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SOUTHCENTRAL FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE  
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING  
PUBLIC MEETING

VOLUME II

TELEPHONIC  
October 8, 2020  
9:00 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Encelewski, Chairman  
Aaron Bloomquist  
Ed Holsten  
Andrew McLaughlin  
Michael Opheim  
Diane Selanoff  
Gloria Stickwan  
John Whissel  
Dennis Zadra

Regional Council Coordinator, DeAnna Perry

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

2

3 (Telephonic - 10/8/2020)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, folks,  
8 we're ready to go now. Good morning, we're going to  
9 move on and see if we can't get through this.

10

11 We ended up last night with the  
12 crossover closure with Eastern Interior and Hannah, I  
13 believe you're going to give that one so if you want to  
14 go ahead, we're ready to go.

15

16 MS. VORHEES: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
17 Good morning. This is Hannah Vorhees, I'm an  
18 anthropologist with the Office of Subsistence  
19 Management.

20

21 Before presenting Fisheries Closure 21-  
22 06, which begins on Page 191 of your book.....

23

24 MS. PERRY: I'm sorry, Hannah. Hannah.

25

26 MS. VORHEES: Yes.

27

28 MS. PERRY: I'm sorry to interrupt.  
29 Greg, I needed to wait until you called the meeting to  
30 order before I did a roll call of the Council, I still  
31 need to check Council members, if I could do that real  
32 quick.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, I thought  
35 we had done that but I guess I was lost, but go ahead.

36

37 MS. PERRY: Okay, thank you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead.

40

41 MS. PERRY: No worries.

42

43 Ed Holsten.

44

45 MR. HOLSTEN: Yes, I'm here, good  
46 morning.

47

48 MS. PERRY: Alrighty, and Greg is on.

49

50

1 Diane Selanoff.  
2  
3 MS. SELANOFF: I'm here, good morning.  
4  
5 MS. PERRY: Good morning.  
6  
7 Gloria Stickwan.  
8  
9 MS. STICKWAN: Here.  
10  
11 MS. PERRY: Thank you.  
12  
13 Dennis Zadra.  
14  
15 MR. ZADRA: I'm here.  
16  
17 MS. PERRY: Thanks.  
18  
19 Michael Opheim.  
20  
21 MR. OPHEIM: I'm here.  
22  
23 MS. PERRY: Thanks.  
24  
25 Andy McLaughlin.  
26  
27 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Here.  
28  
29 MS. PERRY: Thank you.  
30  
31 Aaron Bloomquist.  
32  
33 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Hello there.  
34  
35 MS. PERRY: Good morning.  
36  
37 John Whissel.  
38  
39 MR. WHISSEL: Present.  
40  
41 MS. PERRY: All right. Mr. Chair, you  
42 have nine members present and you have a quorum.  
43  
44 Thank you.  
45  
46 Thank you for indulging that  
47 interruption.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Last interruption  
50

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1 you get for the day, thank you DeAnna. Okay, good,  
2 welcome. Everyone's here now Hannah, sorry about that  
3 but let's go ahead.  
4

5 MS. VORHEES: All right. So I'll be  
6 presenting Fisheries Closure Review 21-06 and the  
7 analysis begins on Page 191 of your book. Normally it  
8 would also be available on the Southcentral region --  
9 on our Federal Subsistence Management Program website  
10 under Southcentral meeting materials but there's an  
11 issue with the website currently so please be patient  
12 if that's an issue.  
13

14 All right, so before jumping into the  
15 analysis I wanted to go over the Federal closure review  
16 policy briefly.  
17

18 So if the Board deems it necessary to  
19 close Federal public lands or waters to subsistence  
20 users, all closures will be periodically reevaluated to  
21 determine whether the circumstances necessitating the  
22 original closure still exists. So when a closure is no  
23 longer needed, actions to remove it will be.....  
24

25 (Teleconference interference -  
26 participants not muted)  
27

28 MS. VORHEES: .....(indiscernible).  
29

30 (Teleconference interference -  
31 participants not muted)  
32

33 MS. PERRY: Can people please put  
34 themselves on mute.  
35

36 MS. VORHEES: Previously closure  
37 reviews stops with the Council if the Council's  
38 recommendation was to maintain the closure. As of  
39 2018, this recommendation has changed and -- I'm sorry,  
40 as of 2018 the Council's recommendations are forwarded  
41 to the Board even if their recommendation is to  
42 maintain the closure.  
43

44 So please keep in mind as I give this  
45 presentation.....  
46

47 (Teleconference interference -  
48 participants not muted)  
49  
50

1 MS. VORHEES: .....that you can  
2 recommend that the Board maintain the closure, modify  
3 the closure or remove the closure.  
4

5 Pat, I can hear you're coming through  
6 on the phone line if you can put your phone on mute.  
7

8 Fisheries Closure Review 21-06 specific  
9 to the Toklat River in Denali National Park and  
10 Preserve is a crossover from Eastern Interior.  
11 Cantwell, located in the Southcentral region is a  
12 resident zone community for the area under  
13 consideration in Denali National Park, and that's why  
14 it's being brought before this Council.  
15

16 Under Federal regulations, Toklat River  
17 is closed to subsistence fishing for all fish from  
18 August 15th through May 15th each year. This closure  
19 date's from 1992. The closure was brought over from  
20 State regulations and has not been reviewed or modified  
21 since.  
22

23 The Toklat River (indiscernible) Denali  
24 National Park about 50 miles above its confluence with  
25 the Kantishna River. That portion of the river in the  
26 pre-ANILCA section of Denali National Park is strictly  
27 closed to all subsistence fishing. So the only portion  
28 of the river that's relevant when considering the data  
29 of this closure is that stretch within the new Park  
30 post-ANILCA section of the Park.  
31

32 State sport and subsistence regulations  
33 have recently change to allow fishing for salmon and  
34 non-salmon fish on the Toklat year-round, except for  
35 about three miles of spawning area down stream of  
36 Federal public land. So this means that currently  
37 subsistence and sportfishing are allowed under State  
38 regulations but there is no Federal subsistence.  
39

40 The Toklat River is one of the larger  
41 producers of fall chum salmon in the Tanana River  
42 drainage. Currently the Toklat River stocks are  
43 included as part of the Tanana River drainage  
44 estimates.  
45

46 In terms of communities affected. The  
47 four resident zone communities for Denali National Park  
48 are Nikolai, Telida, Lake Minchumina, and Cantwell.  
49 These communities tend to take non-salmon fish such as  
50

1 grayling and trout locally and salmon, such as chinook  
2 and sockeye further away from their communities. It's  
3 worth noting that approximately 20 percent of Cantwell  
4 residents harvested fresh water fish within the  
5 boundaries of Denali National Park in the year 2000.

6  
7 Yukon River fall chum salmon have met  
8 the drainagewide escapement goal every year since it  
9 was developed in 2004. The Tanana River escapement  
10 goal has been met annually since 2001. In 2007 the  
11 Alaska Board of Fish determined that the Yukon River  
12 chum salmon no longer met the criteria for a yield  
13 concern, and in 2010 the biological escapement on the  
14 Toklat River was eliminated. Federal waters on the  
15 Toklat for up stream at the primary spawning  
16 aggregations but the majority of harvest of these  
17 stocks occurs down stream of Denali National Park  
18 boundary.

19  
20 Considering all this the OSM  
21 recommendation is to eliminate the closure. Coupled  
22 with poor access and closure to all subsistence fishing  
23 in the pre-ANILCA portion of Denali National Park it's  
24 unlikely that Federal subsistence harvest within  
25 Federal public waters would have much effect on these  
26 stocks.

27  
28 Thank you, and I'm available for  
29 questions.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Is there  
32 any questions on the presentation.

33  
34 MS. SELANOFF: This is Diane Selanoff,  
35 I do have a question.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Diane.

38  
39 MS. SELANOFF: Just out of curiosity,  
40 this was closed in 1992, how long after a closure  
41 normally do you have reviews? Is it like a year later  
42 or how often are they reviewed?

43  
44 Thank you.

45  
46 MS. VORHEES: Yes, great question. So  
47 currently the policy is that -- or I believe 50 percent  
48 of closures are reviewed every cycle, so -- or every  
49 fish cycle, so all closures should be reviewed every

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1 four years but that's been a recent policy change.  
2 Going back further there's -- you know, some of these  
3 closures on smaller systems that were carried over from  
4 State regulations with the aim of just ensuring  
5 continuity with -- in the Federal Subsistence  
6 Management Program originally have not been reviewed in  
7 a timely fashion and that's why the policy was changed  
8 recently.

9  
10 MS. SELANOFF: Okay. And currently you  
11 said that river is being -- the Toklat is being fished  
12 but not for Federal subsistence?

13  
14 MS. VORHEES: That's correct. It's  
15 made a little bit complicated by the fact that I don't  
16 think the State has fully published the new regulations  
17 for subsistence but in 2019 Board of Fish did open  
18 Toklat to both subsistence and sportfishing, except for  
19 the small spawning area down stream of the Park.

20  
21 MS. SELANOFF: Yes, and that's the  
22 review criteria, you said, prior to closure only  
23 Federal subsistence users had fished that minimally?

24  
25 MS. VORHEES: Federal subsistence users  
26 could have been fishing under sport regulations or  
27 during seasonal openings under State subsistence  
28 regulations -- yeah, so this was a seasonal closure but  
29 I believe most of the harvest to date has been under  
30 sport regulations.

31  
32 MS. SELANOFF: Okay. And then you said  
33 which four villages, I have Nikolai, Cantwell, and what  
34 were the other two villages that were affected by this  
35 closure?

36  
37 MS. VORHEES: Yeah, Nikolai, Telida,  
38 Lake Minchumina and Cantwell. Those are the  
39 communities that are resident zone communities for  
40 Denali National Park.

41  
42 MS. SELANOFF: Okay, thank you.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Alrighty, are  
45 there any other questions for the presentation.

46  
47 (No comments)

48  
49 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Hearing none,

50

1 consultation, is there tribes who would like to speak  
2 to this one.

3  
4 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman, this is  
5 Darrel Williams from Ninilchik.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Darrel.

8  
9 MR. WILLIAMS: There's a couple things  
10 I'd like to speak to on this just because our  
11 experience with this process over the years. And it's  
12 not even really to do with opening or closing the  
13 fishery. I guess some of the things that concerns me  
14 with proposals that I see like this is when we see a  
15 mirroring of State regulations and Federal regulations.  
16 And this goes back to the idea of meaningful preference  
17 in subsistence, and that goes back to the 1996  
18 precedence that was set about meaningful preference.

19  
20 You know it's interesting that I see a  
21 lot of this and a lot of discussion that we're talking  
22 about, you know, about like State subsistence too. I  
23 know that we still have issues, you know, associated  
24 with the McDowell Decision when it talks about equal  
25 access clauses. I also agree with the opinion of  
26 Heather Kendall-Miller when we talk about public lands.  
27 Public lands are public lands. ANILCA did not define,  
28 well, public lands except for some or the other, or  
29 something else, we'll change it whenever that happens  
30 to be. That's not in there but it sure is -- it's  
31 always interesting to me when I see these inferences  
32 about how we're going to treat public lands differently  
33 in different areas. And I think that's one of the  
34 larger concerns associated with the subsistence  
35 process.

36  
37 And I just wanted to share those points  
38 because I think that they're important. I certainly  
39 support opening subsistence for subsistence users. I  
40 think it's the subsistence priority, that should be  
41 there. It's kind of like with some of our issues that  
42 we had in our area, there are times when there is no  
43 subsistence regulation and the only ones who suffer  
44 from that are those small user groups who actually rely  
45 on those kind of things.

46  
47 So I just wanted to share those  
48 thoughts. I think that they're important. I think that  
49 these are important concepts that seem to be getting

50



1 deluded over time. I know I've spent a lot of time on  
2 those particular issues myself and I know a lot of  
3 other people have too and there's -- you know there are  
4 those strong precedences that were determined by the  
5 Courts that I think need to be reflected and evaluated  
6 in these analysis.

7  
8 Thank you.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: All right, thank  
11 you, Darrel. That was good comments, good info.

12  
13 Anyone else on the tribal side.

14  
15 (No comments)

16  
17 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Anyone from any  
18 ANCSA Corporations want to address this closure.

19  
20 (No comments)

21  
22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: How about  
23 agencies, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

24  
25 MR. BURCH: Hello, Mr. Chair. This is  
26 Mark Burch. The Department of Fish and Game doesn't  
27 have any comment at this time.

28  
29 Thank you.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you. Okay.  
32 How about the Federal agencies.

33  
34 (No comments)

35  
36 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Hearing none.  
37 Okay, how about tribal.

38  
39 (No comments)

40  
41 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: All right.  
42 Advisory Group comments, other Regional Councils.

43  
44 DeAnna.

45  
46 MS. PERRY: No other Regional Councils  
47 commented on this closure.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you. Fish  
50

1 and Game Advisory Committees, anyone.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Subsistence  
6 Resource Commission -- or Commissions.

7

8 (No comments)

9

10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: All right. Do  
11 you have a summary of written public comments.

12

13 MS. PERRY: We did not receive any  
14 public comments on this closure.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Is there  
17 any public testimony that would like to testify on this  
18 closure.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. It's up to  
23 the Regional Council's recommendation at this point so  
24 we could entertain a motion to adopt.

25

26 MR. WHISSEL: Mr. Chairman move to --  
27 this is John Whissel, move to adopt FCR21-06.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, John.  
30 Is there a second to that.

31

32 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Second. Andy, second.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Andy.

35

36 Okay, we're open for discussion.  
37 Council members you go right ahead if you have  
38 discussion on this matter.

39

40 MR. WHISSEL: Mr. Chair, this is John  
41 Whissel. It seems to me like a pretty clear case of  
42 there being a resource here and our need to get around  
43 to the review process and get it opened back up for the  
44 people that need to use it.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you  
47 for that comment. Anyone else got a comment on it.

48

49 MR. OPHEIM: This is Michael.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead,  
2 Michael.

3  
4 MR. OPHEIM: Yeah, I think it's time to  
5 lift this closure. It looks like it's had some  
6 sustainable escapement for some time now and get that  
7 resource used by the people hopefully now.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, that sounds  
10 good. Anyone else got a comment.

11  
12 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, this is Ed.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Ed.

15  
16 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, I think it's a good  
17 idea to rescind this closure, they've met their  
18 escapement goals. So that's all I've got to add.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Ed.  
21 Anyone else want to speak to it.

22  
23 MS. CRAVER: This is Amy Craver with  
24 Denali National Park and Preserve. And the Denali SRC  
25 was briefed on this proposal and did not have any  
26 comment.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you,  
29 Amy. Okay, back to the Council, one last time, anyone  
30 else want to speak before we take a vote -- call the  
31 question and take a vote.

32  
33 (No comments)

34  
35 MR. WHISSEL: Call the question, Mr.  
36 Chair.

37  
38 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Call the question.

39  
40 MR. WHISSEL: John Whissel.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, question's  
43 been called. All in favor of rescinding aye.

44  
45 IN UNISON: Aye.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Any opposed.

48  
49 (No opposing votes)

50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: DeAnna, that was  
2 unanimous, I don't think we need a roll call on that  
3 one.  
4

5 Thank you.  
6

7 At this time I'm going to go back and  
8 get to my duties. Every morning we open it up for  
9 public and tribal comments on non-agenda items. So if  
10 there's a non-agenda item that you want to talk to, I'm  
11 going to let you speak at this time.  
12

13  
14 (No comments)  
15

16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, well,  
17 hearing none, we're going to go ahead and move on. The  
18 next one we have -- we have State Board of Fishery and  
19 Board of Game proposals, and as Council members you  
20 have the opportunity to bring any proposal before the  
21 Council and see if the Council wants to submit  
22 comments. I'm not sure if all of you have gotten  
23 through all of this, I know I haven't. But they're  
24 open, they're having meetings, the current comments due  
25 before the Board of Fish is November 25th, Board of  
26 Game January 8th. They are expecting maybe some  
27 extension on comments, the meeting's probably now April  
28 to May and they say they will know on the Board of Fish  
29 once they meet in October 15th and 16th. So those  
30 meetings are coming up, so if you guys have comments or  
31 if you want to write them up and bring them up at the  
32 end of the meeting we could think through that. But  
33 anyway I'm opening it at this time for a discussion,  
34 just briefly and we'll see where we want to go.  
35

36 I know I need to dig into them myself  
37 but it's on the agenda for the opportunity.  
38

39 MR. WHISSEL: Mr. Chairman. This is  
40 John Whissel. I don't know the Board of Fish proposals  
41 that are duplicative with the proposals that we  
42 reviewed yesterday regarding limitations of Federal  
43 subsistence users on the Copper River, but those going  
44 back to FP21-11 to 21-14, all of those restrictions  
45 have proposals going before the Board of Fish and I  
46 feel like from our discussion, we felt like those  
47 restrictions were a good idea and should start at the  
48 State level and so I think it would be suitable for us  
49 to provide comments to the Board of Fish in support of  
50

1 those proposals at the State level and after that  
2 consider implementing them if there's additional  
3 conservation needs at the Federal level.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. That is  
6 good, so we could make that recommendation, John, and  
7 if you wanted to make a motion to make that  
8 recommendation I would accept that and get a second and  
9 then we would send a letter to them in support of those  
10 proposals, 11 through 14.

11  
12 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Yeah, Mr. Chair, this  
13 is Aaron. I could probably -- I have those sitting in  
14 front of me, we just went through them in my Advisory  
15 Committee meeting last night if you want me to toss out  
16 the numbers I can.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, if you want  
19 to.....

20  
21 MR. WHISSEL: Aaron that would be  
22 awesome.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....go ahead and  
25 do that.

26  
27 MR. WHISSEL: Yeah, I'm looking through  
28 my book trying to get them and I'm not going to get  
29 them in time so that would be great, I appreciate that.

30  
31 MR. BLOOMQUIST: All right. Yeah, so  
32 what we'd be looking at is these are the upper Copper  
33 River personal use and subsistence proposals.

34  
35 Proposal No. 6 is the daily harvest  
36 reporting proposal.

37  
38 No. 7 -- it's not one we discussed but  
39 I actually think it's a really good alternative on this  
40 whole boat issue and may be the only one that has a --  
41 looking at my crystal ball, maybe the only one that has  
42 a chance of actually getting passed at the Board of  
43 Fish and it's to prohibit guiding in subsistence  
44 fisheries. And actually I'd like to discuss that one a  
45 little bit with the Council here, separately here.

46  
47 I'll just go through these.

48  
49 No. 8 is similarly maybe could pass and

50

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1 would help, it's no dipnetting within the 500 yards of  
2 the confluence of tributary mouths. So maybe those two  
3 let's take separately if we could.  
4

5 No. 9 is to eliminate dipnetting from  
6 boats in the Glennallen Subdistrict.  
7

8 No. 10 is to eliminate dipnetting from  
9 boats in the upper Copper River Subdistrict.  
10

11 No. 11 is a little bit more convoluted,  
12 we probably could skip that one because it's covered in  
13 the other two.  
14

15 No. 14 and 15 are to prohibit gillnet  
16 mesh dipnets.  
17

18 And is that, let me look.  
19

20 And No. 16 is the sonar one, right.  
21 Yep.  
22

23 MR. WHISSEL: Okay, I'm going to do a  
24 batch.....  
25

26 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.  
27

28 MR. WHISSEL: Sorry, go ahead.  
29

30 MR. BLOOMQUIST: No go ahead, you might  
31 have a way to go forward with this, I guess. There are  
32 a couple from -- that modify limits and that sort of  
33 stuff in the dipnet fishery too but I'm not sure if we  
34 want to dive into the weeds there.  
35

36 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: No, we don't want  
37 to dive into the weeds and we don't want to submit  
38 something that the Council all hasn't had a chance to  
39 vet and read and are comfortable with. But what I  
40 took, you gave me 6, 7, you kind of had a question on  
41 8, 9, 10, 14 and 15 it seems like they're all things  
42 that we want them to pay attention to.  
43

44 MR. BLOOMQUIST: And 16 as well, Mr.  
45 Chair, the prohibition of sonar.  
46

47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: 16, okay. So if  
48 that's acceptable, let's do that and let's ask DeAnna  
49 to make sure she vetts these and checks them out and  
50

1 make sure we're not sending a letter on something we're  
2 missing.

3  
4 MR. WHISSEL: Should I read off a  
5 motion, I've scribbled something down here if that's  
6 helpful.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes, please.

9  
10 MR. WHISSEL: Okay. DeAnna, are you  
11 ready?

12  
13 MS. PERRY: Yeah, I just have a concern  
14 that you're making a motion and the Council members  
15 haven't had a chance to look at these proposals. You  
16 know as you know when you send a comment to the Board  
17 you do each one separately and you have to provide a  
18 reason and, you know, there's more to it than just a  
19 letter so I'm unclear if the Council's just wanting me  
20 to write a letter to Board of Fish saying we support  
21 all these proposals or if we're sending individual  
22 comments and, again, it's to the Council's comfort  
23 level on if they've had an opportunity to look these  
24 over before they vote.

25  
26 MR. WHISSEL: Understood. I'm going to  
27 make a motion to send a single letter in support of  
28 Board of Fish Proposals 6, which is timely harvest  
29 reporting; 9 prohibiting dipnetting from boats in  
30 Glennallen; 10 prohibiting dipnets from boats in the  
31 upper Copper; 14 and 15 prohibiting gillnet mesh; and  
32 16 prohibiting sonar.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thanks, is  
35 there a second to John's motion.

36  
37 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, this is Ed, I  
38 second.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Ed.  
41 Okay, that's pretty clear.

42  
43 Any other discussion on it.

44  
45 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, this is Aaron. I'm  
46 going to vote against the motion for reasons I stated  
47 yesterday, you know, making people take fish finders  
48 off of their boats and -- I actually support a few of  
49 these but I'm going to vote no overall.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I kind of got  
2 mixed emotion too, it's hard to support things when you  
3 don't have it all -- DeAnna's correct, we don't, you  
4 know, I think this needs to come back to us in some  
5 form. We're really not prepared for it. But, anyway,  
6 John, do you -- well, it's already moved and seconded  
7 so.....

8  
9 MR. WHISSEL: We've moved on it -- Mr.  
10 Chair, I'd be happy to modify my motion to deal with  
11 these separately if that's what it -- seems like would  
12 be more practical. And I also think we could do this  
13 another time. I have reviewed the proposals so I'm  
14 comfortable voting on them right now. It sounds like  
15 maybe Aaron has -- but I certainly am happy to do this  
16 discussion later on after we've had an opportunity.

17  
18 MR. BLOOMQUIST: And they are virtually  
19 identical in meaning to what we went through yesterday.  
20 They're not like little twists and turns here or there,  
21 they're the same as the Federal proposals. But I would  
22 prefer to do them individually.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Well, we  
25 got a motion on the floor, an active motion, seconded,  
26 unless we want to withdraw that motion and start over,  
27 we'll go ahead and vote on that motion.

28  
29 MR. WHISSEL: I would -- do you think  
30 we should withdraw and start over, as my second, I'd  
31 consider it.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, Ed, do you  
34 concur on that?

35  
36 (No comments)

37  
38 MR. WHISSEL: I think I heard Ed say  
39 yes so I'll withdraw the motion.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thanks,  
42 John. If you want to make individual ones and be clear  
43 because this could get real convoluted without us  
44 knowing for sure but I'll entertain it, go ahead and  
45 see if you could take a stab at it. I think there were  
46 some we weren't prepared to take action on it, myself  
47 but, okay.

48  
49 MR. WHISSEL: Okay. We could put the  
50



1 motion on and table also I suppose.

2

3 So my motion would be to support Board  
4 of Fish Proposal No. 6 for timely harvest reporting.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Is there a  
7 second to that motion.

8

9 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Second.

10

11 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, this is Ed.

12

13 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Aaron seconds.

14

15 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Aaron, okay. Any  
16 discussion on that to support No. 6 State proposal.

17

18 MR. WHISSEL: Mr. Chairman, this is  
19 John Whissel. I think timely reporting is something  
20 that we need to implement across the system and across  
21 the state and this is the best first step that we can  
22 make.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Good comment.

25

26 MR. WHISSEL: At the State level.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Any other  
29 comments on the motion.

30

31 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Yeah, this is Aaron.  
32 I have my same concerns as yesterday but I'll vote to  
33 approve this one. And it is the identical meaning to  
34 the proposal that we went through yesterday on the same  
35 subject. I can read it if people want to hear how it's  
36 worded but the meaning is, you know, report within  
37 three days and daily harvest recording.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: And we passed  
40 that yesterday.

41

42 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Yes, sir.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Any other  
45 comments on it.

46

47 MR. OPHEIM: Mr. Chair, this is  
48 Michael.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead,  
2 Michael.

3  
4 MR. OPHEIM: Yeah, I just don't feel  
5 comfortable voting on these without going through and  
6 looking at them. I haven't had a chance. I was pretty  
7 busy trying to get through the other proposals, trying  
8 to get those read. I've not gotten a chance to look  
9 through any of this Board of Fish, Board of Game stuff.  
10 So I would be voting to oppose any of these proposals  
11 to write letters right now.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you,  
14 Michael. I'm in the same position. So I think there's  
15 probably quite a few of us there. John, we've got a  
16 motion and seconded, I won't ask you again to withdraw  
17 but do you want to consider tabling this until the  
18 Council's had time to understand it all.

19  
20 MR. WHISSEL: Yes, sir, let's table it.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. You got to  
23 motion to table it or just withdraw it.

24  
25 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Either way.

26  
27 MR. WHISSEL: We can do it later in  
28 this meeting or until a different meeting or what are  
29 we looking at here?

30  
31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: It's definitely  
32 going to have to be a different meeting.

33  
34 MR. WHISSEL: Which would likely.....

35  
36 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

37  
38 MR. WHISSEL: .....come after the Board  
39 of Fish meets but they may end up giving us far more  
40 time than we ever thought.....

41  
42 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

43  
44 MR. WHISSEL: .....so who knows.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Exactly.

47  
48 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair, may I say  
49 something.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Who is this?

2  
3 MS. STICKWAN: Gloria.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Gloria.

6  
7 MS. STICKWAN: I listened to the work  
8 session on the Board of Fish and they're going to meet  
9 October 15th and determine when the Prince William  
10 Sound, upper Copper River fisheries meeting will take  
11 place and they said when at that meeting, it may be  
12 anywhere from March to May so at our February meeting  
13 we would have time to go through these. It sounds like  
14 we will have time in February from what they said at  
15 the work session, that they're not really sure about  
16 that.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I read the same  
19 thing, Gloria, and I'm pretty confident of that. So I  
20 think that's really good information, I appreciate  
21 that.

22  
23 MR. WHISSEL: We would certainly be in  
24 before the meeting but we would most likely miss the on  
25 time public comment deadline in order to have our  
26 comments published with the meeting material, which is  
27 okay.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, it's okay,  
30 we could read it into the record.

31  
32 MR. WHISSEL: Yes.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Just for  
35 parliamentary, I got a motion out there on six and it's  
36 been seconded, you want to withdraw it and then table  
37 this until we have a chance to review it for our next  
38 meeting.

39  
40 MR. WHISSEL: Yes, Mr. Chair. I think  
41 we'll just -- if my second is in agreement we'll table  
42 this and we'll take it up as an agenda item at our next  
43 meeting.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

46  
47 MR. BLOOMQUIST: I was the second, this  
48 is Aaron. I guess I'll concur although I would rather  
49 do it now since it was on our agenda but, yeah, I'm

50

1     okay I guess.

2

3                     CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, it was on  
4     our agenda but we haven't had time to get at it, those  
5     things were sent out just the day before. We can't  
6     operate that way. So a few days before is when I saw  
7     them. But, anyway, thank you guys. You both withdrew  
8     so we'll drop that motion and table it until our next  
9     meeting so we'll move forward on that.

10

11                    Okay. DeAnna, do I need a motion to  
12     table it, I mean do we need to actually take a motion?

13

14                    MS. PERRY: Motion -- tabling a motion  
15     and withdrawing a motion are two different things since  
16     we are not.....

17

18                    CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yep, we withdrew  
19     it so we don't have nothing.

20

21                    MS. PERRY: Well, both the word table  
22     and withdraw has been used so if we are tabling it -- I  
23     think it would be cleaner if we withdrew it if we are  
24     not going to revisit it this meeting. We could always  
25     bring it up at the next meeting. To table something  
26     gives the impression you're going to revisit it during  
27     this meeting.

28

29                    CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: That's why I  
30     asked, yeah.....

31

32                    MR. WHISSEL: My intention was to  
33     withdraw.

34

35                    CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....to table is  
36     a specific date -- so there's no motion to table, it's  
37     been withdrawn so we'll just take it up at the next  
38     meeting, it'll be an agenda item.

39

40                    MS. PERRY: Okay.

41

42                    CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Next  
43     moving on here is Fisheries Resource Monitoring  
44     Program, and Jared you're going to present that.

45

46                    MR. STONE: Good morning, Mr. Chair,  
47     that will be myself and my colleague Robbin LaVine,  
48     anthropologist with OSM.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, Robbin,  
2 okay you guys go right ahead.

3  
4 MS. LAVINE: Good morning, Mr. Chair,  
5 this is Robbin. And I'm going to let Jared take the  
6 lead right now.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Go ahead,  
9 Jared.

10  
11 MR. STONE: Alrighty, let me just pull  
12 up my document real quick, if you don't mind holding  
13 for a moment.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: No problem.

16  
17 (Pause)

18  
19 MS. PERRY: Jared, would you like me to  
20 put on the screen, the suggested 2022 Southcentral FRMP  
21 Priority Information Needs are are you going to do that  
22 on your end, I don't mind I have it up if you want me  
23 to?

24  
25 MR. STONE: That would be perfect,  
26 thank you.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Still can't see  
29 the screen but that's okay.

30  
31 (Pause)

32  
33 MR. STONE: Okay. Hello, Mr. Chair.  
34 For the record my name is Jared Stone and I am a  
35 fisheries biologist with OSM. And like I said joining  
36 me today as well is Robbin LaVine, anthropologist with  
37 OSM.

38  
39 Today I will be providing you with an  
40 update on the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program and  
41 support your Council in the development of priority  
42 information needs which is an action item.

43  
44 We would like to first start you with  
45 an update of continuing projects that are currently  
46 funded in your region. The Southcentral FRMP region  
47 there are currently four continuing projects and as a  
48 reminder these are typically projects that are funded  
49 for four years in total.

50

1                   The first is a 2018 project. That's  
2 the Gulkana River sockeye salmon harvest contribution.

3  
4                   There's another 2018 project, that's  
5 the estimating the in-river abundance of Copper River  
6 chinook salmon.

7  
8                   And then there are two projects that  
9 were funded in the last cycle in 2020 and that includes  
10 the Klutina River sonar pilot project and the abundance  
11 and run timing of salmon in Tanada Creek.

12  
13                   The Office of Subsistence Management  
14 will announce the 2022 notice of funding opportunity  
15 for the Monitoring Program later this fall or later.  
16 We will be seeking proposals for these projects that  
17 gather information to manage and conserve subsistence  
18 fishery resources in Federal public waters in Alaska.  
19 The monitoring program is also directed at supporting  
20 meaningful involvement in fisheries management by  
21 Alaska Native and rural organizations and promoting  
22 collaboration among Federal, State, Alaska Native and  
23 local organizations. The development of the PINS is an  
24 important process for the Council. These PINS will  
25 drive the remainder of the -- of this FRMP cycle, and  
26 when I say PINS and FRMP, I just want to remind folks  
27 that I've shortened priority information needs and we  
28 sometimes call the priority information needs PINS, and  
29 just so there's no confusion. And, again, FRMP is just  
30 short for Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program.

31  
32                   Currently this is a primary point where  
33 the Council can influence the direction of the  
34 Monitoring Program. Today's discussion regarding the  
35 priority information needs for the 2022 funding cycle,  
36 again, is an action item for the Councils as part of  
37 the FRMP process.

38  
39                   Volunteers composed of members of this  
40 Council met once earlier last month to discuss  
41 fisheries information needs and issues for the region.  
42 The volunteers consisted of the Chair of Southcentral  
43 Council, Greg Encelewski, Gloria Stickwan and  
44 Southcentral Council member John Whissel. OSM Staff  
45 included anthropologist Robbin LaVine, myself and  
46 Council Coordinator DeAnna Perry. The Office of  
47 Subsistence Management was fortunate to participate in  
48 a nationwide U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service directorate  
49 fellowship program where our office hosts a student who  
50

1 has recently graduated and has shown interest in  
2 natural resource management. During this internship,  
3 Keith Ivy, who has also participated in the ANSEP  
4 Program and has lived in rural Alaska took on the  
5 challenge to perform a gap analysis of each region's  
6 research needs and summarized these needs into an  
7 organized document that we have supplied to the  
8 volunteers to help inform their discussions. This  
9 document incorporated previous years information needs  
10 and an assessment of which projects have addressed  
11 these needs. It also included a table that summarized  
12 all of Southcentral's previously funded projects,  
13 annual report replies and an extensive review of  
14 Council transcripts. The final project of Keith's  
15 internship was a well crafted document for each region  
16 to help better inform Staff and Council member  
17 volunteers of potential discussion points regarding  
18 future fisheries information needs.

19  
20 So at this first meeting, the  
21 volunteers examined Keith's gap analysis as well as the  
22 priority information needs from 2018 and 2020 cycles  
23 and then also addressed projects that had been fully  
24 funded by those priority information needs.  
25 Additionally, volunteers assessed the projects that  
26 were funded through the Monitoring Program from 2000 to  
27 present, and activities not eligible for funding  
28 through the Monitoring Program. From this they  
29 composed a list of potential fisheries information  
30 needs for your consideration today.

31  
32 The draft list provided to you today is  
33 the result of the volunteers meeting earlier last month  
34 and at this point I would like to request that one of  
35 your Council volunteers brief you on the discussions  
36 that took place and Robbin and I are here to support  
37 and assist you as you finalize the 2022 priority  
38 information needs.

39  
40 Thank you, Mr. Chair for your time, and  
41 I believe the suggested draft should be up on your  
42 screens on teams and from here we can work through  
43 these one by one if you'd like. Again, this is a list  
44 that was composed by the volunteers and we can change,  
45 modify, add, or remove any of the priority information  
46 needs that you see there on your screen.

47  
48 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair.

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1 MR. LAVINE: Mr. Chair, this is Robbin.

2  
3 Hello, Mr. Chair, this.....

4  
5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Robbin.

6  
7 MS. LAVINE: .....is Robbin LaVine.  
8 Thank you. We can do two things right now. We could  
9 -- one, we could have one of the volunteers that  
10 participated in our discussion do a bit of a briefing  
11 on what occurred, or if you'd like I can give you a  
12 brief walk-through of the documents you should have  
13 before you to support our discussion today.

14  
15 How would you like to proceed?

16  
17 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I think you could  
18 give us a brief walk-through first and then if someone  
19 wants to talk to it after that'd be fine, but you can  
20 go ahead. Just so you know, Robbin, some people -- I'm  
21 having trouble, I don't have my teams, I can't get  
22 connected for some reason, so some people don't have  
23 that so we'll have to follow over the Council booklet,  
24 from what we got.

25  
26 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes.

29  
30 MS. PERRY: This is DeAnna.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes.

33  
34 MS. PERRY: Hi, Mr. Chair. The  
35 particular document that Robbin is referring to is not  
36 in the meeting book and I know most folks aren't on  
37 teams to view it in real time so I wanted to remind the  
38 Council that these documents were sent to you by email  
39 on September 24th and hopefully that will help you  
40 locate them if you don't have those in front of you.

41  
42 Thank you.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: That was two  
45 weeks ago, you expect us to find them.

46  
47 (Laughter)

48  
49 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair, members of the

50



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1 Council, as you all look for those documents I'm going  
2 to give you a brief description of what they should be.

3  
4 The documents that were sent out in  
5 email for your reference are the 2018 and 2020 priority  
6 information needs, so those were the PINS used by this  
7 Council in previous notice of funding opportunities  
8 and, additionally, there should be a document of  
9 suggested 2022 Southcentral FRMP priority information  
10 needs. These documents can also be found on our  
11 website. Now, I was aware this morning that our website  
12 -- I was having trouble accessing our website, let me  
13 look and see if I can access it now, it looks like it's  
14 up, so another place to locate these documents, are to  
15 go to regions, Southcentral Alaska and look in the  
16 meeting materials and you will find near the bottom of  
17 the page 2018 and 2020 priority information needs and  
18 draft of suggested 2022 priority information needs.

19  
20 So either they're going to be in your  
21 email or you can pull them up from the website.

22  
23 If you need a moment, please let me  
24 know, otherwise I'll proceed.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes, if you'll  
27 give us just a couple moments here I'm going to try and  
28 pull mine up here.

29  
30 (Pause)

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: How about the  
33 rest of the Council members, are you able to find what  
34 you need there from the 24th.

35  
36 MR. WHISSEL: Mr. Chair. This is John  
37 Whissel, I'm all set.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

40  
41 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Gloria.

44  
45 MS. STICKWAN: I just want to say at  
46 our Wrangell-St. Elias SRC meeting we supported the  
47 PINS develop test and implement methodologies for  
48 monitoring escapement and/or mortality of sockeye  
49 salmon in the Copper River and/or its tributaries. And

50

1 the second was predation of salmon in the Copper River  
2 Delta (seals, bears, ells/lampreys). We supported  
3 those two PINS at the SRC.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

6  
7 MS. LAVINE: Does everybody have what  
8 they need, are we ready to go?

9  
10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I think we're  
11 ready Robbin. I got mine so you go ahead, I got it up  
12 on another screen, so thank you.

13  
14 MS. LAVINE: Okay. So aside from the  
15 2018 and 2020 PINS and the suggested 2022 Southcentral  
16 FRMP PINS another document for reference can be found  
17 on Page 203 of your Council books. And this is all the  
18 Southcentral Alaska region projects funded -- actually  
19 there's a misprint there, as you'll see, but all of  
20 these are Southcentral Alaska region projects funded  
21 since 2000. So that you can get a peak at the kind of  
22 research that this program has funded.

23  
24 But I want to draw your attention back  
25 to the document that we'll be working on today and  
26 that's the suggested 2022 Southcentral FRMP priority  
27 information needs document.

28  
29 You will notice that this document has,  
30 oh, one, two, three, four, five, six -- six bullet  
31 points. So this document has six bullet points and  
32 you're going to notice that this document has some  
33 regular text and some bold text as well as some  
34 underlined text. Anything in bold, aside from the  
35 heading, indicates new language or new issue suggested  
36 for this new year. Also notice that two of the bullets  
37 at the very end of this list are brand new this year.  
38 You'll also notice that there are some sub-bullets  
39 underneath the primary issues of priority information  
40 needs and those sub-bullets indicate -- and they  
41 provide information or possible new wording that the  
42 volunteers suggested were related to the main bullet,  
43 that they're nested under. You'll also notice that  
44 there are some projects listed under the second bullet.  
45 These indicate that these projects made efforts to  
46 address that priority information need in past cycles  
47 and so it's up to you to assess whether those projects  
48 fully address that priority information needs or  
49 whether you'd like to keep it through the next cycle.

50

1                   And then one last thing I'd like to  
2 talk to you about before we get into greater  
3 discussion, you may want to consider fisheries  
4 management reports. I know you've heard some, there  
5 are more on the agenda, so you may want to listen to  
6 some of the fisheries managers and their reports to  
7 request input from those attending, any of our local  
8 experts to assist in identifying additional critical  
9 issues that this list may not capture.

10  
11                   And I also wanted to let you know that  
12 if you consider all the Staff here, everybody in  
13 attendance, we're here to support you in your  
14 discussion so please call out to anybody if you have  
15 questions or if you think you need help in finessing  
16 the wording and, again, we're here under these really  
17 unique and challenging circumstances and I would like  
18 to express my gratitude and request your patience as we  
19 struggle through this.

20  
21                   Thank you.

22  
23                   And I'm ready for your questions.

24  
25                   (Pause)

26  
27                   MS. LAVINE: And, Mr. Chair, if -- if  
28 you are waiting for people.....

29  
30                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead.

31  
32                   MS. LAVINE: If -- if you would like --  
33 if you don't have immediate questions, we can walk  
34 through each bullet point one by one and I'm happy to  
35 do that with you.

36  
37                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Before you do  
38 that I want to, you know, this is going to be very  
39 complicated to try and do this by phone and over the  
40 Council and everyone all different, you know, we're  
41 looking at things to create documents and draft stuff  
42 and come up with a conclusion so it might be helpful to  
43 walk through but I'm -- Gloria had a good point, she  
44 talked about how they've reviewed the PINS, and so I'm  
45 going to open it to the Council members and maybe you  
46 guys give me some guidance, how you want to approach  
47 this.

48  
49                   MR. WHISSEL: Mr. Chair. This is John  
50

1 Whissel.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead,  
4 John.

5

6 MR. WHISSEL: I thought maybe just in  
7 terms of a discussion to go through the PINS, we could  
8 just go through what we have on this draft document and  
9 we could align the Council with thinking -- Gloria and  
10 I spent some time reviewing priorities in different  
11 areas and tried to be as inclusive as we could and we  
12 tried to give you a succinct and brief a document as we  
13 could to facilitate the on line discussion.

14

15 But basically if it's okay with you I  
16 can just sort of let you guys know what our process was  
17 a little bit.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead,  
20 John.

21

22 MR. WHISSEL: Okay. So what we thought  
23 -- it started as an overall sort of theme, and Gloria  
24 feel free to defer with anything I say if -- if you had  
25 a different take on any of this.

26

27 So we sort of were trying to move  
28 priorities out to all species. I think we generally  
29 saw that coho are kind of under represented in  
30 everything we're doing and coho are taken for granted a  
31 lot of times and I think we sort of see them as the  
32 bail out if the fish runs don't come in, we'll grab  
33 some coho, but I think we need to -- and I think Gloria  
34 was there with me, I think we need to start doing the  
35 kinds of things for coho we're doing for other salmon  
36 runs because we don't want to wait until they're in  
37 decline before we start looking at them. We need to  
38 start developing a baseline.

39

40 So coho got some attention from us and  
41 we -- the first bullet point addressed coho on the  
42 Kenai Peninsula. Gloria and I didn't really feel like  
43 we had the expertise in the area to really integrate  
44 coho into the existing priorities there and we're  
45 hoping that some of you guys on the Kenai would be able  
46 to add some nuance to that discussion so we just tact  
47 it on to the end of the priorities for the Kasilof and  
48 the tributaries. But we put it on as a bullet point  
49 that's broader for the whole Kenai because we saw that

50

1 theme in some of the feedback regarding PINS.

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The second, you see coho bolded in the 2022 but it's in the 2020 PINS for the Copper. What we want to do is think about Delta coho along with everything else. And so if you look at the bullet point below it it adds Copper River Delta and tributaries for escapement and mortality.

We added a predation survey. That's been a high priority up and down the river because as the resources diminish we want to manage by stock and bring this higher resolution to management, I think starting to look at all the -- all the resource users including the natural ones and seals and the bears and the in-river predation are things we should start to estimate and include, you know, the possibility of monitoring predation in our management. Of course that would be in the future but we need to lay the groundwork for that.

We sort of added some detail to bringing reporting, you can see reporting as a priority in our deliberations, both regarding the Board of Fish and Federal subsistence and we have a PIN on there to research and study ways that we can efficiently and effectively bring our reporting from post-season to realtime.

We added estimating out-migration of sockeye salmon on the Copper River. This was something that was done -- sockeye salmon smolt on the Copper River -- this is something that was done for king salmon when the king salmon were in decline, and I think our discussions today have -- certainly nobody's arguing that the sockeye are doing spectacularly well on the Copper and so it's a good idea, I think, to start bringing some of the studies of out-migration so we can look at ocean survival and the only way to look at ocean survival is to be able to enumerate the abundance of fish going out versus coming back.

Then we added a multi-region suggestion that is reflective of our discussion among the Council was to explore broader impacts of climate change on salmon and their habitat and especially looking at how climate change affects ocean acidification on the marine sea web (ph).

1 And that was it.

2  
3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thanks  
4 John, that was good. I'm not sure you had a lot more  
5 than what I'm seeing and reading on my paper but that's  
6 good.

7  
8 Okay, Council, it's up to us how we  
9 want to prioritize these needs, let's go ahead and I'll  
10 open it up to the rest of you to discuss how you want  
11 to go forward.

12  
13 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair, this is Robbin  
14 LaVine.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Robbin.

17  
18 MS. LAVINE: And this is something that  
19 Jared and I did for the Kodiak/Aleutians, which was,  
20 began discussion, began wording or finessing the  
21 wording and making some major decisions on this first  
22 draft and then Jared and I worked to ensure that we  
23 were incorporating and capturing your comments through  
24 lunch hour and then after and also after hearing more  
25 reports that may have bearing on your priority  
26 information needs and some of the issues, and the final  
27 draft was finalized and approved.

28  
29 So that is one way that we could do it  
30 that might -- or we could address it, which is to break  
31 up this agenda item, begin now, then -- and then bring  
32 it back for discussion and finalization after a little  
33 bit of work. And then as you confirm whether your  
34 identification of the issues matches all the  
35 information provided by the various agencies and  
36 entities that are providing testimony and reports on  
37 the health of the fisheries in your region.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Robbin, I think  
40 you're getting us a little off course here because, you  
41 know, that's a work session to work all that stuff out  
42 and I know you've worked hard and you got a committees  
43 and you come up with this stuff, but I mean the  
44 Council's got a lot on their plate today and we don't  
45 have time to go and finesse your work and draft before  
46 lunch and after lunch. I just don't see it happening  
47 especially over the phone like this, we can't get  
48 together. But I'm up for, you know, taking the  
49 suggestions of the people on the committee like John,  
50

1 Gloria and them that worked it and if these priorities  
2 align, that we can come to a census to support them as  
3 presented or go ahead and modify them now so we could  
4 move on.

5  
6 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead.

9  
10 MS. STICKWAN: I think since we  
11 supported the in-season monitoring, we should just  
12 support the one that says in-season monitor harvesting  
13 -- and Copper River drainage. This shows support for  
14 the actions we took yesterday.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yep. Okay,  
17 so.....

18  
19 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair and members of  
20 the Council. If you look on your document you'll see  
21 there are -- that the language that Gloria has  
22 suggested is a sub-bullet, so basically it's kind of  
23 getting as the same information as the bullet carried  
24 over, or the priority information need carried over  
25 from 2020 and so you might make a decision on which  
26 language you would like to go with for this bullet.  
27 Would you like to go with the original from 2020, the  
28 suggested language in bold, or would you like to  
29 incorporate the two and make them -- use language from  
30 both.

31  
32 MR. WHISSEL: I think that the  
33 suggested language in bold more accurately reflects the  
34 type of shift we're hoping to achieve.

35  
36 REPORTER: And who is this?

37  
38 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: That's John.

39  
40 MR. WHISSEL: Oh, sorry, this is John  
41 Whissel.

42  
43 REPORTER: Thank you.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: And, John, if I'm  
46 correct, your suggestion in bold, it starts out at the  
47 top, suggested 2020 Southcentral Fisheries Resource  
48 Monitoring Program priority information needs, you go  
49 to the first bold it's addressing coho on the Kenai;

50

1 the second bullet you've got develop test and implement  
2 methodologies for monitoring escapement.....

3  
4 (Teleconference interference -  
5 participants not muted - piercing feedback)

6  
7 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....and/or  
8 sockeye salmon in the Copper River and its tributaries;  
9 and predation of salmon in the Copper River/Delta  
10 (seals, bears and eels/lamprey; and then you move down  
11 and you get down to about the fourth bullet and in bold  
12 you've got the in-season harvest monitoring/reporting  
13 of harvest of salmon in the Copper River, and then a  
14 couple more bullets below that; estimate of sockeye  
15 salmon smolt out-migration and ocean survival on the  
16 Copper River; then multi-regional suggestion; explore  
17 the impacts of climate change on salmon and the  
18 environmental while exploring the impacts of climate  
19 change and acidification on the overall food web  
20 effecting fisheries resources important for subsistence  
21 harvest.

22  
23 (Teleconference interference -  
24 participants not muted - piercing feedback)

25  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Is that what  
28 we're supporting or is that what we're looking at?

29  
30 MR. WHISSEL: Mr. Chair, this is John  
31 Whissel. I understand Gloria was in support of.....

32  
33 (Teleconference interference -  
34 participants not muted - piercing feedback)

35  
36 MR. WHISSEL: .....continuing the PIN  
37 carrying over some 2020 and in terms of addressing  
38 Robbin's question about how to word that.....

39  
40 REPORTER: Wait, wait, the recording  
41 cannot hear anything with that loud whistle and  
42 feedback.

43  
44 MR. WHISSEL: Yeah, I got.....

45  
46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, we need --  
47 let's go ahead and take about a five minute break and  
48 get some noise settled down and I'm going to do  
49 some.....

50



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1 (Teleconference interference -  
2 participants not muted - piercing feedback)

3  
4 MR. WHISSEL: Very good.

5  
6 MS. PERRY: Just a reminder for folks  
7 to hit star-6 when you're not speaking. And with the  
8 feedback issue, if everybody could just take a look  
9 around and make sure that their audio equipment is not  
10 close to either computers or other audio equipment that  
11 might produce the feedback.

12  
13 Thank you.

14  
15 Nickella, are you able to isolate what  
16 line that's coming from?

17  
18 REPORTER: Let me call the operator  
19 right now while we're going on break.

20  
21 MS. PERRY: Thanks.

22  
23 (Off record)

24  
25 (On record)

26  
27 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Council members  
28 we're going to get back on schedule, back on task.  
29 What I would suggest and make sure I got everything  
30 lined out right here -- I'm going to suggest to the  
31 Council to take the work that John and Gloria did, the  
32 suggested 2022 Southcentral FRMP priority information  
33 needs, it covers what Gloria had suggested, it covers  
34 what everyone has suggested and worked on, and if we're  
35 okay with that, that's -- accept it as written and move  
36 on. There might be a couple little clarification  
37 points but I would like to get it approved as presented  
38 and move forward.

39  
40 MR. OPHEIM: Mr. Chair, this is  
41 Michael.

42  
43 MR. STONE: Mr. Chair, this is Jared.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead,  
46 Michael.

47  
48 MR. OPHEIM: Yeah, I'm okay with that  
49 if John and Gloria are okay with that.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you.  
2 I think they worked on it so I think they're fine with  
3 it, I'm just saying that we have two people that  
4 actually worked on this pretty hard and did a good job  
5 so I think we've all been involved in this and I just  
6 know for a fact we're not going to sit on the phone,  
7 moving through lunch and later and try and rewrite the  
8 document, that's just not going to happen, but we could  
9 certainly modify it a little or add to it if we see  
10 something of great importance. I'm not trying to stop  
11 any of the process, but I think we got something we  
12 could work with and we could pass it forward.

13  
14 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

15  
16 MR. WHISSEL: Mr. Chair. I wonder if  
17 someone from the Kenai.....

18  
19 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

20  
21 MR. WHISSEL: .....wouldn't want to  
22 look at our little tag on of.....

23  
24 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

25  
26 MR. WHISSEL: .....of coho there and  
27 add some meat to it. This is John Whissel.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, John, I  
30 looked at it and I think the tag on needs to stay there  
31 and I think the coho on the Kenai do need to be looked  
32 at, it's been brought up several times so I think that  
33 tag on is fine. So that's someone on the Kenai.

34  
35 MR. WHISSEL: Very good.

36  
37 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair, this is  
38 Gloria.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Gloria.

41  
42 MS. STICKWAN: I was just thinking  
43 about what Robbin said and I think we need to implement  
44 a program and do an in-season -- I don't think we can  
45 do an in-season monitoring unless it's implemented. It  
46 has to be set up and I don't know how complicated that  
47 would be so I think that's what Robbin was trying to  
48 get at. But I just think the program needs to be set  
49 up but it -- it is one of our -- it is written the way  
50

1 we wrote it though.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: And, Gloria, if  
4 I'm not missing anything, if that's an implement  
5 question, real-time harvest data on the Copper, whoever  
6 in-season, harvest monitoring, reporting harvest, so I  
7 think that's in here.

8

9 MS. STICKWAN: Okay. Because Robbin  
10 was saying do you want the dark bold or the top bullet.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Forget the dark  
13 bold, let's approve the whole page.

14

15 MS. STICKWAN: That's up to the  
16 Council.

17

18 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair, this is Robbin.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead,  
21 Robbin.

22

23 MS. LAVINE: I understand that we don't  
24 have a lot of time. The draft that you see before you  
25 was not intended to be approved in its current form,  
26 it's a little rough.

27

28 The suggestions that I made were that  
29 after some discussion, Jared and I, alone, without you  
30 all because you all need to focus on your business, but  
31 Jared and I could make some final tweaks and present a  
32 finished copy for you to approve potentially after  
33 lunch. If you walk through each PIN very quickly and  
34 approve, Jared and I will clean it up and come up with  
35 a final document that you can support on record.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I'm going to go  
38 back to the Council. I don't know that we have time to  
39 do that. But I don't see what's wrong with it the way  
40 it is but anyway go ahead. Anyone else got any  
41 comments on this.

42

43 MR. ZADRA: Yeah, Mr. Chair, this is  
44 Dennis.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead,  
47 Dennis.

48

49 MR. ZADRA: I would be fine with the

50

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1 document as written. Yeah, it seems like we could get  
2 hung up on this for quite some time.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Probably another  
5 day. Thank you, Dennis, good suggestion. Any other  
6 Council members.

7  
8 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, Mr. Chair, this is  
9 Ed.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes, Ed.

12  
13 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, I'm in agreement  
14 the way it's written right now. Thank you.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you.  
17 Anyone else got a comment on it.

18  
19 MR. WHISSEL: This is John Whissel. It  
20 certainly wasn't intended to be published as it is.  
21 Some of this stuff on here are just kind of notes like  
22 a PIN carried over from 2020 without funded projects, I  
23 mean those are sort of notes to guide Gloria and my  
24 discussion. I do think it could use a little bit of  
25 cleanup but I don't -- I mean I don't think we need to  
26 spend much time on it, I agree generally that we can, I  
27 think if we just took out the little notes that they're  
28 carryover PINS, you know, that's something I think we  
29 would want to look at but I think we should get some of  
30 that language out of here.

31  
32 You know for the first PIN, if we get  
33 rid of important PIN carried over from 202 without  
34 funded projects.

35  
36 For the second one, if we get rid of  
37 following projects fall under the PIN.

38  
39 The third one, if we get rid of that  
40 same language, important PIN carried over.

41  
42 The fourth one, if we get rid of that  
43 same language.

44  
45 Then I think we're okay to look at it  
46 vote on it now.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Well, you  
49 make a motion to get rid of those and be very specific,  
50

1 succinct and as quick as possible, John, and we'll vote  
2 on it.

3  
4 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair. We probably  
5 don't need a motion since this is in the drafting  
6 phase, but if Robbin and Jared want to make those  
7 changes in real-time and the Council could go ahead and  
8 vote on the final project.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I can't see them  
11 on real-time, sorry, but whatever.

12  
13 MR. STONE: Mr. Chair.

14  
15 MR. WHISSEL: Oh, because you're not  
16 able to look at the teams meeting, is that.....

17  
18 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: That's correct.

19  
20 MR. WHISSEL: Okay.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Some of us can't,  
23 and I've spent all morning but I don't got it, so,  
24 anyway.

25  
26 MR. WHISSEL: Okay, that makes more  
27 sense, I.....

28  
29 MR. SARAFIN: Mr. Chair.

30  
31 MR. WHISSEL: .....thought we were all  
32 looking at it now.

33  
34 MR. SARAFIN: Mr. Chair, this is Dave  
35 Sarafin.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead  
38 Dave.

39  
40 MR. SARAFIN: Yeah, I could provide  
41 just some brief recap of two significant brainstorming  
42 events that happened in the Copper River Basin this  
43 year that was looking into, you know, information gaps  
44 and potential, you know, things that could be included  
45 in the PINS and some of them are represented in the  
46 draft, but if you would like some additional topics  
47 because these were pretty large gatherings with  
48 researchers, agency managers, multiple user groups from  
49 Cordova to Fairbanks and in the Copper Basin, with an

1 interest -- this would all relate to Copper River  
2 salmon so if you'd like any supplemental information I  
3 could try to be brief on that.  
4

5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Well, we  
6 don't want to expand this, we're not trying to, you  
7 know, we don't have time to expand it at all. You know  
8 we done a lot of work and got to where we are and I  
9 understand there's always ongoing things and new  
10 information but we need to move forward with this. So  
11 I'm going to ask the Council to make a motion to accept  
12 this with removal of the notes that John made, and John  
13 I'd like you to make that motion and maybe move forward  
14 so we could get moving on this and we could send it in,  
15 whether it needs to be voted on or not at least they could  
16 start drafting it.  
17

18 MR. WHISSEL: Roger. Okay, so working  
19 off of our draft document I move to accept all PINS  
20 with the following edits.  
21

22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.  
23

24 MR. WHISSEL: And the first PIN,  
25 abundance run timing, spawning site fidelity, I suggest  
26 we delete the second bullet point that starts with  
27 important PIN carried over.  
28

29 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.  
30

31 MR. WHISSEL: On the second that starts  
32 with obtain reliable estimates of chinook, coho and  
33 sockeye salmon escapement in the Copper River, I  
34 propose that we delete the third and last bullet point  
35 on that PIN that says following projects fall under PIN  
36 with sub-bullet 20-501 et cetera.  
37

38 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.  
39

40 MR. WHISSEL: For the third PIN that  
41 begins develop, test and implement methodologies for  
42 monitoring salmon spawning escapement in the Copper  
43 River drainage, I suggest we delete the sub-bullet,  
44 important PIN carried over from 2020.  
45

46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.  
47

48 MR. WHISSEL: In the fourth bullet that  
49 begins implement the collection of real-time harvest  
50

1 data, I suggest we delete the second and last sub-  
2 bullet that reads important PIN carried over from 2020  
3 without funded projects.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

6  
7 MR. WHISSEL: And that is it. That is  
8 very good, I marked them all on mine and I hope  
9 everyone got that, do I have a second to that.

10  
11 MS. SELANOFF: This is Diane Selanoff,  
12 I'll second.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Diane.  
15 Is there any more discussion.

16  
17 (No comments)

18  
19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: If none, if  
20 someone will call the question and we'll take a vote  
21 and we'll see if we can move it forward.

22  
23 MS. SELANOFF: Call for the question,  
24 this is Diane.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Question has been  
27 called for, all in favor of it as presented and  
28 seconded and modified, aye.

29  
30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Anyone opposed to  
33 that.

34  
35 (No opposing votes)

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Robbin, does that  
38 meet enough to get started now.

39  
40 MS. LAVINE: I believe so, Mr. Chair.  
41 Thank you.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you.

44  
45 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair, this is Robbin.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Robbin.

48  
49 MS. LAVINE: If I may be so bold,  
50

1 really quick, on that list, the very first bullet,  
2 which is about on the Kenai Peninsula, abundance run  
3 timing, spawn site fidelity timing age, sex, length  
4 composition for chinook salmon that stage or spawn in  
5 waters of the Kasilof River and its tributaries, there  
6 is a sub-bullet address coho on the Kenai Peninsula. I  
7 believe we nested that there because we thought that  
8 PIN could basically have the same wording that instead  
9 of chinook salmon, replace chinook salmon with coho  
10 salmon, and that potentially that might be for both the  
11 Kasilof and the Kenai River watersheds.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, whatever  
14 you got to do to express that, that's fine, we passed  
15 that and it's understandable. I agree with you that  
16 you know we've always wanted to look at the chinook  
17 salmon in the spawning waters in the Kasilof and  
18 hopefully in the Kenai too, but however you need to  
19 modify it and if we never get another shot at it we'll  
20 take a look at it later.

21  
22 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. DeAnna, am  
25 I ready to move on now or did I miss something on that  
26 proposal?

27  
28 MS. PERRY: I believe we're ready for  
29 C, Moose Pass nondeter -nonrural determination  
30 proposal.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, I just  
33 wanted to make sure I didn't get into too much trouble  
34 here.

35  
36 Okay, we'll go ahead, and Robbin I  
37 think you're going to start us in on the Moose Pass, at  
38 least that's what I got on my agenda so if you want to  
39 go ahead and make your presentation that'd be great.

40  
41 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Mr. Chair and  
42 members of the Council. So once again this is Robbin  
43 LaVine and I will be presenting the analysis for  
44 nonrural determination proposal RP19-01. And for those  
45 of you listening on line you can find the analysis on  
46 our website again under the regions tab, Southcentral,  
47 meeting materials, the nonrural analysis is at the  
48 bottom of the list. You can also find a timeline for  
49 the 20/21 nonrural regulatory cycle on Page 205 of your  
50



1 Council book just to show kind of where you are in this  
2 regulatory -- where we are in this regulatory cycle.

3  
4 So hopefully you all have a digital or  
5 hardcopy of the analysis in front of you. I'm going to  
6 walk you through highlights of the analysis and as I do  
7 I'll draw your attention to portions of the text, the  
8 tables and figures and page numbers, so I ask you to  
9 bear with me, settle in, this is going to take a little  
10 time, and this is an action item.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

13  
14 MS. LAVINE: Nonrural determination  
15 proposal RP19-01 was submitted by Jeffrey Bryden of  
16 Moose Pass and he asks the Federal Subsistence Board to  
17 consider Moose Pass as a rural community independent of  
18 the greater Seward area.

19  
20 The proponent states that Moose Pass is  
21 a distinct rural community with a unique culture and  
22 character but was previously aggregated with Seward and  
23 never considered on its own merits.

24  
25 The proponent asserts that under the  
26 new Federal Subsistence Board's nonrural policy, Moose  
27 Pass will qualify as rural.

28  
29 The proponent describes the area for  
30 consideration as extending from Mile 25 to Mile 37 of  
31 the Seward Highway. He explains that south of Mile 25  
32 has a different postal code, a separate electrical  
33 service, and north of Mile 25 the proponent also  
34 asserts that no one lives north of Mile 37 until after  
35 the start of the Sterling Highway.

36  
37 The proponent states that Moose Pass  
38 residents rely upon fishing and hunting and gather  
39 natural resources from the Forest Service lands that  
40 surrounds the area. These Federal lands limit  
41 population growth and has allowed the community to keep  
42 the rural feel and culture that drew him to the area in  
43 the first place.

44  
45 The proponent argues that because  
46 Forest Service lands are opened to subsistence harvest  
47 activities, Moose Pass residents should be eligible to  
48 harvest local resources as Federal opportunities allow.

49  
50

1 On Page 2 you can see Figure 1, that's  
2 a map of Federal lands in Unit 7.

3  
4 Starting on Page 3 you can read a  
5 detailed discussion of the rural/nonrural regulatory  
6 history and I'm not going to go into this too deeply  
7 but I do want to point out some highlights that got us  
8 to where we are right now.

9  
10 The first one, the rural/nonrural  
11 determination process was established in 1990. It  
12 included a process for aggregating communities that it  
13 determined were socially and economically integrated  
14 before assessing the community or area for nonrural  
15 characteristics -- or rural or nonrural characteristics  
16 and once aggregated, a community or area with a  
17 population size of up to 2,500 was considered rural and  
18 over 7,000 was considered nonrural. Those communities  
19 with populations in between were not presumed to be  
20 either, so it was those in between communities that  
21 were assessed for rural status under the old policy.  
22 The Board aggregated Moose Pass with Seward in 1990 and  
23 again during the decennial review in 2000, both times  
24 the Board determined that the Seward area had primarily  
25 nonrural characteristics and created a Seward nonrural  
26 area.

27  
28 That map you can see on Page 4 of your  
29 analysis.

30  
31 In October 2009 the Secretaries of the  
32 Interior and Agriculture initiated a Subsistence  
33 Program review which concluded, among other things,  
34 that the Board should initiate a review of the rural  
35 determination process with Regional Advisory Council  
36 input. The Board approved the new policy on nonrural  
37 determinations in January 2017. This new process  
38 enables the Board to be more flexible when making  
39 decisions and to take into account regional differences  
40 found throughout the state. The new process also  
41 allows for greater input from Councils, tribes, Alaska  
42 Native corporations and the public.

43  
44 Now I'm going to take you to Page 7 and  
45 the heading nonrural decisionmaking. It's important to  
46 note that the new nonrural policy does not provide  
47 explicit criteria or a checklist for determining  
48 whether a community is rural or nonrural. The text  
49 from Page 7 was taken directly from the policy and it  
50

1 shows bold and underlined wording that highlights the  
2 guidance upon which this analysis is focused.

3  
4 Specifically.

5  
6 The Board will make or rescind nonrural  
7 determinations using a comprehensive approach that may  
8 consider such factors as population size and density,  
9 economic indicators, military presence, industrial  
10 facilities, use of fish and wildlife, degree of  
11 remoteness and isolation, and any other relevant  
12 material including information provided by the public.  
13 Other directions to highlight include information would  
14 be administrative record, evidence and considerations  
15 presented in the proposal, the discretion to modify the  
16 geographical extent of the area, and most importantly  
17 the Board will look to the Regional Advisory Councils  
18 for confirmation that any relevant information brought  
19 forth during the nonrural determination process  
20 accurately describes the unique characteristics of the  
21 affected community or region.

22  
23 Guidance from this Council includes,  
24 learning more about fish and wildlife use and  
25 comparisons with other rural communities on the road  
26 system. One member shared on record the best  
27 indicators were the historic talks from the people that  
28 testified, that gave me the usage, that's what I was  
29 looking for. These Council comments, along with  
30 guidance from the policy provide direction for the  
31 following organization of this analysis. Because both  
32 the policy and Council guidance highlight the  
33 importance of information provided by the public, the  
34 analysis incorporates public testimony provided at the  
35 public hearing and the Southcentral Regional Advisory  
36 Council meeting from fall of 2019, and both of these  
37 events are described in current events on Page 6.

38  
39 The analysis of the Moose Pass area  
40 begins on Page 8.

41  
42 Content for the following sections rely  
43 heavily on information provided by the public and  
44 residents of Moose Pass as well as State technical  
45 papers, reports and local historical accounts.

46  
47 If you turn to Page 10 you will find a  
48 map of the Moose Pass area describing the census  
49 designated places, important mile post markers and  
50

1 features that are referenced throughout the analysis.  
2 The mile post markers stretch along the Seward Highway  
3 and incorporate Moose Pass CDP between Miles 25 and 37,  
4 Crown Point CDP between Miles 23 and 25, Primrose  
5 between 15 and 23, you should note Mile 15.5 marks the  
6 Snow River Hostel and that's the last structure in the  
7 Primrose CDP and there are approximately eight miles of  
8 uninhabited road stretched between the Snow River  
9 Hostel and the first Seward connected settlement within  
10 the southern portion of the Bear Creek CDP.  
11 Importantly you'll notice that the shaded yellow area  
12 describes the proposed Moose Pass community boundary in  
13 the original proposal.

14  
15 So now I'm going to draw your attention  
16 to the section extent of Moose Pass community, and  
17 that's midway on Page 9.

18  
19 Some Council members and residents of  
20 the Moose Pass area requested the Board consider an  
21 extension of the geographic definition of the community  
22 to include those residents that live beyond the  
23 boundaries outlined in the original proposal. Most  
24 public testimony at the hearing indicated that a sense  
25 of community among the residents is more broad and  
26 inclusive and that residents of Primrose and Crown  
27 Point CDPs are considered part of the Moose Pass  
28 community. In addition to public testimony this  
29 section also draws upon local organizations, clubs and  
30 commissions that describe the extent of their  
31 membership, services and area as well as preliminary  
32 research conducted by University of Alaska-Anchorage  
33 graduate student Christina Brummer. All sources in  
34 this section indicate that the Moose Pass community is  
35 expansive and inclusive of residents living from Mile  
36 Post 15 of the Seward Highway to Mile Post 37 and in  
37 some cases beyond to Summit Lake at Mile Post 45.

38  
39 If you turn to Page 11. Table 1  
40 describes the Moose Pass area population from all CDPs  
41 in 1990, and you'll note the population of the entire  
42 area is small, 391 people even when all three places  
43 are combined and demonstrates and relative stability  
44 of the area population over years.

45  
46 On Page 12 you can find a history of  
47 the Moose Pass area including Crown Point and Primrose  
48 CDPs. All these places have their origins in the  
49 developmental phase of mining and railway construction  
50

1 on the Kenai Peninsula which began in the early 1900s.

2  
3 At the bottom of Page 13 is the section  
4 Moose Pass as a rural community.

5  
6 Based on policy and Council guidance, a  
7 valuable assessment of the status of Moose Pass as  
8 rural comes from the community itself. This section  
9 summarizes testimony from the public hearing and fall  
10 Council meeting. 12 people provided testimony during  
11 the public hearing, three of whom attended the Council  
12 meeting. All 12 define their home as rural and  
13 described a community and a way of life that relied  
14 heavily on hunting and fishing, was defined by limited  
15 amenities and services and emphasized the rural  
16 character of their community as something that they  
17 valued and looked to protect.

18  
19 Beginning on Page 15 is a section use  
20 of wild resources.

21  
22 In this section use of wild resources  
23 is demonstrated through public testimony, subsistence  
24 surveys and ADF&G permit harvest reports. All sources  
25 demonstrate consistent harvest and use of wild foods by  
26 residents under the opportunities available to them and  
27 public testimony captured the value of being able to  
28 gather firewood and food from the lands outside their  
29 homes.

30  
31 On Page 16, Table 2 shows the number of  
32 hunting permits issued to Moose Pass residents for all  
33 species in any unit of Alaska between 1990 and 2010,  
34 and we just cast a really broad net just demonstrating  
35 that people valued and participated in hunting and  
36 fishing opportunities. It's important to note that  
37 most local opportunities are limited through  
38 competitive drawing permits open to all Alaska  
39 residents as well as non-residents, depending on the  
40 hunt. A total of 1,939 permits were issued to  
41 residents of the Moose Pass area over the 20 years.

42  
43 At the bottom of Page 16 is the section  
44 communities with rural status in Southcentral Alaska.  
45 There are numerous communities and areas within  
46 Southcentral Alaska that are designated as rural under  
47 Federal regulations. In this analysis we seek to  
48 understand Moose Pass in comparison to communities with  
49 rural status on the Kenai Peninsula. Nonrural

50

1 communities are included in these comparisons to  
2 provide context for identifying the threshold between  
3 rural and nonrural communities in the immediate area.  
4

5                   So if you start on Page 18, Table 3  
6 first -- Table 4 is on Page 19, these tables provide  
7 comparative community characteristics between rural  
8 communities, the Moose Pass area, and the nonrural  
9 communities of Nikiski and Seward. Table 3 provides  
10 demographics and population density. Table 4  
11 summarizes the most recent subsistence surveys  
12 conducted in each community. As you examine these  
13 tables I want to caution that while they provide some  
14 data for comparison purposes they might not be super  
15 helpful in identifying a rural community from a  
16 nonrural community. Please note that density is  
17 documented for the U.S. Census only describes the  
18 population within a defined unit of land called a CDP  
19 and these are varied in size, they're not a good  
20 indicator of isolation or access to services. And as  
21 you review Table 4 on fish and wildlife use, keep in  
22 mind a couple of caveats; the column showing percentage  
23 of households surveyed describes the sample achievement  
24 for each community, each survey attempts to interview  
25 as many as households as possible to ensure accuracy  
26 and the most representative data. It's also important  
27 to note that Moose Pass, along with Nikiski and Seward  
28 on this table are not qualified to hunt hunter Federal  
29 regulations, and this can result potentially in reduced  
30 opportunity and a more limited harvest. So keep that  
31 in mind when you're looking at those numbers.  
32

33                   If this proposal is adopted, residents  
34 of Moose Pass will be eligible to practice subsistence  
35 harvesting on Federal public lands under Federal  
36 regulations inclusive of all rural residents. The  
37 adoption of this proposal does not guarantee residents  
38 will be qualified to participate in all harvest  
39 opportunities on Federal lands in their region. For  
40 that to occur, the community will need to pursue  
41 customary and traditional use determinations for fish  
42 and wildlife species in their area. If this proposal  
43 is not adopted the status of Moose Pass will remain  
44 nonrural and residents will not be eligible to  
45 participate in resource harvest under Federal  
46 subsistence regulations. Residents seeking to harvest  
47 wild resources for subsistence purposes would continue  
48 to be required to do so under State of Alaska  
49 regulations.  
50

1 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to  
2 support Proposal RP19-01 with modification to define  
3 the community of Moose Pass as encompassing the Moose  
4 Pass, Crown Point and Primrose census designated  
5 places.

6  
7 The Moose Pass area -- Moose Pass  
8 shares a rural experience with other Southcentral rural  
9 communities, that includes a reliance on wild foods,  
10 reduced amenities and services, geographic location and  
11 a shared sense of identity as a cohesive rural  
12 community. Public testimony, harvest surveys and  
13 harvest reports demonstrate consistent participation in  
14 hunting and fishing opportunities. All residents  
15 providing testimony described the importance of wild  
16 foods in their diet and home. Residents also cited  
17 access to fish and wildlife as the main reason for  
18 living in their community and referred to the high  
19 level of fish and wildlife use as a primary  
20 justification for their status as rural.

21  
22 Moose Pass has limited amenities and a  
23 geographic isolation that can hamper access to  
24 important hub communities with critical services during  
25 extreme weather events. The location of the community  
26 as situated within a mountain pass requires residents  
27 to plan for potential conditions that will limit travel  
28 throughout the year. Residents point to a lack of  
29 local amenities, services and business as a key  
30 distinguishing feather between their community and  
31 nearest nonrural hub of Seward, and regardless of the  
32 proximity to Seward, most Moose Pass area residents  
33 travel into Anchorage or Soldotna for bulk shopping and  
34 other important services. Significantly, Moose Pass is  
35 surrounded by Federal public lands upon which residents  
36 rely for most of their wild harvest. Residents  
37 consistently mentioned these lands as bordering their  
38 properties providing resources and contributing to the  
39 rural character of their community.

40  
41 Finally, public testimony and available  
42 sources indicate that the community of Moose Pass  
43 extends beyond the boundaries described in the original  
44 proposal. The community of Moose Pass should be  
45 defined as inclusive of Crown Point, Moose Pass and  
46 Primrose census designated places.

47  
48 Thank you all for your patience as I  
49 wrap up my presentation, I will remind you this is an  
50

1 action item. The Board is looking to you, the Council,  
2 to recognize the unique characteristics of rural  
3 communities in Southcentral Alaska and to provide your  
4 recommendations on RP19-01 to the Federal Subsistence  
5 Board.

6  
7 Thank you, and I will take your  
8 questions.

9  
10 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair, I have a  
11 question.

12  
13 (No comments)

14  
15 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair, I have a  
16 question.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead  
19 Gloria. You go right ahead.

20  
21 MS. STICKWAN: Robbin, did the -- the  
22 original proposal was for Moose Pass, the proponent's  
23 name I don't remember but did he agree to include all  
24 these other communities?

25  
26 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Gloria.  
27 Through the Chair. He -- the original proposal was a  
28 very discreet bit of land. The Board has the  
29 discretion to expand the area in question and  
30 discussions from this Council, from some members on  
31 this Council and also based on testimony from area  
32 residents indicated that that -- that the community  
33 boundaries were broader than the CDP. And so in --  
34 through public testimony, through further research it  
35 did indeed seem that the community of Moose Pass was  
36 not just the Moose Pass census designated place as  
37 indicated in the proposal. The community, community  
38 members, people who participate in clubs, attend  
39 schools go to the post office in the old town site of  
40 Moose Pass, these are folks from both Moose Pass -- or  
41 all of Moose Pass, Crown Point and Primrose and they  
42 all consider themselves as residents of the Moose Pass  
43 community.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Did that answer  
46 your question, Gloria.

47  
48 MS. STICKWAN: Yeah, it's the public  
49 testimony I guess, and I guess the person that wrote  
50



1 this agreed.  
2

3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, I  
4 understand where you're coming from Gloria. I mean the  
5 Council had no problem with Moose Pass, we didn't go to  
6 the Crown Point and Primrose and it sounds like it's an  
7 administrative decision after their research so we're  
8 going to go through the whole proposal. We'll have all  
9 of the normal steps we'll take on this after they're  
10 done with their presentation. So we'll go through  
11 tribes, ANCSA, all the other agencies and we'll  
12 probably end up with some more public testimony. But,  
13 yeah, there's definitely some more questions now, it's  
14 changed from what we originally worked.  
15

16 Okay, Robbin, before I move on to my  
17 process here, you have a public testimony -- I have it  
18 on my agenda of a UAA -- that wanted to make comments,  
19 Christine.  
20

21 MS. BRUMMER: Yes, I'm here.  
22

23 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, you want to  
24 go ahead and make your presentation.  
25

26 MS. BRUMMER: Yes, I'd like to, thank  
27 you so much.  
28

29 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.  
30

31 MS. BRUMMER: Hello Council members, my  
32 name is Christine Brummer and I'm a UAA graduate  
33 student who's working on my Master's Thesis titled Who  
34 is Rural Alaska, a case study of rural community  
35 practice. And Moose Pass has been used as my case  
36 study community and I'd like to share some of my  
37 preliminary findings with you today in hopes that the  
38 information will assist the Council in making a more  
39 informed decision regarding the community of Moose  
40 Pass.  
41

42 I conducted my field work from November  
43 2019 through January 2020, a total of 24 Moose Pass  
44 area residents participated in my study. I define the  
45 Moose Pass area as that area from Mile Post 37 where  
46 the Sterling and Seward Highway meet to Mile Post 15.5  
47 of the Seward Highway, the location of the Snow River  
48 Hostel breaking down these numbers into CDPs the  
49 participants are as follows: 1 from Primrose CDP; 8  
50

1 from the Crown Point CDP and 15 from the Moose Pass  
2 CDP. I'd like to remind the Council that the CDPs are  
3 census designated places, they're not places in which  
4 the residents have distinguished for themselves, but  
5 that of the U.S. Census Bureau designated.

6  
7 My field work consisted of three  
8 components including a mapping exercise, a survey and  
9 an interview. Each participant was given the same copy  
10 of a Moose Pass area map and asked to draw what they  
11 considered their community boundary. 23 of the 24  
12 chose to participate in the mapping exercise and of the  
13 23 participants each drew a boundary from Mile Post 37  
14 with five ending the boundary at Mile Post 16.9, which  
15 is the Snow River Bridge, three ended the boundary at  
16 Mile Post 15.5, and one ending the boundary at the end  
17 of the Crown Point CDP. One drew a boundary from the  
18 Hope Y to Mile Post 16.9. Three drew the boundary from  
19 Mile Post 45, which is Summit Lake. With one ending  
20 the boundary at Mile Post 16.9. One ending the  
21 boundary at 15.5, and one ending the boundary at the end  
22 of the Crown Point CDP. One drew a boundary from Mile  
23 Post 50 to Mile Post 15.5. One drew a boundary from  
24 Mile Post 33.1, which is Quarter Creek to Mile Post  
25 16.9. One drew a boundary from Mile Post 48 to Mile  
26 Post 16.9. Five drew the boundary from the Tern Lake  
27 Lodge which is just past Mile Post 37, with three  
28 ending their boundary at Mile Post 16.9, one ending the  
29 boundary at Mile Post 24, which is the beginning of the  
30 Primrose CDP, and one ending the boundary at  
31 (Indiscernible) Lake, which is the area in the center  
32 of the Moose Pass CDP. One drew a boundary from a  
33 little down the road of the Tern Lake Lodge to the old  
34 community of (Indiscernible) which is at Mile Post 23.

35  
36 All of the 24 participants who  
37 participated in the survey and the interview.  
38 Participants were between the ages of 36 and 79 years  
39 of age. Many came to Alaska from other parts of the  
40 United States. Five were from Alaska, they're Alaska  
41 born. The participants have lived in Alaska for a  
42 total between nine and 70 years. I asked all  
43 participants what community would you say you're from,  
44 all 24 participants said they were from Moose Pass. I  
45 asked what the community -- what community means to the  
46 participants if they could define their community they  
47 stated that Moose Pass is a tight-knit community where  
48 people chose to live a rural lifestyle. People  
49 cooperate in common goals that define interests and are

1 there for one another even when everybody values their  
2 privacy and people may not know each other very well.  
3 Everyone comes together to discuss and make decisions  
4 and to celebrate. There are a lot of personalities in  
5 the communities but the residents bond together to  
6 enhance the community. Participants explain the  
7 following as unique characteristics of their community.  
8 A melting pot of different people from various places  
9 that are very outdoor oriented. It is a shut-in nearly  
10 year-long community that is spread out over 20 miles  
11 where people are self-reliant, creative and share with  
12 one another. Sharing includes fish and meat caught,  
13 berries picked and vegetables grown in gardens.  
14 Residents have to drive a lot to get to services,  
15 amenities and activities. The community is created out  
16 of choice and necessity. Response times for utility  
17 and medical services is long. It is a place that is  
18 largely unregulated and quiet and the community  
19 interests are accomplished through people giving their  
20 time. Some participants commented about how the  
21 geographic or extent with nowhere to go except along  
22 the highway is unique.

23  
24 I asked the participants to please  
25 define rural, nonrural and urban. Do to some  
26 restrictions I will only discuss how residents defined  
27 rural as nonrural and urban were often suggested as  
28 being the opposite of rural by participants. Rural was  
29 explained at that which is not urban, a place that is  
30 away from services like gas stations, stores,  
31 restaurants, bars, medical, pharmacies, child care  
32 facilities and daycare opportunities. A place with no  
33 stop lights. Where you have to wait for DOT to plow  
34 the road for long periods of time. A place far from  
35 urban centers in which getting amenities and services  
36 is inconvenient. A place where there is a lot of  
37 (indiscernible) population, means a lot of sacrifices,  
38 missed opportunities and you just have to create your  
39 own source of entertainment, that one wasn't a  
40 geographic location that is less human created and more  
41 natural. If your house catches on fire it's going to  
42 burn down before you get any help. You have to work  
43 with what is around you and your residing location.  
44 You have limited factors in a rural place.

45  
46 The last question I asked participants  
47 was to define their community. All 24 participants  
48 stated that Moose Pass was (indiscernible - cutting  
49 out) they included that Moose Pass is in the woods but  
50

1 the closest grocery store 35 miles in one direction and  
2 90 miles away in the other direction. Moose Pass does  
3 not have common modern conveniences. There's no law  
4 enforcement. The community actually relies on the  
5 Troopers. No trash service. No local government.  
6 Residents rely on one another. And they have to travel  
7 to get food, gas and medical services. A participant  
8 stated that Moose Pass is rural because when their  
9 truck battery dies, you end up with tinkering it  
10 instead of driving to Anchorage to get a new one. It  
11 is easier to (indiscernible - cuts out) deal with  
12 service. Some of the participants stated that Moose  
13 Pass can easily be cut off from other places, including  
14 urban centers due to road closures and they're self  
15 reliant when this does occur. It is common for people  
16 in Moose Pass to drag around sleeping bags and safety  
17 gear in case of an emergency or road closure. One  
18 participant stated that they thought Moose Pass was  
19 rural during the winter months and more nonrural during  
20 the summer months due to the increased population from  
21 tourism. After Labor Day the weather starts to change  
22 and the residents living in Moose Pass have less of a  
23 desire to go into town for things so many just do  
24 without. No one feels sorry for themselves, they just  
25 do not want to spend the time or the fuel  
26 (indiscernible - cuts out) to get the things that are  
27 not essential.

28  
29 This wraps up my primary findings on  
30 the Moose Pass case study. If you have any follow up  
31 questions I'm happy to answer them, and I thank you so  
32 very much for your time.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, very,  
35 very good report. Questions for Christina.

36  
37 (No comments)

38  
39 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Christine, thank  
40 you. We'll go ahead and.....

41  
42 MS. BRUMMER: Thank you.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....go back to  
45 our process here now. I'm going to -- did we have  
46 someone who had a question for Christine?

47  
48 (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. We're  
2 going to start out with consultation. Tribes, is there  
3 any tribes that want to speak to this rural  
4 determination of Moose Pass -- I guess we shouldn't  
5 call it Moose Pass now.....

6  
7 MS. LINNELL: This is Karen Linnell  
8 with Ahtna InterTribal Resource Commission.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....they got a  
11 couple other areas, Crown Point and Primrose so.

12  
13 Any tribal comments.

14  
15 MS. LINNELL: Mr. Chair.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead.

18  
19 MS. LINNELL: This is Karen Linnell  
20 with Ahtna InterTribal Resource Commission.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Karen,  
23 you go right ahead.

24  
25 MS. LINNELL: I had a question as to  
26 why there are the Primrose and the other CDPs, why are  
27 they separate. We've recently had the same issue come  
28 up with our moose hunt and we were talking about using  
29 CDPs as boundaries for eligibility to participate and  
30 in our community, even though they use the same post  
31 office box and attend the same schools they separated  
32 because of political and/or differences and became  
33 eligible for the community revenue sharing stating that  
34 separation. So I was just curious as to what the  
35 separation is instead of having one Moose Pass CDP?

36  
37 REPORTER: Mr. Chair, sorry to  
38 interrupt but there's some back background noise.

39  
40 MS. PERRY: I'd just like to remind  
41 everyone to hit star-six and if your speakers are on on  
42 your computer, please turn those off, I think that's  
43 been a source of feedback. Again, star-six if you're  
44 not speaking.

45  
46 Thanks so much.

47  
48 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair, this is Robbin  
49 LaVine.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Robbin.

2  
3 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And  
4 Ms. Linnell. The CDPs are really just helpful as  
5 devices to count people. When the first -- when the  
6 first aggregation of the community of Moose Pass  
7 occurred with Seward in 1990, or a little bit before,  
8 you know, the years leading up to that aggregation  
9 there were no CDPs for Crown Point and Primrose, so  
10 these weren't census designated places. At a certain  
11 time the census needed to describe new areas to capture  
12 a growing community, or to capture a community that  
13 they had kind of missed in earlier times. So you'll  
14 see in certain places all throughout the state  
15 communities that eventually have grown to include or  
16 expand within multiple different census designated  
17 places. Like the community of Ninilchik is the  
18 Ninilchik and Happy Valley CDPs. The community of  
19 Seldovia has a number of different CDPs that describes  
20 its population. These CDPs are just ways -- they're  
21 devices that are helpful but they should not be  
22 defining or limiting. They just capture population  
23 numbers.

24  
25 Thanks.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. They  
28 capture population numbers and they also do a lot of  
29 other strange things. I know Clam Gulch did not -- and  
30 Ninilchik was a census designated area or whatever, it  
31 was not considered rural. So this does kind of  
32 complicate our process here because the RAC, you know,  
33 we went through Moose Pass, we visited it, we all  
34 agreed to it and everything and so we got a couple add  
35 ons here that we need to do our due diligence on and  
36 stuff but as we go through it we'll talk through it and  
37 see where we end up.

38  
39 Any other tribes want to speak to this  
40 matter.

41  
42 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman, this is  
43 Darrel Williams in Ninilchik.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes, Darrel.

46  
47 MR. WILLIAMS: Hi. You know I have a  
48 comment and kind of a question because, you know,  
49 Robbin's really right about using the CDPs and how that

50

1 pulls into different areas like where we're at, we're  
2 more than one CDP. But when you look at the actual  
3 eligible rural community. For example here in the  
4 Kenai Peninsula, I mean the actual way that it is done  
5 is we defined what is not rural. You know, if you open  
6 the regulations up, you read that section it says if  
7 you live here you're considered urban. And so really  
8 when we look at that it stretches it over into a bigger  
9 area, you know, and I'm just kind of curious about  
10 these CDPs are generally based on geographical  
11 boundaries, is there a philosophy or a process to  
12 address that because I could see some trouble coming  
13 down the road about questions about well were we  
14 included or not included and why and so part of that --  
15 so I'm kind of curious because of our area but I'm also  
16 curious because of the proposal.

17  
18 Thank you.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, Darrel,  
21 good question. It's kind of like getting grouped into  
22 a service area with Anchor Point. Anyway, yeah, it's a  
23 lot of complications there. I don't know if anyone  
24 could answer your question there. But any comments on  
25 Darrel's question. Comments. Statements.

26  
27 (No comments)

28  
29 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, well,  
30 hearing none we're going to go ahead and keep moving.  
31 ANCSA Corporations, does any of them want to talk about  
32 that, Moose Pass.

33  
34 (No comments)

35  
36 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: All right. Let's  
37 have some agency comments. How about Alaska Department  
38 of Fish and Game, what do you guys think.

39  
40 MR. BURCH: Hello, Mr. Chair, this is  
41 Mark Burch. The Department of Fish and Game doesn't  
42 have any comments at this time.

43  
44 Thank you.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Mark.  
47 How about Federal agencies, any comment.

48  
49 (No comments)

50

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1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Hearing none, any  
2 tribal agency, do you have a comment.

3  
4 (No comments)

5  
6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: DeAnna, any other  
7 Regional Councils or Advisory Groups that commented.

8  
9 MS. PERRY: No, Mr. Chair.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you. How  
12 about any Fish and Game Advisory Committees.

13  
14 (No comments)

15  
16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Hearing none, how  
17 about Subsistence Resource Commissions.

18  
19 (No comments)

20  
21 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Barbara, you  
22 don't want to comment on Moose Pass?

23  
24 MR. CELLARIUS: No thank you, Mr.  
25 Chair.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you.  
28 How about summary of written public comments, DeAnna, I  
29 imagine you got some.

30  
31 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair. We do not have  
32 any new written comments since the last time this came  
33 before the Council. I know this Council received some  
34 written comments as well as public testimony in some of  
35 the meetings past.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes. Okay, very  
38 good, thank you.

39  
40 Public testimony, would anyone like to  
41 testify to this matter before us.

42  
43 MR. BRYDEN: I would, Mr. Chairman, can  
44 you hear me, this is Jeff Bryden.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I can hear you  
47 loud and clear. Go ahead, state your name, I think I  
48 cut you off.

49  
50



1 MR. BRYDEN: This is Jeffrey Bryden.

2  
3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Your voice comes  
4 through really good we recognize you, go ahead, Jeff.

5  
6 MR. BRYDEN: Thank you, Sir. Mr.  
7 Chairman, I think there's been a little bit of  
8 misunderstanding with the Office of Subsistence  
9 Management. At no time did I recommend the expansion  
10 of our community as I put in the proposal. And I'm on  
11 the record specifically for that.

12  
13 I understand that certain members of  
14 this area are defined would like to also be included,  
15 which would be the Primrose area, the Crown Point area,  
16 but using the definitions and stuff I specifically kept  
17 this as a small area of the original Moose Pass on the  
18 census information to eliminate opportunities to be  
19 denied. By adding these extra areas we are now adding  
20 people that have post office boxes in Seward, are using  
21 Seward Electric Company, which on the original  
22 criterias showed the difference between Moose Pass and  
23 Seward residents. I don't understand why the Office of  
24 Subsistence Management thinks I thought that was a good  
25 idea and I was on the record as such saying I didn't  
26 think it was a good idea. I do believe if anybody from  
27 those areas would like to put in a proposal to be  
28 considered rural also that they could do that and run  
29 through the process just as I've done it for the area  
30 up here and if they don't want to do it they don't have  
31 to.

32  
33 I'm concerned that by adding those  
34 other areas that they'll give reasons to exclude my  
35 area now.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, Jeff, yeah,  
38 I'm sure glad you cleared that up because that's the  
39 way I understood it and it's the way I understood all  
40 of this stuff presented to us in the past and past RAC  
41 meetings it was strictly very specific of the Mile Post  
42 35 to whatever, 25, 37, that, yeah, obviously.....

43  
44 MR. BRYDEN: Yes, Sir, Mr. Chairman.  
45 Like I said I wrote this proposal specifically so that  
46 it didn't have reasons to believe excluded out and if  
47 you add those other areas that could get my area now  
48 excluded.

49  
50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Very good,  
2 questions for Jeffrey. Council members you got some  
3 questions there.

4  
5 (No comments)

6  
7 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, I think I  
8 know how it got in there, Jeff, I'll speak a little  
9 bit, but I don't agree with it. I don't know, you  
10 know, sometimes -- you know, I've always been kind of  
11 like you, the proponent, you're putting it forward,  
12 it's for your area, it's not to be altered or changed  
13 and if others want to have a determination that's fine,  
14 and others have fish proposals or hunting proposals,  
15 that's fine, too, but the proponent -- a proposal  
16 should go on its own merit, I think.

17  
18 But anyway thank you very much for the  
19 testimony.

20  
21 Is there any other public testimony.

22  
23 MS. BRUMMER: Mr. Chair, could I speak  
24 again, this is Christine Brummer.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, Christine  
27 you can.

28  
29 MS. BRUMMER: Hi. I just wanted to  
30 bring up, I was at the Seward RAC and maybe I'm  
31 sticking my foot in my mouth but I just wanted to  
32 remind the Council and other people that at that  
33 particular RAC meeting when they were discussing the  
34 Moose Pass proposal, the Council did tell OSM to go  
35 ahead and make a really broad analysis so that you guys  
36 had information to make a more informed decision.  
37 That's kind of part of the reason, too, that I looked  
38 at that larger area of the Moose Pass area when I was  
39 doing my thesis too.

40  
41 So I just wanted to remind everybody  
42 about that and maybe that's where some of the  
43 confusion's coming in.

44  
45 And I don't think, from my  
46 understanding, that Robbin actually directly stated  
47 that Mr. Bryden okay'd it, I think she was just saying  
48 that at the public hearing, which I was also at too,  
49 that other people in that area had spoken up to say

50

1 that they were part of the community even though they  
2 might be living in the Crown Point and Primrose CDP,  
3 that's my take from it.

4  
5 I just wanted to share those thoughts  
6 with you guys.

7  
8 Thank you so much.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you for  
11 making that point. I understand looking at the broader  
12 area, I wasn't necessarily meaning by looking at the  
13 broader area to add things to the non-determination  
14 but, anyway thank you for that.

15  
16 Is there any other public testimony.

17  
18 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, this is DeAnna.  
19 Yesterday Jeff Estes mentioned that he wanted to  
20 testify on this issue but I'm not sure if he's on the  
21 phone today.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Well, are  
24 you on the phone Jeff.

25  
26 (No comments)

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Didn't he testify  
29 before DeAnna, did we have something from him before?

30  
31 MS. PERRY: Not on Moose Pass, Mr.  
32 Chair.

33  
34 MR. ESTES: Yes, this is Jeff.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Oh, good, go  
37 ahead, Jeff.

38  
39 MR. ESTES: Sorry, I thought I unmuted  
40 myself.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

43  
44 MR. ESTES: I'd like to comment that  
45 the report and the analysis I thought was  
46 extraordinarily -- was done extraordinarily well. I  
47 also was glad to hear that on your Part D, you're going  
48 to be monitoring chinook salmon in the Kenai River  
49 drainage, which brings down chinook salmon in Moose

50

1 Pass which I haven't been able to fish since they got  
2 discovered that there was chinook salmon spawning in  
3 Moose Pass in this CDP and we used to eat smoke salmon  
4 from that when I was a little kid back in the 50s.  
5 Anyway, I think it's a very good study. And I don't  
6 know if you want to include the other people. I was  
7 somewhat taken aback by the census calling  
8 (indiscernible) Crown Point, which are two actual  
9 separate communities and LakeView is a different  
10 community and Primrose is another community all  
11 considering themselves part of Moose Pass, but that's a  
12 census and that's a different government agency.

13  
14 And that's all I have to say. Good  
15 study. And I totally agree with it.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: All right, thank  
18 you.

19  
20 MS. HETRICK: Mr. Chair.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes.

23  
24 MS. HETRICK: Hi, this is Willow  
25 Hetrick, I am also from Moose Pass, if I may, just give  
26 a quick summary of my thoughts on this proposal.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: You may.

29  
30 MS. HETRICK: All right, thank you, Mr.  
31 Chair and Council members. My name is Willow Hetrick  
32 for the record. Last name is H-E-T-R-I-C-K. Aside  
33 from a few years in college outside I've lived in Moose  
34 Pass my whole life and all of my family lives there as  
35 well which is becoming a bigger and bigger family it  
36 seems like by the year.

37  
38 I just wanted to thank Robbin and  
39 Christine for putting together such a great report. My  
40 entire family and I participated in Christine's study  
41 and we had additional discussions with Robbin on  
42 several occasions about the report and I was very happy  
43 to read what they came up with. It was very nice and  
44 refreshing not to be lumped in and compared to other  
45 communities like Seward because we truly think that we  
46 are different and we truly love to not be associated  
47 with the community of Seward. I think every resident  
48 will support me when I say that.

49  
50

1 And I just wanted to thank them again  
2 and I encourage the Council to support this proposal.

3  
4 Thank you.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you,  
7 Willow. Anyone else want to testify.

8  
9 (No comments)

10  
11 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Regional  
12 Council. Recommendations. It's up to us to see where  
13 we're at. I'll open it up to whoever wants to go  
14 first.

15  
16 MR. OPHEIM: Mr. Chair, this is  
17 Michael.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead,  
20 Michael.

21  
22 MR. OPHEIM: Yeah, you know when we did  
23 the meeting out there at Moose Pass, you know, there  
24 were people that chimed in saying, you know, that  
25 Primrose and Crown Point were part of, you know, they  
26 felt like they were part of Moose Pass as a community,  
27 but definitely the writer of the proposal was very  
28 clear on what he wanted, wanting the Moose Pass area,  
29 you know, put in by itself for fear of having, you  
30 know, getting excluded otherwise, and that these other  
31 two places could put in their own proposals. I do  
32 understand lumping them together makes it, you know,  
33 maybe a little less work for those folks if they do get  
34 included here. But I would hate for all Jeff's work to  
35 go to not if, you know, they include these other two  
36 and then, you know, he gets excluded because clearly  
37 they do live that subsistence lifestyle there. You  
38 know so I wouldn't balk at a modification to remove  
39 those two places and just submit it as the original  
40 proposal.

41  
42 That's just my thought on it.

43  
44 Thanks.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you,  
47 Michael. Other comments.

48  
49 MR. HOLSTEN: Mr. Chair, this is Ed.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Ed, go ahead.

2  
3 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, I agree with  
4 everything that Michael stated. The only way I could  
5 support this proposal is to leave off Crown Point and  
6 Primrose, I don't think those were the original  
7 intentions of Mr. Bryden's proposal and I know a lot of  
8 those folks down in -- or not in Crown Point, but in  
9 Moose Pass, so again I feel like it just would be  
10 proper for us to go along with the original proposal  
11 brought by Mr. Bryden.

12  
13 Those are my comments.

14  
15 Thank you.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Ed.  
18 Okay, who would like to speak next.

19  
20 MR. WHISSEL: John Whissel, Mr. Chair.

21  
22 MS. STICKWAN: This is Gloria.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Gloria go ahead.

25  
26 MS. STICKWAN: In the past we talked  
27 about this before and we have always said that people  
28 that put in for determinations, they should be -- their  
29 proposal should be accepted as written because they  
30 took the time to do this, they took the time to do the  
31 effort of gathering information and the hard work to do  
32 this and we respected their wishes, and I think we  
33 should continue that. You know the person that wrote  
34 this, it took time for him to do this, we should  
35 respect his wishes of just including Moose Pass.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Very good.  
38 Anyone else want to comment on it.

39  
40 MR. WHISSEL: Mr. Chair, this is John  
41 Whissel.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes, John.

44  
45 MR. WHISSEL: So I looked at the  
46 proposal and it is clear that the area that the  
47 proposer outlined, he wasn't -- it was within a  
48 geographical area bounded by mile markers. I was  
49 somewhat prepared for the area to expand because I do  
50

1 have a memory at that meeting in Seward of us talking  
2 about the broader area, somewhat favorably, and I do  
3 also have a memory of us asking OSM to consider the  
4 larger area in the analysis. I wasn't necessarily -- I  
5 think my take on that was to properly put Moose Pass  
6 into its context, from understanding of the surrounding  
7 area it would be helpful and what I read is that OSM's  
8 saying, yes, we consider it to be largely the same  
9 place, I think that solidifies Moose Pass' candidacy as  
10 a nonrural area, but I don't feel like I want to -- I  
11 very well would be in favor of including those other  
12 regions in our nonrural determination but I want it to  
13 go through the full process, I don't think -- it's not  
14 so much to me about rewarding the person that did the  
15 work on the proposal, I think we need to help out  
16 communities, and because these other areas maybe  
17 didn't, you know, think to get included, if they -- if  
18 they really should be part of a nonrural determination  
19 I think it's fine to give it to them but I don't think  
20 the public has had the opportunity to weigh in on that.  
21 I don't want to just go based on a couple of people  
22 from the area who are here today, but I would have been  
23 much more comfortable if we had expanded it at the  
24 meeting in Seward and had a chance to engage the  
25 community, and come to this meeting with that expanded  
26 area in mind.

27  
28 So I would really prefer -- I would  
29 love to give Moose Pass their nonrural determination,  
30 but I don't know that I would vote in favor of the  
31 other communities, I haven't really given that any  
32 thought, or at least not the kind of thought that it  
33 would take to vote yes.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Very good  
36 comments, good thoughts.

37  
38 Next, anyone else on the Council want  
39 to talk to it.

40  
41 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Yeah, this is Aaron. I  
42 just -- John expressed pretty much everything I was  
43 thinking, and I have to dive into a meeting here -- or  
44 not a meeting, but in an appointment here for half an  
45 hour so I'm going to be out of the discussion for a  
46 little bit.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Thank you,  
49 Aaron. Anyone else on the Council want to speak about  
50

1 it.

2

3 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, Chair, this is Ed  
4 Holsten again.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Ed.

7

8 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, I just wanted to  
9 remind some people there was pretty good representation  
10 from Crown Point at the public meeting. I sat in on  
11 that, that was held in Moose Pass. So they had ample  
12 opportunity to state their causes.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, okay.  
17 Anyone else have any comments.

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, I'll just  
22 make my comments and we'll go ahead and take a motion  
23 and we'll vote on this.

24

25 You know, I fully support Moose Pass,  
26 and Moose Pass alone at this time. I believe is what  
27 John said and Gloria and Ed and also Michael, all of  
28 them, that, you know, if we're going to have others  
29 they should have their proposals and they should have a  
30 public hearing, we should have more. I think when we  
31 talked about the larger area, I think John was right  
32 on, my understanding was a larger area was to solidify  
33 and make sure that we, you know, that it really spelled  
34 out that Moose Pass is what we were looking at as Jeff  
35 presented originally. And so, you know, without adding  
36 others, I would have done a lot more detailed and  
37 testimony and other things from public on that myself.

38

39 But that's my thoughts, and I think  
40 you've heard it from most of us so it's up to the  
41 Council to make a motion now to see how we want to go  
42 on this and I will accept that.

43

44 MR. WHISSEL: Mr. Chair, this is John  
45 Whissel. I move to adopt Moose Pass Federal proposal  
46 as written without the expanded area.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50



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1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, John,  
2 is there a second to that.

3  
4 MS. SELANOFF: This is Diane Selanoff,  
5 I'll second.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Diane.

8  
9 MS. STICKWAN: This is Gloria, I want  
10 to have the names in the motion.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Gloria, I think  
13 he made a motion just Moose Pass as is.

14  
15 MR. WHISSEL: I proposed the original,  
16 we're adopting only the original proposal, not the  
17 modification.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah.

20  
21 MS. STICKWAN: Okay.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Okay. Any  
24 other discussion.

25  
26 (No comments)

27  
28 MS. SELANOFF: This is Diane Selanoff,  
29 I'll call for the question.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Diane.  
32 Question's been called, all in favor signify by saying  
33 aye.

34  
35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Any opposed.

38  
39 (No opposing votes)

40  
41 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. So  
42 carries.

43  
44 All right, good work.

45  
46 DeAnna, next I've got identify issues  
47 for fiscal year 2020 annual report, do you want to go  
48 ahead and lead us on that one.

49  
50

1 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This  
2 is an action item. It's time for the Council to decide  
3 on what issues to include in its annual report.  
4 Establishing the annual reports is a way to bring  
5 regional subsistence uses and needs to the attention of  
6 the directors of each of the four Department of  
7 Interior Agencies and the Department of Agriculture,  
8 Forest Service, and their capacity as members of the  
9 Federal Subsistence Board.

10  
11 For your information guidelines for  
12 annual reports can be found on Page 206 of your meeting  
13 books and on Page 208 you'll see the Board's reply to  
14 this Council's last annual report.

15  
16 So through the Chair, if Council  
17 members have concerns or information that he or she  
18 would like to see raised to the Federal Subsistence  
19 Board, I'll make a note of those items at this time to  
20 include in this coming year's annual report.

21  
22 Thank you.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you,  
25 DeAnna, yeah, we have our last years, we had Unit 13  
26 moose, we had a lot of stuff on the fish, climate  
27 change, we had lots of responses, I'm sure you guys  
28 read it all, non-determination process, communities,  
29 okay, Council members what would you like to see in our  
30 annual report, and, Andy, you want to -- you know, you  
31 are our Secretary there so you should record this, or  
32 we could have DeAnna record it, but what would you like  
33 to include in our next report.

34  
35 MS. STICKWAN: Someone mentioned  
36 about.....

37  
38 MR. OPHEIM: Mr. Chair, this is  
39 Michael.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Gloria, you want  
42 to go ahead, I think someone talked over you there.

43  
44 MS. STICKWAN: Someone earlier brought  
45 concern about vacant seats on our Council.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes, vacant seats  
48 not being filled. Okay, we got that down.

49  
50

1                   Anyone else.

2  
3                   MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Yeah, Andy here.

4  
5                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Andy.

6  
7                   MR. MCLAUGHLIN: More than ever, even  
8 more than last year, how climate change, I would like  
9 to see that again, that's an important topic to keep  
10 reiterating the fact of why we exist is to help change  
11 these regulations and seasons, bag limits, everything  
12 is not predictable. It used to be, seemed to be, you  
13 know, for decades more of a pattern of, you know, oh,  
14 this is a pretty much regular 20 year cycle pattern but  
15 now it's just like the wind changes and some complete  
16 different parameter happens and now this run of salmon  
17 or that species or this migratory pattern, or this  
18 travel condition, things happen in subsistence that is  
19 not as easy to determine as it used to be. So I would  
20 like to see that climate change, the importance of  
21 being able to adapt our regulations to climate change  
22 parameters that are dynamic.

23  
24                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Very good. Yeah,  
25 that's very important. So we could write that up and  
26 we could all the comments you made there and we'll make  
27 sure we get that in there.

28  
29                   MR. WHISSEL: Mr. Chair, this is John  
30 Whissel. I'd like us to continue to have ocean  
31 acidification like directly within our larger climate  
32 change discussion.

33  
34                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. After  
35 everyone agrees we could add that to the letter also.

36  
37                   MR. WHISSEL: And -- I'm sorry, my  
38 second point I think we would want to highlight is the  
39 poor performance of the Copper River sockeye and the  
40 need for extra resources to be brought to try to  
41 maintain that salmon run.

42  
43                   MS. SELANOFF: Can we have it for  
44 Southcentral region because it just wasn't just the  
45 Copper River. I think there's poor performance all  
46 over. This is Diane.

47  
48                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Diane I think  
49 you're right on. I think we could say that with the

50

1 Kenai, and we could say that with other areas, things  
2 are changing drastically, and accountability, so I  
3 think that's a good topic. Ocean's and low run  
4 returns.

5  
6 Anyone else got anything they want to  
7 put in there.

8  
9 MS. STICKWAN: Yes, I do.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, go ahead.

12  
13 MS. STICKWAN: At our Wrangell-St.  
14 Elias SRC meeting, which will be brought up later, we  
15 asked to postpone the individual C&T because we wanted  
16 more information from Wrangell-St. Elias, and we  
17 weren't saying no to it we just wanted more information  
18 on it and we're asking the Board -- we asked in a  
19 letter to the Board that they not take this up at their  
20 meeting to make a decision on it. There's no hurry for  
21 individual C&T, there's no rush to get it done and that  
22 they postpone it until we can make a decision on it at  
23 our next meeting, or sometime later.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. That you  
26 want the Board not to take action until you've had a  
27 chance to review it later -- okay.

28  
29 MS. STICKWAN: We still had some  
30 questions on it and so we wanted the Board to postpone  
31 it for now.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. We'll make  
34 sure we put it in the letter. And I hope you're  
35 capturing all this, DeAnna, we'll help you out if you  
36 miss something.

37  
38 MR. WHISSEL: Mr. Chair, this is John  
39 Whissel. I have one more point and it may or may not be  
40 agreeable to everybody but I'd like to bring it up.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

43  
44 MR. WHISSEL: This one may be  
45 controversial but I feel like it would be a good time  
46 for us to point out the dangers of the movement at the  
47 State level towards essentially prioritizing de facto  
48 subsistence activity in non-subsistence areas, which  
49 are those areas around our major urban centers.

50

1                   The State is moving to prioritize,  
2 basically personal use because subsistence -- State  
3 subsistence activities are prohibited in those areas  
4 and I think bringing -- giving a population access that  
5 close to home is really, really dangerous for those  
6 areas and we'll have some reduced resources there.

7  
8                   So I can understand if nobody wants to  
9 touch that one with a 10 foot pole but I think it  
10 undermines what we're doing here.

11  
12                  CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, John, I  
13 don't know if -- you know it's kind of funny because I  
14 got mine wrote down and mine is not exactly like that  
15 but I have a similar concern and maybe we could put  
16 them together. But what I would like to note somehow  
17 is why are the Federal regulations, you know, getting  
18 -- in a lot of areas they're more restrictive than the  
19 State and, you know, the State without restricting some  
20 of these uses, especially all the fishing proposals we  
21 run through are causing problems in the subsistence  
22 arena being, so somehow we need to address that and we  
23 need our regulations to be firm, to stand out and to  
24 hold in our decisions.

25  
26                  So I'm not sure how you write that up,  
27 DeAnna, but I would like to see that and I'd like to  
28 kind of see that along with John just now stated on his  
29 areas that they're making priorities for non-  
30 subsistence. We might have to work on that wording and  
31 come back to it.

32  
33                  Is there any other that would like to  
34 talk.

35  
36                  MR. MCLAUGHLIN: I have a comment about  
37 that.

38  
39                  CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I don't think  
40 there's nothing out there that's unreasonable, we can  
41 put them in as our concerns and they're concerns from  
42 all the Board and hopefully we all agree with them and  
43 we'll go around that table here in a minute and make  
44 sure we all agree to everything spoken.

45  
46                  Anyone else.

47  
48                  MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chair, Andy, here.

49  
50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Andy.

2  
3 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Yeah, I was going to  
4 make that same comment. I kind of wrote something out  
5 here. You know the mandate of ANILCA is subsistence  
6 regulations cannot be more restrictive than other  
7 regulated uses of the resource and it was very apparent  
8 in this meeting, you know, how our -- just like you  
9 said, our regs -- our Federal regs becoming more  
10 restrictive because, you know, we have some  
11 conservation concerns but the fact that the State  
12 managers are kind of making political decisions and  
13 less practical ones and maybe it's not in favor of  
14 these resources existing in perpetuity.

15  
16 So anyhow I'm on that same train of  
17 thought with you guys.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, you put a  
20 lot out even than I did, and you're exactly right,  
21 that's exactly where I was going. You know it's very  
22 commendable that we're willing to take and put  
23 restrictions on the subsistence users but the State is  
24 not helping us at all, in fact they're hindering us,  
25 and they're forcing us to think that we have to  
26 restrict Federal when the Federal priority under ANILCA  
27 is to get the resources to the subsistence users. And  
28 sooner or later the .804 analysis comes in, the  
29 restriction of, you know, the commercial and others are  
30 going to have to happen so we do need to address that  
31 and I think we ought to put that in the letter.

32  
33 Thanks.

34  
35 Any other comments.

36  
37 (No comments)

38  
39 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Any other  
40 requests.

41  
42 (No comments)

43  
44 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: And okay this is  
45 an action item so DeAnna, do you want a motion to  
46 support our listing that we wrote out here.

47  
48 MS. PERRY: That would be fine. The  
49 Council will actually revisit this in the winter

50

1 meeting.....

2

3

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

4

5

6 MS. PERRY: .....so I know on the  
7 concern of vacancies, this Council hasn't talked about  
8 it at this meeting so I'll glean from prior testimony.  
9 And I think all the other ones were kind of addressed.  
10 I know -- I think letter and report has been used  
11 interchangeably but at this point everything that's  
12 been identified, it's my understanding is an annual  
13 report item only. And so if you'd like to do a motion  
14 to, you know, for me to draft the annual report, the  
15 motion to accept the annual report will come at the  
16 next meeting.

16

17

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

18

19

20

Is there a motion to draft the annual  
report as written.

21

22

23

24

25

MS. STICKWAN: I'll make the motion to  
write the annual report but I would first like to have  
DeAnna resubmit what's -- can she tell us what she has  
currently.

26

27

28

29

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Do you  
want to get a second first and then read it back or do  
you want to just.....

30

31

32

33

MR. WHISSEL: I second that. I think  
vacancies should be included. I did speak about  
vacancies at the meeting.

34

35

36

37

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, John  
seconded. Okay, we got a motion and seconded to draft  
the report.

38

39

40

41

DeAnna, would you try and -- I know you  
got to work on it, it's not final, but give us the  
highlights of what we would like in our report/letter.

42

43

44

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50

MS. PERRY: Yes. So Gloria identified  
concerns of vacancies on the Council. Andy identified  
climate change and I'll expand on that based on his  
testimony about everything being unpredictable due to  
climate change and the conditions, migrations. I'll  
put together something on that.

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Great.

2

3 MS. PERRY: John also wanted ocean  
4 acidification to be included in that climate change,  
5 specifically for performance of Copper River sockeye  
6 and needing extra resources. And then there was a  
7 discussion that we're probably going to ask for the  
8 Southcentral region overall, not just Copper River.

9

10 Gloria identified that the Wrangell-St.  
11 Elias SRC had talked about postponing individual C&T.  
12 That they were doing a letter to the Board. I know  
13 that that's actually an agenda item that this Council  
14 hasn't heard yet so my.....

15

16 MS. STICKWAN: That's why.....

17

18 MS. PERRY: .....so my official --  
19 pardon me.

20

21 MS. STICKWAN: Well, when we go through  
22 it that's what I would want to add in the letter, and I  
23 know we're doing this before that, that's why I brought  
24 it up and I'd like to see it in the letter if that's  
25 okay with everybody.

26

27 MS. PERRY: Okay. When you say letter,  
28 are you talking about this Council doing a letter to  
29 the Board in addition to it being an annual report  
30 item, or do you mean the same thing?

31

32 MS. STICKWAN: I brought it up to let  
33 them know this is what the SRC said and I'd like to  
34 have it included in this letter if it's okay with  
35 everybody.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yep.

38

39 MS. PERRY: Okay. John identified  
40 dangers of the movement we're seeing at the State  
41 level, prioritizing de facto subsistence priorities and  
42 I do have some information on that. Andy talked about  
43 ANILCA and to expound on how that can't be more  
44 restrictive than State regulations. And then, Greg, I  
45 know you added a little bit to that as well.

46

47 So those are the items that I have for  
48 a draft annual report that you will see and finalize in  
49 the winter.

50



1 Did I miss anything?

2

3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: No, you got it, I  
4 checked everything off my list, I was writing as we  
5 talked so I think we got it all.

6

7 There's a motion, it's been seconded  
8 and this is a draft so it looks like we're going to  
9 have time to revise it, polish it and get it right so  
10 if someone wants to call the question we'll move  
11 forward and we'll go ahead and get that started.

12

13 MR. WHISSEL: My audio cut out, did I  
14 hear Board vacancies in DeAnna's runoffs.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yep, you did.

17

18 MR. WHISSEL: Excellent. I call the  
19 question then.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. The  
22 question's been called, all in favor of the outline  
23 that we just went through and drafted, aye.

24

25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Any opposed.

28

29 (No opposing votes)

30

31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. I believe  
32 you'll have some more sufficient time to add to that so  
33 as you're thinking and you come up with something we  
34 could certainly bring it up at the next meeting in our  
35 final for the annual report.

36

37 Barbara, you got Wrangell-St. Elias,  
38 Denali Subsistence Resource Commission, you want to  
39 talk to us on that. It looks like you got an action  
40 item there for us.

41

42 MS. CELLARIUS: Yeah, I can't remember  
43 who's first, whether it was Denali or Wrangell-St.  
44 Elias on the agenda -- it is me, okay.

45

46 So there should be a handout, Mr.  
47 Chair, in your meeting packet. It's labeled Wrangell-  
48 St. Elias National Park Subsistence Resource  
49 Commission. And I'm going to give you a quick overview

50

1 but would be happy to answer any questions.

2  
3 So three of the members of the  
4 Wrangell-St. Elias National Park Subsistence Resource  
5 Commission are appointed by Federal Subsistence  
6 Regional Advisory Councils. We have one each for  
7 Southcentral, Eastern Interior and Southeast. Gloria  
8 Stickwan of Tazlina is the current Southcentral RAC  
9 appointment to the Wrangell-St. Elias SRC, her  
10 appointment is expiring in November. And so at your  
11 meeting today you have the opportunity to take action  
12 on your appointment as a member to the Wrangell-St.  
13 Elias SRC. The eligibility criteria are listed from  
14 ANILCA are listed in my handout so obviously Gloria as  
15 a member of the SRC is -- or as a member of the RAC is  
16 qualified for this appointment. Members of the local  
17 Fish and Game Advisory Committee who also engage in  
18 subsistence uses in the Park are also eligible.

19  
20 So I'm going to stop there and hope  
21 that you would take action to either reappoint Gloria  
22 or if you have a preference of appointing someone else,  
23 as long as they meet the eligibility criteria, that  
24 would be fine too.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you.  
27 What's the pleasure of the Council, do we want to just  
28 reappoint Gloria and move on or do you guys got another  
29 candidate or anyone got any comments.

30  
31 MR. WHISSEL: If Gloria's willing  
32 reappoint her.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Gloria, I  
35 know you're willing, yes?

36  
37 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: If that was a motion  
38 I'll second it.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: No, but you could  
41 just make one if you want.

42  
43 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Yeah, I make a motion  
44 to reappoint Gloria.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, is there a  
47 second to that.

48  
49 MS. SELANOFF: This is Diane Selanoff,

50

1 I'll second it.

2

3 MR. OPHEIM: I'll second it, Michael.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Diane seconds it.

6 Any discussion.

7

8 (No comments)

9

10

11 MS. SELANOFF: Call for the question.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Question's been  
14 called for all in favor of reappointing Gloria to  
15 Wrangell-St. Elias say aye.

16

17 IN UNISON: Aye.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Any opposed.

20

21 (No opposing votes)

22

23 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I think it's  
24 unanimous. Okay, you can carry on now, go ahead.

25

26 MS. CELLARIUS: I believe that Amy  
27 Craver is on the line and that she would cover the  
28 Denali SRC appointment.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, I see here  
31 down here, Amy go ahead.

32

33 MS. CRAVER: Okay. Good afternoon, Mr.  
34 Chair, and members of the Council. For the record my  
35 name is Amy Craver.

36

37 Today I just wanted to report to you  
38 that the recent Southcentral RAC appointment to the  
39 Denali SRC, Justin Mason, was selected at our last SRC  
40 meeting to be our Chair. And then currently the second  
41 Southcentral RAC appointment is vacant. And this  
42 appointment must be a qualified local subsistence user  
43 and either serve on the -- as Barb was saying, on the  
44 Southcentral RAC or on the local Fish and Game Advisory  
45 Committee. Unfortunately the Denali Advisory Committee  
46 has not met for the past three years. All the  
47 committee members terms have expired and recently I  
48 polled the AC members and no one was interested in  
49 applying for the Southcentral RAC appointments to the

50

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1 Denali SRC. So currently this second appointment of  
2 the Southcentral RAC remains open until the Denali  
3 Advisory Committee meets to reappoint new members.  
4

5 And that's my update.  
6

7 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. So you're  
8 going to meet and figure out a candidate and appoint  
9 the second one.  
10

11 MS. CRAVER: The local Advisory  
12 Committee's going -- I'm not sure -- I talked with the  
13 coordinator and they're not sure when the next  
14 meeting's going to be but basically that Southcentral  
15 RAC appointment's going to remain vacant until they  
16 appoint some new people to the Committee because the  
17 current members are not interested in serving on the  
18 Denali SRC.  
19

20 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. And I see  
21 your Denali thing, you'll be somewhere in the winter  
22 here -- okay. So we have no action there but you're  
23 going to try and find someone, right?  
24

25 MS. CRAVER: Correct.  
26

27 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.  
28

29 MS. CRAVER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
30

31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: All right, I have  
32 -- Amy, I have you next on the agenda also, if you guys  
33 were done there on those appointments, I have you down  
34 for -- Amy, you're going to talk to us on NPS C&T  
35 process and guidelines?  
36

37 MS. CRAVER: Yes. And I guess before I  
38 give my presentation on the talking points, this whole  
39 thing with the individual C&T was initiated because we  
40 have a local subsistence user who is requesting  
41 individual C&T and he put the request through the  
42 Federal Subsistence Board last year and it was denied  
43 because he didn't have a 1344 subsistence eligibility  
44 permit so now he's reapplying. So basically what  
45 instigated this is to try to be more responsive to  
46 subsistence users so that they -- because he wasn't  
47 able to hunt this year with his family and so what  
48 we're trying to do is just kind of streamline the  
49 process so that the Park Service can, when they do get  
50

1 individual C&Ts, that we can be more responsive rather  
2 than telling people that they have to go through the  
3 whole Federal Subsistence Board process.

4  
5 But with that I will just go ahead and  
6 go into my briefing.

7  
8 At the August Board meeting the Federal  
9 Subsistence Board decided to defer their decision on  
10 delegating authority to the National Park Service for  
11 determining individual C&T use determination until  
12 their January meeting. This deferral was made to give  
13 the RACs an opportunity to weigh in before changes in  
14 the policy are made. For this reason the topic has  
15 been added to the agendas of all the RACs fall  
16 meetings.

17  
18 To begin, it is important to recognize  
19 that eligibility to engage in subsistence activities in  
20 National Parks and National Monuments in Alaska is  
21 different from that of National Preserves and other  
22 types of Federal public lands. To be eligible in these  
23 units one must, not only be a Federally-qualified  
24 subsistence user but also have his or her primary  
25 permanent home residence located within the resident  
26 zone community or have obtained a subsistence  
27 eligibility. Additionally, the hunter must also have a  
28 customary and traditional use determination for the  
29 area and species that they intend to hunt. Customary  
30 and traditional use determinations acknowledge the  
31 existing pattern of subsistence use. The Board  
32 frequently receives requests to evaluate or reevaluate  
33 these predominately for inclusion of communities or  
34 areas. For areas managed by the National Park Service  
35 determinations can also be made for individuals  
36 according to the CFR for areas managed by the National  
37 Park Service where subsistence uses are allowed, the  
38 determinations may be made on an individual basis.

39  
40 Requests for individual C&T use  
41 determinations have been rare in the history of the  
42 program. Less than a dozen requests have been made  
43 thus far. We have no reason to believe that this will  
44 change. Given this rarity and ability to only National  
45 Parks and Monuments, the Park Service feels that the  
46 Program and its stakeholders would be much better  
47 served in a more timely manner if the Park Service  
48 Regional Director is given delegated authority to make  
49 an individual C&T determination. If delegated, the  
50

1 process would alleviate the burden on OSM, the Board,  
2 provide a more integral for the SRCs, allow requests to  
3 be acted upon outside of the normal regulatory cycle  
4 and provide mechanisms for documenting and archiving  
5 these decisions.

6  
7 The National Park Service recognizes  
8 that with delegation comes responsibility and in  
9 coordination with the NPS, Subsistence Advisory  
10 Council, OSM, the Solicitor's Office and the  
11 InterAgency Staff Committee, the National Park Service  
12 has developed a standard operating procedure. If the  
13 Board delegates authority for individual C&T use  
14 determination, NPS intends to follow these procedures  
15 in order that they're responsible for all involved are  
16 clearly defined and provide consistency and continuity  
17 across Park units to strengthen both the 13440 permit  
18 process and the individual C&T process and to provide  
19 mechanisms for evaluating and documenting the request  
20 and subsequent decisions.

21  
22 I'm not going to go through every step  
23 within the standard operating procedure, I think that's  
24 included in your material. And I guess I'll just for  
25 time-sake, I can go on, but if anybody has any  
26 questions, but ultimately what we'd like is the RAC to  
27 make this an action item, if they want to delegate --  
28 recommend delegating authority from the Federal  
29 Subsistence Board to the Park Service Regional Director  
30 for individual C&Ts on Park lands.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, that's  
33 good, is there questions for Amy at this time on her  
34 presentation.

35  
36 (No comments)

37  
38 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: So you're looking  
39 for delegation from the Federal Subsistence Board to  
40 the Park Service -- recommendations from the RAC to the  
41 Federal Subsistence Board for.....

42  
43 MS. STICKWAN: I got something to say.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead.

46  
47 MS. STICKWAN: Hello.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead,  
50

1 Gloria.

2  
3 MS. STICKWAN: One of the things that  
4 we talked about at the SRC meeting was to make a motion  
5 to a modified version to include that the SRCs would  
6 have -- Subsistence Resource Commissions would have --  
7 the same thing as the SRAC different from the  
8 superintendent to support our recommendation when C&Ts  
9 are done. And then the other thing was to have a  
10 definition of C&T in the document itself to clarify.  
11 Because one of the things that we got hung up on was  
12 one of the members asked if I hunted in the Park would  
13 my C&T pass on to my family who moved away, answer was  
14 no, it's based on individual's history, and then  
15 somebody else brought up, well, what about somebody  
16 who's never hunted in the Park, how would they have  
17 history, they would be -- they wouldn't be able to have  
18 history. And so I think we kind of got wrapped up  
19 around that and there was a large discussion on that  
20 about C&T and how do you get around that.

21  
22 And so we just wanted to table this  
23 until we could work more on this at the next meeting or  
24 sometime later, to work this out, and then -- we  
25 weren't saying we don't support it, we were just saying  
26 that we wanted to work on it more. That was what we  
27 did.

28  
29 This was a long discussion at our SRC  
30 meeting and it just -- we want to work on that more.

31  
32 MS. CRAVER: Through the Chair, may I  
33 respond to Gloria.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead.

36  
37 MS. CRAVER: So, Gloria, one of the  
38 things that's really important to know is that when I  
39 put this proposal together working with OSM, I did  
40 lengthy interviews with both the individual and his  
41 parents and so just like when we determine a C&T for a  
42 community, we do the same -- we put the same criteria  
43 into an individual C&T. So basically the applicant  
44 answered, through these interviews, all eight factors  
45 that go into like the community. So we're looking at  
46 long-term pattern of use, we're looking at methods and  
47 means, and so all the eight factors go into that  
48 application. So the basically the individual is tied  
49 to their family and their patterned use over time.

50

1 MS. STICKWAN: When that question was  
2 asked the answer was no, and I think that's what -- it  
3 wasn't explained like that to us until -- we didn't  
4 understand that or something because that's what we got  
5 hung up on.

6  
7 MS. CRAVER: Yeah, the application  
8 process is really, you know, quite lengthy. I mean  
9 we're interviewing as family members as we can  
10 basically and trying to get as much information about  
11 their history of use in the Park and looking at sort of  
12 the extended family uses. So it's not just the  
13 individual applicant, it's looking at their use in  
14 terms of their extended family and multi-generational.

15  
16 MS. STICKWAN: Any way to put that in  
17 there?

18  
19 MS. CRAVER: I think what we need to do  
20 is go back and add that and make it more explicit in  
21 the SOP.

22  
23 MS. STICKWAN: I think so.

24  
25 MS. CRAVER: Because that's.....

26  
27 MS. STICKWAN: I mean because  
28 individual, one person, were a household, their family  
29 could have hunted in the Park but -- you know what I'm  
30 saying, it would make it more -- rather than --  
31 individual -- individual and their household -- and/or  
32 household members.

33  
34 MS. CRAVER: Yeah, I think that we can  
35 make it more explicit in the SOP.

36  
37 MS. STICKWAN: And I would like to see  
38 a recommendation different to the SRCs on the  
39 recommendation from the Superintendent, or the  
40 coordinator -- I mean the Regional Director -- that  
41 Regional Director give deference to the SRC when they  
42 make recommendations on individual C&Ts, similar to  
43 what the SRAC does, the Federal Subsistence Board gives  
44 deference to the RACs and I'd like to see that added in  
45 there.

46  
47 MS. CRAVER: Okay, that seems to be  
48 reasonable.

49  
50



1 MS. STICKWAN: And the SRACs are going  
2 to be taking -- Regional Advisory Councils are going to  
3 be taken out of it and I just want to make sure you  
4 guys bring it to our attention that at least we'll know  
5 who's got individual C&Ts as a RAC member.

6  
7 MS. CRAVER: Yeah, that seems  
8 reasonable, and I think that could just be as part of  
9 our Park updates to the RAC.

10  
11 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

12  
13 MS. CELLARIUS: Mr. Chair.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, the Chair's  
16 here, go ahead.

17  
18 MS. CELLARIUS: This is Barbara, and it  
19 is actually part of the process that is in the SOP,  
20 that once an individual C&T determination was made, the  
21 affected RACs in the relevant areas would be notified.  
22 That is already part of the process.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Barbara,  
25 state that one more time please.

26  
27 MS. CELLARIUS: So part of the process  
28 described in the SOP.....

29  
30 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Uh-huh.

31  
32 MS. CELLARIUS: .....for this proposed  
33 change would be that there would -- once a  
34 determination was made the Regional Advisory Council  
35 would be notified.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

38  
39 MS. STICKWAN: The problem I see with  
40 this is that this document that they've given to the  
41 Federal Board, as it is written, and they'll be voting  
42 on this document, and that's why the SRC wanted to  
43 postpone this, I think to work on it further and see  
44 something in writing about what I said before, they  
45 could vote on it.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. I think  
48 we're getting a wrapped around here but I need to know  
49 what I need to do for the Council because we can't make  
50

1 regulations. One wants to postpone it until they get  
2 more information and the other one wants to notify when  
3 the SOPs are out, and the changes. The individual C&T  
4 is kind of a new thing to me, that seems like it could  
5 get pretty intense. I don't know how many people would  
6 apply in the Park or if they could apply for individual  
7 C&Ts elsewhere.

8  
9 I do see a hand up from Darrel Williams  
10 of a tribe, so, Darrel, did you have a comment to this  
11 issue?

12  
13 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman, thank you  
14 very much. Yes, this is Darrel Williams with  
15 Ninilchik.

16  
17 You know, one of the things I wanted to  
18 point out was it wasn't that long ago when the Federal  
19 Subsistence Board was required to have their meetings.  
20 Sometimes we would have two fishery cycle in a year and  
21 there would always be a fish and wildlife cycle. Then  
22 they changed it to a two year cycle. Now, I think  
23 delegating authority to whomever could actually be a  
24 problem because if we delegate authority to the in-  
25 season manager, we've had a lot of discussions about  
26 that and a lot of problems with that, but now we're  
27 going to delegate more authority to an individual  
28 Federal land agency. A better question that's going to  
29 come up is BIA going to agree with the actions of  
30 Parks, or is U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service going to  
31 agree with the actions of the Parks. I'm wondering if  
32 it may be better to tell the Federal Subsistence Board  
33 that maybe they need to start meeting more often and  
34 addressing these issues other than getting rid of the  
35 Federal system one piece of authority at a time.

36  
37 I just thought that was an interesting  
38 comment and I wanted to introduce that.

39  
40 Thank you very much.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thanks.  
43 Okay, thank you.

44  
45 MS. LINNELL: Mr. Chair.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead.

48  
49 MS. LINNELL: This is Karen Linnell

50

1 with Ahtna InterTribal Resource Commission.

2

3

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Karen.

4

5

MS. LINNELL: We also spoke up at the  
6 Wrangell-St. Elias SRC. One of the things that we were  
7 concerned about, too, is the loss of public  
8 process.....

9

10

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Right.

11

12

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And, you know, it sounds like a  
simplification process, but to me it's -- there's more  
behind it and I would hope that you folks look into it  
a little more and look at all the possibilities that  
could happen with this delegation of authority.

1 I think that the Wrangell-St. Elias SRC  
2 was right in asking for delay so that we could delve  
3 into it further. But I agree with Mr. Williams, I  
4 think that there's too much delegation of authority  
5 happening in these instances.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Karen, very good,  
8 very good thoughts thank you.

9  
10 Any other comments.

11  
12 MS. CRAVER: Through the Chair, may I  
13 just respond to Karen.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, you may.  
16 We're kind of going to have to make a decision before  
17 too long so we can move on.

18  
19 MS. CRAVER: I just think it's really  
20 important to emphasize that two of the eight factors  
21 that go into determining an individual C&T, like the  
22 first one is a long-term consistent pattern of use,  
23 excluding interruption by circumstances beyond the  
24 user's control such as regulatory prohibition, and then  
25 the second one is a pattern of use which includes the  
26 handing down of knowledge of fishing and hunting  
27 skills, values and lore from generation to generation.  
28 So the example you were giving, Karen, about somebody  
29 temporarily living in the community and then moving,  
30 they wouldn't -- based on those two factors alone, they  
31 wouldn't be qualified for an individual -- to be even  
32 considered for an individual C&T. The emphasis is  
33 long-term pattern of use.

34  
35 And the example here, with the two  
36 individual C&Ts that we're trying to get at Denali,  
37 it's basically a family that's lived in Cantwell for  
38 three generations and because their sons can't get work  
39 in Cantwell they have to work at the mine in Healy, so  
40 they live in Healy, but they still hunt with their  
41 family on their traditional hunting grounds. So even  
42 though they live in Healy they're still totally  
43 connected to the family in Cantwell.

44  
45 MS. LINNELL: So to respond to that.  
46 We recently gave Dry Creek a C&T use borrowing a  
47 fishwheel from say a community down there in Kenny Lake  
48 for less than 20 years. Dry Creek was not even in  
49 existence prior to ANILCA and they got C&T. 20 years  
50

1 is nothing when you're looking at the history of these  
2 Parks and the formation of and that long-term use, so  
3 that is not defined anywhere. And that, to me, is also  
4 an issue.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Well,  
7 yeah, that's a lot of thinking for us here. So Amy how  
8 soon are you going to need this decision?

9  
10 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair, may I speak?

11  
12 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, who's this,  
13 Gloria?

14  
15 MS. STICKWAN: Gloria.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Gloria.

18  
19 MS. STICKWAN: Yes, that's why I asked  
20 to put this in our letter, if it was okay with  
21 everybody, we wanted to postpone this until we had more  
22 discussion. This is what the Federal Board will be  
23 voting on that's in writing right now, we want to have  
24 the ability to change it as an SRC, Wrangell-St. Elias  
25 SRC, before so we're asking to postpone it, and that's  
26 why I asked this SRAC if they would do the same thing.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, I see,  
29 Gloria.

30  
31 MS. STICKWAN: There's no rush for C&T  
32 because there's only like four done so far in our Park  
33 and there's hardly any individual C&T's done so there  
34 is really no rush to get this done.

35  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

38  
39 MS. CRAVER: Through the Chair, may I  
40 respond?

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: You may respond.

43  
44 MS. CRAVER: This is actually very  
45 urgent for the hunter that wants this individual C&T.  
46 He was very disappointed that at the last -- I think it  
47 was the last time the Federal Board met last year he  
48 was denied. He was denied again this past hunting  
49 season. All he wants to do is go hunting with his

50

1 extended family and he can't legally hunt a moose. He  
2 can go with them but it's very urgent to the individual  
3 subsistence user. It may not be urgent to other people  
4 but it is to this individual. And it's become -- it's  
5 very frustrating to not be able to respond to  
6 subsistence user's request, to just hunt with -- you  
7 know, to continue their tradition with their extended  
8 family.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, we  
11 understand that Amy, very much so, it's a sad  
12 situation. But, you know, the process does have to be  
13 followed that everyone's satisfied that we're not doing  
14 something that we haven't kind of vetted out. So I'm  
15 just trying to figure out exactly, you know, our  
16 responsibility at this point.

17  
18 MS. CELLARIUS: Mr. Chair, this is  
19 Barbara. Could I provide some information.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, Barbara,  
22 could you help me out.

23  
24 MS. CELLARIUS: So a couple things, so  
25 the subsistence -- so -- and there might be a table up  
26 on the screen for people who are on teams, if you have  
27 access to teams you might look at the screen. So if  
28 you look at the Advisory Committee review line, there  
29 will be public -- so the Subsistence Resource  
30 Commission meetings are public meetings under the  
31 Federal Advisory Committee Act, similar to the Regional  
32 Advisory Council meetings, so there is an opportunity  
33 for people living in the communities most closely tied  
34 to the National Park or National Monument where the  
35 individual C&T would be valid, these are just valid in  
36 the National Park Service managed areas. So there is a  
37 public comment opportunity.

38  
39 And then in terms of the timeline, this  
40 is going to be -- it's my understanding that the next  
41 Federal Subsistence Board meeting it will be the  
42 fisheries regulatory meeting in January is when this is  
43 going to be on their agenda, you know, and with  
44 regulatory proposals it's very common for the RAC to  
45 recommend modifications. So, you know, that might be  
46 something that the RAC consider.

47  
48 And that's it.

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Someone want to  
2 recommend a modification and if not I think we're hung  
3 up here so I'm not sure where to go. But any comments  
4 from the Council members.

5  
6 MS. STICKWAN: I just want to say that  
7 I stick to my comments, I'd like for our SRC go back  
8 and be able to vett it out and they may have a good  
9 outcome if we are able to do that. And C&T, the  
10 overall process should be looked into and our comments  
11 should be able to be put in there and I just want the  
12 SRCs put in there.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I understand that  
15 Gloria. I think we're kind of at an impasse here. The  
16 only thing I can see is if we take no action at this  
17 time because we have to get the SRC to fully vett it  
18 and get their input.

19  
20 Anyone on the Council got a suggestion  
21 as to how to handle this.

22  
23 MR. OPHEIM: Mr. Chair, this is  
24 Michael.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead,  
27 Michael.

28  
29 MR. OPHEIM: I don't have a suggestion  
30 on how to fix this but I'm just going to drop (ph) from  
31 the whole thing, I'm not understanding it really well I  
32 guess. So, yeah, I wouldn't have a problem taking no  
33 action or anything like that unless somebody can  
34 somehow hit me on the head with a magic wand to help me  
35 understand it better.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, I'm kind of  
38 in the same position. I do understand the urgency of  
39 the individual, that's paramount, but the problem is  
40 that the SRC needs to have its say on it and there's  
41 other input on there in rewriting and modification and  
42 so on and so forth and so I'm not sure we're ready to  
43 do any of that and I think we have to -- you know,  
44 Gloria had asked earlier to put it on hold and so it's  
45 up to the Council. I mean we're absolutely stumped and  
46 I feel we're probably going to take no action, I mean  
47 it's up to you guys, you go ahead, if you want a motion  
48 on it, if not we're going to.....

49  
50

1 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

2  
3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....just move on  
4 and wait until we.....

5  
6 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....get more  
9 clarity.

10  
11 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair. I make a  
12 motion that we recommend to the Federal Board that they  
13 postpone it until it could be vetted out by the SRC.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Is there a  
16 second to Gloria's motion.

17  
18 MR. WHISSEL: I'll second it. This is  
19 John Whissel.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, John.  
22 Thank you, John.

23  
24 Any other discussion.

25  
26 MR. WHISSEL: I have something I might  
27 want to discuss. Is there a way for us to postpone --  
28 I mean obviously the situation is that we -- we're  
29 trying to be very careful because we're establishing a  
30 precedent and this is how we're going to treat  
31 everybody and we don't want to rush that decision  
32 because there's an individual that's being held up in  
33 bureaucratic framework that he doesn't have any control  
34 over, is there a way for us to do what we're doing and  
35 somewhere in the manner in which we -- the manner in  
36 which we delay this response, somehow indicate to the  
37 Federal Subsistence Board to get this person processed  
38 and done on an individual level while we work out how  
39 we're going to apply this.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, I'm not  
42 sure if we could do that, John, because that might take  
43 away from the SRCs thing, but I think if we recommend  
44 postpone it at the Federal Board because we're not  
45 ready to take action until the SRC does and it comes  
46 back to us, I think that's the best we can do. We  
47 can't tell them, no, take action -- or postpone it, and  
48 then on the other hand tell them, no, hurry up and  
49 process the guy. I think you're kind of caught between  
50



1 a rock and a hard spot.

2

3 MR. WHISSEL: I have nothing but  
4 sympathy for this guy, it breaks my heart not to be  
5 able to help get them some resolution to an ongoing  
6 issue but I just don't feel like it's responsible for  
7 us to push forward on this.

8

9 MS. STICKWAN: If he has usage of the  
10 Park he can apply for a permit 1344 and be able to hunt  
11 in the Park.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: There you go.

14

15 MS. CELLARIUS: Mr. Chair, could I  
16 respond to Gloria's comment?

17

18 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead.

19

20 MS. CELLARIUS: So having a 1344 permit  
21 provides the same eligibility to hunt in a National  
22 Park as living in a Park Service resident zone,  
23 however, it does not substitute for a customary and  
24 traditional use determination from the Federal Board.  
25 So if his community, Healy, does not have C&T for moose  
26 in Unit 13, he would still need the individual C&T. So  
27 it is not a solution for the individual in question.

28

29 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. We got a  
32 motion and we got a second on it and we're under  
33 discussion. Any other discussion on the motion to  
34 request the Federal Board to postpone.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Hearing none, all  
39 in favor aye.

40

41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Any opposed.

44

45 (No opposing votes)

46

47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.  
48 Unfortunately we're going to have to see how that rides  
49 out. I'm assuming we're running a little late on

50

1 lunch, you guys want to take lunch, we have a lot of  
2 agency reports and I estimate, you know, if you give  
3 them each 15 minutes it'll be a couple hours, or it  
4 could be as little as an hour, but you want to take a  
5 break for lunch and come back in an hour.

6  
7 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, this is DeAnna.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, DeAnna.

10  
11 MS. PERRY: Sorry, before we break for  
12 lunch I just wanted to revisit the nonrural  
13 determination process. I just sent out the analysis to  
14 everyone so they would have it handy in their email.  
15 It looks like we need to revisit that to provide the  
16 Board with a further justification. I know that we  
17 have discussed this at length at past meetings and  
18 we've discussed some of that here, but the Board is  
19 looking to have specific responses or recommendations  
20 on the rural characteristics from the Council and so to  
21 make this easy, I don't know if the Council would like  
22 to look at OSM's recommendation on the last page and  
23 the justification that accompanies that and if they  
24 want to adopt that justification except for the  
25 references to the other communities. I'm comfortable  
26 in the testimony that we've heard and the Council  
27 discussions in the past, I believe, have highlighted  
28 all of those items there in the justification. I think  
29 that's where they came from.

30  
31 But I believe we need to give a further  
32 justification at this meeting because the Board will be  
33 taking this up in January and they're going to heavily  
34 rely on the Council's input.

35  
36 So anyway I sent that out, something to  
37 mull over over lunch, perhaps and then, Mr. Chair, if  
38 you would like to revisit that I think it would make  
39 our record clearer.

40  
41 Thank you.

42  
43 And I apologize.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I want you to  
46 know that I fully plan to revisit it after lunch or  
47 later but you didn't need to go into it now. But  
48 anyway we will take that up later. I'm trying to get  
49 the opinion of the Board, do you guys want to eat lunch  
50

1 or do you want to skip lunch or do you want to go shoot  
2 a moose in the Park or what.

3  
4 (Laughter)

5  
6 MR. WHISSEL: Go eat lunch after we get  
7 the moose in the Park.

8  
9 MR. OPHEIM: Yes.

10  
11 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Yes.

12  
13 (Laughter)

14  
15 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

16  
17 (Laughter)

18  
19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, let's take  
20 one hour for lunch and let's get back here at 1:30.  
21 First thing when we get back let's take up the  
22 justification and I think that we have plenty of  
23 justification it's just a matter of spelling it out.  
24 We got to see if we can get some help from our people  
25 to help on these justifications. I mean if they expect  
26 a volunteer Board to write all this stuff up, this is  
27 pretty ridiculous. But anyway you guys enjoy a great  
28 lunch and we'll get through it today.

29  
30 Agency reports, you guys standby  
31 because we're not going to cut you off, you get 15  
32 minutes each after lunch.

33  
34 (Off record)

35  
36 (On record)

37  
38 MS. PERRY: Let me check with the  
39 Council members and make sure everyone was able to  
40 reconnect.

41  
42 So when I call your name if you can let  
43 me know you're on line that would be great.

44  
45 Dennis Zadra.

46  
47 MR. ZADRA: Yes, I'm here.

48  
49 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Dennis.

50

1 Michael Opheim, I see that you're on  
2 teams and on line.  
3  
4 MR. OPHEIM: Yep.  
5  
6 MS. PERRY: Okay.  
7  
8 Andy McLaughlin.  
9  
10 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Yep, here.  
11  
12 MS. PERRY: Thank you.  
13  
14 Aaron Bloomquist.  
15  
16 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Yes, we're here.  
17  
18 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Aaron.  
19  
20 John Whissel.  
21  
22 (No comments)  
23  
24 MS. PERRY: John are you back with us.  
25  
26 (No comments)  
27  
28 MS. PERRY: Okay.  
29  
30 Ed Holsten.  
31  
32 MR. HOLSTEN: Yes, I'm here.  
33  
34 MS. PERRY: Thank you.  
35  
36 Diane Selanoff.  
37  
38 MS. SELANOFF: Here, thank you.  
39  
40 MS. PERRY: Thank you.  
41  
42 Gloria Stickwan.  
43  
44 MS. STICKWAN: Here.  
45  
46 MS. PERRY: Thank you.  
47  
48 John Whissel, were you able to join us.  
49  
50

1 (No comments)

2  
3 MS. PERRY: Okay. And Greg Encelewski.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I am here, it's a  
6 good thing, I just stepped in, go.

7  
8 MS. PERRY: Okay, Greg, I just wanted  
9 to let you know that eight of your nine seated Council  
10 members are on line and you still have a quorum.

11  
12 Thank you.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, that's  
15 good. I went from 40 people this morning to 27 now so  
16 anyway we still have a pretty good group. There we go,  
17 28, okay.

18  
19 All right, before we go into agency  
20 reports, we're back in session and we got most of the  
21 Council here, I think one should come in any minute, we  
22 do want to go back and we want to look at Moose Pass  
23 nonrural determination. We don't want to do anything  
24 other than solidify our justification. I usually go  
25 through the reasons for justifications.

26  
27 Was it consistent with established fish  
28 and wildlife management principles, which I think it  
29 was.

30  
31 Is the recommendation supported by  
32 substantial evidence such as biological and traditional  
33 knowledge. And that was very clear in the report from  
34 Robbin and others and our time there in interacting  
35 with the people.

36  
37 Also will the recommendation be  
38 beneficial to determine the subsistence needs of users,  
39 yes for sure.

40  
41 If this is a closure, are necessary  
42 conservation -- and that -- we're not -- we don't need  
43 to address that.

44  
45 Discuss whatever relevant factors are  
46 mentioned in the OSM analysis. Well, one of the  
47 factors that I will mention and then we could ask the  
48 Council members to add anything to it, I think we could  
49 use our justification from the OSM report that we

50

1 agreed on and our last meetings when we went through  
2 this. Also that we toured it physically, it's rural,  
3 outlook and the outlay and the biology and we also --  
4 from all the testimony from Jeffrey and others, so we  
5 have quite a record as far as I'm concerned for the  
6 justification. But OSM is, you know, they got to  
7 prepare this and give it to the Federal Board and all  
8 those Federal people, you know how they are, so, you  
9 know, none of us are lawyers unless some of you is that  
10 I don't know about on the Council, but we do have to  
11 justify our proposal.

12  
13 So just opening it up, if you got  
14 anything you want to add for justification specifically  
15 let me know and let's put that on record.

16  
17 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, this is DeAnna.  
18 I just wanted to bring folks attention to Page 7 of the  
19 nonrural determination analysis that we saw earlier and  
20 I do have that on the screen. I think what the Board  
21 is looking for is specific comments on the rural  
22 characteristics and so that's where, I guess, they're  
23 looking for more to build their record. The specific  
24 rural characteristics. And those would be on Page 7  
25 about the middle of the page where it says: the Board  
26 will make or rescind nonrural determinations, the  
27 factors are population size and density, economic  
28 indicators, military presence, industrial facilities,  
29 use of fish and wildlife, degree of remoteness and  
30 isolation, any other relevant material including  
31 information provided by the public. Again, as Greg  
32 said, we have discussed this at past meetings but this  
33 will be the last time that this Council can offer any  
34 recommendations to the Board before the Board takes  
35 this proposal up in January.

36  
37 And this is the first time we're going  
38 through this new proposal process, so I thank you all  
39 for your patience as we do this, this will, you know,  
40 be very handy for RACs on down the line that might  
41 also be entertaining nonrural determination proposals  
42 so it is pretty important and I thank the Council for  
43 revisiting this so that we can build a really good  
44 record.

45  
46 So, again, if there are any comments on  
47 those particular rural characteristics, or as Greg  
48 mentioned if you want to look at the OSM justification  
49 at the end of the analysis, they kind of give a good  
50

1 example of how they address those.

2

3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Mr. Chair, this  
4 is.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: You know I don't  
7 want to spend a lot of time because I think we've done  
8 a very good job on the justification, OSM may not think  
9 so but, you know, we could take a picture of the place,  
10 it's very rural, all those comments I recall, one of  
11 the first comments was, yeah, after they drove out  
12 there and got to see it and we had our meeting in  
13 Seward, I mean there was no question it was a rural  
14 area. And it does get into a (indiscernible) and  
15 changes with the other communities, Primrose and Crown  
16 Point, but Moose Pass was definitely rural, I don't  
17 think anyone had any question of that. I didn't see no  
18 airfields or airports in there, I didn't see no  
19 military locations, I didn't see very much population  
20 and density, very, very sparsely. Economic indicators,  
21 it looks like they could need some help. With fish and  
22 wildlife, I didn't see many animals running around  
23 there so they probably need some. And so I'll shut up  
24 and I'll let the rest of the Council add to that.

25

26 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Yeah, Andy here.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead,  
29 Andy.

30

31 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Yeah, thank you, Mr.  
32 Chair. Yeah, it must have been six years ago or  
33 something, geez, I don't remember anymore but before it  
34 went to this nonrural determination we had this  
35 completely other way we were looking at it, you know,  
36 what is rural itself and all these defining factors, we  
37 went through school and military bases and all sorts of  
38 topics, that stuff could be accessed if you're looking  
39 for information.

40

41 But as for use of fish and wildlife, I  
42 would just suggest, you know, cultural practices when  
43 people are utilizing these resources they're sharing  
44 the resources, they rely on those wild resources for  
45 sustenance, but not just food, you know, firewood,  
46 gathering of things, cultural things, including art  
47 work, whatever, with the antler, you know, I mean it's  
48 not always just food.

49

50

1 So anyhow there's my input.

2  
3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, that's good  
4 input, all those add to our justification so we could  
5 certainly type that in there too DeAnna.

6  
7 Anyone else got anything specific we  
8 want to state for the justification of our vote as a  
9 rural area.

10  
11 (No comments)

12  
13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, if not,  
14 DeAnna, and OSM, I'm sorry but that's as good as it  
15 gets from us so hopefully you got enough and if you  
16 need more I would think you're going to have to go back  
17 to the records and pull it out. But appreciate you  
18 bringing the point to me that we got to go through  
19 those justifications so very good.

20  
21 MS. PERRY: Thanks everyone.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you. Okay,  
24 agency reports. We got a time limit on here of 15  
25 minutes. If you've got to be a little longer we'll  
26 allow, if someone else gives you some of their minutes,  
27 if not, you got a problem. But anyway I'm kind of  
28 kidding. But we'll go through here, we always kind of  
29 put them at the end we don't want to cut anyone short,  
30 we don't have but one other action item at the end, is  
31 our meeting dates and locations that we got to make  
32 sure we take up.

33  
34 We're going to start off with the  
35 tribal governments and the first one up is Ninilchik  
36 Traditional Council. Darrel, are you on the line.

37  
38 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman, I am.  
39 Would you like me to just go ahead?

40  
41 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: You could go  
42 right ahead.

43  
44 MR. WILLIAMS: All right. Mr.  
45 Chairman, members of the Board. My name is Darrel  
46 Williams with Ninilchik Traditional Council. And I am  
47 going to provide the subsistence fishery report for  
48 2020 and give you guys an idea of how things went.

49  
50



1                   So I'll start with managing permits, I  
2 think that's probably the best place to start. Usually  
3 I like do PowerPoints and stuff but it's a little  
4 harder on the phone. But the permit management was  
5 really done the same way as we've done in the past. We  
6 would have a central location for rural residents to be  
7 able to sign up. The rural residents would go to the  
8 local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office to receive  
9 their Federal permit and then they would bring them to  
10 us if they wanted us to fish the permit for them using  
11 the gillnet fishery. And we had sign up sheets there  
12 where people could actually sign up. And it was  
13 interesting this year because then Covid happened. So  
14 there's social distancing, those kind of issues that  
15 came with that so we ended up using drop boxes where  
16 people could drop their permits off in a drop box and  
17 be able to address that issue in that way. The  
18 interesting part of the permitting this year was the  
19 permit structure changed, there was an administrative  
20 change, so we ended up with people being issued  
21 subsistence fishery permits for Cook Inlet area  
22 essentially instead of having one permit for the Kenai  
23 and one permit for the Kasilof River, it was just one  
24 permit for the user. And it answered some of the  
25 different problems we had.

26  
27                   When you have household limits, and  
28 let's say that somebody gets so many fish off of one  
29 river, do they -- you know, how many more fish did they  
30 get off the other river, having one permit actually  
31 simplified that problem to be able to manage harvest so  
32 we didn't overharvest when we're fishing for somebody  
33 else.

34  
35                   It's interesting, in 2016, when we got  
36 started on this we had 29 permits, and in 2020 we had  
37 133 permits and they're all based off of those  
38 household limits, the size of the household, whether  
39 it's the individual or an individual with multiple  
40 family members determines the number of fish that  
41 they're eligible for.

42  
43                   We were not required to get designated  
44 fisher permits this year, that's a change. But I will  
45 say we still tracked everything the same way and we  
46 still reported every day. Actually just going through  
47 that system helped us make sure that we were being  
48 responsible and communicating the information  
49 effectively to everyone.

50

1 The conditions at the site have been  
2 roughly static. There's no new changes, there have  
3 been no erosion, no degradation of the area associated  
4 with use and that's a real positive thing.

5  
6 The amount of fishing that we would do  
7 on a daily basis hasn't really changed. The Kasilof is  
8 pretty static in terms of how much time we actually  
9 spend fishing the river. The Kenai River is a little  
10 different. We tried to time for the run better this  
11 year so we'd spend actually less time with the gear in  
12 the water and target sockeye, which is the targeted  
13 species for this fishery.

14  
15 In both rivers, the gear was set using  
16 sandbags and that way we could actually set the gear,  
17 it would be stationary and we could remove the gear in  
18 its entirety when we were done for the season. The  
19 nets were fished with people with the net whenever the  
20 fish was in the water, the nets were never left  
21 unattended. We still do the 30 minute pull times. On  
22 the Kasilof River we actually remove the net from the  
23 water ever 30 minutes. And in the Kenai River we  
24 actually walk the net and we actually pick fish out of  
25 the net, like constantly until we're done fishing and  
26 then we remove the net from the water.

27  
28 We really caught the same variety of  
29 fish that we usually catch. Like, you know, I like to  
30 think of this as a random sample in the river. Putting  
31 a net out and catching and see what comes up. We still  
32 have a few fish that we caught with some deformities,  
33 you know, I still lean towards electrofishing injuries,  
34 but there are some diseases that can cause that in fish  
35 too which may be something that's notable and that  
36 could be one of those things that they can look at in  
37 terms of a fisheries management plan. Just to throw  
38 that out there.

39  
40 It's also interesting, we've noticed a  
41 lot of lamprey in the Kasilof River too, when you talk  
42 about lamprey predation, that came up earlier during  
43 the meeting, just to throw that in there.

44  
45 For the Kasilof River, we fished the  
46 Kasilof River for a total of 20 days. And so the way  
47 it works is the sockeye move into Cook Inlet and they  
48 go to the Kasilof River first, then they go to the  
49 Kenai River second, so we try to focus our efforts on

50

1 the river that has the fish in it. So we started in  
2 the Kasilof and then we moved to the Kenai River,  
3 following the fish essentially. And in the 20 days we  
4 caught 621 sockeye. And we fished from the 16th of  
5 June to the 14th of July. So we only had -- or let's  
6 see, we had five fish that we didn't actually harvest,  
7 so we actually caught 626 and we let five of them go,  
8 or sometimes when you're working with the fish in the  
9 net and the water, sometimes they just get away so that  
10 happens. We used large mesh size and sometimes they do  
11 get away. So the actual release wasn't significant.

12  
13 On the Kasilof River in 2020 we had no  
14 incidental harvest so generally it seems like we'll  
15 pick up one king salmon every year that tends to wander  
16 its way into the net, this year we didn't, and that was  
17 really good.

18  
19 So the harvest effort itself ended up  
20 being tracked at 75 hours of net time in the water, and  
21 that boils down to about eight fish per hour, when  
22 we're actually catching fish to get an idea of the  
23 impact the fishery has.

24  
25 The Kenai River is a little different,  
26 of course. And we tried to watch the run timing when  
27 the numbers would come up significantly in the Kenai  
28 River that's when we wanted to go fish. And it was  
29 interesting this year because the run was a little  
30 late. We've seen that before, I mean generally we're  
31 talking about July 25th is the peak of the run and now  
32 we're seeing it more towards the end of the month and  
33 even into August. So we started fishing the Kenai  
34 River on the 19th of July and we stopped fishing on the  
35 7th of August. So it ended up being a total of 17 days  
36 of actual fishing time. In the 17 days we caught 3,163  
37 fish. We actually were able to retain all the fish we  
38 caught. It was kind of funny because the Kasilof River  
39 is a slower river and we fumbled a few more fish than  
40 that, we were pretty -- we're getting accustomed to  
41 handling that net better in the Kenai River. We also  
42 caught 18 coho and we caught one Dolly Varden and it  
43 was recorded and submitted. And so the harvest effort  
44 on the Kenai River is substantially more, of course.  
45 We ended up fishing for 102 hours and that boils down  
46 to about 37 fish per hour that we were actually  
47 harvesting. Some days were slower, some days were  
48 faster on that river and we really tried to work with  
49 the run timing to be able to utilize the gear most

50

1 effectively in the water and, you know, target our  
2 target species and not have a lot of incidental bycatch  
3 and that seemed to work out pretty good.

4  
5 And on August 7th we had filled all 133  
6 permits and we removed the gear from the water. So we  
7 were actually able to finish early. You know it's  
8 interesting, we spent 20 days on the Kasilof and we  
9 catch 600 fish and we spent 17 days on the Kenai and  
10 you catch 3,000 fish so there's a significant  
11 difference in those two fisheries.

12  
13 I think that we're getting better at  
14 targeting the run and being able to have the gear in  
15 the water for less time to be able to meet the  
16 subsistence harvest needs and we were able, again, this  
17 year to fill everybody's permit and complete the  
18 fishery early.

19  
20 And that's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Very good,  
23 Darrel. Thanks. Very detailed and I would just add,  
24 being from Ninilchik and the Chairman of the Council,  
25 it was very successful not only in being able to catch  
26 the fish but to the community, we do all rural  
27 residents and I'll tell you there's a lot of elders and  
28 a lot of people here that are so thankful and so  
29 appreciative. It's really been a blessing to the  
30 community and it really works well for those that  
31 especially are kind of handicapped, can't get out and  
32 move around, so it's really good. I got some awesome  
33 fish put up but I can't show it to you guys because  
34 we're talking on these Covid phones.

35  
36 But, anyway, thank you, Darrel, very  
37 good.

38  
39 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Next, I  
42 got Native Village of Eyak. Matt.

43  
44 MS. LINNELL: Mr. Chair.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah.

47  
48 MS. LINNELL: This is Karen Linnell. I  
49 have to step out here in a few minutes and I was

50

1 wondering if I might be able to go first if that's okay  
2 with Matt.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: If it's okay with  
5 Matt, it's certainly okay with me.

6  
7 MR. PICHE: Absolutely fine, this is  
8 Matt. No problem.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, Karen, go  
11 ahead.

12  
13 MS. LINNELL: I appreciate it.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: No problem.

16  
17 MS. LINNELL: I apologize. This is  
18 Karen Linnell with the Ahtna InterTribal Resource  
19 Commission, I'm the Executive Director here.

20  
21 I just wanted to let you know about our  
22 Staffing. Currently we have two wildlife biologists, a  
23 fish biologist and an anthropologist on Staff along  
24 with a regulatory specialist that we are training to --  
25 alongside with Gloria Stickwan, to learn the process a  
26 little more and to take over my position at some in the  
27 future.

28  
29 We have a Partners in Fisheries  
30 Management project grant and that grant will end in  
31 December. We held that SEARC Conference in 2018. We  
32 have built partnerships and we've conducted several  
33 interviews as far as trying to figure -- find out what  
34 the rural users here see as their role in participation  
35 in management decisions and that report will be done  
36 following December when the grant ends.

37  
38 We have a migratory birds program grant  
39 with Fish and Wildlife Service. This last year they  
40 adopted a proposal to allow AITRC to issue invitation  
41 to hunt for Federally-qualified users on behalf of the  
42 tribes.

43  
44 And then also we have started  
45 collecting some citizen data on moose sightings. We're  
46 just looking at, over time, that we would be able to  
47 see trends in twinning and that kind of thing, and  
48 there's a page on our website where folks can just  
49 punch in where they were at within the Ahtna

50

1 Traditional Territory, where they were at, how many  
2 cows, how many calves, how many bulls they've seen, et  
3 cetera.

4  
5 We partnered with Ahtna Incorporated  
6 and ADF&G on our carnivore stewardship program this  
7 year, this is our third year. We just got the data  
8 from the 2019 season so we will know here shortly how  
9 many bears were in the Mentasta area. This year we  
10 expanded it to cover five locations on Ahtna lands and  
11 then the Department of Fish and Game is doing a much --  
12 a bunch of sites on their -- on State lands. We're  
13 already planning next years season. We're really  
14 building on this partnership to get a handle and see  
15 what's out there on the land, filling those information  
16 gaps that we had said we would do.

17  
18 We also had a contract with ADF&G on  
19 their FRMP project, the otolith sampling for the  
20 Gulkana Hatchery fish and we collected samples, this is  
21 our second season collecting otolith samples from the  
22 Chitina River bridge north to Slana. And we thought  
23 that season went fairly well even with the slow year  
24 this year and folks not fishing, or not getting as many  
25 fish, we were able to collect samples not spread out  
26 like they usually do because they split the Glennallen  
27 Subdistrict into three areas. We just took samples  
28 wherever we could this year. I know up in Chistochina  
29 on the north end of the river where I'm at, for the  
30 middle of June towards the end of July I got 66 sockeye  
31 and 16 chinook. A very sad year. It used to be we  
32 could get 66 in a day. And so even one day we had four  
33 fishwheels, I checked four fishwheels and distributed  
34 it for those that had the wheels there and between the  
35 four fishwheels there were 40 fish. Like I said it was  
36 not a good year for us up on the north end of the  
37 river.

38  
39 And so we're, you know, looking at that  
40 and followed that with kind of a poor hunting season  
41 where we have one community that with all the different  
42 people in that community hunting didn't get any moose  
43 or caribou yet. So that's going on.

44  
45 We have some cooperative agreements  
46 with the National Park Service. One of them is to  
47 write the ethnography of the Ahtna people within the  
48 Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. And the other one is  
49 to look at traditional ecological knowledge on the snow  
50

1 and ice conditions and our inability to access the Park  
2 safely during the winters now. And the other is the  
3 use of the caribou within Game Management Unit 11  
4 within the Park boundaries.

5  
6 For an update on our ability to  
7 administer a community harvest system hunt, as you know  
8 you folks have helped to modify the framework and stuff  
9 in the last two years, three years, and the local  
10 Subsistence Advisory Committee charter; well, that  
11 charter still has not left Alaska. We were able to get  
12 our hunt approved by the Federal Subsistence Board in  
13 July. We worked on the framework, got that approved.  
14 Went through and I thought we had dotted every single I  
15 and crossed every T and were anxious and ready to start  
16 managing the community harvest hunt by issuing what  
17 we're calling a harvest report to qualified users  
18 within our eight communities and the Secretary put a  
19 halt to it because of the lawsuit between the State of  
20 Alaska and the Federal Subsistence Board. We're not  
21 sure what we're going to do with that. I think it was  
22 a -- unlike what was in the lawsuit there's every right  
23 for this hunt to have proceeded and it did not. There  
24 was some advice given from within the State to the  
25 Secretary and he chose not to -- he chose to follow  
26 that advice and chose not to allow the issuance of that  
27 community harvest permit. It's very disheartening.  
28 This has been going on since November of 2016 when we  
29 signed the MOA with the Secretary's office with Deputy  
30 Secretary Conner and so we issue -- you know so we  
31 started coming to you folks in 2017 with the charter,  
32 with the framework, the request for the community  
33 harvest permit and here it is four years later and  
34 we're still not moving anywhere with that.

35  
36 I'd just like to say that we appreciate  
37 your support and your advice throughout this whole  
38 process and, you know, we look forward to working with  
39 you, our RAC and our representatives on future  
40 projects. So I'm not doom and gloom but we do  
41 appreciate your diligence and the ability to  
42 participate in these meetings and give you a little  
43 insight as to what's happening in our communities.

44  
45 With that, Mr. Chair, that's all I have  
46 to report.

47  
48 Oh, and like Mr. Williams, we had a lot  
49 of lamprey this year as well. Faye Ewan told me, she

50

1 said I bet I had close to 100 within that week, so it's  
2 a very unusual year this year.

3  
4 Anyway I just wanted to say thank you  
5 again.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Karen.  
8 Yeah, that's a lot of good report. Also it's kind of  
9 saddening to see what's going on with these fish, you  
10 know, and the hunt too. I mean I don't know if you got  
11 predator problems on the hunt side, I know there are  
12 fish problems. Okay, press on and anything we can do  
13 to help just holler and bring your proposals and we'll  
14 keep moving forward and see if we could help. I'm not  
15 sure what's going on.....

16  
17 MS. LINNELL: So yesterday.....

18  
19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....but we're  
20 here to help, so thank you.

21  
22 MS. LINNELL: So yesterday -- funny,  
23 you should talk about predators, day before yesterday I  
24 had a bear in my yard, Faye Ewan had a bear in her yard  
25 and then three, four, five other tribal members  
26 throughout the whole Valley, up in Chistochina and  
27 Tazlina and in Copper Center had bears in their yard.  
28 They're hungry too.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, they're  
31 competing for the same source we do too so it makes it  
32 tough. I know years ago they changed some of the bear  
33 hunting regs down here and they helped the moose  
34 population a lot when they took some of the bears out.  
35 But anyway that's just -- sometimes those predators get  
36 a little over, you know, out of control.

37  
38 MS. LINNELL: Well, again, thank you so  
39 much for allowing me to go before you and before Eyak,  
40 I appreciate it.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Uh-huh.

43  
44 MS. LINNELL: And I will talk to you  
45 soon>

46  
47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

48  
49 MS. LINNELL: Take care.

50



1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Karen.  
2 Any questions for her before she runs off?  
3

4 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Yeah, this is Aaron, I  
5 have one I could probably ask her in private. But I  
6 know I collected a bunch of bear hair samples for those  
7 guys this year and are they getting numbers yet on the  
8 stuff in Copper Center or Glennallen or was that  
9 actually Ahtna and not you guys doing that?

10  
11 MS. LINNELL: No, no, we just are  
12 sending the samples out. We're working with ADF&G and  
13 actually are going to be sending -- we got a CITES  
14 permit so that we could get those samples into Canada  
15 for quicker processing. The ones from Mentasta we just  
16 got back and I heard a number tossed out with the help  
17 of Sue Entsminger but we had over 200 samples taken and  
18 so it'll be interesting to see how that turns out.  
19 Because the locations were Chistochina, Klutina,  
20 Tonsina and Chitina and so we're hoping to see the  
21 numbers there. And then that does not include the ones  
22 down at lower Tonsina -- or upper Tonsina, Lake Louise  
23 area and Sourdough, that was done by the Department.

24  
25 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Okay, yeah, great. I  
26 knew you guys were talking about that CITES permit  
27 thing, I'm glad you were able to get that.

28  
29 Thank you. And I'm sorry for the baby  
30 whining in the background.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Alrighty, anyone  
33 else, if not we're going to go ahead and move on.

34  
35 (No comments)

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Matt, do you want  
38 to come up now and tune in.

39  
40 MS. HETRICK: Hi, Mr. Chair.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yep.

43  
44 MS. HETRICK: Hi, this is Willow  
45 Hetrick again and I had messaged DeAnna about  
46 potentially presenting just real quick to the Council  
47 under the Native organizations column but I'm happy to  
48 wait until the end of agency reports.

49  
50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, Willow, I  
2 got your notes and I actually penciled you in but  
3 Matt's next okay.  
4

5 MS. HETRICK: Thank you.  
6

7 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead Matt.  
8

9 MR. PICHE: Okay. Hello, can you hear  
10 me okay?  
11

12 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Hear you loud and  
13 clear.  
14

15 MR. PICHE: Excellent. Good afternoon,  
16 this is Matt Piche. I am the Partners for Fisheries  
17 Monitoring Program biologist and natural resources  
18 coordinator for the Native Village of Eyak, Department  
19 of the Environment and Natural Resources in Cordova.  
20

21 I'm here to give a brief report on the  
22 Copper River chinook salmon monitoring program results  
23 for the 2020 field season. The Baird Canyon chinook  
24 salmon tagging site located on the lower Copper River  
25 just above Miles Lake operated its research fishwheels  
26 from May 10th through July 13th. The Canyon Creek  
27 recapture site located immediately below Wood Canyon  
28 near Chitina sampled for chinook salmon from May 19th  
29 through July 23rd. The total chinook marked in Baird  
30 Canyon was 2,337, the total chinook examined for marks  
31 at Canyon Creek was 1,182, and the total marked chinook  
32 recapture was 116.  
33

34 Our 2020 mark/recapture results using a  
35 (indiscernible) are as follows: Between May 10th and  
36 July 13th an estimated 26,293 chinook salmon with a  
37 standard error of 2,863 migrated through Baird Canyon  
38 measuring greater than 500 millimeters total length.  
39 Again, I will repeat the 2020 in-river abundance for  
40 Copper River chinook salmon is 26,293 fish. This is  
41 not an estimate of spawning escapement. Spawning  
42 escapement would be estimated once in-river harvest  
43 when the subsistence, personal use and sportfisheries  
44 are calculated. In-river harvest will be subtracted  
45 from the in-river abundance estimate to determine if  
46 the sustainable escapement goal of 24,000 or more  
47 chinook salmon has been met in 2020.  
48

49 Just some comparisons to put the 2020  
50

1 Copper River chinook salmon abundance estimate into  
2 perspective, the 2020 abundance estimate was 40 percent  
3 lower than the 2019 abundance, 28 percent lower than  
4 the long-term project average from 2003 to 2020, and 21  
5 percent lower than the recent 10-year average  
6 abundance. The 2020 commercial catch was 67 percent  
7 lower than the 2019 catch. The 2020 Gulkana River  
8 counting tower chinook salmon passage was 77 percent  
9 lower than the 2019 count, and 41 percent lower than  
10 the long-term project average for the counting tower  
11 from 2002 to 2020.

12  
13 And lastly in 2019 and 2020 the Native  
14 Village of Eyak and ADF&G Division of Sportfish  
15 radiotagged a sub sample of the chinook salmon and  
16 tracked tagged fish through the entire watershed to  
17 their spawning tributaries and spawning grounds. This  
18 study will provide spawning distribution and run timing  
19 throughout the watershed. The 2019 results were  
20 similar to the 2003 and 2005 study conducted by ADF&G.  
21 The 2020 results are only preliminary so I won't share  
22 the numbers until the winter meeting but it does appear  
23 some shift in distribution may have occurred which does  
24 actually align with some observations mentioned earlier  
25 in the meeting by Council Member Bloomquist. In  
26 particular, preliminary data is showing changes in the  
27 Klutina system compared to other study years. This is  
28 only preliminary data and it needs to be analyzed  
29 further and could change based on the waiting of the  
30 strata. We will have the distribution and run timing  
31 data finalized by the winter meeting and I look forward  
32 to sharing the details of that with you then.

33  
34 Thank you, Chair, and Council members  
35 for the opportunity to speak. This concludes my  
36 presentation.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, Matt. I'm  
39 sure we've got a few questions for you here. I'll open  
40 it up to the Council, you have questions for Matt.

41  
42 MS. STICKWAN: It's Gloria. Can I get  
43 a copy of what you said?

44  
45 MR. PICHE: I'm sorry, Gloria, can you  
46 repeat that question please.

47  
48 MS. STICKWAN: Can I get a copy of your  
49 report?

50

1 MR. PICHE: Yes.

2

3 MS. STICKWAN: A summary of what you  
4 just said, not an actual real lengthy report, just a  
5 summary of what you said.

6

7 MR. PICHE: Absolutely, I can do that  
8 for you Gloria.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: yeah, I'm sure  
11 we'd all appreciate that that's good, Matt.

12

13 MS. STICKWAN: I was curious about what  
14 he meant when he said that he heard things during this  
15 meeting that appears to be -- that his research will  
16 probably be the same as what was said during the  
17 meeting, so I was wondering what he meant by that.

18

19 MR. PICHE: So I want to speak for  
20 Council Member Bloomquist, but I believe in his  
21 introduction he was saying that it seems like there was  
22 a decent return of chinook salmon in the Klutina and I  
23 believe he -- he spends quite a bit of time there, so  
24 that just kind of correlates with some of the data that  
25 we've seen even though it's a low year for in-river  
26 abundance we actually saw a larger proportion of fish  
27 migrate up that river, however it's just preliminary  
28 data we need to weigh our (indiscernible) strata so  
29 it's not finalized yet so that's why I have no numbers  
30 for you of the proportion of the chinook actually going  
31 up the Klutina at this time.

32

33 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Yeah, this is Aaron.  
34 And I think you have me pretty much pegged there, the  
35 Klutina and the Tonsina both seem like they have, at  
36 least normal numbers if not slightly better than the  
37 normal that we've had over the last 10 years.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, that's a  
40 good report if you compare it to all the other  
41 percentages down so low on everything.

42

43 Any other questions for Matt.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you,  
48 Matt. Willow, at this time I'll let you go ahead and  
49 talk, I got you down as a Native organization.

50

1 MS. HETRICK: Yes, hi, good afternoon,  
2 Mr. Chair, Members of the Council. My name is Willow  
3 Hetrick for the record and I spoke earlier today on a  
4 personal issue, about the Moose Pass proposal. I'm  
5 here in a professional context. I'm the Executive  
6 Director of the Chugach Regional Resources Commission.  
7 We are the InterTribal Consortium in the Chugach region  
8 serving seven tribes, Port Graham, Nanwalek, Chenega,  
9 Tatitlek, Eyak and Valdez. Our focus is on preserving  
10 natural resources in the region for tribal members,  
11 which as you can imagine allows us to do many different  
12 things and subsistence resource management is one of  
13 those.

14  
15 Of the tribes that we serve, Port  
16 Graham, Nanwalek, Chenega, Tatitlek, and Eyak are part  
17 of the Southcentral Regional Advisory Council  
18 Committee. I just wanted to inform the Council and  
19 anyone else who's listening today that on June 16th the  
20 Bureau of Indian Affairs provided a request for  
21 proposal titled the Alaska InterTribal Subsistence  
22 Cooperative Management Program and we are thrilled to  
23 announce that we are one of the recipients of that  
24 Bureau of Indian Affairs funding. What we are doing  
25 with these grant funds is developing an InterTribal  
26 Federal subsistence cooperative management alliance in  
27 Southcentral Alaska and this alliance will assist our  
28 tribes with navigating the complex Federal Subsistence  
29 Board regulatory process through trainings and  
30 technical assistance. Some of the specific grant  
31 objectives that we have are to hire an InterTribal  
32 liaison to carry out program and grant objectives,  
33 which has already been completed. We're really  
34 excited, we have a tribal member from the Valdez Native  
35 tribe, she is working for us full-time as of October  
36 1st.

37  
38 The second grant objective is to  
39 develop a formal InterTribal Federal Subsistence  
40 Cooperative Alliance, which was completed at our board  
41 meeting last Friday and our board is volunteering to be  
42 the alliance for us, which is really great.

43  
44 The third objective, develop at least  
45 two cooperative management agreements, memorandas of  
46 action or other types of agreements with government  
47 entities in Southcentral Alaska, and we're looking  
48 forward to getting these under way ASAP as we only have  
49 one year to complete these tasks.

50

1                   Some other things that we'll be doing  
2 we'll be attending Federal Subsistence Board and also  
3 Southcentral RAC meetings and we're going to be holding  
4 monthly alliance teleconference check-ins with our  
5 board members. We're also really excited to be working  
6 with the UAF tribal management program to plan an  
7 online course titled an introduction to the Federal  
8 Subsistence Board to provide training to our alliance  
9 and any other tribal members that are interested to  
10 learn about how to navigate this process.

11  
12                   And lastly we'll be updating our  
13 website to reflect all of the above work. So we'll be  
14 looking forward to hearing from all of you more often,  
15 starting to build a better relationship with this  
16 Council and the Federal Subsistence Board. You can  
17 contact myself, my email is my first name, Willow at C,  
18 as in Charlie, RRC, Alaska, all spelled out dot org,  
19 and also our InterTribal liaison that just started last  
20 week, her name's Hope Roberts, and her email is  
21 Hope@CRRCalaska.org.

22  
23                   So I didn't want to take up any more of  
24 your time, I just wanted the Council to know that we  
25 received that funding and we're really looking forward  
26 to working with you all.

27  
28                   Thank you.

29  
30                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you,  
31 Willow. Thanks for keeping us informed of what's going  
32 on, you got a lot of stuff going there.

33  
34                   All right.

35  
36                   Next we got special action report here,  
37 I guess Lisa.

38  
39                   MS. STICKWAN: I have a question.

40  
41                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Gloria, go ahead.

42  
43                   MS. STICKWAN: I was wondering if we  
44 could get the email address from the coordinator.

45  
46                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, DeAnna,  
47 would you send us that email address.

48  
49                   MS. PERRY: For the two ladies who just

50

1 gave their email addresses?

2

3

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes.

4

5

MS. PERRY: Can do.

6

7

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you.

8

9

MS. MAAS: Okay. Hi, Mr. Chair and  
10 Council. This is Lisa Maas, the acting policy  
11 coordinator and wildlife biologist with OSM. And I  
12 don't really have a report on the special action  
13 requests, they're all summarized on Page 239 of your  
14 meeting materials. I'm mostly just available if you  
15 guys have any questions about any of these special  
16 actions since there were quite a few this past year  
17 that affected the Southcentral region. So, again, the  
18 summary of all these requests-- that includes the  
19 request and then the Board action justification is on  
20 Page 239 of your meeting materials and I'm just  
21 available if you have any questions about these. If  
22 not, feel free to move on.

23

24

25

26

27

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Yeah,  
they're definitely here in writing what was approved,  
what their action was, they came out in our packet and  
so I'm sure the Council's got to see them.

28

29

30

Is there any questions at this time  
that you would like to address to Lisa.

31

32

(No comments)

33

34

35

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Anyone on the  
Council.

36

37

(No comments)

38

39

40

41

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, well, thank  
you for that update and we'll take another look at  
those but appreciate it.

42

43

MS. MAAS: All right, thank you.

44

45

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you.

46

47

48

49

Todd Eskelin, you're up next and Todd  
got a moose, I know that. I don't know if it was legal  
or not but I know he got a moose.

50

1 MR. ESKELIN: Yeah, thank you, Mr.  
2 Chair and members of the RAC. For the record my name  
3 is Todd Eskelin, wildlife biologist at Kenai National  
4 Wildlife Refuge.

5  
6 As it was for everybody this year,  
7 Covid, very big and new challenges for us and  
8 specifically at the Refuges, we were, I guess,  
9 basically teleworking from early March or mid-March on.  
10 So our first real success story was that we were able  
11 to find a way to issue subsistence permits remotely and  
12 get them signed and returned and seemed to have very  
13 few complaints about the process while still, you know,  
14 satisfying the legal mandates that were put in front of  
15 us for getting signatures and protecting people's  
16 personal information and such. So just a big thanks to  
17 OSM for working diligently with us to find a system  
18 that works for everybody and we were still able to  
19 serve the subsistence user. Hopefully you haven't  
20 heard any complaints about that process.

21  
22 You know the summer was also -- we were  
23 very delayed in the publication to the Federal Register  
24 but not very delayed, our implementation of the new  
25 drawing hunts that the Subsistence Board had approved  
26 really put us behind the Eight Ball so I was pretty  
27 proud that we managed to pull off the drawing for five  
28 new drawing hunts in GMU15 this year including one  
29 drawing hunt for sheep, two for goats and two for  
30 caribou. It required a lot of coordination with ADF&G  
31 and the Forest Service. Have to, you know, give big  
32 thanks to both the people from those agencies, for  
33 working hard to find opportunities in a new system that  
34 was really already in place and, you know, fit us in  
35 there.

36  
37 So sticking with permit side of things,  
38 with our remote system now we have issued 80 FM1505  
39 subsistence moose hunting permits so far this year.  
40 Likely we'll continue to go up a little bit as people  
41 who didn't harvest a moose during the State or early  
42 hunt season are starting to call me -- and maybe folks  
43 hadn't put in for a permit before but now they're  
44 looking for their last shot opportunity there so we're  
45 getting a few more requests now. But 80 permits is  
46 only slightly down from our average of about 90 that we  
47 issued over the past three years so I kind of think  
48 we'll be right on average with the number of permits  
49 issued.

50



1                   Moving on to harvest. The drawing  
2   hunts were I guess relatively successful. We had one  
3   sheep and one mountain goat harvested out of the new  
4   permitted hunts that we issued. And on the moose  
5   hunting, I have a big star by it because we really had  
6   unbelievably low moose harvest numbers this year  
7   relative to the last 10 years. And so as of today, or  
8   the completion of the early season we had one cow and  
9   one legal bull reported. And then we also had two  
10   sublegal bulls turned in. And I don't really have  
11   direct information that I could provide you with why  
12   those numbers were so low. I believe that 15C moose  
13   numbers continue to be really high and people are  
14   finding moose on State and Native land before they have  
15   to go all the way back to the Refuge boundary and I  
16   just think that's resulting in a lot more people  
17   harvesting moose under their State harvest ticket than  
18   under the subsistence one. But we will see, we have  
19   the late hunt coming up October 20th to November 10th  
20   and, you know, there's still 75 active permits out  
21   there. So we'll see how that late hunt compares --  
22   those late hunt numbers compare but it just seems like  
23   there's not a lot of ton of interest right now in the  
24   late hunt but we'll see what happens with that.

25  
26                   I think that's all I have for right  
27   now. Obviously with the late hunt and we get all the  
28   harvest reports in and all the little -- a little more  
29   clear place I'll be able to present the numbers better  
30   to you at the winter meeting.

31  
32                   But I'm available for any questions  
33   anybody has.

34  
35                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Very good,  
36   Todd. Any questions for Todd.

37  
38                   MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, this  
39   is Ed Holsten.

40  
41                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead,  
42   Ed.

43  
44                   MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, Todd, just a quick  
45   question. The goat that was taken, what unit was that  
46   taken in and was it a billy or a ewe.

47  
48                   Thank you.

49  
50

1 MR. ESKELIN: The two units that we  
2 were able to carve out a spot on were 356 and 360, I  
3 believe, so 356 would be the Indian Creek Unit north  
4 side of Tustomena Glacier; 360 is over on the other  
5 side of Kachemak. And it was the Indian Creek drainage  
6 and it was a billy, and it was a very young billy. So,  
7 you know, all things being said it was, you know,  
8 probably in a system where the State had already issued  
9 those other drawing permits, it probably was the  
10 perfect animal because the survival rate of young  
11 billies is, you know, probably the lowest of the  
12 different age classes and so, you know, it was just the  
13 best animal that could have been harvested to not  
14 stress the system anymore.

15  
16 So I hope that answers your question.

17  
18 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, that's good to  
19 hear. I'm just glad a nanny wasn't taken. Okay, thank  
20 you, Todd.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, good. Any  
23 other questions for Todd.

24  
25 (No comments)

26  
27 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Hearing none,  
28 let's move on. We got a report by a whole bunch of you  
29 guys, next Milo, Jordan, Forest Service.

30  
31 MR. BURCHAM: Okay. I was going to  
32 start off and see if Dana or Jordan wanted to go first.

33  
34 MR. RHYMER: I can go, this is Jordan  
35 Rhymer with the Forest Service.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, Jordan, go  
38 ahead.

39  
40 MR. RHYMER: All right. I just  
41 prepared a Federal subsistence report kind of what law  
42 enforcement did, you know, U.S. Forest Service law  
43 enforcement did for the 2020 season.

44  
45 Some of my numbers combine both the  
46 Chugach and Tongass so I will let you know on those  
47 ones.

48  
49 So this year FY2020, patrolled the  
50

1 local fisheries, Game Management Areas on both the  
2 Chugach and Tongass National Forest in support of the  
3 Federal Subsistence Program. We totaled a combined  
4 3,644 hours working in the domain of wildlife which we  
5 report biweekly on a spreadsheet, how many hours we  
6 logged doing different specifics of our jobs.

7  
8 We estimated on the Chugach that we  
9 contacted approximately 350 to 400 folks out fishing,  
10 hunting, doing subsistence, gathering, all sorts of  
11 stuff on the Forest -- on the Chugach National Forest.  
12 We had two major Federal subsistence focused details.  
13 Many of you probably remember the Russian River detail  
14 that we did last year, we did that again this year. We  
15 did it a little bit different. We didn't get the  
16 funding to have two separate details for both runs of  
17 sockeye on the Russian, but we did have a detailer, he  
18 was from the Tongass National Forest, specifically  
19 Sitka, and came up and worked with us focusing two  
20 weeks on the Russian River. And he wrote a -- quite a  
21 few tickets, not specifically to subsistence users, but  
22 did write quite a few for various violations, folks  
23 fishing without license, taking over limit of fish,  
24 leaving trash and debris behind, being away from  
25 coolers and such.

26  
27 Let me look here.

28  
29 During that detail we had two --  
30 encountered two significant subsistence violations for  
31 which violation notices were issued, one nonrural  
32 sportfisherman, so a guy from Anchorage fishing in the  
33 subsistence area was caught down there and cited, and  
34 then one subsistence fisherman fishing without his  
35 permit at the Russian, and he had, you know, some 20-  
36 odd fish on the bank when we contacted him and  
37 unfortunately didn't have his permit and didn't have it  
38 filled out and so he was issued a violation notice of  
39 that.

40  
41 And then we did a second detail over to  
42 Cordova, did 10 days in Cordova starting on September  
43 1st, made a lot of compliance checks, checked out a lot  
44 of moose, helped with retrieval of some moose, we  
45 actually had a moose killed at Alaganik, off the road  
46 system there, and the subsistence user wasn't able to  
47 locate it so we actually went in and helped him locate  
48 it and haul it out of there.

1 We also had some interesting migratory  
2 bird act violations this year that the Forest Service  
3 assisted U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with  
4 investigating. Two separate instances, folks were  
5 gathering seagull eggs down in the area of the Primrose  
6 area right there at Snow River, down there there's a  
7 big seagull egg area and it's not an area where  
8 anybody's allowed to harvest those eggs. So those eggs  
9 were seized and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issued  
10 violation notices for those.

11  
12 We also conducted six vessel operations  
13 between the patrol vessel (indiscernible) focusing on  
14 Federal subsistence black bear, goat and deer hunting  
15 in Prince William Sound.

16  
17 So that's about it for me, if anybody  
18 has any questions.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, Jordan, that  
21 was good. Any questions for Jordan.

22  
23 MR. WHISSEL: Yeah, this is.....

24  
25 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Who's next you  
26 or.....

27  
28 MR. BURCHAM: Milo Burcham, program  
29 lead for the Subsistence Program on the Chugach  
30 National Forest. I'll finish up here with some general  
31 happenings on the Forest.

32  
33 First of all I want to thank Dana  
34 Coach, she's been acting in Tom Whitford's position for  
35 the past four months I think and she's nearing the end  
36 of her detail there. So, anyway, yeah, she's done a  
37 great job carrying the program and learning a lot about  
38 the program in the process which will help us moving  
39 forward, having a better understanding of what this  
40 program does.

41  
42 And I have a lot to echo of what Todd  
43 Eskelin said, yeah, we were in a different environment  
44 this year having to issue permits in a Covid  
45 environment without as much personal contact. We did a  
46 pretty good job of it, but not perfect, there were some  
47 hiccups, but anyway we're still sorting through that  
48 and hopefully we'll get past it.

49  
50

1 And also we worked at implementing some  
2 new hunts on the Kenai, namely the goat hunt and  
3 working with Todd and Jason Harriman with Fish and  
4 Game, worked out great, and so anyway we got into some  
5 new ground there.

6  
7 I'll start here on this side of the  
8 Chugach around Cordova on the Copper River Delta with  
9 moose. We reduced the number of permits issued this  
10 year in response to reports of people having a hard  
11 time finding bulls at the end of last season so we  
12 issued, on the Federal side, 30 bull permits and  
13 increased cows just a little bit, to 40. We had 808, I  
14 think was the number, anyway, just over 800  
15 applications -- 846 applications, which is down a  
16 little bit over recent years for some reason but anyway  
17 we issued those permits. The hunt is going now. Don't  
18 really have a say as to where harvest is until we get  
19 to the end but, anyway, that's ongoing. We worked with  
20 Fish and Game to contract some survey work, twinning  
21 surveys were conducted on the population that we hunt  
22 here last spring and we came up with a bull/cow -- or  
23 I'm sorry, a twinning rate of 38 percent, which even as  
24 high it's been, that indicates pretty decent nutrition  
25 and habitat on the Copper River Delta. We're working  
26 with the Fish and Game office to get survey data this  
27 fall that'll help fill in some of the blanks over these  
28 reports we've had over low bull numbers so hopefully  
29 when we come to picking numbers of permits for next  
30 season we'll have some good information to go off of.

31  
32 Deer. We are doing well in the deer  
33 department but we weren't able to collect as much  
34 information with our deer surveys as we normally do  
35 because of Covid. We restricted the number of deer  
36 transects, basically just those that we could get in  
37 day trips from an open boat out of Cordova and although  
38 we saw some carcasses in the process of doing some deer  
39 transects the deer pellet densities did not indicate a  
40 decline, you know, because we had the first, I'll call  
41 it a normal winter after a series of very very mild  
42 ones, but anyway there's no indication that there's any  
43 big reduction in the population as a result of our  
44 normal winter which seemed like a big one all of a  
45 sudden.

46  
47 With black bears, just in short, they  
48 were happy this year as in contrast to 2018 when there  
49 was a berry crop failure it appears, and we had some  
50

1 mortalities of bears in dens and that sort of thing.  
2 We had a great berry crop this year. And we've had  
3 very few bears in town and that's in contrast to  
4 reports I hear from Southeast Alaska, Juneau and Haines  
5 area where it seems just a few hundred miles away there  
6 was a berry crop failure and Haines has had ridiculous  
7 troubles with DLP brown bears in people's yards and  
8 such, similar to what we had with black bears in  
9 Cordova here two years ago. Our project is ongoing.  
10 We're nearing the end of collecting data. Our collars  
11 will last one more season. We just had a batch of  
12 collars drop off on Knight Island and we'll be making  
13 some planes for some late field work to pick up some  
14 collars and maintain weather stations on Esther Island.  
15 So I'll be working with my Fish and Game partner,  
16 Charolette Westing on getting out to do a little bit  
17 more field work. And we're starting into analysis on  
18 the bear data working with a Fish and Game biometrician  
19 and anyway so that project is ongoing but we're nearing  
20 the end of actual collecting data from bears.

21  
22 Salmon. I'll skip past most of that.  
23 We don't have in-season reporting. But salmon fishing  
24 on the Delta with our subsistence permit is ongoing. I  
25 can report for last year's data, we had 120 permits  
26 issued, which is a large number and 671 coho and 116  
27 sockeye were harvested under the subsistence permit on  
28 the Delta last year.

29  
30 Moving to the Kenai. Moose and  
31 caribou. There was, you know, changes in the way  
32 permits were issued because of Covid concerns, we  
33 didn't have the normal townhall style meetings to issue  
34 both dipnetting permits for the Russian River and  
35 permits for the moose and caribou so Dave Pearson had  
36 to react and, you know, be innovative in issuing  
37 permits as I mentioned earlier. So far I have not  
38 heard of any moose or caribou harvested under the  
39 Federal season in Unit 7 there.

40  
41 I touched on the new mountain goat  
42 hunt, about holding a drawing for mountain goat permits  
43 and working with the Fish and Game biologist, Jason  
44 Harriman to get that going, and with Todd Eskelin on  
45 how to implement it and our first draw for that hunt,  
46 so far have not heard of a mountain goat harvested of  
47 the two permits that we issued.

48  
49 And salmon, I won't say anything more,  
50

1 this is usually reported by the Fish and Wildlife  
2 Service, the Russian River salmon harvest on the Kenai.

3  
4 And then the main personnel update I'd  
5 like to report on is that we've lost Dave Pearson to  
6 the program. He took a promotion to a fisheries job on  
7 the Kenai and so he's no longer working for the  
8 subsistence program which leaves a hole on the Kenai  
9 that I hope to be able to fill in the near future.

10  
11 Any questions please feel free to ask  
12 now or shoot me an email or give me a phone call. My  
13 contact information is in the agency report that you  
14 have.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Alrighty, thank  
17 you, Milo. Any questions for Milo.

18  
19 (No comments)

20  
21 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Is Dana going to  
22 give a report too?

23  
24 MR. BURCHAM: No. Yeah, she just left  
25 that to Jordan and I.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Oh, okay, okay.  
28 Well, if there's no question then we'll move on.

29  
30 Thank you.

31  
32 (No comments)

33  
34 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Alrighty. Park  
35 Service, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve,  
36 Judy and Dave, you guys are up next.

37  
38 MS. CELLARIUS: Mr. Chair, this is  
39 Barbara and I just had a couple of things at the end of  
40 the report.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. I'll add  
43 you on there.

44  
45 (Teleconference interference -  
46 participants phones not muted)

47  
48 MS. CELLARIUS: I'm assuming that Judy  
49 and Dave are going to go before me so hopefully.....

50

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1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, yeah, I was  
2 waiting for them but, you know, is Judy here.

3  
4 MS. PUTERA: Yeah, I'm here. I didn't  
5 know if Dave wanted to go first or not but I can go,  
6 yeah.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Either or, it's  
9 up to you.

10  
11 (Teleconference interference -  
12 participants phones not muted)

13  
14 MS. PUTERA: Can you hear me?

15  
16 MS. CELLARIUS: I can hear you Judy.

17  
18 (Teleconference interference -  
19 participants phones not muted)

20  
21 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I can't hear you.

22  
23 MS. PUTERA: Can you hear me now?

24  
25 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: A wee bit.

26  
27 MS. PUTERA: Shoot. Hello, is that  
28 better.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, that's much  
31 better.

32  
33 MS. PUTERA: Okay, thanks. I'm  
34 teleworking from home.

35  
36 So I'll first talk about the Chisana  
37 Caribou Herd. Fish and Game reports GPS radio on two  
38 VHF collars this past spring. For various reasons we  
39 didn't get all the collars out in the spring and so  
40 we're planning to deploy the remaining (indiscernible -  
41 cuts out) collars, at least on the Alaska side of the  
42 range, actually beginning next week.

43  
44 Yukon will be -- the Yukon Department  
45 of Environment will wait until the spring of '21 to  
46 deploy their share of the collars on their side of the  
47 border. As a consequence we won't be doing a comp  
48 count this fall on the Chisana Caribou Herd, we're  
49 going to just focus all our energy on trying to get

50



1 those collars out with the, you know, the limited  
2 funding that we have.

3  
4 Okay, and moving on to the Mentasta  
5 Caribou Herd. The Park in cooperation with Fish and  
6 Game concluded the Mentasta Caribou (indiscernible -  
7 muffled) fall composition count in 2020.  
8 (Indiscernible - muffled) the methods that we've been  
9 using with our sightability model. So I did want to  
10 say, (indiscernible) Table 2 that we increased -- or  
11 the population increased quite a bit but I did want to  
12 point out that (indiscernible - muffled) June census in  
13 2020 compared to 249 for the 2019. This increase is  
14 (indiscernible - muffled) calf production to this year  
15 but maybe due, in part, to Nelchina caribou  
16 (indiscernible - muffled) returning from the winter  
17 range. Some of these weight returning caribou fail to  
18 migrate back to their traditional calving grounds,  
19 that's remaining (indiscernible - muffled). This  
20 theory is supported by the presence of radio-collared  
21 Nelchina caribou in the Mentasta caribou calving on the  
22 range in 2020. So -- and additionally, small groups of  
23 caribou could have moved in from other areas such as  
24 the controlled use area.

25  
26 So I just wanted to caution or just say  
27 that this might be just a one year phenomenon, and we  
28 would want to sort of wait and see what's going to  
29 happen next summer and see if those numbers kind of  
30 drop back to what we're used to seeing or if they stay  
31 the same or if, you know, if they're moving, or  
32 deciding to stay in different places, but it is very  
33 interesting.

34  
35 And also I'd like to point out that  
36 Fish and Game is, I think as we speak, putting out a  
37 number -- quite a number of GPS collars also on  
38 Nelchina caribou so that we'll get, you know, start to  
39 get a better picture of, you know, how animals are  
40 moving and where they're staying and how long they're  
41 staying and that kind of thing.

42  
43 Moving on to dall sheep. We finished  
44 or concluded the fourth and final year of our distance  
45 sampling sheep surveys in Unit -- in count areas three  
46 and four, and that's on the north side of the Park  
47 there. And -- oh, okay, sorry. We don't have the  
48 final data from this year -- or the final results from  
49 this year so -- but we will be getting a final report.

50

1 That will be available for the spring of '21 -- 2021 --  
2 sorry about that, not 21/21 -- 20/21.

3  
4 We also conducted minimum count dall  
5 sheep surveys in count areas 11, 12 in GMU 11 and those  
6 are also on the map. Count Areas 11 and 12 have not  
7 been surveyed since 2017, 2015 respectively. The total  
8 number of sheep on each of these (indiscernible -  
9 muffled, in and out) increase -- and represent the  
10 highest number of sheep seen since the late 1990s. The  
11 lamb/ewe ratios are considerably lower in 2020 than the  
12 previous (indiscernible - muffled in and out) however  
13 in Count Area 12. The number has nearly doubled from  
14 previous survey in 2015. And I did also want to say  
15 that though lambs and ewe ratios were also  
16 (indiscernible - muffled in and out) -- and actually  
17 much lower than we've had, I think, in -- like over in  
18 the Tok -- for the Tok Management Area, so sort of in  
19 the region.

20  
21 Oh, I think that's it.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Any  
24 questions for Judy.

25  
26 REPORTER: I'm sorry, this is the court  
27 reporter, and what was your name?

28  
29 MS. PUTERA: Judy Putera, P-U-T-E-R-A.

30  
31 REPORTER: Thank you.

32  
33 MS. PUTERA: Yeah, I should have just  
34 -- I didn't introduce myself very well. I'm a wildlife  
35 biologist at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and  
36 Preserve.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, well,  
39 thanks Judy. Is Dave going to talk now.

40  
41 MR. SARAFIN: Yes, I'm here, Mr. Chair.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, you go  
44 right ahead.

45  
46 MR. SARAFIN: Okay. Yeah, this is Dave  
47 Sarafin, fishery biologist at Wrangell-St. Elias  
48 National Park and Preserve. And this should be brief  
49 because I provided you pretty much the season summary

50

1 yesterday, I could touch on it real briefly.

2  
3 But first of all, fishery research and  
4 monitoring projects that we have for the Southcentral  
5 is the Tanana Creek salmon weir is funded, however,  
6 this year due to Covid risk mitigations and delays and  
7 attempt to hire, we had a difficult time finding local  
8 rural residents that could run the weir. And in  
9 addition to that we had high waters throughout --  
10 pretty much every week of the summer on the creek and  
11 so we really didn't have the opportunity even if we had  
12 a crew to get the weir in to be fished. But we are,  
13 again, hoping to pursue that for next year and a normal  
14 year, hopefully we can get it going again.

15  
16 As I said the fishery summary, I  
17 provided yesterday. I can provide more details if  
18 anyone wanted.

19  
20 The other part of my fish report, it  
21 does show, you know, from Fish and Game, from their on  
22 line site, what the Miles Lake sonar reported this year  
23 and I also have some updates from last spring, slight  
24 updates in the numbers from the 2019 season for the  
25 harvest of each subdistrict in the Federal fisheries.  
26 For 2020 we still do not have enough returns in to  
27 start expanding an estimate on that. So we're probably  
28 at about 35 percent of returns right now and, you know,  
29 typically we are -- we get 50 percent harvest reports  
30 returned by the deadline of October 31st so as they  
31 trickle in throughout the winter we'll get a better  
32 idea on what the harvest did.

33  
34 I've also, last week, put together a  
35 preliminary data table that has a breakdown of harvest  
36 by gear type from 2010 to '19 that kind of -- just  
37 pulled it together and still need to review some of the  
38 numbers.

39  
40 But that concludes my report. If  
41 there's any question I'm open.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, Dave. Yeah,  
44 I'm looking at your stuff here and you got a good  
45 report. Is there any questions for Dave on his report  
46 from the Council.

47  
48 (No comments)

49  
50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, I guess you  
2 got off easy Dave.

3  
4 MR. SARAFIN: Okay, thank you.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Barbara,  
7 you want to go now.

8  
9 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
10 And just for the record it's Barbara Cellarius again,  
11 subsistence coordinator for Wrangell-St. Elias National  
12 Park and Preserve. You have my written report in your  
13 packet. It has the number of permits that we issued  
14 for Federal subsistence hunting this year and then some  
15 of the projects we had going on, Karen mentioned a  
16 couple of those.

17  
18 I'm happy to answer any questions about  
19 the written report or my email's on the handout if you  
20 want to send me an email.

21  
22 I just wanted to mention the Wrangell-  
23 St. Elias also adopted its permitting -- with offices  
24 closed during the fish permitting season and only  
25 having window services during the hunting permitting  
26 and we're hopeful that everybody got the permits that  
27 they needed. Yeah, the same as other folks, there were  
28 a few hiccups but I think it went relatively well.

29  
30 The Park Superintendent received a  
31 short-term delegation of authority letter to implement  
32 a regulatory change for a portion of Unit 12 -- for  
33 moose in a portion of Unit 12. There was a regulation  
34 change that was approved by the Federal Board in April  
35 but it didn't go into effect due to the delay in  
36 publication of the Federal Register Notice and so we  
37 did issue the special action to allow that change to go  
38 into effect and as part of that I talked to both the  
39 Southcentral RAC Chair and the Eastern Interior RAC  
40 Chair. I also talked to Greg about setting the quota  
41 for the winter moose hunt in a portion of Unit 11 and  
42 that announcement with the quota of seven bull moose  
43 for that winter hunt is going to go out today.

44  
45 And I'll stop there and see if there  
46 are any questions.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, Barbara,  
49 very good. Any questions for Barbara on her report.

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: All right, well,  
4 thank you much. You guys did good.

5

6 I got next on here, I got BLM, but  
7 before I start with the BLM, could we just take a five  
8 minute stretch, get a cup of coffee, stretch, break,  
9 whatever, and then we'll get back. We don't have that  
10 much more but it's going to take a little while. We've  
11 got some -- a few other items to take care of here.

12

13 So let's take five and we'll be back.

14

15 (Off record)

16

17 (On record)

18

19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Alrighty, how is  
20 everyone doing, just hanging in here, getting the  
21 afternoon blues.

22

23 Actually ready to go.

24

25 DeAnna, who do you have with the BLM  
26 doing the next presentation.

27

28 MS. PERRY: Valerie Lenhartzen to  
29 provide the report.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

32

33 MS. PERRY: And I know she was on  
34 earlier, Valerie are you still on?

35

36 MS. LENHARTZEN: I am, can you hear me?

37

38 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, I hear you  
39 fine Valerie, you go right ahead and we'll listen up.

40

41 MS. LENHARTZEN: All right, thank you,  
42 Mr. Chairman and Council. I'll just get going here.

43

44 So our general update is we continue to  
45 work collaboratively with the Alaska Department of Fish  
46 and Game to manage the subsistence resource populations  
47 among BLM and State lands within GMU 13.

48

49 Currently, unfortunately we don't have

50

1 a permanent wildlife biologist, that sort of fell  
2 through here just recently on the new hire. And  
3 detailers will be working remotely with a wildlife  
4 biologist with us until a wildlife biologist can be  
5 found and brought on site.

6  
7 So I just wanted to give a little bit  
8 of an update for the 2019/2020 season for caribou  
9 harvested. Let's see 106 caribou harvested and 73  
10 moose harvested and that was for last regulatory year.  
11 And then I've got some data here for the moose, there's  
12 41 as of 9/30, which was last week on Wednesday when I  
13 field reports. We had 46.1 hunt reports returned so we  
14 may not have all the information on that but there was  
15 1,288 permits issued for moose, 60 bulls were harvested  
16 and of those permits 336 permits were for hunting and  
17 that came up with a 17.8 (ph) success rate, which isn't  
18 really (indiscernible).

19  
20 And then of course we're mid-season or  
21 mid-year for our caribou hunt so we had as of 9/30  
22 issued 2720 permits and as of that date 50 caribou were  
23 harvested.

24  
25 So as you all know this year was  
26 different for issuing permits. Our office was closed  
27 in March to the public and it remains closed. And so  
28 we had to come up with a way to issue permits. We were  
29 issuing them over the phone to anyone who had been  
30 issued permits previously and they had an option of  
31 having their permits mailed to them or they could  
32 schedule an appointment to pick up their permit. We  
33 sent a contingent of BLM Staff to Delta Junction in  
34 July where hunters stayed in their car, and then  
35 documents were ferried back and forth by Staff in PPE.  
36 All new hunters were required to make an appointment so  
37 regulations could be explained, qualifying documents  
38 checked and permits signed. These precautions were  
39 taken and limited exposure, of course, for Staff and  
40 for the public. And although these procedures took  
41 much more time, approximately more 400 permits were  
42 issued this year than were issued last year. We got a  
43 lot of people permitted. I don't think that their  
44 success has been as great this year.

45  
46 So just wanted to cover briefly, I'm  
47 sure you're aware these things brought on July 16th,  
48 the Federal Subsistence Board approved Temporary  
49 Wildlife Special Action WSA20-03 with modification to  
50

1 close Federal public lands in Unit 13A and B to moose  
2 and caribou hunting by non-Federally-qualified users  
3 for the 20/21 and 21/22 season. We responded to  
4 numerous calls from State hunters wanting to know where  
5 they could hunt. Hunters were emailed the Office of  
6 Subsistence Management factsheet (indiscernible -  
7 muffled) and a copy of our more detailed Federal  
8 subsistence maps explaining to them the areas that were  
9 closed to non-Federally-qualified users. Basically if  
10 they saw the areas where Federally-qualified users  
11 could hunt then we told them they can't hunt in these  
12 areas because that's what it applies to.

13  
14 On September 11th, ADF&G issued an  
15 emergency order to extend the State season for caribou,  
16 all caribou State tags including both (indiscernible -  
17 muffled) to allow additional hunting opportunities for  
18 State hunters from September 21st through September  
19 30th, and this is the third year in recent five years  
20 that the State has extended the caribou hunt into the  
21 time period that we normally would just be for  
22 subsistence users. This creates a potential for public  
23 safety concerns and user conflicts that has also become  
24 -- as when the caribou come through the area.

25  
26 Again, we received many calls from  
27 citizens asking about extending the Federal caribou  
28 season and/or opening areas for the last season, they  
29 were directed to contact OSM for directions on how to  
30 submit a special action request.

31  
32 That is the end of my report.

33  
34 Thank you.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Alrighty, well,  
37 Valerie, I think someone might have a question for you.  
38 Anyone on the Council want to ask what the -- I won't  
39 tell you what to ask but ask questions of Valerie.

40  
41 Thank you.

42  
43 (No comments)

44  
45 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: No questions,  
46 okay, well.....

47  
48 MS. LENHARTZEN: I did -- if I might,  
49 Mr. Chairman, I did do a more -- did administer -- the  
50

1 data base and came up with some numbers that weren't  
2 included on your report as far as the five year  
3 average, would anybody be interested in that?

4  
5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead,  
6 why don't you give them to us.  
7

8 MS. LENHARTZEN: Okay. So using the  
9 years 2015 through 2019, since 2019 was final, the five  
10 year average for caribou permits issued was 3,031. The  
11 attempted permits, for the five year period was 1,401  
12 and percent attempted was 36 percent. The number of  
13 caribou harvested for that five year average was 384.  
14 And the percent success rate was 26 percent. So that's  
15 384 harvested for a five year average where in 2019  
16 only 106 were harvested. So that's kind of telling us  
17 the number of animals and why are average is so high  
18 because, you know, in 2016 and 2017 we had a lot of  
19 animals go through and a lot of animals harvested.  
20

21 Now I'll go to moose.  
22

23 So the five year average from 2015 to  
24 2019 for permits issued was 1,343. In 2019 we issued  
25 1,245 and in 2020 we issued 1,288. And the attempted  
26 permits was 631 and 2019 519 permits were attempted.  
27 In 2020 for moose 540 permits were attempted. I'm  
28 including these additional information for 2020 since  
29 the season is over, it may not be complete as we may  
30 not have gotten all the hunt reports back. So the  
31 percentage attempted, the average for five years was 47  
32 percent. For 2020 was 42 percent. As well as for 2019  
33 was 42 percent. The number of animals harvested  
34 average for a five year period was 82 moose and that  
35 number is 73 for 2019 and 63 for 2020, however, like I  
36 said not all the hunt reports have been entered or  
37 received yet. And then the five year average for  
38 success rate was 13 percent, in 2019 we had a 14  
39 percent success rate for permits attempted and in 2020,  
40 which again is not complete 12 percent success rate.  
41

42 So I don't know what all these numbers  
43 mean but I know we have numbers that are down this year  
44 and I'm not aware of where the animals are on the  
45 landscape or where they were when the season ended, the  
46 early season for caribou and when the season ended for  
47 moose, I think they're more scattered so.  
48

49 MS. STICKWAN: I have a question.  
50



1 MS. LENHARTZEN: Yes.

2  
3 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair, I have a  
4 question.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead,  
7 Gloria.

8  
9 MS. STICKWAN: I was wondering how the  
10 hunt went this year, if anybody mentioned to BLM, or  
11 called BLM about the hunt, about the hunting pressure  
12 during the moose and caribou season, if it was less or  
13 how that worked out?

14  
15 MS. LENHARTZEN: You know I don't know  
16 firsthand of those calls but I think there probably was  
17 less pressure because the animals were not in the area  
18 where we tend to see the most pressure on the road  
19 system. I don't think they came through, the caribou  
20 in particular, I don't think they were present -- BLM  
21 -- I don't even know if they've come through yet.  
22 Sorry I'm not a hunter so I don't know. But I don't  
23 think there was as much pressure this year mostly  
24 because of where the animals were.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, that's  
27 good. Any other questions for Valerie.

28  
29 (No comments)

30  
31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Alrighty, well,  
32 thank you.

33  
34 MS. LENHARTZEN: Thank you.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Next I got the  
37 Alaska Department of Fish and Game if Jackie's  
38 available for questions, she has no presentation, but  
39 if anyone has questions for the State speak now or  
40 forever hold your peace.

41  
42 MS. KEATING: Good afternoon, Mr.  
43 Chair. I can just introduce myself briefly and thanks  
44 for the opportunity. My name is Jackie Keating, I'm  
45 the lead researcher for the Division of Subsistence for  
46 Southcentral. And I won't take too much of your time  
47 but we did provide our written update for you on Page  
48 247, I believe. Just to introduce some of the ongoing  
49 projects that we have in the region right now.

50

1 We have three projects that are  
2 currently funded by the Office of Subsistence  
3 Management so we wanted to list those, but they're in  
4 the Kodiak/Aleutians region. And we have some other  
5 reports that we'll be publishing shortly as well, so we  
6 just wanted to make you aware of those and give you our  
7 contact information and, of course, happy to take  
8 questions if folks have them.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, very good,  
11 Jackie. I see you guys are giving some permits to  
12 Tyonek, okay.

13  
14 Any questions for Jackie, any more  
15 questions.

16  
17 (No comments)

18  
19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thanks for your  
20 report in here. Thanks for the contact info. And if  
21 anyone has any questions, like she said, 247, she's got  
22 a nice little report there and some nice email  
23 addresses, you could terrorize her or you could write  
24 her, rather.

25  
26 (Laughter)

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. I'm going  
29 to flip the page, we're down to the last page. We got  
30 OSM, Lisa.

31  
32 MS. MAAS: Yep, thank you, Mr. Chair,  
33 Members of the Council. My name is Lisa Maas. I'm the  
34 acting policy coordinator and wildlife biologist for  
35 the Office of Subsistence Management.

36  
37 First of all, on behalf of OSM, I'd  
38 like to thank you and all of the Council members for  
39 the work that you do. We recognize it's been very  
40 difficult for all of us dealing with the Covid-19  
41 environment.

42  
43 And as you all know and are  
44 experiencing, we're holding all 10 fall Regional  
45 Advisory Council meetings via teleconference. This  
46 decision was made with the utmost consideration and  
47 concern for the health and safety of Council members,  
48 families, rural communities, the public and Staff, who  
49 are all part of these Council meetings. The health and  
50

1 safety of everyone is our highest priority. The Center  
2 for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines suggest  
3 that people avoid travel and refrain from meeting in  
4 person to minimize risk and help prevent the spread of  
5 Covid-19. The Regional Advisory Councils are the  
6 foundation of the Alaska Federal Subsistence Management  
7 Program and we recognize holding face to face Council  
8 meetings in rural communities across Alaska is  
9 preferable for engaging the public most effectively.  
10 The Federal Subsistence Management Program is fully  
11 committed to resuming in person Council meetings across  
12 Alaska as soon as it is possible to do so safely.

13  
14 Moving on to some OSM Staffing updates.

15  
16 Since your last Council meeting the  
17 following Staffing changes have occurred, or are about  
18 to occur at OSM.

19  
20 Tom Doolittle, the Deputy Assistant  
21 Regional Director is retiring this fall.

22  
23 Sue Detwiler is the relatively new  
24 Assistant Regional Director of OSM and she started off  
25 in March mid the pandemic so her whole time with us has  
26 been virtual teleworking.

27  
28 Chris McKee, who was OSM's wildlife  
29 division lead took a position with the Bureau of Land  
30 Management and will serve as their InterAgency Staff  
31 Committee member so you'll still be hearing from him in  
32 the subsistence world from time to time.

33  
34 Suzanne Worker, one of the OSM's  
35 wildlife biologist took another position with U.S. Fish  
36 and Wildlife Service Ecological Services Program in  
37 Portland.

38  
39 Again, I'm currently acting as the OSM  
40 policy coordinator and Katya Wessels, who is a Council  
41 coordinator will be acting policy coordinator after me  
42 starting in January.

43  
44 Frank Harris, an OSM fishery biologist  
45 transferred to the Kenai Fisheries Office of the U.S.  
46 Fish and Wildlife Service and will be working on  
47 Kuskokwim fisheries projects so you'll still be hearing  
48 from him from time to time as well.

49  
50

1 Scott Ayers, another OSM fishery  
2 biologist took a promotion with the U.S. Fish and  
3 Wildlife Service to work in the Wildlife and Sportfish  
4 Restoration Program in Anchorage.

5  
6 And on to new hires, this is a nice  
7 change from people leaving.

8  
9 OSM has hired two new fisheries  
10 biologists, Jared Stone, who you heard from during this  
11 meeting, and Cory Graham.

12  
13 OSM is also currently hiring another  
14 administrative assistant position.

15  
16 And also recently hired Dr. Brad  
17 Vickers as the new supervisory anthropologist and he is  
18 scheduled to begin in December. So hopefully you'll be  
19 hearing from him during the next winter Council  
20 meetings.

21  
22 Some policy changes at OSM.

23  
24 During the August work session, the  
25 Federal Subsistence Board approved changes to the  
26 closure policy and the nonrural determination policy  
27 which the Councils were previously briefed on. The  
28 Board also approved revisions to the special action  
29 section of the tribal consultation implementation  
30 guidelines. Copies of theses documents are available  
31 upon request as well as on the OSM website.

32  
33 Another update on the Real ID for  
34 travel to Council meetings, which I know you guys have  
35 heard this before, but there's been a delay, of course  
36 because of the pandemic. So over the past two years  
37 we've been reminding Council members about the changes  
38 in requirements for IDs at airports. The due date was  
39 originally October 1, 2020, however, this has been  
40 postponed until October 1st, 2021. Note that all  
41 Council members will need to make sure they have the  
42 correct ID to travel next fall. If you don't have a  
43 correct ID, again, please, make sure that you get it  
44 before the fall 2021 Council meetings.

45  
46 Moving on to the lawsuit from the State  
47 of Alaska. On August 10th the State of Alaska filed a  
48 lawsuit against the Federal Subsistence Board after  
49 approved Emergency Special Action, WSA19-14, allowing  
50

1 the village of Kake to engage in the community harvest  
2 of up to four antlered moose and 10 male Sitka black-  
3 tailed deer. Also included in the lawsuit was  
4 Temporary Special Action WSA20-03, which closed Federal  
5 lands in Units 13A and B to non-Federally-qualified  
6 moose and caribou hunters. As part of the lawsuit the  
7 State asked the Court to issue two preliminary  
8 injunctions; one to prevent the Unit 13 closure from  
9 taking effect and another vacating the Kake hunt and  
10 prohibiting the Board from allowing any additional  
11 emergency hunts related to the impacts of Covid-19. On  
12 September 18th, the U.S. District Court denied the  
13 State's request for a preliminary injunction on the  
14 Unit 13 closure. The Court found that because the  
15 State has not demonstrated either a likelihood of  
16 success or serious questions on the merits of its  
17 claims, the Court would not consider the remaining  
18 elements of the preliminary injunction analysis.

19  
20 The Court has not yet ruled on the  
21 request to enjoin the Kake hunt or the adoption of  
22 other Covid-related emergency special actions, however,  
23 a ruling on preliminary injunctions does not resolve  
24 the litigation. Barring a settlement with the State,  
25 the questions raised by the State concerning the  
26 Board's authority to take these actions will be argued  
27 over the coming months. The Solicitor's Office  
28 estimates that briefings should be complete in late  
29 winter or spring of 2021 and that the Court will issue  
30 its decision in early summer.

31  
32 Based on legal guidance, the Program  
33 Staff does not comment on any active litigations  
34 directed against the Federal Subsistence Board beyond  
35 what was just stated.

36  
37 So that concludes the OSM report and  
38 I'd be happy to answer any questions.

39  
40 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Lisa.  
43 Good report, good update, quite detailed.

44  
45 Questions for Lisa. Any questions on  
46 OSM report she just concluded.

47  
48 MS. STICKWAN: Question.

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1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Gloria.

2

3 MS. STICKWAN: I think she can answer  
4 it. You said the briefing will only address Kake, is  
5 that right?

6

7 MS. MAAS: Yeah, thanks Gloria. So  
8 this is a new process for me, obviously, the details of  
9 this litigation. So I guess there's several steps in  
10 this process so first the State filed a complaint  
11 against the Board, and asked for an injunction, a  
12 preliminary injunction and the injunction would just  
13 pretty much stop any actions immediately. So the Court  
14 already ruled on the Unit 13A and B closures, and they  
15 denied that preliminary injunction but the Court has  
16 not yet ruled on a preliminary injunction regarding the  
17 Kake emergency hunt and any other emergency hunts  
18 related to Covid-19. But that's not the end of the  
19 process.

20

21 So after the Court rules on these  
22 preliminary injunctions there's a lot more briefings  
23 between the Board, the Solicitor's Office, the State,  
24 the Courts and it's not expected that the Court will  
25 issue its final decision on this lawsuit until early  
26 summer of 2021.

27

28 So hopefully that answered your  
29 question, it's kind of a process that, you know, it's  
30 new to people that aren't lawyers.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Did that help,  
33 Gloria.

34

35 MS. STICKWAN: I just asked if they  
36 were going to just address Kake and not 13, you know,  
37 Unit 13.

38

39 MS. MAAS: They are -- I mean both Unit  
40 13A and Kake were part of the State's lawsuit. And the  
41 Court already made a ruling on the preliminary  
42 conjunction part of Unit 13, but they have not yet  
43 ruled on the preliminary injunction regarding Kake.

44

45 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. All right,  
46 thank you, Lisa.

47

48 MS. MAAS: Yep, thank you.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, Council,  
2 we're moving on to future meeting dates. We need to  
3 confirm our winter 2020 meeting date and the location  
4 was in Cordova. As you know with our action at this  
5 Council meeting we'll be welcome with open arms by half  
6 of Cordova and the rest will be determined later, I  
7 guess. But, anyway, DeAnna, do you want to talk to  
8 that date, is it still solid or do we need to do  
9 anything else but confirm it.

10  
11 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair. We do need to  
12 confirm the dates, both for winter and fall. In your  
13 meeting book you can see those calendars starting on  
14 Page 248 and I also do have it on the screen for those  
15 folks on the videoconference. You'll see that February  
16 24th and 25th there in the middle and all I need is a  
17 confirmation from the Council that -- or a motion  
18 rather confirming those dates and that destination.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, we  
21 confirmed the dates, we could confirm them again,  
22 because this is the way we do business. But I guess my  
23 question to you is, I was wondering if there was any  
24 change in the travel, even though February's a long  
25 ways out, but Council members any questions on the  
26 confirmation of 24th and 25th February, are you good  
27 with those dates.

28  
29 MS. STICKWAN: We don't have anything  
30 pressing on the agenda, right.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, we'll  
33 always have something pressing.

34  
35 MR. WHISSEL: They're just fine to me,  
36 I move, Mr. Chairman. This is John Whissel.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

39  
40 MR. WHISSEL: I'm offering my  
41 protection if you choose to brave it and come to  
42 Cordova.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, well,  
45 you've got their ears so you'll be able to take care of  
46 us.

47  
48 Well, is anyone opposed to the  
49 confirmation of the 24th and 25th in Cordova.

50

1 MS. STICKWAN: Yeah, do we know what's  
2 on the agenda?

3  
4 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, let's not  
5 go there, we're not into the agenda, we just need to  
6 confirm the dates for our meeting.

7  
8 MS. PERRY: Yeah, we haven't even  
9 started an agenda yet, we don't do that until after  
10 this meeting's over and then I send out a call for  
11 agenda items so you all will have an opportunity to  
12 suggest those.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, anyone  
15 object.

16  
17 (No comments)

18  
19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Hearing no  
20 objections, are you all in favor of the 24th/25th in  
21 Cordova, to keep that one and then we'll go to the  
22 next.

23  
24 MR. OPHEIM: Michael, I'm okay with  
25 that.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Do I have  
28 any objections.

29  
30 (No comments)

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I hear no  
33 objections.

34  
35 (No comments)

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: No objections,  
38 DeAnna, we're confirming by consensus, unanimous that  
39 the February 24th and 25th in Cordova still works.

40  
41 Now, we got to select the fall 2021  
42 meeting dates. Someone want to through one out there.

43  
44 MR. OPHEIM: October 6 and 7.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

47  
48 MR. BLOOMQUIST: This is Aaron, could  
49 we consider it later in the month if we can but I could

50



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1 maybe make anything work but later in the month is  
2 better for me.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: How about 13/14.

5  
6 MR. BLOOMQUIST: Yeah, that's probably  
7 better.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: That work  
10 Michael.

11  
12 MR. OPHEIM: Yep, I think that'll work.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Anyone else want  
15 to speak up for October.

16  
17 MR. HOLSTEN: This is Ed, the 13th and  
18 14th are okay.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. And it's  
21 okay by me. It's okay by Michael. Okay, anybody --  
22 Aaron. Anyone have a problem with October 13 and 14.

23  
24 (No comments)

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Nope. Does  
27 someone want to make a motion for October 13th and 14th  
28 for the fall meeting, 2021.

29  
30 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, this is Ed, I'll  
31 make that motion.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you,  
34 Ed. Is there a second to it.

35  
36 MR. OPHEIM: I'll second, this is  
37 Michael.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Michael seconds  
40 it. Any discussion.

41  
42 (No comments)

43  
44 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Hearing none, if  
45 someone will call the question we'll vote on it.

46  
47 MR. WHISSEL: Question.

48  
49 MS. STICKWAN: Call for.....

50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, question's  
2 been called for. All in favor of the 13th and 14th for  
3 fall meeting, 2021, aye.

4  
5 IN UNISON: Aye.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Any opposed to  
8 that date.

9  
10 (No opposing votes)

11  
12 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, DeAnna, you  
13 got a motion, you got it recorded, you got the fall  
14 meeting, you got verification of your winter meeting.

15  
16 We're now going to go to closing  
17 comments.

18  
19 Just in.....

20  
21 MR. ZADRA: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead.

24  
25 MR. ZADRA: This is Dennis. I just  
26 want to -- are we going to select a location for that  
27 fall meeting?

28  
29 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: No, I think -- I  
30 mean we usually have it in Anchorage but that's up to  
31 us, I guess we could ask for a different place.

32  
33 MR. ZADRA: Okay. Yeah, I didn't know  
34 if it was in Anchorage or we were going to discuss it,  
35 that's fine with me.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, I think it  
38 is, DeAnna, is that correct, that's where we usually  
39 have the fall meeting?

40  
41 MS. PERRY: Yes. But the Council can  
42 choose any, and, of course, you'll have your next  
43 meeting to confirm that if you change your mind.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Well, we  
46 got our next meeting, is that going to work, we'll just  
47 leave it as is.

48  
49 MR. ZADRA: Yeah, that's fine with me.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Okay,  
2 good. Thank you.

3  
4 Okay, let's see how do I want to do  
5 this. I'm going to go a little bit different this  
6 time, I'm going to go closing comments, I just -- I  
7 used the register from the top down, I'm going to come  
8 bottom up.

9  
10 John, I'm going to let you go first on  
11 your closing comments, please.

12  
13 MR. WHISSEL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
14 Well, we got through a lot of things today and -- or  
15 this session and -- including a really challenging  
16 issue for our town. I thank everybody for giving the  
17 consideration you gave that issue. I know everybody  
18 realizes that no matter what you made half of the  
19 community upset and you made the other half happy but I  
20 don't have any problem with how the decision was made  
21 or the process by which we got to it. And I hope that  
22 moving forward everybody is able to accept it and  
23 consider the fishery on its merits after it begins. I  
24 hope it doesn't make any more conflict for our town but  
25 I wouldn't imagine this is the last time we'll see it.

26  
27 So anyways thanks everybody for taking  
28 it on, it's -- I can't tell you what a big issue it is  
29 for Cordova. There's a lot of people that think it's  
30 incredibly important to both do it and not do it and we  
31 sure -- it feels good to have it resolves.

32  
33 So thanks.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, John.

36  
37  
38 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, I just wanted to  
39 thank you, Mr. Chairperson for kind of leading a tough  
40 meeting but.....

41  
42 MR. BLOOMQUIST: You forgot Aaron.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, that's  
45 okay, Ed jumped in there but you go ahead Ed.

46  
47 MR. HOLSTEN: Oh, I'm sorry.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: No, that's okay,

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1 you started so let's just go ahead.

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MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, I just wanted to thank you, Mr. Chair for ramrodding this meeting under difficult times. I was hoping to get on it, video, but due to operator error on my part I couldn't connect, but the phone worked all right.

I especially want to thank DeAnna, this is probably one of her tougher meetings she had to set up and orchestrate and I really appreciate DeAnna's efforts on getting a lot of that -- all that meeting material information to us ahead of time via email. So thank you, DeAnna.

And that's all I had to say.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Ed. It was good. Aaron, you're up next.

MR. BLOOMQUIST: Yeah, sorry about that, I was just telling Angie I thought you said Aaron and I didn't even know I was off mute, I thought you said Aaron, and I didn't even know.

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

MR. BLOOMQUIST: But anyways, yeah, thanks to everybody just for it seems like this was fairly efficient for what it is, being a teleconference meeting. I had one until 10:00 o'clock last night for my AC too and both of them went better than expected.

On the other hand I'm continuing to be frustrated probably more and more with, you know, just the general sentiment from a lot of people within the system that want to exclude people that, you know, don't do it their way, and for -- especially when there's plenty of resources. It's frustrating to me to see that when you've got Alaskans, or Americans, or however we want to call ourselves that are, you know, we have relatively abundant resources and people that are -- they don't want people playing in their playgrounds and it -- anyway, so it's something I've been passionate about for 20 years in this state and I'm just going to -- kind of get my feet under this in this Program and it seems worse here than anywhere.

1                   So a little bit of a Debbie Downer in  
2 the end but I hope we can work and make sure  
3 everybody's needs are met within all these systems and  
4 I'll leave you with that.

5  
6                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thanks,  
7 Aaron.

8  
9                   Okay, Andy, you want to go.

10  
11                  MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Yeah, sure, thanks,  
12 Greg.

13  
14                  CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: You bet.

15  
16                  MR. MCLAUGHLIN: I think the meeting  
17 went smooth, way better than I expected it would. It  
18 was a bit of a bummer not to be able to bounce around  
19 and do some networking and learn some things, you know,  
20 in person, when we're at a meeting is much better but  
21 at least it worked pretty well.

22  
23                  I was a bit surprised by some of the  
24 way the voting was going and some of the agendas that  
25 were being served so I just wanted to mention some  
26 things if you'll bear with me.

27  
28                  Some of the newer Southcentral RAC  
29 members, they might want to revisit or reference some  
30 orientation handbooks on reviewing the duties of our  
31 service that we do to Federal subsistence users under  
32 ANILCA, you know, voting for special interest groups  
33 and, you know, competing resources in multiple ways,  
34 you know, commercial interests or other Federal  
35 subsistence users for the same resource. It seems to  
36 be there was a bit of a misguided agenda there that,  
37 you know, in some cases towards -- some of those  
38 efforts should be more appropriately applied toward the  
39 State sport and personal use, that harvest the same  
40 resource is a better place to take that up with  
41 addressing regulations at the State level, it seems  
42 like that would be more appropriate arena for that.

43  
44                  We, ourselves, serve qualified Federal  
45 subsistence users. So I think we should take care in  
46 voting choices that we make so that they serve  
47 practical purposes and not so much political ones. You  
48 know our job basically is to help people harvest  
49 resources whenever possible barring that there's no  
50

1 conservation concerns. But we're not supposed to be  
2 the litmus test for the State needing to do the same.  
3 We make our decisions independent of the State and  
4 sport and personal use harvest.

5  
6 So I don't know there needs to be an  
7 awareness in our group here of the mandate of  
8 subsistence regulations cannot be more restrictive than  
9 other regulated uses of the same resources.

10  
11 People who reside in proximity to a  
12 resource are -- they're a part of that ecosystem there  
13 and we create a proposed system to advise on what was  
14 mentioned earlier, a meaningful preference, for the  
15 uses of those resources. On future consideration,  
16 possibly, is an increased demand on these resources due  
17 to Covid-19 possibly having some affects on people's  
18 food sovereignty and there's an increase demand for  
19 some of these resources that are being harvested.

20  
21 So anyhow also kudos to DeAnna for all  
22 the hard work getting this arranged, thank you.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Andy.

25  
26 Michael.

27  
28 MR. OPHEIM: Yeah, it was a good  
29 meeting. DeAnna did a good job pulling everything  
30 together. Agency reports were really good. Would have  
31 liked to have seen them up on the screen maybe but, no,  
32 they were great.

33  
34 I tend to agree with Aaron and Andy  
35 there, some of the things they were saying.

36  
37 It was great discussion and was really  
38 good hearing everybody's input on each proposal. That  
39 was, I think, one of our better discussion meetings  
40 here. So too bad we couldn't do it all in person but  
41 this was still a good first run and, you know, if we  
42 don't get to see everybody in February, hopefully this  
43 will still work for us and it'll maybe be even better.

44  
45 So, thank you.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Alrighty, thank  
48 you, Michael.

49  
50

1 How about Dennis.

2  
3 MR. ZADRA: Okay, can everyone hear me.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yep.

6  
7 MR. ZADRA: Yeah, first of all I am  
8 looking forward to the day when we can meet in person  
9 once again. I think it's easier and easier to be  
10 engaged.

11  
12 But to go back I do want to just touch  
13 on my position on the Cordova proposal. It had nothing  
14 to do with special interests or anything like that. My  
15 concern is the health of the resource. I -- the actual  
16 use and what's going to happen with this Federal  
17 fishery is going to be negligible but five years from  
18 now when we have a personal use dipnet fishery in the  
19 same waters, that's going to be detrimental, and that's  
20 all I'm trying to prevent. You know it might not  
21 happen but I see the way Board of Fish goes, I see what  
22 Kenai River Sportsfishing Association is all about and  
23 I see also the Chitina Dipnetters Association, and if  
24 they can grab a new chunk of water and come in and  
25 bring in all these city folks down and catch our fish,  
26 I think they're going to take advantage of it.

27  
28 So, anyway, that's all I got.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you.

31  
32 Gloria.

33  
34 MS. STICKWAN: I just want to say  
35 thanks to DeAnna for giving us all the material for the  
36 meeting and that the meeting was good discussion.

37  
38 I guess my concern and the way I voted  
39 was that I am concerned about the fishery, I kept  
40 saying it over and over and over again and that's what  
41 I wanted to state and let everyone know that, you know,  
42 it's a concern to me that there's a -- I'm pretty sure  
43 there's going to be a chinook shortage. The salmon was  
44 -- may have been met through the management objective  
45 but it was very close to the very low end of the  
46 sockeye run and so that was my concern about why I made  
47 the decisions and what I voiced to you, conservation of  
48 sockeye, conservation of chinook. It wasn't -- I  
49 didn't really want to exclude other people from

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1 fisheries but I have to look at the conservation and  
2 what I've seen and heard up here in the Copper River,  
3 and the harvest levels that people caught, it was low.

4  
5 That was why -- conservation of  
6 fisheries was my concern. We need to look at that.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Yeah, very  
9 good.

10  
11 Diane.

12  
13 MS. SELANOFF: Well, I think this was a  
14 very good meeting. We successfully completed it, you  
15 know, on our phones and on our computers and everything  
16 else. So I want to say we did a good job.

17  
18 I also made the comment, too, that I  
19 was at times concerned that we would put our  
20 subsistence users at a disadvantage from the State  
21 users and I understand the hardships, I understand the  
22 concerns, and I'm glad we were able to get through this  
23 process successfully. And I think that, you know, we  
24 have a very good board that made some really good  
25 decisions, you know, we're fortunate, everyone can  
26 stand to their own opinions.

27  
28 So, anyway, thank you, it was a good  
29 meeting.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, did I miss  
32 anyone other than myself on the Council here. I think  
33 I got you all.

34  
35 I'm just going to make a few comments.

36  
37 This is a very -- how would I put it,  
38 it's a big task, it's a big task to Chair and to pull  
39 us together and try to listen to everybody and keep us  
40 on track and, DeAnna is very highly efficient, she  
41 sends out tons of information, tons of stuff that she  
42 wants addressed, sometimes it's a little too  
43 cumbersome, and sometimes we don't have enough info to  
44 do well but I think what we did and I think I was fair  
45 in letting everyone speak and vet everything on both  
46 sides of all issues so that's our process, and our  
47 process is to listen to the public and to get public  
48 testimony and any input put into us, and this is for  
49 the Federal priority.

50



1                   And I think Andy McLaughlin nailed it,  
2     you know, we need to stay on task of what we are to do,  
3     to provide service. And I agree with Gloria, you know,  
4     we're looking at hard times and we want to make sure  
5     there's conservation of fish. But the conservation  
6     issue is not on the subsistence user, the conservation  
7     issue is on other user groups. And, you know, I worry  
8     of becoming too big a fishery in years down the road.  
9     This is only for the Federal subsistence users and so  
10    it shouldn't grow exponentially unless the ton of  
11    people are going to move there. It's not like a  
12    dipnetting on the Kenai, that's a State thing and  
13    that's totally out of control, and I don't know that  
14    the State would put them in the Copper, I suppose it's  
15    possible.

16  
17                   But anyway I thought there was some  
18    very good discussions. I'm very passionate about  
19    keeping the process the way it was designed; that  
20    Federal-qualified subsistence users has a preference.  
21    I don't like putting restrictions on the Federal users.  
22    You know I went along with the early reporting, we  
23    fought it so hard here on the Kenai, it seems like the  
24    Federal subsistence users always got to go through all  
25    these hoops, a lot of them don't have it, and they  
26    don't have computers or phones and a lot of the other  
27    stuff, some of them don't, the true ones anyway. So  
28    there is shortage, this is a little stressful time for  
29    everyone, I understand that.

30  
31                   I think I will take into account of  
32    Cordova, I really feel that this will work itself out.  
33    We had the same issues and we were on -- myself and my  
34    son, we had to negotiate with 300-some guides, two  
35    subsistence users on the Kenai years ago in a work  
36    group, it was nofun, but now you have a subsistence  
37    fishery that's providing for a whole community in a  
38    meaningful manner and it ain't hurting the resource by  
39    one percent, it's not even touching anything of what's  
40    going by the commercial capture.

41  
42                   So I just want to put that stuff out  
43    there, that I think we're all doing good. I think we  
44    got a great team here. And I want to give kudos to a  
45    lot of you, you bring in a lot of good, I would say  
46    educated and local knowledge and it really broadens our  
47    discussions and our decisions, so I thank all of you.

48  
49                   And if I was a little short, it's a lot  
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1 of stress, and I'm a little short at times, but I like  
2 to be fair too, so I hope I did a good job.

3  
4 Anyway, anything else that needs to  
5 come before the Council.

6  
7 (No comments)

8  
9 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: DeAnna, thank you  
10 very much and thank everyone. I want to thank everyone  
11 that came, participated and hopefully we can move on  
12 and I'm hoping we'll be whooping and hollering in  
13 Cordova soon.

14  
15 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Greg.

16  
17 MR. WHISSEL: Thank you, Greg.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, we're going  
20 to stand adjourned. Let's hear a motion, but I know  
21 it's unanimous we're adjourned.

22  
23 MR. WHISSEL: Move to adjourn.

24  
25 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Second.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, moved and  
28 seconded, by someone and we're adjourned.

29  
30 MR. WHISSEL: Whissel moved and I think  
31 Andy seconded.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, Andy  
34 Whissel.....

35  
36 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: I seconded.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. All in  
39 favor to adjourn.

40  
41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: We're adjourned.

44  
45 (Off record)

46  
47 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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49  
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