKI: Yeah, thanks, Mr. Chair,
13 for the chance to explain. I was pretty tired when I
14 wrote this up to be honest with you. And I was really
15 struggling with having a draw permit on a population
16 that we have no population estimates for. So the
17 percentage idea wouldn't work because we don't know
18 what percent of, you know, how many animals. What
19 controls the population in this unit is the spike-fork
20 50, which allows just certain males to be taken.

21

22 So I think what we -- if we just -- the
23 problem with the way it's written, of course, is the --
24 you know, 20 bulls, they could be taken within the
25 first minute of the season and we'd have no way to stop
26 it quick enough. So I think this -- you could use the
27 same language and insert similar language that we have
28 in the elk draw permit, we'd have to modify it a little
29 bit, it might take a few minutes, but we could do that
30 if you want us to do that first before you try to, you
31 know, do it through Roberts Rules. If that would be
32 helpful, I could probably, 10, 15 minutes get it
33 cleaned up a little bit to make it clear of what Mike's
34 intent was.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Well, yeah, if you
39 think you can do that. It just -- you know, talking
40 about the number associated with it, I mean right now
41 it is an open hunt, there is no set quota. So that
42 makes it different from, like, Berners Boost -- or
43 Berners Bay moose where they set a quota and issue --
44 have a drawing for so many permits. So I guess I
45 realize that the 20 bulls is somewhat of an arbitrary
46 number although there's, you know, fairly consistently
47 been around 100 bulls harvested over a number of years.
48 So I mean that does seem like, for now, that's a pretty
49 reasonable number. It's close to that, you know, 25

50

0426

1 percent, that we've talked about in Berners Bay kind of
2 priority. Yes, I think there would have to be a
3 drawing to see who's qualified, or who's eligible to
4 shoot a moose that doesn't conform to the 50 inch
5 antler restriction. And that's -- I mean that's kind
6 of based -- I'd consult with Mike with this but it's
7 kind of based on the fact that the population is pretty
8 healthy, that spike-fork 50 inch, you know, three brow
9 tines all of that has been apparently pretty successful
10 in building a pretty good herd. So, you know, can we
11 take some of those as below that requirement and not do
12 any harm to the population. I guess that's the issue
13 before us.

14
15 And, I don't know, Mike, do you want to
16 add anything to that.

17
18 MR. DOUVILLE: No. It would have to --
19 in order to be successful, the analysis would have to
20 show you could do that. The other thing is you must
21 have a draw hunt in order to control the numbers,
22 otherwise, just a Federal permit, things could quite
23 easily get out of hand, and in fact probably would. So
24 a Federal draw hunt would strictly regulate how many.
25 20 is an arbitrary number, I guess, and the analysis
26 would tell you if it's okay or less or whatever. So,
27 yes, that's my thought.

28
29 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. And people
30 would have to keep in mind that the majority of the
31 hunters, probably overwhelming majority of the hunters
32 that take advantage of the moose hunt are Federally-
33 qualified.

34
35 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman, this is
36 Terry Suminski. Would you like -- maybe we could have
37 Greg edit on the screen or do you want me to do that
38 and you can put it back up.

39
40 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Is that something
41 that you can put up on the Teams screen?

42
43 MR. SUMINSKI: Yeah. Are you okay with
44 that Greg?

45
46 MR. DUNN: Hi, Mr. Chair, this is Greg.
47 I can do it all here on the screen, it's all good.

48
49 MR. SUMINSKI: Okay. If you can just
50

0427

1 clip that draw portion out of that elk draw permit we
2 can just modify that to get it tuned in for moose and
3 for this type of -- and then it would be.....

4

5 (Teleconference interference -
6 participants not muted - overlapping conversation)

7

8 MS. PERRY: Excuse me. Pardon me, Mr.
9 Chair. I just want to remind everybody to mute their
10 phones. If you can take just a second and make sure
11 that your phone is muted. We're getting some crosstalk
12 and unable to hear the conversation. Again, if you
13 don't have a mute button just press star six and then
14 if you need to speak press star six to unmute.

15

16 MR. SUMINSKI: Did you catch that,
17 Greg, just clip that draw paragraph out of the elk
18 proposal.

19

20 MR. DUNN: Thank you. I caught that
21 now.

22

23 MR. SUMINSKI: Okay, thanks.

24

25 (Pause)

26

27 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, this is Cal
28 Casipit. I'm not on Teams so I don't really see the
29 edits going on there but I'm okay with that. I trust
30 Staff and I trust the people that do have it on their
31 screen.

32

33 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: We will explain it
34 all, Cal, so just, yep, pay attention.

35

36 MR. CASIPIT: I did want to note
37 though, this thing that we're talking about, a draw for
38 any antlered bull, this isn't without precedence. We
39 did that for the Stik -- I know the Council did that
40 for the Stikine several years ago. I know it was
41 removed later because it was basically for --
42 apparently a lot of it was directed at getting antler
43 data for the Board of Game to reduce it from three brow
44 tines on one side to two brow tines on both sides. So
45 I know that went on. But having a draw permit in this
46 way with a companion antler restriction hunt going on
47 at the same time, that isn't without precedent and
48 we've done it before -- or the Council's done it
49 before, I should say.

50

0428

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
2 Cal. Yeah, while we're waiting for the actual wording
3 to come up, you know, if any other Council members have
4 questions or, you know, they understand what we're
5 doing well enough and want to weigh in that's fine.

6
7 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman, could I
8 just finish up with Greg here real quick.

9
10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Sure. Yeah, just
11 keep doing what you're doing there.

12
13 MR. SUMINSKI: Yeah, Greg, you can get
14 rid of that first sentence. It'd be one bull moose --
15 the first sentence there, yes, there you got it. Okay.
16 The one above annual harvest quota, so I think that
17 still works, and I would get rid of that last sentence.
18 And then I think that should get it.

19
20 Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thanks for your
21 patience.

22
23 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Things can kind of
24 get a little cumbersome when we're trying to do this
25 all on teleconference so I guess we just have to bear
26 with it here.

27
28 (Pause)

29
30 MR. SUMINSKI: And Greg you should add
31 the draw sample on there, that might have gotten
32 dropped.

33
34 (Pause)

35
36 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman, this is
37 Terry Suminski. I think we're done and ready for the
38 Council to weigh in. Thank you.

39
40 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thanks,
41 Terry. I guess it's going to come up on the Teams
42 screen, that's what we're waiting for, correct?

43
44 (Pause)

45
46 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: So.....

47
48 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, this is DeAnna,
49 it is on the Teams screen, and for those looking at it
50

0429

1 you'll see a red dash to the left of the language and
2 that shows where the new language was put in.

3

4 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, I'm sorry
5 I'm not seeing it on my screen.

6

7 MR. SLATER: Yeah, I'm not seeing it
8 either, DeAnna.

9

10 MS. PERRY: Are you not seeing the
11 proposal at all or you're just not seeing the edits?

12

13 MR. SLATER: No proposal at all.

14

15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: No proposal.

16

17 MS. PERRY: Okay. I think Greg's going
18 to try again, it was up on my screen. Let's see if the
19 second time's a charm.

20

21 (Pause)

22

23 MS. PERRY: And I can see it now, can
24 everyone else on Teams see it.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: No.

27

28 MR. SLATER: Not yet.

29

30 MR. SCHROEDER: I've got it. This is
31 Bob.

32

33 MS. PERRY: Perhaps as a work around we
34 can read off the language. I know folks probably have
35 the emailed version in front of them. We could kind of
36 explain it if -- I don't know why some people are
37 seeing it and some aren't.

38

39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah.

40

41 MR. DUNN: Excuse me, Mr. Chair, this
42 is Greg. If you guys are on your gallery Council
43 meeting -- it has the gallery that's usually up, if you
44 go to that one, because there's usually two screens
45 that come up, that's where you can see it at, not from
46 just the chat.

47

48 MS. PERRY: Are folks able to get that
49 up, did that work?

50

0430

1 MR. SLATER: No, not at this point. I
2 just see all of the initials, the different members.

3
4 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, that's what
5 I'm seeing.

6
7 MS. PERRY: Okay. We can verbally talk
8 about the new language and where it's inserted.

9
10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. DeAnna, my
11 screen is saying desktop sharing isn't supported in
12 your browser yet. I don't know why that is but maybe
13 that's a problem other people are having. I'm just
14 going to go back to the email and follow along and try
15 and see where the wording comes up.

16
17 MS. PERRY: Well, you were seeing the
18 ones previously, right?

19
20 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah. I don't
21 know what changed though.

22
23 MS. PERRY: Yeah, I know Teams is
24 really having some challenges this week. I noticed our
25 echo is back on the phone line.

26
27 (Pause)

28
29 MS. PERRY: So let's see.....

30
31 MR. SLATER: Hey, DeAnna.

32
33 MS. PERRY: Yes.

34
35 MR. SLATER: I just hung up on the
36 meeting and then rejoined and now I see it. So that
37 might work for you, Don.

38
39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, okay.

40
41 MR. JOHNSON: This is Ian. The only
42 other thing I could suggest is, Greg Dunn, it's his
43 screen that's sharing, so I would just click on his
44 user and try to highlight them within your Teams
45 program, it might bring up his screen that way. I'm
46 not sure if it will.

47
48 (Pause)

49
50

0431

1 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 MS. NEEDHAM: This is Cathy, and it
6 sounds like Don is trying the trick of hanging up and
7 calling back in so maybe I'll just try to move us
8 forward and step into his role for a few moments while
9 we're waiting for that. For those that can't see the
10 regulation, the words that were added -- we're looking
11 at a proposed Federal regulation here for Unit 2 moose.
12 The previous regulation language that we're keeping was
13 from September 15th to October 15th, one antlered bull
14 with spike fork or 50 inch antlers or three or more
15 brow tines on either antler or antlers with two brow
16 tines on both side by State registration permit only.

17

18 The added language would include on
19 Kupreanof and Kuiu up to 20 bull moose may be taken by
20 Federal draw permit. Harvest limit is one bull moose
21 per Federal draw permit. Only one bull moose permit
22 will be issued per household. A household receiving a
23 State draw permit for moose may not receive a Federal
24 permit. The annual harvest quota will be announced by
25 the USDA Forest Service Petersburg Ranger District
26 Office in consultation with the Alaska Department of
27 Fish and Game. Successful hunters are required to send
28 a photo of their moose antlers to the Alaska Department
29 of Fish and Game and a five inch section of lower jaw
30 with front teeth.

31

32 So that's the way the new language
33 read. And at this time are there any comments or
34 questions from the Council.

35

36 MR. CASIPIT: This is Cal. That part
37 where you read about if you have a State draw permit
38 you're ineligible for a Federal one. I don't think we
39 need that language because there is no State draw
40 permit. It's all a registration spike fork 50.

41

42 MR. SUMINSKI: This is Terry Suminski.
43 Thanks, Cal. I was contemplating that in case it did
44 go to a draw but it probably wouldn't be the same area
45 so I'd get rid of that sentence.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 MS. NEEDHAM: All right, thank you Mr.

50

0432

1 Casipit and Suminski. Are there any other comments
2 regarding the new proposed language from Council
3 members, comments or questions.

4
5 MR. DOUVILLE: Madame Chair.

6
7 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes, Mr. Douville.

8
9 MR. DOUVILLE: I know you submit a
10 lower jaw for elk but is that necessary for moose, to
11 include that.

12
13 MR. SUMINSKI: Through the Chair. Mr.
14 Douville. This is Terry Suminski. That's very common
15 in all the moose hunts we have in Southeast. It allows
16 animals to be aged, you know, to develop the age
17 structure of the herd.

18
19 MR. DOUVILLE: Okay, thank you.

20
21 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: And Cathy I am
22 back now and I did manage to get it up on my screen by
23 going in and out, or out and in again so thanks for
24 picking up the slack there.

25
26 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you.

27
28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: So any other
29 issues here that the Council wants to bring up on this
30 proposal.

31
32
33 (No comments)

34
35 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, then.....

36
37 MR. SCHROEDER: This is Bob Schroeder.
38 I note that the spike fork 50 requirement on this and
39 for that matter with some other hunts around the state,
40 basically has been a way to deal with making things
41 slightly more manageable. However, we never heard
42 testimony or anything from subsistence users saying
43 that they really want only really old bulls or only
44 really young bulls. So creating kind of a hybrid hunt
45 like this because in Unit 3 almost all the moose are
46 taken by subsistence users allows some access to the
47 permit system for some of the more tastier critters.
48 So I'd just make that note.

49
50

0433

1 Thank you.

2

3

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
4 Bob. And just as a reminder, we have a motion to put
5 the proposal forward in its original language so we do
6 need an amended motion as well at some point if this
7 language meets that need.

8

9

MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman, Terry
10 Suminski again. I just noticed that we may have to
11 make it clear that there's just one -- the limit is one
12 moose no matter whether you do the draw or the spike
13 fork 50 hunt. So I'm not sure exactly how to fix that
14 just yet.

15

16

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Let's see.

17

18

MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chair.

19

20

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead Mike.

21

22

23

24

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MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chair, where are we
at, do we have a motion on the floor or do we need one?

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: We have a motion
to put the original proposal forward but now that we've
amended the language we would need a new proposal [sic]
to accept the amendments. Or excuse me, a new motion.
I think you made the original motion, Mike.

0434

1 MR. DOUVILLE: Yeah.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. So you
4 would make the motion for the amendments if you think
5 they're good.

6

7 MR. DOUVILLE: I think they're fine. I
8 would like to make a motion include the amended
9 language.

10

11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you. I
12 can't remember who seconded.

13

14 MR. CASIPIT: This is Cal, I seconded.
15 I consent to those changes, it sounds good.

16

17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Any
18 other discussion on the amended motion.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Frank.....

23

24 MS. NEEDHAM: Question.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ:you want to
27 -- was that you Cathy.

28

29 MS. NEEDHAM: I just called for the
30 question.

31

32 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Frank,
33 do you want to do a roll call vote on the amendment.

34

35 MR. WRIGHT: Okay.

36

37 Cal Casipit.

38

39 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

40

41 MR. WRIGHT: This is on the amendment,
42 right?

43

44 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Correct.

45

46 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

47

48 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

49

50

0435

1 MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.

2

3 MR. SLATER: Yes.

4

5 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

6

7 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

8

9 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

10

11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

12

13 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

14

15 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

16

17 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

18

19 MR. KITKA: Yes.

20

21 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

22

23 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

24

25 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

26

27 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

28

29 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson.

30

31 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

32

33 MR. WRIGHT: Frank Wright votes yes.

34 Amendment passed, back to the main motion.

35

36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
37 Frank. Okay, we now have an amended motion before us,
38 any other discussion anybody has about the motion or
39 the amendment -- excuse me, the proposal as amended.

40

41 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

42

43 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

44

45 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
46 believe we've discussed this and provided in the
47 discussion, justification for this proposal -- putting
48 forward this proposal, even as we were amending the
49 language to assure that we're carefully considering and
50

0436

1 providing for a subsistence priority for Federally-
2 qualified subsistence users. So I'll support the main
3 motion.

4

5 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

6

7 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy,
8 that's good rationale, justification. Anybody else
9 want to add to that.

10

11 MR. CASIPIT: So I just wanted to use
12 the specific words for the record, but I believe that
13 this -- that putting forward this proposal will provide
14 for a meaningful priority for Federally-qualified
15 subsistence users who hunt on Kuiu and Kupreanof.

16

17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cal.

18

19 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chair.

20

21 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Are we ready for
22 the question -- one more comment.

23

24 MR. CASIPIT: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I'm
25 sorry this is Terry Suminski.

26

27 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Terry, go ahead.

28

29 MR. SUMINSKI: I think I have some
30 language so that people don't double up on permits --
31 just a second here. I think if we could insert in
32 there, in the second -- or the bold paragraph,
33 recipients of a Federal draw permit is not eligible for
34 a State permit.

35

36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

37

38 MR. SUMINSKI: Sorry about that. It's
39 kind of hard write regs on the fly.

40

41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah.

42

43 (Laughter)

44

45 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.
46 I move to amend the proposal to include recipients of a
47 Federal draw permit are not eligible for a State
48 permit.

49

50

0437

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

2 Cathy's putting forward a new amendment, do we have a
3 second.

4

5 MR. CASIPIT: Second. This is Cal with
6 a second.

7

8 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thanks, Cal.
9 Okay. Yeah, Terry worked on that and came up with some
10 additional language. I think, Terry, that does resolve
11 that issue. Any other Council members have comment on
12 that, question.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 MR. KITKA: Call for the question.

17

18 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

19 So.....

20

21 MR. DOUVILLE: Just a minute. Just a
22 minute, Mr. Chair, I have a question.

23

24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Mike.

25

26 MR. DOUVILLE: I would like the
27 rationale for not being qualified for a State draw
28 permit. If you are up in the -- if you had one of
29 these permits, not that you'd need two moose, but I
30 guess my question is is why would you add that in
31 there? And there would be some -- you know if you
32 apply for -- depending on when these draw permits
33 become available, same time as the State or -- you
34 certainly could apply for one and maybe get two permits
35 but there would be some conflict where you'd have to
36 forfeit one or the other. But, anyway, those are
37 questions I guess we could answer later but they did
38 come to mind.

39

40 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I don't know, do
41 you have a response, Terry, to that.

42

43 MR. SUMINSKI: Through the Chair. Mr.
44 Douville. Terry Suminski. Yeah, It was just simply
45 that if somebody got a draw permit, the chances are
46 pretty high that they'd find any bull and the remaining
47 -- the only other way you would be able to take a
48 moose in this unit is through the State registration
49 permit using the spike fork 50 provision. So for

50

0438

1 somebody that -- I guess it's just, you know, to
2 prevent people from taking two moose so they're better
3 shared, I guess.

4

5 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. And I
6 think what's important here is that anybody can get a
7 moose registration permit, you just go in and pick one
8 up, there's no restriction on it. So if you had one of
9 those in hand you would not be eligible to have a
10 Federal draw permit and a State permit both and you
11 could essentially be eligible for two moose so you'd
12 have to say that.....

13

14 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Mike.

17

18 MR. DOUVILLE: It's clear now. I was
19 confusing it with the State draw hunt, which doesn't
20 apply here. We're talking about registration. So,
21 okay, I'm good.

22

23 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: That's what I
24 realized. Okay, thanks, Mike. Any other discussion on
25 this amendment.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, so we have a
30 seconded amended motion made by Cathy and I think it
31 sounds like we're ready to vote on this amendment.

32

33 MR. KITKA: Call for the question,
34 Harvey.

35

36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Harvey.
37 Go ahead, Frank, you want to do a roll call on this
38 one.

39

40 MR. WRIGHT: Okay.

41

42 Ian Johnson.

43

44 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

45

46 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

47

48 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

49

50

0439

1 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

2

3 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

4

5 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

6

7 MR. KITKA: Yes.

8

9 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

10

11 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

12

13 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

14

15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

16

17 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

18

19 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

20

21 MR. WRIGHT: Bob Schroeder.

22

23 MR. SCHROEDER: Yes.

24

25 MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.

26

27 MR. SLATER: Yes.

28

29 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

30

31 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

32

33 MR. WRIGHT: Calvin Casipit.

34

35 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

36

37 MR. WRIGHT: Frank Wright votes yes.

38 Motion carried on amendment.

39

40 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.

41 So that puts the amended motion. Before us is the main

42 motion, one more opportunity for any comment on the

43 main motion.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Are we ready for

48 the question.

49

50

0440

1 MR. HOWARD: Question.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Albert.

4 Frank, one more time roll call on the main motion.

5

6 MR. WRIGHT: Okay.

7

8 Cal Casipit.

9

10 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

11

12 MR. WRIGHT: You heard it Cal.

13

14 MR. CASIPIT: Yes. Yes. Sorry.

15 There's so many fingers.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

20

21 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

22

23 MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.

24

25 MR. SLATER: Yes.

26

27 MR. WRIGHT: Bob Schroeder.

28

29 MR. SCHROEDER: Yes.

30

31 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

32

33 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

34

35 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

36

37 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

38

39 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

40

41 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

42

43 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

44

45 MR. KITKA: Yes.

46

47 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

48

49 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

50

0441

1 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

2

3 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

4

5 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson.

6

7 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

8

9 MR. WRIGHT: Frank Wright votes yes.

10 Motion carried.

11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.

13 Okay, we're going to take a break for lunch. When we
14 come back we'll take up the various proposals dealing
15 with Unit 4 deer and I believe that's all that's left
16 for us, but that's not a small thing. So we still have
17 several action items that we need to address for this
18 meeting, and I do want to allow some ample time for the
19 folks from Womens Earth and Climate Action Network to
20 make their presentation so we've got some work ahead of
21 us this afternoon.

22

23 DeAnna, I do want to check with you,
24 Wanda Culp was going to present for the WECAN group, is
25 she available all afternoon?

26

27 MS. PERRY: I will doublecheck. She
28 did want me to text her when we were getting up to that
29 agency report. I did see her on earlier so I can text
30 her and see her availability for the rest of the
31 afternoon -- oh, I just got a text they are available
32 so there's your answer.

33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.
35 Unfortunately I can't tell them, you know, a precise
36 time when we'll be looking for them but it sounds like
37 it will be into the afternoon, not right away so you
38 can let her know that.

39

40 MS. PERRY: Okay. I believe she's
41 monitoring.

42

43 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, very good,
44 thank you. Okay, we'll reconvene at 1:00 o'clock.

45

46 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair.

47

48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

49

50

0442

1 MS. PERRY: I would ask everybody to go
2 ahead and hang up and disconnect and I'll ask the
3 operator to break the line and dial up again. I'm
4 hoping we can get rid of the echo that we've been
5 experiencing all morning. So if we could all just go
6 ahead and hang up and the operator can disconnect the
7 line and then everybody dial back in when they're back
8 from lunch. Maybe we won't have our reverb going on
9 this afternoon, that would be helpful.

10

11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

12

13 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chair.

14

15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Mike.

16

17 MR. DOUVILLE: Yeah, I would request a
18 copy of this most recent proposal via emailed if it's
19 not too inconvenient for DeAnna.

20

21 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I'm sure she can
22 do that.

23

24 MS. PERRY: Yeah, I can go ahead and
25 send out all the ones that we've done so far.

26

27 MR. DOUVILLE: Okay, thank you. See
28 you after lunch.

29

30 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, have a good
31 break here, bye.

32

33 (Off record)

34

35 (On record)

36

37 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: DeAnna, maybe you
38 could go through the roll and see if we have a quorum
39 back.

40

41 MS. PERRY: Okay.

42

43 Alrighty, Harold Robbins.

44

45 MR. ROBBINS: Here.

46

47 MS. PERRY: Thank you.

48

49 Harvey Kitka.

50

0443

1 MR. KITKA: Here.

2

3 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Harvey.

4

5 Larry Bemis.

6

7 MR. BEMIS: Here.

8

9 MS. PERRY: Cathy Needham.

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 MS. PERRY: I think Cathy is back but
14 she's on another line, I just got a text, but she is
15 here.

16

17 Ian Johnson.

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 MS. PERRY: Frank Wright.

22

23 MR. WRIGHT: Here.

24

25 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Frank.

26

27 Cal Casipit.

28

29 MR. CASIPIT: Here.

30

31 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Cal.

32

33 Mike Douville.

34

35 MR. DOUVILLE: Here.

36

37 MS. PERRY: Thank you.

38

39 Jim Slater.

40

41 MR. SLATER: Here.

42

43 MS. PERRY: And Robert Schroeder did
44 let us know he would be out this afternoon.

45

46 Albert Howard.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50

0444

1 MS. PERRY: And, Don, I heard you.

2

3 Ian Johnson, have you joined us.

4

5 (No comments)

6

7 MS. PERRY: And I know Mr. Johnson's

8 had some meetings he's had to pop in and out for so

9 maybe he is out at one of those.

10

11 Albert Howard, have you joined us.

12

13 (No comments)

14

15 MS. PERRY: Okay. Mr. Chair, it looks

16 as though we have nine of your 12 members online. And

17 I did want to let you know I just got an update from

18 George Pappas. As we know the Board of Game meeting is

19 going on today and one of the things on their agenda is

20 Proposal 194 that this Council discussed yesterday.

21 That came up right before lunch and it looks like

22 they'll be deliberating that proposal when they come

23 back from lunch and hopefully George can give us an

24 update on what action they took a little bit later in

25 the meeting.

26

27 Over to you, Mr. Chair.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, DeAnna.

32 Okay, as I mentioned before we got started on our lunch

33 break we do have a number of business items to take

34 care of and what could be a lengthy presentation this

35 afternoon so we still have these wildlife proposals to

36 get through. And we had a lengthy discussion this

37 morning on kind of the, I guess, you could say the

38 merits of putting in these proposals, merits and

39 implications and all of that. I hope everybody's had a

40 chance to think about all of that for awhile now. And

41 I think the way I'm going to approach this is, is just

42 given the amount of time we've put in on this already

43 and how much time we have left. I'm going to take

44 about an hour to work on these four proposals left and

45 if the Council can't come up with some kind of

46 consensus on where we want to go with these, I'm afraid

47 I'm going to have to leave it up to the communities to

48 put in proposals, because I know they will, and, of

49 course, they will also get equal consideration but we

50

0445

1 do want to keep in mind that a proposal that comes from
2 the Council is generally viewed a little differently by
3 the Board because they know that we've put a lot of
4 time and effort into putting forward a proposal. So
5 everybody keep all of that in mind and.....

6
7 (Teleconference interference -
8 participants not muted)

9
10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ:any -- I'll
11 give a chance if anybody has any comments on that.

12
13 (No comments)

14
15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, very good.
16 Let's go to the proposals and I think I'll maybe like
17 to start with the one dealing with Lisianski Inlet. I
18 know we had a lot of testimony on that one and it might
19 be kind of the focus of our discussion and it might
20 kind of lead to what we do in the other areas west
21 Admiralty Island and Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use
22 Area. So.....

23
24 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

25
26 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, this is
27 Calvin.

28
29 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, go ahead,
30 Cal.

31
32 MR. CASIPIT: Didn't we already vote on
33 the Lisianski Inlet one, the Pelican one?

34
35 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, this Council has
36 done final action on that proposal. If the Council
37 would like to amend the previously adopted motion they
38 can but the Council has already voted on that proposal.

39
40 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, yeah, thank
41 you for reminding me of that. I don't know, did we
42 have this -- the language that the State wrote up
43 yesterday when we did this, I can't recall.

44
45 MR. SLATER: Yes. Mr. Chair, this is
46 Jim Slater. I integrated the language from Justin
47 Koller at that time. The only thing that was left that
48 we said that we would permit the Staff to do is to
49 adjust the lines, the definition of the line by a small
50

0446

1 amount to incorporate some harbors near the end of both
2 Lisianski Inlet and Lisianski Straits.

3

4 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. And I see
5 that as a separate proposal. Do we need to address
6 that now or what's your view on that.

7

8 MR. SLATER: I thought we said we were
9 going to leave that and trust the Staff and it would be
10 dealt with later on as it went through the review
11 process and I'm not sure exactly at what point,
12 somewhere down the line is what I remember, the
13 conversation, how that was going yesterday.

14

15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I see they
16 do have some language for us on that. Do we want to
17 clean that up at this time or leave that up to the ones
18 to.....

19

20 MR. SLATER: I'm find with your
21 recommendation. I sent Justin Koller the markers, or
22 the chart with lines on it today defining the
23 modifications and I'm not sure if he's had a chance to
24 look at that.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, I'll ask the
27 Staff. I think I see it in front of us here. I got it
28 in the email, I'll say.

29

30 MR. SLATER: Oh, okay, I'll check out
31 my email right now.

32

33 MS. PERRY: If I could insert. What I
34 sent was what we had on the screen yesterday when the
35 Council voted on the proposal. Jim, I don't think you
36 looped me into whatever you sent to Justin, but Justin,
37 just a couple minutes before we came back at 1:00
38 o'clock, asked me if that had been addressed and so I'm
39 not sure what conversation you two are having but the
40 Council does not have that in front of them.

41

42 MR. SLATER: I can forward it to you
43 right now. I sent it to Justin so he could put it in
44 the proposal and I thought the Council would reevaluate
45 at that point, later. Okay, it is on the way.

46

47 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman.

48

49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, somebody

50

0447

1 else.

2

3 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman, this is
4 Terry Suminski.

5

6 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Terry.

7

8 MR. SUMINSKI: Yeah, I was under the
9 impression that you took final action with the
10 understanding that Staff would just adjust those lines
11 before they were submitted, and that's what the
12 conversation was about so I don't think it's any
13 substantive change, it was just moving the line
14 slightly but the same concept and intent are there.

15

16 (Teleconference interference -
17 participants not muted - typing - cell phone)

18

19 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. It kind of
20 sounds like we can move on to a different proposal
21 then. Let's see, I'll ask is Albert back yet, I don't
22 think I heard Albert earlier.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, I don't
27 think I'm hearing Albert. So why don't we go to the
28 proposal that deals with the Northeast Chichagof
29 Controlled Use Area.

30

31 (Teleconference interference -
32 participants not muted - typing - cars)

33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: So I don't know if
35 either, Ian, if you or Frank want to explain that
36 proposal. I don't think we've dealt with that one yet,
37 I recall, I'm sorry I kind of lost track of where we
38 were yesterday. Some confusion on the Lisianski one.
39 But I believe we still have to deal with the Northeast
40 Chichagof Controlled Use Area proposal.

41

42 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, this is
43 Albert.

44

45 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Oh, hi, Albert.

46

47 MR. HOWARD: Okay, good, now you can
48 hear me.

49

50

0448

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yep. Yep, I hear
2 you. We'll get to your proposal shortly.

3
4 MR. HOWARD: Okay, thank you.

5
6 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yep.

7
8 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, this is Ian.
9 I apologize for missing roll call but I am here now.

10
11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: No problem, Ian.
12 Do you want to kind of present the initial discussion
13 here on the Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area
14 proposal.

15
16 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, I can and I would
17 -- actually I might open the floor to Frank really
18 quick because he did introduce it yesterday. Frank,
19 would you like to start into it or do you want me to do
20 it?

21
22 MR. WRIGHT: You can go ahead and do
23 it.

24
25 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

26
27 (Teleconference interference -
28 participants not muted - typing)

29
30 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Yeah, so the
31 issues that Frank brought up yesterday in regards to
32 kind of testimony or, you know, what we've been hearing
33 in the community. I guess the research -- the research
34 I did last night was to just -- and I think the
35 document that was passed out to you by DeAnna just
36 during the lunchtime here, that's not a very complete
37 document, it doesn't really -- but it was my thoughts
38 but it did pull some data from the 2016 subsistence
39 household surveys conducted by the State and reflected
40 what was brought forward, that about 30 percent of
41 households used less deer in 2016 and some households
42 citing just competition and the use of the road system
43 as primary things for those. I know there's some
44 difficulties in determining what the best management
45 mechanism for this and the proposed language that was
46 given to us from the Staff, and thank you Staff for
47 taking a shot at that, does like, you know, includes
48 this closure aspect which was, of course, debated this
49 morning and I think is probably part of the larger
50

0449

1 discussion that we need to have around these proposals.
2 But I might personally favor a bag limit change if we
3 think that's within our -- for non-Federally-qualified
4 subsistence users if that seems to be in our tool kit.

5

6 And then I did pull up the map in that
7 document that DeAnna just passed out, I had inserted
8 the map for the controlled use area which was
9 recommended by Cal yesterday and would incorporate the
10 entire road system on Federal lands that we're
11 referring to impacted by non-qualified Federal use --
12 for Federal use.

13

14 So, again, my document didn't really
15 look at the -- or the one passed out by DeAnna didn't
16 really look at the management mechanisms but does
17 provide further justification for the need for this
18 regulation.

19

20 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
21 Ian. Okay, I'm looking at the screen here. Let's see
22 any comments from the Staff on how they determined to
23 word this proposal.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Any questions on
28 it.

29

30 MR. SUMINSKI: Hi, Mr. Chair, this is
31 Terry Suminski. I just saw it scroll by and I'm
32 looking at it to see if this is the same version. It
33 looks like somebody added a map that was nice. Yeah,
34 you know, I just tried to capture what Frank said,
35 wanted it closed to non-Federally-qualified in the
36 Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area from October
37 15th to December 31st, pretty straightforward. It's
38 already a defined area in our regulations so it's --
39 yeah, I guess I'm prepared for any questions, thanks.

40

41 And if Mr. Johnson would like to add to
42 the justification, you know, it's the Council's
43 proposal so whatever your wish is.

44

45 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. Okay, I
46 think we're all clear on the intent and wording of the
47 proposal. Would somebody like to make a motion to put
48 this under consideration for the Council.

49

50

0450

1 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, make a
2 motion on the Northeast Chichagof Island deer proposal.

3
4 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.
5 Do we have a second.

6
7 MR. SLATER: This is Jim Slater, I
8 second it.

9
10 MR. JOHNSON: I'll second it.

11
12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I heard Jim
13 Slater is the second. Okay. So comments from the
14 Council, any further discussion on this or does it need
15 to be amended also, so go ahead.

16
17 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

18
19 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

20
21 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
22 I want to thank Ian for providing some additional
23 information to us. I had a chance to read it just
24 before we came back and I think it's exciting to have
25 him on the Council to be able to dig for this stuff
26 really fast and provide background information that we
27 might not otherwise get for developing these proposals.
28 He did mention that we might be open for a potential
29 reduction in bag limit on this for non-Federally-
30 qualified subsistence users, and so one question that I
31 would have is if he's given any thought to what that
32 reduction would look like. I would tend to favor a
33 reduction over a full closure until -- just because I
34 haven't heard that there's necessarily a conservation
35 concern, although I do remember from previous work with
36 this Council in the early days there used to be a
37 conservation concern in this particular area. So I
38 know the analysis will bring us more for that. But in
39 the materials that Mr. Johnson provided when it talks
40 about these harvest surveys that were done and what the
41 reason for not being able to harvest deer was, 36
42 percent of the respondents reported because it was lack
43 of effort and competition was listed but it was as
44 another potential reason for why they had a reduced
45 percentage in harvest out of this area over the past
46 year but I didn't see competition as necessarily being
47 the biggest issue, it sounds like there's a lot of
48 things going on there.

49
50

0451

1 So I'd like to entertain a potential
2 reduction in bag limit for non-Federally-qualified
3 users and would defer our members from Hoonah if they
4 think that that's appropriate, an appropriate more
5 conservative way to go with this particular proposal
6 and if so what that reduction might be.

7

8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.
11 Before we go about making amendments let's ask some of
12 the locals what they think about that.

13

14 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Frank.

17

18 MR. WRIGHT: I agree with the reduction
19 of the non -- people that aren't supposed to be here.
20 Anyway I'm not quite sure how to go about saying how
21 many deer because, you know, when a ferry comes in and
22 there's truckloads going out of Hoonah that means they
23 must have a full six deer so I would prefer at least
24 cut it in half or less, something like that.

25

26 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
29 Frank. Anybody else with an opinion on that.

30

31 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

32

33 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

34

35 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I heard Cathy
36 first and then somebody else. Go ahead, Cathy.

37

38 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
39 You know when we put the proposal forward for the
40 reduction of bag limit to non-Federally-qualified
41 subsistence users for Unit 2 deer, we had been hearing
42 for years the -- from subsistence users from numerous
43 communities within that unit regarding the issues for
44 Federally-qualified subsistence users to be able to
45 obtain deer and the amount of competition pressure that
46 was given on that population and because we actually
47 were working on that particular issue for years before
48 we took proposal action, the Alaska Department of Fish
49 and Game was able to give us harvest survey numbers to

50

0452

1 let us know what the normal harvest for non-Federally-
2 qualified subsistence users were and then when we
3 decided on a bag limit it was based on that we were
4 reducing opportunity for non-Federally-qualified
5 subsistence users to harvest there but that they would
6 still be able to get one or two deer so that regulation
7 that this Council put forward that passed the Federal
8 Subsistence Board process was to limit harvest to two
9 deer by non-Federally-qualified subsistence users.

10

11 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.
14 And you're correct. There were some good survey
15 numbers and it did show that non-Federally-qualified
16 users, on average, despite the fact that there was a
17 four deer bag limit, typically harvested around two
18 deer. So that influenced our decision there. And I'm
19 guessing that there's probably that same type of
20 information available in Unit 4. I think they do mail-
21 out surveys there as well. So don't know what that
22 number is but we can certainly, at some point look at
23 that. I don't know if we'd have to get an exact number
24 in the regulation, in the proposal right now, I mean,
25 you know, we can adjust as we get more information from
26 our analysis. So I'd say just pick a reduction and go
27 from there.

28

29 So somebody else wanted to make a
30 comment, I didn't hear who that was.

31

32 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, that was Ian.

33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Ian.

35

36 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, just in line with
37 Frank, I thought an appropriate action would be the
38 reduction. I'm also unsure of the correct number to
39 ask for but I mean three seems like it should be the
40 max but, yeah, I don't have any background or ability
41 to advise on a number exactly.

42

43

44 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. If
45 somebody's ready to put forward an amended motion now
46 might be the time.

47

48 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman, sorry for
49 interrupting again, this is Terry.

50

0453

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Terry.

2

3 MR. SUMINSKI: You may want to consider
4 the Prince of Wales regulation specifies male deer. I
5 know on Prince of Wales that under State regs you can't
6 harvest does on Prince of Wales but you can in Unit 4.
7 Just something to consider if you want to go to bucks
8 only or leave it any deer.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right, thank you,
13 Terry. That is an option to add to the proposal to
14 consider what people think about that, but if anybody's
15 ready to offer up an amendment, an amended proposal go
16 ahead.

17

18 MR. SLATER: Mr. Chair.

19

20 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead.

21

22 MR. SLATER: Hi, Mr. Chair, this is Jim
23 Slater. I would just like to ask Mr. Suminski, how has
24 the bag limit reduction to two on Prince of Wales in
25 Game Unit 2, how has that worked, what effect have you
26 seen, have you seen less hunters, have you seen less
27 deer, what is the end result. I guess I don't know
28 when it went into play, I don't know how long it's been
29 en force. But I'm just curious what the result has
30 been.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 MR. SUMINSKI: Through the Chair. Mr.
35 Slater, I don't live on Prince of Wales. I don't
36 experience, you know, what may have changed due to
37 that. It might be better to direct that question to
38 Mr. Douville.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 MR. SLATER: Mr. Douville, do you have
43 any information along those lines?

44

45 MR. DOUVILLE: I don't remember all of
46 your questions but it is difficult to enforce.
47 However, we have less hunters it appears. I've also
48 looked at the Facebook deer groups and, you know, for
49 the last couple of years, several of them have

50

0454

1 recommended not coming over here, but we also have less
2 deer. And a healthy wolf population so that has all
3 had an effect, it's not just wolf that is an issue
4 here, it's second growth closing in under story going
5 away. So the deer harvest here still appears to be
6 going down hill. But in our case there's a lot of
7 private and State land mixed amongst the Federal land
8 so while the regulation is in place it's difficult to
9 really enforce.

10

11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, I could
12 weigh in on that as well, Mike. And, yeah, Tom
13 Schumacher, when he kind of ran through his run down on
14 the previous hunting season, he did make note of the
15 fact that there did appear to be a good bit of effort
16 from off island hunters in Unit 2 this past year after
17 we instituted that reduction. And, you know, it's kind
18 of two factors. For the previous several years the
19 success rate for all hunters has been going down on
20 Prince of Wales, and at the same time that area close
21 to Ketchikan, Unit 1A, has seen an increase in deer and
22 an increase in effort, and there's still a four deer
23 bag limit in Unit 1A as I recall. So just through -- I
24 don't know if it was necessarily through our regulation
25 or just the fact that deer hunting is beginning to
26 improve closer to Ketchikan and people coming over
27 here, but there was a definite decrease in the number
28 of off island hunters hunting here in the last --
29 actually probably in the last two years now. So like I
30 say it's hard to say if the regulation change alone but
31 it could have been an influence.

32

33 The other thing is when you have a
34 situation where you have a lesser bag limit in one area
35 than the other, if let's say somebody were to shoot a
36 deer in Unit 1A early in the season and they had a tag
37 punched, if they came to Prince of Wales they would
38 only have one tag available to harvest over here and
39 they would still have three tags available for harvest
40 over in Unit 1A. So when you have different bag limits
41 in different areas, when you shoot your deer also has a
42 big influence on where you decide to hunt. So it's not
43 worth coming over here, make that long trip on the
44 ferry and all that's involved if you've only got one
45 tag. So there's factors.

46

47 But overall we've definitely seen less
48 effort in Unit 2 since the regulation.

49

50

0455

1 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Frank.

4

5 MR. WRIGHT: I think that, you know, I
6 was looking at the proposal a little while ago and it
7 was saying shooting does even in September to end of
8 December and I don't think that -- that didn't sit well
9 with me and if we're going to have non-residents hunt I
10 think they should only stick with bucks and a limit to
11 two.

12

13 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14

15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.
16 So that offers up a suggestion for an amendment to the
17 motion. So I don't know if you're ready to make that
18 motion but you could.

19

20 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, I would like to make
21 that an amendment to the main motion on having non-
22 residents, only bucks and reduction, and does -- have
23 to figure out what date. Yeah. Reduction of -- yeah,
24 I'm trying to figure when to put the does in because I
25 don't like people to shoot does.

26

27 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right.

28

29 MR. WRIGHT: So I'm lost right now.

30

31 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, I'd like Mr.
32 Wright to clarify if he means non-Federally-qualified
33 users or non-residents, and when I say non-residents, I
34 think we're talking about not from Alaska and non-
35 Federally-qualified users is a little bit.....

36

37 MR. WRIGHT: Federally-qualified users
38 -- non-Federally-qualified users.

39

40 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you.

41

42 MR. WRIGHT: And only bucks -- non-
43 Federally-qualified users only bucks and then no does.

44

45 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

46

47 MR. WRIGHT: That would be the
48 amendment to the proposal.

49

50

0456

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you,
2 Frank. Maybe before we ask for a second, I think the
3 Staff has been changing that regulation on the screen
4 as we speak here with the amended language, I think
5 that's what I'm seeing.

6
7 (Pause)

8
9 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, now I see it
10 reads, unless otherwise restricted, non-Federally-
11 qualified users may only harvest up to two male deer in
12 the Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area.

13
14 MR. WRIGHT: Yes.

15
16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. I don't
17 know, are you looking at that Frank?

18
19 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, I'm okay with that.

20
21 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Would you
22 like to make that your motion to amend it to that
23 language?

24
25 MR. WRIGHT: Yes, that would be the
26 amended language. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

27
28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.
29 Now, do we have a second on that.

30
31 MR. HOWARD: Second.

32
33 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, I heard a
34 second. Further discussion on the amendment.

35
36 MR. CASIPIT: This is Cal Casipit. I'm
37 at a little bit of a disadvantage because I don't --
38 I'm not signed into the Teams thing. So those changes
39 are in addition to the time closure as well?

40
41 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, that was --
42 I wasn't quite sure about the time closures myself so
43 if anyone could make any recommendation that'd be good.

44
45 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Cal, to answer
46 your question as it's written now there is no time
47 distinction, it's just two deer for the season which is
48 September 15th to.....

49
50

0457

1 MR. WRIGHT: December 31st.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I don't see the
4 whole thing. I don't see what State regulations are
5 for non-subsistence.....

6

7 MR. CASIPIT: You're miss -- I guess
8 I'm not being clear. The part that says Federal public
9 lands in the Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area
10 are closed to deer hunting October 15 to December 31
11 except by Federally-qualified subsistence users hunting
12 in the regulations, is that still in there or has that
13 been replaced by the change in the bag limit?

14

15 MR. WRIGHT: That's staying in there.

16

17 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, could I just
18 read it out really quick. Cal, this is Ian. So right
19 now it reads:

20

21 Six deer, however, female deer may be
22 taken from September 15th to January 31st unless
23 otherwise restricted, non-Federally-qualified users may
24 only harvest up to two male deer in the Northeast
25 Chichagof Controlled Use Area.

26

27 That's the entire statement.

28

29 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. I do have
30 one question and I thought I heard earlier that right
31 now in Unit 4 the non-Federally-qualified users, do
32 they have a different length season that ends January
33 31st or did that get extended by the State to January
34 31st.

35

36 MR. WRIGHT: I don't know.

37

38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: That's a question
39 for the Staff.

40

41 MR. SUMINSKI: I could look it up to be
42 sure -- this is Terry Suminski. I could look it up to
43 be sure but I'm pretty the State season ends December
44 31st -- August 1st to December 31st but I'll
45 doublecheck that.

46

47 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I'm
48 thinking that date might have to be extended to this
49 proposal, different than the January 31st date.

50

0458

1 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman, this is
2 Terry Suminski. I don't think there's any need to put
3 any dates in there. I think that would just add
4 confusion. Because you only want people to take two
5 from that area, it doesn't really matter when they take
6 them, especially bucks so unless you want to go back to
7 closing a complete date range then that's different.

8
9 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

10
11 MR. SUMINSKI: But the dates don't make
12 sense with the reduced bag limit requirement.

13
14 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
15 Terry. I'll go with your idea.

16
17 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, that makes sense.

18
19 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

20
21 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, now that I've
22 been cleared up on what the proposed Federal regulation
23 is I'm ready for the question on the amendment. I was
24 just a little confused because I'm not -- I don't have
25 the screen.

26
27 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
28 Cal. I will ask are there any other Council members
29 that have questions on this amended language.

30
31 (No comments)

32
33 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, Frank, I
34 think we are ready for the vote on the amendment, if
35 you do want to do a roll call vote.

36
37 MR. WRIGHT: Okay.

38
39 Cal.

40
41 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

42
43 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

44
45 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

46
47 MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.

48
49 MR. SLATER: Yes.

50

0459

1 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

2

3 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

4

5 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

6

7 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

8

9 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

10

11 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

12

13 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

14

15 MR. KITKA: Yes.

16

17 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

18

19 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

20

21 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

22

23 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

24

25 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson.

26

27 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

28

29 MR. WRIGHT: Frank votes yes.

30 Amendment passed.

31

32 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
33 Frank. So now we have the amended motion before us and
34 approved, one last chance for any more discussion on
35 the proposed amendment.

36

37 MR. WRIGHT: Isn't that the main motion
38 or proposed.

39

40 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: No, this is for
41 the main motion now as amended.

42

43 MR. WRIGHT: Okay.

44

45 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

46

47 MR. WRIGHT: Question.

48

49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Cathy, go ahead.

50

0460

1 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
2 will support the submission of this proposal. I'd like
3 to thank the proponents that brought this before the
4 Council for considering not entirely closing off
5 harvest to non-Federally-qualified subsistence users
6 and addressing it with a bag limit. I'm going to
7 support submission of this proposal but I do want to,
8 again, voice my somewhat hesitancy and I hope that it
9 works itself out in the process down the line. The
10 reason why I'm hesitant is I just feel like we haven't
11 had an overwhelming -- we worked a lot of years on the
12 reduction that we needed to do in Unit 2 and we had a
13 lot of testimony from a lot of Federally-qualified
14 subsistence users as well as non-Federally-qualified
15 subsistence users and we had data before us before we
16 even put a crafted proposal forward that we felt that
17 would meet the needs of all users in that unit and I am
18 really hesitant because I feel like we haven't
19 necessarily done that due diligence but I understand
20 that this is a -- that we're only voting to submit this
21 and I think we'll know a lot more in the fall after an
22 analysis is done, you know, if this is actually
23 addressing the needs and the intent of Federally-
24 qualified subsistence users in and around the area of
25 Hoonah.

26
27 And so for justification for putting
28 this -- submitting this proposal is, this proposal does
29 address a concern that has been brought to our
30 attention by residents of Hoonah at this meeting and
31 that have asked us to do that and we've worked through
32 the parts and pieces of it so I feel comfortable voting
33 to submit the proposal.

34
35 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

36
37 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.
38 Any other Council members want to make a comment on
39 this proposal.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Are we ready for
44 the question.

45
46 MR. JOHNSON: Question. This is Ian,
47 question.

48
49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, question's
50

0461

1 been called for. Frank would you do a roll call vote
2 please.

3
4 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson.

5
6 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

7
8 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

9
10 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

11
12 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

13
14 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

15
16 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

17
18 MR. KITKA: Yes.

19
20 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

21
22 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

23
24 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

25
26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

27
28 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

29
30 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

31
32 MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.

33
34 MR. SLATER: Yes.

35
36 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

37
38 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

39
40 MR. WRIGHT: Cal Casipit.

41
42 (No comments)

43
44 MR. WRIGHT: Cal.

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 MR. WRIGHT: Frank Wright votes yes.

49 Motion passed.
50

0462

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
2 Frank. Okay, in my count I think we have one more
3 proposal before us, the west Admiralty proposal put
4 forward by Albert. Am I correct, that that's the only
5 other proposal or I have lost track. Who's keeping
6 track here, DeAnna.

7

8 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chair, this is Terry
9 Suminski, that's the last one.

10

11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
12 Terry. Okay. Hopefully we'll be able to get some
13 wording up on the screen for that proposal and then
14 we'll ask Albert to take a look at that and see if
15 that's the intent he had. Hopefully, Albert, you can
16 see that. I see there's some points left blank that
17 need to be filled in so that's something to deal with.
18 But other than that, how do we feel about how this
19 proposal's been written up by the Staff.

20

21 (Pause)

22

23 MR. HOWARD: It looks good to me, Mr.
24 Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
27 Albert.

28

29 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chair, Terry
30 Suminski again.

31

32 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Terry.

33

34 MR. SUMINSKI: Yeah, the -- I know Mr.
35 Howard you wanted the west side of Admiralty but I
36 wasn't really sure exactly where but what I was
37 thinking if you want -- I was hoping to get some input
38 from you about maybe how far people from Angoon ranged,
39 and maybe pick a point-- a point north and a point
40 south that would more define an area or if you didn't
41 want to do that, I don't know, I can't remember the
42 name of the point at the south tip of the island by
43 MernaCove (ph) but, you know, and then the point up at
44 the top but I just kind of left that open for you to
45 just -- just to give you some flexibility in how much
46 of the area draining into Chatham you would like to
47 cover.

48

49 Thank you.

50

0463

1 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, go ahead,
4 Albert.

5

6 MR. HOWARD: I have GPS coordinates for
7 the most northern point I'd like to see this closure
8 happen and just south of Greens Creek. And it's
9 consistent with us, and our concerns with what's
10 happening in the Hawk Inlet area, we won't even go near
11 that. So I guess in a way they can have it and then
12 they'll understand our concerns with Greens Creek as
13 well.

14

15 So the GPS coordinates I'm considering
16 and looking at is 58.588763, and 134810218, and that's
17 the northern end on the west side. It's directly
18 across from Point Augusta.

19

20 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Do you have
21 a point or coordinate for the southern boundary Albert.

22

23 MR. HOWARD: The numbers
24 57.016020/134.8614770.

25

26 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman, this is
27 Terry Suminski again.

28

29 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Terry.

30

31 MR. SUMINSKI: Albert, is it possible
32 to -- is there a named point near those that we could
33 use just to make it similar.

34

35 MR. HOWARD: Point Gardner.

36

37 MR. SUMINSKI: I mean (indiscernible)
38 that may not have a GPS unit, or at least be able to
39 see it easier on a map.

40

41 MR. HOWARD: And you can look at it on
42 Google. You can go to Google, click on the point and
43 it'll show you exactly what the coordinates are. This
44 is Point Gardner is the southern end.....

45

46 MR. SUMINSKI: Okay.

47

48 MR. HOWARD:well, the west side
49 of Point Gardner because we've been down there,

50

0464

1 President Frank and I have hunted as far as Point
2 Gardner this year because there was -- and people are
3 going to talk about conservation concerns, there was no
4 deer on the northern end for us to get.

5

6 MR. SUMINSKI: Would it be acceptable
7 to you if we just used the name of the point rather
8 than GPS?

9

10 MR. HOWARD: Yes, that's fine.

11

12 MR. SUMINSKI: Okay. And what -- so
13 that's the southern, what's the northern point?

14

15 MR. HOWARD: I used to know all these
16 names when I was seining but.....

17

18 MR. SUMINSKI: Now, you're all
19 computerized.

20

21 MR. HOWARD: Right. But it's directly
22 across from Point Gardner. Maybe Mr. Wright knows that
23 place. The only thing Google's giving me right now is
24 GPS coordinates.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Frank, do you have
27 a name for that point that Albert's referring to?

28

29 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, there's a name for
30 it but they've closed seining down so long I forgot
31 about it.

32

33 (Laughter)

34

35 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Well, for the
36 purposes of this we can always add that later.

37

38 MR. WRIGHT: It's just a little south
39 of.....

40

41 MR. HOWARD: It's south of Hawk Inlet,
42 it's the next point right after Hawk Inlet.

43

44 MR. WRIGHT: It's on the tip of my
45 tongue, gee.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: We can add that

50

0465

1 in, it's not a big deal. So Albert, do you think this
2 proposal is ready for a motion to put forward.

3
4 MR. HOWARD: I think so.

5
6 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. If you want
7 to go ahead and do that.

8
9 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chair, I move that we
10 submit this proposal for consideration.

11
12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you.
13 Second.

14
15 MR. JOHNSON: Second.

16
17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, I heard a
18 second, I think from Ian. So, okay, it's now on the
19 table for discussion.

20
21 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Howard, this is
22 Terry Suminski again, is that Point Larson?

23
24 MR. HOWARD: Yes, exactly. I was going
25 to say that but then I didn't want to throw Mr. Wright
26 off.

27
28 (Laughter)

29
30 MR. SUMINSKI: A seiner should know
31 that point.

32
33 MR. HOWARD: Exactly. I think I lived
34 there for two weeks one time.

35
36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I guess my
37 question to Albert is, is Albert, kind of decided to go
38 with a bag limit reduction in the Hoonah area, do you
39 want to consider that or do you want to stick with a
40 full closure to non-Federally-qualified?

41
42 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman. Just to
43 fully disclose this to the Council, I did post this on
44 Facebook last night to get input and it had the
45 reaction I expected, people that don't come and talk to
46 us are now talking to us, and people that wouldn't
47 consider this are now thinking well maybe we should
48 have considered it in the past. Mr. Chairman, I have a
49 history of submitting proposals while not -- six years
50

0466

1 ago the tribe ACA submitted two proposals, Kootznoowoo
2 submitted two proposals and the city of Angoon
3 submitted two so a total of six proposals went to the
4 Board of Fish and none of them were considered. The
5 only one they allowed and put on the floor was the
6 total closure to salmon seining in Chatham Strait. Why
7 would you put that one on the floor for consideration
8 because you know that one for sure is -- everyone's
9 going to shake their head and say no way. All the
10 other proposals, the other five had -- and probably
11 would have passed but I think our frustration in Angoon
12 is not being heard, or not being considered when
13 starting a new fishery or when starting something that
14 seems to generate funds for the State no one considers
15 what that does to a community like Angoon.

16
17 One of the comments was surprising to
18 me, a person I've never met before, I guess they have a
19 history of hunting bear on Admiralty Island but I can
20 honestly say I don't know who they are. They were
21 saying that what I'm doing is based on emotion and not
22 science. They also stated that the January hunt,
23 according to the Fish and Game, mostly fawns and does
24 were being taken. I taught my sons this years ago and
25 I learned it from my dad and my brother, all deer look
26 the same when you're looking from a boat but if you
27 look through the scope and you look at the nose of the
28 deer, if it's real short it's a fawn. So even my sons
29 know, we'll get up and move on. Mr. Chairman, I know
30 in the record I spoke of I believe last year I was out
31 on a hunt and a lot of the deer were skinny and I
32 passed on them and I finally found one that didn't look
33 like it was in bad shape so I took it home but I
34 skipped out on a lot of deer and I never consider fawns
35 even if I am starving. So I know what -- I've been
36 pushing this rock up the hill and what's happening in
37 Chatham does keep me awake at night because I know this
38 is a resource that has provided for this community
39 forever. You heard Mr. Wright speak of his ties to the
40 area around Hoonah. I served on the city council and
41 one of the favorite things of some of the locals here
42 to do is to tell me traditionally I'm not from Angoon
43 because my mother is Raven Sea Pigeon which is from
44 Hoonah. One of the elders asked if that was the case,
45 did this person really get up and say I'm not from
46 Angoon and I told him, yes, he tied me to this land, my
47 grandfather. The person my dad named me after, Albert
48 Howard had a fort in Cheiek, it's just south of Angoon
49 on Admiralty Island so I have blood ties to this land,
50

0467

1 not necessarily through our Tlingit way because my
2 grandfather was Deisheetan (ph), but through my dad.

3

4

5 So when I put something like this
6 forward it's meaningful to the community and we get it,
7 we understand. We know the consequences of it. Every
8 time we try to do something reasonable and make sense
9 to Angoon residents the Fish and Game shows up, every
10 time. It's almost on a level of harassment. If we get
11 caught with one king salmon, you're in a lot of
12 trouble. Yet the draggers out on the west are allowed
13 bycatch 30 to 40,000 pounds and we just want one.

13

14

15

16

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0468

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Are you there,
2 Frank?
3
4 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah.
5
6 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, question's
7 been called for on this proposal.
8
9 MR. WRIGHT: Calvin Casipit.
10
11 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.
12
13 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.
14
15 (No comments)
16
17 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.
18
19 (No comments)
20
21 MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.
22
23 MR. SLATER: Yes.
24
25 MR. DOUVILLE: Mike Douville's here,
26 yes.
27
28 MR. WRIGHT: Okay.
29
30 Albert Howard.
31
32 MR. HOWARD: Yes.
33
34 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.
35
36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.
37
38 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.
39
40 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.
41
42 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.
43
44 MR. KITKA: Yes.
45
46 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.
47
48 MR. BEMIS: Yes.
49
50

0469

1 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

2

3 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

4

5 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson.

6

7 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

8

9 MR. WRIGHT: Frank votes yes. Motion
10 passed.

11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you
13 Council members. Good work. I'm glad we got through
14 those. So we can move on. And I will -- I would like
15 to go to the presentation from WECAN if they are ready.
16 If they are not ready I'll move on to maybe one other
17 item of business but I would like to get to them if
18 they're ready.

19

20 MS. SAWERS CONTRERAS: Hi, we're ready.

21

22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Yes, so who
23 is there and who will we be listening to and introduce
24 yourselves and we'll get started.

25

26 MS. SAWERS CONTRERAS: My name is
27 Rebekah Sawers Contreras and I will be speaking first
28 and then I'll be handing it over to Wanda Culp.

29

30 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

31

32 MS. SAWERS CONTRERAS: My name is
33 Rebekah Sawers Contreras and I'm a part of Womens Earth
34 Climate Action Network and I am a member of the Hoonah
35 Indian Association. Because the United States is One
36 Nation Under God I want to start by saying, you and I
37 are living in a nation built on dehumanizing. Doctrine
38 of discovery. These are the foundations on which your
39 ancestors and your current self and system are still
40 holding accountable to this day. American exploitive
41 Colonial violence across indigenous territory. It is
42 now 200 years later and we are bringing the same
43 interpretation. We come to you, the Federal
44 Subsistence Board, whose voice is supposed to make a
45 difference in representing, but when it comes to our
46 indigenous issues no one is accountable. Here we are
47 two years later saying the same thing and yet no one is
48 accountable.

49

50

0470

1 I want to be accountable that you know
2 that you and I are made up of elements, mostly carbon,
3 oxygen, hydrogen and nitrogen, just as this earth is
4 made of these elements. The atmosphere, the stars are
5 also made of these elements. And I want you to know
6 that only 36 percent of our earth, of our body remains.
7 66 percent, over half of our earth is exploited. Even
8 the predicted two degree increase in the next few years
9 will hurt everyone and everything.

10

11 We are sharing our indigenous intellect
12 today. We are declaring indigenous sovereignty on our
13 territory. The indigenous people are, have been, will
14 be permanent inhabiting and we are connected by
15 history, culture and commonality. Our indigenous
16 populations and institutions are thriving. We are in
17 talks today of setting things straight for our future
18 to survive. Not only survive, but to be successful.
19 Because of our permanent sovereign state on this
20 territory and knowledge and commonality, it is clear
21 that the current Colonial state in charge has destroyed
22 66 percent of the natural life over the past 200 years.
23 And we will no longer sit back and allow you to
24 monetize and compare everything but yourselves in this
25 ecosystem. Compare that all agencies are in favor of
26 industry. Compare your nation to our nation. Compare
27 your symbols. Compare your ideas. Compare your uses.
28 Compare your interpretations. Compare your resource
29 standpoints. Compare your assets. People in higher
30 positions have done nothing but justify punishing,
31 wages and criminalizing indigenous people. Compare the
32 punishment the male non-Native artist got for
33 exploiting indigenous art to the Native artist charged
34 for participating in the Marine Mammal Protection Act.
35 To this day I see no shame in exploitation, instead you
36 camouflage exploiting in words like sustainability or
37 blank works for Alaska. Agriculture. Subsistence.
38 Economy. Rural and urban. With 36 percent of natural
39 world left I find it illogical to continue to exploit
40 on this territory. I do not trust your validation on
41 the structure you claim. From the Roadless Rule
42 situation to corporations in charge of Native cultural
43 programs at National Parks instead of indigenous
44 tribes. The structure of the Marine Mammal Protection
45 Act is clearly not protecting the marine mammals and is
46 totally for the exploitations of industrial society.

47

48 We are here interpreting, defining and
49 justifying our grandparents ancestors way of life,
50

0471

1 indigenous concepts. The ownership of our inhabitants
2 is recognized nationally and internationally. With our
3 cultural knowledge I put my trust in full participation
4 in dissimilation and expanding Tlingit and Haida's
5 social service's obligations to cover land management,
6 natural resources and management of food sovereignty,
7 alongside housing and general services and education.
8 Grassroots tribal reports the future is ours to
9 envision and inhabit.

10

11 We appreciate you listening to our
12 interpretations of NEPA, ANILCA and ANCSA today, and
13 here is Wanda Culp.

14

15 MS. CULP: Gunalcheesh Rebekah. And
16 Gunalcheesh to everybody that's working these last
17 couple of days. I know it's been a tedious affair and
18 I'm grateful for the time we have right now.

19

20 (In Tlingit)

21

22 MS. CULP: I'm also a member of the
23 Hoonah Indian Association and a member of the Womens
24 Earth and Action Climate Network.

25

26 WECAN Tongass' concept serves to
27 reverse the downplay of tribal history and governing
28 and create a language of inclusion equally weighted in
29 value to industries, society. A new frame must be
30 created through indigenous prescription and
31 interpretation of laws intended for National, tribal,
32 land conservation and environmental protection.

33

34 The food sovereignty proposal concept
35 being presented to you is rooted in indigenous
36 intellect. We are seeking traditional natural resource
37 security for healthy communities, land, air, waters and
38 climate justice. This concept rides on the U.S.
39 Constitution, laws of the land and our intelligence.
40 Every one of us plays an important role. Federally-
41 recognized tribes are legal instruments of our National
42 government. ANILCA holds 229 recognized tribal village
43 governments within a land mass of 420 million acres of
44 1959 State of Alaska, 1971 Alaska Native Settlement and
45 U.S. Federal lands where about 14 Federal agencies
46 conduct Uncle Sam's affairs. Five of those Federal
47 agencies are Congressionally composed of the Federal
48 Subsistence Board and administered by two Secretaries,
49 Interior and Agriculture. Additionally, the Federal

50

1 Subsistence Board dual manages subsistence by
2 outsourcing the use of State and Federal law
3 enforcements and associated with courts without an
4 established due process capability for those of us
5 charged for illegal hunting and fishing. The Federal
6 Subsistence Board uses State of Alaska's 10 game units
7 under its sportfish and game laws. The State of Alaska
8 is out of legal compliance of the Alaska National
9 Interest Lands Conservation Act called ANILCA, along
10 with other land conservation laws. The 1971 Alaska
11 Native Claims Settlement Act, ANCSA, created 12 Alaska
12 Native regions. The 1980 ANILCA is a compromise of
13 ANCSA. All associated programs should be managed
14 within these 12 Federally-recognized Native regions for
15 uniformity, simplicity, and expediency. In 1969 the
16 Interior's Environmental Protection Agency became the
17 parent for the National Environmental Protection Act,
18 NEPA, requiring an environmental impact statement for
19 any major Federal actions on public and Indian owned
20 lands for review and comment. The U.S. EPA's
21 responsibility includes management of natural resource
22 use and protections. It makes sense for this agency to
23 become a part of the Federal Subsistence Board. The
24 2020 industry and foods fiasco causing the illegal
25 overturning of the 2001 Roadless Rule is a perfect
26 example as the Secretary of Agriculture's Forest
27 Service excluded the Federal Subsistence Board in its
28 Roadless Rule EIS, environmental impact statement.
29 Last week the lead agency for the Federal Subsistence
30 Board.

31
32 The Interior, Fish and Wildlife
33 Service, barely slapped the wrist of a fake ivory
34 carver Anchorage business owner for violations under
35 the 1972 Marine Mammal Protection Act and for
36 misrepresenting Alaska Native art for the purpose of
37 sale. And this isn't his first violation. Tlingit and
38 Haida Tribes have endured Fish and Wildlife criminal
39 charges for use of bird feathers on ceremonial objects,
40 for selling herring eggs, for transporting sea otter
41 pelts. The Fish and Wildlife Services to have their
42 priorities backwards and lack a grip on the definition
43 of customary traditional use also called subsistence.

44
45 The Interior's National Park Service
46 has failed the Tlingit miserably. 1996 banning of our
47 traditional activities and economies to favor the State
48 of Alaska's new blooming business, the cruiseline
49 industry. Up to 25 huge ships come enter Glacier Bay
50

0473

1 National Park daily into pristine whale infested waters
2 of our homeland, Glacier Bay. Had the Covid-19 not hit
3 in 2020 Hoonah's Icy Strait Point would have had 211
4 ships in our midst holding 450,000 passengers from
5 different cruise ships apart from Glacier Bay's. This
6 is an example of the State's lack of costal management
7 control of Alaska's navigable waters free from negative
8 impact mitigation.

9

10 The Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs
11 administers tribal self-determination, self-governing
12 contracts, grants, and compacts across Alaska. This is
13 a good time along with their Bureau of Land Management
14 to apprise Alaska Native landholdings and interests to
15 identify Federal trust aspects like Native allotments
16 and townsite lots and associated property interests and
17 to conform to a uniform sister of inter and intra
18 agency communication compliance, reporting, reparation
19 plans, preventions and (indiscernible) reservations.

20

21 If the Federal agencies connect their
22 attention and resources as equally as they do for
23 industry and if the tribal governments are provided
24 full support from each agency towards food sovereignty
25 we will truly become one of today's political winds of
26 change. Still, there exists the old Republican
27 political party mood of industry only priorities. Last
28 week the Alaska Republican Party voted to condemn
29 Alaska's U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski to seek
30 (indiscernible) more in line with their philosophy in
31 the 2022 election. Here's a few of the things listed
32 against Senator Murkowski. She voted to full
33 impeachment of Trump from the U.S. Presidency. She
34 voted against the repeal of the Affordable Care Act.
35 She voted against confirmation of the U.S. Supreme
36 Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh. She voted for
37 Congresswomen Deb Haaland for Secretary of Interior,
38 yes. And she stands her ground to the oath of the U.S.
39 Constitution and commitment to Alaska's people. The
40 arrogance of the Alaska Republic Party dissed the vote
41 of the people who elected Lisa Murkowski to office on a
42 write in campaign. We do not lack in political power.
43 As people, we can influence change towards healing,
44 growing, thriving on healthy land, breathing fresh air
45 and depending on clean salt and fresh water for all the
46 (indiscernible).....

47

48 (Teleconference interference -
49 participants not muted - overlapping conversation)

50

0474

1 MS. CULP:they provide globally.
2 Each us play an important role in the intelligence
3 that's going to require on the road back to healthy,
4 back to our ability to do for ourselves and our family,
5 back to our individual and group sovereignty. Each of
6 us are assets towards the ability to determine the
7 quality of our lives and destinies of our future
8 generations. Let us begin with root knowledge, and
9 build up from that solid foundation, together we can.

10

11 I hope to extend, respect, that
12 recognition to Patty Phillips, she should be on the
13 Board, yet, she's always contributing plenty for us.

14

15 Gunalcheesh to you folks for listening
16 to us and hearing us out. And, please, we'll be glad
17 to know what happens to our proposal concept.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you,
22 Rebekah and Wanda. I'll open it up if you'd like to
23 answer some questions from the Council members, they
24 probably have some for you. Council members, I'll give
25 you a chance to digest -- there was a lot of
26 information there but if anybody's ready to ask a
27 question, the floor is open.

28

29 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

30

31 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

32

33 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I,
34 first, just want to say that I really appreciate you
35 guys coming before us and giving such clear and
36 passionate and well informed presentations to us, not
37 just this meeting, but in the past. You know I enjoy
38 hearing from you and I'm glad that this message can be
39 stated so clearly.

40

41 My question back to you is, whether or
42 not you are aware of efforts in the region by 12
43 Federally recognized tribes that have also forwarded
44 petition to the Secretary of Agriculture, the Homelands
45 Conservation Petition that has gone forward, and
46 whether or not you've had any interaction with that
47 group and how you see your proposal aligning with some
48 of the actions that are in that petition, if you're
49 aware of it.

50

0475

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2

3 MS. CULP: Thank you, Cathy. That's a
4 really good question. I will admit I am in possession
5 of that document and I did start reading it but, you
6 know, in the flurry of getting our proposal and
7 everything in line, I have not revisited it. But I
8 definitely got the feeling of where everybody is going,
9 we're all in the same (In Tlingit) so to speak. And
10 what we are proposing is that the foundation of the
11 subsistence issue be converted to food sovereignty and
12 get rid of the word, subsistence. And look towards the
13 indigenous knowledge as the foundation to build on food
14 sovereignty. And this food sovereignty also includes
15 what is also known as food security. So this is a
16 broad thinking that ones who live off the land and
17 depend on the natural resources and also see the
18 changes coming to global warming and how it's affecting
19 our foods, this is the best information to provide for
20 village tribal governments who will provide to Tlingit
21 and Haida Central Council, who could conceivably pick
22 up management of the food sovereignty program and then
23 from there work with the Federal Subsistence Board and,
24 of course, SERAC in gaining our system, which is the
25 same system we're looking at right now with the
26 proposals and the administration would go through the
27 tribal sources rather than the Federal Subsistence
28 Board. The Federal Subsistence Board would be a
29 supportive.

30

31 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Followup Cathy.

32

33 MS. NEEDHAM: Yeah, Mr. Chair, thank
34 you. And thank you for that Ms. Culp. Also in your
35 testimony you mentioned, you know, the work on the
36 marine mammals, which is obviously part of the Marine
37 Mammal Protection Act, and in work that this Council
38 has previously done with respect to sea otters, we
39 understand that that takes an Act of Congress in order
40 to be able to make those changes to implements and
41 effects. I know that this Council struggled with a lot
42 of that. We tried to get the language -- or tried to
43 work on language changes when I first got on the
44 Council and it became a pretty difficult endeavor and
45 still, to this day, has not been changed. And so I'm
46 wondering if that's your understanding that it would
47 take an Act of Congress to potentially implement that
48 aspect of it and, if so, if you've had, you know, pre-
49 discussions with the Alaska Delegation where something
50

1 like that might get sponsored for that Act of Congress.

2

3

4 And I ask that, I know, because I feel
5 like it could potentially be a road block and the
6 petition that is going to the Department of Agriculture
7 is more under the APA rulemaking process, which might,
8 you know, finding ways to merge your efforts into that
9 might be a more streamlined way that would, you know,
10 not take an Act of Congress to do but that's just -- I
11 might not have a right handle on that, but I was
12 wondering if you could address that aspect of it.

12

13

Thank you.

14

15

16 MS. CULP: Yes, that's a really good
17 question because we've had to grapple with that as
18 well. But, you know, the Federal -- the Fish and
19 Wildlife Service has that so-called Subsistence
20 Division and the interpretation has been -- their gut
21 interpretation has been against the Alaska Natives.
22 Now, this is my example of how the Marine Mammal
23 Protection Act is misinterpreted, and with laws like
24 this, we're not asking for new laws of Congress, and
25 throughout the process, yes, there will have to be some
26 changes, but right now the interpretation of the five
27 Federal agencies that make up the Federal Subsistence
28 Board, they haven't been a damn bit of good for us.
29 I'm sorry to say it but, you know, we need focus on
30 food sovereignty. I think that the subsistence thing
31 has gotten too out of hand, it's been dissipated so
32 much by so many and not us. So the thought here is not
33 to put the tribes into -- we're not trying to dictate
34 certain anything to the tribes but it's just merely a
35 concept proposal saying that the interpretation of
36 these laws such as the Marine Mammal Protection Act,
37 ANILCA Title VIII start with the basis of indigenous
38 knowledge, outlook and concept, not from Washington,
39 D.C., or the industry's lobbyists or commercial this,
40 that and the other thing, but start from the grassroots
41 of who these laws are for and it's land based. You see
42 the current subsistence setup covers -- especially with
43 the State of Alaska involved, that's got to stop, you
44 know, I mean the State of Alaska is out of compliance
45 with ANILCA Title VIII, that should bounce them right
46 out of this picture because they have totally
47 (indiscernible). Now, if we get into disregarding the
48 State's Fish and Game regions and reapply the 12 Alaska
49 Native regions, corporation regions, now this brings us
50 into working face to face with our very own Alaska

50

0477

1 Native Corporations, our land surrounds our villages,
2 they're still Alaska Native lands even though it's
3 private property, it's still in our tool box and
4 Sealaska's very friendly to our proposal.

5
6 It's going to take cooperation of
7 everybody and start scraping the old notion of
8 subsistence and thinking of a system that's broken and
9 let's fix it. And let's build a foundation from
10 indigenous knowledge because our intelligence is what
11 is going to save this. Everyone recognizes it. It's
12 not a threat to anybody. But it's unutilized and
13 untapped on resources we want to bring to the table.
14 Just get to thinking from indigenous point of view,
15 those laws will fall into shape as far as
16 interpretation, won't be so confusing.

17
18 And, yes, we will run into some snags
19 where it will take adjusting from Congress but I think
20 it will be adjusting and it won't be major.

21
22 Did that answer your question?

23
24 MS. NEEDHAM: Yeah -- Mr. Chair --
25 thank you, Ms. Culp. I really appreciate, again, the
26 time that you take to put these thoughts together. I
27 think you're very well versed and educated in this and
28 obviously very passionate about the idea. I just want
29 to let you know as well as other Council members know
30 that, I ask my questions because I'm trying to find,
31 you know, another group has come before us to ask for
32 our support in a petition that they submitted, and I
33 just am hoping that we can find ways that these
34 efforts, which are becoming more and more -- I don't
35 want to say emergent, we've been working on this ever
36 since I've been on the Council and longer, probably
37 since Patty Phillips started on this Council, been
38 working on this type of thing and this movement that is
39 happening very loudly right now. And I support food
40 security and food sovereignty and I definitely support
41 indigenous management of local resources. I am an
42 Alaska Native person. Much of my career is spent
43 working in the realm of collecting information that can
44 be used for resource management decisions and so I'm
45 only trying to ask a little bit of the hard questions
46 in terms of how can we merge or move forward together
47 as one so that we don't have conflicting efforts out
48 there and that we can take a path forward that will
49 potentially be successful.
50

0478

1 So I just wanted to assure you that I
2 am not -- I'm hearing you, I guess, is what I'm saying
3 and I appreciate that you're bringing this to us and I
4 feel like you're giving us a lot of information and
5 tools and venues and I hope that all of the efforts in
6 Southeast can move together in this direction.

7

8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.
11 Anybody else on the Council have a question or a
12 comment for Wanda or Rebekah.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 MS. CULP: I would like to add
17 something, this is Wanda. I would like to thank you
18 Cathy for your suggestion in joining that coalition of
19 tribes and, you know, we're trying to build a concept
20 and hope everyone supports it, at least the concept and
21 build it into what the tribe is thinking and wanting to
22 do. So, yes, we'll definitely finish reading that
23 document. I'll make a point of it and then make
24 contact with -- we have been -- conference with
25 President Peterson and his land managers, it was real
26 productive. We started communication. But you know
27 there's -- we need follow through. You know, we're
28 just in the village trying to make things happen and
29 the support you folks are bringing forward is really
30 going to help us bend the earlobes of other people, of
31 other groups as well. Kake Tribal, we've been in
32 contact with them. And other groups too. SEAC. So
33 the meetings have been real receptive but like Cathy
34 said we need to organize within ourselves to somehow
35 have a meeting of the minds and get all of our good
36 thoughts and ideas moving.

37

38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Wanda.
39 Maybe I'd like to jump in here, as the Chair. What I
40 am wondering is in this effort, I'm assuming that the
41 tribes are going to take the main lead in kind of
42 trying to bring this about and I am wondering how the
43 Council can best be involved. I know there'd be a lot
44 of interest, you know, on the Council in this issue and
45 how it all comes about and, of course, the Council will
46 be instrumental in implementing anything that would
47 happen as a result of your effort, so I don't know,
48 Wanda, if you've got any special requests of the
49 Council or how we might become best involved, I guess

50

0479

1 in this effort. Have you thought about that?

2

3 MS. CULP: Oh, yes, certainly have.

4 You know we're talking about redesigning an existing
5 program. Moving it from a word called subsistence into
6 realm called food sovereignty and this puts us right to
7 the grassroots of the whole issue and from the ground
8 up we start building a governing system of resolutions.
9 Like what you folks are doing already but redesigning
10 it through the villages, the village tribal
11 governments. It's their responsibility. Many village
12 tribal governments have been excluded for so long in
13 the process they're now thinking they're corporation,
14 and you've got corporations thinking they're village
15 governments so, you know, within our own self we have
16 to straighten things out. And we understand that. But
17 this is an opportunity with this new politics going on
18 here in our favor that we can literally bring forward
19 concepts like this, buy into it, you folks can pick up
20 what you can and support us to the other communities
21 saying, here's a good idea, let's see what we all can
22 do about this, this is what we're doing.

23

24 We made it to D.C., more than once.
25 And using our authority as mothers and women within a
26 cultural respect where we had never been invited to the
27 table before and it's a cultural way for us to be as
28 involved as the men are. So this is the balance we're
29 seeking. And yes it starts grassroots, it starts in
30 our own villages. We have to start looking at each
31 other again, not as corporate, you know, not as village
32 but as people that have the same interests and common
33 goals. And I think that once we start doing that all
34 the others should fall into shape because we have to
35 gain each others trust again. And this is a concept
36 that should bring us together, hopefully not divide us.

37

38 But it all has to do with food, we all
39 have to eat. And it all comes from our lands, the ones
40 we're talking to right now, all of these folks
41 listening, we depend on the land, and the clean water,
42 air, and we're seeking a way to bring the intelligence
43 of the indigenous people forward and hopefully this
44 intertribal government incorporated into the Southeast
45 Tongass communities, the remote communities and then
46 bringing it forward all the way to D.C., so that we
47 truly have our say. It's a way for us to truly
48 participate and have our say.

49

50

0480

1 And it brings people not so fragmented
2 -- everything is so fragmented, if you look at your own
3 web page on there it gives me a brain cramp trying to
4 figure it out. I think we're all in the same boat. So
5 we're proposing, let's back off -- let's drop the words
6 that are causing all this confusion and use the laws as
7 they're intended and change the dialogue that fits the
8 purpose.

9
10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: So, thank you,
11 Wanda. And the way I'm looking at things now, your
12 WECAN group specifically mentions climate action and
13 that has been a topic that has become -- starting to
14 come to the forefront here before the Council and that
15 incorporates just a whole lot of the issues that you've
16 talked about this afternoon. You know, food security
17 and who manages the resource and, you know, what has
18 happened in the past, management in the past has gotten
19 to this situation where people are worried right now.
20 They don't like what they see happening. There's some
21 warning signs out there related to -- climate change is
22 kind of a result of a lot of (indiscernible) uses of
23 the resource and mismanagement over a very long period
24 of time, obviously. It's just kind of a manifestation
25 of what you were talking about of how we've so
26 industrialized our uses of the resource that we've
27 brought this upon ourselves and now is the time. And I
28 know Rebekah is a younger person and we must think
29 about them and their future and where are we going from
30 here, and it's a turning point. It has to be a turning
31 point. And the proposals that you're talking about I
32 think will start moving us in the right direction if
33 they can be brought about. And I think we'll -- we
34 have to rely, I think, on indigenous voices to be a
35 strong advocate for change here and that's what you're
36 doing.

37
38 I think you do have to take the lead.

39
40 You know speaking for the Council we
41 can certainly be involved in any way we can but I
42 really do think it's important, as you pointed out, for
43 the tribes to take the lead on this. I don't see
44 anybody else doing it. There's not a lot of people
45 doing it. There's a lot of opposition to where you're
46 trying to go.

47
48 So moving forward, as I said, you have
49 to take the lead, I believe, and the Council would like
50

0481

1 to be involved, I believe, so we have to try and make
2 that happen. And, you know, just from the Council's
3 point on this I proposed at the start of the meeting
4 that we form some kind of a subcommittee or a working
5 group of the Council and maybe some representatives of
6 your group that can start to work together and at least
7 keep informed of, you know, what's happening so that
8 when we do have meetings of the Council, that working
9 group or subcommittee can, you know, bring that
10 information back to the Council. Be involved in, you
11 know, some of the work that you do as well and that way
12 the Council can stay involved in this and try and push
13 it forward. You know as our role, as an advisory
14 council, you know, eventually some of this obviously
15 will come before us to be approved, presented,
16 whatever, that's part of our charter is to deal with
17 management policies. So it is certainly in our mandate
18 here.

19

20 So I don't know if you have any
21 thoughts along those lines about working with the
22 Council in that way?

23

24 MS. CULP: Thank you. I really
25 appreciate it, of course we would and we would be very
26 happy to. And it's a good idea that we have a
27 mechanism in which to report to you folks because as we
28 move forward we would like you folks to know have we
29 connected with those 12, is Central Council involved,
30 is Sealaska involved, is village corporations, even our
31 village councils, especially our village councils
32 involved so, yes, I feel like we have a lot we could
33 report on to you.

34

35 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

36

37 MS. CULP: We'd appreciate doing that,
38 thank you for asking.

39

40 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I think that's
41 something we may attempt here. I know previous
42 meetings, you know, the Council really wanted to take
43 some concrete moves towards trying to address, you
44 know, all the issues related to climate change and that
45 definitely fits in with the whole food security issue
46 that you're addressing. So I think it would be a good
47 combined focus for the Council to be involved in both
48 of those issues and it could all happen in one venue as
49 I see it.

50

0482

1 MS. CULP: Nice.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: So maybe I better
4 let some other Council members weigh in here if they
5 have anything to add or say.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Anybody
10 else on the Council have any questions they want to
11 ask.

12

13 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, this is Ian.

14

15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Ian, go ahead.

16

17 MR. JOHNSON: I don't necessarily have
18 a question other than just to back up what you're
19 saying. I mean I already feel like -- certainly I know
20 the Council has a history of this. It's certainly --
21 climate change, in particular, is important here in
22 Hoonah, and Wanda and Rebekah, you know, help continue
23 to underline that. We've already talked about proposal
24 effects, weather effects this season and those have
25 been reflected in the change in proposals that have
26 been done in Pelican and, yeah, I think as we go
27 forward trying to think, not reactively, but more
28 proactively to how we expect climate change to impact
29 our food sovereignty, at this time known as
30 subsistence, is just, yeah, of utmost importance.

31

32 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Ian. I
33 agree. We're reacting. We need to be proactive. And
34 I think we've got a lot of issues before us that we
35 can't regulate our way out of. We have to dig deeper
36 and start looking at policies and things like that. So
37 it's -- we're not going to regulate our way out of
38 this, it's going to take more effort than that.

39

40 Anybody else.

41

42 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, this is Frank.

43

44 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Frank.

45

46 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, you know, everything
47 that this RAC does is based on taking care of the
48 environment and taking care of all the animal life so
49 that it would benefit not only the rural communities

50

0483

1 but make sure that everything we do keeps indigenous
2 wildlife around for generations. You know, when you
3 think about it, we are doing what we can right now to
4 take care of the environment, as every living animal,
5 every living fish and everything is part of the
6 ecosystem and that's something we have to take care of.
7 You know people in this world are not listening to
8 what's going on in this world and, you know, even
9 though we may be just a little drop in the bucket we
10 still make a drop in the bucket difference.

11
12 You know, I always think about, you
13 know, one time I was in Juneau and I was talking to
14 this guy from the south and I said, you know, this oil
15 business, you know, everybody's been in a car and
16 they've ran out of fuel, this earth is going to --
17 eventually the tank is going to get empty so we need to
18 -- really need to keep on people and figuring out
19 alternatives without destroying this planet. I hate to
20 say this but I'm probably not going to be here to watch
21 it if we don't -- here to watch it and see it with my
22 grandkids and my grandkids kids', you know, and then
23 they have to face what's going on in this world right
24 now. It's already happening and no one even -- no one
25 even seems to care, you know, it's kind of like, you
26 know, I think about it and wonder about my grandkids
27 and my daughter and everybody that has to deal with
28 this issue that the rich people don't care about what's
29 going on in this world. You know, it's -- like I said,
30 what we've seen in this little community, Hoonah,
31 there's so many changes that, you know, in my 70-some
32 years and it's amazing what's changed around here. You
33 know I enjoyed it when I was a kid, I was able to play
34 marbles in the middle of the road, now there's so many
35 cars in this town you can't even walk across the road
36 without getting run over.

37
38 You know, the people that speak up, you
39 know, that speak up, those are the people that makes us
40 feel good, and the RAC, the Council that, you know,
41 there is someone that is saying something and it may
42 not reach the big people but it's a comfort to our
43 ears, you know.

44
45 Heather Bauscher has brought these
46 young children to our RAC meeting and then those young
47 children think about what they live in and what's
48 happening in this world, it gives you hope. So I
49 commend her for having kids show their interest in what
50

0484

1 we're doing.

2

3 Like I said, you know, this RAC --
4 depends on this environment in order for all the
5 resources that we put together or try to protect
6 because we will not -- we do not approve of any
7 proposals that will destroy any of the resources that
8 we are potentially managing.

9

10 So gunalcheesh for coming forward.

11

12 Gunalcheesh.

13

14 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.

15 Anybody else.

16

17 MR. SLATER: Mr. Chair, this is Jim
18 Slater. I just wanted to say quickly that I admire the
19 courage that they have and the stance that they've
20 taken. And that's all I wanted to say, thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Jim.

23 Anybody else.

24

25 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, this is
26 Albert.

27

28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Albert.

29

30 MR. HOWARD: I just want to encourage
31 them to continue with what they're doing. And when you
32 get discouraged, you're not -- I do this to myself,
33 when I get discouraged and feel like giving up on the
34 fight I'm in, I look at my kids. So when you get
35 discouraged look at the next generation. The work
36 you're doing is going to have a positive impact on them
37 if you continue on the road you're on.

38

39 So thank you for what you're doing.

40

41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Albert.

42 Anybody else.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I just want to add
47 to what Frank said. This is Don again. You know there
48 are a lot of people that agree with what you're doing
49 but unfortunately, like we saw in the whole Roadless

50

0485

1 process, those voices get drowned out by whoever
2 happens to be the power structure at the time. So I
3 think there is a lot of support for your efforts, we
4 just have to make sure that they don't get drowned out.

5

6 And, Wanda, I think you're correct that
7 we have a very fortunate circumstance right now with a
8 new power structure back in Washington, D.C. And I
9 know our new Secretary of Interior is definitely going
10 to have an open ear for what you are proposing. And
11 Interior does have a lot to say about the Subsistence
12 Program, so I think it's a real opportunity so we
13 shouldn't be discouraged.

14

15 Any other Council members with a
16 comment.

17

18 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman, Mike
19 Douville.

20

21 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Mike.

22

23 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes. Wanda, it's been a
24 long time since we've been to Hoonah and I remember you
25 making quite a presentation at that time and it's
26 impressive for me to see you still in the game and
27 moving forward. You're doing a good job and I
28 encourage you to continue. And like Don said, you
29 know, the Roadless, all testimony was more than 90
30 percent against it and it went on deaf ears but
31 hopefully we have a better opportunity now. But great
32 to hear from you again Wanda.

33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mike.
35 Anybody else.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Did I hear
40 somebody.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Apparently not,
45 okay, Wanda and Rebekah, thank you once again for your
46 presentation. I am going to put it to the Council
47 before the end of the meeting if we can come up with a
48 work group, subcommittee that can work with you and if
49 we do that we'll be in contact and see how we could

50

0486

1 work it out so that we can work together. And also we
2 have a petition -- a couple petitions to consider
3 writing letters of support for so that's also on the
4 agenda. It all kind of works towards the same goal
5 here. So thank you to you, and Rebekah once again for
6 coming before the Council.

7

8 MS. CULP: And thank you folks for
9 listening and be willing to work with us. Really, it's
10 comforting.

11

12 Gunalcheesh.

13

14 MS. SAWERS CONTRERAS: Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you. And,
17 now, Council let's take a short break. We'll break for
18 10 minutes and come back at 3:00 o'clock and wrap up
19 some of the work items that we have to finish, the
20 annual report, the charter and letters and a couple
21 more agency reports that don't require action. So 10
22 minute break and come back at 3:00 o'clock.

23

24 MR. SLATER: Mr. Chair.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes, go ahead.

27

28 MR. SLATER: This is Jim Slater. I'm
29 sorry, I have an appointment I have to leave for. I
30 just wanted to excuse myself and offer my sincere
31 thanks for everyone welcoming me to the Council. It
32 was both a pleasure and an honor to participate in the
33 meeting. And apologies for any protocol mistakes I may
34 have made during my first meeting here.

35

36 Thank you, everyone.

37

38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Jim. I
39 think everybody was really glad to have you on board.
40 I think you're a real asset to the Council and don't
41 worry about mistakes made at a first meeting. I think
42 there were very few and it's very common. So, yeah.

43

44 MR. SLATER: All right, well, thank you
45 again. Everyone take care.

46

47 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

48

49 MR. KITKA: Don, just so the Council

50

0487

1 will know that Sitka herring went on two hour notice.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Oh, wow, that's
4 something Harvey. Yeah, early -- it sounds a little
5 early this year. And I just saw the first boat go by
6 the house here headed south towards Craig with herring
7 pounds in tow so that's going to get started up soon as
8 well, I believe.

9

10 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair. When we come
11 back from break I have an update on the State Proposal
12 194 if you'd like me to share that.

13

14 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Oh, yes, thank
15 you, DeAnna.

16

17 REPORTER: Okay, so we're off record.

18

19 (Off record)

20

21 (On record)

22

23 MS. PERRY: I'll see if Council members
24 have rejoined us before we get back into order.

25

26 Let's see, Robert -- Jim -- those two
27 guys are gone.

28

29 Albert Howard.

30

31 MR. HOWARD: Here.

32

33 MS. PERRY: I need to update my list
34 here.

35

36 Don Hernandez.

37

38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Here.

39

40 MS. PERRY: Harold Robbins.

41

42 MR. ROBBINS: Here.

43

44 MS. PERRY: Harvey Kitka.

45

46 MR. KITKA: Here.

47

48 MS. PERRY: Larry Bemis.

49

50

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1 (No comments)

2

3 MS. PERRY: Cathy Needham.

4

5 MR. WRIGHT: Here.

6

7 MS. PERRY: Ian Johnson.

8

9 MR. JOHNSON: Here.

10

11 MS. PERRY: Frank Wright.

12

13 MR. WRIGHT: Here.

14

15 MS. PERRY: Cal Casipit.

16

17 MR. CASIPIT: Here.

18

19 MS. PERRY: Mike Douville.

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 MS. PERRY: Larry Bemis.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 MS. PERRY: Okay, Mr. Chair. Currently
28 you have 8 of your 12 seated Council members, you have
29 a quorum.

30

31 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, DeAnna.

32

33 I trust the rest of the Council will be back shortly.
34 I'm looking at what is left ahead of us
35 here for the remainder and I see three action items --
36 no, excuse me, yes, three -- review the charter, review
37 the final -- finalize the annual report, confirm
38 meeting locations. I don't think those will take too
39 long. I think I'd like to go to the agency reports. I
40 hate to keep those people waiting until the very end of
41 the day if we can avoid it. Those should be fairly
42 short so if we hear from those folks first I think we
43 can finish off our action items and we also have to
44 decide on any correspondence we want to write. There's
45 several items there. And a work group.

46

47 So do we have people ready to give
48 agency reports at this time?

49

50 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, I believe

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1 Melinda for the Tribal Relations report from Forest
2 Service stepped into a consultation so she will have to
3 come back to us. I wasn't quite expecting that to be
4 next so I haven't reached out to folks to check their
5 availability. If you can give me just a moment.

6
7 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

8
9 (Pause)

10
11 MS. PERRY: I believe Brent Vickers is
12 online. He's our leadership team lead from Office of
13 Subsistence Management. Perhaps he would be able to go
14 ahead and give the OSM report.

15
16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, sounds good.

17
18 MR. VICKERS: Yes, hello. This is
19 Brent Vickers. Thank you DeAnna and I am available to
20 give the OSM report.

21
22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, go ahead,
23 Brent.

24
25 MR. VICKERS: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
26 Chair and Council members. My name is Brent Vickers
27 and I am a Cultural Anthropologist with the Office of
28 Subsistence Management.

29
30 First of all we want to thank you and
31 all the Council members for your work. It's been very
32 difficult for all of us dealing with the Covid19
33 environment.

34
35 Teleconferences.

36
37 We're holding all 10 winter 2021
38 Regional Advisory Council meetings via teleconference.
39 This decision was made with the utmost consideration
40 and concern for the health and safety of Council
41 members, families, rural communities, the public and
42 Staff, who are all part of the Council meetings. The
43 health and safety of everyone is our highest priority.
44 The Center for Disease Control and Prevention
45 guidelines suggest that people avoid travel and refrain
46 from meeting in person to minimize risk and help
47 prevent the spread of Covid19.

48
49 The Regional Advisory Councils are the
50

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1 foundation of Alaska's Federal Subsistence Management
2 Program. We recognize that holding face to face
3 Council meetings in rural communities across Alaska is
4 preferable for engaging the public most effectively.
5 The Federal Subsistence Management Program is fully
6 committed to resuming in-person Council meetings across
7 Alaska as soon as it is possible to do so safely.

8

9 OSM Staff changes.

10

11 Since your last Council meeting, the
12 following Staffing changes have occurred.

13

14 I, Doctor Brent Vickers, started at OSM
15 as OSM Anthropology Chief in December.

16

17 Greg Risdahl moved over to U.S. Forest
18 Service in January to become their Subsistence Program
19 Leader, and will be the Forest Service representative
20 at the InterAgency Staff Committee.

21

22 We are grateful to have experienced
23 people on the ISC that will remain with the Program as
24 advisors to their Board member.

25

26 George Pappas is currently the acting
27 OSM Fisheries Division Chief, in addition to his normal
28 job as liaison to the State Wildlife and Fisheries
29 Programs.

30

31 Katya Wessels, Council Coordinator, is
32 currently acting as OSM Policy Coordinator. Katya was
33 just selected as Council Coordination Division Chief
34 and will be starting mid-March.

35

36 Steve Fadden came to us from the U.S.
37 Fish and Wildlife Refuges to be the acting OSM Wildlife
38 Division Chief.

39

40 Sabrina Schmidt has served as one of
41 the clerks at OSM, she took a promotion with the
42 military in January.

43

44 Council appointments and applications.

45

46 Annual Council appointment process is
47 complex and takes about 15 months to complete. It
48 begins in September each year when the Federal
49 Subsistence Board announces the open application period

50

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1 for Council membership. During a six month application
2 period the Program conducts an extensive statewide
3 recruitment and effort. The Program distributes
4 approximately 2,000 applications throughout Alaska via
5 mail and email to individuals, agencies and
6 organizations. Additionally the Program conducts
7 wide-range outreach through a variety of media outlets
8 including, but not limited to newspaper, radio, TV,
9 internet, FaceBook and public conferences. Last year,
10 2020, the effort resulted in 74 applications to fill 62
11 vacated or expiring seats. On January the 15th, 2021,
12 OSM received copies of the Regional Advisory Council
13 appointment letters signed by the former Secretary of
14 Interior. At that time we received full appointments
15 only for four Councils. Kodiak/Aleutians, Bristol Bay,
16 Northwest Arctic and the Seward Peninsula, and partial
17 appointments for three Councils, Eastern Interior,
18 North Slope and Southcentral. Three Councils, Western
19 Interior, Yukon Kuskokwim Delta and Southeast Alaska
20 did not receive any appointments in January 2021. I'm
21 glad to announce that on Monday, March 8th, we received
22 copies of an additional 27 appointment letters with
23 full seats of appointments on Western Interior, Yukon
24 Kuskokwim Delta, Southeast Alaska, Eastern Interior,
25 North Slope and Southcentral. At this time there are
26 only eight vacant seats on all Councils.

27
28 The application period for this year's
29 2021 Regional Advisory Council appointments was open
30 until March 12th. The application deadline was
31 extended. By December 2nd of this year we are going to
32 have 35 open seats for appointment or reappointment,
33 and as of today we have very few applications to fill
34 these seats. We are encouraging Council members, whose
35 terms will expire in December 2021 to reapply. Your
36 Council Coordinator should have contacted already if
37 your membership expires this coming December. We also
38 encourage other Alaskans to apply for Council
39 membership. Serving on a Regional Advisory Councils is
40 the best way to proactively participate in the Federal
41 Subsistence Management regulatory process to help
42 sustain your traditional way of life. Your
43 participation on the Regional Advisory Councils allows
44 for better time regulations to be developed that
45 satisfy the needs of the users in the region, and, at
46 the same time, assure the continued viability of fish
47 and wildlife populations. Please let your coordinator
48 know if you want to reapply or apply or would like to
49 nominate someone so that they can get you to the
50

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1 application form. Also please encourage knowledgeable
2 users in your communities to apply as well.

3

4 RealIDs for travel and Council
5 meetings.

6

7 Over the past two years we have been
8 reminding Council members about change in requirements
9 for IDs at airports. This has been postponed until
10 October 1st, 2021. Note that all Council members will
11 need to make sure that they have the required RealID
12 for travel next fall. If you don't have the correct
13 ID, please make sure that you get it before the fall
14 2021 Council meeting cycle.

15

16 Lawsuit from the State of Alaska.

17

18 On August 10th, 2020, the State of
19 Alaska filed a lawsuit against the Federal Subsistence
20 Board after it adopted emergency special action WSA19-
21 14. This allowed the village of Kake to engage in a
22 community harvest of two antlered moose and five male
23 Sitka black-tailed deer. Also included in the lawsuit
24 was a temporary special action WSA20-3 which closed
25 Federal public lands in Units 13A and 13B to non-
26 Federally-qualified moose and caribou hunters. As part
27 of the lawsuit the State asked the court to issue two
28 preliminary injunctions. One to prevent the Unit 13
29 closure from taking effect and another vacating the
30 Kake hunt and prohibiting the Board from allowing any
31 additional emergency hunts related to the impacts of
32 Covid19. On September the 18th the U.S. District Court
33 denied the State's request for a preliminary injunction
34 on the Unit 13 closure. The court found that, because
35 the State has not demonstrated either a likelihood of
36 success or serious questions on the merits of its
37 claims, the court need not consider the remaining
38 elements of the preliminary injunction analysis.

39

40 Two months later on November the 18th,
41 the Court also denied the State's motion for a
42 preliminary injunction on the Kake hunt after Judge
43 Gleason concluded that the State had not demonstrated a
44 likelihood of success on the merits, raising serious
45 questions on the merits of its claim, or demonstrated
46 any likelihood of irreparable harm.

47

48 While these rulings on preliminary
49 injunction are encouraging, they do not resolve the

50

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1 litigation. Settlement negotiations between the
2 Department of Justice, the DOI Solicitor's Office, and
3 USDA Office of General Counsel, and the State are
4 ongoing. The parties have agreed to delay the court
5 proceedings while these discussions are underway.
6 Barring a settlement, the Solicitor's Office now
7 estimates that the briefings should be complete in
8 summer 2021 and that the court will issue its decision
9 in late summer.

10

11 Based on legal guidance, Program Staff
12 does not comment on any active litigation directed
13 against the Federal Subsistence Board beyond what is
14 set forth here.

15

16 I'd be happy to answer any questions.

17

18 Thank you, Mr. Chair and Council
19 members.

20

21 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you
22 Mr. Vickers and welcome to the Program.

23

24 MR. VICKERS: Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Council, any
27 questions for Mr. Vickers.

28

29 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair.

30

31 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead Cathy.

32

33 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
34 did want to know if the application period, I know it
35 got extended for Regional Advisory Council members and
36 I thought that that extension had closed so I wonder if
37 he could clarify that, from his presentation, and then
38 if he could let us know whether applications will be
39 processed in a regular timely manner for this next
40 round, and will appointments be made around the time
41 that current appointments expired. Have they fixed
42 that problem or did they just go back and clean up and
43 we don't know what's going to happen this next year.

44

45 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.

48

49 MR. VICKERS: Yes, hello, this is Brent

50

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1 Vickers. First of all I'd just like to answer the
2 question about the extension for the applications, they
3 closed -- I know it was a little bit misleading --
4 confusing what I said, but they did close on March
5 12th, and it was confusing because I was reading from a
6 statement that was written before and just had to
7 change it, so they are currently closed.

8

9 As for your next question, DeAnna, you
10 might be a little bit better prepared to answer those.
11 I have some idea but I really don't want to mis -- make
12 the wrong statement. So DeAnna, can you answer more
13 appropriately.

14

15 MS. PERRY: Sure, I'd be happy to
16 Brent. I would like to let folks know that the
17 information that Brent mentioned about applications is
18 still relevant. In fact I usually keep a tickler list
19 throughout the year for those folks who have expressed
20 interest in Council membership. So although this cycle
21 application period has closed, if you have someone that
22 you'd like to nominate or someone who's interest
23 through the summer, and into the fall, please don't
24 hesitate to reach out to me and I can make sure that
25 when the applications are printed and available, that I
26 send those out to those interested.

27

28 So for the appointments. I believe
29 everybody is quite encouraged that we'll get back on
30 our regular schedule and that we can expect
31 appointments to be made that first week in December,
32 usually by December 2nd. That's not a promise but I
33 think there's definitely some hope there that we will
34 be able to kind of get back to our regular schedule.

35

36 I would like to revisit the Board
37 meeting. As Cathy had mentioned, she participated in
38 the Board meeting earlier and one of the strong
39 comments from almost all Council revolved around the
40 appointments, the lateness and the non-appointments for
41 three of the Councils. The folks at OSM did explore
42 some possible solutions to that and we'll get to that a
43 little bit more with the charter but Cathy had kind of
44 offered up a solution and wanted to know if it would be
45 possible to perhaps put something in the charter that
46 would allow us to have a revolving time so that, for
47 instance, if you are currently seated on the Council,
48 December 7th rolls around and your term expired
49 December 2nd, so your appointment letter had expired,

50

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1 if we have something in the charter that provides for a
2 continuing term, there could be language in there such
3 as to serve an appointment until new appointments. And
4 I can, again, clarify more when we get to the charter
5 discussion. But OSM did explore that, it is possible,
6 and I can let you know that up to date I believe all
7 the other Councils have chose to put that wording in
8 their charters. So this Council will be looking at
9 their charter a little bit later and if they choose to
10 do that that might be a solution to, if appointments
11 are not received in the normal time, that perhaps we
12 would be able to have that continuing term.

13

14 So I hope that answers your question,
15 Cathy.

16

17 MS. NEEDHAM: It does, thank you, Mr.
18 Perry. Mr. Chair.

19

20 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
21 Cathy. Any other questions from the Council for Mr.
22 Vickers.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I don't think I'm
27 hearing any. So Brent, I'll just say thank you for
28 your report again, welcome to the Program and we were
29 prepared to really burn your ears about appointments
30 but given that the new Administration and things are
31 looking up, don't have to do that so you're off the
32 hook.

33

34 MR. VICKERS: Great. Thanks, I
35 appreciate it. My ears have been pretty worn down with
36 all this great discussion. So thank you. I do also
37 have an update on the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
38 Program, which closed just the other day, would you
39 like me to read that update?

40

41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

42

43 MR. VICKERS: Or the applications --
44 sorry, go ahead.

45

46 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Excuse me.

47

48 MR. VICKERS: I was going to say the
49 applications for the Fisheries -- for the 2022 cycle in

50

0496

1 the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program just closed
2 on March 15th, I do have a small update for that if you
3 would like me to read that still.

4

5 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes. We have that
6 on the agenda so go ahead.

7

8 MR. VICKERS: Okay. I will read the
9 update. Everyone just please keep in mind that the
10 application period just ended on March 15th and so,
11 I'm, again, reading from an update that was written
12 prior to the closing so some of the verb tenses might
13 be a little bit misleading so keep in mind the next
14 cycle will be open in two years.

15

16 This is not an action item.

17

18 But we were seeking applications for
19 projects that address priority information needs that
20 you developed at your last Council meeting and that
21 gather information to manage and improve subsistence
22 fisheries in Federal public waters in Alaska. The
23 Monitoring Program is also directed at supporting
24 meaningful involvement in fisheries by Alaska Native
25 and rural organizations and promoting collaborations
26 among Federal, State, Alaska Native and local
27 organizations. For the 2022 funding cycle it is
28 anticipated there will be \$2.25 million available in
29 the first year of new projects. Anyone wanting to
30 apply, particularly for the next cycle, can find
31 information about the program on the Federal
32 Subsistence Management Program web page or by visiting
33 www.grants.gov.

34

35 After the funding opportunity window
36 closed, applications will be reviewed by the Technical
37 Review Committee. The results of that review will be
38 presented to you at your next meeting.

39

40 This is not an action item.

41

42 If there are any questions, I would be
43 happy to address them now. This concludes my
44 presentation.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.
49 Are there any questions.

50

0497

1 MR. CASIPIT: Yes, Mr. Chair, this is
2 Cal Casipit. I was just wondering if he has a
3 breakdown on the number of proposals for Southeast that
4 were submitted and maybe a breakdown between stock,
5 status and trends and harvest monitoring TEK. And if
6 he doesn't have that information that's fine, I was
7 just wondering if he had it at his fingertips. I don't
8 want to take a whole lot of time.

9
10 MR. VICKERS: No, I'm sorry. Thank
11 you, Cal, for that question. I do not have it at my
12 fingertips. I know that it just closed and I've been at
13 this meeting for the last couple days so I haven't
14 heard of any such breakdowns yet, and I'm sorry. Does
15 anyone online have an answer at their fingertips for
16 him?

17
18 MS. PERRY: This is DeAnna, I haven't
19 received anything either.

20
21 MR. VICKERS: Okay. Well, we can try
22 to get that information to you as soon as we can, will
23 that suffice?

24
25 MR. CASIPIT: That's fine. Just have
26 DeAnna email it to me when it's available, that's fine.
27 I was just curious if you had it.

28
29 MR. VICKERS: Okay. Well, we'll find
30 out. We still have to go through a validation process
31 and so I'm not sure how that will affect the timing of
32 our response but just please keep that in mind.

33
34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Any other
35 questions on Fisheries Resource Monitoring projects.

36
37 (No comments)

38
39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Once,
40 again, thank you, Brent for that update.

41
42 MR. VICKERS: Thank you.

43
44 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. DeAnna, do
45 we have another agency available for a report.

46
47 MS. PERRY: Yes. Joshua Ream is still
48 with us representing the National Park Service and I
49 believe he's got some Staffing and personnel updates.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

2

3 MR. REAM: Hi, Mr. Chair and members of
4 the Council. For the record this is Joshua Ream. I am
5 the Regional Subsistence Program Manager for the
6 National Park Service.

7

8 I don't have a whole lot to report but,
9 you know, I'll start with Staff at the regional office.
10 Luckily my program is now fully Staffed for the four
11 positions that we have on our work chart. We're
12 excited to be able to support more of the statewide
13 National Park Service program as well as the Federal
14 Subsistence Management Program as a whole.

15

16 Don Striker, who is the Superintendent
17 of Denali National Park and Preserve remains the Acting
18 Alaska Regional Director. Timing for the permanent
19 selection of this position is yet again delayed and
20 this time it's due to the change in the Administration.
21 So we expect that it may be the end of April or May
22 before we get any word on the filling of that position.

23

24 Maija Lukin, who is the Superintendent
25 of Western Arctic Parkland has accepted a position as
26 the Park Service's Native Liaison based in Anchorage.
27 She will transition to that new position by the end of
28 this month. In fact, I think she's already in there.
29 And she'll be moving to Anchorage, I believe in May.
30 So this was a position that was vacated maybe two years
31 ago and we're really, really excited to have it.

32

33 Joel Hard is our Deputy Regional
34 Director and has been for some time but he is retiring
35 at the end of this month.

36

37 And Deb Cooper is an Associate Regional
38 Director for resources and she's retiring this year, we
39 suspect, in June. The Subsistence Program is situated
40 within her directorate and we are sorry to see her go
41 but we wish her the best in retirement and we have lots
42 of gratitude for all that she has done to support the
43 Subsistence Team within the Park Service over the
44 years.

45

46 The Park Service Subsistence Program
47 has been working really closely recently with the
48 Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program. We're
49 excited to have entered a contract, a cooperative

50

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1 agreement with them to bring on student interns in the
2 summer. We might be able to add more but we currently
3 have at least three students each year for the next
4 three years. It's been successful in getting ANSEP to
5 expand their internship focus to include projects that
6 are more anthropological or interdisciplinary.

7
8 Our agency is also working with ANSEP
9 and our Washington office and I believe now, the
10 Department, regionwide, throughout Alaska, to
11 potentially make ANSEP a direct hiring authority and
12 this would allow ANSEP to hire our summer interns even
13 though they would be working for NPS, and if the
14 student successfully completes the internship including
15 a minimum number of work hours and they graduate from
16 their degree program, they'd then be eligible for non-
17 competitive hiring status for up to two years following
18 their graduation. It's a great opportunity for the
19 Park Service to hire ANSEP students permanently and to
20 retain excellent talent when it's identified.

21
22 And then just a brief note on the
23 Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program, statewide,
24 the Park Service is lacking quite a bit of fisheries
25 biology capacity that we once had and to help address
26 this need and to further develop collaborations our
27 regional office program, Subsistence Program, is
28 looking at ways that we can be better engaged with the
29 Partners Program so we're hoping to utilize the
30 expertise of partners like the Ahtna InterTribal
31 Resource Commission, Bristol Bay Native Association,
32 Yakutat Tlingit Tribe, Native Village of Eyak and
33 others to coordinate research and joint funding
34 proposals in Park associated lands. And we'll have
35 more on that hopefully in the fall.

36
37 I'd be happy to try to answer any
38 questions that you have, otherwise thank you for your
39 time.

40
41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you,
42 Joshua. Any questions for Mr. Ream.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Apparently not.
47 So thank you again Joshua. And, DeAnna, do we have any
48 other agency reports.

49
50

0500

1 MS. PERRY: Yes. Before we go to the
2 Forest Service, I would just like to recognize Lauren
3 Sill and -- from the State Department and I -- I'm
4 sorry, I'm trying to read and talk at the same time.
5 We've had some State folks from Alaska Department of
6 Fish and Game with us throughout our meeting and wanted
7 to recognize that they have been listening. There's no
8 agency report from them at this meeting but did want to
9 recognize that they have been listening and may provide
10 a report at the next meeting.

11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

13

14 MS. PERRY: That brings us to the
15 Forest Service and special actions and I believe Terry
16 Suminski is ready to give that report.

17

18 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

19

20 MR. SUMINSKI: Good afternoon, Mr.
21 Chair and Council members. Terry Suminski with Forest
22 Service. I just wanted to point out in your
23 supplemental material the summary of Federal
24 subsistence special actions, it starts at 12A. And
25 that is a list of all the in-season actions that were
26 taken in Southeast in calendar year 2020. I won't read
27 through them all. I think maybe the new Council members
28 are very familiar with those, they should be,
29 hopefully, if did our job right.

30

31 The only thing that -- the action we've
32 taken since then and you've heard a little bit about
33 that already is the limited closure to eulachon in
34 District 1 which allows limited fishing in the Unuk
35 River.

36

37 So without going into a lot of detail,
38 I'd just open it up for questions if anybody has any.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thanks,
43 Terry. Any questions on special actions from the
44 Council.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. We all have
49 the list to refer to there. Okay, DeAnna, you

50

0501

1 mentioned that Melinda Hernandez Burke had a report for
2 us but she was busy, I don't know if she's available
3 yet.

4
5 MS. PERRY: I think she is almost
6 there. I know that she gave me kind of the five minute
7 warning just a couple of minutes ago so I think it's
8 probably at any time. We had originally thought that we
9 might also be able to hear from Ray Paddock with
10 Central Council letting us know some information on the
11 Unuk and Taku Transboundary monitoring that's going on
12 and he is, unfortunately, in a meeting right now but I
13 believe that he has passed along information to Melinda
14 so that's another thing that Melinda can speak to the
15 Council about as well.

16
17 So I don't know if maybe we want to
18 take care of one of our action items while we're
19 waiting for Ms. Hernandez Burke to be available.

20
21 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Probably will.
22 Were there any other Native organizations that wanted
23 to report to us at this meeting. I don't see anyone on
24 the list here.

25
26 MS. PERRY: Not that I'm aware of other
27 than Ms. Culp and the WECAN group, and Rebekah Sawers.

28
29 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I just
30 wanted to check if there were any others. Okay, let's,
31 while we're waiting for Melinda to finish up let's go
32 to the Council charter review. That was brought up by
33 Mr. Vickers. We had a little discussion on that with
34 you and Cathy so why don't we take care of that charter
35 review. And I know the information about the charter
36 is in our Council book, I believe it starts on Page 64.

37
38 MR. VICKERS: Yes, hello, Mr. Chair and
39 Council members. This is Brent Vickers again.

40
41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes, hello, Brent.

42
43 MR. VICKERS: Let me review this
44 charter review script for you.

45
46 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

47
48 MR. VICKERS: Under the Federal
49 Advisory Committee Act your Council charter is reviewed

50

0502

1 every two years. Before the charter is renewed the
2 Council has a right to review it and discuss any
3 changes that they would like to propose to the Federal
4 Subsistence Board. The Board then reviews proposed
5 changes and if the Board agrees the request for
6 proposed changes is forwarded to the Secretary of
7 Interior.

8
9 A lot of language in your charter is
10 actually required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act
11 and is implemented policy so you can't change that
12 language. The changes that you can request are the
13 changes to the name of your Council, or to the number
14 of members on your Council, but you will need to have
15 reasonable justification for it. You can also request
16 an addition of language that specifies a desired
17 membership balance that, if achieved, would allow the
18 members of the Council to represent the entire region.
19 For example, a few years ago the Kodiak Aleutian
20 Council requested and was granted approval to
21 geographically rebalance the membership to have four
22 members from the Kodiak Archipelago, three from the
23 Alaska Peninsula and three from the 30 Aleutian
24 Pribilof Islands. Because that region is so spread out
25 the Council wanted -- that having a broader geographic
26 representation is a value for them. During the last
27 charter review the Western Interior Alaska Council also
28 added similar language to their charter.

29
30 Additionally, delays to Council
31 appointments experienced over the last few years, the
32 Council also may want to consider requesting adding a
33 provision to its charter that allows a member to serve
34 after the expiration of his or term until a successor
35 is appointed. This is what is called a carryover term
36 that will come into play if the appointment letters are
37 late. Rather than the members' term expiring and the
38 Council having an empty seat on that Council that
39 member could continue to serve until an appointment
40 letter comes in. If the Council is satisfied with all
41 charter provisions and requests no changes then the
42 Council can just simply vote to forward the charter to
43 the Board.

44
45 As a reminder, during the last charter
46 review of 2019 the Secretaries approved new language
47 suggested by the Councils that their charters -- that
48 alternate members may be appointed to the Councils to
49 fill vacancies if they occur out of cycle. An
50

0503

1 alternate member must be approved and appointed by the
2 Secretary before attending the meeting as a
3 representative. The term for an appointed alternative
4 member will be the same as the term for the member
5 whose vacancy is being filled. However, in order to
6 have an alternates there needs to be a sufficient
7 number of applications in your region. Alternates are
8 appointed as members only if a seat was vacated because
9 of a member passing, resigning or moving out of the
10 region.

11

12

13 This is the time for the charter review
14 and no action is necessary unless you wish to take some
15 action. The charter carries over and is formally
16 approved every other year. You can review, edit and
17 you can make recommendations if you desire, but if not
18 then it continues.

19

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Thank you.

MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

(No comments)

MS. NEEDHAM: All right, it sounds like
Mr. Hernandez has dropped off the call so I will take
over Chair duties until he returns.

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: No, Cathy, sorry,
I forgot to unmute.

MS. NEEDHAM: Okay. Great, thanks.

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Sorry about that.

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes, I was just
thanking Mr. Vickers and saying that, yes, we probably
will want to change our charter in regards to the
carryover appointments. And before we get into that
I'll ask the Council if there's any questions regarding
the charter.

MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, go ahead,
Cathy.

0504

1 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
2 just have a question on the last item that Mr. Vickers
3 made out to us about out of -- sort of out of cycle
4 appointments. So if we have a vacated seat because of
5 a death or a resignation that it could be filled. I
6 was wondering if our, if the Southeast charter has that
7 provision in there, because I know we have one vacant
8 seat right now from a Council member that resigned and
9 I'm unsure why it was not filled.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 So I guess my question really is did we
14 address that and is that language provided for in our
15 charter already so we don't need to make that change at
16 this time -- that particular change at this time.

17

18 MS. PERRY: Mr. Vickers, I can probably
19 cover that.

20

21 MR. VICKERS: Thanks very much.

22

23 MS. PERRY: Yeah, so, Cathy, that new
24 language from the Secretary appears in all of our
25 Councils. I was just going to see the page because I
26 had pulled up something else. The reason why we only
27 have 12 of our 13 seats filled currently is because the
28 application process went through and then Mr. Leighton
29 resigned his seat after the application period had
30 closed. Everyone who applied last year in that cycle
31 was appointed, and we did not have any additional
32 applications to fill any other seat. So all seats were
33 filled until Mr. Leighton resigned and upon his
34 resignation we did not have any applicants left over
35 from that cycle to fill his seat.

36

37 MS. NEEDHAM: All right, thank you for
38 that clarification. I wanted to make sure we didn't
39 need to do that housekeeping as well.

40

41 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

42

43 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you,
44 Cathy. Any other Council members with a question.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I do have one
49 question. It relates to this provision where

50

0505

1 apparently we're still operating under the 70/30
2 percent representation, 70 percent should represent
3 subsistence interests within the region and 30 percent
4 should represent commercial and sport interest within
5 the region. Are we still operating under that, it's in
6 the charter, and I don't know, you know, on our present
7 Council how we dealt with that, I want make sure we're
8 complying.

9
10 MS. PETRIVELLI: Mr. Chair, this is Pat
11 Petrivelli.

12
13 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Pat.

14
15 MS. PETRIVELLI: That provision is in
16 the regulation, in type A and B of the regulations of
17 the Program, and it may be in the charter under
18 membership. But the idea of complying is if those
19 people apply -- so from like the sport and commercial
20 industry have to apply to the Council, so like on the
21 North Slope Council no one has every applied on that
22 Council to represent the sport and commercial interest
23 so all of these provisions as to membership are usually
24 -- that the Secretaries will appoint them from the
25 available applicants.

26
27 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

28
29 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair.

30
31 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, I think
32 that's DeAnna.

33
34 MS. PERRY: Yeah, this is DeAnna,
35 sorry. With our new appointments, we currently have 10
36 subsistence user group representatives, and two
37 commercial/sport use representatives.

38
39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Could you
40 tell us who the two commercial sport representatives
41 are, I'm not aware of who that would be?

42
43 MS. PERRY: Sure. Frank Wright and
44 Harold Robbins.

45
46 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Oh, okay, so we're
47 in compliance, thank you very much. So maybe if
48 there's no more questions we're to the point where we
49 want to change our charter, add to it, as the rest of

50

0506

1 the Councils did to make allowances for a carry -- I
2 think the term was a carryover appointment.

3

4 MS. PERRY: Yes, Mr. Chair. And I can
5 let you know similar language that most of the Councils
6 are approving if that would help.

7

8 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: That would be very
9 helpful.

10

11 MS. PERRY: Okay. So it would be just
12 an added number on the charter and not quite sure
13 exactly where it'll be but it would say something like:

14

15 Service of members: Any member of any
16 Advisory Committee may serve after the expiration of
17 the member's term until a successor is appointed.

18

19 It might not be verbatim from one
20 Council to the other but definitely it's that same
21 intent, again, that all Councils have basically put in
22 their charters this go around.

23

24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. That sounds
25 pretty straightforward. I am assuming, DeAnna, that
26 that would have to come as a motion from the Council.

27

28 MS. PERRY: It would if you're making
29 any changes to the charter.

30

31 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Is somebody
32 prepared to make such a motion.

33

34 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

35

36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

37

38 MS. NEEDHAM: I'm going to add the
39 language:

40

41 Service of members: Any member of any
42 Advisory Committee may serve after the expiration of
43 the member's term until a successor is appointed to the
44 Southeast Regional -- Southeast Alaska Subsistence
45 Regional Advisory Council charter.

46

47 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

48

49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.

50

0507

1 Do we have a second.

2

3 MR. HOWARD: Second.

4

5 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Albert.

6 Okay, open for discussion, questions or comments from
7 the Council on what we're doing.

8

9 MR. ROBBINS: Mr. Chair, this is Ian.

10

11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Ian.

12

13 MR. JOHNSON: I don't think I have any
14 issues with this I just wonder if there are any
15 potential pitfalls to it, or is there any negative to
16 potentially including this clause that people can think
17 of?

18

19 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I'll leave that
20 open to the Staff if they want to comment on that.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I guess I'm not
25 hearing a response, Ian. I'll take that as being
26 everybody likes it.

27

28 MR. VICKERS: Mr. Chair, this is Brent
29 Vickers from OSM. I don't have -- I am not aware of
30 any negative -- I'm not saying that there aren't any, I
31 have listened to most of the other Regional Council
32 meetings and I have not heard any discussion about
33 possible negative impacts from this. So I don't -- I
34 can't promise you they're not there but I am -- I,
35 myself, am unaware of any discussion about them.

36

37 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
38 Mr. Vickers.

39

40 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you.

41

42 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman.

43

44 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes, go ahead,
45 Frank.

46

47 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, I was just wondering
48 about, you know, if we -- or when we get together and
49 we still haven't been appointed yet, like if we're in

50

0508

1 Ketchikan or something like that and then come to find
2 out we're not reappointed then, you know, someone else
3 is put in your place then where do we go from there,
4 they just send you home?

5

6 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Frank, I don't
7 think that can happen, I don't know is there a comment
8 on that from Staff.

9

10 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, I could cover
11 that. So when a new member is appointed, we do have
12 paperwork that's required to be able to get them to
13 travel so if it were to happen say within a week or so
14 before a scheduled meeting, it would almost be
15 impossible to get the new member to the meeting. The
16 appointment would prohibit the previous member from
17 attending and being a member, but it's not like we
18 would send you to Ketchikan and on the second day of
19 the meeting have to send you home because someone's
20 coming in to fill your seat. Logistically, I don't
21 think that would be possible.

22

23 MR. WRIGHT: Okay, thank you.

24

25 MS. PERRY: Uh-huh.

26

27 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Any other
28 questions.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 MR. WRIGHT: Call for the question.

33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Question's been
35 called for. Frank, if you would do a roll call on
36 this.

37

38 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, before a roll
39 call, do we need to establish like a strong
40 justification why we feel this is needed, like we've
41 only just asked questions and then talked about the
42 potential not -- how it would harm us, but not why; I'm
43 just curious. I know I know why it's needed and it
44 seems like housekeeping to me but I just want to make
45 sure before we take a vote if we actually have to put
46 that justification into the record.

47

48 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

49

50

0509

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Does
2 somebody on the Staff want to answer that.

3
4 MS. PERRY: This is DeAnna, yeah, I
5 think that would be a good idea. I think it's
6 definitely been a hot topic for many Councils so it
7 won't come as a surprise but it would be nice to voice
8 your specific concern if this were not added to the
9 charter.

10
11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Is that something
12 you're prepared to do Cathy.

13
14 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
15 wouldn't say I was prepared to do it. But reasons why
16 I feel this is extremely important is as has been made
17 apparent to our Council and our inability to represent
18 Federally-qualified subsistence users, if we would have
19 tried to attempt to do this meeting as a five member
20 Council, which up until last week or 10 days ago or so
21 we were a five member Council. And I think that would
22 have been a detriment to subsistence users in our
23 region because we wouldn't have been representative
24 across the region. But adding this language into our
25 charter, it allows for carryover of service of members
26 so that our constituents do have representation on this
27 Council and it can operate as a full Council while
28 we're waiting for appointments, for whatever reason
29 they may be held up.

30
31 And yeah, I'll leave it at that and let
32 other Council members add points to the justification.

33
34 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

35
36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.
37 I think the question had been called for, and unless
38 there's any other questions.

39
40 (No comments)

41
42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Frank, go ahead
43 and do a roll call vote.

44
45 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson.

46
47 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

48
49 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

50

0510

1 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

2

3 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

4

5 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

6

7 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

8

9 MR. KITKA: Yes.

10

11 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

12

13 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

14

15 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

16

17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

18

19 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

20

21 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

22

23 MR. WRIGHT: Bob Schroeder.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

32

33 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

34

35 MR. WRIGHT: Calvin Casipit.

36

37 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

38

39 MR. WRIGHT: Frank Wright votes yes.

40 Motion carried.

41

42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
43 Frank. So question for the Council. Are there any
44 other proposed changes you would like to make to the
45 charter.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, I'm not

50

0511

1 hearing any so I think we've completed that action
2 item. DeAnna, am I correct that we've done everything
3 we need to do there?

4

5 MS. PERRY: Yes, Mr. Chair.

6

7 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.

8 I did want to, before we leave the topic, I did want to
9 just point out to the Council members there is a topic
10 in the charter dealing with subcommittees, which I
11 proposed wanting one. And just to familiarize you with
12 that, we haven't had a subcommittee in awhile, it says,
13 subject to the DFO's approval, that's the Designated
14 Federal Officer, who is DeAnna, in our case,
15 subcommittees may be formed for the purpose of
16 compiling information or conducting research, however,
17 such subcommittees must act only under the direction of
18 the DFO and must report their recommendations to the
19 full Council for consideration. Subcommittees must not
20 provide advice or work products directly to the agency.
21 Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish
22 their assignments subject to the approval of the
23 Designated Federal Officer and the availability of
24 resources.

25

26 So you can see the limitations of what
27 a subcommittee does but I think one would be useful to
28 deal with the issue before us of comanagement and
29 related topics.

30

31 So we'll get to that later but we
32 should continue on with action items, one of which is
33 the finalization of our annual report.

34

35 Draft annual report is in our Council
36 books. I think that starts on Page 69. So who
37 presents for the annual report?

38

39 MS. PERRY: That would be me, Mr.
40 Chair. I do see that Melinda was available so I didn't
41 know if you wanted to take her first while she's
42 available or if you wanted to move on to this item. I
43 just wanted to let you know.

44

45 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, if Melinda's
46 available let's bring her on and we can take care of
47 our other business afterwards, no problem.

48

49 MS. HERNANDEZ BURKE: Hi, Mr. Chair,

50

0512

1 Council members, guests, tribes, public, this is
2 Melinda Hernandez Burke, Tribal Relations Specialist
3 for the Forest Service here in the Alaska region.
4 Apologies I was not available a little bit ago when my
5 name was called. I had to step out for a consultation.
6 But happy to be invited to give a bit of a report
7 today.

8
9 I heard from Bob Schroeder, he really
10 wanted to hear about some plans to include tribes in
11 some management structures and I have something for you
12 that I'm happy to share and some of you might have
13 already heard about it. I was hoping to be joined by
14 Ray Paddock from Central Council today but he's not
15 available right here at this time.

16
17 But wanted to share a bit about the
18 Tlingit and Haida and the U.S. Forest Service signing
19 an Indigenous Guardians Network Partnership back in
20 September. It was really exciting to see this coming
21 to fruition. I first learned about the concept of the
22 Indigenous Guardians when I attended a workshop that
23 Cathy and many other folks were at looking at the model
24 in Hyda Gwaii and the relationship that the First
25 Peoples there have with the Federal government and the
26 way that their management structure is allowed for,
27 that indigenous on the ground knowledge to be
28 incorporated into decisionmaking. So was really happy
29 when the Regional Forester was approached with a
30 proposal by Central Council and some other partners in
31 this network and we were tasked with making it happen.
32 So fast forward a couple months in September there was
33 an MOU signed and one of the really cool things about
34 this agreement is that one of the broad topic areas is
35 subsistence. One of the others is adaptation planning.
36 The other is shared stewardship and then heritage as
37 well. So we're still at the very, very beginning
38 stages of this partnership which Tlingit and Haida has
39 just signed a Staff member who's going to be working
40 full-time on supporting their training, growing the
41 program. We have a charter to build, we have a
42 steering committee to build. So just really excited on
43 how this is going to play out with communities, with
44 tribes, applying ecological knowledge and sustainable
45 ways of living into monitoring projects, restoration of
46 the Forest.

47
48 So we're really excited about that.
49 I'm happy to share the agreement itself and a couple of
50

0513

1 great articles about the partnership with DeAnna, to
2 give out to everybody via email and I'll put a link
3 here in the chat as well.

4

5 But will open up to any questions.
6 Hopefully folks have heard about it and if you haven't
7 please dive in and Ray Paddock from Tlingit and Haida
8 offered up for me to share his contact info as well if
9 there's any followup questions specifically for the
10 tribe.

11

12 Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, Melinda
15 thank you. Council, you have some questions for Ms.
16 Hernandez Burke.

17

18 MR. CASIPIT: Yeah, Mr. Chair, this is
19 Cal Casipit. I just wanted to thank Melinda for giving
20 us that report. I'm really looking forward to seeing
21 the materials you send us through DeAnna, look forward
22 to seeing that. And if you get a chance say hi to Ray
23 for me, I was hoping I would hear him today but that's
24 okay, and just say hi to him for me and I kind of miss
25 halibut fishing with him out here.

26

27 (Laughter)

28

29 MS. HERNANDEZ BURKE: Through the
30 Chair. Mr. Casipit, yes, absolutely I will. He
31 regrets not being able to join today. I think that you
32 will be hearing more from us and from this program --
33 about this program in the future. We really do, you
34 know, plan on having a robust process to get this
35 charter, the steering committee established. There's
36 already some really fantastic work happening out there
37 and some great models to work off so we just look
38 forward to that work with the tribe and Ray and there's
39 a bio that I'll share with you as well for the
40 individual that was hired at Central Council who will
41 be working on this project.

42

43 So thanks, Cal, and please do reach out
44 to Ray, he's offered for any Council members, any Staff
45 who has questions to please reach out to him and he
46 shares his contact info.

47

48 Thanks.

49

50

0514

1 MR. KITKA: Melinda, this is Harvey
2 Kitka.

3
4 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, go ahead,
5 Harvey.

6
7 MS. HERNANDEZ BURKE: Hi Harvey.

8
9 MR. KITKA: Hi Melinda. I was just
10 hoping that some information could be forwarded to me
11 so I could take it to the Sitka Tribe.

12
13 MS. HERNANDEZ BURKE: Yeah, absolutely
14 Harvey. I'll share the challenge cost share agreement
15 itself. I would have everybody go to -- my VPN just
16 cut out here for a sec so the link will take a minute
17 to show up in the chat box but I would encourage folks
18 to go to Page 20, which shows our operating plan and it
19 shows our three initial phases that we've lined out
20 together and will be working towards.

21
22 The other sharing opportunity that I
23 just learned about a little while ago, Tlingit and
24 Haida puts on these lunch times -- let me find exactly
25 what it's called -- here we go, Tlingit and Haida puts
26 on Native issues forums via the web and they've just
27 invited the Regional Forester today to participate in
28 the one next Thursday which will be about this program
29 so I'll also include that information in the chat and
30 for DeAnna to send out to you all. Harvey, I think you
31 were just the star of one of these Native issues forums
32 recently with the herring egg discussion and the
33 Kaagwaantaan petition. So you can hear more from Ray,
34 from President Peterson, and from Regional Forester
35 Dave Schmid next week Thursday at noon.

36
37 MR. KITKA: Thank you.

38
39 MS. HERNANDEZ BURKE: You're welcome.
40 Gunalcheesh Harvey. Miss you guys.

41
42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Anybody else on
43 the Council have a question go ahead.

44
45 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, this is Ian.

46
47 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes, go ahead.

48
49 MR. JOHNSON: Hey, Melinda. So, yeah,

50

0515

1 I just want to, I guess connect a few dots and -- to a
2 point that Cathy made earlier during the WECAN
3 presentation is just that, you know, there's multiple
4 initiatives going forward in the same direction,
5 sometimes in parallel, sometimes crossing over and -- I
6 guess I'm pretty with the Guardians Initiative and I've
7 been pretty involved with it here and very excited
8 about it but just, you know, kind of want to
9 acknowledge that can be -- maybe the central sort of
10 thrust of these different initiatives going forward and
11 I think just becoming aware of this Guardians Program
12 could help this Council sort of direct communities or
13 other things into this -- other initiatives into this.
14 I hope it becomes that at least.

15

16 MS. HERNANDEZ BURKE: Yeah, through the
17 Chair. Thanks so much for that, Ian. And one of the
18 things that I'm awaiting as well, and you heard from
19 Regional Forester Dave Schmid earlier in the week,
20 we're anxious to hear what kind of action will be taken
21 by the new Secretary and this Administration on the
22 Homelands Petition. Like you said there's a lot of
23 parallel actions happening at the same time and I
24 really think that once we get some solid direction on
25 what the Department is going to do with that Homeland's
26 Petition, I just see so many -- like you said, so many
27 dots to be connected and I think that a lot of this is
28 going to fall into some really great actionable,
29 collaborative efforts here in the real near future. So
30 we wait with everyone else on what happens with that,
31 what happens with the Kaagwaantaan Petition, so I'm
32 excited to connect dots and work with the tribes and
33 communities involved in these efforts and really get
34 things rolling.

35

36 Gunalcheesh.

37

38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thanks,
39 Melinda. Any other Council members with a question or
40 a comment.

41

42 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, this is
43 Albert.

44

45 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Albert.

46

47 MR. HOWARD: I seem to have missed
48 something here. What's the purpose between the
49 agreement between the Forest Service and Tlingit and

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0516

1 Haida?

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4 MS. HERNANDEZ BURKE: Through the
5 Chair. Mr. Howard. So the Indigenous Guardians
6 Network is operating under Tlingit and Haida and
7 they've asked the Forest Service to come in as a
8 partner, a signatory partner, and I know the bigger
9 partnership network includes FFP, SpruceRoot, a lot of
10 other partners out there. But I think where it
11 parallels and has some tie-in to the Subsistence
12 Program is that one of the broad focus area topics is
13 subsistence, so we look forward to really exploring
14 that and building it. I can't tell you exactly what it
15 looks like right now but I think this network is going
16 to be something exciting just to bring some of these
17 efforts together and really the focus is incorporating
18 indigenous knowledge and traditional ecological
19 knowledge into management practices. So broad -- kind
20 of broad goals and we look forward to building that
21 with a lot of folks at the table.

21

22

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

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24

MR. HOWARD: A followup, Mr. Chair.

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CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead.

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MR. HOWARD: Well, Mr. Chairman, you
heard earlier there's 229 Federally-recognized tribes.
Angoon Community Association has always stated that the
Tlingit and Haida is like the regional corporation but
they're a regional tribe. I asked the question for a
reason and the reason is is that it seems like, I don't
know if they're trying to take over the role of the
Southeast Regional Advisory Council, I could see it
happening that way watching how they've taken over
other programs and basically -- they took a lot of
programs out of Angoon that we can no longer get back.

I'll give you an example.

The housing authority, we have no say
over what happens with our funds anymore. I don't feel
like Angoon has proper representation at the Council.
Traditional ecological knowledge.....

(Teleconference interference -
participants not muted - piano)

0517

1 MR. HOWARD: That's not my piano by the
2 way so.

3
4 (Laughter)

5
6 MR. HOWARD: So I have concerns with
7 that. I haven't, you know, it would be nice to see
8 that type of effort from the Forest Service happen with
9 Angoon as far as a lot of our concerns with the Island.
10 So now this is just something that I've got to put on
11 my radar to keep an eye out for.

12
13 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14
15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
16 Albert. Any response Melinda.

17
18 MS. HERNANDEZ BURKE: Yeah, sure, I
19 guess I would just offer, Mr. Howard, you know we're at
20 the very, very beginning of building what this
21 partnership and this network looks like. There's still
22 a lot that I, personally, have to learn about the
23 Indigenous Guardians Network. Like Ian said, there's
24 been a lot of work out there that I'm still learning
25 about myself as well, so would definitely invite a
26 conversation, you know, with you at any time, or, you
27 know, if you look over this and your tribe has any
28 questions; I think all input is -- and, you know,
29 collaborative opportunities is definitely welcome at
30 this point in these very, very early stages.

31
32 Gunalcheesh.

33
34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thanks,
35 Melinda. Any other questions from the Council.

36
37 MR. HOWARD: Just a quick one. May I
38 have all that information sent to me as well?

39
40 MS. HERNANDEZ BURKE: Yeah, it'll get
41 to the whole RAC. Through the Chair.

42
43 MR. HOWARD: Thank you.

44
45 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Anybody else.

46
47 (Teleconference interference -
48 participants not muted)

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0518

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Anybody on the
2 Council. Question for Melinda.

3

4

5 (No comments)

6

7

8 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Apparently not,
9 Melinda. So, once, again, very exciting things
10 happening and thank you for bringing that to our
11 attention and we will definitely be tuned into what's
12 going on and make sure we'll look for that information
13 you're going to send us, sounds interesting.

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 MS. HERNANDEZ BURKE: Absolutely. Yep,
yep, on it's way. And thank you so much for the time
today, I know that you've got quite a bit to cover here
before the end of the day. And, yeah, thank you so
much look forward to future opportunities to engage.

 Gunalcheesh.

 Thank you.

 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you,
Melinda. Okay, are we ready to go to the annual
report.

 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So
on Page 69 -- for the record this is DeAnna Perry. On
Page 69 of your meeting book you'll see the details
about the purpose of the annual report and then on Page
71 you'll see the draft of this Council's 2020 annual
report. And I know most folks have had an opportunity
to look at that, should we take a few moments to look
that over one last time before we dive in, Mr. Chair.

 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, everybody
has to familiarize themselves with it. Yeah, while
we're doing that I was just -- maybe like to bring it
to the Council's attention. We have a rather lengthy
item on Council vacancies, some of that has been
resolved, maybe the underlying issue is still there. I
don't know if we wanted to change anything in that item
but it bears looking at.

 MS. PERRY: And, Mr. Chair, I did
assume that I would need to update that with numbers
and I think I have in there may expand this line, which
depending on the appointments so anything that's not

0519

1 factually correct, that can change.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right.

4

5 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

6

7 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

8

9 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10 When I think about annual reports I think about this
11 particular annual report being reflective of issues
12 that we worked on during 2020 and that was definitely a
13 very highlighted issue with a lot of discussion and,
14 you know, this is our opportunity to show the Board
15 where we spend our time and what types of things that
16 we work on so other than, you know, the updates that
17 Ms. Perry needs to provide I don't necessarily feel
18 like we need to cut it out completely. I know that
19 they know that it's a concern because it was reported
20 on at length by all of the Councils at the Federal
21 Subsistence Board meeting but it is also part of this
22 longer term established public record from the actions
23 of this Council.

24

25 So I just thought I would provide that
26 feedback on that particular piece.

27

28 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

29

30 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
31 Cathy.

32

33 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, following up on
34 what Cathy just mentioned. You will note that on Page
35 74, just before paragraph four, that last paragraph on
36 Council vacancies, we are asking the Board to take some
37 action by sending a letter. So I just wanted to bring
38 that to your attention. I had not expected to take any
39 of that out, again, I just expected to change the
40 numbers to accurately reflect our new appointments but
41 the rest of that would all stay in.

42

43 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, I think it's
44 worth, you know, for the record informing the incoming
45 Secretaries that, you know, we recognize the importance
46 of having fully seated Councils just for the record, so
47 to speak, you know, we have this history behind us of
48 how it's been. As you said, DeAnna, just making sure,
49 you know, that the numbers which, you know, at the time

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0520

1 you wrote this were valid and current might have
2 changed some but we could change that.

3
4 So as the Council looks through this,
5 just ask if anybody picks up anything else that they
6 want to see amended. And I guess we still have an
7 opportunity to add something if we'd like, correct,
8 DeAnna.

9
10 MS. PERRY: Yes, we can do that, Mr.
11 Chair.

12
13 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

14
15 MS. PERRY: This is where you finalize
16 and approve so we can certainly add something.

17
18 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

19
20 (Pause)

21
22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: And while we're on
23 this topic in relation to bullet point No. 6, the
24 status of fish and wildlife resources in Southeast. I
25 do want to thank our Fish and Wildlife Staff for
26 putting together what I think is a really good report
27 that we could pass on to the Secretaries. It's a
28 report that they presented to us on harvest of fish and
29 wildlife at the beginning of the meeting. I think
30 they've got a really good concise way of presenting the
31 data and I like the way they kind of set it up with the
32 averages -- a couple different averages over 10 year
33 periods, kind of make for a good quick comparison and I
34 think that information will be helpful to the Board and
35 the Secretaries to get a good synopsis of how our
36 harvests are going here in the region. So I want to
37 thank them for that, it's good work.

38
39 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, this is
40 Albert.

41
42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Albert.

43
44 MR. HOWARD: Do we want to add concerns
45 about the newly created kelp fishery and the lack of
46 information on how it will affect subsistence users and
47 resources around the kelp farms that are being created.
48 It's part of, you mentioned earlier, being proactive
49 instead of reactive.

50

0521

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. Albert.
2 So I guess here's my feeling about that. Now, you
3 know, the kelp farms they would be taking place out of
4 the jurisdiction of what the Subsistence Board has, you
5 know, in salt water, and, you know, issues like that do
6 affect subsistence users but there isn't really
7 anything that the Board or the Secretaries, it's not
8 really in their jurisdiction. But there's ways to deal
9 with that and I think it's something we have to
10 consider here as we're moving forward.

11
12 A lot of the issues that we may see
13 that, and have in the past, have gone into annual
14 reports, I think can be better addressed with letters
15 that are sent to the agencies that actually, you know,
16 have jurisdiction. And we have done that. I mean
17 we've sent letters to the State Department of
18 Environmental Conservation and obviously Department of
19 Fish and Game, I think, on issues. So if that's an
20 important issue we can send letters from the Council to
21 those agencies, you know, expressing our concerns. But
22 I don't think the annual report is really the right way
23 to go about that.

24
25 So if we want to keep that on the radar
26 for our letter writing correspondence policy, I think
27 that would be a better way to address it.

28
29 MR. HOWARD: Well, Mr. Chairman, you're
30 correct, we don't have jurisdiction but what I learned
31 through the ETJ process is, in fact, if you exercise
32 the extraterritorial jurisdiction and ask the Federal
33 government to come in and look at an area because we
34 felt that the State wasn't properly managing the area.
35 Within that petition the Federal government came back
36 and said, well, you have three years to fix this or
37 you're going to lose jurisdiction of that area to the
38 Federal government. So even though they have
39 jurisdiction it can be temporary.

40
41 I think we need to put this on the
42 front burner if there's concerns of subsistence users
43 in that area.

44
45 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

46
47 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you,
48 Albert. I'm not the, you know, final say over what we
49 do or not, I was just offering up a suggestion there.
50

0522

1 I don't know if there's anyone else or Staff, you know,
2 that has any kind of input on this.

3

4 MR. CASIPIT: Hey, this is Cal Casipit.
5 I just wanted to chime in a little bit in here about
6 extraterritorial jurisdiction. I may be overstepping
7 my bounds because I'm not Staff anymore. But petitions
8 for extraterritorial jurisdiction are really
9 complicated but basically what that is is where the
10 Secretary reaches out his own jurisdiction to change or
11 influence an activity happening outside his or her
12 jurisdiction that affects subsistence resources -- or
13 affects the resources occurring on areas under his or
14 her jurisdiction. So we have to be careful about when
15 we use the terms ETJ and what it means and what the
16 Secretary can do or not do under ETJ, it's a really
17 complicated legalistic thing. And, yeah, I just wanted
18 to bring that out.

19

20 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cal.
21 Yeah, I guess my understanding of that is that is the
22 process. It is intended to take jurisdiction over
23 something that would affect uses on Federal public
24 lands such as, you know, in the Angoon petition, the
25 impacts were out in the saltwater but the -- I should
26 say the problem was out in the saltwater, the
27 management jurisdiction, but the impacts were happening
28 at the stream which is Kanalku on Federal public lands.
29 So different situation I guess with kelp aquaculture.

30

31 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chair. That was just
32 a demonstration of the fact that, yeah, they do have
33 jurisdiction but it's not set in stone. That wasn't
34 intended to say, well, let's try to exercise -- that
35 wasn't my intention by my comment, it was just to
36 demonstrate that my understanding of jurisdiction and
37 how that works. So when you create a new fishery and
38 it takes food off of subsistence users table that's
39 affecting their table. So I was just trying to offer
40 an idea on remaining proactive and getting a grasp on
41 what's happening before it happens and before it does
42 affect someone in that area and they no longer can get
43 their halibut there or whatever else they get there.

44

45 But we don't have to do this, it's just
46 a suggestion.

47

48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. And it is
49 a good suggestion, Albert, and I'm thinking about it

50

0523

1 here a little more, you know, before any of these kelp
2 operations get started there's all kinds of permitting
3 that must have to happen. I don't know how much but
4 I'm sure there's permitting that has to happen and
5 there's agencies that have to issue those permits. It
6 could be Army Corps of Engineers, State Department of
7 Environmental of Conservation, I am not sure what all
8 the jurisdictions are. But I think it is well worth
9 our while to send letters to the entities that are
10 involved in the permitting just to let them know that,
11 you know, subsistence users have a concern here so
12 before they issue any permits they have to consider
13 that and investigate it and bring it back to the public
14 and all that process. And if an operation gets
15 permitted and goes into operation and does start having
16 impacts, you know, despite our efforts to prevent that
17 from happening, well, then other action has to be
18 taken. But, you know, until something actually happens
19 I mean there is a process, we can be involved in that
20 process and I think that's the place to start before we
21 start voicing our concerns to the Secretary of
22 Agriculture. I mean that's just kind of my opinion.

23

24 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

27

28 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

29 You know, I think this is an important and emerging
30 potential issue within our region and I respect that
31 Mr. Howard brought it back to the table for the annual
32 report but I feel like it's possibly something that I
33 personally would want more information and discussion
34 on before I would include it in an annual report
35 because we've only really just heard it in this year
36 which is 2021, and the annual report should reflect all
37 the work that we did in 2020.

38

39 So maybe one thing to do besides just
40 keeping it on our radar is to request that for our next
41 Council meeting that maybe we get somebody to come
42 before us to talk to us about how we could be involved
43 in the permitting process to have that -- you know, how
44 members could get involved in that process, whether
45 it's us making comments or individual communities so we
46 could learn a little bit more about how we could get
47 involved at the forefront of some kelp farm going in.
48 And maybe that's a good -- not put it in the annual
49 report but keep the issue alive and make sure that

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1 information is coming back to us so that we can start
2 building a public record on it.

3

4 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, thank you
7 for that suggestion, Cathy. I think it's a good one.
8 And, you know, also aquaculture, that's something that
9 requires a lot of permits and what not, but, I know,
10 Albert, you've also expressed concerns about new
11 fisheries that are developed and not a lot of
12 consideration go into the impacts it might have on
13 other users. That's kind of a separate issue. It's
14 not something you can just point to a specific permit,
15 application on but it's a topic that can be discussed
16 for sure. Something to put on our agenda for the
17 future, I think.

18

19 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, this is
20 Albert.

21

22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, go ahead,
23 Albert.

24

25 MR. HOWARD: So this whole concept is
26 already to the permitting process and this is the first
27 time we're discussing it. So before it even reached
28 the permitting process why wasn't there a process
29 before that. So now anybody can apply for a permit and
30 go through the process without us even knowing about it
31 until now. Why wasn't this part of any of the agency
32 reports saying, hey, this is what's coming. This is
33 what's coming and how is it going to affect your
34 community if one of these pops up in your community.
35 Why wasn't that part of any of the agencies reports to
36 this Council so we could have acted on it before it got
37 to the point where an individual now can go apply for a
38 permit to put one of these in an area and, yeah, I can
39 talk this to death but I don't always agree with the
40 permitting process because I've dealt with it on so
41 many different level in so many different areas but you
42 don't get the full story on what created one of these
43 farms was done to the environment. And now I have more
44 concerns because I've got more questions now than
45 answers.

46

47 So if one of these pops up in Angoon, I
48 don't know how it's going to impact Angoon because the
49 people that are allowing this to happen probably don't
50

0525

1 know themselves, and that's the problem with creating a
2 new fishery is it's never fully looked at on the impact
3 that it'll have, whether it's positive or negative,
4 it's always revenue -- is more important than anything
5 else. And if it's going to create jobs and revenue,
6 well, we'll deal with everything else later.

7

8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, you've
11 raised some really good questions Albert. Definitely
12 something that needs further exploring. I think we
13 should keep that in mind for a topic for our future
14 meetings here, or, yeah, I don't know the best way to
15 address it but, yeah, it's definitely a topic of
16 concern.

17

18 Is there any other Council members who
19 have been looking over the annual report and want to
20 make any comments.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Not hearing any,
25 DeAnna, I think this requires a motion to -- I don't
26 exactly know what the wording of the motion would be
27 but -- what would that be?

28

29 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

30

31 MS. PERRY: Yes, Mr. Chair, to finalize
32 -- to approve and finalize the annual report as
33 discussed. And it looks as though the only changes
34 would be, again, just updating the paragraph on Council
35 vacancies. If there are no other additions or changes.

36

37 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.
38 Was there somebody on the Council who would like to
39 make such a motion.

40

41 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, this is Cal
42 Casipit. I move that we accept the draft of this
43 annual report with discussed changes that we had talked
44 about with the changes in the number 3, the Regional
45 Council vacancies. I also wanted to make sure that that
46 harvest presentation is included as well. And, yeah, I
47 think that's all we need.

48

49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cal.

50

0526

1 Need a second.

2

3 MR. JOHNSON: Second.

4

5 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you. I
6 think that was Ian.

7

8 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, sir.

9

10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. We have the
11 motion to accept the annual report as a final product
12 to be sent to the Secretaries. Any other discussion on
13 the motion.

14

15 MR. KITKA: Don, this is Harvey Kitka.

16

17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Harvey.

18

19 MR. KITKA: Was there any additions to
20 the annual report?

21

22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: We do not have any
23 approved additions, no.

24

25 (Pause)

26

27 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Any other
28 questions.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Are we ready for
33 the question.

34

35 MR. WRIGHT: Call for the question.

36

37 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.
38 You want to call the roll call vote.

39

40 MR. WRIGHT: Cal Casipit.

41

42 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

43

44 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

45

46 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

47

48 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

49

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0527

1 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

2

3 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

4

5 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

6

7 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

8

9 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

10

11 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Kitka -- Harvey

12 Kitka.

13

14 (Laughter)

15

16 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey.

17

18 MR. KITKA: Yes.

19

20 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

21

22 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

23

24 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

25

26 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

27

28 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson.

29

30 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

31

32 MR. WRIGHT: Frank Wright votes yes.

33 Motion passed.

34

35 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, the annual
36 report's been accepted. Just a couple more action
37 items I believe, DeAnna. Requires action to draft
38 letters, I believe, and then we have to talk about
39 future meeting places and times. Is there anything
40 else that I've missed that you know of?

41

42 MS. PERRY: No, we had deferred further
43 action on State proposals if we had time this meeting,
44 if not, those were going to rollover.

45

46 So, yeah, I think meeting dates and
47 then any correspondence.

48

49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Well, I

50

0528

1 don't think we'll go back to fisheries proposals, I
2 think by the time we take care of those items of
3 business we'll be pretty much at 5:00 o'clock and it'd
4 be great if we could adjourn by then.

5

6 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

7

8 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

9

10 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
11 I'd like to make a motion that we draft and provide a
12 letter of support to the Kaagwaantaan ETJ proposal for
13 herring roe.

14

15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

16

17 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes, for herring, I
18 didn't have to say roe.

19

20 (Teleconference interference -
21 participants not muted - typing)

22

23 MR. HOWARD: Second.

24

25 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I think I heard a
26 second there.

27

28 MR. HOWARD: It's Albert.

29

30 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you
31 Albert. Okay, we have a motion to draft a letter in
32 support of the Kaagwaantaan petition. Beyond that is
33 there any specific language that anybody would like to
34 include in that letter.

35

36 (Teleconference interference -
37 participants not muted - typing)

38

39 MR. KITKA: Don, this is Harvey Kitka.

40

41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Harvey.

42

43 MR. KITKA: I don't know if this would
44 be included in the language but as you know I just told
45 you that we were going to go on two hour notice on
46 Saturday. One of the things of why we put in for this
47 petition was we tried for a lot of years, going through
48 down all the avenues of having to -- have them do a
49 herring fishery that was more conservative. We didn't

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0529

1 want to stop the fishery but it seemed like it got to
2 the point where we couldn't -- all our arguments were
3 falling on deaf ears. Even though the tribe basically
4 won two parts of the lawsuit to where they got to
5 consult with the tribe. One of those things was part
6 of the test fishery and the notice, and they didn't
7 consult with the tribe again. So I guess they're going
8 to go to court.

9
10 So basically I just want to say that
11 the State of Alaska would not listen to our people here
12 in Sitka.

13
14 Thank you.

15
16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. Thank you,
17 Harvey. Yeah, we'll just ask DeAnna to kind of take
18 notes here of what's being said and the language that
19 needs to be added to the letter she'll work from her
20 notes and transcripts and what not.

21
22 So anybody else have language they want
23 to suggest putting in the letter.

24
25 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

26
27 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

28
29 MS. NEEDHAM: I don't have specific
30 language necessarily. But if we could point towards
31 the fact that this Council has spent a number of years
32 receiving reports regarding herring stocks and was
33 involved in other potential efforts in the region for
34 having herring listed, or recognized as forage fish and
35 trying to take other protective methods. We've also --
36 even when Mr. Kitka was not on our -- reappointed for
37 our Council he still came before us to give updates of
38 this petition, the Kaagwaantaan's intent to submit this
39 petition forward. So I think we understand that other
40 avenues and efforts had been tried before it got to an
41 ETJ petition for finding ways to put protection on
42 herring in Sitka Sound. And, you know, an ETJ petition
43 for herring in Sitka has been put before the Secretary,
44 even in the past before I was on the Council, even, and
45 so it's a longstanding issue and continues to be a
46 concern and it really feels like this might be one of
47 the last tools in the tool box that the community is
48 able to potentially use in order to get the attention
49 that this conservation on herring in Sitka Sound has.
50

0530

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
4 Cathy. Good points. Anybody else with topics they
5 would like to -- it doesn't have to be wording,
6 essentially topics that you want to include in the
7 letter.

8

9 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman.

10

11 MR. CASIPIT: This is -- oh, go ahead.

12

13 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I hear Frank, go
14 ahead, Frank.

15

16 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, I was just
17 wondering, Harvey said that they had gone to court and
18 I wondered kind of like a date with the court and what
19 the outcome of the court was -- court hearing, might be
20 able to put in the letter in addressing it.

21

22 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

23

24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.
25 Was that a question that Harvey would answer?

26

27 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, well, I think if
28 it's going to be put in the letter we probably need to
29 get dates and stuff like that and so maybe Harvey can
30 provide it to DeAnna.

31

32 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

33

34 MR. KITKA: Could I email that to
35 DeAnna, I'm sure we're going to -- we can go back and
36 dig up all our paperwork and I can send it off to her.

37

38 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Harvey.

39

40 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Any Council
41 members who want to work with DeAnna in crafting this
42 letter, that's certainly encouraged.

43

44 MR. CASIPIT: This is Cal. I think
45 some important wording in there has got to be -- that I
46 think we should put in there is that, you know, all
47 lega -- the proponent feels that all legal and
48 administrative remedies have been exhausted.

49

50

0531

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Very good, Cal.

2

3 MR. CASIPIT: And that way it's like,
4 hey, look, this is -- we need your help, it kind of
5 gives that.

6

7 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Any other input to
8 this letter.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: And I'm sorry if
13 somebody could remind me, did we put forward a motion
14 to write this letter.

15

16 MS. PERRY: Yes, Mr. Chair. Cathy
17 moved and Albert seconded.

18

19 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.
20 I wanted to make sure. Okay, any other input from the
21 Council.

22

23 (No comments)

24

25 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Perhaps we have
26 enough input for now. I would point out that, you know,
27 in crafting this letter if any of the Council members
28 who have an interest can, you know, work with DeAnna
29 and make sure that these points are expressed the way
30 we want them. So are we ready for the question.

31

32 MR. WRIGHT: Call for the question.

33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.
35 Go ahead and do a roll call vote.

36

37 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson.

38

39 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

40

41 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

42

43 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

44

45 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

46

47 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

48

49 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

50

0532

1 MR. KITKA: Yes.

2

3 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

4

5 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

6

7 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

8

9 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

10

11 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

12

13 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

14

15 MR. WRIGHT: Bob Schroeder.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

24

25 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

26

27 MR. WRIGHT: Calvin Casipit.

28

29 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

30

31 MR. WRIGHT: Frank Wright votes yes.

32 Motion passed.

33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,

35 Frank.

36

37 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

38

39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

40

41 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
42 move that we submit a letter of support for the
43 petition of the USDA rulemaking to create a Traditional
44 Homelands Conservation role for the long-term
45 management and protection of traditional and customary
46 use areas in the Tongass National Forest.

47

48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Do we have a

49 second.

50

0533

1 MR. CASIPIT: This is Cal, I second.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.
4 Motion's been made to write a letter on the Homelands
5 Conservation Rule. Suggested topics to include in that
6 letter, anybody on the Council.

7

8 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

9

10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

11

12 MS. NEEDHAM: For the Council's
13 reminder this is the -- we were asked to provide this
14 letter of recommendation, the Organized Village of
15 Kasaan is sort of the lead tribe on the petition asked
16 us to support their effort in this letter. I feel like
17 this is a -- personally it's a very -- it has specific
18 asks in it, it's a very detailed well thought out
19 petition that was signed on by 12 Federally-recognized
20 tribes in the region. It is an outcome that was
21 initiated on the heels of the Alaska Roadless
22 Rulemaking process when the region as a whole made
23 comments that they did not want the Alaska Roadless
24 rule and wanted more input on a local level, and I
25 think that this petition really addresses that well and
26 puts Federally-recognized tribes in the forefront from
27 that and I also believe it falls in line with some of
28 the recent discussions that we're having and hope to
29 have continued in the future regarding comanagement of
30 resources within the region at a more local level, and
31 working with Federally-recognized tribes as a lead for
32 that. So I think those types of points would make for
33 a strong support letter.

34

35 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

36

37 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Very good, thank
38 you, Cathy. Other Council members have suggestions for
39 this letter.

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I think Cathy's
44 comments kind of sum up the will of the Council on this
45 so if there's no other Council comments maybe we're
46 ready for the question.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50

0534

1 MR. KITKA: Call for the question.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
4 Harvey. Frank, can you give us a roll call vote on the
5 motion to send a letter to the Board and Secretaries in
6 support of the Homelands Conservation Rule Petition
7 submitted by the various tribes.

8

9 MR. WRIGHT: Okay.

10

11 Cal.

12

13 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

14

15 MR. WRIGHT: Mike Douville.

16

17 MR. DOUVILLE: Mike Douville votes yes.

18

19 MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 MR. WRIGHT: Bob Schroeder.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

28

29 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

30

31 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

32

33 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

34

35 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

36

37 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

38

39 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

40

41 MR. KITKA: Yes.

42

43 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

44

45 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

46

47 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

48

49 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

50

0535

1 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson.

2

3 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

4

5 MR. WRIGHT: Frank Wright votes yes.

6 Motion passed.

7

8 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.

9 Any other letters that we've talked about writing this
10 meeting or new suggestions. Is there anything else.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I think that's all
15 we had on the list as of this morning. I don't.....

16

17 MR. KITKA: Mr. Chair, Harvey Kitka
18 here.

19

20 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Harvey.

21

22 MR. KITKA: On the early talks with the
23 Forester, he was talking about young growth and the
24 logging of it, I think somewhere down the line we need
25 to make sure that they do it in a way that will not
26 bother the wildlife.

27

28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I know
29 that's something that we've certainly talked about.
30 It's kind of important to me. I think we've got enough
31 before us that we could write such a letter. I don't
32 know if any other Council members want to weigh in on
33 that or make a motion.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: If we want to
38 write a letter we do need a motion and then we can
39 flesh out the details.

40

41 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, this is Ian.
42 I move that we craft a letter to Forest Service
43 describing our expectations around young growth logging
44 practices as it pertains to wildlife.

45

46 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Ian.

47

48 MS. NEEDHAM: Second.

49

50

0536

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.
2 Okay, any other thoughts on this letter.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: So I have some
7 things that we could add to the letter. I think it
8 should point out that the -- I think the Council
9 supports the transition away from old growth harvest to
10 a second growth harvest, however, the Council also has
11 concerns that in the harvest of the second growth, or
12 the young growth, should be done in a manner that has
13 the least adverse impacts on subsistence uses. I see
14 the potential for logging in the young growth as having
15 almost as much impact as taking the old growth in the
16 long-term. I think it needs to be done in a very
17 limited manner and done with techniques that allow for
18 habitat restoration, I think would be the key term.
19 There's opportunities to allow for habitat restoration
20 when they conduct young growth harvest.

21
22 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, this is Ian.

23
24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, go ahead,
25 Ian.

26
27 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, just adding to
28 that, that they're conscious of, you know, we want to
29 be thinking proactively again about climate change so
30 thinking about snow intercepts and other factors that,
31 you know, basically these stands are going to develop
32 to the point where they are probably functioning at
33 least partially as an old growth stand in regards to
34 intercept and other factors affecting deer. So we
35 don't want, you know, we need to be thinking about
36 winter deer habitat on top of spring habitat, summer
37 habitat when creating young growth opportunities.

38
39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. So
40 essentially, and I don't know if this needs to be put
41 in the letter, we don't want to see clear-cutting
42 techniques in the second growth harvest. There's
43 opportunities -- I mean right now it's very poor
44 habitat and there are opportunities to, you know, do
45 some thinning and improve habitat but if you were to go
46 about and start clear-cutting in the second growth
47 stands that would not be beneficial at all so there are
48 opportunities to improve the stands, take out some wood
49 and not do further damage to the habitat. It's still
50

0537

1 going to take a long time for the habitat to recover
2 regardless but we certainly don't want to do more
3 damage.

4

5 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, this is Cal
6 Casipit. I want -- I wholeheartedly support the focus
7 of -- I think the way we want to state it is just say,
8 from a cultural prescriptions and young growth -- young
9 growth managed stands should focus on deer habitat
10 restoration. I think if we say that we would kind of
11 keep away -- get away from a semi-cultural prescription
12 where they're just looking at tree production. If we
13 actually specify that we expect a semi-cultural
14 prescriptions to restore wildlife habitat -- or restore
15 deer habitat, I think we're ahead to say that.

16

17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cal. I
18 think that's a good succinct way of saying what I was
19 trying to say. So good wording.

20

21 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, this is Ian.

22

23 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Ian.

24

25 MR. JOHNSON: I apologize, but I need
26 to get off for actually another phone call at 5:00 of a
27 meeting I have to lead so I appreciate everything
28 that's happened in the last few days. I've got brain
29 kill by now. I guess in terms of letters, I would like
30 to bring -- once the vote is done on this Forest
31 Service one, bring back to your attention, we did
32 mention a potential letter around the regulatory
33 process in kelp farming. And I know you alluded to
34 Forest management and other subcommittees and I would
35 just like to volunteer myself to participate in any of
36 the subcommittee that might be formed later in this
37 call.

38

39 And, again, I really appreciate
40 everyone's time and thank you again, Staff, and
41 everyone else.

42

43 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you,
44 Ian. Appreciate you volunteering for subcommittees,
45 that's very helpful. Yeah, I'd just like to say that I
46 think you've been a real asset to the Council. Really
47 glad to have you on board and look forward to meeting
48 with you in person next time.

49

50

0538

1 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you. Have a good
2 night everyone.

3
4 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I think
5 we've got some good concepts here for writing the
6 letter on young growth management. So I'll ask if
7 there's anybody else that has anything to add.

8
9 (No comments)

10
11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Perhaps we're
12 ready for the question.

13
14 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman.

15
16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Mike.

17
18 MR. DOUVILLE: Yeah, nobody's more
19 effective than we are with young growth and I certainly
20 promote the idea of transitioning. It's been sort of
21 in the agreement for quite some time but hasn't
22 happened even a little bit. But I also agree that it
23 needs to be done in a fashion that makes things better
24 like small units and, you know, wildlife be the primary
25 concern, making better wildlife habitat, not just for
26 deer but for other things.

27
28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right.

29
30 MR. DOUVILLE: I guess I didn't
31 volunteer for that but I'd like to be informed and
32 perhaps be of some help.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mike.
37 And, yes, I think we should stress that we would like
38 to see a rapid transition away from old growth harvest.

39
40 Anybody else.

41
42 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, this is DeAnna.

43
44 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, DeAnna.

45
46 MS. PERRY: I'm sorry, I know that
47 Harvey mentioned the subject but did we actually have a
48 motion and a second.

49
50

0539

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I believe we did.
2 I think Cathy made the motion on this one again or am I
3 mistaken.

4
5 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, I believe it
6 was Ian Johnson that made the motion and I'm not sure I
7 caught who seconded it.

8
9 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right, it was Ian.

10
11 MS. PERRY: I'm sorry, Cathy, who did
12 you say seconded it.

13
14 MS. NEEDHAM: I said I didn't hear who
15 seconded it so I'm not sure, I'd have to.....

16
17 MS. PERRY: Oh, okay. Yeah, I'm kind
18 of having some problems hearing so.....

19
20 REPORTER: Cathy seconded the motion.

21
22 MR. DUNN: DeAnna.

23
24 MS. PERRY: Yep.

25
26 MR. DUNN: Cathy seconded it.

27
28 MS. PERRY: Okay, I appreciate that.

29
30 MR. DUNN: The motion about logging and
31 young growth.

32
33 MS. PERRY: Yes.

34
35 MS. NEEDHAM: I think you're right,
36 thank you, sorry.

37
38 (Laughter)

39
40 MR. DUNN: This is Greg, by the way.

41
42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I'm glad
43 somebody's still with it here, it's getting late so,
44 okay, thank you. Are we ready for the question.

45
46 MR. CASIPIT: This is Cal, I call for
47 the question.

48
49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cal.

50

0540

1 Frank.

2

3

MR. WRIGHT: Yep.

4

5

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Roll call.

6

7

MR. WRIGHT: Okay. Cathy Needham.

8

9

MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

10

11

MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

12

13

MR. BEMIS: Yes.

14

15

MR. WRIGHT: Harvey Kitka.

16

17

MR. KITKA: Yes.

18

19

MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

20

21

MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

22

23

MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

24

25

CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

26

27

MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

28

29

MR. HOWARD: Yes.

30

31

MR. WRIGHT: Bob Schroeder.

32

33

(No comments)

34

35

MR. WRIGHT: Jim Slater.

36

37

(No comments)

38

39

MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

40

41

MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

42

43

MR. WRIGHT: Cal Casipit.

44

45

MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

46

47

MR. WRIGHT: Frank Wright votes yes.

48

Motion passed.

49

50

0541

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Frank.
2 Okay, now we're getting down to the last couple things.
3 I think we ought to talk about subcommittees. And as
4 of right now I think we've only actually talked about
5 one subcommittee or working group. The actual Forest
6 management subject didn't actually come up. But the
7 Homelands Conservation Rule or Indigenous Guardians
8 Network, kind of topic, I guess. So I think what we
9 need to do here is, and, DeAnna, you have to weigh in
10 on this but I think we have to identify several Council
11 members who will get together with -- probably have to
12 rely on Melinda Hernandez Burke to help us maybe make
13 these connections but we have to find the right people
14 to work together on this issue and I know the women
15 from the Womens Earth and Climate Action Network would
16 probably be involved but there could be others, we have
17 to identify. But at some point we'll have to set up
18 some meetings, some get togethers of some kind and
19 start coordinating efforts. And this may be mainly a
20 way for the Council to stay in touch with what's
21 happening because I think these other groups are going
22 to -- the tribes, in particular, are going to have to
23 be pushing on this but I think if we just wait to get
24 reports during our meetings we're probably not going to
25 be able to keep up, there's going to be too much going
26 on. So if we have a group that can stay up on all of
27 this while it's happening I think that would be very
28 helpful and I know, you know, some of the people who
29 are likely to be on that group will probably have some
30 pretty good input into what happens as well.

31

32 So with that being said, DeAnna, you
33 are our designated Federal officer who would have to
34 oversee this subcommittee, is there anything that you
35 need to add to this discussion.

36

37 MS. PERRY: Well, I want to make sure
38 that we're all aware that there is a difference between
39 a working group and a subcommittee. We currently do
40 have a climate change working group that was formed in
41 October of 2018. It looks like three of those members
42 from the Council are still on there.

43

44 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right.

45

46 MS. PERRY: So I guess maybe the first
47 question would be, do we want to use this working
48 group, do we want to create a new working group or do
49 you want to create a subcommittee. I will let you know

50

0542

1 that there are a lot of requirements with a
2 subcommittee. And our charter is in conflict with the
3 FACA final rule as far as who has the authority to
4 approve. The FACA rule says -- and it looks like the
5 Program Solicitor also says that.....

6
7 (Teleconference interference -
8 participants not muted)

9
10 MS. PERRY: I'm sorry, did someone --
11 oh, okay. It looks as though a subcommittee would need
12 to be approved by the Federal Subsistence Board.
13 Subcommittees can also be subject to FACA rules. So
14 all the reporting that we do for a RAC might need to be
15 done with a subcommittee. So I just kind of wanted to
16 outline the difference between the two because it will
17 be very important that the Council, whenever, if they
18 make a motion, that they make it either for a working
19 group or a subcommittee, they are two different things
20 and we shouldn't use those terms interchangeably.

21
22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I kind of
23 recognized that and I guess the question is, you know,
24 what would facilitate this best. Would it be a working
25 group or a subcommittee, and along those lines I would
26 ask can a working group include non-Council members,
27 like if we want to have members of the WECAN or tribes
28 on our working group or is the working group only
29 Council members?

30
31 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes,
32 we can include other public or other entities, anybody
33 else on a working group. They just can't vote. And,
34 of course, either with a working group or a
35 subcommittee, anything that they do still has to come
36 back through this Council. I would remind you that
37 when we did the climate change working group, Heather
38 Bauscher had her students in Sitka, and we actually
39 placed one of the students on this climate change
40 working group.

41
42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right, I remember
43 that. Okay. I am thinking that in this instance a
44 working group would be the place to start. Maybe as
45 things get rolling, maybe it would become evident that
46 we might actually want to form a subcommittee, but for
47 right now we're just looking for coordination and being
48 able to share information and keep abreast of what's
49 happening and it certainly sounds like a working group
50

0543

1 could accomplish that. So that would be my
2 recommendation.

3

4 Any other thoughts from the Council.

5

6 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.
7 I like the idea of starting with a working group
8 because that's something we could formulate now and put
9 folks on the Council to work getting a better read on
10 the efforts that are out there in the region with the,
11 hopefully, potential for having down the line a formal
12 subcommittee on this where the Regional Advisory
13 Council could help maybe merge efforts that are going
14 on and facilitate that process so that all of the like
15 efforts that are working in parallel to the subsistence
16 realm can be working together for a stronger voice
17 across the region.

18

19 So I think I'd like -- I think you
20 might be talking about more than one working, I'm not
21 exactly positive. But the one that I'm referring to
22 when I say that would be, maybe we could title it
23 something along the lines Indigenous Comanagement, or
24 something like that.

25

26 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman.

27

28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead.

29

30 MR. SUMINSKI: Yeah, this is Terry
31 Suminski. I just got a note that DeAnna got dropped so
32 we might want to make sure she's still on the line.

33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Oh.

35

36 MS. PERRY: I am. I didn't lose audio,
37 I just lost the Teams connection so I think everybody
38 heard the difference between the working groups and the
39 subcommittees.

40

41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes, we did,
42 DeAnna.

43

44 MR. SUMINSKI: Okay, thank you.

45

46 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Terry.

47

48 MR. KITKA: Mr. Chair, this is Harvey
49 Kitka.

50

0544

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Harvey.

2

3 MR. KITKA: Sorry, I have to leave and
4 I didn't want to miss out on this but I guess I'm going
5 to have to.

6

7 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Before you go,
8 Harvey, are you interested in being on a working group.
9 I know you've got an awful lot on your plate right now
10 but if you would like to we'd like to have you.

11

12 MR. KITKA: Well, I could probably sit
13 in on some of them but I'm not too sure if I can attend
14 all of them.

15

16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, well, we'll
17 keep that in mind. So thank you Harvey and boy good
18 luck with the herring harvest this year, the egg
19 harvest, I hope it goes well for the folks over there
20 in Sitka. And it's great to have you back on the
21 Council. Sorry we couldn't be in Sitka, it would have
22 been a great time to be there but we look forward to
23 sitting down with you again at our next meeting and
24 doing lots of visiting.

25

26 MR. KITKA: Okay. Bye all.

27

28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Bye Harvey. Okay,
29 Indigenous Management work group, kind of an umbrella
30 phrase that Cathy suggested.

31

32 So any other discussion on this.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Am I still
37 connected?

38

39 MS. PERRY: Yes, we can hear you Don.

40

41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

42

43 (Laughter)

44

45 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: The sounds of
46 silence.

47

48 (Laughter)

49

50

0545

1 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, do we need a
2 motion or not, or can we just form the work group and
3 move on to whether or not we're forming a second one.
4

5 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah. If we've
6 got an idea of what we want to call it and what it's
7 going to do I think we're ready for a motion.
8

9 MS. NEEDHAM: I move that we form an
10 Indigenous Comanagement work group.
11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.
13 Is there a second.
14

15 MR. CASIPIT: This is Cal, I second.
16

17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cal.
18 So I think we've got the idea of what we're looking for
19 here, we need some, obviously support from our
20 Coordinator which, DeAnna, I think you're able to
21 provide, right.
22

23 MS. PERRY: Yes.
24

25 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: And we may want to
26 enlist Melinda Hernandez Burke as well if she's
27 available as well to help coordinate. So let's see, do
28 we need to decide who might be on this work group
29 before we have a vote?
30

31 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, the last time we
32 did this we did identify folks for that working group
33 but I realize that you may want to have external
34 participants so I'll leave that to you.
35

36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. Well, I
37 think we can identify Council members and then make
38 some connections and add people to the group from other
39 entities, I don't think that would be a problem. So
40 I'll start with -- who was on that work group for
41 climate change?
42

43 MS. PERRY: That was yourself, Albert,
44 bear with me because I had already closed that window.
45 I know John Yeager was on there, he's no longer with
46 us. Blake LePerrier, the student. Cathy Needham.
47 Robert Schroeder.
48

49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Let's see,
50

0546

1 Bob Schroeder's not with us right now, I'm pretty sure
2 he would want to be on this subcommittee. I would be
3 interested in being on it, or excuse me, work group.
4 Cathy, Albert, how about both of you?

5

6 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, the way we
7 do things here nowadays is if you're not here somebody
8 volunteers you so I volunteer Robert Schroeder.

9

10 (Laughter)

11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Well, I think
13 we've already volunteered Robert. I'm pretty sure he
14 wants to be on it. But how about you, Albert, you're
15 here, you can decline if you want but otherwise, you
16 know, if you leave you're on it.

17

18 MR. HOWARD: Sure, I'll be a part of
19 it.

20

21 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Very good, thank
22 you Albert. Cathy, how about you?

23

24 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair. I would like
25 to defer to Ian Johnson. I know he's not here and we
26 like to volunteer people who aren't here, but he did
27 volunteer to be on a group and I think that he would be
28 very connected into this issue. Hoonah is also one of
29 the tribal members on that petition so I know he's
30 engaged in that aspect, the Guardians aspect. He
31 probably knows Ms. Culp very well so I think that he
32 would have great connections. And having someone like
33 Ian on there I think negates the need for someone like
34 myself.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Ian
39 did volunteer before he left. How about other Council
40 members, anybody else interested in being on this work
41 group of the folks that are still with us here.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, I'm not
46 hearing anybody but that identifies four people which I
47 think is an adequate number to put on the group.
48 Somebody could always join afterwards if they choose, I
49 think. But we have myself, Albert, Robert and Ian.

50

0547

1 MS. PERRY: And possibly Harvey.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: And possibly
4 Harvey. We can get back to Harvey. Let's put Harvey
5 as an alternate just so he's on the motion. Okay,
6 we've got some people identified and the concept. Any
7 other comments.

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: This is obviously
12 going to take some discussions after the meeting to get
13 all this, you know, figured out but we can certainly do
14 that. For right now I guess we need to just authorize
15 it and once, again, I've kind of lost track in all the
16 discussions, I think we still need a motion.

17

18 MR. CASIPIT: No, Mr. Chair, I
19 believe.....

20

21 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair.

22

23 MR. CASIPIT:Ms. Needham made the
24 motion and I seconded, and I'm ready for the question.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
27 Cal. I think we are ready for the question. Frank,
28 why don't you go through the roll call before everybody
29 drops off here.

30

31 MR. WRIGHT: Cal Casipit.

32

33 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

34

35 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

36

37 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

38

39 MR. WRIGHT: Albert Howard.

40

41 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

42

43 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

44

45 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

46

47 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

48

49 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

50

0548

1 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

2

3 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

4

5 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

6

7 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

8

9 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson's gone. Frank
10 Wright votes yes.

11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, very good,
13 we've got that established.

14

15 Okay, I think the only thing left is
16 meeting dates and places; is that correct, DeAnna.

17

18 MS. PERRY: As an action item, yes, Mr.
19 Chair. But I did want to share with the Council the
20 update that I received on State Proposal 194 which was
21 deliberated today at the Board of Fish -- or, I'm
22 sorry, Board of Game.

23

24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Very good, go
25 ahead.

26

27 MS. PERRY: Okay. Mr. Pappas advised
28 that the proposal did pass with amendments. The
29 proposal requires hunters and trappers to sequentially
30 number or mark their green hides, a requirement for a
31 phone and reporting of harvest to call the Department
32 within seven days of take to report the location and
33 date of take, and to seal the hides within 15 days of
34 take. The idea is that ADF&G needs the date and
35 location of each animal harvested for population
36 management. Marking each green hide with a number or
37 whatever the trapper configures will allow trappers to
38 keep sequential harvests identified so when the animal
39 is sealed and sampled, they already have information
40 through their phone records to tie the date and
41 location of harvest linked to the individual animal.

42

43 Again, this isn't verbatim, this is
44 just kind of what Mr. Pappas captured in his notes
45 while listening. I'm sure we'll get an official notice
46 through the State and when that happens I'll be glad to
47 send that out to the Council.

48

49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. That

50

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1 sounded complicated. But not being a trapper, I don't
2 know, maybe it's not as complicated as it sounds so.
3 Any comment, Mike, got a reaction to that.

4
5 MR. DOUVILLE: I didn't grasp it all
6 but it sounds pretty complicated to me. I don't know
7 I'll have to listen to it again I guess to -- and turn
8 my hearing aides up.

9
10 (Laughter)

11
12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Well, we'll --
13 yeah, that leaves the question of whether or not we
14 want some kind of a companion proposal -- boy, I don't
15 see us going through all that and doing anything about
16 it right now. I don't know.

17
18 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.

19
20 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

21
22 MS. NEEDHAM: I would not be surprised
23 if the Alaska Department of Fish and Game puts the
24 companion proposal through for our wildlife cycle and,
25 of course, they may even -- that's their opportunity to
26 do that. I think that what the Board of Game did was
27 more complicated than what we discussed and was before
28 us to be able to look at so it'll be interesting to see
29 how that plays out in the process and whether or not we
30 choose to support a companion proposal on the Federal
31 side.

32
33 Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chair.

34
35 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.
36 I think your analysis there is probably right. That's
37 probably what will happen so we can deal with that when
38 the time comes. So very good.

39
40 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman.

41
42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, DeAnna.
43 Thank George for listening in on that and reporting
44 back to us.

45
46 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chair, Mike
47 Douville.

48
49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, go ahead,
50

0550

1 Mike.

2

3 MR. DOUVILLE: I would like DeAnna to
4 restate that if she would please.

5

6 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. You got
7 your hearing aides turned up now, uh.

8

9 MS. PERRY: It is a long one. Okay, so
10 Proposal 194 passed with amendment. The proposal
11 requires hunters and trappers to sequentially number or
12 mark their green hides, as a requirement for a phone
13 and reporting of harvest, to call the Department within
14 seven days of take to report the location and date of
15 take, and to seal the hides within 15 days of take.
16 The idea is that ADF&G needs the date and location of
17 each animal harvested for population management.
18 Marking each green hide with a number or whatever the
19 trapper configures will allow trappers to keep
20 sequential harvests identified so when the animal is
21 sealed and sampled, they already have information
22 through those phone records to tie the date and
23 location of harvest linked to the individual animal.

24

25 And, again, that's kind of paraphrasing
26 from listening in today.

27

28 MR. DOUVILLE: Okay. Thanks, good luck
29 on that one, you know.

30

31 (Laughter)

32

33 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Anybody
34 else want to comment.

35

36 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, I have an
37 additional comment.

38

39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Cathy.

40

41 MS. NEEDHAM: I find it interesting
42 that during a pandemic the Board of Game, you know,
43 altered their schedule and shifted it to another
44 meeting and that this proposal came in without -- and
45 passed without much in the way of opportunity for
46 commenting on proposals during any kind of cycle. You
47 know we just heard about this proposal, it was just
48 submitted to the Board of Game not too long ago, it
49 didn't go through the process so I can't imagine that

50

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1 there was a lot of opportunity for other subsistence
2 users in the region to call in to make comment on the
3 proposal, especially the amendments that were to the
4 proposal. We got a copy of Proposal 149 and it didn't
5 have all those extra complicated factors into it and
6 obviously we also did not support the reporting of
7 harvest within seven days of take and the additional
8 reduction of time. Like on the Federal side we --
9 trappers seal their hides within 30 days of the end of
10 the season I believe it was which was an action that
11 the Federal Board took the last wildlife cycle. So it
12 does seem like it's going to be quite a complicated
13 situation to work through during this next wildlife
14 cycle but I really question the way the Department
15 handled this one -- or the Department and the Board of
16 Game handled this one. Because on such a controversial
17 and hot topic, it feels like it was snuck in under the
18 radar.

19

20 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

21

22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.
23 Did you just want to state that for the record or do
24 you want a letter of any kind to follow that up or you
25 want that on the record.

26

27 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, I just wanted
28 to state it for the record. It's something that we
29 could be thinking about while we wait for the
30 Department of Fish and Game to submit a companion
31 proposal on the Federal side. I think it's -- I think
32 I will remember in six months when we reconvene to
33 bring forward when we deliberate on any kind of Federal
34 companion proposal.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
39 Cathy. Any other comments from the Council.

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Let's take
44 a look at the meeting schedule and I believe that is on
45 Page 79 of our Council books, 79 and 80. DeAnna, do you
46 want to inform us about this item.

47

48 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, real quick.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Albert, go ahead.

2

3 MR. HOWARD: I have another meeting at
4 5:30. But I still wanted to address the kelp farm
5 issue in some capacity so.

6

7 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

8

9 MR. HOWARD: So if it's sending a
10 letter that's fine.

11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I'm sorry, I
13 missed that, what, Albert?

14

15 MR. HOWARD: Even if we're sending a
16 letter, that's fine, as long as we're addressing it at
17 some point.

18

19 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Do you want
20 to make a motion for a letter now before you have to
21 leave.

22

23 MR. HOWARD: Yes. I make that motion
24 that we draft a letter with our concerns to the
25 process, or lack of one, concerning kelp farms.

26

27 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Do you have
28 an idea where this letter should go yet or do we have
29 to do some research there.

30

31 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, this is Cal
32 Casipit.

33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, go ahead,
35 Cal.

36

37 MR. CASIPIT: I do have a little bit of
38 experience with that permitting process. I know last
39 summer as Mayor I got a request from the Department of
40 Natural Resources to comment on a kelp farm that was
41 proposed to be around Pleasant Island and we had the
42 opportunity to actually object to that. The -- what I
43 would suggest is maybe have DNR, I know we've got a
44 meeting next fall, but maybe have DNR come in, their
45 mariculture people come in and give the Council a
46 little bit of a primer on how these farms are applied
47 for, permitted and managed. And I think maybe if we
48 all have an understanding of how that works beforehand
49 then we can be a little more educated in submitting

50

0553

1 letters about concerns about the process.

2

3 That's my suggestion.

4

5 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
6 Cal. You've identified the Department of Natural
7 Resources as probably the place to send the letter so
8 we could do that, express concerns and invite them to
9 come and inform us more about the process and talk to
10 them about the implications.

11

12 MR. CASIPIT: I think that's a good
13 suggestion.

14

15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Albert made
16 the motion.

17

18 MR. HOWARD: That works for me, Mr.
19 Chairman.

20

21 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, you're still
22 there Albert, that sounds good to you?

23

24 MR. HOWARD: Yes, Mr. Chair, it does.

25

26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. You made
27 the motion so do we have a second.

28

29 MR. CASIPIT: I'll second.

30

31 MS. PERRY: Point of order. The motion
32 was to draft a letter so if you want me to just try to
33 find somebody at DNR to give a presentation at the next
34 meeting, if Albert wants to withdraw his motion.

35

36 MR. HOWARD: I'll withdraw my motion,
37 Mr. Chair.

38

39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, if that
40 works that's fine. I guess we don't need a letter, we
41 just ask DeAnna to be in contact with the proper people
42 then okay.

43

44 MR. CASIPIT: I'm sorry, Mr. Chair, but
45 I just heard DeAnna -- just to make sure that whoever
46 we contact at DNR that they provide us their written
47 materials ahead of time in our book so we can study it
48 ahead of time to have a better understanding when they
49 actually give us the oral presentation. Anyway, that's
50

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1 all normal stuff but anyway.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I think
4 we've got our request there and it probably doesn't
5 need a motion then. So that sounds good to me on that
6 issue. Albert, are you leaving us.

7

8 MR. HOWARD: I think I can do the other
9 meeting on my phone so I'll hang in here as long as I
10 can, Mr. Chair.

11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I think we
13 just have to set our meeting dates and times. DeAnna,
14 what are our options there.

15

16 MS. PERRY: For folks who are on Teams,
17 I do have an updated calendar for the fall meetings,
18 and for those who don't have it in front of you I'm
19 going to turn real quick to the one that's in your book
20 and update because this has changed a bit.

21

22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Well, it always
23 does.

24

25 MS. PERRY: So this is on Page 79 for
26 those who don't have Teams up and can look at the
27 updated one. So October 13th and 14th, that week
28 there's been some changes, basically that week is not
29 available. Again, we can only have two Council
30 meetings a week and two Councils decided to have a
31 joint meeting along with another Council so we're kind
32 of having to split that up on that week. We currently
33 have selected October 19th and 20th. I can tell you
34 that the Eastern Interior that had that same week,
35 those dates no longer apply. The next week, November
36 1st North Slope has selected November 3rd and 4th. So
37 for the fall we either need to confirm our dates of
38 19th, 20th and 21st, I'm not sure why in our Council
39 books it's not to the 21st but we had selected that,
40 19th through the 21st. Or before October.

41

42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. What's the
43 wishes of the Council on the fall meeting.

44

45 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman, Mike
46 Douville.

47

48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, go ahead,
49 Mike.

50

0555

1 MR. DOUVILLE: I believe I would have
2 conflict from the middle of October to the end of
3 October with those dates. So before and after, I guess
4 I don't have anything, however if it fell in between
5 those dates it's a good possibility that I would not be
6 attending.

7
8 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. DeAnna,
9 refresh my memory, did you say the week of November 1st
10 was open or was it November 3rd -- excuse me, November
11 1st that's the only one in November, right, we have.

12
13 MS. PERRY: Yeah, that week has been
14 taken with Northwest Arctic and North Slope. So our
15 only alternative then would be the week of October 4th
16 or sometime the week of September 27th.

17
18 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

19
20 MS. PERRY: I mean the window opens as
21 early as August 8th but no one seems to want to -- you
22 know, everybody's still really active and busy so
23 usually.....

24
25 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah.

26
27 MS. PERRY:October and November
28 are when we set our meetings.

29
30 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I could go as
31 early as October 4th, that actually works for me.

32
33 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chair, I'd make the
34 motion that we choose October 4th.

35
36 MS. PERRY: So that would be 4th
37 through the 6th.

38
39 MR. DOUVILLE: That's correct.

40
41 MR. BEMIS: Mr. Chair, I will probably
42 not be available for those dates.

43
44 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Let's here from
45 other Council members first there, Mike.

46
47 MR. DOUVILLE: Okay.

48
49 MR. BEMIS: Mr. Chair, I wouldn't be
50

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1 available for October, I'm still commercial fishing up
2 until let's see the 3rd and there's no way I could
3 leave with that short of notice.

4

5 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right.

6

7 MR. BEMIS: Moose hunting is on the 8th
8 of October. So I'm out on those schedules.

9

10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Does that hold
11 true for Harold as well.

12

13 MR. ROBBINS: I'm a little more
14 flexible.

15

16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thanks,
17 Harold. How about -- well, we're missing some folks
18 now but how about some others.

19

20 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.
21 I'm pretty flexible for the whole timeframe so I'll let
22 those with conflicts work it out.

23

24 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

25

26 MR. CASIPIT: This is Cal. I'm pretty
27 flexible too, prefer that we avoid the last couple
28 weeks of September though so I could moose hunt.

29

30 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I was going to say
31 we got to consider moose hunting. Well, so far I think
32 I'm only hearing one other Council member that can't
33 make the week of October 4th, are there any other
34 Council members besides Mike who can't the week of
35 October 19th.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: I guess not.

40

41 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, this is Cathy.
42 Just for a refresher, when we chose -- temporarily
43 chose the placeholder for the week of 19, 20, 21st we
44 also chose the location of Craig so it would be quite a
45 shake if we decided to go to Craig when our
46 representative Council member wouldn't be available.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50

0557

1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, I was just
2 going to say that's probably the deciding factor here.
3 So, yeah. Mike, you want to make a motion for the
4 October 4th date in Craig.

5

6 MR. DOUVILLE: Okay. I will move that
7 we have our meeting on October 4th, 5th, 6th in Craig.

8

9 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.
10 Second.

11

12 MS. NEEDHAM: Second.

13

14 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.
15 Any other discussion.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 MR. DOUVILLE: Call for the question.

20

21 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mike.
22 Let's do a roll call on this one Frank.

23

24 MR. WRIGHT: Okay.

25

26 Ian's gone. Cathy Needham.

27

28 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

29

30 MR. WRIGHT: Larry Bemis.

31

32 MR. BEMIS: Yes.

33

34 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

35

36 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

37

38 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

39

40 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

41

42 MR. WRIGHT: Albert's gone, Bob's gone,
43 Jim's gone.

44

45 MR. HOWARD: Albert votes yes.

46

47 MR. WRIGHT: Oh, you're still there,
48 oh, good. Mike Douville.

49

50

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1 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

2

3 MR. WRIGHT: Cal Casipit.

4

5 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

6

7 MR. WRIGHT: Frank votes yes. Motion
8 carried, Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you,
11 Frank. October 4th in Craig. I'm looking forward to
12 it. Okay, winter meeting, a long ways out, we're
13 looking at like a year from now. DeAnna, what's the
14 latest on available dates for that meeting.

15

16 MS. PERRY: Okay. For those people who
17 have Teams that's coming up for you. And it looks like
18 I need to open back up mine, okay, so our options are
19 the week of February 22nd because that Monday's a
20 holiday so the week of February 22nd. The week of
21 March 14th. Or the week of March 21st.

22

23 MR. WRIGHT: I don't know if I can make
24 the 22nd because tanner crab fishing usually starts
25 around the 15th.

26

27 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Right. I think
28 I'd vote for March 14th and try and be over in Sitka
29 again because that is a good time to be in Sitka for
30 the herring fishery.

31

32 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, this is
33 Albert.

34

35 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Albert.,

36

37 MR. HOWARD: When does (indiscernible)
38 close Mr. Wright?

39

40 MR. WRIGHT: Well, it fluctuates where
41 this year we started on the 17th and ended seven days
42 later so I've got my crew and stuff to deal with so.

43

44 MR. HOWARD: Okay, I was going to say
45 March 21st through the 24th because it seemed like a
46 good time to take a box of herring home.

47

48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: That's true, a
49 little later would be better. Could be some harvest

50

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1 going on by then. Other suggestions from the Council.

2

3 MR. BEMIS: Yes, anything -- this is
4 Larry, Mr. Chair, anything after the 15th. Our
5 trolling season closes on the 15th if that's a
6 possibility.

7

8 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: That's true, too,
9 Larry. Thanks. Albert, you want to make the motion
10 for March 21st in Sitka.

11

12 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, I move the
13 winter meeting be held in Sitka March 21st through the
14 24th.

15

16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Albert.

17

18 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, I'm sorry,
19 that's a four day meeting and we only have three day
20 meetings.

21

22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, the 23rd.

23

24 MR. HOWARD: 23rd. I had to give it a
25 try so.

26

27 MS. PERRY: I know.

28

29 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Actually it'd be
30 the 22nd through the 24th, Tuesday.

31

32 MR. HOWARD: Yeah, that's what I mean.

33

34 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah. A second
35 for Albert's motion.

36

37 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman, I second.

38

39 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Mike seconded.
40 Any further discussion.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 MR. DOUVILLE: Call for the question.

45

46 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you,
47 question's been called for. How about one more roll
48 call vote, Frank.

49

50

0560

1 MR. WRIGHT: Let's see, Cal Casipit.

2

3 MR. CASIPIT: Yes.

4

5 MR. WRIGHT: Michael Douville.

6

7 MR. DOUVILLE: Yes.

8

9 MR. WRIGHT: James Slater, Bob
10 Schroeder. Albert Howard.

11

12 MR. HOWARD: Yes.

13

14 MR. WRIGHT: Don Hernandez.

15

16 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

17

18 MR. WRIGHT: Harold Robbins.

19

20 MR. ROBBINS: Yes.

21

22 MR. WRIGHT: Harvey says yes.

23

24 (Laughter)

25

26 MR. WRIGHT: Cathy Needham.

27

28 MS. NEEDHAM: Yes.

29

30 MR. WRIGHT: Ian Johnson.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MR. WRIGHT: Frank Wright says yes.

35

36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay.

37

38 MS. PERRY: I'm sorry, did I miss Larry

39 Bemis again.

40

41 MR. BEMIS: Yeah. Larry Bemis, yes.

42

43 MS. PERRY: Okay. And I just wanted to
44 revisit, we said October 4th, Monday through Wednesday,
45 I mean normally we do Tuesday through Thursday, but I
46 just wanted to make sure that is what we meant for our
47 fall meeting.

48

49 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Actually DeAnna,

50

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1 that should be Tuesday. We don't meet on Mondays,
2 right?

3
4 MS. PERRY: We can.

5
6 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Oh, it is
7 possible.

8
9 MS. PERRY: I guess it's up to the
10 Council if they want to travel during their weekends,
11 but if you wanted to change that we could simply just
12 make a motion to amend the previously adopted motion.

13
14 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I think we
15 better make it Tuesday, it's not fair to the Staff to
16 have to travel on Sundays. So we got to pay closer
17 attention to our dates here.

18
19 MS. PERRY: So does someone want to
20 make that motion to amend.

21
22 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, I move to
23 amend the previously adopted motion to change our
24 meeting dates to October 5th through the 7th in Craig.

25
26 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Second.

27
28 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chair, I second.

29
30 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mike.
31 Voice vote. All in favor of the amended change say
32 aye.

33
34 IN UNISON: Aye.

35
36 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Is there anybody
37 opposed.

38
39 (No opposing votes)

40
41 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: No, okay, thank
42 you.

43
44 MS. PERRY: Thank you for the
45 clarification.

46
47 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, DeAnna.
48 Okay, I think we have our dates set. And I think that
49 concludes our business, am I correct, DeAnna.

50

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1 MR. BEMIS: Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yes.

4

5 MR. BEMIS: I'd like to make a comment
6 about something that's -- a program that's going on in
7 Yakutat that was just brought to my attention and has
8 to do with fish tagging and let's see, what was it,
9 fish tagging and tracking of king salmon, if that's
10 okay, I'd like to give just a brief -- I don't have the
11 names of the individuals but I got the program that's
12 representing them.

13

14 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Larry, just
15 so I can keep things straight in my mind. DeAnna, am I
16 correct that we concluded all of our business?

17

18 MS. PERRY: Yes, Mr. Chair, everything
19 on the agenda, all the action items. If you'd like to
20 close out the meeting with a round robin with all
21 Council members that would be great.

22

23 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay, we'll
24 probably do that. But go ahead, Larry, give us your
25 update.

26

27 MR. BEMIS: Okay. Just here about a
28 week before the season closed two individuals came from
29 two different universities. One from the UofA and one,
30 I think, from Fairbanks, I'm not positive. Okay. The
31 funding was funded with one individual through NOAA and
32 the other one was from the Department -- the U.S. Navy,
33 through DOD. Now I'm not sure if this is done before
34 but they hired a local charter boat captain to take
35 them out for a given number of days and they sports
36 caught the king salmon and they've got a tagging
37 program going. One is 20 backpacks that will be
38 inserted on the back of the salmon for 10 days to see
39 his depth, his travel, distance, where he's at, and
40 this is in the Yakutat Bay in different sectors, all
41 species. Now, the backpacks are probably being put on
42 very good size salmon so they can be able to survive
43 packing this thing around, okay.

44

45 The second one is they insert some kind
46 of electronic device, I'm not positive how or what, but
47 they sedate the fish and keep it alive and give it a
48 micro surgery and then place a micro chip of sort that
49 takes temperature and depth and a few other things.

50

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1 Now, the surprising thing is, is one
2 individual was doing this and had a grant through NOAA
3 and the guy from another university had funding through
4 DOT and U.S. Navy asked to join in. So I think that
5 they're both working on the same projects and they're
6 doing this every single day in different parts of the
7 bay, out in the ocean, in the islands, shakers to full
8 size king salmon and everything they catch that they
9 can release is put back in the water with some kind of
10 device on it. And didn't have -- they just said we'll
11 name it tagging and tracking program for king salmon in
12 the Yakutat -- in the Pacific Ocean -- or Gulf of
13 Alaska.

14
15 That's all I have.

16
17 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. Sounds
18 pretty interesting. So let's -- before I adjourn the
19 meeting just want to give anybody on the Council an
20 opportunity if they have any final words.

21
22 MR. DOUVILLE: It's been my pleasure to
23 be here and I'm glad we have a full functioning
24 Council. I was quite worried about having only five
25 members and having a meeting. So I'm glad that that
26 resolved. And other than that I'm just taken aback by
27 the Board of Game's action. It's going to take me
28 awhile to absorb that and come to grips with it. But
29 it's nice to meet with you all and you have a good
30 spring and summer.

31
32 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mike.
33 Anybody else.

34
35 MR. CASIPIT: This is Can. I just
36 wanted to thank everybody for their participation and
37 thanks for the warm welcome. And I also wanted to
38 thank Staff, they did an excellent job keeping us
39 straight and giving us the -- especially me, with not
40 having Teams, being able to have the stuff emailed to
41 me right away, that was all great. So I just wanted to
42 say thanks to the Staff, it was a great effort.

43
44 And also just for the record, I just
45 wanted to recognize the Ketchikan District Ranger for
46 the excellent work he did with the customary and
47 traditional users of the eulachon in Unuk and how he
48 helped to provide for conservation and at the same time
49 providing some harvest opportunity for the customary
50

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1 and traditional users.

2

3 Anyway, that's all I have.

4

5 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: And thank you,
6 Cal, and it's great to have you on the Council.

7

8 Anybody else.

9

10 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chair, this is Albert.

11

12 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Albert.

13

14 MR. HOWARD: I just want to express my
15 appreciation to the Staff and all the work they do to
16 make this happen and to help us sort through the
17 process to get us from where we are to where we want to
18 be. I'd also like to express my appreciation to the
19 Council for supporting Angoon's position on our
20 resource in our backyard. For the first time it feels
21 like our concerns are being heard and being addressed
22 and so I want to say thank you for that.

23

24 Everyone stay safe and healthy.

25

26 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, very
29 much, Albert. Anybody else.

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I just --
34 somebody else, was that someone?

35

36 MS. NEEDHAM: This is Cathy.

37

38 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Cathy, go ahead.

39

40 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
41 just want to reexpress everyone's gratefulness that
42 they just did. It seems like all parts were covered.
43 I'm really happy that we have a full Council again. I
44 felt that this meeting was very engaging, or extremely
45 engaged. I think back when I was a first time Council
46 members, I don't think I said anything my very first
47 meeting and I remember getting a little bit of a
48 rousing from Chairman Bert Adams of Yakutat because I
49 was so quiet, and then by like maybe my third meeting
50

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1 is when I started talking. So I think it's exciting
2 that we have some renewed energy and some new
3 perspectives on the Council that can work together to
4 represent the region as a whole.

5

6 I'm very grateful that you were
7 reappointed. I can tell you that I was very
8 intimidated about potentially coming in to Chair this
9 meeting and so I'm glad that we were able to split
10 duties and that I didn't necessarily have to do the
11 whole thing myself so welcome back for that.

12

13 Thanks to all of the Staff.

14

15 And a shout out and special thanks to
16 DeAnna, she helped a lot while I was acting Chair and I
17 appreciate all of the time and effort that she gives to
18 the Council.

19

20 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

21

22 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Cathy.
23 And we really appreciate you stepping up as the Chair
24 especially when we were so short-handed. So our thanks
25 go out to you. Anybody else on the Council.

26

27 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

28

29 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Frank.

30

31 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, I'd like to thank
32 Staff for doing a good job. I got kind of worried when
33 there were just going to be five of us, I was trying to
34 figure out how I was going to -- how we were going to
35 decide on issues that belonged to other people.
36 Anyway. And the new members, I think that we got some
37 good people coming in -- that came in and I think we're
38 going to have a good group from here on out.

39

40 Thank you, good bye.

41

42 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Yeah, thank you,
43 Frank. Anybody else.

44

45 MR. ROBBINS: Mr. Chair, this is
46 Harold.

47

48 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Harold.

49

50

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1 MR. ROBBINS: Yeah, I'd like to express
2 my concern when there was only five of us facing this
3 meeting. I was very concerned about it. And extremely
4 relieved when we had all the others added to the
5 Council and I really appreciate it and I really
6 appreciate all of DeAnna's work.

7
8 Thank you.

9
10 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Harold.
11 Is there anybody else.

12
13 (No comments)

14
15 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Maybe not. I kind
16 of lost track of who's still with us. But one more
17 shot, is there anybody else who wants to make a
18 comment.

19 1 CHAIRMAN HERNANDEZ: Okay. I'd just
20 like to say that I think we did a great job this
21 meeting. Everybody really, really pitched in. A lot
22 of difficult things to go through and there's no way we
23 could have accomplished what we did if we didn't have a
24 full Council. So whoever is responsible for getting
25 these appointments pushed through in time for our
26 meeting, we all owe a great gratitude to.

27
28 So like I say we have a great group
29 now, we've got some optimistic times ahead, although
30 we've got a lot of major problems to resolve, I think
31 we've got some good leadership and good team to work on
32 it. Some new initiatives with cooperative agreements
33 and lots of things could happen.

34
35 So until we meet again in the fall, in-
36 person, I sincerely hope, look forward to meeting all
37 of you again sitting down, sharing stories and really
38 look forward to being in Craig this fall.

39
40 So with that I will adjourn the meeting
41 so everybody take care, stay safe and have a good
42 spring and summer.

43
44 (Off record)

45
46 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

47
48
49
50

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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, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public in and for the
8 state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court
9 Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

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11 THAT the foregoing pages numbered ____ through
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14 MEETING, VOLUME III taken electronically on the 18th
15 day of March;

16

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

22

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

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26 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 24th
27 day of April 2021.

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Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
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