

KODIAK/ALEUTIANS SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

PUBLIC MEETING

VOLUME II

TELECONFERENCE - ALASKA

September 3, 2020

8:35 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Della Trumble, Chair
Coral Chernoff
Natasha Hayden
Patrick Holmes
Christopher Price
Sam Rohrer
Rebecca Skinner

Regional Council Coordinator, Donald Mike

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S
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3 (Teleconference - 9/3/2020)
4
5 (On record)
6
7 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I think we'll go
8 ahead and get started and call the meeting back to
9 order and the time is 8:35, if you want to do the roll
10 call and then continue on to the agency reports. Let's
11 see who's on line.
12
13 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
14 Donald Mike, Council coordinator. Roll call for
15 September 3rd.
16
17 Mr. Pat Holmes.
18
19 MR. HOLMES: Here.
20
21 MR. MIKE: Sam Rohrer.
22
23 MR. ROHRER: Here.
24
25 MR. MIKE: Christopher Price.
26
27 MR. PRICE: Here.
28
29 MR. MIKE: Coral Chernoff.
30
31 MS. CHERNOFF: Here.
32
33 MR. MIKE: Rebecca Skinner.
34
35 MS. SKINNER: Here.
36
37 MR. MIKE: Della Trumble.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Here.
40
41 MR. MIKE: Natasha Hayden.
42
43 MS. HAYDEN: Here.
44
45 MR. MIKE: Della Trumble, we have
46 everybody present.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
49 Donald. We'll go ahead, if you want to continue on
50

1 with the various agencies to see who is on line.

2

3 MR. MIKE: Okay. Do we have Izembek
4 Refuge on line and Maritime Refuge and NOAA.

5

6 MS. YASUMIISHI: Good morning, Madame
7 Chair. This is Ellen from NOAA.

8

9 MS. FOSADO: This is Maria Fosado,
10 Izembek.

11

12 MR. MIKE: Good morning. Everybody was
13 talking all at once, let's start with -- if it's okay
14 with you, Della, we can start with Izembek.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yeah, Donald, if
17 somebody from Izembek is on line can you state your
18 name.

19

20 MS. FOSADO: Maria Fosado is on line.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
23 Marie. And then NOAA, that's kind of where I was
24 headed with this, Donald, you can continue. If anybody
25 from NOAA is on line please state your name.

26

27 MS. YASUMIISHI: Yes, Ellen Yasumiishi
28 from NOAA.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
31 Ellen.

32

33 Okay, I'm going to let you continue
34 Donald.

35

36 MR. DELEHANTY: And, Donald, Alaska
37 Maritime, Steve Delehanty is on the phone.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 MR. MIKE: Okay, Della, we have all
42 those three agencies present and we could start with
43 the Refuges or NOAA, Madame Chair.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, hold on
46 Donald. Is there anybody else on line can you please
47 identify yourself, thanks.

48

49 MR. LIND: Good morning, Madame Chair.

50

1 Orville Lind, Native Liaison for the Office of
2 Subsistence Management. Good to hear you on.

3
4 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
5 Orville.

6
7 MR. KRON: Good morning, Madame Chair.
8 This is Ton Kron with OSM.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
11 Tom.

12
13 MS. HYER: Good morning, Madame Chair.
14 This is Karen Hyer, fisheries biologist with OSM.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
17 Karen.

18
19 MR. PAPPAS: Good morning, Madame
20 Chair. George Pappas State Subsistence Liaison, good
21 morning.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
24 George.

25
26 MR. GRAHAM: Good morning. This is
27 Cory Graham, OSM.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
30 Cory.

31
32 MR. STONE: Good morning. Jared Stone,
33 fisheries biologist with OSM.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
36 Jared.

37
38 MS. LAVINE: Good morning.

39
40 MS. KEATING: Good morning. Jackie
41 Keating with Division of Subsistence, Fish and Game.

42
43 MS. LAVINE: Robbin LaVine.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. And I
46 heard Robbin and then I heard the end of Fish and Game.

47
48 MS. KEATING: Go ahead, Robbin.

49
50

1 MS. LAVINE: Good morning. This is
2 Robbin LaVine and I'm an anthropologist with the Office
3 of Subsistence Management. Thanks.

4
5 MS. KEATING: And then Jackie Keating
6 with the Division of Subsistence, Fish and Game is on
7 as well.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you. Good
10 morning to both of you.

11
12 MS. FOX: Good morning, Madame Chair.
13 This is Lisa Fox with Fish and Game in Kodiak,
14 Commercial Fisheries.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
17 Lisa.

18
19 MR. BRADY: Good morning. This is Mike
20 Brady, Refuge Manager, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
23 Mike.

24
25 MS. PETRIVELLI: This is Pat Petrivelli
26 with BIA.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
29 Pat.

30
31 MR. BIRCH: Hello. This is Mark Birch
32 from the Department of Fish and Game.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
35 Mark.

36
37 MR. SARAFIN: Good morning. This is
38 Dave Sarafin with the Regional Subsistence Program of
39 the National Park Service.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
42 Dave.

43
44 Okay, Donald, I think we are good to
45 go.

46
47 MR. CHEN: Madame Chair, this is Glenn
48 Chen from BIA. I just didn't want to interrupt anyone.

49
50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Oh, okay, good
2 morning Glenn.

3
4 MS. STICKMAN: And, good morning,
5 Madame Chair, this is Danielle Stickman from the
6 Western Alaska Partnership.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning,
9 Danielle.

10
11 Okay, anybody else?

12
13 (No comments)

14
15 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good morning
16 everybody and welcome back. I think we can continue on
17 with our reports and the next one we'll do is, Steve,
18 we'll put you on first -- your report first, if you're
19 okay with that.

20
21 MR. DELEHANTY: Thank you, Madame
22 Chair. Della, yes. This is Steve Delehanty with
23 Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge and thank you
24 for finding time to fit me in. I have just a brief
25 report because, of course, like everybody else, our
26 world was thrown upside down from our normal activities
27 so we did not sail any large long mission with our
28 ship, with the research vessel this year, which was --
29 so we did not visit most Refuge sites and we did not do
30 our usual seabird monitoring and other science and
31 outreach work. And our visitor center in Homer has
32 been closed to the public. So, instead, we did some
33 other things.

34
35 We've done a great deal of maintenance
36 and upgrade work on our ship while it was dock side in
37 Homer. We've done a lot of virtual programming, both,
38 for example, virtual tours of our visitor center in
39 Homer and working with communities on modified culture
40 and science camps. So we worked with three of those.
41 Some remove environmental educational programming and
42 things that we've done and also our big shorebird
43 festival that we host each year in Homer was a virtual
44 festival this year. And we've just done a lot of sort
45 of background data work trying to, you know, turn old
46 1990 notes and files into a more modern, you know, data
47 processing capability, so we've done a lot of that
48 work.

49
50

1 I wanted to report to the Council that
2 we've had some sort of very initial conversations
3 regarding rats and the feasibility, possibility of some
4 day eradicating rats from one or more additional
5 islands in the Aleutians, so it was -- preCovid there
6 was an in-person meeting in Homer, Teddy Gregory and
7 her daughter were there and we had Fish and Game, and
8 Department of Environmental Conservation and the Fish
9 and Wildlife Service and non-profit private group
10 called Island Conservation, and we just were sort of
11 putting our heads together thinking what would it be,
12 what would it look like and we're in the midst of
13 preparing a feasibility assessment to just think about
14 whether it's even feasible or not, kind of
15 technologically, and if it is then we would begin a
16 very lengthy process of reaching out to people and
17 communities and trying to get the money and that sort
18 of thing. But I thought that you would be interested
19 in that.

20
21 I know it's outside of the
22 Kodiak/Aleutians RAC directly but relevant still, I
23 think, we are working with a committee, basically with
24 the community of St. Paul and with Alaska State Parks
25 on a Funter Bay commemorative site plaques, some sort
26 of recognition. Funter Bay is where the people of St.
27 Paul and St. George were brought, with no choice, of
28 course, during World War II, and there also will be an
29 inclusion of the other communities in the Aleutians
30 that were affected by these forced evacuations and just
31 sort of the horrors of war and all the bad things that
32 happened to the people. So that is an ongoing process.
33 Funter Bay is down near Juneau.

34
35 And lastly I wanted to report that
36 there's been some FUDS work, some formerly used defense
37 site cleanup work, that's work led by the Army Corps of
38 Engineers out on some sites this year. They did some
39 work on Adak and Unalaska. We did not directly
40 participate, in part, because it wasn't essential that
41 we do it, but we worked really, really hard this year
42 to honor the community's request to not -- just
43 basically to respect the need for not transmitting,
44 being a possible vector of disease, and just staying
45 away from the community, so we didn't participate
46 directly in that, but that work did go on.

47
48 And, that, I guess is the conclusion of
49 my report. Thank you, very much.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
2 Steve. Any questions or comments for Steve.

3
4 MR. HOLMES: Pat.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Pat.

7
8 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, Steve, good report.
9 I am really tickled to hear about the memorial for
10 Funter Bay, and I think there was one other place where
11 the folks from the Aleutians went, but if you could
12 keep me updated on that, if they go for public
13 contributions I would like to contribute something to
14 that because I had so many friends that were involved
15 in that.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 MR. DELEHANTY: Thank you, Pat, I
20 certainly will.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Anybody else
23 have questions.

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, this is
28 Della, I have a couple.

29
30 First is on the rats, have you
31 identified which -- where that would take place first,
32 or is there kind of a priority list?

33
34 MR. DELEHANTY: Thank you, Della. Yes,
35 I neglected to say that. What we looked at were
36 islands that had no human population on them because
37 the state of the art on rat eradication is pretty
38 crude. It means -- you know it means rat poison,
39 basically, usually often applied from the air and it's
40 much, much less complex to do when there aren't people
41 and all of the worries that that brings along with it,
42 and we looked at islands that were predominately in
43 Federal ownership. There is Great Sitkian, Amchitka,
44 Kiska and Attu, those were the four that we sort of
45 looked at and we kind of tentatively agreed to look at
46 Great Sitkian Island first simply because it's -- while
47 it's still very large, it's much smaller than the other
48 islands and it has -- it's being so close to Adak
49 there's the ability -- the logistics are just much

50

1 easier. But we are a long, long ways from actually
2 implementing a project.

3
4 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. That's
5 good to hear though.

6
7 And then I'm going to make a comment in
8 regard to Funter Bay. I have personal reasons for
9 this. My mother is from the Pribilofs and her
10 grandmother, their whole family was evacuated to Funter
11 Bay, and she had a baby on the boat, the Della Rosa,
12 and the baby was born at sea, it was a little girl, and
13 her name is Susan Della and that's where I get my name
14 from. So, you know, and I would, too, would like to be
15 kept informed of. One of my nieces was able to go to,
16 oh, it was a few years ago when they had some kind of
17 big memorial thing going on there, that she was pretty
18 impressed, you know, just the history, because it's
19 part of our history. But, yeah, I'd like to be kept
20 informed of that also.

21
22 Other than that, I appreciate your
23 report and it was good to hear from you.

24
25 MR. DELEHANTY: Thank you, Madame Chair
26 and all the members of the Council. Thank you for the
27 work you do.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you.
30 Okay, Izembek, I didn't want to put you on the hot seat
31 first thing in the morning, but we'll put you on the
32 seat second.

33
34 MS. FOSADO: Good morning, Madame Chair
35 and members of the Council. Thank you for having me on
36 this morning. And I appreciate your willingness to
37 accommodate Izembek's report on today's agenda.

38
39 First off I want to start off -- well,
40 I should ask, can everybody hear me all right?

41
42 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Loud and clear.

43
44 MS. FOSADO: Perfect. I wanted to
45 start off by introducing myself. I'm Maria Fosado, and
46 I'm the new Refuge Manager for Izembek Refuge. I
47 arrived in Cold Bay with my dogs on the June ferry and
48 it's already been three months, I can't believe it.
49 But I grew up in Southeastern Minnesota and I spent a

50

1 lot of my time outdoors, camping and hunting with my
2 family, much of my family is still in Minnesota, but I
3 have some family in Alaska as well as scattered
4 throughout the Lower 48.

5
6 I started working for the Fish and
7 Wildlife Service, seasonally, back in 2005, and have
8 worked at various field stations since then. Prior to
9 arriving at Izembek, I worked at Big Stone National
10 Wildlife Refuge in wetland management district in West
11 Central Minnesota, and I look forward to learning more
12 about the Cold Bay area and hopefully when things
13 settle down meeting all of you face to face.

14
15 I also wanted to note that Patrick
16 Fitzmorris, Izembek's wildlife biologist did accept a
17 new position at Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge, in
18 case folks hadn't heard. He departed at the beginning
19 of June. So he will be greatly missed.

20
21 But with that I'll move into our
22 report.

23
24 And as Steve mentioned, Covid has
25 greatly hampered our ability to conduct field work.
26 Most of our surveys have been postponed until next
27 year. But I'll report out on what has occurred in
28 light of Covid.

29
30 Our Federal subsistence hunt in Unit 9D
31 -- the Southern Alaska Peninsula, Izembek National
32 Wildlife Refuge in 2020/2021 Federal subsistence
33 caribou hunt in Unit 9D was split into two hunting
34 periods. The first period runs from August 1st through
35 September 30th, 2020 and the second half begins
36 November 15th and ends March 31st, 2021. These dates
37 run concurrently with ADF&G's sport hunt and in
38 conversations with ADF&G, they supported mirroring the
39 State resident harvest regulations for our subsistence
40 hunt. So there was a change from last year. This
41 year's harvest limit is three caribou in Unit 9D, which
42 was an increase from a limit of one bull caribou last
43 year. And that was for Unit 9D.

44
45 For Unit 10, the Unimak hunt, that's a
46 Federal subsistence hunt at False Pass on Unimak, and
47 that opened August 15th and runs through October 15th.
48 This year the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
49 supported an increase of hunter harvest from a total of
50

1 three bulls to a total of five bulls in Unit 10. The
2 increase was based on the bull to cow ratio ADF&G
3 observed in 2018. And just a note, the bull -- the
4 five bull total is less than four percent of the bulls
5 counted in 2018. This increase in hunter harvest for
6 subsistence is for residents of False Pass only.

7
8 From there we were just recently able
9 to complete our annual brown bear stream survey. That
10 occurred August 23rd through the 26th. The survey was
11 separated into two major units, Izembek and Unimak
12 Island. These areas include the Joshua Green
13 watershed, Izembek National Wildlife Refuge, Frosty
14 Creek watershed, Thin Point Lake Area, and the
15 remaining area to the end of the Peninsula.

16
17 168 bears were observed during the
18 Izembek flight, including 89 single bears, 26 sows with
19 cubs, and 53 cubs, and the cubs were a mix of year,
20 yearlings and two and a half year olds. On Unimak
21 Island 132 bears were observed including 71 singles, 21
22 sows with cubs and a total of 40 cubs.

23
24 So our survey showed that there was a
25 14 percent decrease in total bears when compared to the
26 2019 survey data and that's not to say that there is an
27 overall 14 percent decrease, but there were several
28 variables that were different this year. Ken
29 Richardson, our pilot, did retire, and we had a
30 different pilot fly the survey this year, he came down --
31 his name is Dan and he came down from Alaska Peninsula
32 Becharof Refuge and was willing to help us out, he did,
33 however, have the same observer this year but due to
34 Covid and trying to ensure that we were successful in
35 completion of this survey, we did this year fly some
36 evening surveys which was a change from last year as
37 well. So there were some factors that were different
38 from last year's survey.

39
40 So outside of that we completed -- we
41 had to modify our eelgrass abundance and productivity
42 monitoring. We were unable to collect the eelgrass
43 abundance and productivity project -- excuse me -- we
44 were unable to conduct it. However, we modified it and
45 Staff did collect samples of eelgrass along established
46 transects in April and then again in August. This
47 survey is conducted along two 100 meter transect lines,
48 one located in the high intertidal zone and the second
49 in the low intertidal zone. The eelgrass samples

50

1 collected are brought back to the office and measured
2 and the data provides the gross measurement for
3 eelgrass during the survey months -- excuse me, during
4 the summer months.

5
6 And this is a project that historically
7 has taken place in collaboration with USGS but we
8 modified it to do what we could in the field and we
9 provided that data to USGS.

10
11 I'm uncertain what the coming months
12 will bring, specifically with regards to the Pacific
13 brandt aerial population surveys, both the fall and the
14 winter. So I haven't heard from Migratory Birds
15 whether or not due to Covid those surveys will take
16 place.

17
18 So unfortunately that's it for our
19 report but I look forward in the future to reporting
20 out on additional surveys and field work that we
21 conduct here at Izembek Refuge.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
24 Maria.

25
26 MS. FOSADO: So with that, if anyone
27 has any questions I would be glad to answer them.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you. Any
30 questions or comments for Maria. I'll start with Pat.

31
32 MR. HOLMES: Okay, thank you. I was
33 going to wait.

34
35 I didn't get the number of cubs on
36 Unimak?

37
38 MS. FOSADO: Okay, just a minute, let
39 me pull that up. On Unimak the total number of cubs
40 were 40 total cubs on Unimak.

41
42 MR. HOLMES: Well, that's a fairly
43 decent ratio there so that's good.

44
45 And I'll give you one question on the
46 end
47 do you know why so many people move from Minnesota to
48 Alaska, it's because we have a lot better weather.

49
50

1 MS. FOSADO: I actually have run into
2 several folks out here that are from Minnesota so there
3 seems to be a pattern.

4
5 MR. HOLMES: Thank you.

6
7 MS. FOSADO: Thank you.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Anybody else
10 have any questions or comments for Maria.

11
12 (No comments)

13
14 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Maria, welcome
15 to Izembek. This Council has pushed pretty hard to
16 have a manager over there so we're glad to hear you're
17 there.

18
19 And I guess the one question I do have
20 is Staff, you mentioned that Patrick had left his -- do
21 you have a biologist or is that position -- I think I
22 saw it posted, were you able to fill that, or is there
23 any possibility of when that will be?

24
25 MS. FOSADO: We are currently working
26 through that process. We moved through with it as a
27 local hire and we just received a certificate of
28 eligibility, which is essentially the folks that
29 applied so we'll be working through that and we're
30 hopeful to have a full-time biologist at Izembek
31 sometime soon.

32
33 So stay tuned, please.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. And then
36 on the brandt, it looks like they lowered the harvest
37 limit on that because it looks like the counts are
38 down, so you're not sure if they're going to have the
39 surveys, is that what you said?

40
41 MS. FOSADO: Correct. I have not
42 spoken with Migratory Birds recently and with Covid, I
43 would be hard pressed to say one way or the other, but
44 when I find out more I'd be happy to share that
45 information.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, thank you.

48
49 Thank you, I don't have any other

50

1 questions. If anybody else does go ahead.

2

3

(No comments)

4

5

6

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
Maria.

7

8

MS. FOSADO: Thank you for having me.

9

10

11

12

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, we will
move on to National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration, Ellen.

13

14

15

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22

MS. YASUMIISHI: Good morning, Madame
Chair, members of the Council. Thank you for having
me. For the record my name is Ellen Yasumiishi and I
work in Juneau at the Alaska Fisheries Science Center
in the Ecosystem Monitoring and Assessment Program and
we provide information to stock assessment scientists
to -- for them to better understand the condition of
their fish as juveniles, and provide predictions for
recruitment to the fishery.

23

24

25

26

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30

31

But today I was asked to present a
little of information on sea temperatures this year, as
well as Pacific cod so I'll focus on those. We had a
number of surveys cancelled. One of our major bottom
trawl surveys that helps manage some of our fisheries
was cancelled. We did have a longline survey in the
Gulf of Alaska and several smaller surveys that
assessed juveniles, the cod.

32

33

34

35

36

So I do have a PowerPoint presentation.
The website under supplementary materials, I want to
make sure that you all have a copy of that.

37

38

39

40

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I have it.

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MS. YASUMIISHI: Okay. So, yes, just
an over, I'll talk about sea temperatures and then an
overview of our -- a couple slides on a different
surveys and talk a little bit about the stock
assessments for sablefish and Pacific cod in the Gulf
of Alaska because there was a survey of those
populations this year provided.

Down on Slide 4, I'd like to introduce

1 a new tool and a website where the sea temperature
2 information updated every couple of weeks for the
3 Eastern Bering Sea using daily information from
4 satellites. And this time series goes back to 2002
5 currently, but we're expanding this using additional
6 satellite information to go back to the early '80s. So
7 feel free to click on the link on that slide, it will
8 take you to the web page.

9
10 On Slide 5, Jordan Watson has developed
11 some code in a statistical program, that's available
12 for free, anyone can go on there and create these maps
13 themselves and update them if they like. So I'll go
14 through the trends that we're seeing this year. So
15 these are time series of annual seasonal information
16 based on daily observation. Black line for the
17 Northern Bering Sea is the average, early average of
18 the time series, the light green shows the 2019
19 temperatures, last year, and then the blue are this
20 year. So basically we're seeing that it's a little
21 cooler this year than last year, but warmer than the
22 average of the early part of the 2000s, 2003 through
23 2012, so a little cooler this year.

24
25 Next slide, in the Gulf of Alaska,
26 Western Gulf of Alaska is also showing similar trends
27 of the North and South Bering Seas, cooler temperatures
28 than last year but still warmer than average in the
29 summertime, however it was average temperature in early
30 spring. And then in the Eastern Gulf we've actually
31 had cooler, about average temperatures and we're just
32 seeing this summer is that we are having a ton of rain,
33 I think the third rainiest summer on record since the
34 records started in the 1950s. So we get maybe one or
35 two sunny days every month. It's been quite a long
36 summer. But it's good for the fish.

37
38 Slide 7. I thought I would just show
39 an overview of North Pacific temperature trends and so
40 we're seeing temperatures ranging from eight to 14
41 degrees in the Bering Sea, Southern Bering Sea and the
42 Gulf of Alaska, of course a little warmer in the Gulf.
43 We're not seeing a blob this year, which is a good
44 thing.

45
46 Slide 8 are just the anomalies of those
47 temperatures in relation to slide 7. We're seeing that
48 the warmer conditions are in the Southeast Bering Sea,
49 Bristol Bay, more near shore this year. And it's a
50

1 little bit cooler in the Northern Bering Central and
2 Chuckchi Sea.

3
4 Slide 9 I'll just go over the surveys
5 that occurred and did not occur in terms of the
6 ecosystem surveys in the Bering Sea. We have three
7 major surveys, one in the spring, and one in the late
8 summer to assess the juvenile fish and there's a
9 pollock Pcod, Pacific cod, sorry, salmon, sand lance,
10 herring, capelin and jellyfish and some flatfish, all
11 of those surveys were cancelled this year. We
12 currently have the NOAA vessel in around St. Lawrence
13 Island collecting information on zooplankton and
14 temperature around St. Lawrence Island and also
15 replacing mooring buoys in the Bering Sea.

16
17 In the Gulf of Alaska, Slide 11, we --
18 there's an error on this slide, I'm sorry, the spring
19 larval survey and fall juvenile survey do not occur in
20 even numbered years so they weren't actually cancelled,
21 they just would not occur this year. But we did have a
22 beach seine survey to look at juvenile cod and pollock,
23 where we look at the condition of the fish and relate
24 that to determine what -- if there are more fish coming
25 into the population. And we also have monitoring in
26 Southeast Alaska, that's occurred since 1997. We were
27 able to get out there and sample temperature and
28 (indiscernible) fish.

29
30 One success this year was the longline
31 survey on slide 13 that sampled fish along the Slope
32 from Southern Southeast Alaska all the way down the
33 Aleutian Chain. And so we will get information for the
34 stock assessment for the sablefish, Pacific cod, turbot
35 and three rockfish species.

36
37 And so some good news this year, on
38 slide 14, is that we're seeing that the 2014 and 2016
39 juveniles that were highly abundant, they're
40 recruiting, they're coming into the fishery, so the
41 population is doing better than we've seen in the last
42 30 years. We have an assessment number, relative
43 population number in 2019 that is similar to the 2020
44 data that we're seeing, which has not been published or
45 provided yet, but that's good news for the sablefish
46 population.

47
48 Slide 15 shows the number of Age-2 fish
49 since the 1960s and so this is -- warming seems to be

50

1 critical for these sablefish in these current
2 conditions, they feed on larvae plankton, on larger
3 zooplankton, they're not as selective as many other
4 fish and they grow really long and fast in the first
5 year so they're able to reach a larger size for
6 survival. This survey is also collecting information
7 on temperature through the water column and these time
8 series are for the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska
9 just showing you these, warming -- or warm blob
10 temperatures in 14 through 16 that's favored these
11 sablefish.

12
13 So in summary for sablefish, they seem
14 to be doing well and it was one of the only major
15 traditional groundfish surveys for 2020 that occurred
16 from NOAA and we're seeing these good year classes of
17 2014 and '16 juveniles coming into the fishery and also
18 there's promise of a lot of juveniles this year.

19
20 So information from the survey is also
21 used to provide (indiscernible) Pacific cod and sort of
22 a lengthy, sort of history of the population
23 assessment. We saw an increase from the 1980s to the
24 1990s in terms of the spawning stock biomass as well as
25 the catch. So those were trending together until the
26 decline in spawning stock biomass from the 1990s
27 through the late 2000s. Then an increase in the number
28 of spawners in the 2012 year class, which was a bumper
29 crop of recruits that survived from that. We're
30 expecting that trend to track up and continue to
31 increase in production. However, during the warm blob
32 we actually saw a collapse of the spawning stock so the
33 fish there are producing the young -- the young ones --
34 and so there was a management response that resulted in
35 the closure of the fishery in 2020 so we are back to,
36 you know, trying to determine what happened and based
37 on information on the commission of the fish, they were
38 -- during that warm blob period they were skinnier on
39 average so they weren't producing as many eggs as they
40 normally would. And that's sort of the hypothesis that
41 was put forth.

42
43 So on slide 26, just going through
44 talking about the conditions in the Gulf of Alaska
45 showing the warm conditions through the water column
46 that reached bottom -- bottom depth.

47
48 And then on slide 29, we looked at the
49 abundance of lipid-rich prey, the copepod that we --

50

1 that young Pacific cod feed on and we saw a reduction
2 in these lipid-rich copepods and the bar graph with the
3 blue -- the blue bars so there wasn't as much food for
4 these young Pacific cod during that period as well as
5 having fewer, you know, skinnier females producing
6 offspring. So it's a double whammy and also in terms
7 of temperature, the foraging conditions were poor.

8
9 There was a study on Piatt on
10 exothermic (indiscernible) and also one of the factors
11 we feel that contributed to this reduction and the
12 population was the metabolic requirements of feeding
13 and during these warmer temperatures, it's too warm to
14 put energy towards growth. And there's several lab
15 studies that are showing this relationship between the
16 successful hatching of eggs and temperature. So slide
17 34, so we're reaching these temperatures above 6
18 degrees celsius in areas where the eggs are produced so
19 there's reduced egg survival and fewer larvae.

20
21 On slide 35, this is just the climate
22 projection for through 2080 and we're expecting an
23 increases in temperature and then an increase in the
24 current (indiscernible) heatwave that will possibly
25 cause a shift in the populations of groundfish.
26 Currently the sablefish seems to be doing better than
27 the Pacific cod.

28
29 And the goal of the stock assessment
30 scientists are to include some of this information into
31 their models to make projections on population status.

32
33 We do have ongoing research -- ongoing
34 research on the juvenile Pacific cod in the Gulf of
35 Alaska, so it started in 2006, slide 37. And so we go
36 out and do beachseine surveys on the outside of Kodiak
37 and then along the Alaska Peninsula throughout the
38 summer to get an idea of the numbers of the fish and
39 their condition. Condition of the juvenile is sought
40 to determine their overwintering survival, if they can
41 make it through that first year of life then they are
42 more likely to survive after that. So we did go out
43 in, in this year, 2020, and the numbers were up to the
44 levels we were seeing in 2017 and '18. So it's not all
45 doom and gloom, we survived the marine heatwave in '14
46 and '15 and '16 so we're back on track with some cooler
47 temperatures and more productive conditions for fish.

48
49 Slide 39 is a little complicated, and
50

1 my apologies. But the graph on the left, lower left,
2 there's these two brown graphs and that's 2015 and '16
3 where temperatures were warm in spawning habitat so
4 that's the time series index of temperatures in the
5 spawning habitats, it's using to predict on how well
6 fish will survive to older ages. So that's an ongoing
7 study.

8
9 So in conclusion, 2020 is cooler than
10 2019. Most of our surveys were cancelled due to Covid
11 so we're not going to have really good estimates of
12 populations except for the Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod
13 and sablefish and rockfish. So sablefish and rockfish
14 seem to be doing okay during -- with these warming
15 periods but not good for Pacific cod in the Gulf of
16 Alaska and we're also expanding that research into the
17 Bering Sea and so I can report on that after several
18 years of data collection.

19
20 We are moving towards including climate
21 into the stock assessments to get better predictions of
22 the populations, particularly in years when we're not
23 sampling. We can use information on environmental data
24 to help estimate population.

25
26 So that's all I have. If you have any
27 questions, feel free to contact me separately if you're
28 interested in learning how to use the R-code to
29 generate these temperature time series, I can connect
30 you with Jordan Watson. He's at our lab in Juneau and
31 he's very good at creating those and updating them
32 weekly.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
37 Ellen. Are there any questions for Ellen, questions or
38 comments.

39
40 MR. HOLMES: I got a couple, Pat.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Pat.

43
44 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, Ellen, that's just
45 really swell. I think this and your presentation two
46 years ago at Sand Point -- or I mean at Cold Bay really
47 got me thinking and I think a lot of other folks, and I
48 thought it was so interesting that juvenile black cod,
49 and I think I had recalled one of my colleagues in 1980

50

1 was out hunting, actually he's one of your former ones,
2 Phil Rigby, and there was a pulse of juvenile black cod
3 he observed then and it's interesting, it seems, and I
4 don't -- can't do regressions in my head anymore, but
5 where they have had those warming pulses a year or two
6 after or even during, it seems like were having some
7 effects on red salmon, in particularly at Chignik, '17,
8 '18 and '19, or '18, '19 and '20 and then some of the
9 other places, you know, it's maybe a year delay, but
10 one of our sportfish biologists gave a little brief
11 exam for the Buskin River because the returning 1:3
12 sockeye showed really tight growth patterns in their
13 last two years in the ocean, and so we're tossing out a
14 research grant proposal request to look at Chignik,
15 Kodiak and then McLees Lake they've had some bizarre
16 things happening at Unalaska, to hopefully look at sea
17 surface temperatures so I hope some of those
18 researchers do launch some projects, and then take a
19 look and contact you folks on temperature data because
20 it's so cool to have all that information. You know,
21 whereas 30 years ago you just kind of guessed.

22
23 Anyway, wonderful report, thank you so
24 much.

25
26 MS. YASUMIISHI: Through the Chair.
27 Thank you, Pat. I did reach out to Mark Witteveen
28 after.....

29
30 MR. HOLMES: Witteveen, yes.

31
32 MS. YASUMIISHI: After yesterday's
33 conversation to let him know that we have information
34 on juvenile sockeye diet and also estimates of the
35 abundance of large copepods which are a lipid-rich prey
36 in the Southeast Bering Sea in late summer so that
37 developed further in the Southern Bering Sea, and we're
38 also developing one in the North, that information in
39 Shellikof Strait as well that we can provide. So I'm
40 also an enthusiast of working long scale projects so
41 I've invited him to have a discussion and provide
42 information for any of those projects.

43
44 MR. HOLMES: Well, that's absolutely
45 splendid. Absolutely splendid. Because as you know
46 Chignik has been total disaster for subsistence and
47 that's what we address, and, certainly your work is of
48 -- the spin-offs for subsistence for looking in
49 relation to these critters, juveniles to adults, and

50

1 the commercial side too, I think is just so fantastic
2 you're doing this work and I'm glad you connected with
3 Mark.

4
5 Thank you so much.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Any other
8 comments or questions for Ellen.

9
10 (No comments)

11
12 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Ellen
13 for your report.

14
15 MS. YASUMIISHI: Madame Chair, thank
16 you for having me and I look forward to presenting in
17 the future.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you very
20 much. Much appreciated.

21
22 Okay, we'll move on to Western Alaska
23 Partnership, Danielle Stickman.

24
25 MS. STICKMAN: Good morning, Madame
26 Chair and members of the Council. My name is Danielle
27 Stickman. I'll just do a brief introduction of myself,
28 can you guys hear me?

29
30 (No comments)

31
32 MS. STICKMAN: Can you guys hear me
33 okay?

34
35 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yes, we can hear
36 you clear.

37
38 MS. STICKMAN: Okay. All right. Well,
39 good morning. Yesterday was a long day, thank you guys
40 for having me present, it will be brief. Again, my
41 name is Danielle Stickman. I am the network coordinator
42 for the Western Alaska Partnership, which is formerly
43 the Western Alaska Landscape Conservation Cooperative
44 that was housed at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
45 but now it's housed at the Alaska Conservation
46 Foundation here in Anchorage. And so I work with the
47 Aleutian, Bering Sea initiative coordinator, Aaron Poe,
48 along with the Northwest Boreal Partnership
49 coordinator, Leanna Heffner.

50

1 The concept -- our steering committees
2 are still active and they still have the same members
3 from when we were housed at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
4 Service. And so a little bit about me.

5
6 (Teleconference interference -
7 participants not muted)

8
9 MS. STICKMAN: I am originally from
10 Nondalton in Bristol Bay, between Lake Clark and Lake
11 Iliamna. My mom is Den'Athabascan and my dad is
12 Koyokon-Athabascan from Galena on the Yukon River and
13 I've worked in both areas around fisheries. So I've
14 worked in Bristol Bay with fisheries, the subsistence
15 fisheries scientists between 2012 and 2014, and then I
16 worked in fisheries on the Yukon River for about two
17 and a half years after that.

18
19 So my passion is fisheries but also
20 working with rural areas and rural communities, so it's
21 just a pleasure being on this call with you all. I
22 know how much time and effort this is, so, just thank
23 you for being on the Council and doing the work you do.

24
25 (Teleconference interference -
26 participants not muted)

27
28 MS. STICKMAN: Oh, no, I think, Della,
29 maybe you're not on mute, or Madame Chair.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I'm on mute.

32
33 MS. STICKMAN: Somebody is not on mute,
34 okay. All right, I'll continue on.

35
36 So thank you all for today.

37
38 So I provided supplemental material on
39 the materials page, it's the first presentation,
40 Northern Latitude Partnership. So, again, the region
41 that I work in extends from a little above Kotzebue
42 down to part of the Aleutian Chain and then it includes
43 Kodiak. So the three LCCs, formerly the LCCs, we're
44 called the Northern Latitudes Partnership and like I
45 said, our steering committees are still active, still
46 keeping the format but we no longer give grants out so
47 we do different projects within our regions and our
48 steering committees got range from monitoring
49 environmental changes and impacts to critical habitats,
50

1 subsistence resources and community safety, we also --
2 we continue to bring decisionmakers together to adapt
3 to environmental change, foster proactive planning
4 efforts that incorporate climate change information,
5 promote habitat connectivity.....

6
7 (Teleconference interference -
8 participants not muted)

9
10 MS. STICKMAN:support responsible
11 resource development and foster Indigenous leadership
12 and participation. We also have several projects that
13 are expanding on community based observation networks
14 to track environmental change and we also help with
15 assisting reduce risks from storms and flooding through
16 new data, new tools, and adaption strategies.

17
18 So the next page just has a few of the
19 collective projects that our three LCCs, formerly LCCs
20 are working on.

21
22 So the first one is in partnership with
23 the Aleut community of St. Paul to help expand the
24 Indigenous Sentinels work to provide.....

25
26 (Teleconference interference -
27 participants not muted)

28
29 REPORTER: Danielle, excuse me. This
30 is Tina, the court reporter. So for the people on
31 line, I'm recording this meeting, if everybody could
32 check and see if their line is muted. There's a lot of
33 background noise and I'm not picking up Danielle.
34 Thank you.

35
36 Sorry, Danielle, go ahead.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Tina.

39
40 MS. STICKMAN: No, I'm sorry.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Somebody's
43 still, I think not on mute because I can hear washing
44 dishes or something.

45
46 REPORTER: Yes, if you could please
47 check your line and see if it's muted so Danielle can
48 finish her presentation.

49
50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, sounds
2 better. Go ahead, Danielle.

3
4 MS. STICKMAN: All right, thank you,
5 Madame Chair.

6
7 All right, so we're expanding the
8 Indigenous Sentinels Network to provide remote
9 Indigenous communities with tools, training, networking
10 and convening, coordination and new capacity for
11 ecological, environmental and climate monitoring. So
12 this includes tribes and also Canadian First Nations to
13 assist with helping them through collecting data and so
14 they can own and manage that data. So that's one
15 project.

16
17 Then the next project is co-developing
18 coordinate and monitoring networks also through across
19 Alaska and Western Canada, and this was through support
20 of the National Science Foundation and we're partnering
21 with 11 other organizations. This is a two year
22 project for developing coordinating monitoring networks
23 in Alaska and Western Canada. And so the goals of that
24 project objectives is to better understand important
25 phenomenon and dynamics across landscape scale regions
26 and also provide an opportunity to address, share
27 needs, and also to support and strengthen community-
28 based monitoring programs. So we're actually hosting a
29 workshop next month towards the end of October, if
30 you're interested more about that project, learning
31 more, you can email me. My email's at the bottom of
32 this two pager.

33
34 And an example of an individual program
35 is we've partnered with the Seator network and so one
36 branch of going into that -- this is just another
37 project that's not listed here, but Aaron Poe and I
38 with the Aleutian Bering Sea initiative are
39 collaborating with, again, the Indigenous Sentinels
40 Network and the National Park Service to expand the
41 harmful algaebloom monitoring so we're expanding to
42 targeted areas in Northern, Bering and Southern
43 Chuckchi Seas. And so the study is not designed to
44 inform any specific risks to human health but rather to
45 better understand how the presence of possibly harmful
46 algo -- algae changes across seasons in this region
47 with a hope -- this is a pilot project, just launching
48 the fall. We're going to begin reaching out to
49 communities. The communities are targeted around the
50

1 specific National Park Service areas and so we're
2 looking to hire locals to collect small shellfish
3 samples and also to collect water samples. And we've
4 also partnered with -- so this will be a pilot project
5 and we hope that we can continue it into the future.

6
7 And then the final project on the
8 PowerPoint presentation is again with the Indigenous
9 Sentinels Network, community based programs to enhance
10 stewardship of traditional foods and critical habitat
11 in Alaska. So this funding is through the Natural
12 Resources Conservation Service. And we've partnered
13 with several tribal conservation districts and a few
14 tribes along with the Aleut Community of St. Paul
15 Island and this provides an opportunity to, again, for
16 bringing the resources to the tribes and the tribal
17 conservation district to manage their own resources and
18 help them with different models and tools and so, yeah.

19
20 And so that's a brief overview of what
21 we, as a collective, of the three formerly LCCs, now
22 the Northern Latitudes Partnership, what we've been
23 doing in the past, about a year. I've been in this
24 position about a year and a half, and so we've -- my
25 perspective, the steering committee, we've met every
26 month since I've been hired, but we're still -- I met a
27 few of you guys last year in Kodiak but we're still
28 hoping to have somebody from Kodiak that I'll reach out
29 to a few of you.

30
31 That's the end of my presentation.

32
33 Thank you, Madame Chair and members of
34 the Council.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
37 Danielle. Are there any questions or comments for
38 Danielle.

39
40 (No comments)

41
42 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Hearing none,
43 very good report. We appreciate you taking the time.

44
45 MS. STICKMAN: Thank you.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I'm going to
48 check here, Pat, are you still on line.

49
50

1 MR. HOLMES: Yes, Ma'am.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. I was
4 just checking.

5

6 So at this time we'll move on to OSM
7 report.

8

9 MR. KRON: Thank you, Madame Chair.
10 First of all I wanted to thank all the Council members
11 and thank you. It's a very difficult time, as you all
12 know, with Covid19. Yesterday we had static and echoes
13 and getting dropped off calls, it seems like the phones
14 were better yesterday afternoon and it seems like
15 they're better this morning. But, again, sorry for the
16 difficult conditions. I'm looking forward to a time
17 when we all can get back together and meet face to
18 face.

19

20 As I think you all know, we're holding
21 all 10 fall 2020 Regional Advisory Council meetings via
22 teleconference, due to Covid. This decision was made
23 with the utmost consideration and concern for the
24 health and safety of Council members, families, rural
25 communities, the public, Staff and all who participate
26 in the Council meetings. The health and safety of
27 everyone is our highest priority. The Center for
28 Disease Control and Prevention guidelines suggests that
29 people avoid travel and refrain from meeting in person
30 to minimize risk and help prevent the spread of
31 Covid19. Regional Advisory Councils are the foundation
32 of Alaska's Federal Subsistence Management Program. We
33 recognize holding face to face Council meetings in
34 rural communities across Alaska is preferable to
35 engaging the public most effectively. The Federal
36 Subsistence Management Program is fully committed to
37 resuming in person Council meetings across Alaska as
38 soon as possible, to do so safely.

39

40 Next, an update, real quickly on
41 Staffing changes. Since our last Council meeting cycle
42 last spring, the following Staffing changes have
43 occurred, or are occurring at OSM.

44

45 Tom Doolittle, the former acting
46 Assistant Regional Director and Deputy Assistant
47 Regional Director will retire this fall. Tom has
48 already gone hunting but knows that the Program will be
49 served well by our new ARD, Assistant Regional Director

50

1 Sue Detwiler.

2

3 Chris McKee, who was OSM's wildlife
4 division lead took a position with the Bureau of Land
5 Management and will serve on the InterAgency Staff
6 Committee for BLM.

7

8 Suzanne Worker, one of the OSM's
9 wildlife biologist took another position with U.S. Fish
10 and Wildlife Service Ecological Services Program in
11 Portland, Oregon.

12

13 Lisa Maas, one of our wildlife
14 biologists is currently acting OSM policy coordinator.

15

16 Frank Harris, an OSM fishery biologist
17 transferred to the Kenai Fisheries Office of the U.S.
18 Fish and Wildlife Service and will be working on
19 Kuskokwim fisheries projects.

20

21 Scott Ayers, another OSM fishery
22 biologist took a promotion with the U.S. Fish and
23 Wildlife Service to work in the Wildlife and Sportfish
24 Restoration Program in Anchorage.

25

26 OSM has hired two new fisheries
27 biologists, Jared Stone, and Cory Graham, who, I think
28 are both on this call.

29

30 OSM is also currently hiring another
31 administrative assistant position and an Anthropologist
32 Division lead.

33

34 Next, for a few policy changes.

35

36 During the August work session of the
37 Federal Subsistence Board they approved changes to the
38 closure policy and non-rural determination policy which
39 the Councils had previously reviewed. The Board also
40 approved revisions to the special action section of the
41 tribal consultation implementation guidelines. Copies
42 of these documents are available upon request as well
43 as on the OSM website, and, again, we can get copies to
44 Donald to get to you, if you'd like.

45

46 Another update you've heard about
47 before. Over the past two years we've been reminding
48 Council members about the changes in requirements for
49 IDs at airports. The due date was originally October

50

1 1, 2020, however, it has been now postponed until
2 October 1st, 2021. Note that all Council members will
3 need to make sure that they have the correct ID to
4 travel next fall. If you don't have a correct ID,
5 please, make sure that you get it before the fall 2021
6 Council meeting cycle.

7
8 Next, on the lawsuit from the State of
9 Alaska, which I'm guessing many of you have heard
10 about. In August the State of Alaska filed a lawsuit
11 against the Federal Subsistence Board for issues
12 including an Emergency Special Action, WSA19-14, which
13 addressed food security concerns during the Covid19
14 pandemic for the village of Kake, via a community hunt
15 and allowing the harvest of two antlered bull moose and
16 five male Sitka deer. Also included was a Temporary
17 Special Action WSA20-03, which closed Federal lands in
18 Units 13A and B to non-Federally-qualified moose and
19 caribou hunters. Based on legal guidelines, program
20 Staff do not comment on any active litigation directed
21 against the Federal Subsistence Board.

22
23 Thank you, Madame Chair.

24
25 I'd be happy to answer any questions
26 that you have. Thanks, again.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Tom.
29 Are there any questions at this time.

30
31 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Pat.

34
35 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, Tom. Excuse me, I
36 got as bad a sore throat as you do, I guess.

37
38 (Laughter)

39
40 MR. HOLMES: Anyway, it's talking too
41 much. It would be neat to send Donald those two things
42 you talked about closures and non-rural policy.

43
44 MR. KRON: Okay, will do.

45
46 MR. HOLMES: Because we'll get around
47 to talking on some of those, particularly the rural and
48 non-rural stuff.

49
50

1 MR. KRON: Yeah, again, they're on the
2 website and I'll work with Donald to make sure we can
3 get those out to you all.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 MR. HOLMES: Okay. Thank you, very
8 much. And I'm sorry for all your Staff shuffling and
9 changes there. I hope that you're successful in
10 getting those slots filled, and thanks for all your
11 hard work and I think the folks that were helping us on
12 the FRMP definitely need a pat on the back.

13
14 Thank you.

15
16 MR. KRON: Thank you.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you. Are
19 there anyone else with questions or comments for Tom.

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Tom,
24 appreciate it.

25
26 Okay, the next item on the agenda is --
27 what do you want to do here, Donald, I think maybe take
28 a break and then we'll get ready to go back to Jared
29 and Robbin on the Fisheries Monitoring Program, would
30 that be the next item?

31
32 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, Donald. Yes,
33 that would be the next item, and the priority
34 information needs, so, yeah, I'm for taking a break,
35 Madame Chair.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Yeah, and
38 then we'll.....

39
40 MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair, this is
41 Robbin.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead,
44 Robbin.

45
46 MS. LAVINE: I am also for taking a
47 break, Madame Chair. But just as you are preparing I
48 wanted to let you know that as we move into this agenda
49 item once again, there will be two documents that you

50

1 need to pull up for our discussion and for your review.
2 So one was a draft of the 2022 priority information
3 needs for the region that Jared sent out last night
4 around 5:45, and there is another document that was
5 sent this morning that edits an earlier version. So
6 we're going to look at these two. It looks like they
7 kind of have arrived at some similar conclusions. So I
8 just wanted to let you know that those are the two
9 documents that we will be discussing when we meet back
10 on the record.

11
12 Thanks.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: And just because
15 I forgot, Rebecca, are you back on line, or back, she
16 had to step away for a bit.

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I think,
21 yeah.....

22
23 MR. HOLMES: I thought there were some
24 good points that Becky raised, too, but I didn't see
25 hers until after I was playing with Jared and Robbins,
26 but I think we can have some really good discussion
27 here and try to find a better way to sell it.

28
29 Thank you.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. We'll go
32 ahead and take a 10 minute break and be back here at
33 about five to 10, how's that. All right, 9:55.

34
35 (Off record)

36
37 (On record)

38
39 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay.

40
41 MR. MIKE: Do you want me to take a
42 quick roll call again.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yeah.

45
46 MR. MIKE: Okay. Pat Holmes, are you
47 on.

48
49 MR. HOLMES: Yep.

50

1 MR. MIKE: Sam Rohrer.
2
3 MR. ROHRER: Yep.
4
5 MR. MIKE: Chris Price.
6
7 (No comments)
8
9 MR. MIKE: Coral Chernoff.
10
11 (No comments)
12
13 MR. MIKE: Rebecca Skinner.
14
15 MS. SKINNER: Here.
16
17 MR. MIKE: Natasha Hayden.
18
19 MS. HAYDEN: Here.
20
21 MR. MIKE: And Della you're here, and
22 we're still waiting on Chris Price and Coral Chernoff
23 to get back on, and Rebecca Skinner.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Rebecca was on
26 line so it's Coral and Chris.
27
28 MR. MIKE: Oh, okay, excuse me, sorry
29 about that. Coral and Chris, we're still waiting on.
30
31 Chris, are you back on line.
32
33 (No comments)
34
35 MR. MIKE: Chris Price.
36
37 (No comments)
38
39 MR. MIKE: Coral, are you with us.
40
41 (No comments)
42
43 MR. MIKE: So we're still missing two
44 members if you want to give it another minute or so.
45
46 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, thank you.
47 Standby.
48
49 (Pause)
50

1 MS. CHERNOFF: This is Coral, I just
2 got back on.

3
4 MR. MIKE: Okay, hi, Coral.

5
6 Chris, are you with us, Chris Price.

7
8 (No comments)

9
10 MR. MIKE: Della, we have all members
11 present except for Chris Price.

12
13 Thank you.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you.
16 We'll go ahead and get started so Jared and Robbin, if
17 you want to go ahead. And Rebecca, I think Robbin had
18 asked that -- I don't know if you saw Pat's email with
19 his suggested changes. He's saying he made those not
20 seeing your recommended ones yesterday.

21
22 MS. SKINNER: I'm sorry, who emailed, I
23 missed that part?

24
25 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Pat Holmes.

26
27 MS. SKINNER: Oh, okay, yep.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, Robbin and
30 Jared.

31
32 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
33 Members of the Council. Again, for the record my name
34 is Robbin LaVine, I'm an anthropologist with OSM and
35 I'm joined by my colleague fisheries biologist, Jared
36 Stone.

37
38 I want to start once again by
39 acknowledging the challenging working conditions for
40 all of us here and to express my gratitude, again, for
41 your support and guidance. It's wonderful working with
42 such a great Council, thank you all.

43
44 So, yes, as a reminder, we have two
45 documents that will be supporting our discussion this
46 morning. So the first document was sent out last night
47 around 5:45 and it's titled Draft 2022 PINs Southwest
48 Region Version 4. And this document was taken from
49 Rebecca's edits of an earlier version. Rebecca's edits

50

1 were what Jared and I worked from after our meeting
2 last night, so we worked together, we discussed, we
3 took notes, we reviewed our notes from your discussion
4 and your guidance and we came up with that version. At
5 the same time we have some great comments that were
6 sent out this morning by Pat Holmes. And so that
7 should have arrived in your inbox around 8:33. And as
8 Jared and I were reviewing them it was interesting
9 because we realized we kind of came to some similar
10 conclusions about some of the different items on these
11 lists and we can discuss that as we move forward.

12
13 So what we hope to do with these two
14 documents is to review the draft, Version 4, and it's
15 edited language, does it capture our discussion, do
16 these items capture your concerns. 2, as we look at
17 the bottom of this document, Version 4, and we review
18 the 2020 remainders, should they be included or should
19 they be left out of the 2022 priority information needs
20 to be revisited in the future instead. We want to
21 review and respond to the issues that are flagged by
22 Pat and OSM Staff notes.

23
24 So that's what we're doing for this
25 section of this agenda item.

26
27 And I just wanted to say a couple of
28 reminders. So the text in bold is new language for
29 this cycle. Any text with a strikethrough is
30 recommended for removal. And remember also that when
31 we're done and when you sign off on the Southwest
32 Regional priority information needs, they will still
33 need to be reviewed by the Bristol Bay Regional
34 Advisory Council.

35
36 So that is where we are.

37
38 And I am here to follow your direction.
39 Would you like me to read them on the record as we go
40 through them one by one, or would you just like to pick
41 up and start discussing as you have them before you?

42
43 MR. HOLMES: Let's go for it.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Maybe read them
46 one by one and go through so people that don't have the
47 information can know what we're discussing, just go
48 through it.

49
50

1 MS. LAVINE: Okay.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Try to make the
4 changes but one by one in each section and then
5 hopefully we can get through this.

6

7 MS. LAVINE: Wonderful. Okay, so Item
8 1 focuses on the Bristol Bay region but it is an area
9 certainly of concern for both Councils.

10

11 Reliable estimates of escapement,
12 quality of escapement, and environmental impacts
13 addressing decline of chinook and sockeye salmon for
14 the Chignik River area and associated impacts to
15 subsistence harvest opportunities.

16

17 There is old language from the previous
18 2020 cycle that is struck out below, so you can see and
19 approve.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: So any.....

22

23 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE:comments --
26 go ahead, Pat.

27

28 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, I think that's just
29 swell, is the way that you've reworded it. I think
30 that'll work good. And I think you flagging at the
31 start for the area that it is, Bristol Bay, I think
32 that's really good because then somebody, let's say on
33 the next one, talking Southwest, well is that Southwest
34 what, and basically it's still Bristol Bay. So I think
35 No. 1 is just swell the way it is.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Any other
38 comments.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I'm going to
43 assume we're just going to delete what you crossed out,
44 Robbin?

45

46 MS. LAVINE: With your approval, Madame
47 Chair.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yeah. Unless

50

1 anybody disagrees I guess we'll go with that.

2

3

(No opposing comments)

4

5

6

7

MS. LAVINE: If there are no more comments we can move on to Item No. 2, which is a full Southwest Region information need.

8

9

10

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Robbin.

11

12

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16

MS. LAVINE: And the recommended -- well, you'll notice that actually this Item No. 2 is compromised of some brand new text this cycle and includes some language from 2020, a similar PIN from 2020, and it reads:

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25

Reliable estimates of chinook salmon escapement, an evaluation of quality of escapement measures in Big Creek, Naknek River, Alagnak River, Meshik River, and Togiak River, including elements of potential egg deposition, sex and size composition of spawners, spawning habitat quality and utilization for determining the reproductive potential of spawning stocks.

26

27

28

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Comments. Questions.

29

30

31

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35

MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair. Even though I had put in Bristol Bay there, I guess I'm just thinking in terms of State management areas so I think probably Southwest is -- probably would do just fine so I think the wording that OSM has put in there, I think that that's just fine.

36

37

38

39

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Any other comments.

40

41

42

43

(No comments)

44

45

46

47

48

49

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Robbin.

50

1 So as it is now, Item No. 3 states; and
2 this is all new language:

3
4 Examine how recent changes in the Gulf
5 of Alaska environment affect the finfish within their
6 range and habitats, noting particular concern with the
7 Chignik City, Chignik Lagoon, and Chignik Lake areas,
8 and including scale analysis to determine the effects
9 of changes in ocean conditions over multiple years and
10 research the decline in size at age of salmon in the
11 Buskin, Chignik, and McLees drainages and the Naknek,
12 Nushagak and Togiak drainages.

13
14 So that's the language as is, but there
15 are some thoughts and suggestions. There's a couple of
16 things.

17
18 So one of the things that we flagged
19 for inclusion in this information need was to add a
20 freshwater component. Another thing we thought of
21 interest was the notice of finfish in the very first
22 line, using the language finfish and do we really want
23 to narrow the focus of this information need on salmon,
24 specifically, in particular, because in the
25 Kodiak/Aleutians region that is really a stock of
26 critical importance. And then another might be should
27 we peel this apart, make it very similar, almost
28 exactly the same, but addressing the two different
29 regions; Kodiak/Aleutians and Bristol Bay.

30
31 So those are some of the questions.

32
33 Jared, is there anything I've
34 forgotten?

35
36 So we're looking at, do we want to, you
37 know, change finfish to salmon?

38
39 Do we want to ensure specific language
40 that includes freshwater growth and saltwater growth
41 patterns, as recommended by Pat, or do we think just
42 salmon range or fish range and habitats will encompass
43 that?

44
45 And, then, 3, do we want to peel this
46 item apart into its specific watersheds, the
47 Kodiak/Aleutian regions and the Bristol Bay region?

48
49 Thank you.

50

1 MR. STONE: Madame Chair, this is Jared
2 Stone, fisheries biologist with OSM. And, Robbin, yes,
3 it looks like you've nailed it, those were the three
4 things that we kind of flagged for discussion for
5 today.

6
7 And it looks like the additional
8 language that Pat Holmes provided had a lot more
9 clarity for adding that freshwater growth component to
10 the priority information needs.

11
12 I guess from here we can leave it up to
13 the Council, if this priority information needs should
14 be fleshed out into two priority information needs, one
15 for each region.

16
17 And also the other topic of whether or
18 not to remove the term, finfish, and then be more
19 specific in regards to using the word, salmon, so that
20 the principal investigators do not become confused as
21 to which species of fish to research.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you. Any
24 Council comments or suggestions.

25
26 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair. You got
27 mine before but my main comment, or if I might add
28 clarity to my comments.

29
30 The question there at Chignik is not
31 finfish, it's sockeye, and that's the problem fish
32 everywhere. And even though chinooks are variable
33 there, I don't know how much sampling has even been
34 done. I think if you just -- at sockeye -- that does
35 allow for really quick turnaround by doing scale
36 analysis.

37
38 And then my thoughts on separating the
39 two regions would be to, because different researchers
40 would be interested in perhaps Chignik, but not in the
41 other areas, or Bristol Bay, you know, some
42 universities have areas where they have quite a bit of
43 work and experience in. I know the research proposal
44 for the disaster funds have a thing with the Department
45 and the University of Alaska and, yet, on the other
46 hand, Chignik, has had decades of work from the
47 Fisheries Research Institute in Seattle. So I was
48 thinking about breaking it up is fine, if you could, to
49 encourage those things to be dealt with separately

50

1 rather than trying to toss out something because
2 initially if you were working at this and you were from
3 UBC, you might look at it and say, oh, well, I'll do it
4 all or I'll only do this part of it and anyway that's
5 my rationale.

6
7 Thank you, Ma'am.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Pat.

10
11 Rebecca, I'm going to ask you what are
12 your thoughts on this?

13
14 (No comments)

15
16 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Rebecca.

17
18 MS. SKINNER: Oh, I'm sorry, I didn't
19 hear my name there.

20
21 So I guess the one I have the strongest
22 feeling about is whether to include the detail, if I
23 understood correctly, the detail about the scale
24 sample, so Pat's added language. I think it's
25 important to leave that in there because that is the
26 specific idea that's coming out of the RAC. And I
27 wouldn't limit this PIN to that but I think it's
28 important to note that that is one of the things that
29 we're thinking about.

30
31 As far as how it is indicated, that
32 these are different regions and we are not -- or
33 different areas, and we're not expecting a project to
34 necessarily address every single region, I think I
35 agree with that concept. I think the more flexibility
36 we can build in the better. I don't really care how
37 it's worded to accomplish that, but I agree that that
38 makes the most sense.

39
40 And then what was the third question, I
41 forgot?

42
43 MS. CHERNOFF: Finfish versus salmon,
44 the wording.

45
46 MS. SKINNER: Oh, I -- I mean I'm fine
47 with finfish. I think -- I mean that's what it's -- so
48 if we do want to limit it just to salmon, I'm okay with
49 that, but finfish broadens it a little bit and gives

50

1 more flexibility. Finfish is what it's called at like
2 a State regulatory level, they have the, you know,
3 finfish regulations, or the finfish cycle. But if we
4 truly just want to focus on salmon or even a particular
5 type of salmon, I am okay with that. But the down side
6 is the more narrowly you tailor these, the more -- so
7 it's good if you have a project that exactly has a
8 laser focus on exactly how we worded the PIN. So if we
9 were in communication with researchers and we knew we
10 had someone lined up to do this, I'd say, yes, let's do
11 that, because you're going to get exact alignment and
12 it's going to look really good in the grant application
13 process. If we don't have researchers lined up and
14 literally we are trying to put these priorities out
15 there to get somebody to respond, I think there's a
16 benefit to leaving a little bit more flexibility.

17
18 But, I mean on that one, from our
19 discussion I think we really are concerned about salmon
20 and mostly we've talked about the sockeye, so if that's
21 our priority then that's what we should say. I just
22 think that because we're doing these now for projects
23 that won't even be applied for for a couple of years,
24 or won't be awarded for a couple of years, it doesn't
25 hurt to leave that little bit of extra flexibility.
26 And I mean I think if you say finfish you're probably
27 going to get proposals for salmon. I mean so I think
28 it can work either way.

29
30 Those are my observations.

31
32 Thanks.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
35 Rebecca. Pat, do you have any comments in regards to
36 what Rebecca proposed.

37
38 MR. HOLMES: Hello, oh, sorry, I was on
39 mute. Am I connected?

40
41 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yes, we can hear
42 you, go ahead.

43
44 MR. HOLMES: Hello.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Pat, we can hear
47 you. We can hear you.

48
49 MR. HOLMES: Oh, okay, I beg your

50

1 pardon. Between my hearing aide and multiple stuff. I
2 think Becky was spot on, her precise mind is pretty
3 good.
4

5 I would continue that -- go back to
6 saying, sockeye, because that's the problem. If you do
7 salmon, that multiplies it by five, and there's not
8 really much problems with the other ones or anything
9 you could do about them because sockeye is what the
10 whole system is managed for and the other things aren't
11 really monitored. And that same argument would go for
12 finfish. If you're adding that, then you're adding the
13 potential of 20 or more. And so I think getting it as
14 specific as possible would encourage smaller
15 researchers to do it and then if they wanted to do all
16 of them, then they could put in a pitch for each of the
17 areas and that way it would give us a better chance of
18 seeing these things happen.
19

20 And I would like to add a footnote for
21 people to think about overall with this, is, in
22 relation to Chignik. Is there some way we can -- or
23 the whole thing, can we have some kind of an intent
24 from our Council of what's important to the people that
25 will be doing the review of the various study
26 proposals.
27

28 And then, B, a question for is, what
29 happens if the \$3.1 emergency sockeye study come
30 through with that disaster grant and I've heard it's
31 like 95 percent of the way there, and once that comes
32 through, do we want to still have Chignik rolling in
33 this and would there be a way to modify that because
34 why pay twice for the same answer, and then have that
35 money disappear where it might be able to be used for
36 one of our other priorities.
37

38 Thank you.

39 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Pat.
40

41 Any other Council member comments or
42 concerns or suggestions.
43

44 MR. PRICE: Hi, this is Chris. I just
45 wanted to comment that sockeye is the super important
46 species, so, but I agree with, also, opening it up in a
47 big way for other species as well.
48

49
50

1 MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair.

2
3 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, it
4 sounds.....

5
6 MS. LAVINE: This is Robbin.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE:like
9 Natasha -- oh, Robbin.

10
11 MS. LAVINE: Yeah, I just wanted to
12 comment to Pat's concern and others, that when it comes
13 time for proposals to meet the review process, or to be
14 reviewed during the TRC, if they've been funded by
15 other means at that time, it's noted, and we don't
16 duplicate. We don't duplicate funding. So if a
17 project and researchers are looking for multiple
18 avenues to fund their projects, we certainly welcome
19 any means by which up to date information can inform
20 our process, it doesn't have to be just FRMP. We've
21 had some of our principal investigators find funding
22 outside of our program and so they're funded from
23 multiple different sources in order to meet their
24 project objectives. We're really supportive and
25 encourage those kind of partnerships.

26
27 Thanks.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
30 Robbin. One other thought on this, because the way
31 that this was -- this is Della -- that this was, I
32 think Pat listed the various communities on the bottom
33 of this No. 3, whether you can put in parenthesis,
34 Bristol Bay and list their communities, and
35 Kodiak/Aleutians and list the Buskin and McLees, just
36 to kind of -- for a definition.

37
38 MR. STONE: Madame Chair, this is Jared
39 Stone.

40
41 MS. LAVINE: Madame.....

42
43 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Jared.

44
45 MR. STONE: Thank you. So I'm editing
46 this document live as we're talking about this, and
47 your suggestion to separate the communities from
48 Kodiak/Aleutians to the Bristol Bay would be easy to
49 do. My hopes with this, is that, when we finish I'll

50

1 have this edited finished document that I can share
2 with you via that same email chain that I've been using
3 and give you the final version. And so if you like, if
4 that's something that you would like to parse out, I
5 can definitely mention the Kodiak/Aleutian communities,
6 and then the Bristol Bay communities.

7
8 I'd also like to add too, I did see
9 from our volunteer meeting that Dan Dunaway, from
10 Bristol Bay region, did express some interest in having
11 this priority information needs shared with his region,
12 and so that's why the Bristol Bay communities are in
13 there.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yeah, keep it as
16 Southwest but define it a little bit more on the end --
17 communities on the end.

18
19 Any other comments in regards to this.
20 Robbin, did you.....

21
22 MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair, this is
23 Robbin.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead,
26 Robbin.

27
28 MS. LAVINE: Yeah. Before we continue,
29 I know that Jared has been editing this item, Item No.
30 3, to include some of Pat's suggested language. And if
31 you'll notice, we did include the Chignik cities but in
32 general this is really targeting drainages, right, so
33 we've got some drainages in -- well, it's targeting
34 drainages and the Chigniks, so there you go. So we've
35 got drainages on the Kodiak/Aleutians side and we've
36 got drainages on the Bristol Bay region side, and there
37 is specific concern noted from both Councils with the
38 Chigniks, right.

39
40 So with that in mind, I was hoping that
41 Jared could read what we have and see if it sounds good
42 to you.

43
44 Jared.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Sounds fine to
47 me, go ahead.

48
49 MR. STONE: All right, Madame Chair and
50

1 members of the Council, thank you.

2

3 So I'm taking some verbiage from Pat
4 that he shared with us this morning and I'm
5 incorporating these new changes of adding the drainages
6 to the priority information need as well. So as it
7 states now currently:

8

9 Examine how recent changes in the Gulf
10 of Alaska environment affects the finfish and within
11 their range and habitat using scale analysis of
12 freshwater growth and saltwater growth patterns to
13 determine the effects of change in ocean conditions
14 over multiple years and research the decline in size at
15 age of salmon in the Kodiak/Aleutians drainages,
16 including Buskin, Chignik, and McLees drainages and in
17 the Bristol Bay drainages, Nushagak, Naknek, and Togiak
18 drainages.

19

20 And I think I accidentally mentioned
21 finfish. I was going back and forth looking between
22 two different documents, but have we come to a
23 consensus if we want to use the word salmon instead?

24

25 MR. HOLMES: Sockeye.

26

27 MR. STONE: Got it, thank you.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: You might want
30 to also move Chignik to the Bristol Bay, they're
31 Bristol Bay, not Kodiak/Aleutian.

32

33 MR. STONE: Thank you.

34

35 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Pat.

38

39 MR. HOLMES: Is there a way that we can
40 let the people that would want to do this type of study
41 know that we're not asking them to do everything within
42 a specific district or region, and that we might be
43 looking for just getting one system at a time. I've
44 heard from one person on the Buskin, that they are
45 trying to ramp up and figure a way to do a proposal
46 just for that system, but I'm sure that that person is
47 not at all inclined to do McLees Lake and Chignik. So
48 that was my reason on trying to split things up and
49 getting them specific so the researchers would know,

50

1 well, if they want to do them all, that's fine, but
2 they shouldn't -- know that they have to do them all
3 [sic].

4
5 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Robbin. Jared.

6
7 MR. STONE: Madame Chair, this is
8 Jared.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead.

11
12 MR. STONE: And in the past -- oh,
13 sorry.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: No, go ahead.

16
17 MR. STONE: Thank you. So in the past
18 we've had priority information needs that were similar.
19 Actually when you go down the list to the next priority
20 information No. 4, it's kind of a similar situation
21 where we're listing multiple communities and we can use
22 different words in this priority information need to
23 say, and/or, which would allow the investigators to
24 pick up and choose both or maybe just individual
25 drainages.

26
27 So I guess what I'm trying to say is
28 they have the freedom, ultimately, to pick and choose
29 and decide, and when they're ranked or reviewed in the
30 technical review process, they, you know, look at how
31 many of those drainages they'll be researching. If
32 that makes sense.

33
34 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, it does. I was
35 wondering, you know, on the question that you folks
36 mentioned just a minute ago, on Chignik, and Dan's
37 comments. I think that's where I was wondering is if
38 we could have some over document, or some general
39 footnote that would go in with these. Because I think
40 everyone on our Council would agree, and everyone on
41 the Bristol Bay Council would agree, that the Chignik
42 crises the number 1. And so I think that that would be
43 good to identify, I think getting more specific on
44 saying we have these different places within these
45 areas that could be worked, then I think that works out
46 well, but it would be good to have some kind of
47 overview on the whole document where, you know, there
48 might be comments from either RAC.

49
50

1 Thank you.

2

3

Or both.

4

5

6

MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair, this is Robbin.

7

8

9

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Robbin.

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MS. LAVINE: I would also note that, you know, we -- just as in No. 4, we include -- so if you look at No. 4, we've included a number of communities that are of interest to update, and we do not expect a principal investigator to forward a proposal to address every single one of them in this particular cycle, right, so you'll see as we go through and we realize that, you know, that particular part of the information need has been addressed, we strike it from the language, and then we forward the edited priority information need to the next cycle if the Council has -- and the region has determined that these remain of critical importance.

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So when we look at a broad -- well, both broad, so regionally broad, but actually really specific in language and direction kind of PIN as Item No. 3, I think everyone might note that a person could, let's say, forward -- or an investigator might forward a proposal to address this information need in the Chignik drainage, and there may be another principal investigator that attempts to meet the same PIN, although they are targeting, let's say, Nushagak and Naknek drainages, or McLees; they won't cancel each other out in the review process. All of those drainages are important information needs and if all three investigation plans are forwarded to meet this one priority information need for the region, it could be all three are incredibly strong, well written and demonstrate your interest and your concern and ensuring that all aspects of that priority information need are met. Or it could be only one this cycle is forwarded, we don't know. We don't know who's out there and who will be writing to meet this priority information need.

46

47

48

49

50

But, anyway, I just wanted to let you know, give you a head's up that you're emphasizing through this PIN those drainages that are important -- most important to you. And, again, it could be that

1 there's -- as over time, some other drainages in the
2 region are also elevated to issues of concern and that
3 will be taken into account when we're reviewing -- or
4 when the TRC is reviewing proposals.

5
6 Thanks.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
9 Robbin.

10
11 So I'm sorry, I had to step away for a
12 minute, are we basically done with three then, Robbin
13 and Jared?

14
15 MS. CHERNOFF: Della, this is Coral.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Coral.

18
19 MS. CHERNOFF: Hi. I just wanted to
20 pipe in here on my thoughts. I think as far as -- I
21 think we're talking about whether to do finfish or
22 salmon and somehow it got down to just specifying the
23 sockeye. I guess I'm in favor of naming it as salmon,
24 especially as things kind of have -- seem to be
25 changing, and although we're all concerned about the
26 red salmon, who knows, like next year silver salmon
27 could completely not come back or other, you know,
28 other species could crash that might, you know, that
29 we're all concerned with. So I would be in favor of
30 naming that as salmon instead of finfish or sockeye.

31
32 I like the idea of specifying the
33 regions. Naming those regions but specifying that some
34 are in the Bristol Bay region and some are in the
35 Kodiak/Aleutians region.

36
37 And I'm good with Pat's change of the
38 scale analysis and mentioning freshwater and saltwater.

39
40 Thank you.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
43 Coral.

44
45 MS. LAVINE: Yeah, this is Robbin once
46 again. Can you hear me?

47
48 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead. Go
49 ahead.

50

1 MS. LAVINE: I'm just -- you know, as
2 far as maybe trimming this down or editing, how about
3 this, so as it's written, and I don't have the specific
4 freshwater/saltwater language that Jared read but if we
5 say:

6
7 Examine how recent changes in the Gulf
8 of Alaska environment affect the salmon within their
9 range and habitats, noting particular concern with the
10 Chignik drainage, and including scale analysis to
11 determine the effects of changes in -- and I think that
12 was freshwater/saltwater conditions over multiple
13 years, and research the decline in size at age of
14 salmon in the Buskin and McLees drainages and in the
15 Nushagak, Naknek, and Togiak drainages.

16
17 So it kind of parses it out as, I
18 think, for Southwest region, both Councils are very
19 concerned with the Chignik drainage. And then we have
20 a shift at the end that focuses on the Buskin and
21 McLees, which is the Kodiak/Aleutian region, and then
22 the Nushagak, Naknek and Togiak, which also is Bristol
23 Bay region.

24
25 So now we're looking at three different
26 targets. Does that make sense to you?

27
28 Thanks.

29
30 MS. CHERNOFF: This is Coral.

31
32 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you.
35 Coral and then Pat.

36
37 MS. CHERNOFF: Okay. Yeah, I think
38 that sounds good, it's easy to understand and it
39 encompasses the changes and it sort of breaks those
40 regions apart.

41
42 That sounded good to me.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Pat.

45
46 MR. HOLMES: Yep, I think Coral made
47 some good points but I would still, having spent my
48 life either as a commercial fisherman of salmon, or
49 working on this Council, salmon biologist, if you say

50

1 salmon, you're talking about five species, and that
2 makes it incredibly complex. And if there is a problem
3 coming up with coho, well, then we'll just modify that
4 when the problem comes, but the problem now throughout
5 the whole Gulf of Alaska is sockeye, and I really think
6 it's imperative to retain that and that's what my
7 intent was when I brought up the wording, or this whole
8 topic and submitted it for consideration, was that the
9 problem with sockeye. And that's what Dan was
10 concurring with and so it's a technical thing, rather
11 than a philosophical thing, and so that's where I would
12 rest my case.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 MS. SKINNER: Della.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead,
19 Rebecca.

20

21 MS. SKINNER: Yeah, thanks. I thought
22 Dan -- I mean I know he spoke to sockeye, but I thought
23 he also talked about chinook, you know, having concern
24 with size at age, and I -- I mean I agree that the
25 issue right now that we're all kind of focused on with
26 Chignik is sockeye, but there's also been concerns with
27 pinks, and then -- I mean I've been in a lot of
28 meetings where the discussion about small kings came
29 up, so, I mean chinook size at age, or chinook size has
30 been an issue.

31

32 Again, my concern is that if we tailor
33 this PIN to focus just on sockeye, this is looking two
34 years ahead, so these projects aren't even going to be
35 funded for two years, it could be that maybe next year
36 a huge issue comes up with pinks and I think that
37 limiting this to just sockeye, I think that that's -- I
38 think that that's potentially going to be a mistake.
39 Now, that being said, I think if there's a way to word
40 it without making this super wordy, which I think it --
41 we should be trying to make these clear and easy to
42 read and easy to understand, and we also need to keep
43 in mind that these are priorities, so, you know, they
44 can be very specific, again, if we lined up a scientist
45 who's going to do the work, but they can also be a
46 little bit more broad so that different kinds of
47 projects can fit in, and, again, given that things will
48 change over time. But we've highlighted areas that are
49 of particular concern, so the Chignik City, Chignik
50

1 Lagoon and Chignik Lake, maybe a good kind of way to
2 address both Pat's concern and my concern is to replace
3 finfish with salmon, but also add some words that say,
4 you know, and currently, you know, sockeye are of
5 particular concern, or you could put, noting particular
6 concern with sockeye in the Chignik City, Chignik
7 Lagoon, and Chignik Lake areas.

8
9 But because projects are going to be
10 scored based on these priorities and because we are
11 setting these priorities now for, again, two years in
12 the future, I am concerned with being overly
13 constraining because some projects could be scored very
14 -- get very low scores or be kicked out because they
15 focused on pinks rather than sockeyes, but it turns out
16 in two years pinks really are an issue.

17
18 So I'm not disagreeing with Pat that
19 sockeye are important, but I would really like a way to
20 highlight in here that sockeye are important, but also
21 leave it a little bit open because we don't know what's
22 going to happen in the next two years, and things have
23 changed -- there have been such huge and rapid shifts
24 over -- certainly over the last, you know, three to
25 five years. Again, I'm just very concerned with being
26 too narrow in setting these PINS.

27
28 Thank you.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you. Any
31 other.....

32
33 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE:comments.
36 Go ahead, Pat.

37
38 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, I understand your
39 logic, Becky, but there is absolutely no work --
40 there's no sampling on pink salmon anywhere and those
41 projects, any kind of project like that just -- it just
42 isn't being done and it would -- they're a one year in
43 the ocean fish and so they will have changes but pinks,
44 throughout our region, are a very minor subsistence
45 species. The most important species is sockeye. And I
46 would hang on my initial presentation of this when we
47 started, that sockeye is a problem, sockeye's the fish
48 of concern.

49
50

1 The chinook answer -- the chinook
2 question and that was a good point to raise, is already
3 -- will be addressed in either 1 or 2, or both of them,
4 and so I don't think that we need to have salmon as the
5 word, and it's really, really important to keep this
6 focused on the species that is having trouble. Sockeye
7 spent from one to three years in the ocean and so you
8 combine that with zero to two years in freshwater,
9 that's five, and three, that's eight different
10 variables for just sockeye. And when you toss in other
11 species, it just becomes so much more complex.

12
13 And I think I'd like to hear some input
14 from some of the other folks that maybe aren't
15 biologists but what fish do you fish for, and why would
16 that be important.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Pat.
21 Chris, do you have any comments in regard to this?

22
23 MR. PRICE: Yeah, I do. This is Chris.
24 I do, in that our main system of concern here is McLees
25 Lake and sockeye is really the only fish that we
26 harvest for subsistence. There is some pinks but it's
27 pretty minor.

28
29 So that's my comments.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you.

32
33 Natasha.

34
35 MS. HAYDEN: Yes, thanks, Della. I
36 definitely see where both Pat and Rebecca are coming
37 from. I think from a subsistence standpoint, I mean I
38 know my subsistence practices focus on sockeye. And as
39 far as the -- I don't think that, from what I've heard,
40 there's any concern about coho at this time. I do -- I
41 have heard also about the undersized king salmon, but
42 I'm not sure how much of an impact that has on
43 subsistence. So I mean I kind of agree with both. I
44 agree with Pat that if -- you know, right now with
45 what's going on in Chignik and McLees Lake is a crises
46 in the sockeye returns. But I would be supportive of,
47 if it were to designate that it was requesting the work
48 for the sockeye returns, but not precluding the other
49 species as time goes on. But it definitely seems like

50

1 it should be prioritized as sockeye's the species
2 that's in crises.

3
4 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
5 Natasha.

6
7 Sam.

8
9 MS. CHERNOFF: Della, this is Coral.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Can I ask Sam
12 first, please.

13
14 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes.

15
16 MR. ROHRER: Yeah, Della, this is Sam
17 here, thanks. You know, I've just been listening to
18 the discussion, certainly this area is out of my area
19 of expertise so I've been largely quiet and just
20 listening.

21
22 You know, both sides make points. I
23 think I'd probably fall on the more specific is better
24 and so I -- I mean I could really go either way and
25 would, you know, probably tend to lean towards, you
26 know, what the folks say who live down in that region
27 who are on the Council. I would probably tend to go
28 with being more specific in our request is better,
29 which is, I think kind of the point Pat's making.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Sam.

32
33 Coral, was that you, go ahead.

34
35 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes, Della, thank you.
36 So I might suggest that it be worded as -- several
37 people have said, is talking about the area of most
38 concern, so have it read something like:

39
40 Examine how recent changes in the GOA
41 environment affect the salmon identified as of most
42 concern in the identified areas, or in the specified
43 areas following.

44
45 So, that, to me, it seems it's open in
46 case there's any future crash in other species or
47 anything that there wants to be looked at, and we're
48 not specifying and limiting ourselves to just sockeye.
49 And then the areas get to choose what is their area of
50

1 most concern.

2

3

That's my suggestion.

4

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6

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you. I think I'd like to make a comment.

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I have a tendency to kind of agree with Pat and I say this because -- maybe Lisa's on the line that can contribute to this, but I do know that Russell last year and this year, Mortensen's and Thin Point, the reds, that's our targeted subsistence fish for everything we do. I mean it's our main one. We do the other ones as they come through but that is our targeted species for subsistence. So I know there was issues -- last year was really bad and this year, I don't even know if anybody's even gone to Thin Point or Mortensen's for fish this year, so -- and I'm going to make some calls at lunch time just to clarify, you know, what the situation is in Cold Bay this year because I really haven't heard anything. But like I say, I have a tendency to agree with Pat on this in regard to the sockeye.

24

25

26

I also understand Rebecca and Coral, you know, what your points are.

27

28

29

So with that, Robbin and Jared, any suggestions.

30

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MR. HOLMES: I could answer the question for Coral and Becky because they're concerned about future problems and if we have future problems then we'll readjust and put in another proposal request, but at -- I'll just leave it at that.

36

37

38

Thank you.

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MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you.

41

42

MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair, this is Robbin.

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MS. LAVINE: Go ahead, Robbin. As you know developing the priority information needs for your region is your opportunity to be very targeted in your concerns. This really helps prioritize and elevate projects that are reviewed. It doesn't necessarily mean that the whole of Alaska and the Federal

50

1 Subsistence Management Program and the Regional
2 Advisory Councils cannot be aware of an immediate and
3 quickly moving issue that would certainly get
4 considered if it was uniformly state-wide recognized as
5 something of immediate concern. So, you know, I know
6 that this is an opportunity to really help elevate and
7 emphasize the issues. Everybody involved are
8 professional people who are aware of changing dynamics
9 at times, changing conditions, we live in a changing
10 world.

11
12 That being said, I also recognize that
13 Pat had said earlier that salmon in general, or chinook
14 salmon -- chinook and sockeye salmon are being
15 addressed under broader priority information needs of
16 Items 2 and Items 2. I do want to recognize and
17 acknowledge my mistake on Item No. -- let's see was it --
18 Item No. 2, which actually really is a Bristol Bay
19 watersheds item.

20
21 And I guess those are all of my
22 thoughts as we move forward.

23
24 Again, we really -- I really think this
25 has been wonderful discussion. This could be something
26 that we can tweak as we move forward. The final copy,
27 again, won't be determined until after the Bristol Bay
28 Regional Advisory Council meets, and the Bristol Bay
29 Regional Advisory Council meets at the end of October.
30 So there could be a possibility that as we review this
31 language as a team, Staff supporting, volunteers from
32 your Council, that if we come up with a slightly better
33 language that everybody feels has captured our
34 discussion today, then, perhaps, when this is up for
35 discussion at the Bristol Bay meeting, someone
36 representing your Council, a volunteer representing
37 your Council could share the information that we have
38 refined -- or share the language that we have refined.

39
40 Does that make sense to you?

41
42 MR. HOLMES: Sounds good.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yes, it does.
45 So do we want.....

46
47 MS. LAVINE: So.....

48
49 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE:to move on

50

1 to No. 4 at this time then.

2

3

MR. HOLMES: Yes.

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MS. LAVINE: I'd be happy to move on to
No. 4.

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10

Madame Chair and members of the
Council, is there any other discussion before we move
on to No. 4?

11

12

Thank you.

13

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16

MS. CHERNOFF: This is Coral. So could
you just read the final then, like what we're walking
away with today?

17

18

19

MR. STONE: Madame Chair, this is
Jared. I'll be glad to read that for you.

20

21

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Jared.

22

23

24

MR. STONE: What was the consensus on
using sockeye salmon or salmon.

25

26

27

MS. SKINNER: You don't have consensus,
but I think the majority was going with sockeye.

28

29

30

MR. STONE: Okay. Okay. So I'll read
it as what I have here.

31

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41

Examine how recent changes in the Gulf
of Alaska environment affects sockeye salmon within
their range and habitats using scale analysis of
freshwater growth and saltwater growth patterns to
determine the effects of changes in ocean conditions
over multiple years and research the decline in size at
age of salmon in the Kodiak/Aleutians drainages, which
include Buskin and McLees drainages and/or in the
Bristol Bay drainages, Chignik, Nushagak, Naknek, and
Togiak drainages.

42

43

Thank you.

44

45

MS. CHERNOFF: This is Coral again.

46

47

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Coral.

48

49

MS. CHERNOFF: I don't know, because I

50

1 was reading, did I miss the part where -- did we note
2 particular concern with the Chignik City, Chignik
3 Lagoon and Chignik Lake areas, or have we dropped that
4 part or did I miss it because I was reading and
5 listening?

6
7 MR. STONE: Madame Chair, this is
8 Jared.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Jared.

11
12 MR. STONE: We did pull those three
13 out, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik City, and Chignik Lake.
14 We combined those three back to just calling it
15 Chignik. I can edit this as you wish, we can move that
16 back if you like, I'll leave that to your call.

17
18 MS. CHERNOFF: Madame Chair, Coral.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Coral.

21
22 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, so I was just
23 asking. I guess then, however we word that, did we
24 make note that that was of particular concern; that's
25 the part I missed, or could you read it one more time.

26
27 I'm sorry.

28
29 MR. STONE: Sure, I'd be glad to. As
30 it states right now, it doesn't really list Chignik as
31 significant concern, it kind of broadly gives the
32 concern to both regions, Kodiak/Aleutian and the
33 Bristol Bay region. And I'll also mention, too, that
34 when I say Chignik, I'm referring to the drainages, and
35 so that might be inclusive of those -- the lagoon and
36 the lake as well, but I'll read the PIN over.

37
38 Examine how recent changes in the Gulf
39 of Alaska environment affects sockeye salmon within
40 their range and habitats using scale analysis of
41 freshwater growth and saltwater growth patterns to
42 determine the effects of changes in ocean conditions
43 over multiple years and research the decline in size at
44 age of salmon in the Kodiak/Aleutians drainages, which
45 include Buskin and McLees drainages and/or in the
46 Bristol Bay drainages, Chignik, Nushagak, Naknek, and
47 Togiak drainages.

48
49 MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair and members

50

1 of the Council, this is Robbin.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead,
4 Robbin.

5

6 MS. LAVINE: I really like how all of
7 that is coming together and is phrased and I might say
8 that if we want to capture a region-wide concern with
9 the Chigniks, that we could peel it out so that kind of
10 in that earlier placement we can say, noting particular
11 concern with the Chignik drainage and then going on to
12 describe the different methodologies and finish with
13 dividing out the specific Kodiak/Aleutian drainages and
14 the Bristol Bay drainages.

15

16 So that could be kind of almost like
17 the Chigniks is a region-wide concern and also of
18 concern are the Buskin, McLees drainages and also of
19 concern are the Nushagak, Naknek and Togiak River
20 drainages, those being the, you know, more regionally
21 focused.

22

23 Thanks.

24

25 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair, Pat.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Pat.

28

29 MR. HOLMES: I think that would be spot
30 on. I don't know if we dropped the phraseology scale
31 analysis to determine the effects of changes but that's
32 an important part, but I think we're really getting
33 down close.

34

35 I did, during the break, contact -- oh,
36 shucks, I forget which of the Sconbergs that's about my
37 age, he wears a white hat, anyway, he said that just
38 using the phraseology that we were going to Chignik,
39 that applies to all three of the sub-villages, or
40 whatever, and he said that that would be perfectly
41 understandable.

42

43 Thank you.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Robbin.

46

47 MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair. I think
48 that we have a lot of really good discussion and I am
49 so glad that we have transcripts, so here's a big round

50

1 of applause and delight that Tina is on board recording
2 all of our discussion and will provide transcripts so
3 that we can review in detail these discussions.

4
5 Again, I think a really good idea, if
6 you agree and support, is that we refine this language
7 with the volunteers ensuring that the language on Item
8 3 captures your concerns and our discussion and that we
9 represent it to the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory
10 Council, that one of the volunteers represent this
11 particular PIN, in particular, in our discussion to the
12 Regional Advisory Council in order to ensure that the
13 final draft captures, again, your concerns and our
14 discussion.

15
16 Thanks.

17
18 MS. CHERNOFF: Della, this is Coral.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Coral.

21
22 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I just wanted to
23 make sure that this also captures our discussion and I
24 just want to make sure that -- I would like to see that
25 special note particularly concerned with the Chignik
26 area left in there. It's not anything we discussed to
27 take out here. And that your draft that you put
28 forward had that language in it where it says; whole
29 GOA and particularly the Chignik City, Chignik Lagoon
30 and Chignik Lake, Rebecca's draft also had it in and as
31 we did not discuss taking that out, and much of the
32 discussion still emphasizes that that was an area of
33 concern, I would like to make sure that that
34 phraseology stays in there.

35
36 Thank you.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Is
39 everybody okay with the suggested changes or
40 recommendations to No. 3?

41
42 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes.

43
44 MR. HOLMES: Yes.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay.

47
48 MR. ROHRER: Yes.

49
50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: We'll go ahead
2 and move on to No. 4. Thank you, everyone.

3
4 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, everyone.
5 Madame Chair. Item No. 4 is a region-wide information
6 need. And it combines both new language and language
7 from the last cycle. And actually I do want to note,
8 so if you see that there -- there were two different
9 suggestions for this information need. In bold you
10 will see some new language, which is very general. And
11 then right below it is a different way of saying pretty
12 much the same thing from the 2020 cycle. I will read
13 it and there is some updates based on information we
14 received during this agenda item yesterday.

15
16 Okay.

17
18 Reliable subsistence harvest data
19 analyzing use and social network of subsistence harvest
20 -- that was new language -- this is former language:

21
22 Reliable estimates of the harvest and
23 use of fish for subsistence purposes, of particular
24 interest, are harvest trends in the communities of
25 Manokotak, Nondalton, Ouzinkie, Port Lions, Nelson
26 Lagoon, False Pass, Akutan, Atka, Adak, Nikolski, St.
27 Paul, St. George and as was mentioned, there is an Old
28 Believer's Village on Afognak, and we do believe the
29 name of that community is Aleneva.

30
31 And you will notice that there are some
32 communities that have a strike-through. Those
33 communities either have projects and/or funding already
34 associated with them, or that they have just been
35 completed and so we're waiting for those final reports.
36 So any communities with a strike-through, and that
37 includes Kodiak, Port Alsworth, Port Heiden, and Cold
38 Bay have been surveyed or they already have support and
39 harvest surveys are going to be conducted in those
40 communities shortly.

41
42 Thank you.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Any comments or
45 questions.

46
47 MS. LAVINE: So my question would be,
48 between the new proposed language at the very top,
49 which is very general, we're looking at subsistence

50

1 harvest data, and I think it incorporates some of the
2 social network analysis that actually was eventually
3 conducted in the Bristol Bay subsistence salmon social
4 network analysis project, I think just completed, so
5 that's more of a general one, or we can talk about
6 reliable estimates of the harvest and use of fish for
7 subsistence purposes. Again, this is the Fisheries
8 Resource Monitoring Program so we are focused on fish,
9 however, I would remind everybody that one of the best
10 ways for us to understand the significance of fish is
11 in context to all wild resources harvested along with
12 it. That does help us track the importance of fish for
13 subsistence purposes.

14
15 So I'm just asking you, which language
16 would you prefer and do you want to change it. Do you
17 want to strike the bold, do you want to keep the old;
18 or strike the old and keep the bold?

19
20 Thank you.

21
22 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair, Pat.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Pat.

25
26 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, I think that that --
27 what you read off first, with those changes are really
28 swell. And I just was thinking of a conversation that
29 I was having with Ms. Scarborough there at Subsistence
30 Division with Fish and Game, and they do what's called
31 an H&H survey, and I was thinking -- which means
32 household harvest and maybe we don't need to be
33 specific about fish because I was just thinking, you
34 know, we've got, out in Della's neck of the woods, are
35 people getting enough caribou, which they're not, so it
36 would be really good to have that documentation. So
37 maybe we should just say reliable estimates of harvest
38 for subsistence purposes, and then that would be --
39 because if a person has to go do the interview or they
40 do the interview on line, you might as well be asking,
41 hey, what's important for you and where are you having
42 problems. And I think that's the essence of the
43 subsistence survey.

44
45 So I'd say drop and use of fish, and
46 just say estimates of the harvest for subsistence
47 purposes.

48
49 Thank you, Madame Chair.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Pat.

2

3 Any other comments or suggestions from
4 the Council.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Robbin.

9

10 MS. LAVINE: Yes, Madame Chair, I'm
11 here. If no one has any additional comments we can
12 continue on to Item 5.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I might make one
15 comment. I'm wondering if we can, on the bottom, break
16 out the communities like the Bristol Bay communities
17 and then Kodiak/Aleutian communities like we did in the
18 one prior just for clarification.

19

20 MR. STONE: Madame Chair, this is
21 Jared.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Jared.

24

25 MR. STONE: Thank you. So Pat did an
26 excellent job with his suggestion. He sent a revision
27 with all the break outs of the communities and so I
28 incorporated exactly what you mentioned, the Bristol
29 Bay communities, the Kodiak communities and the
30 Aleutians and AK Peninsula communities.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Never mind, I
33 was just having a brain dead moment, they're all
34 Kodiak/Aleutian communities.

35

36 (Laughter)

37

38 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Sorry about
39 that.

40

41 Okay, Robbin, go ahead.

42

43 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
44 Thank you, Jared. Actually there are a couple of -- I
45 think there's at least one -- I think there's only
46 maybe -- there's Manokotak, which is actually still a
47 Bristol Bay region community, we could leave that in
48 there. But we could do them in alphabetical order or
49 we could do them by region. But I think the people who

50

1 respond to this priority information need will know
2 where they're targeting their lens.

3

4 Thanks.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. That's
7 where I got that from, this is Della. I see it.
8 Because I was looking at them, and then I looked at
9 Pat's bold, addition of communities, so, yeah, breaking
10 that out is easy enough, basically the two for Bristol
11 Bay and the remainder are Kodiak/Aleutians.

12

13 MS. LAVINE: Thank you. Okay, so we're
14 moving on to Item 5. Thank you all so much for walking
15 us through this process.

16

17 This is a brand new priority
18 information need that is new this year and it is the:

19

20 Abundance and assessment of critical
21 subsistence salmon stocks in priority areas such as the
22 Buskin River.

23

24 And this is in recognizing that an FRMP
25 project of great significance for the Kodiak region is
26 coming to an end so it's really good that your Council
27 is getting ahead of this item. Once, again, I'll read
28 it.

29

30 Abundance and assessment of critical
31 subsistence salmon stocks in priority areas such as the
32 Buskin River.

33

34 And what we're looking for is, again,
35 does this language capture our discussion and your
36 concerns and are there any notes, do you want to tweak
37 it at all to refine it, or is it good as written.

38

39 Thanks.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Any comments in
42 regard to No. 5?

43

44 MR. HOLMES: I think it's short and
45 precise and does the point and gives support for, you
46 know, future funding, which is the whole idea.

47

48 Thank you, Madame Chair.

49

50

1 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, this is Coral,
2 Madame Chair.

3
4 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Coral.

5
6 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I just had a
7 question for those who are on the committee for the
8 FRMP, just in this, talking about asking for abundance
9 and assessment of critical subsistence salmon stocks in
10 priority areas such as the Buskin River. I was
11 wondering what -- I assume that was purposely worded
12 that way, so as not to limit any of the areas, but I'm
13 wondering why then we're not perhaps specific to the
14 Buskin River, or what was the idea behind -- there must
15 have been discussion on this, why we're not
16 specifically naming just the Buskin River, or we're
17 just saying any priority area in the Kodiak/Aleutian
18 and Bristol Bay area?

19
20 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair, may I
21 answer.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Pat.

24
25 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, we worded it that
26 way, one, was to mention the Buskin because they're
27 coming up for funding now, this year, and in the
28 future, and over the past 20-odd years I've been on the
29 Council, Chignik and McLees Lake are the two most
30 utilized subsistence sockeye runs in our region. And
31 so that was just sort of a prep to just keeping in mind
32 to folks that, you know, we want to see that continue
33 and so we've already talked about some priority regions
34 above and so rather than just adding a bunch of
35 verbiage this is more of a thing of saying, gee, let's
36 continue with some of the really important things that
37 we have.

38
39 Does that explain it, Coral?

40
41 MS. CHERNOFF: It does. And I was
42 wondering what the priority areas were and mentioning
43 that you mentioned them above -- that answers that
44 question.

45
46 Thank you, Pat.

47
48 MR. HOLMES: Yeah.

49
50

1 MS. SKINNER: Della.

2
3 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead,
4 Rebecca.

5
6 MS. SKINNER: Yeah, thanks. I actually
7 don't remember discussing this one during our
8 committee. Robbin or Jared, can you remind me a little
9 bit more about, I don't know, when did we discuss this
10 or what was the nature of the discussion?

11
12 MR. HOLMES: I think that's when you
13 had to take a break there. Sorry, this is Pat.

14
15 MS. SKINNER: Oh, at the very end,
16 okay. Because we were supposed to end, at what, 3:00
17 o'clock, and I dropped off at 3:35, okay, so you
18 discussed this very briefly sometime after 3:35. Is
19 that correct, Robbin or Jared?

20
21 MR. HOLMES: Right.

22
23 MR. STONE: Madame Chair, this is
24 Jared.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Jared.

27
28 MR. STONE: That is correct. We, at
29 the very end of our volunteer discussion, realized that
30 the Buskin River was going to be coming up for renewed
31 funding potentially and so the volunteers agreed to
32 renew this priority information need so that there
33 might be a continued project there in the future.

34
35 Thank you.

36
37 MS. SKINNER: Okay, roger that.
38 Thanks.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Any other
41 comments.

42
43 (No comments)

44
45 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I guess, yeah,
46 Chris, do you have any other comments.

47
48 MR. PRICE: No, not really. I'm fine
49 with how this is going.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Sam.

2
3 MR. ROHRER: Nope. I'm all good.

4
5 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Natasha.

6
7 (No comments)

8
9 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Coral and
10 Rebecca have spoken and Pat, so I guess I think we
11 are.....

12
13 MS. SKINNER: Well, Della, can I say
14 something else?

15
16 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead. Go
17 ahead.

18
19 MS. SKINNER: Yeah, thanks. This is
20 Rebecca. I do want to note, because I said this the
21 last round of FRMP, so I think two years ago when we
22 prioritized the project at Buskin, that at that point I
23 did consider it a priority but I said on the record, I
24 think, that I wanted to put Fish and Game on notice
25 that we, you know, they would need to really look at
26 other funding because it may not be possible to
27 continue prioritizing that project over other stuff
28 that needs to get done in our entire -- in the entire
29 FRMP region. So I just want to I guess state that
30 again, and, also note that I realize and acknowledge
31 that prioritizing Buskin and continuing to fund the
32 weir at Buskin, if we keep doing that in perpetuity,
33 that means there's other projects that we're not
34 funding. And while I do think it's an important
35 project, which is why I have voted to prioritize it, I
36 think the last two cycles, maybe is how long I've been
37 on the RAC, I am very cognizant that we -- we have a
38 huge region with very different needs in different
39 parts of the region and I guess I'll leave it at that.

40
41 I'm just cognizant that we have a huge
42 region and we have to -- the resources have to be
43 spread around over a very wide geographic area across
44 many different communities.

45
46 So I did not want to finish this
47 discussion without having noted that again.

48
49 Thank you.

50

1 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

2
3 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
4 Rebecca.

5
6 Pat.

7
8 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, good points Rebecca.
9 I would note that that was a minority opinion and that
10 you're certainly spot on from your perspective. Since
11 the OSM funding has started it has been the Buskin is
12 the No. 1 because it's the largest subsistence utilized
13 system -- it's not the largest system but it's the
14 largest amount of use in our region. In fact Fish and
15 Game does not have any commercial fishery on it, they
16 could, but it's entirely devoted to subsistence and
17 that's the only system in this whole part of Alaska and
18 even up north that's managed that way. And so I can
19 understand your thoughts of possible changes but, you
20 know, I think that that probably will continue because
21 that's what's been there.

22
23 So, anyway, good point raised.

24
25 Thank you.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you. Any
28 other comments.

29
30 (No comments)

31
32 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Well, I'm going
33 to make a comment. Rebecca, I have to say thank you
34 for saying that. I've looked at this and I just kind
35 of -- my mind just draws a blank and I keep looking at
36 it, and thinking why am I -- I'm missing something
37 here, and Pat when I think about some of the work that
38 was done before in Mortensen's or other areas that got
39 dropped off the whole process is because, you know, we
40 were very limited on funding and then we looked at, I
41 think, you know, at like one point I think McLees was
42 bumped off to the side and then we got it back on, but
43 knowing that I think that, as a whole, including
44 Bristol Bay, we're looking at areas of concern.
45 There's no -- there are areas of concern. When we look
46 at the Chigniks, in our region for the bad salmon
47 season this year, is this the start of something coming
48 or, you know, even Kodiak, there's some areas in
49 Kodiak, so I think when you look at above and you see
50

1 that the Buskin is mentioned basically in No. 3, it's
2 definitely mentioned in No. 3, and so I just -- I'm not
3 sure if there's a way that we can think about the
4 wording on that; I just don't know.

5
6 But it's there and I guess -- I don't
7 know what to think about it. But I do appreciate
8 Rebecca's comments because I just feel like there's
9 other areas also.

10
11 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, I think, you know,
12 Mortensen's is certainly one that would merit
13 consideration and, you know, that could be done, they
14 can go back and put in a sonar unit and have spot
15 sampling and the whole ball of wax. But I think, you
16 know, at least back from when I joined we had
17 discussions of, you know, where is the most use, and
18 you don't throw out most use, what you do is you go and
19 address, just like we're doing this year, we identified
20 Chignik as a problem, we never dropped McLees, that was
21 dropped by OSM. And that's always been whenever we
22 could finagle get that funding. When we started out --
23 or at least when I started there was funding from a
24 different group for McLees and then it was funded by
25 OSM and then they found other funding but then we had a
26 two year gap and we argued like mad at every meeting
27 and then we got it back in again.

28
29 But I certainly would, if you wanted to
30 toss in some comment on addressing Mortensen's, even
31 now for the next cycle, that's really important to Cold
32 Bay and to King Cove folks and I know that you folks
33 also swap and trade around with False Pass and other
34 places, so I have no problem with that. But I don't
35 think we should -- anyway, what we got is good and if
36 you want to put in Mortensen's that's -- that'd make it
37 better.

38
39 Bye.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I'm just
42 bringing it up as a comment. I think it's something,
43 as a group, when we go through this process again we
44 need to think about -- I mean I think we need to take
45 the time to look at and check with other areas, you
46 know, hey, Mortensen's, I know, we help -- King Cove
47 Corp helps a lot sometimes in donating and I know
48 they've been doing some areas over there with some
49 surveys and did some things.

50

1 But as we move forward, I guess, just
2 keep that in mind. I think we all recognize the
3 Buskin's important and all that's going on there.

4
5 So, with that, Robbin and Jared
6 are.....

7
8 MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair, this is
9 Robbin.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE:we good to
12 call it.

13
14 MS. LAVINE: Yes. I just wanted -- as
15 we're wrapping up our discussion I have two comments.

16
17 One is that Jared and I are going to
18 track Mortensen's Lagoon, we'll put this in our note to
19 revisit when we meet again in another two years. So
20 this might be something that gets elevated the next
21 call for proposals, the next notice of funding
22 opportunity.

23
24 So that's one.

25
26 And then two, I just wanted to direct
27 your attention to the bottom of the Version 4 document
28 and confirm with you that for this round we are
29 dropping the remainders from the 2020 priority
30 information needs. So there are two bullets there.
31 One is local observations of change in fish populations
32 in Southwest Alaska and the other is comparative
33 ecological evaluation of lake rearing habitat of
34 sockeye salmon stocks in Southwest Kodiak Island, so
35 those are Olga and Akalura Lake watersheds.

36
37 So I just want to confirm that we are
38 dropping these from the 2022 priority information
39 needs, it doesn't not mean we won't revisit them along
40 with Mortensen's Lagoon and other issues in two years
41 from now.

42
43 Thanks.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
46 Robbin. Any other.....

47
48 MR. HOLMES: May I add a footnote?

49
50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Pat.

2
3 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, I had a chat with
4 the ADF&G research biologist on this item and we did
5 get some funding for doing the subsistence surveys on
6 the south end, which were originally included in this.
7 The limnology studies here are pretty expensive and
8 extensive. And I was talking to him and he said that
9 if -- it really isn't necessary to keep it in because
10 even if you have that knowledge there's no way that
11 they can adjust -- manage the commercial fishery, which
12 is the major user to change the recurrence in any of
13 those but they have, in recent years, since we -- that
14 point came up, and I believe Rebecca was one of the
15 ones supporting that initially, is that they have done
16 some adjustments of optimal escapement goals for Upper
17 Station and so now they have been able to increase more
18 salmon getting up into the inner bay by adjusting
19 things in the June -- basically it's a June fishery to
20 Frazer and then that's been allowing things to start
21 picking up in the other areas.

22
23 So I think this is very valid to drop
24 it from the contacts I've had and from chatting with
25 some of the folks I know from down in Akhiok and Old
26 Harbor. So I think it's a good one to go, it was a
27 good shot at the start, and at least we got part of it
28 funded with the subsistence studies.

29
30 Thank you.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Pat.

33
34 Coral, do you have a comment in regard
35 to these last two, they're Kodiak ones?

36
37 MS. CHERNOFF: No, I do not. Thank
38 you.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you.

41
42 Rebecca.

43
44 MS. SKINNER: No, I'm good with them,
45 thanks.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Natasha.

48
49 (No comments)

50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I don't know if
2 we've lost Natasha or not, we can't hear her.

3
4 Sam.

5
6 MR. ROHRER: Nope, I'm good with them.
7 Thanks.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
10 everybody.

11
12 Chris.

13
14 MR. PRICE: I'm good, thank you.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Thank you
17 everybody. This was hard work everybody. A lot of
18 effort and time and discussion put into this, thank you
19 everybody.

20
21 And, Robbin and Joshua [sic], I guess
22 you're going to get another draft out to everybody or
23 to Donald and then to us, or that's the plan?

24
25 MR. STONE: Madame Chair and members of
26 the Council, this is Jared. And, yes, I've got a
27 version right now that reflects all of our discussions
28 today and I think it's in a great spot. And I just
29 want to thank you all for your patience and finally
30 getting to this point where we've crafted these PINS
31 for your region. And I'll send this out shortly. I
32 probably want to have Robbin look it over with me
33 briefly and just make sure that we've captured
34 everything and then you'll likely see this in your in
35 box, likely just shortly after lunch.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, appreciate
38 it. Thank you very much to both of you. Excellent
39 work and effort put into this and the young man that
40 helped, very much appreciated.

41
42 MR. STONE: No, problem, glad to help.
43 And, Robbin, just told me that she got dropped so she's
44 trying to call back in but I do want to remind everyone
45 that this is an action item so we'll take up action on
46 this.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Donald,
49 if I may, if Jared's going to kind of get us another
50

1 draft out, maybe if we can -- once we get that we can
2 do the final -- take action on it, would that be
3 appropriate?
4

5 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, Donald. Yes,
6 if that's the wish of the Council to review the final
7 draft and take action on it, that'll be fine.
8

9 Thank you.
10

11 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Is that
12 agreeable with everybody -- and, Robbin, did you get on
13 line?
14

15 MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair, yes, thank
16 you. I just got back on line.
17

18 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, thank you.
19 I think we agreed that Jared's going to get the final
20 draft between the two of you to us during lunch or soon
21 and then we'll take action on it once we get his draft
22 before we close today.
23

24 MS. LAVINE: Perfect, thank you.
25

26 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Thank you
27 both very much.
28

29 All right, everybody, now that we're
30 all -- I'm not sure, we have a half an hour left, do we
31 want to -- we've got two things, I think, left to do --
32 well, a number of things. The review of the annual
33 report, the response to our annual report I think is
34 something that we need to do, plus items for our annual
35 report and then confirming our 2021 meetings, locations
36 and dates, and then of course the Fisheries Resource
37 Monitoring Program, to take action on. So what would
38 you like to do at this point in time?
39

40 Donald.
41

42 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame.....
43

44 MR. HOLMES: I'd be inclined to break
45 for lunch, my brain's dead.
46

47 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
48 This is Donald. We had a lengthy discussion on the
49 priority information needs, if the Council needs to
50

1 take a break we can reconvene and then address the rest
2 of the agenda items.

3
4 Thank you, Madame Chair.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. That's
7 fine with me if that's okay with everybody, we'll go
8 ahead and break and reconvene at 1:00 o'clock.

9
10 MS. CHERNOFF: Sounds good.

11
12 MR. PRICE: Okay. Thank you.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
15 everybody.

16
17 MS. SKINNER: Thank you.

18
19 MR. HOLMES: That works, Ma'am.

20
21 (Off record)

22
23 (On record)

24
25 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Donald, are you
26 on line, this is Della, I just finally got on line
27 here.

28
29 MR. MIKE: Yeah, Della, I'm line
30 standing by.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Maybe we
33 could take a Council check here to see who's on line
34 right now.

35
36 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
37 I'll go ahead and do a roll call again for Council
38 members.

39
40 Pat Holmes.

41
42 MR. HOLMES: Here.

43
44 MR. MIKE: Sam Rohrer.

45
46 MR. ROHRER: I'm here.

47
48 MR. MIKE: Christopher Price.

49
50

1 MR. PRICE: Here.
2
3 MR. MIKE: Coral Chernoff.
4
5 MS. CHERNOFF: Here.
6
7 MR. MIKE: Rebecca Skinner.
8
9 MS. SKINNER: Here.
10
11 MR. MIKE: Della Trumble.
12
13 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Here.
14
15 MR. MIKE: Natasha Hayden.
16
17 MS. HAYDEN: Here.
18
19 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. All Council
20 members are present and if I can remind the Chair and
21 the Council we need to identify if there are any public
22 on the teleconference wishing to provide public or
23 tribal comments on non-agenda items.
24
25 Thank you, Madame Chair.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you.
28 Thank you, Donald for reminding me. It's tough when
29 we're doing these meetings by conference to make an
30 effort to make that announcement on occasion.
31
32 So are there any other tribal or
33 Council or public that would like to speak or testify
34 on any issue right, please do so.
35
36 (No comments)
37
38 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Hearing
39 none. And maybe just a comment to Chris.....
40
41 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair. I just got
42 an email from Sun'aq, and they're forwarding it to
43 Michael -- Donald Mike, a little reinforcement on their
44 concerns about Womens Bay and I just thought I'd let
45 you know that's in an email to Mike -- Donald.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Donald. Okay,
48 Donald, maybe once you get that, maybe at some point in
49 time you could read that into the record.
50

1 MR. MIKE: Okay, Madame Chair. Since
2 we're completed with the PINs, that action needs to be
3 completed. I'm still waiting for the email but when it
4 does come I'll remind the Council.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. And maybe
9 one comment, Chris, I sent you an email this morning,
10 did you get that?

11
12 MR. PRICE: Yes, I did. I did, Della,
13 and I did let Chandra know so we're looking into it.

14
15 Thank you.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yeah. Yeah,
18 good. Just so you know I sent Chris an email, I'm
19 checking with the tribes on some of their Cares Act
20 Funding, if they're able to help with the issue with
21 the clams because the clams are an issue for food
22 security so maybe they can put something together that
23 would help that way in helping with the funding to send
24 -- to continue to send the samples out.

25
26 So, we'll call our meeting back to
27 order, well, I guess we kind of have.

28
29 I just maybe want to -- we've got a
30 number of issues to close up here before we adjourn for
31 today and the next item will be on the Fisheries
32 Monitoring Program. But, I, however, feel like I want
33 to make a statement.

34
35 This morning was tough. And I think,
36 you know, hat's off to everybody, this issue with the
37 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program has never been an
38 easy issue and I thank the Staff that put all the work
39 into it and that part of it made it easier, and I'm
40 just wondering where we would be without that.

41
42 But it's hard, sometimes, as Council
43 members, we have to try to remember we're all in the
44 same boat, and we might have different size paddles,
45 but we're hopefully all paddling in the same direction.
46 And, you know, we have to try to be respectful of that
47 in everything that we do. I think I really just hope
48 that we continue and move forward. All of these issues
49 are important to us. We are one of the biggest areas

50

1 in the state with the coastline and it's not an easy
2 thing to do and represent. But much appreciated in the
3 work that gets put into this for all of us, it's a lot,
4 and I thank all of you.

5
6 And if anybody has comments in regard
7 to what I just said, I'd appreciate them and I'm
8 keeping an open forum.

9
10 MS. SKINNER: Della, are you inviting
11 additional comments right now?

12
13 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yes, I am, uh-
14 huh.

15
16 MS. SKINNER: Okay, yeah. Yeah, I
17 really appreciate your comments and just -- I
18 understand that some of the issues we deal with are
19 going to be -- we're going to be very passionate about,
20 I understand that, but I really value the different
21 perspectives that are at the table. And I would hate
22 to see this Council go the direction of shutting down
23 an opinion because it's different than your own or
24 trying to dismiss what someone says because it's not in
25 alignment with the direction you're trying to go.

26
27 I think in the past, on this Council, I
28 think this Council has been really effective at being
29 an open forum and being open to all perspectives and I
30 think we all put a lot of time into this. I think
31 we're probably all stressed out, I mean, Covid and
32 virtual meetings, I've heard from almost everyone that
33 I interact with in life that this is a very stressful
34 time so I, you know, I get we are stressed, maybe we're
35 wound up a little tight, I'm including myself,
36 describing myself there, but in this kind of a forum
37 and for what we're trying to accomplish we have to be
38 open to hearing everyone's perspective and we should be
39 taking it into account in some way. And I think the
40 best way to do that is to have a respectful forum and
41 feel like you can state your opinion and you can share
42 your perspective or give your comments on a particular
43 topic. Because I mean I truly believe that's how we're
44 going to get to the best results.

45
46 So, Della, again, I appreciate your
47 statements and kind of opening the -- I guess leaving
48 the floor open for comments on this.

49
50

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,

4 Rebecca.

5

6 Anybody else who would like to make a

7 comment. And this Covid stuff is tough, you're right

8 all the way around, doing these meetings this way is

9 hard, and I think we all work better when we're face to

10 face. So hopefully there's an end in sight so.

11

12 Anybody else.

13

14 MR. HOLMES: Did you want general

15 comments or are we back on the Jared's stuff?

16

17 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: General comments

18 is good, Pat. I think all of us need.....

19

20 MR. HOLMES: Okay.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I think we left

23 at lunch time, a little bit, all of us a little tired

24 and stressed and so.....

25

26 MR. HOLMES: Right.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE:sometimes

29 people.....

30

31 MR. HOLMES: Well, I would like to say

32 that, you know, they're saving a whole lot of money on

33 per diem with Covid and I wonder if that money can't be

34 put into research. And, B, that for the committee

35 chairpersons to get a double per diem even if they stay

36 home because you've done such a magnificent job about

37 keeping us in line.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Pat.

42

43 Any other Council members have

44 comments.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Now, I'm going

49 to add to this, I know OSM has had a tough time with

50

1 their budget and getting cut back and cut back and cut
2 back, and I think -- I don't know that our
3 Administration -- I think it's been tough, I think the
4 cutbacks that they've been doing, so all the way
5 around, I know we've been saving money but hopefully
6 they're saving it and we could put it to good use
7 somewhere.

8
9 MR. KRON: Yeah, Della, this is Tom
10 Kron.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Tom.

13
14 MR. KRON: Yeah, just to share in
15 relation to the saving money issue. Basically, I mean
16 it happens pretty much on an annual basis but basically
17 monies that aren't spent, and we have monies that
18 aren't spent because of per diem savings and because of
19 Staff vacancies, that money basically is put into
20 forward funding, Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program
21 and Partners Program projects. So that is where we, on
22 an annual basis, put any leftover money that we have.
23 So, again, the money isn't going to go back to
24 Washington, it's not going to go to waste. That is
25 where things go on an annual basis from that, and where
26 things have gone this year.

27
28 Thank you, Madame Chair.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Tom.
31 And I think that's a good place for it.

32
33 All right, everybody ready to.....

34
35 MS. HAYDEN: Madame Chair.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Oh, I'm sorry,
38 go ahead. Is that you Natasha.

39
40 MS. HAYDEN: This is Natasha, thank
41 you. I had to sign off a little bit early before lunch
42 so I missed some of the discussion right before lunch
43 leading up to your comments.

44
45 But if you also want to contribute, in
46 that, I'm very appreciative of your desire and attempts
47 to open dialogue between us as members and I do think
48 it's harder when we're not in person, and haven't been
49 in person for like six months or almost a year. It is

50

1 really difficult.

2

3 And I know yesterday, things, from my
4 perspective, I was a little spun up about the Marine
5 Mammal Protection Act [sic] but it was coming from a
6 place of frustration. When I first heard the
7 presentations to the RAC from residents who were
8 impacted -- who their shellfish resources are impacted
9 and they're looking to find, alternate ways to decrease
10 or manage the sea otter population, you know, it just
11 was a real concern -- it is a real concern to me
12 because there's some effort to open up sea mammal
13 harvesting to different alternative management when the
14 Alaska Native People -- the Coastal Alaska Native
15 People have been working towards getting it opened up
16 to Alaska Native People for decades, and so in the
17 spirit of trying to, you know, make a contribution to
18 the discussion and leaving some of the baggage behind
19 that might, you know, bias or influence how I interface
20 with the rest of the RAC.

21

22 I just wanted to put that out there,
23 and say I appreciate the opportunity to participate in
24 this process.

25

26 So, thanks.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
29 Natasha.

30

31 Anybody else have comments.

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I'd just like to
36 say I appreciate everybody, including everybody in the
37 Staff, the various agencies, there's a lot of important
38 stuff to a lot of people.

39

40 With that, Donald, I have remaining on
41 our agenda the Fisheries Monitoring Program; response
42 to annual report; items for this year's annual report;
43 confirm winter 2021 meeting and the fall 2021 meeting,
44 hopefully we will be able to, at least by the fall, be
45 able to meet face to face; and then closing statements.

46

47 Does that sound correct to you?

48

49 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Yes, you

50

1 captured all the action items for your meeting to be
2 complete.

3

4 Thank you, Madame Chair.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you. With
7 that, I guess we'll go ahead, Robbin and Jared, I see,
8 Jared, that you got the draft out so thank you for that
9 and if we could take care of that and take action and
10 move on.

11

12 MS. LAVINE: Yes, hello, thank you,
13 Madame Chair. Members of the Council. This is Robbin.
14 I hope I'm coming over clearly.

15

16 You should have now in front of you a
17 pretty clean version of our draft priority information
18 needs for Southwest Alaska. In review, Jared and I did
19 a little bit of wordsmithing that I wanted to point
20 out.

21

22 In particular on Items No. 3, and that
23 is, in order to ensure that we're not duplicating
24 language -- a little more duplicative, there is
25 suggested text to be removed and there is one added
26 word in bold. So I will read that one to you. And
27 then I also wanted to read Item No. 4 to you, just a
28 slight change in language, otherwise everything is
29 reflective of our discussions.

30

31 Okay. So I'm going to start with Item
32 No. 3 and it starts:

33

34 Examine how recent changes in the Gulf
35 of Alaska environment affects sockeye salmon within
36 their range and habitats noting particular concern for
37 the Chignik drainages, using scale analysis of
38 freshwater and saltwater growth patterns over multiple
39 years to research the decline in size at age of salmon
40 in the Kodiak/Aleutians drainages, Buskin and McLees
41 drainages and/or in the Bristol Bay drainages, Chignik,
42 Nushagak, Naknek, and Togiak drainages.

43

44 So I'll pause, and does that reflect
45 our discussion and do you approve the edits in
46 language.

47

48 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

49

50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Pat.

2

3 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, the whole idea here,
4 and I'm being a retentive biologist, is to determine
5 the effects of changes in the ocean conditions and --
6 ocean and freshwater conditions over multiple years.
7 But you can delete that and then delete everything from
8 and to age of salmon, and so that that last section
9 would be:

10

11 Using scale analysis of freshwater and
12 saltwater growth patterns over multiple years to
13 evaluate changes in growth and survival.

14

15 Because size at age, you can have a
16 weak run and have big fish come back. And so size at
17 age is variable even with changes in the environment,
18 whereas with the scale analysis you can look at
19 freshwater and survival growth so that suggestion of
20 dropping all that and then stick in changes in growth
21 and survival, that will accomplish everything that
22 we've talked about.

23

24 MS. LAVINE: Thank you. Jared, did you
25 get that?

26

27 MR. STONE: I did.

28

29 (Pause)

30

31 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Any other
32 comments from the Council.

33

34 MS. SKINNER: Yeah, Della, this is
35 Rebecca.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead,
38 Rebecca.

39

40 MS. SKINNER: Can we have the updated
41 one read in its entirety.

42

43 MR. STONE: Madame Chair, this is
44 Jared, I can read that in its entirety. Let me
45 just.....

46

47 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I'll give you a
48 minute to put it together.

49

50

1 (Pause)

2

3

MR. STONE: Okay.

4

5 Examine how recent changes in growth
6 and survival in the Gulf of Alaska environment affects
7 sockeye salmon within their range and habitats noting
8 particular concern for the Chignik drainages, using
9 scale analysis of freshwater and saltwater growth
10 patterns over multiple years to research the decline in
11 size at age of salmon in the Kodiak/Aleutians
12 drainages, Buskin and McLees drainages and/or in the
13 Bristol Bay drainages, Chignik, Nushagak, Naknek, and
14 Togiak drainages.

15

16

17

18

19

MS. SKINNER: And then Pat, is that the
wording you just suggested, or, I thought maybe you
suggested something different but I may have
misunderstood.

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

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28

29

MR. HOLMES: Okay, there's two
approaches to this. One would be to say: Determine
effects of changes in the ocean and freshwater
conditions over multiple years, blah, blah, blah. You
can leave that in or you could go ahead and say, to
research changes in growth and survival. Because this
work is not to monitor size at age because you can have
a weak return and have big fish or small fish, so size
at age should disappear and then -- so it says:

30

31

32

To research changes in growth and
survival.

33

34

35

36

MS. SKINNER: So is that: research
changes in growth and survival of salmon in the
Kodiak/Aleutian drainages, et cetera?

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

MR. HOLMES: Yeah, uh-huh.

MS. SKINNER: Okay, thank you.

MR. STONE: Madame Chair. This is
Jared, I can restate this if you like.

45

46

47

48

49

50

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, go ahead.

MR. STONE: Just give me one moment,
I'm fixing up some -- okay.

1 Examine how recent changes in the Gulf
2 of Alaska environment affects sockeye salmon within
3 their range and habitats noting particular concern for
4 the Chignik drainages, using scale analysis of
5 freshwater and saltwater growth patterns over multiple
6 years to research changes in growth and survival of
7 salmon in the Kodiak/Aleutians drainages, Buskin and
8 McLees drainages and/or in the Bristol Bay
9 drainages.....

10
11 And the drainages I have listed here in
12 Bristol Bay, I just am realizing now that Chignik is
13 not actually in Bristol Bay so we can figure out if we
14 want to pull that out or how we want to deal with that,
15 but:

16
17 Bristol Bay drainages, including
18 Chignik, Nushagak, Naknek, and Togiak drainages.

19
20 MR. HOLMES: You could approach that by
21 just saying Bristol Bay/Alaska Peninsula because that
22 would get you the whole ball of wax there.

23
24 MR. STONE: Thank you.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: And Jared the
27 reason it was in Bristol Bay is because Bristol Bay
28 represents the Chignik.

29
30 MR. STONE: That makes sense, thank
31 you. Would you like me to reread it, I think I've got
32 it cleaned up nicely now.

33
34 (Laughter)

35
36 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: One more time.

37
38 MR. STONE: Sure.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, one more
41 time.

42
43 MR. STONE: Sure.

44
45 Examine how recent changes in the Gulf
46 of Alaska environment affects sockeye salmon within
47 their range and habitats noting particular concern for
48 the Chignik drainages, using scale analysis of
49 freshwater and saltwater growth patterns over multiple

50

1 years to research changes in growth and survival of
2 salmon in the Kodiak/Aleutians drainages, Buskin and
3 McLees drainages and/or in the Bristol Bay/Alaska
4 Peninsula drainages, Chignik, Nushagak, Naknek, and
5 Togiak drainages.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Does that sound
8 good, Pat, Rebecca.

9
10 MS. SKINNER: Yeah, I think so.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: It sounds good
13 to me.

14
15 MR. HOLMES: One question; why the
16 and/or, does that mean somebody would do all the areas
17 together or they would be done separate? I guess that's
18 the only question I have. Other than that it's
19 beautiful. I think you guys could get triple attaboy,
20 attagirl.

21
22 MR. STONE: Madame Chair, this is
23 Jared. Yeah, I think we added the and/or just to
24 prevent future researchers from thinking that they had
25 to cover both regions, that would be -- you know, they
26 could if they'd like to, I think they would get maybe
27 extra points during the review process, but, you know,
28 if a researcher identified one region I think they
29 would be addressing that priority information need in
30 full.

31
32 MR. HOLMES: Roger, thank you.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Any other
35 Council comments.

36
37 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, this is Coral,
38 Della.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Coral.

41
42 MS. CHERNOFF: I would just like to say
43 thank you for all that editing and it sounds beautiful
44 and I think encompasses everything we wanted it to
45 encompass and it's clear and thank you so much for all
46 your work on editing on this.

47
48 MR. STONE: You're welcome, thank you.

49
50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: So, Robbin and
2 Jared, when you go to the Bristol Bay meeting ask them
3 to thank the Kodiak/Aleutians for doing all the hard
4 work.

5
6 (Laughter)

7
8 MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair, we certainly
9 will. Thank you.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, both.

12
13 MR. HOLMES: They can send us some
14 sockeye, it's pretty poor down here.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: There you go.
17 Okay, we'll go ahead and do the last one then.

18
19 MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair, Members of
20 the Council, this is Robbin. So Item 4 on our draft of
21 priority information needs states:

22
23 Reliable estimates of subsistence
24 harvest and uses of particular interest are harvest
25 trends in the communities of Manokotak, Nondalton,
26 Chignik, Ouzinkie, the settlement of Aleneva on Afognak
27 Island, Port Lions, Adak, Akutan, Atka, False Pass,
28 Nelson Lagoon, Nikolski, St. Paul, and St. George.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Council
31 comments.

32
33 (No comments)

34
35 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Hearing none, it
36 looks good to me, if there's no comments.....

37
38
39 (No comments)

40
41 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. We'll go
42 ahead and move on to the very last one.

43
44 MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair, Members of
45 the Council. The very last item on our list is:

46
47 Abundance and assessment of critical
48 subsistence salmon stocks in priority areas, such as
49 the Buskin River.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Council
2 comments.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Hearing
7 none, I guess entertain a motion to approve the draft
8 priority information needs for the Southwest region.

9
10 MR. HOLMES: A question. There were a
11 couple items down below and reinforcement, are we
12 editing those or are we just -- I don't know what
13 happened to those.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Weren't they
16 being removed?

17
18 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Hello, Madame
19 Chair. Members of the Council. Pat, yeah, those were
20 2020 information needs that we didn't nest in our five
21 priority information needs. And we did discuss them
22 and I believe there was consensus that for the moment
23 these would be left off the 2022 priority information
24 needs. For those of you have volunteered and
25 specifically for those of you who did not volunteer to
26 discuss and inform ourselves on the issues prior to
27 coming before the Council, you know that we do review
28 the last two cycles of priority information needs when
29 developing the brand new cycle. So anything that
30 wasn't -- that we may have decided to wait on for this
31 round, we may be able to revisit in the 2024 priority
32 information needs -- or development.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 MR. HOLMES: Thank you for that
37 clarification. I forgot that we were just going to
38 drop them because we've got the road system subsistence
39 covered and then the other one isn't really necessary
40 at this point because they're making some adjustments
41 in escapement goals for those areas to try and boost
42 them up. So thank you very much. Sorry, I got foggy.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: No problem.
45 Okay, are we good to take action on this item.

46
47 MR. HOLMES: Move to approve.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Motion made to
50

1 -- was that you Pat?
2
3 MR. HOLMES: Roger that.
4
5 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, thank you,
6 Pat. Motion made by Pat to.....
7
8 MS. CHERNOFF: And I'll second.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE:
11approve.....
12
13 MS. CHERNOFF: This is Coral.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE:and second
16 by Coral. Discussion.
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Question. All
21 in favor signify by saying aye.
22
23 IN UNISON: Aye.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Opposed, same
26 sign.
27
28 (No opposing votes)
29
30 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Motion carried
31 and passed. Okay, good work, a lot of work. Thank you
32 Robbin and Jared.
33
34 Okay, Council, the next item that we
35 have, I believe that Donald had emailed out to everyone
36 was the response to our annual report. Donald, are you
37 available?
38
39 MR. MIKE: Yes, Madame Chair. I am
40 available. The 2019 annual report response from the
41 Federal Subsistence Board was dated August 5, 2020 and
42 was emailed to all the Council members and you should
43 have it in front of you. I, and Staff, will be
44 available to answer any questions on any particular
45 issues that you may have concerns with.
46
47 Thank you, Madame Chair.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
50

1 Donald. Maybe just a fast overview. On the first page
2 it has -- the first item was a request for annual
3 surveys at Adak Island, caribou, and I think the
4 response was on the bottom of Page 2, it says the
5 Alaska Maritime supports the development of a caribou
6 management plan for Adak that reflects the wishes of
7 the various groups and basically that two-thirds of
8 Adak is Maritime and a third is the Aleut Corp lands,
9 and to try to create something that included ADF&G, the
10 Aleut Corp, the City of Adak and U.S. Fish and
11 Wildlife. So there definitely was support in trying to
12 put something together with that and that the Board
13 will contact ADF&G through OSM to encourage
14 coordination.

15
16 So I'm not sure, Tom, if you have any
17 update to that at this point in regard to that
18 particular issue?

19
20 MR. KRON: Madame Chair. This is Tom
21 Kron. I don't have an update at this point, thank you.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you. Any
24 comments or questions in regard to the first one.

25
26 Pat, it sounds like you Pat.

27
28 MR. HOLMES: Yeah. I was thinking that
29 it wouldn't hurt to have in our correspondence back
30 saying that we greatly support the development of a
31 management plan group, and I was wondering if we'd want
32 to have a RAC member participate maybe by phone,
33 particularly I'm thinking of -- oh, excuse me, brain
34 dead, Marcos -- Mr. Koso, being he was on our thing and
35 he was the one that brought up the question in the
36 first place.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. So
39 possibly what I'd recommend then, is we'll add this,
40 Donald, as an item to our annual report. Does that
41 work?

42
43 MR. MIKE: Yes, Madame Chair, that
44 works.

45
46
47 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay.

48
49 MR. HOLMES: And I did get some

50

1 feedback from somebody out at Adak that said, you know,
2 we had that aerial survey thing that showed all the
3 dead caribou and they said somebody had told them that
4 those were just hides without heads that were leftover
5 from some previous hunts and weren't necessarily
6 caribou that died of starvation, because that was never
7 ground checked. Just sort of a point of interest for
8 the members of the RAC.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you for
13 that Pat. That's kind of what I was seeing myself,
14 wondering too, and thinking may have been the issue.
15 So definitely something we want to watch.

16

17 Any other Council comments for Item No.

18 1.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Item No. 2;
23 request to maintain Fisheries Resource Monitoring
24 Program, the full funding and response is: The Board
25 agrees that the Council continue FRMP funding is an
26 important goal, however, the Board does not have direct
27 influence over the funds for this program. And that's
28 kind of where we talked about it a little bit,
29 hopefully they make the most of the budget in being
30 able to continue with this, depending on the funds that
31 they receive.

32

33 Any comments.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Item No. 3.
38 Educational opportunities for Council members. I think
39 this has been brought up a number of times. I think,
40 Pat and I both attended the face to face with all the
41 regions in Anchorage and it was very educational and
42 worthwhile and just being able to look at all the other
43 regions and the concerns they have and just meeting
44 people, and having all of the agencies that were
45 available on the list was very well -- an effort well
46 taken and I think that we got a lot out of it.

47

48 Basically it says, OSM will review
49 existing training documents, post them on line for new

50

1 and current Council members. Again, due to Staff
2 shortages creating a new video base materials and
3 creating formal training classes for the Council is not
4 possible at this time. So I think they do -- and it
5 was brought up, even when I went to this in the
6 statewide meeting, that, you know, that whole forum was
7 taken but, again, I think it's just -- I think it's a
8 matter of funding and even right now with Covid, it's
9 something that probably has to be put on the back
10 burner for a bit.

11
12 Request for evaluation of the Fisheries
13 Monitoring Program. This was the Council's -- the
14 Council's request from -- needs to be a meaningful way
15 for the Council to have its comments and input taken
16 into consideration during the FRMP project selection
17 process. And the response was, among other items, the
18 Board discussed during their February 2018 work
19 session, the role of Regional Advisory Councils in the
20 project selection process -- and it says Council
21 members only receive information from proposed packages
22 that are not considered confidential or proprietary.
23 The other comment, it is unfortunate there's a
24 perception that the Board did not consider prior
25 recommendations about the McLees project, and then in
26 the 2018 TRC ranked three other proposals higher. I
27 know we have -- I think we have basically discussed
28 that.

29
30 Any comments in regards to that.

31
32 MR. HOLMES: Well, I'll remove any
33 expletives. I think it was a nice bureaucratic
34 response to our concerns that, in my mind, didn't
35 completely answer it but I can understand things from
36 an administrator's perspective and it's something we'll
37 just have to deal with to make sure that we have a lot
38 of positive support for the FRMPs that we have and make
39 sure that the wording of those things go in so that
40 there's no doubt that we consider which project is a
41 priority for which area. And I think that's as far as
42 we could go. Because it is a little different than
43 what we got verbal during one of those sessions on
44 there what happens, so I guess we just got to let it
45 go.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Any other
48 comments.

49
50

1 (No comments)

2

3

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Pat.

4

5

6 Agency reports. I think this has to do
7 with trying to get the -- basically getting the written
8 reports prior to the meeting and this has just been a
9 tough one, and even more so now with this Covid. Just
10 basically, the Board continues to recognize importance
11 of Councils receiving their reports in advance to allow
12 time to read and process. And I think this is just one
13 of those things that's going to be an ongoing issue
14 that hopefully -- I know it's tough but that we just
15 keep on it and hopefully get the reports prior to the
16 meeting.

16

17

18

19

20

I know I think Rebecca has stated on
numerous occasions that it's nice to have these in hand
prior to the meeting to be able to, I think, have good
discussion about things that affect us.

21

22

Okay.

23

24

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26

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33

No. 6 is Izembek Kodiak National
Wildlife Refuge, the RITs. This has been one, I know,
that's been important to this Council for many, many
years. And basically the response is the Board concurs
RITs are an important member of U.S. Fish and Wildlife
Staff and facilitate the development of strong
relationships with the public and hopefully these
positions can get filled. And this is probably one,
maybe, Tom, do you have an update on that particular
one?

34

35

36

MR. KRON: Madame Chair. No, I do not.
Thank you.

37

38

39

40

41

MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. So I
think that's -- as we go through our annual report,
Council, we may want to continue also on that one.

41

42

43

44

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Izembek and Kodiak National Wildlife
Refuge Staffing -- I think we were all very happy to
hear that Maria Fosado is the new Refuge Manager for
Izembek and that they have actually -- or that they
filled that position because it was a position of
concern for this Council. And I know Fish and Wildlife
has been having, you know, issues all the way around
with Staffing and continues, I believe, to be an issue,

1 but hopefully these positions can get hired.

2

3 Any Council member comments in regard
4 to that one.

5

6 MR. HOLMES: I think in our note to the
7 Federal Board we should express our great appreciation
8 for them hiring her and hiring a Refuge manager because
9 at our meeting at Cold Bay, the chap that was there
10 from headquarters was pretty much insinuating that they
11 were just going to leave the management up at King
12 Salmon and manage two refuges together and so I'm
13 really glad that they did that. And then, of course,
14 getting a young lady with her experience, and then
15 coming from probably a rural area of Minnesota, she
16 probably understands a little more about rural living
17 and subsistence, so I'm really looking forward to
18 working with her.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Thank
23 you, Pat. Any other comments.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Item No. 8,
28 access and harvest limits of subsistence salmon,
29 residents of Adak depend on salmon as part of their
30 subsistence lifestyle. They do have the response on
31 here, but I also think that Rick, Pat, and Lisa may
32 have resolved this issue, Pat, can you maybe add to
33 that discussion.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Pat.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I hope he didn't
42 hang up.

43

44 (Pause)

45

46 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yeah, he did.
47 We'll wait for him to get back on line.

48

49 (Pause)

50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Pat, third time
2 is a charm, are you on line?

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: We're also
7 hearing an echo. Pat, are you on line?

8
9 REPORTER: Yeah, Della, this is Tina.
10 So whoever did just dial in is who's causing the echo,
11 they may need to hang up and redial.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Whoever
14 dialed in created an echo, you'll need to hang up and
15 call in again.

16
17 (Pause)

18
19 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Let's
20 just go ahead right now and move on to: Bering Sea
21 Community Conference, we know that's cancelled due to
22 Covid.

23
24 Sea Otter impacts on subsistence
25 resources in the region. There was a fairly lengthy
26 discussion on that one. I don't want to get into
27 reading it but it did, you know, mention the
28 subcommittee membership, and what it can be comprised
29 of, for example public representative, Council members,
30 tribes and State. And then it also -- that's the
31 Council members may participate in Sea Otter working
32 groups formed by other agencies or entities. There's
33 reference to the Southeast Sea Otter stakeholder
34 workshop, population size and trends. And current
35 management structure and practices with marine mammals.
36 And an endangered species on the five year. I think
37 that one, that U.S. Fish and Wildlife is required to
38 review the status of listed species at least once every
39 five years to evaluate whether they should be delisted,
40 reclassified or retain current classification. So the
41 U.S. Fish and Wildlife initiated a five year review
42 this past fall and are on track to finish a review at
43 the end of 2020.

44
45 So can somebody maybe help me with this
46 one, does this mean that the review at this point can
47 possibly take the sea otters from the listing as
48 endangered from Kodiak, or what would the next step be
49 on this one?

50

1 Tom.

2
3 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, this is
4 Donald.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead,
7 Donald.

8
9 MR. MIKE: Yeah, for this Endangered
10 Species Act, five year review, I can work with the
11 Marine Mammal folks in our regional office and get an
12 idea where they're at of this review and report back to
13 the Council. I will contact the Marine Mammal folks
14 and get an update for the Council.

15
16 Thank you, Madame Chair.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you. I
19 guess we're looking for an annual meeting, to add that
20 endangered species portion to our annual report.

21
22 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Is that still --
25 Pat, I think I heard you come on line.

26
27 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, I'm back. Yeah, I
28 think we should continue to pursue the sea otter thing
29 and there's some suggestions in there on participation
30 and then there's a couple of papers in there that would
31 be good for us to read.

32
33 And, anyway, I think an important point
34 for folks to note, that have just joined, we were
35 promised two years ago when we had the sea otter folks
36 on line, we asked the question about why it's
37 endangered and they said they'd get right back to us
38 and then every meeting since we've asked for it, so if
39 you could give them a little tickle Mike, it would be
40 really nice to know why or how they developed that
41 concept, particularly in reference to the fact that
42 Kodiak's population has continued to go up and doesn't
43 seem to have any affect on -- or you know at least the
44 otters don't seem to be suffering.

45
46 Thank you, Madame Chair.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Pat.
49 Any other Council comments.

50

1 MR. HOLMES: Would you like me to give
2 you a little bit of what I was trying to say on the
3 Adak subsistence permits?
4

5 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yeah, if you
6 would.
7

8 MR. HOLMES: When that came up at our
9 meeting, when I had a break, I called up Rick, because
10 he's the one that raised the question, I suggested he
11 get together with the area management biologist, Ms.
12 Fox, and he did, the next day he called back and said
13 they had the problem solved, or she did, and so when I
14 reported back, I forget who I sent it to, I could dig
15 through 500 emails, but I did report back that the
16 problem was solved and that this didn't even need to go
17 into our letter, but it went into our letter anyway.
18 So it just wasn't necessary to even talk to the Board
19 about it because the problem was solved before this was
20 even printed.
21

22 Thank you.
23

24 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I think, Pat,
25 this document came from the transcripts of our meeting
26 and so the changes -- if there's changes to it it has
27 to be in a formal, and, particularly, in a meeting, so
28 I think what they use is.....
29

30 MR. HOLMES: Oh, I see, okay, roger
31 that, I understand that.
32

33 Thank you.
34

35 Silly. But it's the way it is.
36

37 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. We
38 Regional Advisory Council.....
39

40 MS. HAYDEN: Madame Chair, I have a
41 question. This is Natasha.
42

43 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead,
44 Natasha.
45

46 MS. HAYDEN: Just about the sea otter
47 topic. It states in there under the -- I think the
48 last paragraph, Endangered Species Act, five year
49 review, in the middle of the paragraph it says U.S.
50

1 Fish and Wildlife Service also reached out to tribal
2 entities in the state of Alaska, and I'm wondering if
3 there's somebody who might be able to elaborate on what
4 that tribal outreach included and if there's any
5 summary of that effort.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Donald, do you
8 have an answer to that or Tom?

9
10 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. As far as
11 outreach from the Endangered Species Act, five year
12 review, on the outreach question, I don't have an
13 answer to that but I can certainly find out and report
14 to the Council while I'm checking with the Marine
15 Mammal folks. So I can get an answer for the Council.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 MS. HAYDEN: Thank you, Donald.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
22 Donald. Okay. Regional Advisory Council appointments
23 and vacant seats, that was a huge issue at this
24 meeting, at the statewide meeting. And I also think
25 that they posted the alternates, can you give me the
26 alternate members -- but we have no appointed vetted
27 alternate members on our Council. Donald.

28
29 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, this is
30 Donald. As far as the alternates, I have not received
31 any alternates from this office designated alternates
32 but that's another thing we'll need to followup on.

33
34 Tom Kron, do you have any information
35 on this for alternates for Council seats?

36
37 (Teleconference interference -
38 participants not muted)

39
40 MR. KRON: No, Madame Chair, Donald. I
41 do not have any updates at this point. Thank you.

42
43 (Teleconference interference -
44 participants not muted)

45
46 MR. MIKE: Please mute your phone,
47 you're disrupting the deliberations. Thank you.

48
49 (Teleconference interference -

50

1 participants not muted)

2

3 REPORTER: So, Robbin, I think your
4 phone is not muted.

5

6 MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair, it is not
7 Robbin, thank you.

8

9 REPORTER: Sorry, Robbin. Okay,
10 somebody, or if all of us could please check our phones
11 to see if they're muted, we're getting background
12 noise.

13

14 MS. SKINNER: Is that Natasha?

15

16 REPORTER: No, it's not.

17

18 MS. PETRIVELLI: That sounds like Karen
19 Hyer.

20

21 MS. HAYDEN: It wasn't me this time.

22

23 REPORTER: Yes, it's Karen. Karen,
24 could you please mute your phone.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, I think we
27 got it.

28

29 MR. MIKE: So, Madame Chair, this is
30 Donald. I don't know if you want to go over Item No.
31 11, NOAA reports.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, sorry,
34 missed that. Request to share NOAA Alaska Fisheries
35 Science Center, research findings in the Gulf of
36 Alaska. And it says OSM reached out to NOAA and
37 received an indication that a member of the Ecosystem
38 Status Report Team would be happy to share their work
39 with the Council. NOAA potentially will be able to
40 tailor their report specifically to the subsistence
41 region they are represented, and depending on the
42 research issues of interest of the Council. And,
43 again, we had that report from them today and I think
44 that was a request by Pat, and I think we all
45 appreciate that.

46

47 So, Pat, do you have any comments to
48 that.

49

50

1 MR. HOLMES: Actually.....

2
3 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I hope you
4 didn't hang up again.

5
6 MR. HOLMES: Hello, am I there, no, I
7 didn't hang up.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Oh, good.

10
11 MR. HOLMES: Things were a lot simpler
12 when we just had four digit party phones and CBs, you
13 know. I'd probably do better with a single sideband
14 calling you.

15
16 Anyway, on last -- shoot.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: NOAA.

19
20 MR. HOLMES: NOAA, no, anyway, that
21 ended up being I think absolutely splendid. I've
22 gotten some text back from folks saying, gee, that's
23 just what they wanted to know and I kind of -- I'm
24 going to be bumping that paper around to several people
25 that might be interested in looking at our FRMPs, you
26 know, because it's so -- you look at those little peaks
27 and valleys and the places where the cod took a hit is
28 where the sockeye in different places didn't show up or
29 was missing a year class or was really weak, and in my
30 mind that really answers a lot of questions. And I'm
31 going to encourage any young person going to college or
32 anybody doing salmon research in this neck of the woods
33 to log on to that site and that paper and correlate it
34 with what they're working on. I think it's the best
35 information that's shown up at our meeting in a long
36 time.

37
38 Thank you.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Pat.

41
42 Any other comments from the Council.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. That's
47 the response to our annual report, it's a 15 page
48 document -- actually 16 pages. Which leads us, I
49 think, into the items for our annual report.

50

1 But before we go into that, are there
2 any public or tribal representatives on line that would
3 like to make a comment or statement at this time.

4
5 (No comments)

6
7 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Hearing
8 none, Donald, are we ready for the items for our annual
9 report?

10
11 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12 Yes, we are ready. Just briefly on the background for
13 annual reports. ANILCA established the annual report
14 as a way to bring regional subsistence interests and
15 needs to the Secretaries attention, and the annual
16 reports provides the Councils an opportunity to address
17 the directors of each of the four Department of
18 Interior Agencies and the Department of Agriculture,
19 Forest Service, in their capacity as members of the
20 Federal Subsistence Board. So this is an opportunity
21 for the Council to bring issues to the Federal
22 Subsistence Board.

23
24 Madame Chair.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
27 Donald.

28
29 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, before we go
30 on any further. The first item that I heard from this
31 Council for 2020 annual report topics was Adak Island
32 Caribou Management Plan, and this Council would like to
33 see it move forward. Is that correct?

34
35 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yes.

36
37 MR. MIKE: And another.....

38
39 MR. HOLMES: We might put a footnote on
40 that, Donald, to maybe -- if the Council would agree,
41 to suggest that when they have -- that they form that
42 as soon as possible and that perhaps a member of our
43 Council might be able to participate in that process.

44
45 MR. MIKE: Thank you.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Pat, for
48 clarification, a member of our Council, meaning the
49 ones that are on here now, because you mentioned Rick

50

1 and Rick is no longer on the Council.

2

3 MR. HOLMES: Yeah. I don't know maybe
4 we should nominate him as an alternative, you know.
5 Same with Tom Schwantes, you know. I think that's
6 something we should talk about at the end here, is,
7 possible alternative people. But, you know, if they
8 get something like that going it'd be good to have
9 somebody at least knowing what's happening.

10

11 Sorry, thank you.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Those are good
14 points, Pat. Good points.

15

16 Any other comments in regard to Adak
17 caribou.

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: We'll continue
22 on with those efforts.

23

24 Donald.

25

26 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
27 The next item I heard from the Council for your report,
28 is for the Council wishes to express its gratitude to
29 the Izembek Refuge for hiring a Refuge manager.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: That is correct.
32 So expressing the appreciation to OSM for the hiring of
33 Izembek Refuge manager.

34

35 MR. MIKE: Okay. And the next item
36 would be Endangered Species Act on sea otters, the five
37 year review for the report, and the Council expressed --
38 or requested how the concept was developed to
39 designate the Kodiak sea otter population, along with
40 the Southwest area as an endangered species.

41

42 Thank you, Madame Chair.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
45 Donald. Any comments to that statement.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: The one thing I

50

1 might possibly think about adding to that and if you
2 all agree is we had asked if we were able to -- in this
3 case it was to send one of the Council members, or
4 Council member to the Southeast forum, meetings, and
5 whether there was a possibility of funding being
6 available. So I think if it's appropriate to add, you
7 know, if there's any travel funding available,
8 especially like looking now that none of our Council --
9 or we're not traveling, in the future if there's
10 anything available to try to send people to these
11 forums regarding the sea otters because I think the sea
12 otters are definitely creating quite the problem in
13 Kodiak. We look at that as a possibility of a small
14 budget funding for travel.

15
16 MS. CHERNOFF: This is Coral.

17
18 MR. HOLMES: Well, one thing on the sea
19 otters, and I don't know that we need to address it to
20 the Marine Mammal people, it might be the local Refuge,
21 but I'm wondering if in their data bases -- and maybe
22 the Marine Mammal people would be who to ask, but on
23 the basis of their surveys, you know, if they're going
24 along tallying things up -- we asked before, about, if
25 they could give us a bay by bay population assessment
26 and basically they said, well, there's not many on the
27 east side, most are on the west side; well, I think
28 I've had that question asked from the people over at
29 Port Lions and Ouzinkie, when they had a really huge
30 couple of rafts of them show up there and it just would
31 be good, if they're going out and tracking -- I mean if
32 you're doing it -- you got your tablet in your lap or
33 notepad, it would be easy enough to just say, okay, we
34 see -- saw movement of 100 sea otters move out of
35 Womens Bay, or we had reports of that and because --
36 because that, I think, if we ever get to any kind of
37 management, would be very helpful to know what's going
38 on. And it would support our arguments of saying, gee,
39 you know, we used to have king crab in the bay and the
40 otters came and the otters are gone, how many.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Any other
43 comments.

44
45 MS. CHERNOFF: This is Coral.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Coral, go ahead.

48
49 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes, Della, I totally

50

1 agree with what you just said, in their response they
2 essentially responded that, you know, that doesn't fall
3 under what we do, but I think asking for funding
4 because it affects subsistence and it has come up at
5 meetings, I think it would be appropriate to ask for
6 funding to pursue this.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you. Any
9 other comments.

10
11
12 (No comments)

13
14 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: The last, the
15 Regional Advisory Council appointments, Donald, and the
16 alternates were mentioned and Pat just brought it up to
17 appointing.

18
19 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, I was wondering how
20 we nominate alternate members there, Donald. I mean
21 Mike -- yeah, Donald.

22
23 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. When we go
24 through these nomination cycles we have InterAgency
25 Staff Committee -- InterAgency Panel to review and rate
26 each applicant and then we forward those on, and then
27 the Panel develops its recommendations for alternates
28 and those are submitted to the Federal Subsistence
29 Board for its final approval. And when the Board
30 approves the nominations package, they send it out to
31 the Secretary of Interior for final approval and that's
32 where the -- the Secretary will designate alternate
33 seats on the Council, so -- but to this date, like I
34 said earlier, I'll have to follow up with our Staff in
35 D.C., and OSM Staff to see where we are at with the
36 alternate seating for each Council.

37
38 Thank you, Madame Chair.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
41 Donald.

42
43 Council, are there any other items you
44 would like to add to our annual report based on our
45 meeting the last two days.

46
47 (No comments)

48
49 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Something we
50

1 might consider, too, is thanking them for the work that
2 Robbin and Jared did, and then the student and I'm
3 sorry, but I can't remember his name, but I think it
4 really contributed to our process in.....

5
6 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair. I think I
7 emailed you a draft letter of a commendation for the
8 two of them and for the intern. If you didn't get it
9 I'll send it again, or I'll send it to -- should I send
10 it to Donald?

11
12 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Maybe send it to
13 Donald, and he can get it to -- because I didn't see
14 it, Pat.

15
16 MR. HOLMES: Okay.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I might have
19 missed it though so.

20
21 MR. HOLMES: Well, with my old computer
22 I might have sent it to Moscow, I don't know, I'll try
23 again.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I call that
26 Covid brain, I do it all the time.

27
28 (Laughter)

29
30 MR. HOLMES: I call it being 77.

31
32 MS. CHERNOFF: Della, this is Coral.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Coral.

35
36 MS. CHERNOFF: Hi. Sorry, this might
37 not be totally clear because it just popped into my
38 head, but, I was thinking maybe we might just express,
39 of course, our thanks for the work that they do, but I
40 think more than ever, right now, it's really critical
41 the time and thought that we give to subsistence as
42 we've had meat plants around the world shut down,
43 groceries around the world, and the country shut down,
44 for food security. And a lot of times tribal
45 sovereignty -- but I think for food security, I think
46 it's just really important to emphasize how important
47 subsistence is to many areas around Alaska who -- you
48 know, it's already hard to have access to food, but now
49 during times of Covid and grocery shutdowns and not
50

1 knowing, you know, what's going to happen in the next
2 year, it could get even harder.

3
4 So if we could add something to that
5 effect, I think that would be good to add.

6
7 Thank you.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
10 Coral. The one thing I guess I didn't really mention,
11 at the statewide meeting, there was a tremendous amount
12 of discussion in regard to food security. I think from
13 that they allowed Refuge managers to make decisions to
14 open seasons if they needed. And then this is where
15 the State lawsuit comes in. So I've been trying to
16 carefully step away from that, from discussing it. And
17 then also I think Tom did make reference to it in his
18 report. So that's kind of where that is. But I think
19 just stating the issue, the importance of subsistence,
20 I think -- we're not necessarily requesting anything
21 directly; am I correct?

22
23 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes, that's correct.
24 I'd just thank them for all their hard work and just
25 really putting an emphasis on this work towards
26 subsistence in the coming years, and the.....

27
28 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

29
30 MS. CHERNOFF:importance of it.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
33 Coral.

34
35 Pat, go ahead.

36
37 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, Coral's right on
38 there. I think one way to make that work would be to
39 talk with the respective area biologists or regional
40 biologists and see if it'd be feasible enough to raise
41 a contingency through the various Advisory Committees
42 to be able to expand, at least like on salmon
43 subsistence permits. I know if I get my goal of 25 for
44 us and another 25, Patty's part, that I give away, and
45 I get a big mess of fish in my net, or go out another
46 day because I'm getting something for Mrs. Malutin or
47 other bunch of elders, they will give you an extension,
48 the area biologist has that ability to give you an
49 extension on your permit. So just betcha if we would

50

1 just informally talk to them, or formally, they could
2 probably come up with a way to, at least on salmon, to
3 give more availability to folks as they need to have
4 it.

5

6 Thank you.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Pat.

9 Any other comments.

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I'm going to go
14 through, Chris, do you have any comments,
15 recommendations for the annual report.

16

17 MR. PRICE: Yeah, I do. Here, let me
18 grab my notes real quick.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay.

21

22 MR. PRICE: One thing I had was just --
23 you know, I've put a lot of packets together, I know
24 how hard it is, but this packet was pretty hard to
25 follow with all the attachments. And I know there's,
26 you know, not always -- you know, it's just tough, but
27 I wanted to thank you guys, though, for putting that
28 packet together.

29

30 And, you know, also for us to talk
31 about Unalaska Lake and Unalaska Bay drainage, Summer
32 Bay, Morris and McLees in terms of the potential
33 fisheries closure through OSM, I'd like to get, you
34 know, OSM Staff to help me do a presentation to the
35 local Fish and Game Advisory Board, and the Unalaska
36 Native Fishermens Association so they can kind of
37 understand the process and why, you know, I don't want
38 to surprise them with this type of thing, and I'm sure
39 they're going to help -- you know they'll be helpful
40 and to understand. But I think that would be really
41 important to do, locally, to build support for these
42 type of things.

43

44 So those are the main things I had.

45

46 Again, we had a bad run out here and
47 hopefully next year things will turn around but we're
48 really watching it. A lot of people didn't get their
49 fish this year and so it has a big impact on our

50

1 community.

2

3 And I wanted to thank all of the
4 Council and the Staff for all their hard work on this
5 meeting.

6

7 Thank you.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
10 Chris.

11

12 Sam, do you have anything to add for
13 our annual report?

14

15 MR. ROHRER: No, Della, I don't. I
16 think you got it about covered.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Sam.

19

20 Rebecca.

21

22 MS. SKINNER: Just to clarify, is this
23 just comments on the annual report, and we'll do
24 closing comments later?

25

26 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: That is correct.

27

28 MS. SKINNER: Okay. No, I didn't have
29 anything else for the annual report, thank you.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Natasha.

32

33 MS. HAYDEN: Chris, did you have
34 something else you wanted to add?

35

36 MR. PRICE: Oh, I was just going to
37 say, sorry, that was my closing remarks, but I
38 apologize.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: That's okay.

41

42 Natasha.

43

44 MS. HAYDEN: Thank you, Della. So the
45 annual report would be the content of the
46 Kodiak/Aleutian's RAC annual report reply, that was for
47 -- what we just reviewed was for 2019, correct?

48

49 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yeah. Yeah,

50

1 it's for this year.

2

3 MS. HAYDEN: Okay. No, I also don't
4 have any comments. Well, I -- yep, that's it. I'm
5 good for now. Thank you.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, thank you,
8 Natasha.

9

10 Coral.

11

12 MS. CHERNOFF: Nope, that's all I had
13 was maybe expressing food security along with those
14 other things that Pat had mentioned, or had already
15 been mentioned.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. We might
20 get an award for giving the shortest letter in our
21 history.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. So,
26 Donald, you have all that you need at this time?

27

28 MR. HOLMES: I could give you a
29 comment. I know I talk too much but.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Pat.

32

33 MR. HOLMES: I think we should lead out
34 the letter with a brief abstract, and we've got lots of
35 soundbytes so far, of a concern of our Council for
36 changes in the marine environment and radical
37 fluctuations of sockeye at Chignik River, Buskin River,
38 McLees Lake, and other small but very important sockeye
39 systems on the Alaska Peninsula. That way we flag
40 them, I mean that's the main thing that we've been
41 worried about, and then we've got the sea otters, et
42 cetera, down the line. But I think if we do that, then
43 that sets up a yellow flag -- hopefully a red flag,
44 that there's problems and then that would also be
45 guidance on the FMP process.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Good idea, Pat.

48

49 MS. HAYDEN: Della.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead,
2 Natasha.

3
4 MS. HAYDEN: Della, this is Natasha
5 again real quick. And I don't know if this is the most
6 appropriate place to discuss this, but I did want to
7 bring up invasive species. I don't think that we had
8 any discussion or presentation. Like the one that
9 comes to my mind is the crayfish in the Buskin, but I
10 know that there is some invasive species in the
11 anadromous stream and lake systems that might be
12 wreaking havoc all over the state and if that's
13 something that can be included, highlighted as far as
14 part of the environmental concerns.

15
16 MR. HOLMES: I think that would be
17 great because that was raised by Sun'aq several times,
18 and as well as at this one, so that would be another
19 little topic point for sure. We could invasive
20 species, worries about them, for example, crayfish in
21 the Buskin Lake and allude to other problems in the
22 rest of the state.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, thank you.
25 Donald, you got that.

26
27 MR. MIKE: Yes, Madame Chair, I'm
28 taking notes and if you have more issues to present,
29 I'm here.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Any other
32 items to add.

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: So, Donald,
37 you'll get a draft to everybody once you get that
38 together.

39
40 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, yes. I'll get
41 that draft to all the Council members and at our winter
42 meeting we can review and approve it and if there's any
43 additional topics to include in the 2020 annual report
44 we can do that at the winter meeting.

45
46 Madame Chair.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. Thank
49 you, Donald.

50

1 Okay, so moving on, we'll go ahead and
2 do confirm winter 2021, the calendar is on Page 115.

3
4 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, this is
5 Donald. Currently on the calendar for winter 2021, the
6 Kodiak/Aleutian Council selected meeting dates of March
7 9th and 10th in Kodiak, but it depends on the Covid
8 situation.

9
10 Thank you, Madame Chair.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
13 Donald. So at this point that still stands, does
14 anybody have a problem with that, and hopefully we'll
15 be able to start traveling by then.

16
17 (No comments)

18
19 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Then we'd move
20 on to the fall on the next page, if there's no problem
21 with the winter meeting dates, on Page 116.

22
23 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair. I have a
24 question for Sam, I know that in ordinary situations
25 without Covid he's pretty busy guiding, but is there
26 any time slots that would be good for him. If there's
27 none, then I would suggest we have it later in
28 September because that would allow the different
29 agencies to get all their summers work information
30 together, or in early October. So what's the best date
31 for you, Sam?

32
33 MR. ROHRER: This is Sam here. Well, I
34 appreciate that Pat. With all the postponements and
35 cancellations this year it's -- my schedule's all over
36 the place so I still don't have it quite figured out,
37 but, generally later in September works better for me.

38
39 MR. HOLMES: Okay. Well, maybe, Madame
40 Chair, could we consider like either the week of
41 September 26th or the week of October 3rd.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: I think we can,
44 does anybody.....

45
46 MS. HAYDEN: Madame Chair, this is
47 Natasha.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Go ahead,

50

1 Natasha.

2

3 MS. HAYDEN: The first week of October
4 conflicts with the North Pacific Fisheries Management
5 Council meeting.

6

7 MR. HOLMES: Okay.

8

9 MS. HAYDEN: And usually the second
10 week of October conflicts with AFN and Elders and
11 Youth, so if we could try to keep it to the second half
12 of September I would appreciate that.

13

14 MR. HOLMES: The 26th.

15

16 MR. ROHRER: This is Sam. I mean
17 tentatively that would work for me.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: So the 26th is a
20 Sunday, Pat.

21

22 MR. HOLMES: Oh, just that week, maybe
23 like Tuesday and Wednesday allows Monday travel and the
24 rest of the week to try to get home.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Yeah, I think
27 that's good. Anybody have problems with those dates,
28 that can't make those dates? So tentatively.....

29

30 MS. HAYDEN: Where would that meeting
31 be scheduled at if we were having an in-person meeting.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: That was the
34 next thing coming up, September 28th or 29th, this year
35 we had hoped to have this meeting in Unalaska but that
36 didn't work, so.....

37

38 MR. HOLMES: Well, it may be if they
39 get Covid cleared up there, Della, they may be
40 rescheduling that big thing that the partners were
41 doing there, environmental coping or whatever, council,
42 that we went to, what, three or four years ago, so
43 maybe we should try for Dutch with Cold Bay as a second
44 choice.

45

46 MS. HAYDEN: I was wondering what the
47 other Council members felt about having it either at
48 the beginning or the end of the week so we could use
49 one of the weekend days to travel instead of having to

50

1 travel those days on work days makes it more difficult
2 for me to be away from my day job.

3

4 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, that'd be swell.

5

6 MS. HAYDEN: And, then, of course, it's
7 going to depend on what the flight schedules are, I
8 don't even know if there are even planes going to
9 Unalaska these days but, you know, if it's possible, if
10 it doesn't cause too much of a hardship to others,
11 that's what I would prefer. But if it does cause a
12 hardship then, you know, I'll work around it.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 MR. HOLMES: I'm good for anything.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, I'm a bit
19 lost here so.....

20

21 MR. HOLMES: Anything that week.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE:do we know
24 what dates we're looking at. The dates.

25

26 MR. HOLMES: Well, I think we're
27 looking at starting on Monday, the September 27th
28 through October 1st and Natasha was suggesting that we
29 move it either to the start of the week or the end of
30 the week and maybe if it would get a greater chance of
31 getting our reports printed up, maybe the end of the
32 week. How would that sound to folks.

33

34 MS. HAYDEN: That works for me, thank
35 you.

36

37 MS. SKINNER: Yeah, Rebecca prefers the
38 beginning of the week although Rebecca's not sure if
39 she's getting reappointed but my vote would be for the
40 beginning of the week.

41

42 MR. HOLMES: That'd be fine with me.

43

44 MS. HAYDEN: That is also fine with me.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. So the
47 meeting dates would be the 27th and 28th, is that
48 correct?

49

50

1 MR. HOLMES: Roger.

2
3 MS. HAYDEN: Yes.

4
5 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, that's
6 fine. It doesn't make any difference to me.

7
8 MR. PRICE: That will be fine for me.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay. September
11 27th and 28th, hopefully Unalaska if they're having the
12 conference, if not we will second, alternate choice is
13 Cold Bay.

14
15 Is that agreeable?

16
17 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes.

18
19 MR. HOLMES: I vote yes.

20
21 MR. PRICE: Yes.

22
23 MR. ROHRER: Yes.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, we are set
26 and we are set for closing comments. I'm going to
27 start with Natasha.

28
29 MS. HAYDEN: Thank you, Madame Chair.
30 My comments are I just think this has been -- I'm going
31 to start off with acknowledging how challenging times
32 are for us. I really appreciate Donald's level of
33 preparedness and his level of engagement and
34 responsiveness to all of us for our requests and
35 getting data and information to us. I think you've
36 done a great job. I'm also very impressed with the
37 reports that we've received from the various agencies.
38 I think it really is obvious to me how it seems as
39 though we've got the right people in the right
40 positions out there that are both knowledgeable about
41 their subject topics and are, you know, they care
42 deeply and are putting the work in. So I'm grateful
43 for that.

44
45 I'm also grateful to have an
46 opportunity to work with all of you on this, it's so
47 important, being engaged in while we try to ensure our
48 subsistence needs are met for all of our communities,
49 we cover a very vast area between here and the end of

50

1 the Aleutians and our needs are wide and vary as much
2 as the distance. So, thank you everybody, for the time
3 and I appreciate hearing everybody's perspectives.
4 Hope everybody's safe and healthy.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
7 Natasha.

8
9 Sam.

10
11 MR. ROHRER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12 I just wanted to thank everyone for participating. I
13 know we have a lot of Staff folks that are on the call,
14 I certainly appreciate them spending the last two days
15 being here providing comments and reports, agency
16 reports for us. Appreciate all the other Council
17 members being willing to put in their time.

18
19 Just want to comment on our discussions
20 on the priority information needs. I know we spent a
21 lot of time going through that trying to get our
22 wording right and just appreciate everyone being able
23 to, you know, say their peace, say their ideas and then
24 come together with consensus and move forward on that.

25
26 So appreciate just all the work
27 everyone's put in these last two days.

28
29 That's all I have.

30
31 Thanks.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Sam.

34
35 Chris.

36
37 MR. PRICE: Thanks, guys. Yeah, I made
38 my closing comments. But, again, I'd love to have you
39 guys to Unalaska. I hope we can do the conference
40 again, but at this point we just don't quite know how
41 that's going to play out. But, again, thanks to the
42 Staff and the Council for a tough meeting, but
43 appreciate the hard work that was done. Again, wanted
44 to thank everybody.

45
46 And just let you know that we're having
47 a rough go out here with our fish this summer and we
48 are concerned about it. So thank you guys for your
49 consideration and your time.

50

1 that direction. And also a big thank you to all of the
2 agency Staff that spent the last two days with us, as
3 well as put the effort in to get the reports and
4 information to us ahead of time.

5
6 And thank you to all of the Council
7 members.

8
9 And that's all I had, thank you, Della.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
12 Rebecca.

13
14 Coral.

15
16 (No comments)

17
18 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Coral.

19
20 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I just want to
21 ditto all the thank yous that everyone else has put out
22 there. And I also want to thank the other Council
23 members and let them know that, like, I appreciate, you
24 know, we all have views, other views and different
25 views, I appreciate and value everybody's opinions,
26 even when they're different than mine, and I hope that
27 we can all remember that we are all on the same team
28 and we're all working on this together and I hope that
29 we can be respectful of that.

30
31 And, yeah, and I just want to hope and
32 wish everyone to be safe until our next meeting.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
37 Coral.

38
39 Pat.

40
41 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, well, I would like
42 at this point if we were someplace, I would have talked
43 to the other members and had a nice great big triple
44 bouquet of flowers and a box of chocolate and your
45 favorite wine for your splendid job of guiding us
46 through this and your tolerance and I just think you're
47 really probably one of the best Council Chairs I've
48 ever watched.

49
50

1 Anyway, thanks to everybody that have
2 been thanked before.

3
4 And I think that it was a really good
5 decision, Fish and Wildlife Service, OSM, or the
6 Service, to fill that position at Izembek because for a
7 while it looked like it was going to be joined in with
8 somewhere else and so I think we really are going to
9 hopefully move forward in that direction.

10
11 And I think one thing that I appreciate
12 most of all, besides our interaction as a Gulf of
13 Alaska family, is our interactions with Bristol Bay on
14 the FRMP.

15
16 So thanks to everybody, and like Coral
17 said, stay safe folks.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you, Pat.

20
21 And my closing.....

22
23 MS. HAYDEN: Madame Chair.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Who's that
26 Natasha?

27
28 MS. HAYDEN: Yes, Madame Chair. Sorry,
29 for just a moment, I have a request.

30
31 I had asked Donald Mike to update my
32 email address and somehow my private email address had
33 been the one that has been used by many of, not just
34 Donald, but many of the other Council members, and so I
35 was going to ask if Donald could send an updated email,
36 just a new fresh email that's a contact list, that
37 includes all of the other RAC members as well, so that
38 you guys can all have the correct email address for me
39 for future communications. I would really appreciate
40 that, it's just been very difficult, and onerous going
41 back and forth between my private email address and the
42 one that I had requested to be listed.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
45 Natasha. And that's a good point, too, I think,
46 Donald, if you can put an email contact, names of
47 Council members, their email addresses and their cell
48 phone numbers possibly, even including mailing address,
49 that would be helpful for all of us.

50

1 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair,
2 this is Donald. That's noted, thanks.

3
4 MS. SKINNER: Della, a quick followup,
5 I'm going to send an email to Donald with that
6 information because I've had, through this meeting,
7 emails going to three different email accounts as well
8 so I'm going to take the initiative and send an email
9 to Donald with the correct information so he can add
10 that to the list.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you,
15 Rebecca. And actually that really brings it to a
16 point, if each Council member for this particular
17 Council, send to Donald your preference email because
18 I've got four emails, I use one for this, but a contact
19 number, cell phone number also and a mailing address, I
20 think would be great.

21
22 Is that good.

23
24 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, that'd be a great
25 solution, and in fact if we got them all from Donald,
26 then it would easy to bundle it and put it into a group
27 email category so all one would have to do is click RAC
28 and (makes sound) and then everybody gets it.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay, sounds
31 good. Sounds good.

32
33 Okay, in closing, I want to thank each
34 of the Council members, there was -- this was a tough
35 meeting and it's tough when you're trying to do all
36 this together and the large group of people that we
37 have, the various agencies, the Staff members and the
38 different representation, the work that's put into
39 putting one of these meetings together is tremendous
40 and to be able to get through it, I think -- and this
41 was a tough meeting for us, I think, and I think we
42 came through it very well. I've always felt privileged
43 over the years working with the Kodiak/Aleutians, it's
44 been a joy for me to do this and I'd like to continue.

45
46 But I'd like to say thank you to
47 everybody from the bottom of my heart.

48
49 Donald, thank you so very much for
50

1 keeping us in line and getting to us what we need.

2

3 And, Tom, from OSM, I think just
4 letting everybody know how much we appreciate the
5 effort that is done by the Federal Staff and from the
6 various agencies, including the State. We really
7 appreciate the amount of work that's done, this stuff,
8 subsistence is important to all of us and will continue
9 to be. So when you look at the changes in the
10 environment right now, it's even more important than
11 ever.

12

13 So with that, I thank all of you again
14 from the bottom of my heart and I just hope that you
15 all keep safe and that soon we'll be able to meet face
16 to face.

17

18 And with that, I guess, we'll ask for a
19 motion to adjourn.

20

21 MR. HOLMES: Move to adjourn.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Motion made by
24 Pat.

25

26 MR. PRICE: Second.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Second by.....

29

30 MR. PRICE: Second by Chris.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Okay.

33

34 Discussion.

35

36

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50

1 MR. PRICE: Bye everybody.
2
3 MS. HAYDEN: Thank you, everybody.
4 Thank you, Della.
5
6 MR. MIKE: Thank you everybody. Thank
7 you.
8
9 MR. ROHRER: Thanks, Della.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR TRUMBLE: Thank you.
12
13 (Off record)
14
15 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)
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2
3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
4)ss.
5 STATE OF ALASKA)
6
7 I, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public in and for the
8 state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court
9 Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:
10
11 THAT the foregoing pages numbered ___ through
12 ___ contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the
13 KODIAK/ALEUTIANS FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY
14 COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME II electronically on the 3rd
15 day of September 2020;
16
17 THAT the transcript is a true and
18 correct transcript requested to be transcribed and
19 thereafter transcribed by under my direction and
20 reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and
21 ability;
22
23 THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or
24 party interested in any way in this action.
25
26 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 9th
27 day of 2020.
28
29
30
31 _____
32 Salena A. Hile
33 Notary Public, State of Alaska
34 My Commission Expires: 09/16/22
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