

BRISTOL BAY SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

TELEPHONIC
October 28, 2020
8:51 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nanci Ann Morris Lyon, Chair
William Trefon
Dan Dunaway
Richard Wilson
Lary Hill

Regional Council Coordinator, Donald Mike

Recorded and transcribed by:

Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
135 Christensen Drive, Suite 2
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-243-0668/sahile@gci.net

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

2

3

(Telephonic - 10/28/2020)

4

5

(On record)

6

7

8

9

10

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'm
-- we -- let's get started because I know that one of
our Council members, Richard, is only going to be
available for a short time.

11

12

13

And, Richard, would you please start us
off with an invocation before I call us to order?

14

15

16

17

18

19

MR. WILSON: I -- sure. And let's --
just some silence for a little bit for everybody and
everybody can kind of go to the lord themselves and
then in a little bit here I will -- I will join in at
the end.

20

21

(Invocation)

22

23

IN UNISON: Amen.

24

25

26

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
Richard.

27

28

29

Okay. I'm going to go ahead and call
the meeting to order at 8:51.

30

31

32

33

And let's hand it back over to you,
Donald, so we can get a roll call done and establish a
quorum.

34

35

36

37

MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
For those folks on teleconference, please mute your
phone.

38

39

(Feedback)

40

41

42

REPORTER: You're going to have to mute
your team because usually that's causing the feedback.

43

44

45

46

MR. MIKE: Right. For those folks on
teams have -- make sure you are on mute.

47

Thank you.

48

49

Okay. There's roll call of the Bristol

50

1 Bay Council. Council members, currently we have three
2 vacancies and we have three sitting members -- I mean,
3 seven sitting members on the Council.

4
5 Roll call of the Bristol Bay Council.

6
7 Ms. Nanci Morris Lyon.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Here.

10
11 MR. MIKE: Ms. Molly Chythlook.

12
13 (Not present)

14
15 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, Ms. Chythlook
16 -- Ms. Chythlook is on medical and she should be
17 joining us this afternoon.

18
19 Mr. William Trefon, Jr.

20
21 MR. TREFON: I'm here. I was on mute.

22
23 MR. MIKE: Okay. Thank you.

24
25 Mr. Dan Dunaway.

26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Here.

28
29 MR. MIKE: Mr. Lary Hill.

30
31 MR. HILL: Here, Donald. Also I won't
32 be able to stay for the whole meeting, I've got some
33 business here dealing with the -- the Covid crisis. So
34 I'll let you know when I have to leave.

35
36 MR. MIKE: Okay. Thank you.

37
38 Mr. Robert Larson.

39
40 (Not present)

41
42 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, Mr. Larson was
43 on travel and will not be attending the meeting.

44
45 Mr. Richard Wilson.

46
47 MR. WILSON: Here, Donald.

48
49 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, we have five
50

1 members present. We have a quorum to proceed.

2

3

(Feedback)

4

5

6

MR. MIKE: And for those on the phone
and Microsoft teams please, please mute your phone.

7

8

9

MR. TREFON: Hey, Donald, can you hear
me, this is Billy.

10

11

12

MR. MIKE: Yes, Billy, I can hear you.

13

14

15

16

17

18

MR. TREFON: Oh, yeah, I wanted to -- I
think Lary and I probably are on the same meeting
because I got a meeting at 10:00 o'clock which is very
important with the tribe and it also involves Covid.
We have to have a funeral that we're to discuss here at
10:00. Probably going to last until at least noon.

19

20

21

MR. MIKE: Okay.

22

23

24

25

MR. TREFON: (Indiscernible - feedback)
and about this meeting and it sounds like they really
need -- I mean, we already have three cases here in the
village.

26

27

28

29

MR. MIKE: Okay. Nanci, if it's okay,
I'm going to (indiscernible - feedback) conference
(indiscernible - feedback) on my end.

30

31

32

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I couldn't
understand you.....

33

34

35

REPORTER: So, everybody, your computer
speakers need to be muted.

36

37

38

MR. MIKE: Okay. Nanci, did you hear
-- I'm still getting some feedback here.

39

40

41

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, I'm
getting real bad feedback here on this conference.

42

43

44

MR. TREFON: I'm getting terrible
reception here.

45

46

47

48

49

MR. MIKE: Nanci, Billy Trefon and Lary
Hill have other meetings to attend so if we can get
some business done and reconvene at 1:00 o'clock if we
have a quorum.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, that
2 sounds like that's what we're going to have to do.
3
4 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Hey, this is Suzanne
5 with Lake Clark. There's some feedback and so my
6 (indiscernible - feedback).....
7
8 MR. TREFON: The reception's really
9 bad. I mean, you got to work the kinks out of this
10 system, whatever's going on.
11
12 REPORTER: It's the speakers from
13 someone's computer that's on teams.
14
15 MR. TREFON: Copy that.
16
17 MR. MIKE: Okay. For those folks on
18 teams please mute your speaker phone on teams or mute
19 your speaker.
20
21 (Teleconference interference -
22 participants not muted)
23
24 MR. MIKE: Okay, Nanci, we can get
25 started. You have the floor.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'm
28 not sure if we've got a good and orderly way to do our
29 welcome section. How we could get everybody's name and
30 who they're with.....
31
32 REPORTER: And can I -- can I remind
33 everybody please mute your phones if you're not
34 speaking because we can't hear the speaker.
35
36 MR. WILSON: Somebody's walking with
37 their phone outside.
38
39 MR. MIKE: Okay. I just want to remind
40 everybody on teleconference if -- please have your
41 phones on mute again. We heard somebody walking
42 outside with their phone on and unmuted.
43
44 Okay. Thank you.
45
46 We can proceed, Nanci.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
49 you. I was just asking, Donald, if you had an orderly
50

1 way to find out who all is online and who they're with
2 so we can get an idea of who we've got with us in our
3 audience.

4
5 MR. MIKE: Yeah, Madame Chair, I --
6 when I dialed in the teleconference number we have
7 Robbin LaVine online, Cody Larson, Lee Borden, Linda
8 Chisholm, Mark Sturm and John Gerken.

9
10 And did I miss anyone online,
11 teleconference line?

12
13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICES: (Indiscernible -
14 simultaneous speech).....

15
16 MR. MIKE: Anybody else.

17
18 MS. HOSETH: And Gayla Hoseth.

19
20 MR. MIKE: Gayla Hoseth.

21
22 MS. ALEXANDER: Susan Alexander.

23
24 MS. RUPP: Liza Rupp, Lake Clark.

25
26 MR. MIKE: Susan and Lake Clark, who
27 was -- who called from Lake Clark?

28
29 MS. RUPP: It's Liza Rupp.

30
31 MR. MIKE: Okay. Thank you, Liza.

32
33 MS. RUPP: Yep.

34
35 MR. MIKE: Anyone -- anyone else?

36
37 MR. CREED: John Creed, Dillingham.

38
39 MR. BURCH: This is Mark Burch from the
40 Department of Fish and Game.

41
42 MR. MIKE: Mark Burch. Okay. Anyone
43 else?

44
45 MR. KREIG: Ted Kreig from Dillingham.

46
47 MR. MIKE: Ted Kreig?

48
49 MR. KREIG: Yes.

50

1 MR. MIKE: Thank you. Anyone else?
2
3 MR. STONE: Jared Stone, OSM.
4
5 MR. MIKE: Okay. Thank you, Jared.
6
7 Anyone else.
8
9 MS. JONES: Bronwyn Jones from
10 Subsistence.
11
12 MR. MIKE: Can you state your name
13 again?
14
15 MS. JONES: Bronwyn Jones, Division of
16 Subsistence.
17
18 MR. MIKE: Okay. Thank you.
19
20 MS. JONES: Uh-huh.
21
22 MR. MIKE: Do we have anyone else on --
23 on teleconference line?
24
25 MR. CHEN: Good morning. This is Glenn
26 Chen from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
27
28 MR. MIKE: Glenn. Thank you, Glenn.
29
30 Anyone else?
31
32 MS. KRIS: Heidi Kris, BBNA.
33
34 MR. MIKE: Heidi. Heidi, can you state
35 your last name again, please.
36
37 MS. KRIS: Heidi Kris.
38
39 MR. MIKE: Heidi Kris. Thank you.
40
41 Anyone else?
42
43 MS. SKORA: This is Leslie Skora from
44 Katmai National Park.
45
46 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Leslie. Anyone
47 else?
48
49 (No comments)
50

1 MR. MIKE: Okay. Nanci, we have about
2 17 folks on -- participating online.

3
4 Thank you.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
7 you for that, everybody, and welcome. I appreciate
8 your patience as we struggle through these times in a
9 safe manner. And we will get through this agenda as
10 best we can with everybody's help and understanding. I
11 would ask everybody to remember to state your name and
12 your affiliation whenever you speak especially to
13 assist our court reporter in getting the facts straight
14 for us in the -- in the coming notes that will be
15 resulted from this meeting.

16
17 With that let's just roll into getting
18 our agenda on the table. If anyone's had a chance to
19 review it and would like to put it on the table I would
20 appreciate it.

21
22 MR. DUNAWAY: Dan Dunaway here. Move
23 to adopt.

24
25 MR. TREFON: Billy Trefon. Second.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
28 you. I've got a motion and a second to adopt the
29 agenda as presented. Is there any discussion?

30
31 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, this is
32 Donald.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
35 Donald.

36
37 MR. MIKE: Yes. Just for the Council's
38 information under old business for information for
39 update to the Council is WP 20-26, the working group
40 update. And if we can insert that und -- after .805(c)
41 report.

42
43 And under National Park Service, Lake
44 Clark National Park SRC program.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I thought
47 those were on here. They're not?

48
49 MR. MIKE: No, we have Lake Clark
50

1 National Park, but we -- the SRC appointments, we -- we
2 can insert that.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Please, yes.

5

6 MR. MIKE: And a typo under item number
7 10(b), Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program. On
8 number 2 it states 2020, that should be 2022 priority
9 information needs.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Did
12 everybody get that under the Fisheries Resource
13 Monitoring Program, item number 2 should read 2022
14 priority information needs instead of the 2020 that is
15 shown there.

16

17 MR. MIKE: Okay. With that, Madame
18 Chair, that's all I have. And if I can defer to Robbin
19 or Jared, they'd like to address the Council as far as
20 the how to proceed on the Fisheries proposal.

21

22 Robbin or Jared.

23

24 MS. LAVINE: Yes, good morning, Madame
25 Chair, members of the Council. This is Robbin LaVine.

26

27 And one of the -- we would like to
28 recommend a way of addressing our Fisheries proposals.
29 In discussion between -- after the most recent reviews
30 we thought it would be helpful to take the proposals up
31 in this order. Fisheries proposal 21-05, then
32 Fisheries proposal 21-07 and then we recommend
33 listening first to the presentation of Fisheries 21 --
34 proposal 21-06 and then listening to Fisheries proposal
35 21-08 because both interact in ways that might be
36 significant. And then you can have discussion and take
37 action on each one individually after the discussion.

38

39 And that would be my recommendation.

40

41 Madame Chair.

42

43 Thanks.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'm
46 writing notes. So and that makes sense to me. And I
47 think that we can deal with it in that fashion unless
48 there's an objection from someone.

49

50

1 Dan, do you have your hand up?

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you, Madame
11 Chair. Yes, I like that idea a lot. I like all of
12 these suggested changes. I'll look at them as friendly
13 to my motion.

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

Thank you.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
you. Mark, did you also have something that you wanted
to add?

MR. BURCH: Yes, I do. Thank you,
Madame Chair. Todd Rinaldi from the Department of Fish
and Game, Division of Wildlife Conservation, would like
to provide an update from the Dillingham office and
also related to the Mulchatna caribou herd. But he
would need a time certain either tomorrow morning or
tomorrow afternoon after 2:00 p.m. I wonder if that's
possible.

Thank you, Madame Chair.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I am
wondering too because we're all -- I think we'll have
to make a decision on a time certain at a later date,
after we see how our meeting flows because I'm losing
members, we're going to be losing time so I'm not sure
where we're going to end up being. But we certainly
would like to hear that report.

Okay. Is there any objection, anybody
else have any additions, changes or discussion on the
agenda.

MR. HILL: Madame Chair, this is Lary.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
Lary.

MR. HILL: Is there any possibility of
doing action items first since some of us have to leave
early?

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah.
Thanks, Lary. And that's what I'm looking at too. And
that's the problem. This is an action item we're on
right now to get an agenda, a working agenda on the

1 table. And the rest of our action items are way
2 further back into our agenda. But what we're going to
3 do I guess, I -- the only -- and I'll certainly take
4 input from you too, Donald, if you've got it for me,
5 but right now I think we'll just move forward with what
6 we can until we hit Fisheries proposals which will be
7 our next action item. And then we'll just have to wait
8 until we have a quorum for it. It -- it's going to be
9 difficult, but I certainly understand everybody has
10 other obligations as well.

11

12 MR. HILL: Okay. Thank you.

13

14 MR. MIKE: And, Madame Chair, Donald
15 Mike.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, go
18 ahead, Donald.

19

20 MR. MIKE: My suggestion to the Council
21 is to get into new business, the action items. After
22 we -- the Council approves the meeting agenda we can
23 get into Fisheries proposals and get started with those
24 action items. And then we can come back to.....

25

26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

27

28 MR. MIKE:come back to.....

29

30 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: We would
31 do.....

32

33 MR. MIKE:come back to it later
34 on.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON:the
37 reports I agree. And I was thinking we would do the
38 meeting minutes though first so we can get those out of
39 the way. Everybody should have had a chance to review
40 those.

41

42 MR. MIKE: Okay. Thank you.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. But
45 let's address the item on the table for the agenda.

46

47 Any more changes, discussion or
48 objections to the changes that have been suggested.

49

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
4 Hearing none, all in favor of approving the agenda as
5 amended please signify by saying aye.

6

7 IN UNISON: Aye.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
10 Perfect. That worked perfect because then I could
11 count knowing we had everybody voting. So -- okay,
12 then we're going to go with the agenda as amended.

13

14 And let's move forward into reviewing
15 and approving the previous meeting minutes next.

16

17 Anybody care to put those on the table.

18

19 MR. DUNAWAY: Dan Dunaway. Move to
20 adopt.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I've
23 got a motion. Is there a second.

24

25 MR. TREFON: Did you get a second, if
26 not I'll second.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
29 you very much. Any discussion, changes, corrections,
30 additions.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
35 Hearing none, let's go ahead and have a vote on that.
36 All in favor please signify by saying aye.

37

38 IN UNISON: Aye.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'm
41 -- I don't know if we should do roll call votes or --
42 or what, but this is -- I'm going to assume that
43 everybody was an aye on that. I only heard three, if
44 it's -- if I'm wrong please correct me.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
49 Hearing no correction we will move on. Let's move

50

1 right into new business as has been suggested and start
2 taking a look at the Fisheries proposals. I believe
3 Robbin said that we should start with 21-05 and 21-07
4 and then we'll go to 21-06 and 21-08.

5
6 So whoever has the floor on that go
7 ahead.

8
9 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair,
10 members of the Council. This is Robbin LaVine and I'll
11 be presenting to you today Fisheries proposal 21-07
12 which starts on page 17 of your Council books. For
13 those of you who are online, you can find the analyses
14 on our website under regions, Bristol Bay and then
15 looking for meeting materials.

16
17 So once again for the record my name is
18 Robbin LaVine and I'm an anthropologist with the Office
19 of Subsistence Management.

20
21 Fisheries proposals 21-05 was submitted
22 by the Bristol Bay Native Association and it requests
23 that the Federal Subsistence Board simplify Federal
24 regulations by removing regulatory language that
25 implies the Board has authority to regulate subsistence
26 fishing in the marine waters of fishing districts. The
27 proponent states that current Federal regulations
28 suggest jurisdiction in the marine waters of commercial
29 fishing districts. The proponent states none of the
30 commercial fishing districts in the Bristol Bay area
31 are located on inland waters within or adjacent to
32 Federal public lands or conservation system units.
33 Repealing these regulations simplifies where Federal
34 subsistence fishing regulations occur.

35
36 Fisheries proposal 21-06 also submitted
37 by the Bristol Bay Native Association requests that the
38 Board revise Federal subsistence fishing regulations
39 for the Bristol Bay area. You'll hear that shortly.

40
41 If both 21-05 and 21-06 are passed by
42 the Board, regulatory language for both proposals would
43 be modified to reflect those changes. If proposal --
44 if this proposal or -- this proposal is administrative
45 in nature, it would remove specific portions of the
46 Bristol Bay area Federal subsistence fishing
47 regulations that were incorporated at the start of the
48 program nearly 30 years ago that covers subsistence
49 fishing in marine waters of commercial fishing

50

1 districts. If the Board adopts this proposal there'll
2 be no affect on subsistence users or fish resources.
3 If the Board does not adopt this proposal there will be
4 no affect on subsistence users or fish resources aside
5 from potentially making things a little more clear.
6

7 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
8 support Fisheries proposal 21-05. While the
9 regulations in question were promulgated in 1999 as
10 part of the incorporation of much of the State's
11 subsistence fishing regulations into the Federal
12 Subsistence Management Program, they're confusing and
13 haven't been useful to Federally-qualified subsistence
14 users due to a lack of Federal jurisdiction over the
15 marine waters in Bristol Bay. As such they should be
16 removed from the Federal subsistence fishing
17 regulations to provide a more accurate description of
18 harvest opportunities available to rural residents of
19 the Bristol Bay area.
20

21 And thank you, Madame Chair, I'm -- I'm
22 ready to take your questions.
23

24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. We'll
25 open it up to questions. Anybody have any questions.
26

27 MR. DUNAWAY: Hey, Nanci, Dan here.
28

29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. Go
30 ahead, Dan.
31

32 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you. I think
33 we have some State folks online. I just want to double
34 check, see if their analysis lines up with what Robbin
35 read us.
36

37 Thank you.
38

39 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald.
40

41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. Yes,
42 go ahead, Donald.
43

44 MR. MIKE: I just want to just give a
45 friendly reminder to the Council members, page 16 is
46 the presentation procedures. But we will have agency
47 comments after we go through these procedures. So
48 under agency comments we have ADF&G, Federal and tribal
49 comments.
50

1

2

Thank you, Madame Chair.

3

4

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Yeah, thanks. I was actually going off that, Donald, you'll be proud of me, I did not forget that. But I was mostly opening it up to questions if anybody had any questions directly right now to Robbin from her analysis that she just gave us. So then if there aren't any then let us move on to -- well, first let me ask again does anybody have any direct questions for Robbin's presentation.

10

11

12

13

14

(No comments)

15

16

17

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Then can we have Board consultation. Is Orville with us?

18

19

20

MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, this is Donald.

21

22

23

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead, Donald.

24

25

26

MR. MIKE: I -- I believe had other commitments this morning, but he should be joining us later on.

27

28

29

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. So do we have any report on Board consultations then, Donald.

30

31

32

MR. MIKE: At the moment, no, we don't.

33

34

Thank you.

35

36

37

MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair, this is Robbin.

38

39

40

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, Robbin. Go ahead.

41

42

43

MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair. Consultations were held on these proposals. And I -- I'm going to check right now to be sure, but I believe there were no comments. And I will look into the records and get back to you shortly.

44

45

46

47

48

Thanks.

49

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Perfect
2 Thank you. Please do that.

3
4 And then agency comments, ADF&G.

5
6 MR. BURCH: Good morning, Madame Chair.
7 This is Mark Burch again from the Department of Fish
8 and Game.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Mark. Go
11 ahead.

12
13 MR. BURCH: It's -- it's -- yes. Today
14 we have Lee Borden on the phone as you've probably
15 heard. He's the area sportfish biologist as well as
16 Tim Sands who is the commercial fisheries sport or
17 commercial fisheries area biologist. And they are both
18 available to address any issues, concerns, questions
19 that you might have. And Tim Sands is going to give
20 the Department's position on these proposals.

21
22 Thank you.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Perfect.
25 Thank you.

26
27 Tim, go ahead.

28
29 MR. SANDS: Good morning, Madame
30 Chairman. Yeah, so for proposal 7 that -- that Robbin
31 just talked about, I guess I concur with her position.
32 It -- there -- there's no Federal jurisdiction in the
33 State -- in the commercial fishing districts. And so
34 it -- it makes sense to me.

35
36 Thank you, Madame Chair.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
39 you. Federal agency comments.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: And then
44 tribal comments.

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I don't see
49 any for those either.

50

1 Okay. So advisory group comments, did
2 we hear from any regional advisory groups.
3
4 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Donald.
7
8 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, no, we did not
9 have any other regional advisory councils that
10 addressed this proposal.
11
12 Thank you.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Did
15 we have any from Fish and Game advisory committees.
16
17 (No comments)
18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: And then
20 subsistence resource commission.
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
25 Summary of written public comments.
26
27 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald Mike,
28 Council coordinator.
29
30 We did not receive any written public
31 comments on proposal FP21-05.
32
33 Thank you, Madame Chair.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Uh-huh. And
36 then I'll ask for anybody that would like to give us
37 any public testimony on this proposal that might be
38 online.
39
40 (No comments)
41
42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Then
43 we'll go ahead and put it on the table. Anybody care
44 to make a motion.
45
46 MS. LAVINE: Madame Chair.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Robbin, go
49 ahead.
50

1 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair,
2 members of the Council. Tribal and ANCSA corporation
3 consultations were held on June 11th. Proposals for
4 Bristol Bay were presented and there were no comments.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
9 you for clarifying that and confirming it.

10
11 Again anybody care to make a motion on
12 this proposal.

13
14 MR. DUNAWAY: Dan Dunaway here. I'll
15 move to adopt.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. We've
18 got a motion to adopt. A second.

19
20 MR. TREFON: Billy Trefon. Second.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
23 you, Billy.

24
25 Dan, did you want to comment on it
26 first.

27
28 MR. DUNAWAY: Sure. Thank you. Dan
29 again here. Yeah, if -- if this removes redundant or
30 ineffective regulations I'm all for it. I'm glad to
31 hear the analysis suggest they'll be no net effect
32 other than reduced confusion, that sounds good to me.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I'm with
37 you. I like that too. Anybody else have any comments
38 or discussion about this proposal.

39
40 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. Lary Hill.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
43 Lary.

44
45 MR. HILL: Yeah, I'm looking at page 17
46 on the book here and what's -- part A on the very
47 bottom of that page about taking the caudal fin or
48 dorsal fin, taking those off. Does that keep the --
49 what's the reason for that?

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Robbin, is
2 that a good question for you?

3

4 MS. LAVINE: I'm going to have to --
5 I'm going to have to chase it down. And if anyone
6 wants to jump in, any of my colleagues or George,
7 please.....

8

9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Well, I'm
10 thinking is somebody from BBNA available that put the
11 proposal together that could give us a quick
12 explanation?

13

14 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Madame Chair.
15 Cody Larson.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
18 Cody.

19

20 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Madame Chair
21 and Council. Good to be here this morning.

22

23 So I've submitted all of these
24 proposals on behalf of BBNA and I drafted them and
25 vetted them through our board of directors as well as
26 the Council at the winter meeting. This -- all of
27 these proposals are a result of conversations that I've
28 had over the years with managers and OSM staff, taking
29 like Allen Miller and Scott Ayers, et cetera,
30 acknowledging that some of these regulations are a bit
31 outdated. And so this was a first attempt at -- well,
32 originally, you know, we had hoped to get a group of
33 folks together to do an analysis of this enforcement
34 and all of the agencies, but it just haven't come
35 together over the years. And so this is I guess the
36 forum to take a crack at adjusting these regulations to
37 sort of update them.

38

39 Lary -- through the Chair. Lary, the
40 language there at -- on page 17 about the caudal fin
41 and -- and both lobes of the caudal fin or the dorsal
42 fin being removed in the Togiak River, that's language
43 that's aligned with the State regulations. I don't
44 know how old it is, but it's aligned with State
45 regulations. I can tell you that in practice in the
46 amount of time that I've spent in the Togiak River
47 drainage and interviewing and working -- you know,
48 working with households, I've not seen that in
49 practice, but there's a lot of things about these

50

1 regulations that are not in practice, but my hopes is
2 that as we align them closer to the methods and
3 practices that people are currently using that these
4 regulations will become more effective. So right now
5 that's language that was adopted with the State
6 regulations from the -- from the start of this Federal
7 program. And I didn't look to adjust that at all, it's
8 in alignment with the State regulations.

9

10 Madame Chair.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
13 you very much, Cody. I appreciate it.

14

15 Lary, did you have any further
16 questions.

17

18 MR. HILL: Madame Chair, this is Lary.
19 Yeah, I -- I don't think that even needs to be there.
20 When you process the fish when you're doing the
21 subsistence the way you process them, once you take off
22 the head and the guts and the backbone, a lot of times
23 you don't remove any parts of the fins until -- because
24 you've got to have them hanging over the rack. And it
25 just -- you're talking about the effects -- that's an
26 effect where let's say I'm -- have a fish like that
27 hanging on my rack and I don't have parts of those fins
28 removed, then what happens, what happens to me, what
29 happens to the fisherman that doesn't do it.

30

31 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair, this is
32 Dan.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, go
35 ahead.

36

37 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I'm wondering if we
38 could look to Tim Sands, the area biologist, maybe
39 could fill us in a little bit.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Tim, are you
44 available for that?

45

46 MR. SANDS: Yeah, I'm here. I'm sorry,
47 I missed the question. I know you were talking about
48 the caudal, the requirement to remove the caudal fins
49 on the fish in the Togiak River, is that correct?

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: That is
2 correct.

3
4 MR. SANDS: So my understanding is that
5 was put in -- the State put that regulation in because
6 there was some subsistence harvested fish being brought
7 down and sold as commercially harvested fish. And
8 that's where that came from. I don't think it's a
9 problem anymore, but I guess the potential is always
10 there that it could be a problem.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
13 you for that explanation.

14
15 Lary.

16
17 MR. HILL: I don't -- I don't agree
18 with that. I don't think it should even be in there.
19 It's -- again you're talking about burden, you're
20 putting a burden on the subsistence user, practitioner. I
21 -- it just seems to me like unnecessary regulation if
22 there's going to be violators anyway. It's just I'm
23 all for having less regulations. So again you have a
24 regulation and no one to enforce it, if the violators
25 are not that precisioned or there aren't that many why
26 even have it in the first place. I don't think it
27 should even be in there.

28
29 Thank you.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
32 you.

33
34 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. Madame
35 Chair. Dan Dunaway here.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

38
39 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you. From
40 hearing Tim that kind of reminds me I think I was here
41 when this started out to be a problem. There was some
42 pretty bad upstream fishing, I think they even caught
43 somebody. And then I believe this regulation was
44 adopted. I don't think it affects the ability to hang
45 the fish at all and I can't help wondering if this
46 requirement isn't -- is why we don't have the problem
47 now. It was bad, I remember there was quite a scramble
48 in the office of protection and biologists back I think
49 early '90s and it -- and I'm glad to see it stop, but I
50

1 wonder if it isn't the reason we don't have a problem
2 and I'm a little reluctant to remove it. Though like
3 Cody says I don't doubt that actually it's not followed
4 very well.

5
6 So just those thoughts.

7
8 Thank you.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Any
11 other Council members?

12
13 MR. HILL: Madame Chair, I just -- it's
14 just a thought. It seemed like an unnecessary
15 requirement. I understand the reason for it.

16
17 That's my comment.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
20 you.

21
22 Richard, Billy?

23
24 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, Richard
25 here. I -- I'm kind of in agreement there with Lary,
26 you know, with this. It just -- you know, just once
27 again it's more burden on the -- on the subsistence
28 user. You know, it seemed like if there's some illegal
29 stuff going on that, you know, you would have
30 enforcement taking care of, you know, watching out for
31 that kind of stuff and not having the burden having to
32 be on the user.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
37 you.

38
39 Billy.

40
41 MR. TREFON: I'm look -- trying to look
42 at it from both sides here. I mean, as a part of the
43 State laws and illegal stuff going on, I could
44 understand that. And as far as subsistence it is
45 actually putting an additional burden on.

46
47 But my question does that mean that
48 right out of the net you cut the dorsal fins off or do
49 you cut the dorsal fins off during processing because
50

1 if that's the case you are creating additional burden
2 from taking the fish out of the net and time.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: It would be
7 my understanding that it's probably directly out of the
8 net otherwise the enforcement portion of it would not
9 be very valid.

10

11 MR. TREFON: Oh. So yes, I agree with
12 the other folks that yes, it would be a -- I mean, it's
13 additional time to take the fish out of the net and
14 then go and cut the fins off and then go put it through
15 the -- into the docks and then process them. It seemed
16 like an additional waste of time.

17

18 Yeah, I agree with Richard and Lary.

19

20 REPORTER: Madame Chair, this is the
21 court reporter. This is just a reminder, can everybody
22 please state their names when they're speaking.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, thank
25 you.

26

27 MR. TREFON: I -- yeah, this is Billy
28 Trefon, Nondalton.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Any
31 other discussion.

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
36 Hearing none, what are the wishes of the Board.

37

38 MR. HILL: Madame Chair, this is Lary
39 Hill, Iliamna.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Lary, go
42 ahead.

43

44 MR. HILL: I'd like to see this
45 requirement removed unless it states specifically when
46 you have to remove those -- the parts of the fin. It
47 -- it's -- that's the question Billy brought up, when
48 do you do it. It's just when you're doing your
49 subsistence work it's a lot -- your time is a lot more

50

1 critical than doing it out on the commercial fishing
2 boat. And the time for processing, you're asking for
3 instance if I was to take it out of the net and I
4 didn't have it -- have those parts of the fin removed
5 and a Fish and Game enforcement person were to observe
6 that would then I be -- would then I be issued a
7 citation.

8
9 That's -- that's -- the whole thing I
10 think is unnecessary to have that.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'm
13 also wondering though if we're not kind of getting a
14 little bit derailed from the original intent of the
15 proposal.

16
17 Robbin, this was all included
18 originally, is that not correct or what -- fill us in
19 here on the direction, are we headed down a rabbit
20 hole?

21
22 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair,
23 members of the Council. This is Robbin LaVine.

24
25 Yes, indeed the discussion you're
26 having is really important, it's significant to a new
27 proposal, but it -- it's if you had requested this
28 change in regulation it would require a brand new
29 analysis. So what I think is really exciting is that
30 you're having this discussion on record. It's going to
31 be really helpful for the next Fisheries cycle. We can
32 look at the transcripts and we can read your discussion
33 if somebody forwards a proposal to change this portion
34 of regulation in regards to the removal of caudal fins.

35
36 So that being said we're going to look
37 at the proposal -- Fisheries proposal 21-05, primarily
38 administrative, eliminating reference to commercial
39 fishing districts within Federal fisheries --
40 subsistence fisheries regulations. So that's what's
41 before you now and that's what we're looking for you to
42 take action on.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you
47 for that, Robbin. I wanted to, yeah, get that
48 clarification.

49
50

1 Lary, did -- does that make sense to
2 you, I think that that's something that we need to
3 consider taking up in another proposal and I think it's
4 a very valid discussion as well for this proposal.
5 It's -- it isn't possible to remove it, what we're
6 trying to remove is the fishing district information
7 from this proposal to make it easier for subsistence
8 fishermen to do that.

9
10 MR. HILL: Madame Chair, Robbin. I
11 waited until this time to actually discuss that, I
12 didn't do it before. But I think yeah, we should maybe
13 just move on and consider this maybe in a new proposal.

14
15 Thank you.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan, you had
18 a comment.

19
20 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
21 Yeah, I think that works best because I would think we
22 would need some -- actually are you hearing me?

23
24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I am.

25
26 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Yeah, that we
27 would definitely need additional analysis possibly from
28 the wildlife enforcement. I'd add that I sit on the
29 Nushagak Advisory Committee. We have a member of that
30 committee from Togiak and I haven't heard any
31 complaints about this in quite a few years of sitting
32 on there. So it's probably worth the discussion
33 especially if people aren't following it. I don't like
34 to see folks unnecessarily burdened, but yeah, a direct
35 proposal would be better.

36
37 Thank you.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Good.
40 It sounds then like we're ready to call for a question.

41
42 Can we have the initial motion
43 restated, Donald, can I turn to you for that.

44
45 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
46 The motion was to adopt -- the motion was made by Mr.
47 Dan Dunaway to adopt FP 21-06 as presented I believe on
48 page 17.

49
50

1 Thank you, Madame Chair.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
4 you, Donald. And I'm going to ask that you do roll
5 call votes on these proposals just because without
6 being able to see people it's going to be clearer for
7 everybody I think.

8

9 So please take the.....

10

11 MR. TREFON: And actually I have one
12 more question. Billy Trefon here.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Billy, go
15 ahead.

16

17 MR. TREFON: Who would have the
18 authority to remove this on it if we had a proposal,
19 State, Federal or whoever submits it?

20

21 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: That'll be
22 the Federal and we will have to put together another
23 motion for or another proposal for the next cycle.

24

25 MR. TREFON: Okay. That's all I have.
26 Thank you. I support it.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
29 Donald, want to go ahead with the roll call vote,
30 please.

31

32 MR. MIKE: Yes, Madame Chair. Thank
33 you, Madame Chair. Donald Mike. I believe Mr. Dan
34 Dunaway made the motion to adopt regulations and it was
35 seconded by -- seconded by Billy Trefon. And was there
36 a question on this?

37

38 Madame Chair.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Was the
41 question called?

42

43 MR. WILSON: Call the question.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.

46

47 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
48 Motion made to adopt FP21-05 as presented on page 17.
49 Roll call.

50

1 Ms. Nanci Morris Lyon.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes.
4
5 MR. MIKE: Mr. Billy Trefon.
6
7 MR. TREFON: Yes.
8
9 MR. MIKE: Mr. Dan Dunaway.
10
11 MR. DUNAWAY: Yes.
12
13 MR. MIKE: Mr. Lary Hill.
14
15 MR. HILL: Yes.
16
17 MR. MIKE: Mr. Richard Wilson.
18
19 MR. WILSON: Yes.
20
21 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, the motion
22 carries to support proposal FP21-05.
23
24 Thank you, Madame Chair.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
27 you, Donald. Let's go ahead and move forward to 07
28 then.
29
30 Robbin, is that you again.
31
32 MR. STONE: Good morning, Madame Chair.
33 This is Jared Stone with the Office of Subsistence
34 Management. I'll be presenting the next analysis.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
37 you. Go ahead.
38
39 MR. STONE: All right. Thank you. So
40 today I'll be presenting Fisheries proposal FP21-07
41 which starts on page 36 of your Council books. And as
42 Robbin has stated this morning earlier you can also
43 find these analyses on the OSM website under regions,
44 Bristol Bay, and then look for the meeting materials.
45
46 And again my name is Jared Stone, I'm a
47 Fisheries biologist with the Office of Subsistence
48 Management.
49
50

1 Proposal FP21-07 submitted by the
2 Bristol Bay Native Association requests that the
3 Federal Subsistence Board revise the Federal
4 subsistence fishing regulations for the Bristol Bay
5 area by removing the scheduled fishing closures in the
6 Egegik River. The proponent is seeking updates to the
7 Federal subsistence fishing regulations by removing
8 existing closures to fishing for subsistence between
9 June 23rd and July 17th. They state that there are
10 currently no scheduled subsistence closures in the
11 Egegik River under State regulations making the Federal
12 subsistence fishery more restrictive and that resource
13 scarcity is currently not an issue in these waters.

14
15 In December, 2003 through proposal
16 F2004-15 a customary and traditional use determination
17 was made for salmon and freshwater fish for the Egegik
18 district. The Board adopted the proposal with a staff
19 modification to include residents of south Naknek into
20 the determination. There have been no other relevant
21 regulatory actions related to the Egegik River. There
22 are no specific biological concerns for any of the
23 Egegik salmon runs at this time.

24 The Federal subsistence regulations for
25 the Egegik currently restrict harvest opportunity
26 between June 23rd and July 17th to 9:00 a.m. Tuesday to
27 9:00 a.m. Wednesday and 9:00 a.m. Saturday to 9:00 a.m.
28 Sunday. If the Board adopts this proposal these
29 restrictions will be removed and harvest opportunity
30 will be available at all times. This would align with
31 current State subsistence regulations in place for this
32 area. It is unlikely that this change would result in
33 a substantial increase in harvest since there is only a
34 small portion of the Egegik River that is within or
35 adjacent to Becharof National Wildlife Refuge.

36
37 OSM's preliminary conclusion is to
38 support proposal FP21-07. Removal of this restriction
39 for the Egegik River will provide additional harvest
40 opportunity and more closely align with State
41 subsistence regulations in the area. Current use of
42 these resources for subsistence purposes is small
43 compared to the run sizes and harvest in adjacent
44 commercial fisheries. There are no conservation
45 concerns at this time.

46
47 And that concludes my presentation.

48
49 If you have any questions I'll be glad

50

1 to answer them.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
4 you. Council members, any direct questions.

5

6 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Richard
7 Wilson.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
10 Richard.

11

12 MR. WILSON: Yeah, just a comment.
13 Just that that makes a lot of sense. It took a long
14 time for Egegik residents to get -- to get it into the
15 State regs because during commercial fishing it's been
16 a very challenging time for them to put up subsistence
17 fish. So this one makes sense.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, I
22 couldn't agree more. I think it's way overdue.

23

24 Any other comments or questions.

25

26 MR. HILL: Madame Chair, this is Lary
27 Hill.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
30 Lary.

31

32 MR. HILL: Yeah, I like this increased
33 opportunity for subsistence users. This is not the
34 only river where that's a problem.

35

36 That's all I had to comment.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
39 Thank you, Lary.

40

41 Okay. Then report on Board
42 consultations.

43

44 MS. LAVINE: Sorry, Madame Chair,
45 members of the Council. This is Robbin Lavine. And
46 again consultations were held on June 11th. The
47 proposals were presented and no comments were received.

48

49 Thank you.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
2 you, Robbin.

3
4 Agency comments.

5
6 MR. BURCH: Madame Chair. This is Mark
7 Burch with the Department of Fish and Game.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Mark. Go
10 ahead.

11
12 MR. BURCH: We support this proposal.
13 It would remove inconsistency between the State and
14 Federal subsistence regulations.

15
16 Thank you.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Great.
19 Thank you.

20
21 Federal or tribal comments.

22
23 (No comments)

24
25 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
26 Advisory group comments.

27
28 Donald, did we get any.

29
30 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald Mike.
31 No, we did not get any comments from other regional
32 advisory councils.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Any
37 public written comments too while I have you online.

38
39 (No comments)

40
41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No public
42 written comments. Okay.

43
44 Any public testimony anybody would like
45 to give on this proposal.

46
47 (No comments)

48
49 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I
50

1 would entertain a motion if anybody would care to offer
2 one.

3
4 MR. DUNAWAY: Move to adopt. This is
5 Dan.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
8 you, Dan.

9
10 MR. TREFON: Billy Trefon. Second.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Billy, was
13 that a second?

14
15 MR. TREFON: Yes.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
18 you. Okay. It's open for discussion.

19
20 Dan, would you like to open the
21 discussion.

22
23 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
24 I really appreciate Member Wilson's comments and -- and
25 Lary's. I sit here over on the west side of the bay
26 and hear some of the rules for the east side
27 subsistence and they're not consistent across the bay.
28 So I'm inclined to support this. If it reduces
29 confusion and burden I'm all for it, especially if
30 there's no legal confusion.

31
32 So thank you very much.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
35 you.

36
37 Billy.

38
39 MR. TREFON: Yeah, I support this whole
40 -- I mean, it's all -- it's a long time coming and it's
41 got my support 100 percent.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
44 you. Any other Board members care to make a comment.

45
46 MR. WILSON: Call the question.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: The
49 question's been called.

50

1 Donald, would you please do the honors.

2

3

4

MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
Donald Mike, Council coordinator.

5

6

7

Motion to adopt FP21-07 as presented on
page 36.

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

Ms. Nanci Morris Lyon.
MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes.
MR. MIKE: Mr. Billy Trefon.
MR. TREFON: Yes.
MR. MIKE: Mr. Dan Dunaway.
MR. DUNAWAY: Yes.
MR. MIKE: Mr. Lary Hill.
MR. HILL: Yes.
MR. MIKE: Mr. Richard Wilson.
MR. WILSON: Yes.
MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. FP21-07 has
been adopted unanimously.

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

Thank you, Madame Chair.

Madame Chair. Are you still with us?

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I'm sorry, I
was -- I said yes.

So then we're going back to 06, is that
correct, Robbin, is that also you?

MS. LAVINE: That is correct, Madame
Chair. Thank you.

MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. May I
interrupt, this is Dan.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
Dan.

1 MR. DUNAWAY: Pardon me, Robbin.
2 Thanks.

3
4 I think these next two are going to be
5 extremely important and I'm looking at the clock and
6 wondering -- I'd hate to lose some of our members
7 before we could do a thorough discussion of these. I
8 have some serious concerns. I just kind of wanted to
9 raise that. Are we going to lose a couple people at
10 10:00 o'clock.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

15
16 MR. TREFON: Yes, this is Billy. I've
17 got a comment on that.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, that's
20 a good -- and Lary too. Do you guys -- you guys don't
21 know how long, can we get an estimated time to pull
22 ourselves together here.

23
24 We won't have a quorum either, Dan, so
25 it -- it's a moot point. And Richard also is -- when
26 -- do you know yet when you're going to have to leave?

27
28 MR. TREFON: Billy here. I'm thinking
29 probably we should be done before 1:00 o'clock. It's a
30 meeting with Southcentral on Covid and some of our
31 policies, to see if we can change them or be a little
32 bit more flexible because we've got a funeral coming
33 up.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

36
37 MR. TREFON: And also Nondalton has
38 three cases positive and we were on shutdown when I
39 came into Nondalton. So I'm basically catching up on
40 this Covid thing.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

43
44 MR. TREFON: And the tribe is having a
45 meeting with Southcentral.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. And,
48 Richard, do you know when you're going to be available
49 again?

50

1 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Yes, as
2 long as I've got phone service I will be available.
3 I'm supposed to be checking in at noon for my flight.
4

5 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
6

7 MR. WILSON: Thanks.
8

9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: So and,
10 Lary, you're -- are you on the same schedule as Billy
11 is as well?
12

13 MR. HILL: Yes, probably. But we have
14 other representatives. I can probably go this morning,
15 but in the afternoon it's -- I've got a council meeting
16 to look at the Covid stuff.
17

18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. So
19 right now we're going to lose Billy and then we'll lose
20 Richard and then we'll lose Lary. Is that correct, for
21 some reason I was thinking Lary and Billy were going to
22 leave at the same time. So we're going to lose one at
23 a time. I don't know. Then I'm thinking we probably
24 need to keep moving forward before we do lose a quorum
25 if we're just losing one.
26

27 MR. WILSON: Great thought, Nancy.
28

29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Okay.
30 So let's go ahead and move forward with 06 and 08.
31 We're discussing those together I believe is what the
32 -- what the motion was or the proposition was. So
33 let's go ahead and get started on those and let's hope
34 that we have a quorum and those that can be with us,
35 please be with us.
36

37 MR. TREFON: Okay. Thank you, Nanci.
38 I'll be back at 1300, I mean, at 1:00 o'clock.
39

40 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
41 you, Billy.
42

43 MR. TREFON: Billy. Yeah, bye.
44

45 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
46 Robbin.
47

48 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair,
49 members of the Council. Once again for the record this
50

1 is Robbin LaVine. I'm going to be presenting Fisheries
2 proposal 21-06 which starts on page 25 of your Council
3 books. Again it's also at our website for those of you
4 listening online.

5
6 Fisheries proposal 21-06 was submitted
7 by the Bristol Bay Native Association and it requests
8 that the Federal Subsistence Board revise Federal
9 subsistence fishing regulations for the Bristol Bay
10 area to specify that salmon may be taken by dip net,
11 beach seine and gillnet only unless otherwise
12 specified. The proponent is seeking to clarify the
13 fishing methods and means available in the Bristol Bay
14 area under the Federal subsistence regulations. They
15 contend that the existing regulations are more
16 restrictive than the State subsistence regulations and
17 this change will simplify restricted methods of
18 harvesting salmon in the Federal waters of Bristol Bay.

19
20 You just heard Fisheries proposal 21-
21 05. Should both 21-05 and 21-06 be passed regulatory
22 language for both proposals should be modified to
23 reflect these changes. It should be noted that the
24 regulatory language proposed in 06, this proposal,
25 anticipates the passage of 21-05. If proposal 21-06
26 is adopted people will be able to legally harvest
27 salmon with drift gillnets, dip nets and beach seines
28 in addition to set nets, in Federal public waters
29 throughout the Bristol Bay area. This is likely to
30 increase the efficiency of harvest for some fishers,
31 but the size of the effect is unknown. If Fisheries
32 proposal 21-06 is not adopted subsistence users will be
33 limited to using set net only with some exceptions to
34 harvest salmon.

35
36 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
37 support proposal 21-06 with modification to clarify
38 which gear may be used to take salmon by also
39 eliminating the word salmon from the regulation. So
40 this is how it would read, the modified regulation
41 would read, within any district you may take herring
42 and capelin by set net -- set gillnets only. And then
43 further down, unless otherwise specified you may take
44 salmon by dip net, beach seine and gillnet only.

45
46 Adoption of this proposal as modified
47 by OSM would clarify the types of gear allowed for the
48 harvest of salmon in the Bristol Bay area by Federal
49 subsistence users making the regulations more

50

1 straightforward and easy to understand. It would also
2 simplify regulations for salmon harvest by having them
3 apply throughout the area rather than the current
4 divide within and outside of commercial fishing
5 districts. Again decreasing unnecessary regulatory
6 complexity. All gear types allowed under this proposal
7 are regularly used for the harvest of salmon and would
8 provide additional options for Federally-qualified
9 subsistence users to harvest in the most economical and
10 efficient manner. There is no conservation concerns
11 associated with these changes.

12
13 Thank you, Madame Chair, members of the
14 Council.

15
16 I'll remind you that next you're going
17 to hear Fisheries proposal 21-08 and action will occur
18 after discussion of both.

19
20 Thank you.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
23 you, Robbin.

24
25 I'm -- do we have questions relevant to
26 this proposal for Robbin at this point.

27
28 (No comments)

29
30 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. And
31 then I'm also thinking what I want to do is I'm going
32 to run down our list for comments from -- from
33 everybody on each proposal so that when we go into
34 discussions on proposals we can have free discussions
35 already knowing what everybody's comments are. So I'm
36 just going to make a simple statement of Donald or
37 anyone else out there, do we have any tribal, ANCSAs,
38 ADF&G, let's hear all comments pertinent to this
39 proposal 06 now, please.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: So then we
44 received no comments from anybody on this proposal in
45 particular. Okay.

46
47 MR. SANDS: No, no, Madame Chair. I
48 saw Donald's hand up so I didn't want to interrupt.
49 But this is Tim with Fish and Game. I'd like to speak
50

1 if you want to hear Fish and Game. I thought you were
2 going to call on me specifically.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Oh. No, go
5 ahead, Tim. Perfect. That's what I was looking for is
6 -- I did not see a hand up. So.....

7

8 MR. SANDS: Okay. This is Tim Sands
9 with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

10

11 The Alaska Department of Fish and Game
12 opposes this proposal. It would create inconsistencies
13 between State and Federal subsistence regulations.
14 This proposal would open all Federal waters in Bristol
15 Bay to the use of drift gillnets, beach seines and dip
16 nets to harvest salmon for subsistence purposes where
17 currently only set gillnets are allowed. The
18 Department is concerned that this will allow people to
19 drift gillnet through salmon spawning beds, chase
20 salmon through shallow streams with dip nets, beach
21 seine spawning salmon and many other possibilities.
22 These methods would likely increase mortality and
23 potentially disrupt spawning behavior. Salmon are
24 typically protected once they reach spawning areas. To
25 allow additional gear types to be used in vast areas
26 with no sideboards is very concerning biologically.

27

28 It is unclear how much use there might
29 be with these gear types in these areas, but the
30 Department recommends that only specific areas be
31 considered for additional gear type use as was
32 previously done with the exemptions listed in
33 regulation above. When consistent fishing with drift
34 gillnets was allowed in the Togiak River the open area
35 was specifically restricted to the lower two miles of
36 that river to avoid drift gillnetting through salmon
37 spawning areas.

38

39 Although targeted at salmon this
40 regulatory change could significantly impact resident
41 species as well. We feel this is a conservation
42 concern. While populations of sockeye salmon in
43 Bristol Bay are robust, chinook salmon abundance has
44 been below average and allowing these additional gear
45 types would make chinook salmon more susceptible to
46 harvest.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
2 you very much, Tim.

3
4 Does anybody have questions for Tim on
5 the State's comments.

6
7 (No comments)

8
9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Do we
10 have any other comments pertaining to this proposal
11 that anybody would like to share. Go ahead.

12
13 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Dan Dunaway here.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
16 Dan.

17
18 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Thank you. Yeah.
19 Wow. I kind of had an intuitive sense of this when I
20 was reading it, but to hear Tim go with a lot more
21 specifics is a pretty strong statement. And I do
22 recall I was pretty involved with allowing the drifting
23 of subsistence in the lower Togiak and that was pretty
24 carefully hammered out. I took quite a bit of heat
25 from some of the lodges for supporting it, but my
26 personal observations was -- were that it was occurring
27 by the local villagers anyway, that I'd seen enough
28 problems with unattended nets being -- wasting fish or
29 getting lost and tangled into root wads and all that I
30 thought this was a pretty reasonable compromise without
31 endangering the spawning beds. And as I mentioned in
32 the discussion on cutting silver salmon tails or salmon
33 tails up in the river in the early '90s, there was
34 pretty serious problems with some pretty egregious
35 violations and that -- this allowing subsistence in the
36 lower river also kind of accommodated both sides
37 because it is kind of a tough situation.

38
39 But I -- this analysis from -- in the
40 book here is -- shows a pretty poor understanding of
41 the area and is not adequate. So I'm not at all
42 inclined to support this at this point.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
47 you, Dan.

48
49 Anybody else have comments go
50

1 right.....

2

3

MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald.

4

5

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

6

7

8

MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. We did not receive any written public comments on FP21-06 nor did we get any request for public comments.

9

10

11

Thank you, Madame Chair.

12

13

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

14

Anybody online that would like to offer some public testimony.

15

16

17

I see a -- Tim, is that you with your hand up again, I see you this time.

18

19

20

MR. SANDS: Yeah, Madame Chair. Yeah, I did want to add that there's another discrepancy between the State regulations and the subsistence -- the Federal regulations as far as the line across the river. And if you're taking action on this it would be good to clean that up.

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

The Federal regulations refer to Fish and Game markers and the Department does not have markers and does not maintain markers. The Department's regulations use lat and longitude or just a latitude line that goes across the Togiak River. So either way it would be nice to get that corrected or make it more in line with the State regulations because the Department does not have the money to maintain markers there.

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

Thank you.

38

39

40

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank you for that too.

41

42

43

44

Any other comments.

45

46

47

MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Richard, here.

48

49

50

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard. Go ahead.

1 MR. WILSON: Yes. Thank you. Yeah, I
2 -- you know, I guess I would question if this was made
3 available that the -- you know, we have chinook that
4 might be more vulnerable to this situation. So I'm
5 probably going to be inclined not to support this
6 proposal.

7
8 Thank you.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
11 you. I'm going to request anybody from the public, I'm
12 -- where I'm headed is I'm headed to the next proposal
13 because it was requested that we consider these
14 simultaneously. And it sounds like we're already
15 discussing which is good and healthy, but let's --
16 let's get all of our information put together so we can
17 have one discussion on it. But is there any public
18 testimony, anybody online that would like to testify to
19 this particular proposal in general?

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
24 Hearing none, do you want to go ahead and give us the
25 analysis for 08 too -- also.

26
27 MR. STONE: Good morning, Madame Chair
28 and members of the Council. My name is Jared Stone and
29 I'm a Fisheries biologist with the Office of
30 Subsistence Management. Today I will be providing a
31 analysis of Fisheries proposal FP21-08 which starts on
32 page 41 of your Council books.

33
34 Proposal FP21-08 was submitted by the
35 Bristol Bay Native Association and requests that the
36 Federal Subsistence Board remove the area wide closure
37 to the taking of fish at the mouth of streams used by
38 salmon. The proponent states that taking fish near
39 stream mouths is a common practice and that the areas
40 of closure under Federal subsistence fishing
41 regulations are more restrictive than under State
42 subsistence regulations. They commented that this
43 regulation was a relic of old commercial fishing
44 regulation and should be repealed. Lastly they believe
45 that the general provision is already providing the
46 conservation intent that this regulation may have been
47 trying to achieve by prohibiting obstruction of more
48 than one-half of the width of any stream with any gear
49 used to take fish for subsistence purposes. And that
50

1 provision that I'm speaking of is the general provision
2 for obstructing streams no more than half of the stream
3 with any gear type for subsistence.

4
5 In 1992 the Federal Subsistence
6 Management Program promulgated regulations governing
7 the harvest of fish for subsistence uses on Federal
8 public nonnavigable waters. These regulations
9 incorporated many provisions from State of Alaska
10 subsistence fishing regulation which previously applied
11 to those waters. The Bristol Bay area regulations
12 under consideration were incorporated into Federal
13 regulations in this manner In particular the language
14 specific to taking fish from waters within 300 feet of
15 a stream mouth used by salmon has not been modified
16 since the promulgation of these regulations. This
17 restriction does not exist in the area of regulation
18 for any other -- of the other 12 Federal subsistence
19 fishing areas in Alaska.

20
21 This proposal if adopted would remove
22 the existing prohibition on taking fish within 300 feet
23 of a stream mouth used by salmon for Federally-
24 qualified subsistence users in the Bristol Bay area.
25 There is a similar restriction in the State subsistence
26 regulations and removal would make the Federal
27 regulations less restrictive. This would not affect
28 commercial harvest as there is a general commercial
29 fishing restriction that prohibits fishing within 500
30 feet of a salmon stream mouth. If adopted the harvest
31 of fish near stream mouths by Federally-qualified
32 subsistence users may increase on waters within and
33 adjacent to Federal public lands as fish often hold or
34 become bank oriented in areas near stream mouths
35 allowing harvest in these areas would increase
36 efficiency. Conversely this may create a situation
37 that is detrimental to smaller stocks if the harvest is
38 large or multiple users target the same stock.

39
40 If Fisheries proposal 21-06 and
41 Fisheries proposal 21-08 are passed by the Board,
42 salmon conservation may arise due to an expansion of
43 allowable gear types and a lifting of the 300 foot
44 closure to take fish at the mouths of streams. There
45 is a general regulation that prohibits the obstruction
46 of more than one-half of the width of any stream with
47 any gear type used to take fish under -- with -- that
48 would have provided some level of conservation to these
49 stocks.

50

1 If adopted this proposal will align the
2 Bristol Bay area restriction regarding closures at
3 stream mouths with -- I'm sorry, let me reread that.
4 If adopted this proposal will align the Bristol Bay
5 area restrictions regarding closures at stream mouths
6 with the area restrictions for all other areas of the
7 Federal subsistence fishing regulations for Alaska.

8
9 OSM's preliminary conclusion is to
10 support proposal FP21-08.

11
12 Both salmon and nonsalmon fish are an
13 important resource for the communities of the Bristol
14 Bay area and fishing at or near the mouths of rivers
15 and streams is just one of the many customary and
16 traditional practices area residents use to harvest
17 fish for subsistence purposes. Adopting this proposal
18 would provide additional opportunity to harvest fish
19 for Federally-qualified subsistence users and removal
20 of the restriction would make Federal regulations less
21 restrictive than State. Currently there is no
22 conservation concern.

23
24 With that I would like to take any
25 questions that you might have.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
28 you very much, Jared.

29
30 Questions for Jared directly concerning
31 this proposal.

32
33 MR. HILL: Madame Chair to Jared. We
34 mention several times that there were no conservation
35 issues at this time. Does that mean that this -- this
36 will be monitored in a way that would where if there
37 were conservation issues then that some kind of action
38 would be taken like the emergency closure or something
39 like that?

40
41 Thank you.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
44 Jared.

45
46 MR. STONE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
47 And through the -- through the Council or through the
48 Chair. The enforcement half of it would be tough to
49 enforce and I can't specifically speak to the level of
50

1 enforcement on those particularly smaller streams.
2 However there are rivers that have in-season management
3 authorities given to the in-season managers and it is
4 up to them to try to the best of their ability monitor
5 this stock and these populations and if there is a
6 conservation concern to use that delegated authority to
7 help conserve those populations.

8

9

I hope that answers your question.

10

11

12

13

14

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Lary. Lary,
did you have -- was that an answer -- good enough
answer for you or did you have an additional question?

15

16

Dan, do you have.....

17

18

19

MR. HILL: I had -- I had my mute on.
Oh.....

20

21

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

22

23

24

25

MR. HILL:yeah, I understand. I
-- my question's been answered. I could probably
debate the little finer points until the cows come
home, but it's enough.

26

27

Thank you, Jared.

28

29

30

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
you, Lary.

31

32

Go ahead, Dan.

33

34

35

36

MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you. I have
deep concerns about this, but I guess I'm -- I want to
wait until we actually get into the discussion, okay.

37

38

Thank you.

39

40

41

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
Richard, did you have any comments or questions.

42

43

44

MR. WILSON: I'll wait for the comments
on the -- on the Board's part, Nanci.

45

46

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

47

48

Thank you. Okay. Then do we have any
comments from tribes or ANCSA corporations.

49

50

1 MS. LAVINE: Sorry, Madame Chair,
2 members of the Council. This is Robbin LaVine. And
3 consultations were held on June 11th and no comments
4 were provided.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
9 you.

10
11 Agency comments. ADF&G. Tim, did you
12 have comments on this one?

13
14 MR. SANDS: Madame Chair. Thank you.
15 Yeah. So we see this as a conservation issue. The
16 Department -- this is Tim Sands with Fish and Game.

17
18 The Department sees this as a
19 conservation issue. Large schools of fish commonly
20 hold at the mouths of streams which means both the
21 lakes and rivers in Bristol Bay. For this reason
22 sportfishing regulations such as 5AC 67.022(d)(9) for
23 example exists specifically to protect fish holding at
24 the mouths of streams. Large aggregations of
25 prespawning fish have historically been protected from
26 harvest to reduce stress on the animals while holding
27 in vulnerable locations as they prepare to enter the
28 spawning areas. To remove this protection would
29 potentially expose these holding fish to additional
30 stress as they are easily targeted in these locations.

31
32 Additionally if FP21-06 was to be
33 approved in conjunction with this proposal these areas
34 would be open to drift gillnets, beach seines and dip
35 nets as well. The potential for a significant increase
36 in harvest and mortality on fish in these vulnerable
37 areas is high and may present a conservation concern.

38
39 ADF&G opposes this proposal. This
40 proposal would create inconsistencies between State and
41 Federal subsistence regulations and would diverge
42 considerably from State management. It would provide
43 dip nets, beach seines and any configuration of a drift
44 gillnet, set gillnet at any stream mouth adjacent to
45 Federal public land. It would also expose salmon
46 holding at little mouths the potential -- the potential
47 of excessive harvest and be a possible conservation
48 concern.

49 Thank you, Madame Chair.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
2 you, Tim.

3
4 Any questions for Tim.

5
6 (No comments)

7
8 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Any
9 Federal or tribal comments received on this or anybody
10 with.....

11
12 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Madame Chair.
13 Cody Larson here for the record with BBNA.

14
15 When drafting this regulation the -- I
16 think the way I had presented it at the winter meeting
17 was that this 300 foot closure from stream mouths was
18 somehow attached to some Chignik regulations. That is
19 a conversation that sort of led us in the wrong
20 direction. It is, you know, aligned with State
21 regulations right now. And in most cases I think that
22 having a lot -- having those -- you know, both
23 regulations aligned is -- is great. I think the
24 discrepancy in this is that the methods allowed by
25 Federal regulations are different than methods allowed
26 by State regulations. And so with that this closure of
27 -- by -- near stream mouths does allow -- is creating
28 more restrictive regulations for Federal users than it
29 is under State regulations.

30
31 And so -- and an example of that is --
32 so stream mouths being closed to all species within 300
33 feet would effectively not allow the harvest of smelt
34 with rod and reel or through the ice. It doesn't allow
35 for dolly varden with rod and reel or net or seine. It
36 doesn't allow for the harvest of whitefish near stream
37 mouths. These are areas that a variety of gear types
38 are used currently and I -- there's no intent to change
39 the current practices.

40
41 Another example is that under -- for
42 Federal users rainbow trout can only be targeted with
43 rod and reel, yet somehow not within 300 feet of the
44 stream mouth areawide. Whereas sport regulations for
45 rod and reel, for alt -- you know, other species is --
46 doesn't have this areawide closure to within 300 feet
47 of the stream mouth. It's a common place to fish for
48 rainbow trout, dolly varden, et cetera. And so that's
49 where some of the differences lie within this areawide

50

1 closure.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

As was presented in the analysis, there's no other area in the -- in the State under Federal subsistence regulations that has areawide closure to harvesting all species near stream mouths. And so there's -- there are some sort of details within that that I think are -- are the differences in the language and then how it's actually implemented in -- you know, in practice.

So that's what I was trying to clear up with this is to allow for, you know, these harvest methods to continue, you know, legally under Federal regulations for Federal users.

And I can take any questions.

Thank you, Madame Chair.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank you for that.

Council members, do you have any questions directly?

MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead, Dan.

MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you, Madame Chair.

Cody, I'm wondering then why a more tightly written and specifically written proposal addressing say rod and reel subsistence or nonsalmon season or nonsalmon species wasn't offered up? This is pretty wide sweeping as it's written, okay.

Thank you.

MR. LARSON: Through the Chair. Thank you, Dan. Or -- do you have a question or would you like some alternative language that would address that?

MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, through the Chair, Cody. Yeah, I thought I asked a question as why a more focused proposal wasn't offered, okay.

1 MR. LARSON: Through the Chair. Thanks
2 for that, Dan. And I -- I appreciate that. Again with
3 the intent of this coming from conversations with
4 managers and staff to -- to go through and thoroughly
5 assess these regulations and adjust them had been on
6 the minds and on the tables of various managers like,
7 you know, enforcement with Allen who's now retired. So
8 these -- I think that the regulations could have done
9 with a task force or working group that thoroughly
10 vetted this. Again this was just a start at getting
11 these regulations aligned with practice so that they --
12 the regulations are actually effective. If they're out
13 of line with how people are doing things I think
14 there's less likelihood for them to be followed.

15
16 I feel that these regulations, you
17 know, in play probably aren't going to adjust the way
18 that folks are currently traditionally harvesting fish.
19 It's not -- it's alignment with language, it's
20 alignment with logistics. It could be river levels, it
21 could be, you know, whether or not you're successful
22 with harvesting moose, it could be, you know, the
23 amount of flies that are in the air. There's all these
24 other mechanics at play that sort of quasi regulate how
25 people harvest their subsistence fish. Later after
26 conversations with managers we recognized there was --
27 the major concern with this is in regard to salmon, not
28 all of the other species.

29
30 And so with that I think that there is
31 a way to put some sideboards on this. We can say --
32 you know, we can say except for salmon or, you know, if
33 you are harvesting salmon because folks do harvest
34 redfish and things near stream mouths, you know, that's
35 later in the season, we could put from June 15th
36 through August 20th, subsistence fishing for salmon
37 with a gillnet is prohibited within 300 feet or we
38 could -- we could do a size, a mesh size restriction,
39 mesh size not to exceed four inches. Or, you know, you
40 may say that while you're fishing for salmon within 300
41 feet of a stream mouth you must be present at the net.
42 And that would eliminate say like overharvest or
43 unintentional overharvest of the -- of the salmon stock
44 at the stream mouth.

45
46 But I think the focus here currently
47 obviously with concern is salmon stocks, yet this
48 closure is for all species areawide. And so that's I
49 think some of the nuances that we could work out here.

50

1 Over.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
4 you, Cody.

5

6 Dan.

7

8 MR. DUNAWAY: Thanks, Cody. I'll
9 reserve the rest of the discussion for the discussion.
10 So but appreciate hearing more insight.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Liza, you've
15 been very patient. Go ahead if you have anything to
16 add.

17

18 MS. RUPP: Yeah. Thank you, Madame
19 Chair. Liza Rupp, Lake Clark National Park on behalf
20 of the Lake Clark SRC.

21

22 I just wanted to put it on record that
23 the Lake Clark SRC opposed this proposal for many of
24 the reasons already stated.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. That
27 was my next question is what was the reasoning. So --
28 okay.

29

30 MS. RUPP: Yeah, the -- yes, so the
31 bank, you know, salmon on small streams especially
32 being bank oriented, pooling up, spooling up outside,
33 that sort of thing. So just basically there was a lot
34 of concerns specifically on salmon.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
37 you.

38

39 Council members, did anybody else have
40 questions or comments.

41

42 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. Lary Hill.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Lary.

45

46 MR. HILL: I'd suggest a language
47 change, I don't know if this is the proper time to do
48 it. Just a language change on the general description
49 where it says taking of fish. Could we then instead --

50

1 it's just a language change, instead of saying fish say
2 salmon. And then it would allow taking of other --
3 other species like a lot of times the rainbow trout or
4 dolly varden will come in to these streams before the
5 salmon and along with the salmon.

6

7 Thank you.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. No,
10 thank you, Lary. It's probably -- it is not the proper
11 time to bring it up, but I think it's valid because I
12 think that it's something we should all consider for
13 discussion.

14

15 So with that any other discussion,
16 similar comments.

17

18 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Madame Chair,
19 that's.....

20

21 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Richard
22 Wilson.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I'm sorry,
25 identify yourself again.

26

27 MR. WILSON: Richard Wilson.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
30 Richard. Go ahead.

31

32 MR. WILSON: Yeah, Madame Chair. Yeah,
33 this -- this proposal is very wide. You know, the
34 biologists, you know, have -- you know, put a lot of
35 time and effort into, you know, trying to keep our
36 salmon safe and -- and, you know, the chinook, other
37 things, you know, if this proposal was more specific,
38 if it just -- you know, it sounded like they just
39 wanted to target a certain species, but it doesn't
40 speak to that. So, you know, I think they just need to
41 go back to the drawing board on a new proposal on this
42 one. This one is way too vague and, you know, we
43 fought a long time over there on the Naknek Lake, you
44 know, inside the Federal waters there just to get
45 spawned out salmon, you know, in that system. And it
46 -- and it allows for -- it allows for seining. But it
47 was -- it's real species specific. And it took a lot
48 of work do that.

49

50

1 So yeah, this one -- this proposal on
2 the table is way too wide for me.

3
4 Thank you.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
7 you. Okay. I'm thinking at this point -- Robbin, I'm
8 going to ask you. So you wanted to tie these two
9 proposals together. Are there particular points that
10 you wanted us to discuss or consider in putting the two
11 of them together?

12
13 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair
14 and members of the Council.

15
16 In particular should both of these
17 proposals pass then opportunity through an enhancement
18 or expansion of methods is paired with a lift of
19 closure at stream mouth. And so those two should be
20 considered together. It may be that you would
21 appreciate an expansion of gear type, but not a lift of
22 closure -- the closure at stream mouth. It might be
23 that you appreciate a lift of closure at stream mouth,
24 but not an expansion of gear type. But those two
25 together really should be considered. And in the lead
26 up to -- as we were going through our review process
27 and leading up to this meeting today, initially some of
28 those finer points were not captured until we were
29 notified by managers and our teams in the field from
30 other Federal agencies, et cetera. So again that's why
31 these two should be considered together.

32
33 Again you might want to look at
34 alternative language and modifications or as you have
35 stated you might consider that you suggest going back
36 to the drawing board. And these are all options for
37 you to consider.

38
39 Thank you.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
42 you very much.

43
44 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
47 Donald.

48
49 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.

50

1 Donald Mike, Council coordinator.

2

3 We did not receive any written public
4 comments on this proposal.

5

6 And just for procedural process, the
7 Council's going to be taking up these proposals
8 together, FP21-06 and -- I'm sorry, 06 and 08. As far
9 as procedure if we can address those as one as far as
10 taking action on these two proposals we can act on one
11 and then tie it into the next proposal and justify why
12 these two are -- are tied together.

13

14 Thank you, Madame Chair.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Well, yeah.
17 Right. And I -- I think that's where I was going with
18 it also is I figured we would probably find out what
19 the wishes of the Council were and back up and address
20 each individually even though we're considering them
21 together.

22

23 Okay. Then back to the Council
24 members. Council members, what -- what are your
25 wishes?

26

27 MR. DUNAWAY: Nanci.

28

29 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Richard.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
32 Richard, go ahead.

33

34 MR. WILSON: Yeah, once again I -- you
35 know what, I think this proposal's just way off base,
36 you know, as it is. And to try to develop new language
37 in it, it's going to take up a lot of -- a lot of our
38 valuable time today, you know, and try to beat it up
39 and try to get something in there that might go. But I
40 really feel strongly that this proposal is just -- it's
41 -- it's way out of reason at the moment the way it
42 stands. And so I would be voting against this one, the
43 two that are paired.

44

45 Thank you.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Good
48 That was my question, are you talking 06 or 08 or --
49 but you are talking of both; is that correct?

50

1 MR. WILSON: Yeah, we're to -- yeah,
2 they -- they got them put together so it would be a no
3 for the both.

4
5 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
6 you.

7
8 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan, go
11 ahead.

12
13 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you, Madame
14 Chair. Thank you, Richard. I tend to agree. I was
15 really grateful for the Lake Clark Park comments and I
16 was very eager to hear if Katmai has or even the --
17 what's the other Refuge on down there, comments because
18 I -- you know, my imagination runs a little wild with
19 even having dip netters at Brooks Falls or something.
20 So anyway I'm eager to hear if the other Park or Refuge
21 agencies have specific comments.

22
23 Thank you.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. And
26 that's -- I've been actually having the same question
27 in my mind. I believe I heard that Mark Sturm's
28 online.

29
30 Mark, do you have any questions or
31 comments for Katmai.

32
33 MR. STURM: Yes. Thank you, Madame
34 Chair. We -- we did discuss this generally, but hadn't
35 thought about the applicability of this regulation on
36 -- in -- in Park -- in Katmai in particular. I think
37 we just determined that we would remain neutral on this
38 particular proposal.

39
40 Linda, if I'm mis -- misremembering our
41 conversation, if you could chime in.

42
43 MS. CHISHOLM: This is Linda Chisholm.
44 No, Mark, that is my recollection as well. We also
45 briefly looked at the regulations in the SRC meeting
46 and the members wished to have more time to continue
47 reviewing them before they make comment on any of those
48 proposals.

49
50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
2 Great. Thank you, Mark and Linda. And I also believe
3 we had Becharof on earlier as well.

4
5 Becharof, did we have any comments or
6 any input from your group?

7
8 MS. ALEXANDER: Thank you, Madame
9 Chair. Susan Alexander, Refuge manager for Alaska
10 Peninsula and Becharof National Wildlife Refuges.

11
12 I don't have specific comments. I'm
13 obviously concerned about the breadth of both of these
14 measures, but don't have specific comments at this
15 time.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
20 you.

21
22 Any other council member questions or
23 discussion.

24
25 MR. HILL: Madame Chair, this is Lary
26 Hill. I could not support this change at this time.
27 It -- it's too broad. But again we can add a hundred
28 different parts to the regulation to make it so -- so
29 huge that nobody is -- knows what's going on. But we
30 do need some kind of regulation. I couldn't support it
31 the way it was -- the way it's written.

32
33 Thank you.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
36 you. I'm going to go -- we're going to back up and
37 have them get on the table and make our votes. But
38 first I want to say while we do that I would ask
39 Council members to consider -- I -- I think it was very
40 thoughtful of BBNA to put these together and put them
41 forward for us for our consideration and I would
42 encourage Council members to give direction to BBNA in
43 what form you might want to see this brought back to
44 something that you would like instead because I think
45 they put a lot of work in on that and I think that we
46 should take advantage of what's already been done and
47 see if we can turn it into something that we can get
48 behind and support.

49
50

1 With that can I get a motion on 06 to
2 start with for us to consider.

3
4 MR. WILSON: Call for question.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: We got to
7 get her on the table first, Richard. Is that a motion?

8
9 MR. WILSON: Yes, it is.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
12 Richard's moved to approve FP21-06. Do I have a
13 second.

14
15 MR. HILL: Madame Chair, this is Lary
16 Hill. Second.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
19 you, Lary.

20
21 Okay. We've got a motion and a second.
22 Anymore discussion.

23
24 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, was that 06
25 and 08 together?

26
27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Well, we're
28 doing them one at a time, Richard. This one's 06,
29 we'll do 08 in just a -- right afterwards.

30
31 MR. WILSON: Thank you.

32
33 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Madame Chair.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
36 Dan.

37
38 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I was waiting for
39 Richard, but I didn't hear him. But time constraints,
40 I'd defer to the folks who are on time, but, you know,
41 my -- I -- again like has been said, both of these are
42 far too wide, have a lot more consequences than are
43 readily apparent at the beginning. You know, I could
44 imagine things like allowing more gear types and less
45 restrictions on capelin and herring or some very
46 targeted discussions about gear in particular areas.
47 But as it is I -- I just cannot support this
48 whatsoever.

49
50

1 I'm also -- I can only say I'm very
2 critical and dismayed that the Federal agencies and OSM
3 allowed their comment to be supportive of this. That
4 tells me they really weren't paying attention. I can't
5 say it any nicer than that. It's kind of poor
6 performance on this one.

7
8 Thank you.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
11 Anybody care to call for the question.

12
13 MR. DUNAWAY: Question. This is Dan.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. The
16 question's been called.

17
18 Donald, go ahead.

19
20 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
21 The motion was made to adopt FP21-06. And this
22 proposal is to revise Federal subsistence regulations
23 for Bristol Bay area salmon may be taken by dip net,
24 beach seine, gillnet only unless otherwise specified.
25 Roll call vote.

26
27 Ms. Nanci Morris Lyon.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No.

30
31 MR. MIKE: Mr. Billy Trefon was
32 excused.

33
34 Mr. Dan Dunaway.

35
36 MR. DUNAWAY: No.

37
38 MR. MIKE: Mr. Lary Hill.

39
40 MR. HILL: No.

41
42 MR. MIKE: Mr. Richard Wilson.

43
44 MR. WILSON: No.

45
46 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, there's four
47 nays and one excused.

48
49 Thank you, Madame Chair, the motion

50

1 failed.

2

3

4 you very much.

5

6

7 FP21-08.

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
you very much.

I would entertain a motion now for
FP21-08.

MR. WILSON: I so move.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
Richard's moved. Do I have a second.

MR. HILL: Lary Hill. Second.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
We have a motion and a second. Any discussion for
FP21-08.

MR. DUNAWAY: Dan here.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Dan,
go ahead. Go ahead, Dan.

MR. DUNAWAY: Oh, I'm sorry, I was on
the wrong side. I'm just repeating -- I'll just say if
you could refer to my comments for 06. Again too wide,
it needs to be focused. I would like to add that this
might make it -- some of this more consistent with
other parts of the State, but I used to cover RAC
meetings in the Kuskokwim and I don't know how many
times I heard elders really scolding younger folks for
abusing necks and stream mouths, really chewing them
out. And sometimes under the guise of whitefish
fishing they're really fishing for salmon, a number of
other things. And I think overall we've kind of got it
right in Bristol Bay and it would be a mistake to
change it. They're -- you know, with all respect to
BBNA and Cody, I'm sure there's places where it could
get fixed, attempt to get fixed, the problem with rod
and reel subsistence at mouths needs to be addressed.
But this isn't the vehicle for that so I'll be opposed.

Thank you.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
Anymore discussion.

MR. WILSON: Well said, Dan.

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Do we
2 have a call for the question?
3
4 MR. WILSON: Call for the question.
5
6 MR. HILL: Question.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. The
9 question's been called.
10
11 Donald, please, roll call.
12
13 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
14 Donald Mike, Council coordinator.
15
16 Roll call of FP21-08. The proposal
17 requests that the Federal Subsistence Board remove the
18 areawide closure to taking of fish at mouths of streams
19 used by salmon.
20
21 Nanci Morris Lyon.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No.
24
25 MR. MIKE: Mr. Billy Trefon. Excused.
26
27 Mr. Dan Dunaway.
28
29 MR. DUNAWAY: No.
30
31 MR. MIKE: Mr. Lary Hill.
32
33 MR. HILL: No.
34
35 MR. MIKE: Mr. Hill, you voted no?
36
37 MR. HILL: That's correct. No.
38
39 MR. MIKE: Mr. Richard Wilson.
40
41 MR. WILSON: No.
42
43 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Four nays and
44 one excused. Motion failed.
45
46 Thank you, Madame Chair.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
49 you, Donald. Thank you Council members.
50

1 With that I think let's go ahead and
2 move forward to our Fisheries Resource Monitoring
3 Program. And let's jump to our 2022 priority
4 information needs because that's our first action item
5 on that list. And hopefully -- yeah, we're moving
6 along good here so let's keep on that roll.

7

8 I -- Jared; is that correct?

9

10 MR. STONE: Good morning, Madame Chair.
11 Yes, this is Jared Stone, Fishery biologist with OSM.
12 And today I'll be preparing you for our discussion with
13 the priority information needs. Let me switch gears
14 real quick and pull this document up.

15

16 Okay. So like I had mentioned today
17 I'll be providing you with an update on the Fisheries
18 Resource Monitoring Program and support your Council in
19 priority information needs development which is an
20 action item. We would like to start with an update on
21 the continuing projects currently funded. The
22 following seven projects were funded in your region and
23 as a reminder these are typically funded for four years
24 in total. And that includes a project that was funded
25 in 2016, the Western Gulf of Alaska Salmon and Other
26 Harvest. And that project will be expected to be
27 completed by the end of this -- this year. There were
28 four projects that were funded in 2018 that included
29 the Buskin River Sockeye Salmon Stock Assessment and
30 Monitoring, the Unalaska Fish Harvest Practices, the
31 Subsistence Harvest Trends for Fish in Four Southern
32 Kodiak Island communities and the Togiak River Harvest
33 Assessment of Dolly Varden. And then in 2020 there
34 were two additional projects that were funded that
35 includes the Kodiak Road System Subsistence Fisheries
36 Harvest Assessment and the Estimation of Sockeye Salmon
37 Escapement into McLees Lake in Unalaska Island.

38

39 The Office of Subsistence Management
40 will announce the 2022 notice of funding opportunity
41 for the Monitoring Program later this fall or early
42 winter. We will be seeking proposals for projects that
43 gather information to manage and conserve subsistence
44 fishery resources in Federal public waters in Alaska.
45 The Monitoring Program is also directed at supporting
46 meaningful involvement in fisheries management by
47 Alaska Natives and rural organizations and promoting
48 collaboration among Federal, State, Alaska Native and
49 local organizations.

50

1 The development of the priority
2 information needs is an important process for the
3 Council. These priority information needs will drive
4 the remainder of the FRMP cycle and are the primary
5 point where the Councils influence the direction of the
6 Monitoring Program.

7
8 Today's discussion regarding the
9 priority information needs for the 2022 funding cycle
10 is an action item for the Council as part of the FRMP
11 process. Volunteers composed of members of this
12 Council and Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council --
13 I'm sorry. Member -- volunteers composed of members of
14 this Council and the Kodiak Aleutians Advisory Council
15 met once earlier this week to discuss fisheries
16 information needs and issues for the region. The
17 volunteers consisted of the Chair of Kodiak Aleutians
18 Council, Della Trumble and Kodiak Aleutians Council
19 members Rebecca Skinner and Pat Holmes. And for this
20 Council Dan Dunaway from Bristol Bay Council was also
21 in attendance. OSM staff included anthropologist
22 Robbin LaVine, myself and Council coordinator Donald
23 Mike.

24
25 At this first meeting the volunteers
26 examined the priority information needs from the 2018
27 and 2020 cycles. They also assessed the projects that
28 had been funded by those priority information needs.
29 They looked at the projects funded through the
30 Monitoring Program from 2000 to present and we also
31 discussed the activities that are not eligible for
32 funding through the Monitoring Program. From this they
33 composed a list of potential fisheries information
34 needs for your consideration today. The draft list
35 provided to you today is the result of the volunteers
36 meeting earlier this week and at this point we would
37 like to request one of your Council volunteers, perhaps
38 Council member Dunaway, to brief you on the discussions
39 that took place. And Robbin and I are here to support
40 and assist you to help you finalize the 2022 priority
41 information needs.

42
43 Thank you, Madame Chair and I'll take
44 any questions if you have any.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, thank
47 you very much, I appreciate that. And I apologize to
48 the Council, it was my intention to be a part of those
49 discussions as well and I had other things that called
50

1 on me just like we're having today for other people.

2

3 So I apologize for that and I do
4 appreciate your participation, Dan. Would you care to
5 share a quick, brief report with that meeting.

6

7 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
8 There have been so many things going on since the
9 meeting so I might need Robbin's help. Dan here by the
10 way.

11

12 But yeah, we had a real good
13 discussion, a lot of it Pat Holmes was kind of out in
14 front of this, he gives a lot of thought to this. At
15 what time -- I should have full disclosure, he and I at
16 least coordinated, we didn't work directly together,
17 but we coordinated pretty often in like Alaska
18 Peninsula/Aleutians work.

19

20 So one of the things I struggled with
21 is the few items I -- that are really close to my
22 heart, say like Meshik and a few of those, doesn't seem
23 to be that there's any solution unless we had a couple
24 of aircraft carriers full of money.

25

26 The next concern or even a bigger
27 concern that we all shared was the horrible runs in
28 Chignik. But not having really any real specific
29 projects that I could bring forward I tended to defer
30 to KARC and they did I feel be strong -- strongly
31 support Chignik because a lot of their neighbors in
32 Kodiak and along the Peninsula are Chignik fishermen.
33 And they are eager to share the funds and the research
34 if we can come up with some, but we don't have a whole
35 lot. So I signed off on this draft list we have here,
36 I -- I wish we had a few more though at the same time
37 I'm really glad we don't have any other crisis compared
38 to Chignik.

39

40 So if I'm missing a few critical
41 points, Robbin, I could appreciate help.

42

43 Thank you.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. Thank
46 you.

47

48 Yes, Robbin, please go ahead.

49

50

1 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair,
2 members of the Council. For the record again this is
3 Robbin LaVine.
4

5 And I wanted to add a little bit of
6 information to kind of support our discussion. And --
7 and I think this is due to the tremendous efforts made
8 on record by the Kodiak Aleutians Regional Advisory
9 Council when they met I think in September, it is now
10 quite some time ago. The volunteers from both Councils
11 came together and they came up with a draft list. And
12 you may have the suggested 2022 PINs from the Southwest
13 region volunteer meeting of August 31st. You may have
14 that before you and you may see that there are notes,
15 there is reference to underlined materials and note
16 anything in bold is new languages recommended by the
17 volunteer meetings -- the volunteers at that -- their
18 meeting. You may also have I hope the draft priority
19 information needs after the Kodiak Aleutians meeting.
20 They did a heck of a lot of work on record.
21

22 And this document is titled the Kodiak
23 -- KARAC 2020 Draft Priority Information Needs for the
24 Southwest Region. This document is something that I
25 can read on record. For those of you who are on teams
26 I may also try to share my screen with you and this
27 document as I read these recommended final PINS on
28 record.
29

30 Do you approve, would you like us to
31 give that a go?
32

33 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, please.
34

35 MS. LAVINE: Okay. So first off for
36 those of you just listening online I'm going to attempt
37 to share my screen. And this is it. Let's see.
38

39 So my teams' folks, do you see my
40 document, there are five bullet points?
41

42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, it's on
43 there. We've got.....
44

45 MS. LAVINE: For those of you listening
46 online I'm going to read these -- this draft document
47 and then you can discuss. There are five bullet points
48 and I would note that we do not number them because we
49 do not intend to imply a preference of one information
50

1 need over the other.

2

3 The first one, reliable estimates of
4 escapement, quality of escapement and environmental
5 impacts addressing decline of chinook and sockeye
6 salmon for the Chignik River area and associated
7 impacts to subsistence harvest opportunities.

8

9 Next bullet point. Reliable estimates
10 of chinook salmon escapement and evaluation of quality
11 of escapement measures in Alagnak River, Big Creek,
12 Meshik River, Naknek River and Togiak River including
13 elements of potential egg deposition, sex and size
14 composition of spawners and spawning habitat quality
15 and utilization for determining the reproductive
16 potential of spawning stocks.

17

18 The third bullet point. Examine how
19 recent changes in the Gulf of Alaska environment
20 affects sockeye salmon within their range and habitats,
21 noting particular concern for the Chignik drainages
22 using scale analyses of freshwater and saltwater growth
23 patterns over multiple years to research changes in
24 growth and survival of salmon, in the Kodiak Aleutians
25 drainages, Buskin and McLees drainages and/or in the
26 Bristol Bay Alaska Peninsula drainages, Chignik,
27 Nushagak, Naknek and Togiak drainages.

28

29 The fourth PIN. Reliable estimates of
30 subsistence harvest and uses. Of particular interest
31 are harvest trends in the communities of Manokotak,
32 Nondalton, Chignik, Ouzinkie, the settlement Aleneva on
33 Afognak Island, Port Lions, Adak, Akutan, Atka, False
34 Pass, Nelson Lagoon, Nikolski, St. Paul and St. George.

35

36 The final PIN. Abundance and
37 assessment of critical subsistence salmon stocks in
38 priority areas such as the Buskin.

39

40 Thank you, Madame Chair, members of the
41 Council. If you'd like I can leave this document up
42 for you to review while you discuss. If you have it in
43 front of you I can end sharing my screen.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No, go ahead
46 and please keep it up while we're making this
47 discussion. And correct me if I'm wrong, but for the
48 rest of the Council members, these priority information
49 needs are what we set forth if we approve them for

50

1 entities such as BBNA to make proposals on for us for
2 the next funding cycle. Is this correct?

3

4 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
5 Yes, this is Robbin and you are correct. These
6 priority information needs are the most significant way
7 you can help direct research in your region on
8 subsistence fisheries.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. So
13 then let's open it up to questions from Council
14 members. Do you guys have questions on any of these or
15 any additional things that you think should be
16 considered or changes that should be made, let's just
17 hear your thoughts I guess.

18

19 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Richard
20 Wilson.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
23 Richard.

24

25 MR. WILSON: Yes, thank you. Yeah,
26 thank you, Robbin, for that, I don't have that list in
27 front of me so thank you for giving me that verbally.
28 Just reminders, you know, it is -- you know, we're in
29 some pretty critical times in our regions, you know,
30 with salmon -- salmon returns, you know, of all
31 species. Some more than others, but particularly, you
32 know, in our Bristol Bay area, you know, to keep
33 monitoring, you know, our -- our spawning beds, you
34 know, and the impact that those spawning beds are
35 having. You know, it's -- you know, we've been very
36 fortunate in the last few years to have, you know,
37 decent returns and parts of the State are really
38 hurting. So I think the more we can kind of stay ahead
39 of the curve and, you know, do our due diligence in
40 these areas to assure that we have good spawning
41 capability I think is very critical in this -- in this
42 day and age.

43

44 That's my comment for now. Thanks.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
47 Richard. I -- those are -- that's a very strong
48 comment and I fully support it. I think that's yes,
49 very wise for all of us to remember.

50

1 Anybody else have any comments they'd
2 like to share?

3
4 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. Dan.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
7 Dan.

8
9 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you. That's
10 a great comment, Richard. You know, all of a sudden I
11 start thinking yeah, we -- if we've got warmer water or
12 maybe less water, things like that, that might be a
13 manageable project to look at.

14
15 I wanted to add in a few things, my
16 brain cells are kind of getting lined up here more.
17 One of the things that Mr. Holmes really pushed and
18 that I think is appropriate across our two regions is
19 really wishing to be able to somehow incorporate
20 communities or schools in communities to assist with
21 subsistence harvest trend monitoring. One of the
22 things it would, you know, bring in the communities,
23 then the -- the stakeholders themselves. It would be
24 training for -- for some folks to maybe move into
25 careers or, you know, as part of the tribal office or
26 something to learn how to collect this information and
27 might reduce expenses to government agencies and so on.
28 I -- the whole community involvement idea in teaching
29 the youth is really appealing. It seems to be kind of
30 a hard thing to boil into a proposal or project, but he
31 was really strong on this and I believe other members
32 of the working group are as well. I like it a lot and
33 I -- so that was one item.

34
35 The other item here, the discussion of
36 kind of looking more into the ocean, is kind of a big
37 thing, but there's one -- he was specifically wondering
38 if they could use scale pattern analysis to address
39 growth and historical growth. I know Fish and Game
40 offices, some of them have rather vast archives of old
41 scales that could possibly be used. A project like
42 that probably start looking at like FRI or NOAA or one
43 of the other bigger agencies, but if it's coming down
44 to scale pattern analysis partnering with a few tribal
45 groups to -- with some interns to maybe do some of the
46 real work on scales, again might be a great opportunity
47 for collaboration and, you know, cultivating local
48 talent.

49
50

1 That -- that stuff kind of popped into
2 my head here that I neglected to mention earlier. I
3 just wanted to bring it out.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No, thank
8 you, Dan. I -- and that's always a good point. I
9 think, you know, that's one of the reasons I -- we
10 really encourage BBNA to put these proposals for these
11 potential information needs forward because we know
12 that they have shown a good long history of using local
13 talent as much as possible and I think they also go
14 along with those beliefs.

15
16 So any other comments from Council
17 members on these priority information needs. I -- the
18 end result will be that we will be taking a vote that
19 these are or are not the needs that we would like put
20 forward. So keep that in mind with your comments and
21 know where we're headed with this.

22
23 MR. HILL: Madame Chair.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Lary, did
26 you have anything?

27
28 MR. HILL: Madame Chair, this is Lary
29 Hill.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Please go
32 ahead.

33
34 MR. HILL: Yeah, I like this list here.
35 I really would like to say that our neighbors down in
36 the Chignik area they're really hurting as far as the
37 return of their chinook and sockeye salmon. But also
38 on the second one, it's just talking about Naknek
39 River, Big Creek, Meshik River and Naknek River and
40 Togiak River. And certainly our funds are limited, but
41 I'd like to see the -- there's a Kvichak River,
42 Newhalen River and all of the Lake Clark spawning area.
43 And we've had some dry years where the creeks were
44 dried up that salmon could not spawn and they didn't
45 and they just died at the (indiscernible -
46 distortion).....

47
48 So that's my comment. Thank you.

49
50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Well,
2 thank you. And I think that that's something our next
3 action item will be identifying is issues for the FY, I
4 think that's a typo too, 2022 annual report on item C
5 there and I think that that's a great thing. I mean,
6 we have to remember everything has to be in Federal
7 waters because that is who this applies to, but they --
8 I think that that would be a great thing for us to add
9 to that action item next.

10
11 Any other comments or would anybody
12 care to put this as presented on the table or to vote
13 on?

14
15 MR. DUNAWAY: Dan here. I'll move to
16 adopt.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Got a
19 motion to adopt. Is there a second to adopt the.....

20
21 MR. WILSON: Second.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
24 you, Richard. So we have the Kodiak Aleutian Regional
25 Advisory Council/Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council
26 2022 draft priority information needs for the Southwest
27 region on the table to be voted upon.

28
29 Any further discussion.

30
31 (No comments)

32
33 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Do we
34 have a call for the question.

35
36 MR. WILSON: Question.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. The
39 question's been called.

40
41 Donald, I'll hand it over to you.

42
43 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
44 Donald Mike, Council coordinator.

45
46 Motion was to adopt the draft 2022
47 priority information needs for Southwest region.

48
49 Ms. Nanci Morris Lyon.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes.
2
3 MR. MIKE: Mr. Trefon. Excused.
4
5 Mr. Dunaway.
6
7 MR. DUNAWAY: Yes.
8
9 MR. MIKE: Mr. Lary Hill.
10
11 MR. HILL: Yes.
12
13 MR. MIKE: Mr. Richard Wilson.
14
15 MR. WILSON: Yes.
16
17 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, there's four
18 yeses and one excused. Motion -- motion passes.
19
20 Thank you, Madame Chair.
21
22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
23 you, Donald. And I think I will leave it in your lap.
24 Our next action item is identify issues for our FY and
25 again I think that's a typo, I think it should be 2022
26 annual report; is that correct, Donald?
27
28 MR. MIKE: No, it's 2020 annual report.
29 It's from last year.
30
31 Thank you, Madame Chair.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I'm mixing
34 the two up. Never mind then.
35
36 So with that what we normally do is
37 kind of accumulate them along throughout our meeting as
38 I recall, Donald. In this instance since we're having
39 a rather difficult time this year I will just ask if
40 anybody has any issues that they would like to request
41 that Donald address in our annual report. I'm quite
42 certain that, you know, I guess for me number 1 is, you
43 know, keeping meetings meaningful in this -- in this
44 Covid time. I certainly appreciate the efforts that
45 were made to get the Microsoft teams put together so
46 that we could have some face to face and I think that
47 that will help keep things meaningful. But it will
48 have to be addressed.
49
50

1 Any -- anything anybody has on their
2 heart or on their mind that they would like to see in
3 the annual report to the Federal Subsistence Board.

4
5 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. Dan here.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
8 Dan.

9
10 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, first off do we
11 have a draft in here or is this just items that will
12 then be -- get composed into a report?

13
14 Okay.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Right.
17 These are just items that will get composed into a
18 report. Like I say this is what we usually kind of
19 just do throughout our Council as we go along, but
20 since we don't have that really going on this time it's
21 good that we have it on the agenda as something to
22 address.

23
24 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, if I may have to
25 continue then. Yeah, of course ongoing alarm and
26 concern for Chignik salmon run. I don't know if maybe
27 the -- some of the stuff Lary brought there with
28 affects of low water and so on and refer to other
29 folks.

30
31 Thanks.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes.
34 Agreed.

35
36 Anybody else have issues they would
37 like brought up or concerns for the annual report?

38
39 MR. DUNAWAY: Dan here again with
40 another idea.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

43
44 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, kind of focusing on
45 fish, but, you know, caribou I think, other items,
46 caribou abundance or lack thereof in the Mulchatna
47 herd. And now we have kind of an interesting situation
48 on Nushagak Peninsula caribou that needs watching
49 closely. And I haven't -- with the lack of a biologist

50

1 in Dillingham for the State, it's been harder to get
2 information on what's going on with State management
3 and State areas. Happily the Togiak biologists are
4 very acceptable as well. But moose is also an ongoing
5 concern though in the Federal areas they seem to be
6 doing pretty well.

7
8 Thank you.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
11 you, Dan.

12
13 Anything else, Council members.

14
15 (No comments)

16
17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Well,
18 I would just suggest if things come up as our meeting
19 goes along that we just make a note to Donald.

20
21 Donald, will that work for you?

22
23 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald Mike.
24 Yes, that'll work.

25
26 Thank you, Madame Chair.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
29 you. So then with that let's go ahead and move on for
30 now to item D, individual C and T process guidelines.

31
32 NPS staff.

33
34 DR. REAM: Good afternoon or good
35 morning, I guess it still is, Madame Chair. This is
36 Joshua Ream, I'm the regional subsistence program
37 manager for the National Park Service. And I'm also
38 the Park Service's representative to the Interagency
39 Staff Committee. And I'll be presenting this topic for
40 the Council this morning.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
43 you, Joshua. Please go ahead.

44
45 DR. REAM: All right. Again for the
46 record my name is Joshua Ream, my Tlingit name is
47 Xixch'i Toowoo, it means frog feelings or he who cares
48 for the frogs. I've been with the Park Service in this
49 position for about a year and a half now, but I came
50

1 over from the Office of Subsistence Management where I
2 was a cultural anthropologist there at the Fish and
3 Wildlife Service.

4
5 Today I'll be presenting on a requested
6 change in procedures for individual customary and
7 traditional use determination and the associated
8 materials begin on page 59 of your Council books.

9
10 This topic is rather complicated so our
11 staff recently developed a comparison chart to show you
12 the existing process for these determination as
13 compared to what we are proposing. You should have
14 received a copy of this from Donald before the meeting.

15
16 Requests for individual customary and
17 traditional use determinations are fairly rare and
18 we've only gotten about a dozen of them since the
19 program started. These determinations only apply to
20 National Parks and to National Monuments that are
21 managed by the National Park Service. During the last
22 Federal wildlife regulation call for proposals one of
23 these requests was made by an individual seeking to
24 hunt in Denali National Park following a long existing
25 pattern of use there. Unfortunately the proposal was
26 invalidated because of erroneous information that was
27 provided to the applicant.

28
29 The situation brought to light a need
30 to provide a more clear, streamlined process for
31 responding to these types of rare requests. And the
32 Park Service staff developed one of these processes for
33 consideration by the Federal Subsistence Board and this
34 is what I'm talking to your Council about today.

35
36 At their July work session the Federal
37 Subsistence Board deferred action on a delegation of
38 authority to the National Park Service, Alaska Regional
39 Director for making individual customary and
40 traditional use determination for lands managed by the
41 Park Service. And the Board requested that the
42 Regional Advisory Councils be briefed and have an
43 opportunity to provide input on the delegation at their
44 fall meeting before the Board hears the issue again.

45
46 In preparation for the requested
47 administrative change staff from the Park Service
48 developed standard operating procedures for both our
49 13-440 subsistence eligibility permit and for the

50

1 individual customary and traditional use determination.
2 I will be presenting you with an overview of both
3 topics. The Park Service has suggested changes to
4 existing processes and the reasons that this is being
5 pursued.

6
7 It's important again to recognize that
8 eligibility to engage in subsistence activities in
9 National Parks and National Monuments in Alaska is
10 different from that of National Preserves and other
11 types of Federal public land as you're likely very
12 aware. To be eligible in these units one must not only
13 be a Federally-qualified subsistence user, but also
14 have his or her primary permanent home located within a
15 resident zoned community or alternatively to have
16 obtained a 13-440 subsistence eligibility permit.
17 Additionally the subsistence user must also have a
18 customary and traditional use determination for the
19 area and species that they intend to hunt.

20
21 Customary and traditional use
22 determination acknowledge an existing pattern of
23 subsistence use. The Federal Subsistence Board
24 frequently receives requests to evaluate or reevaluate
25 these, predominantly for inclusion of communities or
26 areas. For land managed by the National Park Service
27 the determination can also be made for individuals and
28 this is pursuant to 50 CFR 116 which reads for areas
29 managed by the National Park Service where subsistence
30 uses are allowed the determination may be made on an
31 individual basis.

32
33 Again the request for individual
34 customary and traditional use determinations have been
35 rare in the history of the program, we've gotten less
36 than a dozen of them thus far and we have no reason to
37 believe that this will change. Given this rarity and
38 the applicability to only National Park and National
39 Monuments, the Park Service feels that the program and
40 its stakeholders may be better served if the agency's
41 regional director is given delegated authority to make
42 individual customary and traditional use
43 determinations. If delegated the process would
44 alleviate burden on the Office of Subsistence
45 Management and the Board, it would provide a more
46 substantive role for Subsistence Resource Commission,
47 it would allow requests to be acted upon outside of the
48 normal regulatory cycle and it would provide better
49 mechanisms for documenting and archiving these types of
50

1 decisions.

2
3 If the Board delegates authority for
4 individual customary and traditional use determination,
5 the Park Service intends to follow the procedures
6 outlined in your meeting materials and order that the
7 responsibilities of everyone involved are clearly
8 defined to provide consistency and continuity across
9 Park units, to streamline the 13-440 permit process and
10 the individual C and T process. And to provide
11 mechanisms for evaluating and documenting the request
12 and subsequent decision. These procedures are
13 consistent with Title VIII of ANILCA and with existing
14 regulation and they have been vetted by the Solicitor's
15 Office.

16
17 I will not walk your Council through
18 every step and document that's outlined in the SOPs
19 that we provided, the standard operating procedures, I
20 will however point out that the eight criteria for
21 evaluating individual C and Ts is the same as those for
22 area and community C and Ts. The Park Service would
23 continue to analyze these criteria in a manner
24 consistent with the Board's existing policy.

25
26 Delegation of authority on these
27 matters is considered an administrative action of the
28 Federal Subsistence Board, but before approving a
29 process the Board really did want the Councils to weigh
30 in on the proposed procedures and offer any feedback
31 that you can especially given that the responsibility
32 for making recommendations on individual C and T
33 request would shift from the Regional Advisory Councils
34 to the Subsistence Resource Commission. The Park
35 Service believes that the Commissions are perhaps best
36 equipped to evaluate patterns of subsistence use in
37 their associated Parks and Monuments and each includes
38 representation from the associated Subsistence Regional
39 Advisory Councils.

40
41 As a final note I want to reiterate
42 that individual C and T are nothing new, they're just
43 largely unknown because they're rare. We're only
44 suggesting a change in existing process, not the
45 creation of a new type of C and T.

46
47 This is considered an action item. We
48 would appreciate your feedback on these processes and
49 specifically request that your body vote on whether to
50

1 endorse this change or any changes to the standard
2 operating procedures that are before you.

3
4 I would be happy to try to answer any
5 questions that you have. The subsistence coordinators
6 for both the Lake Clark and the Aniakchak SRCs are on
7 the call with us today and can relay the discussions
8 that their Commissions recently had. And I can also
9 report on the actions of other RACs and Subsistence
10 Resource Commission that have met so far to date this
11 fall.

12
13 Thank you, Madame Chair and members of
14 the Council.

15
16 I'd be happy to try to take any
17 questions that you have.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
20 you, Joshua. I appreciate that and I actually want to
21 go to our other SRC coordinators to hear the comments
22 that have already been made on this and then we'll go
23 back to you for the rest of your comments as well and
24 then I'll open it up for questions.

25
26 So who would like to go first?

27
28 MS. CHISHOLM: Madame Chair. This is
29 Linda Chisholm for the Aniakchak SRC. We discussed the
30 proposed changes within our meeting yesterday and
31 specifically I think the SRC would like to have more
32 time to consider the proposal as it would add new roles
33 and responsibilities to their organization and at this
34 time have no other comment.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
37 you.

38
39 Liza, do you have anything from Lake
40 Clark.

41
42 MS. RUPP: Yes, thank you. Liza Rupp
43 for Lake Clark and the Lake Clark SRC.

44
45 We didn't officially discuss it during
46 our meeting although I did send out an email asking for
47 input from SRC members. So this is not an official --
48 an official statement. But the one SRC member said
49 that he thought that it -- it seemed like an
50

1 appropriate shift given that the SRCs know the -- would
2 more likely know the local community members who might
3 be asking for this as opposed to the RAC which are on
4 obviously a broader geographic scale.

5
6 So again not an official statement from
7 the SRC, merely a -- one member's comment.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
10 That's fine. I appreciate it very much.

11
12 And then what other comments did you
13 have, Joshua, from SRCs around the State.

14
15 DR. REAM: Thank you, Madame Chair. I
16 also have the comments from the Regional Advisory
17 Councils if you'd like them as well.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, please.

20
21 DR. REAM: Sure. The Wrangell-St.
22 Elias Subsistence Resource Commission actually voted
23 unanimously to oppose this action until they have more
24 time to consider. The Eastern Interior Regional
25 Advisory Council gave unanimous support for this
26 proposal for the delegation and that included the Chair
27 who had expressed reservations during the Wrangell and
28 Elias SRC. She is a member of both the Council and the
29 Commission, but I think many of her questions had been
30 alleviated. The Western Interior Regional Advisory
31 Council voted in unanimous support. Kodiak Aleutians
32 Regional Advisory Council voted in unanimous support.
33 The Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council
34 took no action, but there's no Park Service land in
35 their region. The Southcentral Regional Advisory
36 Council unanimously supported a motion to defer until
37 the Wrangell-St. Elias SRC could review further. The
38 Denali Subsistence Resource Commission took no action
39 on the matter. The Southeast Regional Advisory Council
40 voted in unanimous opposition. The Regional Advisory
41 Council there would like to retain their ability to
42 review individual customary and traditional use
43 determination and they prefer the Board to make the
44 final determination.

45
46 And -- and I believe that's all of the
47 Councils and Commissions that have met so far to date.

48
49 Thank you, Madame Chair.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
2 Great. And I appreciate that.

3
4 And, Council members, I just wanted to
5 make sure we had all of the information in front of us
6 when we started discussions. So who -- who would like
7 to start the discussion here?

8
9 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, Richard
10 Wilson.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard.
13 Please go ahead.

14
15 MR. WILSON: Yeah. Yeah, you know,
16 it's something -- it's something a little new to me. I
17 do appreciate the idea of the Park Service being more
18 open-minded to comments and some direction from -- you
19 know, from entities. I don't know at this time that I
20 could -- I could support it without us having some --
21 you know, or some fair amount of discussion on where --
22 you know, where this would end up.

23
24 Thank you.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

27
28 MR. HILL: Madame Chair to Joshua.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, go
31 ahead.

32
33 MR. HILL: Lary Hill. Hey, Joshua, I
34 looked at your forms that you've got to anticipate the
35 -- leaving the decision to grant C and T to the
36 superintendent, the regional manager or the SRC; is
37 that correct?

38
39 DR. REAM: Thank you for the question.
40 Through the Chair. The ultimate decision for
41 individual customary and traditional use determination
42 if this process was -- were to be adopted would be with
43 the regional director of the National Park Service.
44 And he -- there would be a full analysis similar to
45 what OSM does for area and community C and Ts. And it
46 would be reviewed by Park staff and the Subsistence
47 Resource Commission as well before a decision is made.
48 But if delegated authority the regional director would
49 make that decision only for individuals C and Ts that

50

1 are only applicable to Parks and Monuments. The
2 Federal Subsistence Board would continue to make all
3 decisions on area and community customary and
4 traditional use determinations.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 MR. HILL: Okay. Lary Hill for Joshua
9 through the Chair.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
12 Lary.

13
14 MR. HILL: Something about that
15 requiring -- well, that -- some of that for C and T.
16 Has there been any kind of citations that have been
17 issued for -- for someone who had been exercising what
18 they thought was their C and T privileges?

19
20 DR. REAM: Thank you for the question,
21 through the Chair. As it concerns individual customary
22 and traditional use determinations I am unaware of any
23 citations that have been given for inappropriate use of
24 those throughout the State.

25
26 Again we have less than a dozen of them
27 that have been issued in the history of the program.
28 Most of those are associated with Wrangell-St. Elias
29 National Park. There are I believe two associated with
30 Denali and one with Gates of the Arctic. And there are
31 to my knowledge no individual C and Ts that have been
32 granted or even requested for either Lake Clark or
33 Aniakchak.

34
35 MR. HILL: Okay. Thank you.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Any
38 other comments, questions.

39
40 MR. DUNAWAY: Dan here.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
43 Dan.

44
45 MR. DUNAWAY: Sorry, I get myself
46 messed up. I'm also -- I dropped off of the teams
47 thing trying to figure that out, but I was eager to
48 hear what Lary and Richard said. Yeah, I'm -- I've got
49 some ambivalence. Partly I'm not surprised there's not
50

1 more permits looking at these forms. I think that's a
2 pretty intimidating pile of paper.

3
4 It seems like out here and I will defer
5 to Lary and Richard, it seems like the superintendents
6 that we have in Parks these days are better in tune
7 with Alaska's style of operation. I do worry a little
8 bit if you end up with a manager that has an agenda of
9 their own that might not quite line up too well, I just
10 -- I -- I'm -- that's where I'm glad to see SRCs might
11 have an opportunity. But I'm kind of curious about
12 hierarchy or appeal if a manager is difficult to get to
13 work with a particular individual.

14
15 Okay.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

18
19 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Richard.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
22 Richard.

23
24 MR. WILSON: Yeah. Thanks, Dan. You
25 know, it -- there really are -- there is some
26 challenges that all depend on your manager, you know,
27 who's there and their -- you know, their vocation or
28 some -- some stay longer than others and some are
29 totally by the book, won't discuss anything or know
30 very little and others are very open. And we've been
31 fortunate here in the last couple cycles in our Katmai
32 National Park there to have pretty open-minded people
33 that are managing the system there and they've been --
34 they've been very helpful. So, you know, in that
35 regard having somebody closer to help make these
36 customary and traditional use yea or nay is -- it could
37 be valuable. But it -- you know, we got to be cautious
38 on what we're giving up too.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Good
41 comments.

42
43 What are the wishes of the Board. Do
44 we want to put this on the table for a vote.

45
46 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. Dan.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
49 Dan.

50

1 MR. DUNAWAY: I'm inclined to defer
2 like some of the other folks to give us more time to
3 absorb this whole thing. I really appreciate the
4 summary Josh provided with all the other RACs and SRCs,
5 but that's quite a list there. And if it simplifies
6 and gives more local control, I'm -- I think I'm
7 inclined to support it.

8
9 But, yeah, I just -- the redfish issue
10 in Katmai which is somewhat different, but feel that --
11 it makes me feel very cautious. And I was looking into
12 this and worrying that we'd -- we'd get bogged down in
13 the -- the problems that the redfish issue had with
14 trying to single out individual qualified people which
15 was an unsolvable problem. I'm hugely grateful for
16 Park Service finding a way around that and it seems to
17 work pretty good now. So I'm inclined for deferral.

18
19 Thank you.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
22 Richard or Lary.

23
24 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, Richard.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

27
28 MR. WILSON: Yeah. Yeah, I kind of
29 tend to agree with Dan there. You know, I -- you know,
30 so many times we get, you know, from the -- from the
31 Parks we get information like this and they want a yes
32 or no right now. And we do need time to absorb it and
33 discuss it amongst ourselves. And, you know, being
34 this kind of communication that we've been doing, it's
35 been rather difficult. So to push something through
36 just because it's on the agenda to me is not really
37 appropriate. I think that we'd like to have a little
38 more time on this one if that's possible.

39
40 Thank you.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I hear that.

43
44 Lary.

45
46 MR. HILL: Okay. Lary Hill. Nanci to
47 Joshua or whomever. I'm looking at those forms, it's
48 like you're applying for a limited entry permit or to
49 become a citizen of the United States. The question is
50

1 did the SRC come up with this application form or was
2 it pushed through the managers?
3

4 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Joshua, can
5 you help us there.
6

7 DR. REAM: Yes, Madame Chair. Thank
8 you for the question.
9

10 The Park Service staff did develop
11 these based on existing questions for analyzing
12 requests for the subsistence eligibility permits and
13 individual C and Ts. For a community or area C and T
14 the Office of Subsistence Management would dig into
15 existing literature, including transcripts from SRCs
16 and RACs and the Federal Subsistence Board to get a
17 history of what the existing patterns of use are in an
18 area. For an individual it really takes talking to
19 that individual about all of these different questions
20 to get an idea of what their patterns of use are.
21 However our Park Service staff did intend for the
22 application to be done in coordination with Park
23 Service staff so it would be more in line of an
24 interview than it would be for somebody filling these
25 out on their own.
26

27 The forms -- not all of the forms
28 before you are for the applicant to fill out. Many of
29 them are just the recommendation of the Park staff.
30 They would sign off on one of the forms. The
31 recommendation of the SRCs, they would sign off on one
32 of the forms. And then ultimately the regional
33 director would sign off on one of the forms. So only a
34 couple of them are meant for the applicant to be doing.
35 And not even by themselves, they would be in
36 coordination with our staff.
37

38 I hope that helps.
39

40 Thank you.
41

42 MR. HILL: Joshua, through the Chair.
43 This is Lary Hill.
44

45 I have a problem with that partly is
46 because I lean more towards the SRC with the help of
47 the biologists and the scientists on helping to manage
48 the area. And I would like to see the SRC in that area
49 themselves come up with a list of what they consider a
50

1 person who is eligible for C and T in that area. If it
2 comes from the Park -- Park down, I -- I would like to
3 see it come from the SRC first, what their requirements
4 are and how -- what their burden of proof would be
5 instead of coming from -- from management.

6
7 That's all I got.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I think that
10 is a very good point. Thank you very much, Lary.

11
12 I would also just add comments that are
13 floating through my mind as I listen to your wisdom
14 that you've been sharing. I think that for Bristol Bay
15 we are surrounded by Parks and Federal land out here.
16 And literally like smothered by them. So I think we
17 have to be very, very careful about the decisions we
18 make and -- and even though these happen very rarely
19 and we've not had them happen in our area, we do want
20 to be prepared when an individual might come to us
21 seeking one of these permits. And yeah, I think we're
22 being wise.

23
24 Donald, what is the proper procedure
25 for us to defer this to be taken up at probably our
26 spring meeting?

27
28 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Yes, if -- if
29 the Council wish to take action they can mostly defer
30 until the winter meeting and the SRC develops further
31 comments and we can place this on our winter agenda.
32 But the Council can either vote it down or defer.

33
34 Thank you, Madam Chair.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
37 you, Donald.

38
39 So now what are the wishes of the
40 Council?

41
42 DR. REAM: Madame Chair, this is Josh.
43 May I quickly address the evaluation?

44
45 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, you
46 may.

47
48 DR. REAM: Thank you. I just wanted to
49 point out again that the Park Service did not come up
50

1 with the evaluation criteria, that is the Federal
2 Subsistence Board's policy and that's how OSM evaluates
3 all community and area customary and traditional use
4 determinations. There the eight criteria that are used
5 -- you know, I could read them off, but they're used in
6 State regulation too except for on the Federal side we
7 look at them -- the Board looks at them holistically.
8 You don't have to have those series of check marks
9 across all eight factors that are included. And the
10 Board requires that these determinations be considered
11 in the most inclusive manner possible.
12

13 So I just wanted to point out that it
14 wasn't Park Service staff coming up with the policy,
15 that is the Federal Subsistence Board's policy on
16 evaluation.
17

18 Thank you.
19

20 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
21 you. Thanks for the clarification.
22

23 Again what are the wishes of the
24 Council?
25

26 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Richard.
27

28 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
29 Richard.
30

31 MR. WILSON: Yeah, I'd say this is all
32 real good conversation. You know, anytime we can --
33 you know, the Park Service people are all willing to
34 sit down and talk about issues that -- that come up in
35 the Park. I think it's -- is there any stance on when
36 things like this come up that before they actually get
37 language to -- to bring before us that we could be at
38 the table to help them develop language that would be
39 suitable instead of them, you know, creating all the
40 language. I think that's a lot of times where we
41 stumble. You know, they come to us with a proposal
42 that's already written -- and this -- this is your
43 options instead of a collaborate affect, you know, with
44 us. So I'd like to, you know, defer this thing until
45 later and perhaps have that kind of conversation if
46 that's possible. I'd like perhaps a working group.
47

48 Thank you.
49
50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Is
2 that a motion?

3
4 MR. WILSON: I could -- I could make it
5 a motion if that would be appropriate, yes.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Well, let's
8 find out. Is there a second for that motion.

9
10 MR. HILL: Lary Hill. Second that
11 motion.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Well,
14 we've got a motion and second. Do we have any further
15 discussion on the motion? The motion is to defer any
16 sort of an opinion on the individual C and T process
17 guidelines that National Park Service has brought to us
18 today.

19
20 MR. WILSON: What's our timeline on
21 this, is there a -- is there a timeline on this one?

22
23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Joshua, can
24 you help us out?

25
26 DR. REAM: Thank you, Madame Chair.
27 The Board is intending to address this deferred
28 decision in January, but of course your motion to defer
29 for yourself I think implies a motion for the Board to
30 also defer maybe until their summer work session which
31 would give you another chance to meet before they meet.
32 And this is why the Board asked us to come to you,
33 because we do want your recommendations. You know,
34 this isn't set in stone, this was just a first stab and
35 if you prefer the RACs continue to be involved, you
36 know, that's one recommendation.

37
38 I look forward to having these
39 discussions with you.

40
41 Thank you.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
44 you, Josh.

45
46 Does that answer your question,
47 Richard?

48
49 MR. WILSON: Thank you.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
2 Donald.....

3
4 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Madame Chair.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, go
7 ahead.

8
9 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Hi, this is Suzanne
10 Green, superintendent at Lake Clark National Park and
11 Preserve.

12
13 I just wanted to clarify for Lake
14 Clark, we actually do have a couple of these permits,
15 ones that we've had for a very long time. We -- we
16 don't have very many though because frankly most people
17 are in resident zone communities so they don't require
18 these. One is for a family at Portage Creek, one is
19 for a family at Silver Salmon Creek. We have gotten
20 some interest from residents of Keith Point on Lake
21 Clark which of course since they are not within one of
22 the resident zone communities they do have to go
23 through this process.

24
25 But I just want to clarify that they
26 are infrequent, but they do occur.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
29 you.

30
31 Okay. We've got a motion on the table.
32 Anymore discussion or would somebody care to call for
33 the question?

34
35 MR. DUNAWAY: I'll call the question.
36 This is Dan.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. The
39 question's been called.

40
41 Donald, please go ahead.

42
43 MR. MIKE: Okay. Thank you, Madame
44 Chair. Donald Mike, Council coordinator.

45
46 A motion was made to defer the National
47 Park Service standard operating procedures for issues
48 of subsistence eligibility permits and individual
49 customary and traditional use determination. The

50

1 Council discussed that they needed more time to review
2 the document and have comments on the language.
3
4 Ms. Nanci Morris Lyon. Motion.....
5
6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes.
7
8 MR. MIKE:to defer?
9
10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Correct.
11
12 MR. MIKE: And your vote is?
13
14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes.
15
16 MR. MIKE: Mr. Billy Trefon is excused.
17
18 Mr. Dunaway.
19
20 MR. DUNAWAY: Yes, defer.
21
22 MR. MIKE: Mr. Lary Hill.
23
24 MR. HILL: Yes to defer.
25
26 MR. MIKE: Mr. Richard Wilson.
27
28 MR. WILSON: Yes, defer.
29
30 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, there's four
31 yeses and one excused. Motion is to defer the Park
32 Service operating procedures for further comments and
33 review.
34
35 Thank you, Madame Chair.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
38 you very much, Donald.
39
40 And now I want to jump down to while I
41 know I still have a quorum the SRC appointments. Can
42 we please have those brought forward so we can have a
43 quick vote on those as well.
44
45 MS. RUPP: Madame Chair. This is Liza
46 Rupp for the -- for Lake Clark and Lake Clark SRC.
47
48 Do you want -- can we do it or is
49 Donald supposed -- sorry, I don't know who's supposed
50

1 to bring it forward.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Oh, yeah. I
4 know I kind of pulled a surprise on everyone, but I
5 know that we need to vote on these and I know that I
6 have a quorum right now so I wanted to go ahead and we
7 want to fill those SRC seats whenever possible.

8

9 So please go ahead, Liza.

10

11 MS. RUPP: All right. Thank you,
12 Madame Chair. Liza Rupp, Lake Clark National Park.

13

14 And I have one SRC appointment for the
15 RAC to consider. It's a renewal for Mr. George Alexi
16 of Nondalton. And he is a -- an elder of Nondalton and
17 has been on the SRC -- I'm sorry, I've lost the date,
18 but for a while. I apologize, I don't know the exact
19 date. And he would like to continue if the RAC would
20 reappoint him. So that is -- my request is for a vote
21 on reappointing him to the Lake Clark SRC.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you
26 very much. Any comments, questions, a motion from the
27 Council.

28

29 MR. HILL: Motion.....

30

31 MR. WILSON: Motion to approve.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Is that a
34 motion from Richard to approve.

35

36 MR. WILSON: Yes, it is.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Do I
39 have a second.

40

41 MR. HILL: Lary Hill. Second.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. We've
44 got a motion to approve and a second. Any further
45 discussion.

46

47 MR. HILL: I -- Nanci and Liza, I've
48 known George Alexi all of his life and he spent the
49 majority of it there in the area. And I -- I would

50

1 want him back on the SRC.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Awesome.
4 Thank you, Lary.
5
6 Anybody care to call for the question.
7
8 MR. WILSON: Question.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Question's
11 been called.
12
13 Donald, please go ahead.
14
15 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
16
17 Motion to appoint Mr. George Alexi of
18 Nondalton to another term on the Lake Clark SRC.
19
20 Nanci.
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 MR. MIKE: Nanci, your vote.
25
26 (No comments)
27
28 MR. MIKE: Bill Trefon. Excused.
29
30 Mr. Dunaway.
31
32 (No comments)
33
34 Mr. Hill.
35
36 MR. HILL: Yes.
37
38 MR. MIKE: Mr. Richard Wilson.
39
40 MR. WILSON: Yes.
41
42 MR. MIKE: And Billy Trefon. Excused.
43
44 Nanci, are you still with us?
45
46 (No comments)
47
48 MR. MIKE: Dan Dunaway, you still with
49 us?
50

1 (No comments)

2

3 MR. MIKE: Okay. Let's give Mr.
4 Dunaway and Ms. Chair a minute to dial back in.

5

6 (Off record comments)

7

8 (Teleconference interference -
9 participants not muted)

10

11 MR. MIKE: Hey, Richard, can you mute
12 your phone.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, guys, I
15 got knocked off of the phone. Sorry about that. So
16 I'm on Microsoft teams now. I'm scrambling to try and
17 find the code again to dial back in, but maybe you guys
18 can relay that to somebody who's on the phone.

19

20 MR. MIKE: Okay. Nanci, we were voting
21 on to reappoint George Alexi of Nondalton. Mr. Lary
22 Hill and Richard Wilson voted yes to reappoint him.
23 And Billy Trefon excused. And I think we lost Mr.
24 Dunaway. And we're waiting for your vote.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes.

27

28 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Madame Chair and
29 Donald. This is Dan.

30

31 MR. MIKE: Go ahead, Dan.

32

33 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you. We're
34 having phone and internet problems here. I got knocked
35 off of teams and I can't reconnect and I just got back
36 on.

37

38 I vote in the affirmative of this --
39 this deferment. Yeah, I was -- I think you were going
40 to call me next and everything went black.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 MR. MIKE: Oh, Dan, we already voted on
45 deferring Park Service standard operating procedures
46 and the Council voted yes to defer. Now we're on SRC
47 appointments to reappoint George Alexi of Nondalton to
48 another term on Lake Clark Subsistence Resource
49 Commission.

50

1 And Nanci voted yes to reappoint, Billy
2 Trefon excused, Mr. Lary Hill and Mr. Wilson voted yes
3 to reappoint and we're waiting for your vote.

4
5 MR. DUNAWAY: Oh, I'm sorry. Yeah.
6 Yeah, I got discombobulated. Yes, I support
7 reappointment of Mr. Alexi as well.

8
9 Thank you.

10
11 MR. MIKE: Okay. Thank you, Madame
12 Chair.

13
14 We have four yeses to reappoint Mr.
15 George Alexi to another term and Billy Trefon excused.

16
17 Madame Chair. Thank you.

18
19 Madame Chair, do you hear us, you're on
20 mute?

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 MR. DUNAWAY: Maybe the phone gremlins
25 are getting her too. I'm -- I can't even find a link
26 right now to try to get on teams again.

27
28 Okay.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Can you hear
31 me?

32
33 MR. MIKE: Yeah, Nanci. (Indiscernible
34 - distortion).....

35
36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON:
37 (Indiscernible - distortion).....

38
39 (Off record comments - internet and
40 phone line connection)

41
42 MR. MIKE: Nanci, are you back on?

43
44 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Can
45 you hear me now? Okay. Good.

46
47 MR. MIKE: Yes, Madame Chair. Donald
48 Mike.

49
50

1 I can hear you now. Just to recap we
2 had four yeses and one excused to reappoint George
3 Alexi to another term on the SRC for Lake Clark
4 National Park.

5
6 Thank you, Madame Chair.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
9 Wonderful. Great. I -- yes, and sorry to hear that
10 Dan had phone problems too. The last time when I
11 called in it was not working at all. I got through,
12 but nobody could hear me.

13
14 So anyway we're -- we're back here and
15 we're back together again. We have Richard for about
16 another 15 minutes. Do we -- I guess -- I don't know.

17
18 Do we want to go ahead and do future
19 meeting dates now, Donald, or do we want to back up and
20 start over. We've got most of our action items that
21 I'm aware of taken care of or do we have any more SRC
22 appointments. George was the only one I was aware of.
23 Was there another?

24
25 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald Mike.
26 That was the only request for SRC appointments I
27 received so far.

28
29 And, Richard, what time do you think
30 you'll get back online with us before you travel?

31
32 MR. WILSON: Through the Chair.
33 Donald, a bit foggy right now and we're on a little bit
34 of a hold. I'm not quite sure, but I give it -- I give
35 it about two hours.

36
37 MR. MIKE: Okay. Madame Chair, what is
38 the wish of the Council? We can go with the future
39 meeting dates, set those up.

40
41 Madame Chair. Thank you.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Would
44 everybody be fine with that, I -- I just worry that we
45 will have a quorum later with everybody else's
46 obligations and travel plans.

47
48 So do you guys want to go ahead and
49 pick dates, that should be the last action item we have
50

1 on the agenda. What are your wishes?
2
3 MR. WILSON: Yes, because.....
4
5 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
6
7 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Richard.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. Go
10 ahead, Richard.
11
12 MR. WILSON: I was just informed that I
13 am on hold so I'll -- I'll stay connected here as long
14 as I can.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
17 Awesome. Thank you for that, Richard.
18
19 And I think if you guys -- unless
20 somebody has an objection let's turn to page 110 and
21 111 and those are the fall meeting dates. We usually
22 aren't contentious about this anyway. And those are
23 the dates that we need to pick for next year to have a
24 vote on.
25
26 So right now, Donald, I guess I should
27 hand this over to you because right now I believe from
28 what this shows we're supposed to be meeting February
29 9th and 10th for our winter meeting; is that correct?
30
31 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald Mike.
32 Yes, that is correct. The Council's next winter
33 meeting is set for February 9th and 10th in Naknek
34 depending on the Covid situation. And if the Council
35 wish to confirm that we can go -- go with that pre-
36 consensus.
37
38 Madame Chair.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. What
41 are the wishes of the Council, do those dates still
42 work for those of you that are online?
43
44 MR. DUNAWAY: Dan here. Works for me.
45
46 MR. HILL: Lary Hill here. Yes, go for
47 it.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
50

1 Richard.

2

3

MR. WILSON: Yes.

4

5

6

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. We'll confirm the 9th and 10th. I don't believe we have to vote on that because we already did.

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

And then for winter or excuse me, for fall 2021 meeting dates, there's the calendar right there. I'll just put it out there because it's usually me that screws up the winter one now that Kenny isn't with us anymore, but for me it pretty much has to be after the 20th of October. But other than that I can be available.

16

17

18

19

MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald Mike. If -- are you saying that you can meet after the October 20th meeting -- dates?

20

21

22

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: That is correct.

23

24

25

MR. MIKE: Okay. Thank you, Madame Chair.

26

27

28

29

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes.

30

31

32

MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair, Donald. Dan here.

33

34

35

36

37

38

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead, Dan.

39

40

41

42

MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I kind of like this late time because it frees up all of that more fun time of the year to outside playing. I'd go for October 26, 27 or 27, 28, whatever works for others.

43

44

45

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Lary, Richard, you got a preference?

46

47

48

49

50

MR. HILL: Madame Chair. This is Lary Hill. I'm looking at any of those dates, 26, 27, 28. No, just make a date and if we can stick to it, if not we'll do it again.

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
2 Sounds good.
3
4 Richard.
5
6 MR. WILSON: Yes, Madame Chair. As
7 long as it doesn't fall on the last Tuesday of the
8 month because I have other meetings then.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Let's
11 go with the 27th and 28th.
12
13 MR. WILSON: Sounds good.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Are
16 you okay with that, Donald?
17
18 MR. MIKE: Yes, I'm okay with that.
19 And sounds like we got a consensus from the Council for
20 fall -- winter 20 -- excuse me, fall, 2021 Regional
21 Advisory Council meeting, October 27th and 28th
22 tentatively scheduled for Dillingham, correct?
23
24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: That is
25 correct.
26
27 MR. MIKE: Okay, Madame Chair. Donald
28 Mike. Yes, October 27 and 28, Bristol Bay Council in
29 Dillingham.
30
31 Thank you.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
34 you. Thank you, Council members.
35
36 Okay. So with that let's back up and,
37 Richard, since you and Lary are most time sensitive,
38 let's have you guys do your Council member reports and
39 if we get Billy back online we'll have him give his
40 this afternoon.
41
42 Richard, you want to go first?
43
44 MR. WILSON: I can. Thank you, Madame
45 Chair. A little difficult here, I'm -- I think I'm on
46 the move -- on the move here. But not a whole lot
47 different than what everybody else is seeing I don't
48 think. You know, these are just challenging times.
49
50

1 And we are, you know, as far as the
2 ptarmigan is concerned we're seeing more ptarmigan and
3 more hares. So that's a plus. You know, and of course
4 our fishery, you know, into the -- into our systems
5 there that we're familiar with, they're doing -- are
6 doing very well. And still staying on top of, you
7 know, the -- our monitoring stuff with the chinook and
8 other species there is much appreciated.

9
10 You know, the fall hunt, the moose
11 hunt, a lot of people seem to have scored on the moose.
12 I don't really hear of any big ones, any older ones, a
13 lot of them are, you know -- you know, four -- three,
14 four year olds. And caribou, just occasional that I've
15 heard. And the ones that were gotten were all healthy
16 looking.

17
18 So that's about all I got for this --
19 on the move here.

20
21 Thanks.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No, thank
24 you, Richard. I appreciate it.

25
26 And, Lary, you want to go ahead and
27 give us your report.

28
29 MR. HILL: Okay, Madame Chair, members
30 of the Council.

31
32 As far as ptarmigan goes there's been a
33 few more coming back to the south end of Iliamna Lake
34 and the (indiscernible - distortion) upper
35 (indiscernible - distortion) area, but they're very
36 small groups, maybe 10, 15, you know, really widely
37 scattered.

38
39 Moose, same here. It just so happened
40 that they're -- actually one of the moose was taken
41 high up in the mountains and then secondly the local
42 moose were -- we just happened to run up on them by
43 accident and strangely enough it was -- these moose
44 were hunted by people who rarely ever went out hunting
45 or barely even knew how to harvest a moose, but they
46 were able to get one. We actually had a moose
47 harvested right in the middle of our -- in Iliamna
48 here, just somebody happened to be driving down the
49 road with their -- with their rifle and license and a
50

1 target of opportunity.

2

3 Caribou, there are -- there are still
4 some that return to the area, small -- I think maybe 10
5 or 15 in a group. And they all seem to be in real good
6 shape.

7

8 Of course we see a lot of bears. And
9 there happen to be groups of them showing up where they
10 usually don't. What do you call a bunch of bears, are
11 they are a herd or a gaggle or what do we call them?

12

13 MR. DUNAWAY: Slew.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Trouble.
16 Trouble.

17

18 MR. HILL: Anyway other than that
19 there's lots of mosquitos, but that's all I have.

20

21 Thank you.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
24 you, Lary.

25

26 Dan, do you want to do yours?

27

28 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
29 Yeah, first starting out fishing. In the spring we had
30 a heck of a run with a lot of small ones. Several
31 folks mentioned we had kings the size of reds and reds
32 the size of pinks. I took a lot of fish this year
33 compared to normal with all of the chaos and concern
34 for Covid. I'm glad for the commercial folks. I think
35 subsistence folks did well. I'm kind of excited that a
36 proposal was adopted over here to allow subsistence dip
37 netting for salmon and there's a group that uses that
38 in the fall for silvers. Some of them admitted to me
39 that they'd been doing it for years and didn't know
40 that they weren't allowed to until a couple years ago.
41 So I'm really tickled to accommodate folks like that.

42

43 I'm not -- because of the lack of a
44 biologist here gathering things I'm not clear on the
45 success for moose though people I know did well and we
46 caught a moose in a place I've hunted hard for years
47 and only seen cows, but there was a little bull and we
48 got a freezer full now.

49

50

1 People are smelting right now.

2

3 People did enjoy the Nushagak caribou
4 hunt on the Peninsula last spring, but there's some
5 interesting anomalies there where there's a lot more
6 caribou missing than the harvest tickets account for.
7 I'm eager to hear the Togiak Refuge folks on that.

8

9 I do kind of question whether some of
10 this predator management stuff is working or not. I
11 also start wondering if there's some other source of
12 mortality that we just haven't expected. I'll talk
13 about that later. But something else I'm still
14 concerned about the Mulchatna herd being so sparse.

15

16 And berries were intermittently pres --
17 prevalent or not. My favorite berry picking place had
18 nothing in it by the time I got out there. And I don't
19 think anybody else except maybe bears pick there.
20 Other people are finding bumper crops, but also spotty.

21

22 Then we have -- still have bears in
23 town. I heard friends last night talking that bears
24 are prowling. We're kind of eager for them to find a
25 hole and go to sleep.

26

27 So that's all.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
32 Dan.

33

34 Yeah, as the Chair I guess I -- my
35 regional report is -- pretty much mirrors Richard's.
36 We've got ptarmigan back over by me again too, very
37 happy to see that. And actually the spruce hens seem
38 to be real thick this year compared to the past several
39 years. So it seems like those hatched out pretty well
40 as well.

41

42 Berries, we did very well, very large,
43 very nice. We had good berry picking.

44

45 Then I also participated in the Federal
46 Subsistence Board this spring. And -- and it's --
47 these meetings are just very difficult especially on
48 the statewide board level. That was incredibly
49 difficult to stay engaged and participate. The books

50

1 that they send you are inches thick and, you know, just
2 volumes and volumes of information. But these are
3 strange times so I guess we all just have to learn how
4 to readjust and how to learn how to cope and I look
5 forward to a time when we can again meet face to face.
6 I feel like our meetings are more meaningful and we get
7 better input. I'm already missing and I feel like we
8 have no public input and we're not, you know, receiving
9 comments and questions from the public like we normally
10 do. And I find those very valuable to our meeting.

11
12 So I guess for my comments is just that
13 I do think these are difficult times, I appreciate you
14 guys hanging in there and trying to do meetings by
15 phone. And if you can get on Microsoft teams, I think
16 that this is helpful, there's no doubt. And I guess
17 let's hope that things get under control soon and we
18 can get back to things being at least somewhat what
19 they used to be and finding a new norm.

20
21 With that being said we'll have the
22 other Council members that are able to check back in
23 with us when we reconvene once we do take a break that
24 we'll go ahead and get their reports as well.

25
26 Am I missing anything on that, Donald?

27
28 MR. MIKE: No, Madame Chair. We're
29 good here.

30
31 So that was all the action -- action
32 items on our agenda to address for this public meeting.
33 So I just want to remind you that if there's any public
34 or tribal comment on agenda items we can accept those
35 as well.

36
37 Thank you, Madame Chair.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: And that was
40 exactly what I was going to ask you next is how are we
41 going to -- how do we identify those, did you -- have
42 you developed a method, are they -- is something
43 notifying you, is there -- do we have something in
44 place for that?

45
46 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, with this
47 teleconference and Microsoft teams meetings it's very
48 difficult to try to gauge how people want to be engaged
49 in this Council meeting.

50

1 But if we have public in teleconference
2 or Microsoft teams that wish to provide comments,
3 please state your name and the organization.

4
5 Thank you, Madame Chair.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. That
8 -- that sounds like a good -- a good middle way to get
9 there since we don't have a better one.

10
11 So everybody that's on -- if we have
12 any public that are on, I applaud you for being on and
13 participating and encourage you to let us know when you
14 might have a comment or a question and I will do my
15 very best to recognize you and allow you be to heard.
16 And again thanks for participating.

17
18 Okay.

19
20 So let's move on then to old business.
21 That's you, Donald, .805(c) report. You got your hand
22 up, Donald, go ahead.

23
24 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, can you hear
25 me?

26
27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I can.

28
29 MR. MIKE: (No audible response)

30
31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
32 you, Donald.

33
34 So everybody on the phone, Donald just
35 lost feed, just got dropped off like I did a little bit
36 ago. And he's dialing back in so please stand by.

37
38 (Off record comments - phone and
39 internet connection)

40
41 MR. MIKE: Hey, Nanci, sorry. I found
42 out if you dial in too fast the phone won't accept it
43 so I had to go real slow.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

46
47 MR. MIKE: I'm back, Madame Chair.
48 Sorry, I got disconnected.

49
50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
2 Donald. The floor is yours.

3
4 MR. MIKE: Where are we at? I'm sorry
5 I missed part of the discussion where the floor is mine
6 now.

7
8 Madame Chair.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Oh, I'm
11 sorry. We moved on to old business and we're looking
12 for the .805(c) report from you.

13
14 MR. MIKE: Oh, okay. Give me a second
15 here.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Sure. And
18 the working group update will be next. So those are --
19 you'll kind of have it for the next couple items here.

20
21 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
22 Donald Mike, Council coordinator.

23
24 The .805(c) report, you can find it on
25 page 13 in your reading materials. The Federal
26 Subsistence Board met on April 20 to 23 and April 27th
27 by teleconference. And the Board out of 50 -- 54
28 proposals that were submitted, one proposal, WP20-21
29 was withdrawn by the proponent. And the Board deferred
30 WP20-26 allowing the use of snowmachine to assist in
31 positioning wolves or wolverines in units 9B, 9C, 17B
32 and 17C until its summer 2020 work session.

33
34 And on the consensus agenda proposals
35 the Board adopted WP20-28/29, requesting that the bull
36 moose season be extended by five days and add an
37 antlerless moose season in unit 17A and WP20-31
38 requesting the harvest limit for ptarmigan in unit 9 be
39 decreased and shorten the season. And the Board
40 rejected a statewide proposal, WP20-08 requiring traps
41 or snares to be marked with name or state
42 identification number.

43
44 And the remaining proposals the Board
45 adopted WP20-27 requesting a unit specific regulation
46 for unit 17 allowing use of snowmachines to assist in
47 the taking of caribou. And the Board rejected WP20-30
48 requesting that the Alaska hare season in unit 9 be
49 shortened and reduce the harvest limit.

50

1 On wildlife closure review the Board's
2 action adopted wildlife closure review 20-04 and 20-06
3 with the OSM modification to rescind Federal public
4 lands closing portions of unit 9C draining into the
5 Naknek River from the north and Graveyard Creek and
6 Coffee Creek and to retain Federal public lands
7 closures in unit 9C remainder and unit 9E.

8
9 Thank you, Madame Chair. And that's
10 the .805(c) report. You can find it in your meeting
11 materials starting on page 13.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. Thank
14 you very much, Donald.

15
16 And does anybody have questions for
17 Donald on that. We're going to have an update on the
18 working group with the positioning of animal discussion
19 next. So hold your questions on that, please, but did
20 anybody have any questions about any of the other
21 actions that were taken at our statewide Board meeting
22 earlier this year?

23
24 (No comments)

25
26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Then,
27 Donald, let's go ahead and get an update on the working
28 group for animal positioning.

29
30 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
31 Donald Mike, Council coordinator. And I'll have Robbin
32 LaVine stand by for further technical assistance on
33 this subject.

34
35 WP20-26 was deferred at the April 2020
36 public meeting via teleconference and the Board
37 requested a working group be formed and give us some
38 regulatory language on the definition of positioning of
39 animals, particularly wolves and wolverines.

40
41 The working group met in July and
42 discussed the positioning of animals. And the bottom
43 line from the working group was to hunt the working
44 group needed further guidance from the Solicitor's
45 Office and the Board on regulatory language between the
46 Park Service, BLM and Fish and Wildlife Service
47 regulations addressing positioning of animals in those
48 units as specified.

49
50

1 Robbin, do you have anything else to
2 add?

3
4 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
5 Donald, through the Chair. I was prepared to support
6 both you and Lisa Maas who is our acting policy
7 coordinator.

8
9 Lisa, are you on and are you prepared
10 to present on this item?

11
12 MS. MAAS: Hi, Robbin. This is Lisa
13 Maas, the acting policy coordinator for OSM and I'm
14 listening. I was more prepared to answer any questions
15 than present on the issue.

16
17 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Donald. Thank
18 you, Lisa. This is Robbin.

19
20 I believe at this point in time we're
21 kind of in a holding pattern. We were prepared to meet
22 before the Council to make some further progress, but
23 we ran into some hiccups in regards to how we
24 participate as a group of interested people. And so
25 what I do understand is that we want to meet again as a
26 group and that official members of this group can be
27 agency representatives and -- both Federal and State
28 and official members of this group can also be our
29 vetted Council members. Any other people who are
30 attending are people who we value for their input to
31 support our discussion, but they are not official
32 members of the working group.

33
34 So that's the last point that I'm --
35 you know, I'm kind of aware of. We're in a holding
36 pattern as far as how we proceed, but we do want to
37 meet again so that we can discuss some of these
38 important issues. And I think based on some of our
39 discussions when we were all together we were really
40 interested on taking our time on this issue. It's
41 important, it has statewide implications and that's my
42 summary of the circumstances and where we stand.

43
44 Thank you, Madame Chair.

45
46 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
49 Donald.

50

1 MR. MIKE: Yes, as Ms. LaVine stated
2 that we had some hiccups on this working group
3 formation and she clarified that State and Federal
4 staff can be part of the working group and also members
5 Nanci Morris and Dan Dunaway can be on this working
6 group. And the public are certainly invited to
7 participate through providing comments to the working
8 group. And so now, you know, we're at a pause right
9 now and I -- they'd like to meet and discuss our next
10 strategy thinking that or considering our past comments
11 or discussions and continue forward in trying to
12 develop recommended language for the Federal
13 Subsistence Board to continue. But this working group,
14 we can certainly meet and regroup and move forward.

15
16 Thank you, Madame Chair.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
19 you, Donald.

20
21 Yeah, Robbin, did you have another
22 comment you wanted to make?

23
24 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
25 And yeah, actually Donald really covered it. You know,
26 aside from the structure of the participants or the
27 official participants of the working group, the reason
28 why we wanted to present this update to you is that of
29 course is that you, the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory
30 Council, are the proponent of this proposal. I believe
31 you were seeking some input from this gathering or from
32 the group of folks that met. And because we're not
33 quite there, we're not quite there at the point where
34 we have substantive language as suggested by the
35 participants and members of the public who attended to
36 inform the working group that we continue in this
37 holding pattern and meet again. Deferral of this
38 wildlife proposal can continue beyond our next Council
39 meeting and it may be that this Bristol Bay Regional
40 Advisory Council would like to direct staff to support
41 another working group with notice to the public to
42 attend and that we can do so between now and the next
43 time this Council meets.

44
45 And, Lisa and Donald, if I'm not quite
46 accurate in my procedures please let me know.

47
48 Thanks.

49
50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Dan,
2 did you want to add anything.

3
4 MS. MAAS: Madame Chair.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, go
7 ahead, Lisa.

8
9 MS. MAAS: This is Lisa. I just wanted
10 to clarify that the Council is as far as the working
11 group membership and establishment goes, the Council
12 doesn't need to do anything regarding that aspect. Of
13 course we're -- you know, as Robbin mentioned that's a
14 proponent of a proposal and a -- you know,
15 knowledgeable about the area and this practice. You
16 know, we certainly welcome your comments, but as far as
17 the working group establishment goes there's no action
18 needed on the behalf of the Council.

19
20 Thanks.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, I
23 think I was fully aware of that, Lisa.

24
25 Thank you.

26
27 Dan, did you have anything that you'd
28 like to add?

29
30 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. I was kind of
31 surprised by this concern of who participated. I think
32 at our last meeting it was helpful to have folks though
33 we -- there were some sidetracking and -- and some
34 confusion, but there was also some good ideas. Is it
35 -- and I'm -- I've gotten some ideas after reflecting
36 on that meeting. Is -- would it be inappropriate to
37 talk about any details of that, I don't have many of
38 them clear in my head, but just to fulfill -- fill in
39 the other members or should we just wait and carry on
40 with the working group?

41
42 Okay.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah. No,
45 Dan, my whole idea with having Donald give us an update
46 on this working group was to let the Council members
47 know where we're at. This is our proposal and I was
48 interested in hearing anything that they might have to
49 add or other thoughts that they might have for us to

50

1 move forward on. So please go ahead with that. And I
2 would add, I mean, I was -- I was not pleased at all
3 with the Solicitor's comment on who could participate
4 in this. We need BBNA folks, we need our public folks.
5 We -- this is for them and we need their participation
6 working group or no working group. As a member of the
7 working group I don't intend to move forward without
8 their participation. I don't care what the Solicitor
9 says. Yeah, I would be listening to them and that is
10 how we would be moving forward.

11

12 So go ahead, Dan.

13

14 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thanks. I -- I
15 thought it was helpful to have BBNA listening in and
16 commenting some. We also had Robert Sundown who is a
17 staff member up in Y-K Delta Refuge office, I think
18 he's a pilot now, he used to be law enforcement. And
19 he explained how the positioning issue with the wolf or
20 wolverine work up there. And the short version is they
21 tend to just defer to State rules and don't have a lot
22 of rules. And I'm starting to wonder if that might be
23 the simplest thing for us to do over here. And I'm
24 kind of hoping that that idea catches hold at the next
25 working group meeting because otherwise we seem to get
26 wrapped around the axle in the Federal rules

27

28 So it was kind of a -- a bit of a
29 wandering discussion at the last meeting and I got
30 confused a few times, but I'm hoping that at this next
31 meeting that the Federal agencies can maybe further
32 confirm that the interpretation the Y-K Delta staff
33 uses for positioning wolf and wolverine would work
34 other places and maybe we can avoid another line in the
35 reg books for the Feds. I mean, that's the short
36 version, but it's what I think very much accommodates
37 the desires of the people over here.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, and --
42 and, you know, I mean, for my two cents on the working
43 group as well, that was my takeaway from it too is we
44 may -- we may be able to come up with a simpler
45 solution than -- than what we've -- what we've tried to
46 work with here. And as I think we've all said as a
47 group even is the less rules the better. We don't need
48 to have a regulation, if it's not -- if we can steer
49 clear of it we will.

50

1 So if there's any comments, Lary or
2 Richard, on what you've heard, that's where we're at
3 with the working group. We -- from what we heard from
4 the Y-K Delta we had some thoughts that possibly moving
5 forward we may be able to disband or whatever happens
6 we'll bring it back to you as soon as the decision is
7 made.

8
9 And, Donald, let's make sure we have it
10 on the spring agenda or the winter calendar agenda as
11 well so we can update if we've been able to meet
12 between now and then and we -- any progress that was
13 made or even if no progress was made.

14
15 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
18 Donald.

19
20 MR. MIKE: Yes, if the working group --
21 I would like the working group to convene with the
22 guidance from our Solicitor's Office of who can be
23 members of the working group. You know, the working
24 group can meet in the next couple of months and if the
25 working group agrees to a meeting date, you know, our
26 office -- OSM, Office of Subsistence Management, can
27 send out notices to the public that they are invited to
28 call into this working group and provide comments and
29 testimony. And this working group can take those
30 comments and testimony as a guidance or -- as a
31 guidance for them to use in developing regulatory
32 language for positioning of animals.

33
34 Thank you, Madame Chair.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah,
37 absolutely. Thank you, Donald. That's -- I would -- I
38 would appreciate very much if notice would be -- make
39 sure to be sent out because we've had some very public
40 following, I mean, as well as, you know, including
41 BBNA. And it's definitely been a steering for the
42 committee so I appreciate that.

43
44 But, Richard and Lary, I -- did you
45 have any comments or thoughts or any wish to
46 participate as well. There's always room for more and
47 I would welcome you on it. Again this is -- I think
48 Robbin made a good point when she said what we're doing
49 here is going to have statewide implications,

50

1 everybody's watching this very carefully to see where
2 we go with it and what ends up as our final product.
3 And I'll guarantee you we will be seeing it in other
4 locations once that's done. So, you know, the more
5 brains we have that are valuable input, the merrier we
6 are.

7
8 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. Nanci, I'd
9 say continue with the working group and appreciate any
10 chance to participate.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

15
16 MR. WILSON: And I mirror that thought,
17 Nanci.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
20 you, Richard, I appreciate that.

21
22 Okay. I imagine everybody's getting
23 hungry by now, I know I'm always accused of starving
24 people to death or not allowing enough breaks.

25
26 Donald, do you think we should go ahead
27 and take a break and do agency reports this afternoon,
28 I can't believe we've flown through this agenda this
29 quickly. But seeing how we're strapped on members I'm
30 rather glad at least we got through the stuff that I
31 really felt the motions -- the action items were taken
32 care of and I'm grateful for that. Do you have any
33 suggestions for a break and when we should reconvene,
34 do you know -- have an idea of when Molly might have
35 been able to be available?

36
37 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Yes, we can
38 take a break for now. You know, we have -- currently
39 we have seven members that are seated on this Council
40 and for a quorum to be maintained we need four members.
41 So it looks like we'll at least have that threshold for
42 a quorum membership. But I'll follow-up with Molly to
43 see if she'll be able to join us this afternoon. And I
44 believe Billy Trefon will be joining us after lunch, is
45 that correct, and we'll still have a quorum.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Then
48 does 1:30 sound good to everybody, is that enough of a
49 safety margin? Okay. I'm getting some thumbs up. We
50

1 can go for 1:30 then, that gives us a little over an
2 hour, not a lot over an hour, but a little over an
3 hour. So we'll reconvene at 1:30 Alaska time and go on
4 pause for now.

5
6 MR. WILSON: Thanks, Nanci.

7
8 MR. HILL: Nanci, this is Lary Hill. I
9 don't know if I'll -- if I called in at 1:30 I'm
10 available, if I don't then I'm not.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Understood,
13 Lary. And I appreciate your time this morning.

14
15 Richard, you have safe travels.

16
17 MR. WILSON: Thank you.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
20 guys.

21
22 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Safe travels,
23 Richard. Thanks for all the input.

24
25 MR. WILSON: And you too, Dan.

26
27 (Off record)

28
29 (On record)

30
31 MR. MIKE: Okay. Nanci, this is Donald
32 Mike.

33
34 Council members, I just spoke with Lary
35 Hill, I -- I neglected to inform you or we forgot that
36 he had prior commitments this afternoon with his
37 community dealing with the pandemic. We have Richard
38 Wilson and Billy Trefon on teleconference line and we
39 have you and Dan Dunaway on Microsoft teams also.

40
41 So just for the Council members, I just
42 want to notify you that Molly Chythlook who's been a
43 long time member on this Council and this would be her
44 last meeting. And she did not reapply for a seat on
45 the Council so this would be her last meeting. So I
46 just want to acknowledge to Molly and Joe Chythlook for
47 their unselfish contribution to the subsistence
48 program. Thank you, Molly.

49
50

1 MR. DUNAWAY: That family's put a lot
2 of time in on this Federal subsistence stuff. It's a
3 huge darn shame that we're all isolated and we can't
4 give her hugs and maybe some sort of a more -- a better
5 acknowledgement. Darn, I wish I would have realized
6 that ahead of time.

7
8 Thanks, Donald.

9
10 MR. MIKE: Yes, thank you, Mr. Dunaway.

11
12 You know, it's just hard to do business
13 on teleconference and with the pandemic going on
14 reducing us to meeting online and various technology
15 communications. But here's my thoughts. When we meet
16 in Dillingham we can properly acknowledge her
17 contribution to this Council in her community on
18 important subsistence issues.

19
20 So with that, Madame Chair.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
23 you, Donald. I got knocked off so I just now got back
24 on. I don't know if I was supposed to be aware of
25 anything.

26
27 (No comments)

28
29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. So if
30 not then let's go ahead with our reports and it says
31 tribal governments first. So do we have any tribal
32 government reports?

33
34 MS. HOSETH: Hey, Madame Chair, this is
35 Gayla Hoseth with BBNA.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Hi, Gayla,
38 and happy birthday.

39
40 MS. HOSETH: That -- that would -- oh,
41 thanks. I spend my birthday every year with -- I guess
42 it wouldn't be tribal governments I guess. Do I wait
43 until after, maybe there might be tribes on the phone.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Donald.

46
47 MS. HOSETH: I could wait if there's
48 any tribes that are on.

49
50

1 MR. MIKE: Yes, this is Donald.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
4 Donald, yeah, do you actually -- maybe we should do
5 another roll call of who's on the phone so we do know
6 who we've got online, please.

7

8 MR. MIKE: Okay. This is another roll
9 call for the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council.

10

11 Ms. Nanci Morris Lyon.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Here.

14

15 MR. MIKE: Mr. Trefon, Billy Trefon.

16

17 MR. TREFON: Here.

18

19 MR. MIKE: Mr. Dunaway.

20

21 MR. DUNAWAY: Yes, here.

22

23 MR. MIKE: Mr. Lary Hill. Madame
24 Chair. Mr Hill has other commitments this afternoon in
25 his community. So he's excused for the remainder of
26 the afternoon.

27

28 Mr. Richard Wilson.

29

30 MR. WILSON: Here.

31

32 MR. MIKE: Okay. Thank you. Madame
33 Chair, we have four members, we're ready to go.

34

35 Thank you.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Awesome.
38 Okay. Good. Do you know if we have any tribal
39 governments that are ready to give reports, Donald, or
40 can we have Gayla start hers?

41

42 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald. I
43 did not receive any requests for tribal presentations,
44 but we can go with BBNA.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

49

Great.

50

1 Please, Gayla, proceed.

2
3 MS. HOSETH: Okay. Thank you, Madame
4 Chair and members of the Council. Sorry I jumped the
5 gun there, I didn't have the agenda in front of me and
6 just wanted to make sure that I had a chance to report.

7
8 Just so you guys know, BBNA, we're in
9 phase two of our medication plan so we've all been
10 working from home since March of 2020 this year. And
11 we're continuing to work from home for our natural
12 resource -- natural resources department and we are
13 available just as always. We're just a phone call away
14 for any issues for any Federal subsistence regulatory
15 changes.

16
17 We have been a part of the working
18 group that you guys were talking about earlier for the
19 positioning of wolves and wolverines and that has been
20 an interesting working group and I hope that we can
21 continue even if we're -- as a part of public for
22 participation on that because this is an -- been an
23 issue that we've been working on for at least three
24 years now. And I guess the main takeaway that I have
25 from that working group, what I learned is that I
26 really wasn't aware that as a hunter when you're going
27 out to hunt on Federal land that you get to choose
28 which regulations that you're going to abide by, either
29 State or Federal regulation. And that was something
30 new that I think we should maybe have a workshop on
31 here at the RAC to kind of educate the public of how
32 this process really works, how do State regulations
33 impact Federal regulations when we're going out hunting
34 on Federal land. Because that was something that I
35 wasn't aware of and I think that some of the people on
36 the phone of that working group weren't aware of that.
37 And that -- that's something we're going to be working
38 on to get better clarification on at BBNA and help and
39 assist in educating the public on that -- just on that
40 issue by itself.

41
42 So not much more to report. Cody might
43 have some things to report on to the RAC for a part of
44 BBNA, but that's pretty much what we have. Everything
45 is different nowadays, we're doing a lot of Zoom calls,
46 teams meetings and teleconference, but our doors are
47 still open by the phone and we are available.

48
49 That's all I have, Madame Chair.

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
2 you very much, Gayla. Yeah, that was -- I am leaning
3 towards your same direction of having some sort of a --
4 once we get this whole thing -- once the working group
5 concludes, I think that's the best way to put it, I
6 agree and I think that the input from BBNA has been
7 essential to this working group which is why I feel
8 like my nose kind of got pushed out of joint when the
9 Solicitor decided to make it clear that you couldn't be
10 an official part of the working group. I want you to
11 know that in my opinion you are an official part of the
12 working group.

13
14 So that being said it -- we're learning
15 a lot in this working group that I think would be
16 valuable for other Boards to be aware of. I don't -- I
17 won't say that I was surprised, but I don't think I was
18 aware that that was what I was doing when I went out
19 hunting is putting on whichever hat suited me best at
20 the time. So I was surprised to hear it and realized I
21 was doing it and was aware of it, but anyway that --
22 that's -- I think that that's one of the things that we
23 should consider bringing out to the public as well as
24 the other RACs around the State. I think it's
25 something that should be contemplated and realized by
26 them in their areas as well.

27
28 So I thank you for that, Gayla.

29
30 And not to hog the time here, anybody
31 else have any comments or questions for Gayla on her
32 report?

33
34 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
37 Dan.

38
39 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you, Madame
40 Chair.

41
42 Gayla, were you able to hear me talking
43 about some of the options that I think are available to
44 us about maybe avoiding more Federal rules and just
45 figuring out like you say how to work with the State
46 rules. What do you think of that idea?

47
48 Okay.

49
50

1 MS. HOSETH: Through the Chair. I
2 didn't. I had to go off and on, I had multiple
3 different meetings today so I don't know if I captured
4 the comments on that. I think it's something that we
5 need to look into. You know, it's all confusing and
6 but I guess we had some clarity. And my computer just
7 died, but I pulled up the State regs that you could
8 position the hunter right now for unit 17 for -- to
9 take a -- to harvest a wolf on a stationary
10 snowmachine.

11
12 So, you know, that's legal on State --
13 on State lands. And so a person legally could at least
14 do that portion of it right now on Federal lands. So I
15 just want to make it easier for the person who's going
16 out to be able to understand this dual regulatory
17 system that we live in.

18
19 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, right. Well, I
20 just -- after that last working group meeting, you
21 know, I just started wondering is kind of follow the
22 lead of Y-K Delta. And, you know, they just kind of
23 defer to the State on this issue and if -- you know, if
24 that will work for here it might save us a whole, you
25 know, ball of wax of bothering with the Federal
26 Subsistence Board. And, you know, we might need to
27 talk to the Refuge guys here, kind of get their take on
28 it. And -- and I think they probably have time to talk
29 to the Y-K Delta and kind of at the next working group
30 maybe kind of clarify what we can do there. But yeah,
31 if it's -- if we don't need to do anything with the
32 Federal regs and just work with the State and get a
33 clear interpretation hopefully the problem would be
34 more easily solved.

35
36 I just kind of was hoping you could
37 think about that. And my picture isn't entirely clear
38 on that either, but it seems like a possible avenue I
39 wanted to bring up.

40
41 Thanks, Gayla.

42
43 MS. HOSETH: Yeah, and if I can, Madame
44 Chair, I mean, you know, just for follow-up, this whole
45 positioning with the use of a snowmachine --
46 positioning the animal with the use of a snowmachine
47 has really broadened my education on the whole -- on
48 everything.

49
50

1 And then one of the other issues that
2 we're working on also is to make sure that ANILCA is
3 being followed at the Federal Subsistence Board. I
4 mean, we haven't given up on those answers from that
5 either when the Federal agencies go to vote on the
6 proposals that they're -- that they're following
7 ANILCA. And because that from what we could see that
8 isn't happening and with that proposal that got passed
9 here in April or the spring meeting at the Federal
10 Subsistence Board where it passed unanimously, the
11 position caribou with the use of a snowmachine after,
12 you know, three years prior it failed.

13
14 And kind of rewinding back a little
15 bit, you know the Board of Game met on that proposal in
16 February, it passed at the Board of Game. Then we had
17 the Federal Subsistence Board meeting which it would
18 have been legal for people to position caribou with the
19 use of a snowmachine by following State regs, but that
20 just wasn't told to anybody.

21
22 So there's a lot of confusion out there
23 and I just want to get things clarified so that we
24 could have a clearer picture.

25
26 Thank you.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah. No,
29 absolutely, Gayla. I think -- I think we're -- you're
30 going down the right path, another reason why your
31 input is so valuable to us on the working group and why
32 I intend to keep us making use of it for as long as you
33 will assist us with it. And we appreciate it.

34
35 MS. HOSETH: Yeah. Thank you, Nanci,
36 and members of the Council.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Any
39 other questions from other Council members?

40
41 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Madame Chair. This
42 isn't a question, but this is Suzanne Green at Lake
43 Clark National Park and Preserve again.

44
45 I do just want one point of
46 clarification again for the National Park Service. I
47 know that this previous discussion really has centered
48 a lot around the Refuges and they should definitely
49 jump in to clarify on their side. But on the Park
50

1 Service side the State versus Federal applies if those
2 are consistent. If they are not consistent then the
3 Federal regulations for hunting in preserves is the
4 primary. And so the statement from the Fish and
5 Wildlife Service I just want to clarify applies to Fish
6 and Wildlife Service, not the National Park Service.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Yes,
9 that's a good point. A good point -- a good thing to
10 point out.

11
12 Thank you, Suzanne.

13
14 MR. LARSON: Madame Chair, this is Cody
15 Larson. And if I can have a few minutes I'd like to
16 provide a few more updates with BBNA.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I would love
19 that, Cody. Please go ahead.

20
21 MR. LARSON: Great. Thanks. So I was
22 looking through the meeting minutes of this last winter
23 and it may have been something I overlooked with
24 updating the Council with regard to a FRMP funded
25 project documenting the sharing networks of subsistence
26 area M and on the Alaska Peninsula. And that was a
27 2016 priority information need. And that's -- the
28 final product was published in February. It was a lot
29 of fun and a lot of work in collaboration with a really
30 great team from Oregon State University and the
31 Division of Subsistence. So that's -- that product is
32 available of course online and the communities reviewed
33 the data and information and that publication's
34 available.

35
36 So I just wanted to update you on that
37 one.

38
39 I believe the 2018 priority information
40 need for dolly varden assessment is in the Subsistence
41 Division update comments so I'll skip that.

42
43 And a quick update with BBNA's efforts
44 in the Chignik area is the Board of Directors Fish and
45 Game Committee. The BBNA Board of Directors Fish and
46 Game Committee has recently formed a task force as a
47 subcommittee to that committee and it's going to be
48 assessing strategies for rebuilding those salmon stocks
49 in the Chignik area. Some of the initial thoughts for
50

1 that task force is possibly formalizing a watershed
2 council and requesting a Board of Fish working group
3 which is something that's done with Board of Game and
4 Board of Fish or the formation of an intertribal fish
5 commission which is done in other areas of the State.
6

7 So those are a couple of quick updates
8 to some of the things that we're working on at BBNA.
9 There are others. The -- you know, the intern -- the
10 summer intern program was not in person this year. It
11 was an interesting weekly meetings with students with
12 the ANSEP Program and guest lecturers. I think there
13 are some online that were guest lecturers. And I
14 appreciate all of the -- you know, the cooperation with
15 the agencies both in the past in person interns and
16 these online forums. This summer I hope to be doing
17 some more in person internships next summer, we'll see
18 how that goes.

19
20 But for now that's some of the things
21 that's going on with BBNA.

22
23 I can take any questions.

24
25 Thank you, Madame Chair.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah. No,
28 thank you very much, Cody.

29
30 Anybody have any questions or comments.

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Very
35 good. Any other Native organizations that would care
36 to give us a report?

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Then
41 let's move on to Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska
42 Peninsula/Chignik area.

43
44 John Gerken, are you presenting?

45
46 MR. GERKEN: Yeah, good afternoon,
47 Madame Chair, members of the Council. My name is John
48 Gerken, I work for the Fish and Wildlife Service based
49 in Anchorage. I am the Federal in-season manager for
50

1 Bristol Bay, Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands and
2 that would include Chignik as well. Most of my
3 attention goes toward Chignik and so I do have a
4 summary I was going to read on the record, but I'd
5 primarily like to focus on Chignik with my 15 minutes
6 and then as part of that I would like to circle back
7 and talk about some of the PINs that you guys have
8 identified and just make a few comments on that. And
9 then my counterpart from ADF&G is also on the line,
10 Ross Renick, and I think he would also like to add a
11 few points on the PINs as well. And I know there were
12 a -- was a little bit of discussion among the RAC
13 members on that specific to Chignik.

14
15 So if we can I'll add our two cents and
16 we'll go from there.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: That sounds
19 good. Please proceed.

20
21 MR. GERKEN: Thank you, Madame Chair.
22 So I guess the first thing I want to -- you know, I
23 want to acknowledge is, you know, within my
24 jurisdiction as a Federal manager all of the
25 assessments on salmon returns are conducted by the
26 Alaska Department of Fish and Game. So the Fish and
27 Wildlife Service does not have any fisheries assessment
28 projects in any of these areas. At one time we did, we
29 were -- we did have an office located in King Salmon,
30 it was oh, gee, way back in 2006. And so since that
31 move we have not had any real assessment projects in
32 the area. So most of the in-season assessment and
33 management is all based on, you know, partnerships with
34 ADF&G and certainly all of the assessment information
35 that they are collecting. So I do want to acknowledge
36 that and thank them for certainly getting this
37 information to us.

38
39 You know, preseason coordination
40 efforts primarily in Chignik were focused on chinook
41 and sockeye. There have been continued declines in
42 Chignik River chinook salmon returns and certainly we
43 have heightened management concerns for the fishery.

44
45 You know, outside of Chignik I don't
46 really get many phone calls or observations given to me
47 from either the Peninsula, Bristol Bay or the Aleutian
48 Islands areas from many subsistence users. We do have
49 a pretty robust network I would say in Chignik so we
50

1 have good relationships with BBNA, obviously with the
2 Department, the Chignik Intertribal Coalition, we
3 converse with ERAY frequently. Well, and also the --
4 you know, all of the tribal councils in that area as
5 well as contacts with OSM. So I feel like at least
6 within the Chignik area we do have pretty good
7 relationships and I think we are -- we are very good at
8 getting information and trying to understand
9 subsistence reports and how people are progressing or
10 not progressing toward those goals.

11
12 So the 2020 sockeye salmon harvest or
13 excuse me I guess preseason goals for 2020 were similar
14 to what we were -- we kind of had in 2019. And they
15 were -- that was, you know, lower than the 10 year
16 average, but our expectations were we were thinking
17 something similar to the 2019 run. Obviously those
18 numbers did not progress like we would have liked. The
19 -- in the end the -- you know, the escapement goals
20 for, you know, early and late run, we did not make
21 those goals. We act -- the goals had not been made in
22 both the early and the late run in the Chignik area
23 since 2017. And the chinook salmon escapement goals
24 were not met -- were met in 2019, they were not in met
25 in 2020. They were also not met in 2017 or 2018. So
26 as many of the -- as many of the numbers that the
27 Council have talked about certainly Chignik is
28 experiencing some pretty difficult times.

29
30 So we typically -- we being the Fish
31 and Wildlife Service, OSM and ADF&G participate in a
32 number of preseason meetings. A lot of those will
33 change this year due to Covid restrictions. I have in
34 the past gone out there at the start of the year to
35 talk with different tribal council folks, those are
36 also the folks that issue the permits for subsistence.
37 And then we try to get to every single one of the
38 villages typically excluding Perryville during that
39 preseason. ADF&G did conduct a meeting on June 3rd,
40 that's their stakeholder meeting that was well
41 attended. We had an additional meeting with all
42 Chignik fishermen on June 25th, that was well attended.
43 And then we had an individual meeting specific to
44 residents in Chignik Lake where most of those folks
45 there are Federally-qualified users. And I think we
46 really focused on sort of where people were at with our
47 harvest given the low numbers of return. We did have a
48 fairly robust conversation about what is a federally-
49 qualified user and who qualified for that. And yeah, I
50

1 think it was well attended given the, you know, just
2 the number of people in Chignik Lake.

3
4 Let's see. So as the Federal in-season
5 manager I did issue two emergency special actions in
6 2020. The first one was on June, 2018, that was
7 earlier than any other special action I've had to issue
8 and specific to closing the early run, fishing for
9 sockeye on the early run to Federally-qualified users.
10 And then the second special action was issued for king
11 salmon and that was implemented jointly with ADF&G and
12 it prohibited any targeted fishing for chinook salmon
13 on Federal waters in the Chignik area.

14
15 And so I just wanted to kind of come
16 back a little bit to the early run. I think one of the
17 take homes is that certainly we've talked about it in a
18 lot of these different meetings with subsistence users
19 trying to sort of have collaborative management
20 regulations with the State. And so the State obviously
21 has different regulations than we do, but I do think
22 that there were a lot of comments on, you know, the
23 ability of some folks to be able to move down to marine
24 waters and catch subsistence fish which is outside of
25 Federal jurisdiction versus, you know, just restricting
26 fishing on Federal lands particularly in Chignik where
27 you can kind of move around a lot. So we did
28 eventually restrict Federally-qualified users only, but
29 there was certainly a lot of conversation with full
30 restriction given the low numbers and I think there's
31 continuing conversation on, you know, if people can
32 kind of move around and, you know, fishing for -- in
33 Federal waters versus State waters, not sort of a
34 global closure then people can find other ways to, you
35 know, impact an incoming run.

36
37 So I guess I'll leave it at that for
38 some of the Chignik management stuff. I can turn it
39 over to Ross here if he wants to add anything specific
40 to the management pieces and then maybe it's
41 appropriate to get some questions from the Council and
42 then I also don't want to let any of the discussion on
43 some of the PINs that you guys identified earlier move
44 along.

45
46 So, Madame Chair, if you have questions
47 and maybe allow Ross to add a few -- two cents on his
48 -- sort of his overview of what the Chignik management
49 was this year and I think we'd -- that would be

50

1 valuable information.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, I think you're going around -- down the right line of reasoning here. Let's hear from Ross first and if you have anything to add to the report that was just given please do and then we'll ask for questions.

Go ahead, Ross.

MR. RENICK: Thank you, Madame Chair. This is Ross Renick with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. And I am the area management biologist for commercial and subsistence fisheries at Chignik. I talked to John about attending this meeting. I attended last year too to just give you guys kind of an update. Fortunately I'm able to spend four or five months out in Chignik and visibly see the effort and the harvest, you know, with my best judgment in the Chignik area. And last year I think I told you guys in '19 it was -- it wasn't -- numbers were low obviously for the escapement total, but subsistence fishing was good and most people were able to do okay getting their fish. Unfortunately this year and obviously this is just my observations, again preliminary data. We don't have anything back from permits. Fishing was very tough for these folks this year. I would say that the same number of users were probably participating in the fishery, but I probably saw four to five times the effort with about probably 20 to 30 percent of the total catch that I usually see coming through the weir and from the reports I got from folks out there. So it was -- it was a tough year. Obviously it was the lowest escapement total we've had in Chignik on record.

So those fish are very important to the users out there obviously and when they're not able to get those combined with no income from the commercial fishery because in Chignik a high number -- we have I believe according to CFEC reports the highest number of participants from local communities in a fishery -- in a commercial fishery. So a lot of folks depend on their -- that commercial fishery for their income.

So that's kind of just a brief update of 2020. As you guys are talking about these PINs as John's about to get into, we are obviously very concerned about Chignik right now. We are planning on launching several investigative research projects in

1 that area to try and get a -- try and get a grip on
2 what's going on out there because it -- right now it is
3 somewhat of a mystery to us as to why the run has
4 crashed as much as it has really. I don't think
5 anybody thought it could get worse than 2018 and here
6 we are in 2020 and it -- and it is.

7
8 So I'll let John -- that's kind of just
9 an update of 2020 and then I'll let John discuss a
10 little bit more about those PINs.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
15 you, Ross. I'd like to open it up for questions first
16 from Council members.

17
18 Council members, any questions.

19
20 MR. TREFON: Yeah, this is Billy
21 Trefon. My -- you almost answered the question for me,
22 it's about the area M, Chignik area fishing. What kind
23 of research has been done on it so far, is it bycatch,
24 commercial or high fish or predatory that's creating
25 this problem. Has any scientific studies or any kind
26 of studies been done so far because this problem has
27 been going on for a while?

28
29 MR. RENICK: Yeah, through the Chair.
30 This is Ross again. So there has been a study done,
31 I'm sure you guys are familiar with the WASSIP study.
32 It is 15 years ago probably that study was done. There
33 are -- it is -- it is in that WASSIP study that there
34 are interception rates and harvest rates in the south
35 peninsula of Chignik fish. So far the last couple of
36 seasons I believe beginning in 2018 the Department made
37 restrictions to basically cut the commercial fishing
38 time of the last two or three openers in that
39 commercial fishery in June in half. So there was
40 reduction in harvest out there.

41
42 During a -- during that meet -- one of
43 those meetings John was talking about we did sit down
44 with the -- with the local subsistence users and
45 because we were thinking about basically going to a
46 full nonretention or closing subsistence fishing in the
47 Chignik area. However the feedback we got from the
48 users out there, the local users in Chignik was that if
49 area M basically wasn't closed they didn't want to see
50

1 those fish closed down as well or subsistence fishing
2 in Chignik.

3
4 There is a lot of talk going on in the
5 Department right now regarding the south peninsula and
6 in regards to Chignik and this next Board of Fish cycle
7 coming up in 20 -- January of 2022, I'm guessing there
8 will be a lot of proposals put forth. But again that
9 loss of studies, the last study that was done and I
10 think everybody knows at this time with, you know,
11 changing conditions environmentally, fish migration
12 patterns might not be the same that -- that they were
13 back then. But there currently is not anything
14 directed towards area M in any kind of interception
15 fisheries in terms of a research project. The research
16 projects we will be launching is more of a focus on the
17 Black Lake and Chignik Lake environments and those
18 juvenile survival rates. It's a full, pretty
19 comprehensive ecological study and that's the one we
20 have on the docket for right now.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
23 you.

24
25 Billy, did you have a follow-up?

26
27 (No comments)

28
29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'm
30 going to take that for no.

31
32 Anybody else have questions, comments.

33
34 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan, go
37 ahead.

38
39 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Madame Chair.
40 Yeah, thank you, Ross, for some of that discussion on
41 the studies you do plan. I find myself starting to
42 wish that even if there was like an intermittent -- I
43 know it's hugely expensive, but intermittent follow-up
44 to WASSIP to kind of track because, you know, everybody
45 focuses on what is a Dolgoy or something, but, you
46 know, I used to live in Sand Point and those are pretty
47 small areas. And like you say who's to say that what
48 was seen in those three years of study really hold up
49 over a 10, 15 year or longer period. But it is

50

1 furiously expensive.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

But, yeah, I'm very curious to hear what might be done. And I don't know if you've talked to Pat Holmes there about some of his growth studies, historical versus what we're seeing now possibly through scale analysis or something like that. Can you comment?

Thank you.

MR. RENICK: Yeah, through the Chair. Our research department in Kodiak who handles our Chignik area they have been in contact with him about that kind of a study and I believe that was something that was on the PIN list as well because they're -- they are finding evidence especially in the Gulf of Alaska that growth rates at least for their summertime growth is shrinking on fish. That's why I think everybody's seeing some smaller fish here and there. And so that is something that they've done. This is pretty recent news to the Department in terms of what I've heard. I got an email about it in probably September. These ecological studies that we're -- that we're launching are from the 2018 Federal disaster relief money. So that's kind of information that we had after we made those decisions. However there will be probably more Federal disaster relief money coming for the 2020. So I'll note that and get in contact with him and see if we can't figure out some sort of a project to launch on that as well. But, yeah. Yeah.

Thank you.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Dan, follow-up.

MR. DUNAWAY: No, that -- that's helpful. I appreciate it.

Thank you very much. I wish you luck.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, me too.

MR. TREFON: Nanci, Billy here.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead, Billy.

1 MR. TREFON: I hit mute so I wasn't
2 able to do a follow-up. The other question I had was
3 how about in national waters, how -- what kind of
4 research is being done out there like maybe NOAA or
5 somebody been doing any research on fish out in these
6 national waters, high seas?
7

8 MR. RENICK: I think -- I think what
9 you're referring to, there's a couple things that are
10 going on. There's two ways to go with the national
11 high seas interception fishery that I think everybody's
12 pretty well aware of and the amount of fish that those
13 folks do take which is -- can be very substantial. And
14 the -- we've seen the Coast Guard wrangle in a few of
15 those folks. I -- I'm not aware of anything that's
16 going on with that in terms of research. I know that
17 the Coast Guard in Kodiak did receive a lot of funding
18 to do more patrols and try and knock that back a little
19 big. Again they only have so much range as well.
20 There is a study being done by NOAA on juvenile sockeye
21 and juvenile salmon all up and down the west coast to
22 kind of track growth, abundance. It's a pretty new
23 study and this last year they said that -- I believe
24 they said it was going to be one of the best sockeye
25 years in the Gulf of Alaska ever and that wasn't true.
26 So those are the only two that I'm aware of right now
27 and once they get outside that three mile national
28 waters line I -- I'm not 100 percent sure what our
29 jurisdiction is for research. But we are -- we are
30 looking for ideas. Chignik is one of the most well
31 researched systems on the peninsula just due to our
32 access and -- and the staff that we have there right
33 now. But we are looking for ideas for 2020 funding,
34 the disaster funding in order to investigate what's
35 going on if -- so I'll make a note of that as well and
36 pass that along.
37

38 MR. TREFON: Madame Chair.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
41 Billy, anything else.
42

43 MR. TREFON: Yeah, I was just watching
44 a documentary not too long ago on bycatch that has to
45 be thrown away and the size of the nets and I was
46 wondering about research. And I do understand that
47 once we get outside our legal limit then it's pretty
48 much a free for all.
49

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
4 you. Any other questions or comments from the Council.

5

6 MR. GERKEN: Madame Chair, this is John
7 Gerken. I can -- well, outside of that three mile
8 limit you do get into sort of, you know, Federal waters
9 I guess are mostly managed under NOAA there. And so a
10 lot of those bycatch and everything will go -- those
11 are regulated and there's observers and there's a whole
12 bunch of different stuff going on in that world. And
13 most of that stuff is run through the North Pacific
14 Fisheries Management Council and maybe five times a
15 year or so if anybody's hankering for more meetings
16 that's one way to up the ante there.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, in
19 fact I do believe that there are meetings very soon
20 because I just got notice of it. But, yeah, anyway it
21 -- it's soon so if anybody wants to take advantage of
22 it, he's right, go for it.

23

24 Okay. Any other questions or comments.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. With
29 that I guess let's move on to the PIN stuff.

30

31 MR. GERKEN: Yeah, thank you, Madame
32 Chair. Again this is John Gerken with Fish and
33 Wildlife Service So I just have the draft of the
34 suggested 2022 information needs that you guys had on
35 -- you guys had talked about earlier. And so I was
36 certainly glad to see that the one PIN that was
37 identified I believe in 2018, Ian and myself from BBNA
38 put that on there for Chignik is on there. And I think
39 we are sort of coming to a head where things are
40 becoming more expensive and -- and tougher to do and
41 certainly the State is feeling a lot of the brunt of
42 that. So I -- I can certainly see things maybe being
43 directed to continue operations on the weir being a
44 good thing to have under PIN number 1 there. And I
45 think what -- in PIN number 1 also under associated
46 subsistence harvest opportunities which also sort of
47 ties in with PIN number 4 I believe is sort of
48 understanding the impact of how these changes are
49 taking affect on, you know, subsistence harvest as well

50

1 as, you know, in these different communities.

2
3 We do have some difficulty seeing back
4 Federal subsistence permits from folks that are fishing
5 in Federal waters so that would be primarily above the
6 weir in the Chignik area. And it's important because,
7 you know, years like this one there are low counts and
8 folks are fishing with a Federal permit and doing so
9 within the wake it -- it would be -- it is important to
10 know how many fish are actually I guess coming in after
11 they've been counted toward escapement. So I think
12 that would be one thing we'd want to certainly work on.
13 We would certainly do that with the State. The State
14 has done all of the subsistence surveys and we
15 definitely rely on those numbers. I think maybe
16 having additional funding go towards supporting those
17 subsistence harvest, I think some of the Council
18 members talked about trying to get those folks that are
19 local to help out with that. I think they do do that
20 in the post-season stuff, but getting that in-season
21 would also be a nice project. So you could potentially
22 see something like that showing up here in -- for
23 projects to be funded.

24
25 I think those are the -- those are the
26 big ones that I wanted to really talk about. I think
27 those are all -- are included in the PINs. I was
28 pretty happy to see the PINs that you guys put in there
29 and I think there is some flexibility certainly on the
30 Fish and Wildlife Service side and I'll let either Ross
31 or Lisa speak specifically to the State side on what
32 they think for Chignik stuff. But anyway I just
33 acknowledge that I think the PINs were a good job.

34
35 Thank you.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Well,
38 thanks for that. I -- and it's the -- the Chignik
39 issue has been on there for quite sometime, but getting
40 an agency or group of people to get together the
41 necessary procedures to get it moved forward has been a
42 tough spot. We've been asking for it for quite some
43 time as you've acknowledged. So hopefully as you've
44 said maybe, you know, we're coming to enough of a head
45 that enough people will want to work together on it
46 that they can formulate an idea that you found
47 acceptable and funded.

48
49 But, yeah, I -- Ross, I -- not to try

50

1 and cut into everybody's thunder, anything else you
2 wanted to add then?

3

4 MR. RENICK: Madame Chair. No, I think
5 John pretty much covered it there. John and I work
6 really well together, we talk almost every day in terms
7 of management in the area. So maybe we just had the
8 right group of people right now that we can get moving
9 forward on that.

10

11 I don't have anything else to say other
12 than that though.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
15 you. Any questions.

16

17 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

20

21 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you, Madame
22 Chair. It caught my attention there that you have
23 Federal subsistence permits and State subsistence
24 permits. Right away I was kind of like oh, my gosh,
25 how do people track this. Could you outline that
26 briefly just so I understand how things work down there
27 or if there's a way that could improve reporting?

28

29 Okay.

30

31 MR. GERKEN: Through the Chair. This
32 is John Gerken, Fish and Wildlife Service. So on
33 Federal waters subsistence users are required to have a
34 Federal subsistence permit and so that is the bulk of
35 the freshwater within the drainage. Outside of that
36 then they can fish under a State subsistence permit.
37 There are differences in methods for harvest between
38 the two permits, hook and line being the biggest one.
39 And permits are issued within the villages by tribal
40 members. And but I do think we have a problem getting
41 those returned to us to know how many numbers are --
42 are there.

43

44 So I guess just one other clarification
45 there, Dan, is, you know, typically you have to be a
46 Federally-qualified user when there is a restriction
47 put on the Federal waters otherwise you can fish under
48 the State side too. So but it typically has to do
49 with, you know, the interpretation on, you know, the

50

1 level of restrictions for conservation and so forth for
2 that fishery.

3

4 So does that help a little bit?

5

6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

7

8 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, through the Chair.

9 Thank you, John. Multiple permits and stuff, the
10 complication that -- I'm sure that affects the
11 reporting, but, you know, I wish you luck figuring it
12 out. Kind of hate to see duplicated effort, but I
13 guess that happens.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Any
18 other questions.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
23 you very much, John. I appreciate your time in this
24 and we will certainly give you any help that we have
25 within reach for us. You know, we definitely -- we
26 definitely want to see something done for our neighbors
27 down there. We've been feeling the hurt for them for
28 several years.

29

30 MR. GERKEN: All right. Thanks, Madame
31 Chair, for the time. Thanks, Ross. Thanks for the
32 Council members. Appreciate it.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yep. Okay.
35 Did we have any other Alaska Peninsula reports that
36 were given or should we move on to Togiak?

37

38 MR. DUNAWAY: Looks like George is
39 putting his hand up.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Oh, sorry.
42 Was I -- George?

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Looks like
47 you got cut offline. So hang on, we'll -- that's okay,
48 I felt that earlier too.

49

50

1 MR. DUNAWAY: I knew you wanted to
2 speak.

3
4 MR. PAPPAS: Madame Chair. George
5 Pappas for the record. I'll add on a couple things to
6 what Mr. Gerken indicated. So we do have a government
7 to government relationship with the tribes and they do
8 help distribute the permits and collect the permits and
9 it's been fairly effective in places we've done so.

10
11 And the second thing, there's been a
12 fair amount of discussion with the newly formed Chignik
13 Intertribal Coalition. So we have the five different
14 communities out there have formed one tribal coalition
15 and there has been a lot of open conversation and
16 possibly as an avenue or a group of individuals that
17 could assist with possible research efforts in the
18 future, maybe some type of partnering, matching funds,
19 we don't know. But that's new in the last year or two
20 and it's a pretty exciting future there.

21
22 So I just wanted to add those two
23 things.

24
25 Thank you, Madame Chair.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No, that's
28 excellent. Thanks. I'm glad to hear that. That's --
29 I guess that's what I was kind of trying to say is I'm
30 -- it's frustrating to me that we have to get to such a
31 high level crisis situation before we can get that
32 happening. But I am encouraged to see that it is
33 finally happening.

34
35 So, good, thank you for letting us know
36 that, George.

37
38 MR. PAPPAS: And one other thing for --
39 to answer towards Dan. Dan's concerned about the dual
40 permits. There are areas and methods and means that
41 are only legal under Federal subsistence regulations
42 that are not under regulations for the State. So in
43 the process the -- if he -- using a rod and reel for
44 chinook salmon for Federal subsistence is allowed, it's
45 not allowed under State regulations and the State
46 permit wouldn't -- would not be issued for someone --
47 it wouldn't be allowed for someone to basically do
48 something that isn't -- that's not contained on the
49 State permit. And also the Home Creek, Clark River,
50

1 the upper watershed, where people want to go out and
2 catch -- while they're out camping or hunting they can
3 catch a fish or two, that's also out there.

4
5 So there's some differences between the
6 permits. But one thing about the Chignik area is
7 everybody knows everybody else and they know who's
8 Federally-qualified and who's not. And my assumption
9 is there's many contacts if there -- if there's issues
10 with the State and Federal managers.

11
12 Thank you, Madame Chair.

13
14 And, yes, I like the signs that there's
15 a lot cooperation going out there.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Good. Thank
20 you.

21
22 Dan, did you have questions about that
23 then?

24
25 MR. DUNAWAY: No, George's explanation
26 was real helpful.

27
28 Thank you.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yep. Okay.
31 Anything else then on that before we move on.

32
33 (No comments)

34
35 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I
36 know it's something that we will be revisiting in the
37 future as well. So if something else comes up, let us
38 know.

39
40 If not, then Togiak, are you ready with
41 your reports.

42
43 MR. MOOS: Thank you, Madame Chair. My
44 name is Kenton Moos, I'm the Refuge manager for Kodiak
45 National Wildlife Refuge for the record. And Andy
46 Aderman submitted a report and you should have access
47 to that I hope. And I'm just going to highlight just a
48 few things that are going on here at Togiak Refuge.

49
50

1 First of all this is the first time I'm
2 addressing you officially as the new Refuge manager.
3 So that is new for us as well. And then we have a few
4 other staff members who've been able to -- we've been
5 able to get onboard and we are very happy about that.

6
7 First, Yung Ellis, she's our budget
8 tech. And as everybody knows how important our budget
9 people are, we're very, very thankful to have her
10 onboard.

11
12 Jennelle Trollbridge is a new wildlife
13 biologist for us and she started just a couple of
14 months ago. She's a recent graduate from UAA through
15 the ANSEP program. She's originally from Nome and
16 she's an entry level biologist and we are just getting
17 her started. Obviously with the Covid and things it's
18 been a little bit of a challenge, but we're thankful to
19 have her onboard as well.

20
21 And then literally just two weeks ago
22 Stan Cullings just started and he is our new deputy
23 Refuge manager. He comes up from Arizona, but he's
24 done a number of details up here at Togiak so he's got
25 some experience in the area and we are happy to have
26 him onboard.

27
28 As far as, you know, this summer, again
29 it's just been a -- somewhat of a difficult year. With
30 that said we were able to get a few things done that we
31 -- we were hoping to get quite a bit more done this
32 summer to be quite honest, but through our process of
33 -- that we had -- basically had to do plans for every
34 project that we did for the summer and we were able to
35 get a few done. I'm hoping that Todd Rinaldi is online
36 and will be give a report on the Mulchatna herd, but we
37 were able to assist the State with the Mulchatna herd
38 surveys this year. Andy actually today would be
39 normally giving this report, but he's out flying right
40 now, finishing up a moose survey, some trend counts for
41 moose to the west here of Dillingham. And so we were
42 able to get that done and a few other things as well.
43 But obviously with the year we're having there's a
44 number of things that we were not able to accomplish
45 which we're hoping next year to take back up.

46
47 About half the staff is work --
48 currently working at the office here. The office is
49 open for our staff, but not open to the public right
50

1 now. We're hoping that will change in the near future
2 as well because with that obviously a lot of our
3 outreach programs and so forth have suffered. And
4 again it's a -- it has -- it's been a challenging year
5 for sure.

6
7 So with that said, real quick I will
8 also mention as far as the Nushagak Peninsula herd, we
9 had a highly successful hunt last winter. There was a
10 number of caribou that are unaccounted for, but we
11 normally do one to two surveys every year, we actually
12 did three this year. And our numbers are down, we're
13 -- our estimated population is at about 250 and our
14 target is 400. And so we're at the low end of where we
15 want to be. So we provided a very short bull only hunt
16 early this fall, but for the rest of the year it will
17 be closed because of the concerns with the numbers and
18 we want to bring those numbers back up.

19
20 And then also with the Mulchatna
21 caribou herd, I -- again I'm going to let Todd Rinaldi
22 give that report out, but we are working closely with
23 the State on that and again there was an early
24 opportunity for bulls only which was open from August
25 1st through September 20th. And that is now closed and
26 we do not anticipate opening another season for the
27 rest of this year due to the low numbers.

28
29 With that I will entertain any
30 questions.

31
32 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Dan,
35 go ahead.

36
37 MR. DUNAWAY: Sometimes I feel like
38 Chatty Cathy here. Sorry.

39
40 Thanks for the report. There's a
41 couple things that have kind of been on my mind,
42 Kenton. I was watching -- this sounds a little hokey,
43 watching one of those Alaska reality shows where the
44 folks there in Homer were losing calves to ravens, you
45 know, newborn calves to -- and these are cows, big
46 cows, losing them to ravens, pecking their eyes and
47 tongues out. And, you know, I'm starting to lose
48 confidence in some of this heavy duty predator control,
49 but I just wondered if folks could keep an eye out for
50

1 -- you know, if ravens are kind of coordinating with
2 other animals could they be adding to the problem given
3 that some of our caribou aren't bouncing back. And it
4 -- you know, it might be silly, but I -- I just was
5 wondering if you've had any observations or what you
6 think of that?

7

8 And then I have a couple other things.

9

10 MR. MOOS: Sure. Dan, through the
11 Chair. I have not heard of that, but I will ask some
12 people who've been around for quite a while including
13 Andy that very question and I'll get back with you on
14 that. But it's something -- I have not heard of that,
15 but I'll check.

16

17 MR. DUNAWAY: Great. Thanks. I even
18 emailed Mack Menard who when he lived here would fly up
19 in amongst the calving grounds. And I asked him and he
20 said he didn't notice that, but certainly the ravens
21 were helping clean up whatever the eagles, coyotes,
22 wolves and bears left. But, you know, and I --
23 grasping at straws and I kind of think maybe a wild
24 caribou mom might be a little better than a dumb
25 domestic cow at protecting her baby. But anyway just
26 kind of was there.

27

28 The other thing, reading this report I
29 just -- frustration grew and of course part of it's due
30 to 20/20 hindsight, but it seems like you were forced
31 to skip a lot of fieldwork that in my estimation, you
32 know, why, just because of fear of the Covid and yet
33 checking some of those water level sites and doing some
34 of the caribou count, I hope this next summer if we're
35 still kind of worried about or maybe a lot worried
36 about Covid, that these things where one pilot or one
37 or -- one pilot and a couple of staff to be teamed up
38 and never bother a village or very, very unlikely to
39 bother a village, could carry on and do their work. I
40 hope that discussion happens.

41

42 Okay.

43

44 MR. MOOS: Again through the Chair.
45 Absolutely, Dan. It was very frustrating for us as
46 well, I mean, I'll be honest with everybody. You know,
47 however, you know public safety is obviously our number
48 1 concern and so there's a -- we did really press for
49 some of our higher priority projects to get done and we

50

1 were successful in getting permission to do them. But
2 you are absolutely correct, there's a number of things
3 that we have not been able to do. And again I am
4 hopeful that next year we will be able to pick them
5 back up.

6
7 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. So through the
8 Chair. Yeah, thanks, Kenton. I just -- I just had to
9 say it, of course I'm chaffing at some other
10 restrictions in Dillingham myself. But and 20/20
11 hindsight, at the time we didn't know, but I'll wish
12 you well and try to support everybody, you know, where
13 we can get work done and be reasonably safe.

14
15 Thank you.

16
17 MR. TREFON: Madame Chair.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, go
20 ahead, Richard.

21
22 MR. TREFON: Billy.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Oh, I'm
25 sorry. Go ahead, Billy.

26
27 MR. TREFON: Yeah. I got a question
28 about the Mulchatna caribou hunt. Which areas were
29 open because I haven't heard of anybody in 9B over here
30 where I live got a caribou unless they got an airplane.
31 How long was the season over here open, 9B?

32
33 MR. MOOS: I'm sure -- Billy, through
34 the Chair. The Mulchatna caribou herd was open for --
35 through RC503 registration caribou hunt from August 1st
36 through the -- September 20th. And that was a one bull
37 only.

38
39 You know, in our conversations with the
40 State of Alaska we determined that there's -- we don't
41 have a harvestable surplus so like last year we shut it
42 down early. This year again State managers talked with
43 our staff here and as in-season manager that's
44 primarily and -- but also through -- with Yukon Delta
45 National Wildlife Refuge as well and then I also did
46 contact the Park Service as well as BLM as the in-
47 season manager and ran by the information that we knew
48 and there was pretty much consensus about this. I
49 actually talked with the Chair of your RAC as well

50

1 about this. And there was consensus on this. And so
2 we and the State have agreed to this, that, you know,
3 there was a few bulls to give and we provided that
4 opportunity early on because that's when they're very
5 distinguishable, you can tell what a bull is and what a
6 cow is and so forth.

7
8 And so it was a limited opportunity, we
9 recognized that, we recognize that it's difficult
10 times, but we also feel strongly that in order to bring
11 this herd back to where we can provide harvest
12 opportunity we need to take action.

13
14 So I hope that answers your question.
15 And if Todd Rinaldi's on, if he wants to pipe in and
16 provide additional information he sure can.

17
18 MR. TREFON: Well, yeah, I understand
19 what you're saying there. It's just that I'm -- since
20 the caribou quit migrating through here maybe my area
21 will have to submit another proposal of extending the
22 hunt in 9B on the east side because I'm almost guessing
23 all the takes have been taken over there in 17B, all
24 the caribou takes. Probably nothing from our side
25 unless you got an airplane.

26
27 MR. MOOS: Yeah, again through the
28 Chair. I can't answer that because the permits were
29 issued through the State of Alaska and I'm not privy to
30 the information other than the harvest. And the last
31 report that I had was it wasn't a huge harvest for this
32 fall for the bulls only hunt.

33
34 But again if Todd is on he might be
35 able to provide some information on how many caribou
36 were harvested in the 9B area. I don't have that
37 information.

38
39 MR. TREFON: That would be good
40 information.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Does anybody
43 have that information?

44
45 MR. PAPPAS: Madame Chair, George
46 Pappas here. Todd Rinaldi in the Wildlife Division
47 that were time certain tomorrow I believe, they're not
48 online this afternoon and I'm uncertain that anybody
49 else from Wildlife Division from Fish and Game's
50

1 onboard. If you are please identify yourself.

2

3

Thank you.

4

5

6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, that's
7 right. Thank you for that reminder, George. I --
8 yeah, and unfortunately it doesn't look to me like
9 we're going to be meeting tomorrow. So I hate to miss
10 out on that information. And perhaps maybe what we
11 could do is have one of you guys reach out to them and
12 collect it and you guys could at least get it to the
13 Council members so we'd have it for our knowledge.....

13

14

MR. MOOS: And I.....

15

16

17

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON:even
though it's not on the.....

18

19

20

MR. MOOS: And I will follow-up with
that and I will let you know.

21

22

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.

23

24

MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

25

26

27

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, go
ahead.

28

29

30

31

32

33

MR. DUNAWAY: Dan here. I don't have
numbers, but I thought I saw where one or two caribou
got caught in Igiugig. But that's petty sketchy info,
but I -- I think I saw Jeff Brinhurst might have caught
one at least.

34

35

Thank you.

36

37

38

39

40

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, I saw
that too, Dan. And but I'm not sure that they didn't
fly for them. I don't know.

41

42

Okay. Anybody else or anything else
with Togiak Refuge.

43

44

(No comments)

45

46

47

48

49

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Then
let's go ahead and move on to Alaska
Peninsula/Becharof. I assume this is about other
things other than the fisheries there.

50

1 (No comments)

2

3

MR. MIKE: Susan, you're on mute.

4

5

6

MS. ALEXANDER: Sorry. I took off the mute I should have left it on and I left on the mute I should have taken off. I think we've got it now. Can you hear me all right?

7

8

9

10

REPORTER: Perfect.

11

12

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, we do have you.

13

14

15

Thank you.

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

MS. ALEXANDER: Thank you. Sorry about that. So, yes, for the record Susan Alexander, Refuge manager, Alaska Peninsula and Becharof National Wildlife Refuges. And this report is distinct from the one you heard earlier from John Gerken in that he was reporting on fisheries management and I'm reporting on Refuge management of Alaska Peninsula and Becharof. And kind of similar to my colleague, Kenton, over on the west side of the bay, I'm going to start out talking about staffing a little bit.

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

I know you've heard this from me for the last few years, but I'm sorry to say that our staffing situation is worse than it was last time I talked to you. We've made some progress in some areas and lost ground in others. We've had two biologists leave since I last spoke to you, our subsistence biologist and our avian biologist, Our big game mammal biologist position is still vacant three years on. So that leaves us with a pretty skeleton crew in the biological division.

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

Our environmental educator position is also vacant meaning that our visitor services manager is our only visitor services staff. She's also handling our special use permits program because our law enforcement officer position is not filled in King Salmon at the moment which I'll talk more about in a moment. And that person has been handling our special use permits. So she's kind of carrying double duty at the moment which is seriously curtailing things like outreach and environmental education which of course are already curtailed by Covid, but can be going on in

1 remote platforms like this, but we're more curtailed by
2 the fact that we have one person handling essentially
3 both of those offices at the moment.

4
5 Our Federal wildlife officer position
6 is filled and some of you may remember that Josh Macri,
7 our new officer, was at the winter meeting in Naknek
8 last year and said hello to all of you and should have
9 been finished with his training and onsite in King
10 Salmon around July or August, but Covid intervened and
11 he is still in limbo. They are attempting to get him
12 and the rest of his cohort of newly hired officers
13 through their required training so that they can be
14 onsite and perform as officers, but so far have not
15 managed to do that. So I'm sorry to say I don't know
16 when he will be here.

17
18 We have been filling in with Officer
19 Pete Harvey who previously was stationed with us in
20 King Salmon, he's now at Kenai. He's come over for a
21 few patrols, we got a little bit of sportfishing patrol
22 and a little bit of the -- the kind of a half of bear
23 hunt that we had with residents only, he patrolled a
24 little bit for that. But it's fairly limited until we
25 can get our new officer onsite.

26
27 At this point I don't know when any of
28 those vacancies will be filled. I am operating right
29 now with about a third of fully staffed. So I -- as
30 compared to my forward chart I have about a third of
31 those employees at the moment. So it's kind of -- the
32 essentials are getting done and not a whole lot else.
33 And I don't -- I don't say that to -- you know, it
34 could sound like I'm whining or complaining which I
35 don't mean to do at all, I just want the RAC to
36 understand that our station is not producing a lot at
37 the moment because we don't have people to produce.
38 And I am optimistic that that will -- that this is
39 hopefully the low watermark and this will start to run
40 around.

41
42 Again, you know, you heard Kenton Moos
43 talk a little bit about being able to fill positions
44 and I actually do have two positions that we have
45 filled. One is we also have a new budget tech so I'm
46 happy for that. And a new deputy Refuge manager will
47 be here in about three weeks. And the other thing
48 that's true for us at the moment is that which
49 positions get filled is impacted by a lot of complex

50

1 factors and is not necessarily the highest priority of
2 the Refuge manager. So I'm not sure -- my highest
3 priority which I have been reiterating to my supervisor
4 is the game mammal biologist position, but I don't know
5 at this point when I'll be able to fill that.

6
7 So I guess I'll pause at that and just
8 ask if any of you have questions about our staffing
9 situation. I kind of threw a lot of information at
10 you.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Go
13 ahead, I'll open the floor for questions if anybody has
14 any. I mean, I -- it's a difficult situation and you
15 guys have been undergoing it for a long time. And I
16 imagine with Covid that recruiting is even more
17 difficult. But hopefully also because of Covid you'll
18 find more qualified people applying in the decently
19 near future.

20
21 But yeah, I -- the floor's open if
22 anybody has questions.

23
24 (No comments)

25
26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Let's
27 go ahead and continue with your report then and we'll
28 just be happy for what we can get I guess.

29
30 MS. ALEXANDER: Great. Thank you,
31 Madame Chair. So similar to the Dillingham office we
32 have some limited use of our office by staff, we're
33 basically tele working. Our office is closed to the
34 public although we have made allowances for people to
35 be able to contact us to be able to buy Federal duck
36 stamps or get ivory tagged.

37
38 We did, and this was fairly routine at
39 this point, announce the subsistence caribou hunt for
40 9E and 9C remainder with the usual open dates that
41 match the State's. We typically -- and this is a typ
42 -- you know, this year is no exception, get a low
43 number of permits for that hunt, but the hunt is open
44 and permits are available. I do not have numbers at
45 this point of any take that has been reported. I have
46 not heard of any, but I wasn't able to check with our
47 lead biologist who has been out of town on family
48 medical issues.

49
50

1 I did also announce the ptarmigan hunt,
2 I'm sure the RAC remembers taking action on this. And
3 then the Federal Subsistence Board approved it, but
4 along with a lot of other actions it was held up with
5 the delay in the publication of the 2022 regs. And so
6 under a temporary special -- excuse me, under a
7 temporary delegation of authority I opened the hunt to
8 match what was approved by the Federal Subsistence
9 Board as if the regs had taken affect. So that ended
10 up happening under first an emergency special action
11 and then a temporary special action, but the net effect
12 was as if the regulations had taken affect as approved
13 by the Federal Subsistence Board.

14
15 And then on the moose front we did
16 succeed in doing a little bit of work this year. One
17 of the two major projects that have happened -- well,
18 one was pre-Covid, was our last fall moose surveys did
19 take place. We're doing that cooperatively with the
20 Department of Fish and Game since we're short on
21 biologists, but we have a pilot and aircraft we're
22 helping them -- you know, they're helping us survey our
23 areas, we're helping them fly their areas. So we're
24 getting that done between the two of us. And that did
25 happen last fall. We are turning our data over to Fish
26 and Game for analysis so I don't have the results of
27 that survey. But we did participate in it. And then
28 we anticipate doing that again. We're in just about I
29 think at getting the approval for the rather convoluted
30 approval process that Kenton Moos referred to that is
31 now required for us to be able to do fieldwork. But I
32 anticipate we'll get that approval any day now and
33 we'll be able to start those surveys on schedule.

34
35 And then one new thing which is not as
36 much subsistence related as moose certainly, but we are
37 also as of this year cooperating with Fish and Game on
38 some composition and trend surveys for bears, a stream
39 survey. So that's the one other piece we were able to
40 accomplish this year in terms of actual fieldwork.

41
42 So not nearly as much as I would have
43 liked, Covid partially to blame, short staffing
44 partially to blame. And I along with all of you I'm
45 sure hopefully we'll be in a better position next year.

46
47 That's -- that's what I have. Our
48 written report starts on page 97 which includes a lot
49 more detail of course. But those are just some

50

1 highlights.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank you. Questions.

(No comments)

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Looks like we're good. Well, I would just say have you heard the same observations as Richard and I did that everybody's starting to see more ptarmigan around?

MS. ALEXANDER: I did.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

MS. ALEXANDER: But -- I'm sorry, I didn't mean to cut you off. I found that -- yes, that was encouraging. And in our long term plans we do intend to restart the ptarmigan surveys that we did a couple -- just a couple rounds of that were part of the data that drove that recent action. We do intend to reinitiate those surveys when we can. And so but in the meanwhile that's encouraging.

Thank you, Madame Chair.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. No, no problem. Okay. No other questions for Susan then we'll move on to BLM. Do we have a BLM report?

MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, this is Donald. I sent out notices and we did not receive any written report from BLM. But I think Mr. Seppi's online, if he's available to brief the Council. But there is no report.

Thank you.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank you. Well, maybe he's not online.

MR. MIKE: Yeah, maybe he's not on. Move on.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Let's -- yeah, we'll move forward and if -- and if he.....

MR. SEPPI: This is Bruce Seppi with

1 BLM, Anchorage field office.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Wonderful.
4 Hi, Bruce. Did you have a report for us?

5

6 MR. SEPPI: I do have a brief report.
7 I thought our field manager, Bonnie Millon, had sent an
8 agency update and apparently you don't have that, but
9 it -- much of the stuff in there wasn't specific to
10 this region, but I did want to mention a few things.
11 Namely is that we haven't been in the field hardly at
12 all, Covid has essentially shut down all our field
13 operations this summer and we've been very disappointed
14 on -- about that. We're in what we're calling Phase I
15 with BLM, and so we're not working in the office,
16 everyone's working from home. Until numbers in
17 Anchorage, Covid numbers, go down we'll continue to do
18 that. The reason for that is we can't fly when numbers
19 are that high and we're still in Phase I. So much of
20 our operations have been cancelled. And villages
21 aren't really crazy about having people from Anchorage
22 coming out into their villages because of Covid when
23 things are so high -- when Covid numbers are so high.

24

25 The one thing I did want to mention is
26 we did have a staffing change. And that is our
27 statewide -- BLM Alaska statewide subsistence
28 coordinator position has finally been filled that Dan
29 Sharp was in for so many years. BLM was able to snag
30 Chris McKee over from OSM to be our statewide
31 subsistence coordinator and we're all very happy about
32 that. We're working -- the field offices are working a
33 lot more closely now with the field -- with our
34 Anchorage state office and we're happy to have Chris
35 onboard with his wealth of experience from OSM.

36

37 So I'm -- I thought everyone would have
38 an update from us there, but if there's any specifics
39 of -- you had questions for us you can give us a call,
40 but otherwise I'll leave it open to questions.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, I just
43 would congratulate you on snagging Chris, I think that
44 was a very good move on you guys' part.

45

46 Anybody have questions.

47

48 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, it's Donald.

49

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
2 Donald.

3
4 MR. MIKE: Yeah, Mr. Seppi, if you can
5 share that report with me I can distribute it to the
6 Council members for their information.

7
8 Thank you.

9
10 MS. SEPPI: Okay. Thank you. I'll
11 send that email shortly.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Any other
14 questions or comments.

15
16 (No comments)

17
18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
19 Hearing none, let's move on to National Park Service.
20 Lake Clark, you're up first.

21
22 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: All right. Well,
23 good afternoon, everyone. Again for the record this is
24 Suzanne Fleek-Green with Lake Clark National Park and
25 Preserve. And we also you heard earlier have Liza Rupp
26 on with us as well. For those of you that are on
27 teams, I'm going to quickly share my screen for you
28 just so that we have a few visuals and take advantage.
29 For those of you that aren't on teams, I will just run
30 through the information and of course you have our
31 report in your binder there as well. So I'm just going
32 to highlight a few really quick things to make
33 efficient use of people's time.

34
35 So like everyone else of course we have
36 had a very different season because of Covid. We were
37 able to do some projects and I'm going to go into the
38 details of those, but similar to BLM and Fish and
39 Wildlife Service a critical safety issue for us was
40 putting multiple people in small airplanes for very
41 long of a time without creating quite a high safety
42 risk. So we were curtailing the number of projects,
43 but we prioritized some of the critical ones that I
44 think the RAC is particularly interested in. And also
45 we did our SRC meeting in September via phone which
46 turned out better than I think anyone would have
47 thought. We still got to have some really good
48 discussions with our SRC. So we are quite pleased
49 about that.

50

1 In terms of the key things of course
2 are fisheries monitoring on the Newhalen River. At our
3 station there what we saw was a little bit of high
4 return, about 450,000 sockeye went by our tower there
5 and the averages over the last 20 years has been around
6 400,000. So slightly higher, but not significant.
7 What did change there though is we respected the wishes
8 of Nondalton and we did not have our staff going to
9 fish camps to do any kind of surveys there. We closed
10 it down and really kept a very tight crew for safety
11 reasons at that station. We also had a smaller crew,
12 but luckily one of our achievements this year is that
13 we are able to permanently hire two of our fisheries
14 bio techs that have been working with the Park for a
15 long. So we have a lot of experience that we're able
16 to draw on there.

17
18 At the Telaquana station we did have a
19 big year. The run was at about 175,000 and the average
20 there over the past 10 years has been right about
21 88,000. So that was good news on the Telaquana front
22 which is of course part of the Kuskokwim drainage, but,
23 you know, we really look for the counts there as an
24 indicator of how that part of the Park and Preserve are
25 doing overall.

26
27 We did have some subsistence projects
28 that still moved forward again with our very inter
29 (indiscernible - distortion) but small fisheries and
30 water quality crew. When they weren't counting
31 sockeyes they were out gathering samples from mostly
32 around the Lake Clark area itself. We did some water
33 quality sampling near Kvichak to look at the impact of
34 changing subsistence use of beavers. And this is a
35 project that came out of concerns raised by our SRC
36 that with fewer residents getting beavers that there's
37 a lot more damming than there used to be and so there
38 was some concern that that might be causing changes in
39 water quality. So we got crews out to a couple
40 locations around the lake to start looking at that and
41 taking water quality samples.

42
43 We also are moving forward in
44 partnership with ADF&G, so I just want to thank them
45 very much, on a community harvest project that is
46 launching any day now in Port Alsworth. This is a
47 study to look at the changing subsistence patterns in
48 Port Alsworth and then we are hoping to be able to do
49 the same in Nondalton next year as long as the funding
50

1 remains there, but we're certainly hoping that that
2 occurs.

3
4 Another project I wanted to highlight,
5 it's not necessarily a subsistence project, but we have
6 brought it up in front of the RAC before is our ongoing
7 work on mercury deposits in various lakes around the
8 Park. We were able to get a crew out to do a limited
9 amount of work this summer. In particular we have
10 expanded that project to have greater focus on lake
11 trout and so we were able to get about 20 fish sampled
12 in Lake Clark itself to try and determine what the
13 level of mercury is and then start looking at whether
14 that is a natural occurrence or if it is something that
15 maybe is coming from various deposition of mercury from
16 outside the area. So that was curtailed somewhat, but
17 we got some critical work done.

18
19 And then just really quickly at the end
20 here I wanted to highlight one of the big losses for us
21 as a Park this summer was that we were not able to do
22 some other key partnership projects that we have had
23 with both BBNC, the Student Conservation Association
24 and Nondalton Tribal Council which one was the Quk'
25 Taz'un Kvichak camp with a number of youth that we
26 typically bring together from around the region to
27 Kvichak and do almost two weeks of learning programs
28 and knowledge transference between elders and youth
29 that is very impactful and that the Park loves to host.
30 We didn't do that this summer of course because just
31 that kind of atmosphere was not going to pass muster in
32 terms of Covid safety. We are going to helpfully be
33 able to bring that together again in 2021.

34
35 As an alternative we tried to increase
36 our outreach to various non-Park Service sponsored
37 summer programs and then also working with schools this
38 fall to do essentially distance learning programs so
39 that we still are keeping a connection with the
40 residents of the communities that we have partnerships
41 with. So hopefully that will all still move forward.
42 We had two successful digital learning programs happen
43 this past week. Schools of course like everyone else
44 have been going through a lot of changes, sometimes
45 they're at school, sometimes they're not at school. So
46 we are just going with the flow as much as we can with
47 our education staff at the Park.

48
49 Another loss was that we had to delay
50

1 this subsistence knowledge transference project that we
2 were doing in partnership with Nikolai and Nondalton.
3 That project again because of Covid we just weren't
4 able to bring people together in a way that would be
5 safe. But we hope to take that back up again and make
6 progress on it next summer.

7
8 And then we also hope to have our fall
9 fisheries and wildlife programs. Of course we are all
10 succumbing to whatever happens with Covid and the
11 ability again to be able to safely put our staff as
12 well as any members from the public in small airplanes
13 because that's just about the only way we get around in
14 the Park.

15
16 And then lastly the other thing that we
17 were not able to do is a really critical partnership
18 that I mentioned that we have with BBNC to host youth
19 trail projects. But that is also something that we
20 hope to resurrect next summer if we're able to do so
21 safely.

22
23 So I will stop there and be happy to
24 answer any questions that folks might have.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. We'll
27 open it up for questions. Any questions.

28
29 MR. TREFON: Yes, this is Billy here.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
32 Billy.

33
34 MR. TREFON: Hello, Liza.

35
36 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Billy, it's Suzanne,
37 it's not Liza, but you can ask Liza a question.

38
39 MR. TREFON: Do you guys have any idea
40 what the caribou take was for the Mulchatna caribou
41 herd in 9B in the preserve?

42
43 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: You know, I -- I
44 think it was zero. You know, like you said earlier
45 it's very hard to access them. We have not seen a lot
46 of caribou around there. So I can get a more solid
47 answer for you though, Billy, but I did not hear of
48 anyone taking caribou there.

49
50

1 MR. TREFON: Yeah, because that's the
2 same thing I'm getting here in the village.
3
4 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Yes.
5
6 MR. TREFON: All right. Thank you
7 then. That's about all I have. I mean, I do -- I --
8 Nondalton really do appreciate our relationship with
9 Lake Clark.
10
11 Thank you.
12
13 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Likewise. We feel
14 the same.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
17 Billy.
18
19 MR. TREFON: Yeah.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Any other
22 questions.
23
24 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.
25
26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan, go
27 ahead.
28
29 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you. Thank
30 you, Susan, for this or Suzanne, for this report. It's
31 very interesting. It strikes me that the Lake Clark
32 Park is really ramped up here overall. I also want to
33 commend National Parks. For years the SRC has
34 struggled to function at all and it seems like they're
35 starting to function a lot more. And that's pretty
36 cool because we -- for me at least I feel like I'm --
37 have a better pipeline to local concerns.
38
39 I had a question in the mercury study
40 if I'm not mistaken up around the Yukon, St. Mary's
41 area, one of the species that really concentrated
42 mercury was pike. And I know you have rather -- can
43 have rather large pike in the Lake Clark area. Have
44 you looked at pike or how did you choose lake trout
45 versus pike, could you help me on that?
46
47 Okay.
48
49 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Sure, of course. And
50

1 thank you for those comments. I will give credit to
2 Liza for our SRC. I have to say it is one of the best
3 parts of my job and I think a lot of our Lake Clark
4 staff feel that way as being able to meet in person
5 with our SRC is wonderful, but even being able to do it
6 by phone this fall still really made a difference. We
7 very much are trying to, you know, look at some of
8 these research and management questions with the SRC
9 strongly steering some of where we want to go as a
10 Park. So I really do appreciate those comments.
11

12 And I think, you know, in terms of the
13 work that we were able to get done this summer, we were
14 able -- you know, we have housing in Port Alsworth
15 there, we were able to quarantine our staff to make
16 sure that no one had Covid before we actually put them
17 together in boats or planes and then of course, you
18 know, we could open up our river mile 22 counting
19 station by getting people there by boat which is a lot
20 safer than trying to move anyone around by plane. So I
21 think that made a big difference for our operations
22 this summer.
23

24 Your question on mercury, you know,
25 yes, we do have very big pike. And we actually started
26 sampling lake trout there because of interest from
27 residents that that was more of what was being fished
28 and so it was of a higher concern to determine what the
29 mercury levels were in lake trout than pike. We have
30 sampled pike at other lakes around the Park, some of
31 these more high elevation lakes and so we'll probably
32 get to that in Lake Clark itself too, but we wanted to
33 start just having limited staff and limited operations
34 this summer we wanted to focus on the species that are
35 -- residents are more concerned about.
36

37 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Through the Chair.
38 Thank you for that. That makes a lot of sense. I
39 think I like lake trout a little better than pike, but
40 -- oh, one other thing just as a comment. I had a air
41 taxi plane that flies over my house quite low
42 frequently. I too early on was really wondering how
43 the air taxi pilots were going to survive this virus
44 concern and my impression is that in Dillingham at
45 least air taxis are still pretty darn busy, probably a
46 little less than normal. But and so especially like
47 you talk about your opportunity to quarantine, I'm
48 getting the impression that I haven't heard about air
49 taxi pilots succumbing or -- or say even becoming
50

1 affected. I might be totally ignorant, but I -- we'll
2 see how it goes, but I'm not detecting a sense of
3 hazard that I think a lot of us initially were
4 concerned about. But I hope that's true and I hope we
5 can get back to operating as much as normal.

6
7 So but thanks for all the work. It's
8 cool stuff. I hope the camps can resume too.

9
10 Thank you.

11
12 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Yeah, I hope so too.
13 You know, we consulted a lot with our Park Service
14 public health officials and, you know, especially
15 because we were using our Super Cub and our 206 that
16 being able to put multiple staff in there was a
17 challenge and, you know, certainly you can wear a mask
18 and that helps, but when you have that contained air
19 for over a 15 minute flight which all of our flights
20 are that became -- started to sort of raise eyebrows
21 for our public health officials. And the last thing
22 that we would want to do is either risk our staff or
23 quite frankly, you know, BLM said this, we do not want
24 to be the vector bringing Covid into any of our
25 communities. So but next summer hopefully things will
26 have improved and we will have figured out better ways
27 to reduce the risk of transmission.

28
29 But thank you for those comments, Dan,
30 appreciate it.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Liza, did
33 you have a comment?

34
35 MS. RUPP: Yes. Sorry. This is Liza
36 Rupp from Lake Clark. And I just while Suzanne was
37 talking I reached out to our natural resources lead,
38 Buckman Japayne, and asked him about the Mulchatna
39 caribou and their proximity to the park. And he said
40 that he -- they seemed to stay west of the Mulchatna
41 and not really go into the Park or Preserve this year
42 from what he saw from the radio collared animals. So
43 probably unlikely that anyone would have -- and he also
44 didn't -- hadn't heard of anyone getting a caribou in
45 our Park community.

46
47 I just wanted to give Billy an answer
48 on that.

49
50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, thank
2 you very much. I'm sure Billy appreciates that.

3
4 Okay. I've got another hand up too,
5 but I don't know who it belongs to. Who's our ER?

6
7 MR. TREFON: Thank you for that. It
8 sounds like the migration routes are changing.

9
10 MS. RUPP: Yeah, I think that's right.
11 You know, we certainly -- you can talk to Staff even 10
12 years ago we saw more coming into the Park and Preserve
13 and we believe don't any longer. They are staying to
14 the west.

15
16 MR. TREFON: Oh, that's not good.
17 Well, there's nothing we can do about that either
18 because it's a natural act I believe. Hopefully. I'm
19 blaming Pebble. Sorry. I didn't say that.

20
21 (Laughter)

22
23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Any
24 other questions or comments.

25
26 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: No, I guess the only
27 thing I'll close with, Billy made me think of this is,
28 you know, well, we had Covid this summer, we didn't
29 have record heat and we didn't have fires on both sides
30 of the Park so we're very thankful for that. But the
31 Park Service is starting to look a little deeper to try
32 and identify if the fire risk in Lake Clark has
33 changed. And how our, you know, our ability to staff
34 it might need to change as well.

35
36 So, Billy, you just made me think of
37 that comment as well.

38
39 MR. TREFON: Okay. Yes, I agree with
40 you on the fire behavior and it is changing here. We
41 had fires in the Bristol Bay region we never had before
42 last year. That is a.....

43
44 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Right.

45
46 MR. TREFON:definite sign of
47 change.

48
49 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Right. So we're

50

1 trying to at a regional level we're trying to look
2 closer at that so that we understand what it means to
3 the resources.

4

5 MR. TREFON: All right. Thank you.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
8 Billy.

9

10 So my question for you is how soon will
11 you have these mercury level tests available to the
12 public. I know it's something that, you know, we were
13 monitoring up on Iliamna starting several years ago.
14 So I haven't heard if they've increased, decreased or
15 remained the same since?

16

17 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: So I don't think that
18 our data will be able to tell you if the mercury levels
19 have increased or decreased, we're just trying to take
20 a little deeper look at the lake trout in Lake Clark.
21 What we're trying to determine, really the next phase
22 of this project, is to determine if this is natural or
23 not and whether or not there is, you know, some sort of
24 management decision that needs to be made around the
25 outcome of that. So what I could say though is we
26 would be happy to get our mercury experts to present to
27 the RAC at the winter meeting if it's -- you so desire.
28 Happy to provide that.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, I
31 think that would be -- would be helpful. I know that
32 Lary was concerned about that as well so, Donald, if
33 you could add that to our agenda that would be very
34 much appreciated.

35

36 And my second question is have you
37 noticed and you probably haven't because your study
38 probably hasn't been going on long enough, but I don't
39 know so I'll ask the question. I just had a neighbor
40 bring me in a beaver that he had gotten that -- because
41 he wanted to weigh it, it was huge, it was 60 pounds.
42 And so wanted -- he was curious to find out how big it
43 was and he knew I had a big scale and so I found out
44 too, but have you noticed the size increases going on
45 as well with these changes in the climate?

46

47 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Oh, that's a really
48 good question. We -- that is not something that we
49 have really looked at, but I'll ask our biologist to

50

1 see if he's just noticed that change or not. That's a
2 really good question.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, I --
5 I'm -- want to be one of the first ones to bid on the
6 pelt because it's a beautiful one and I could do a lot
7 with it. So anyway good enough.

8

9 We'll move on to.....

10

11 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: Well, you should also
12 feel free to come over, you know, I mean, that -- the
13 big concern is that there are too many beavers in our
14 watersheds right now and that they are causing a little
15 bit of havoc.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: He's the
18 beaver cleaner upper.

19

20 Okay. Thank you very much. Is -- are
21 there any other reports for Lake Clark or was that it,
22 Suzanne?

23

24 MS. FLEEK-GREEN: That is it for today.
25 Thank you very much, Madame Chair.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
28 Then let's go on to Katmai National Park, Aniakchak.

29

30 MR. STURM: Yes, good afternoon. Thank
31 you, Madame Chair. Mark Sturm with Katmai National
32 Park and Preserve. If it's all right with you, Madame
33 Chair, I'll say a few words first and then a couple of
34 my coworkers will have some additional more specific
35 detailed follow-up comments.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No, Mark, go
38 ahead.

39

40 MR. STURM: I'd like -- thank you. I'd
41 like to start off by saying that the presentation Lake
42 Clark just gave is exemplary of where Katmai is trying
43 to get to. I think Councilman Dunaway's comments are
44 accurate in how the National Park Service and our SRCs
45 have struggled to keep up and to perform at a high
46 level. We're making actually internally good progress
47 in our SRC, members are also making good progress in my
48 opinion. I would hope that even as soon as next year
49 we will be performing at a higher level than what we

50

1 are today.

2
3 We don't have a report in the package
4 that the Council received and I guess I would offer a
5 few insights into the season that Katmai has had this
6 year. Like everyone else we had to deal with the
7 realities of Covid-19 in developing new operational
8 procedures. Some of the things that we had to deal
9 with that were unforeseen, that really took up a lot of
10 time on our end were to the -- the State and FEMA had
11 decided early before the commercial fishing season
12 locally here in the Naknek/King Salmon area, that they
13 needed to stand up a field hospital in case Covid-19
14 infections got of hand and they chose to locate that on
15 the air force station that we have our headquarters
16 building in. And obviously after thinking about that
17 for just a little bit we decided we couldn't continue
18 to operate our Park out of that area so we had to move
19 administratively and that was a big workload both to
20 move and then later in September to move back. That
21 was unanticipated and certainly unanticipated and hard
22 to do with the staffing level that was reduced because
23 of some of the Covid-19 implications. And so we're
24 behind right now and it's -- it's -- in all honesty it
25 was remarkable that we were able to pull off what we
26 did as a unit of the Park Service system.

27
28 And we really appreciated all the
29 support we got from our Federal sister agencies and
30 partners and also from the community at large. Katmai
31 was represented on the Bristol Bay Borough's EOC that
32 was stood up to kind of get through the commercial
33 fishing season. We were in conversations with our
34 partners both from local governments, State government
35 and from other Federal agencies just trying to
36 understand what was going on, who was dealing with what
37 and sharing what we -- what we were dealing with and it
38 was really helpful. Personally as a manager I think it
39 would have been very hard to not have that kind of
40 insight and coordination going on and to have done as
41 well as we did this past summer. But it took a lot of
42 time and it took a lot of coordination. And so we have
43 fallen behind on some of the other things that we try
44 to get done by this time. We would normally share a
45 resource report that we produce every summer. We will
46 have that ready in -- ready for -- to be shared for the
47 winter RAC.

48
49 One thing that we did decide early on
50

1 as the spring kind of started to come along is that we
2 perceived that this was truly an opportunity to collect
3 information and data about how animals responded to the
4 lesser presence of -- lesser human presence of, you
5 know, in the Park and Preserve in particular. And we
6 focused on doing everything we could to gather as much
7 information as we could.

8
9 And Suzanne is exactly right and others
10 too, that it was really challenging to develop
11 monitoring protocols that were reasonable and as safe
12 as possible under a global pandemic reality. But we
13 did work through those protocols and did establish new
14 processes. And thankfully the one thing that really
15 truly made it possible for us to gather as much data as
16 we did with the local community -- local community
17 health clinic was able to provide testing free of
18 charge. And so we were able to monitor staff that were
19 engaged in these close proximity activities on an
20 ongoing basis throughout the summer. And that allowed
21 us to put people in planes and monitor their status and
22 to allow them to collect information. And I hope to
23 have some interesting results to share -- the Park to
24 have those results to share sometime over the winter.

25
26 One thing that we are -- we are also --
27 the reason we also are behind is we did not hire the
28 full complement of staff that we normally did. We were
29 down by about a third of our staff, the seasonal folks
30 that come and help us administer the Park. A lot of
31 times they don't just help us, you know, on a day to
32 day, but they also help us after the season kind of
33 winds down to enter the data and to maybe even do a
34 draft, you know, report that we then polish up and
35 finalize. That level of support just isn't present in
36 Katmai this summer and so we're just a little bit
37 behind on pulling those types of reports together. And
38 so the -- you know, I guess I would hope to have some
39 of the information that we have gathered to share for
40 the RAC to consider for the winter meeting.

41
42 And then I did want to give a brief
43 update on some of the things that we have reported out
44 on previously to the RAC. We had intended to make good
45 progress on the road restoration project that the RAC
46 had expressed interest in in previous meetings.
47 Obviously we do have a draft plan for restoration that
48 has been informed by dialogue with affiliated tribes
49 and affiliated tribal organizations that have expressed
50

1 interest in working with us on it. We had actually
2 expected that we would be in a position to begin to
3 conduct restoration work, essentially pick the road up
4 that was constructed inappropriately this year. With
5 the advent of Covid and the need to actually have
6 monitors onsite that the tribes themselves would feel
7 comfortable with and want to be present while the work
8 is being done we just could not progress on that
9 project. And so it's earmarked for next year or as
10 soon as possible after -- after the world returns to
11 some semblance of normal.

12
13 We have also contracted with a local
14 artist to produce a bust of Pelagia Melgenak. I shared
15 this at the fall -- at the winter meeting -- RAC
16 meeting in Naknek. And that artwork has been completed
17 and we are beginning to have discussions with the
18 Council of Katmai Descendants and the heirs of Pelagia
19 Melgenak about the -- you know, about bringing that
20 artwork to Katmai and presenting it in a respectful and
21 appropriate way. It's going to take us some time to
22 figure out what that will ultimately look like and to
23 also find the funding to kind of pull it together. But
24 we've made a -- we've accomplished a major milestone
25 that has been a long time coming by having this
26 important piece of artwork produced. It's something
27 that I think the Park -- the Park Service is proud to
28 have had a role in helping to produce and we look
29 forward to working closely with our tribal partners to
30 do the rest of the work that remains respectfully and
31 well.

32
33 And then the last comment I had
34 personally myself is I just wanted to acknowledge the
35 comments that were made this morning about the review
36 of the proposals and that perhaps we hadn't tuned into
37 some of the implications of the fisheries proposals in
38 particular. I did want to clarify because if I
39 understood correctly the impression that was left was
40 that the Park Service was in favor of fisheries
41 proposal 21-06 and 08. That's not the case, we
42 retained a neutral posture on that proposal. We -- had
43 I had the benefit of the conversation that was had this
44 morning I expect that my agency would be in a position
45 to be in opposition of that. But I -- for me to say
46 that formally I think I would need to have some follow-
47 up conversations. But I suspect that's where we would
48 end up, exactly where the RAC ended up on that. But I
49 did hear the comments, I know that they are made in --
50

1 with the best intentions and I take them seriously.
2 And any shortcomings that Katmai is having right now
3 are entirely on my shoulders. We just have had a lot
4 to deal with and work on though. That's no excuse, we
5 do need to keep up on these important topics and we'll
6 strive to do better.

7
8 And then lastly I just wanted to
9 follow-up on that because not -- not even an hour later
10 there were some compliments that the RAC members were
11 expressing about the openness and willingness of
12 current administration at the Parks to work with local
13 communities and with the RAC and that's truly our
14 intent. We do want to be good neighbors and try to
15 find common ground. It's a complicated landscape that
16 we are operating in right now and we do need to get
17 clarity. I couldn't agree more with some of the
18 comments from others that presented here this morning
19 and afternoon that we do need to talk to each other and
20 try to find common ground and make sure that everything
21 that we work on together is understood and can be
22 explained to others that are -- you know, have similar
23 interest and concern.

24
25 So with those comments I'll stop and
26 ask if there's any questions for me before I pass the
27 torch on to others from the Park.

28
29 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan, go
32 ahead.

33
34 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thanks, just real
35 quick. Mark, my compliment on SRCs, I was including
36 yours as -- or the Aniakchak as well. I know making
37 that one work is hugely difficult. And I was happy to
38 hear Linda's comments earlier so.....

39
40 MR. STURM: Yeah.

41
42 MR. DUNAWAY:no, I -- and yeah, I
43 think like you and Suzanne and some of these newer
44 superintendents have been a lot easier to work with and
45 I sure appreciate it.

46
47 So thank you very much.

48
49 MR. STURM: Thank you, Dan. Thank you

50

1 very much through the Chair.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, thank
4 you. And any other comments or questions.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 MS. CHISHOLM: Madame Chair, this is
9 Linda Chisholm, I'm the subsistence coordinator for
10 Aniakchak SRC. And I just wanted to brief the Council
11 on a couple more bullet points. Like Councilman
12 Dunaway mentioned I already shared with the Council
13 that the SRC had reviewed the Federal subsistence
14 fisheries proposals, but does not have any comments on
15 those proposals at this time. And they've also
16 deferred discussion of the proposed changes to the
17 individual customary and traditional determinations to
18 their next meeting in February.

19

20 The SRC also passed a motion supporting
21 Board of Game proposal 32. We haven't -- I don't
22 believe you've talked about that proposal during this
23 meeting, but it is a proposal to close the nonresident
24 season for emperor geese in units 9 and 10. And the
25 SRC statement is to support limitation of nonresident
26 hunting of emperor geese at this time.

27

28 In terms of membership, we have one RAC
29 sponsored vacancy on the Aniakchak SRC and one
30 incumbent seat that's currently held by Mr. Mark
31 Kosbrook, Sr. We will continue with his reappointment
32 package, he would like to continue on the SRC and we
33 will have that ready for the RAC at the winter meeting.

34

35 Just as a reminder for folks if there
36 are people who are interested in filling the other
37 vacancy. A vacancy requires residency in one of the
38 resident zoned communities associated with Aniakchak
39 and that includes Port Heiden, Meshik and the Chignik
40 communities. It also requires membership on one of the
41 two local ACs. Those are the Lower Bristol Bay and
42 Chignik ACs or would require participation and
43 membership on the regional RAC. But I don't believe
44 any of the current RAC members live in an Aniakchak
45 resident zoned community.

46

47 Yeah, just to put a plug out, we're
48 looking for more folks to serve on the SRC.

49

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
4 you for that. Any questions for Linda.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
9 Everybody's good with that. Did you have any other
10 reports, Mark, for Katmai?

11

12 MR. STURM: Madame Chair, if Leslie
13 Skora is on she may have some information that she --
14 that we would like to share.

15

16 Is Leslie on?

17

18 MS. SKORA: Yes, Mark. Thank you. I
19 was just about to jump in there.

20

21 So yes, Madame Chair and Council
22 members, my name is Leslie Skora. I'm the wildlife
23 biologist at Katmai. And I'd like to report the
24 summaries of large mammal annual survey efforts that we
25 were able to accomplish this past year.

26

27 I'll start with moose. We were able to
28 complete surveys within the Park last fall and winter
29 although we didn't have the snow necessary to provide
30 us the most accurate results. Of those counts we were
31 often not able to complete a trend area survey in
32 Aniakchak, but the numbers that we were able to collect
33 showed similar trends to last year's numbers and were
34 consistent with the local State reports that did
35 indicate at least a decent cow to calf or calf to cow
36 ratio. So we're -- it -- we're at least hopeful there.

37

38 I'll move on to bears. This year we
39 were better at getting surveys completed despite Covid.
40 We saw more bears active during spring meadow surveys
41 and the late summer salmon surveys particularly in
42 Katmai. In Aniakchak we don't have as long of a record
43 of surveys there so it's a shorter time frame and
44 therefore harder to get a comparison of what -- how
45 numbers are trending there. But this will serve as a
46 good baseline for Aniakchak and we can go from there as
47 surveys continue.

48

49 And then in addition to those surveys

50

1 we're hoping to receive funding support for two
2 projects next year. One is a caribou project and
3 looking to better understand the Mulchatna numbers
4 within the Park Service land and, you know,
5 specifically Katmai lands in case there's a subsistence
6 opportunity that we need to better manage. So we want
7 to pursue some methods to allow for meaningful counts
8 of caribou in Katmai Preserve over this winter. So
9 hopefully that will get supported.

10

11 And we're also looking at -- to receive
12 support for a ptarmigan survey following reports and
13 observations from the Aniakchak SRC and comments made
14 in previous RAC meetings over concern for low numbers
15 of ptarmigan seen. So we're hoping to estimate
16 ptarmigan density in Katmai, both the Park and the
17 Preserve as well as Aniakchak Monument and Preserve.
18 And we were -- the Becharof National Wildlife Refuge
19 shared their methods for the ptarmigan survey so we are
20 hoping to use the same methods and therefore they
21 should be comparable across agencies and across the
22 landscape. And therefore in the future we can be able
23 to trade-off basically who's available and work
24 together to come up with better estimates of how the
25 ptarmigan population is trending.

26

27 So we're hopeful that these two
28 projects will receive support for next year.

29

30 That's all I have unless there are any
31 questions.

32

33 Thank you, Madame Chair.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, thank
36 you, Leslie. I appreciate that report and I love
37 hearing the coordination to make things kind of
38 universally user friendly.

39

40 Dan, go ahead.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan, did you
45 have a question?

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: He got

50

1 knocked offline. Anybody else have any questions or
2 comments for Leslie.

3

4 MR. DUNAWAY: My mute was on. Sorry.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Oh, okay.
7 Go ahead, Dan.

8

9 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you. Yeah, Leslie,
10 regarding the Mulchatna caribou would you be focusing
11 on some of that caribou population that's south of
12 Kokhanok there, south of Lake Iliamna. You know, in
13 the past we've -- there's been discussions of whether
14 they're truly a Mulchatna herd because there's a --
15 some locals there contend it's more of a local herd
16 that provides an important, but small amount of meat
17 and that they kind of -- Kokhanok folks and Igiugig
18 count on them. Maybe you could speak to that.

19

20 MS. SKORA: Sure. Yes. This does
21 stand as a response to some of the comments that were
22 made and we believe that the best step to take is just
23 to begin with seeing how many there are out there and
24 then from there we can see how it relates to the
25 overall Mulchatna herd and whether or not there is a
26 subsistence opportunity that is not being taken
27 advantage of. So I see this as kind of being just step
28 one to an exploratory kind of see what's -- see what's
29 out there, see if it's available for use.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
32 Through the Chair. Thank you very much, that's --
33 that's excellent. I'm really, really glad to hear
34 that. So I really appreciate that and wish you well on
35 all the other studies too.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 MS. SKORA: Thank you.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Very
42 good. Any other questions or comments.

43

44 MR. TREFON: No, it's a comment about
45 -- Dan was -- pretty much answered -- asked the
46 question for me, that mystery herd between Kokhanok,
47 King Salmon and Igiugig. I was thinking if there was a
48 report of a caribou take in Igiugig maybe that was
49 where that caribou came from. Just a thought.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3

MS. SKORA: Uh-huh.

4

5

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

6

Anybody else.

7

8

(No comments)

9

10

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Any other reports for Katmai, Mark, or is that it?

11

12

13

MR. STURM: No, Madame Chair. That -- that's our report for today.

14

15

16

Thank you very much.

17

18

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank you. Let's move on then. Fish and Game, do we have reports for -- from the Department of Fish and Game.

19

20

21

22

MR. BORDEN: Madame Chair, this is Lee Borden with Sportfish. I could give a quick report.

23

24

25

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: That would be great, Lee. Please go ahead.

26

27

28

MR. BORDEN: Okay. You're going to hear some similar things from me that you've heard from others as far as the Covid impacts on our operations. We were instructed in the spring to cut our budgets based on Covid. The Bristol Bay budget got particularly hit pretty hard. I lost all permanent staffing positions and lost four out of five projects due to the cut -- budget cuts. I do not have a whole lot of optimism that I will get any of that back in the near future. And I would expect not a whole lot to be coming out of Bristol Bay Sportfish Division in the near future based on that.

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

The projects that we were intending to run this summer would have been a king salmon fishery assessment on the Togiak, a coho salmon assessment on the Nushagak, rainbow trout assessment on the Kvichak and rainbow trout and dolly varden assessment on the Iliamna, Gibraltar and probably Margot area. So I lost all those projects. I was able to maintain funding for our Naknek rainbow trout project this fall so we were able to pull that one off.

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

1 I -- for those who don't know Jason Dye
2 moved on as the area manager, moved up a position. I
3 am now currently the area manager however due to the
4 budget cuts I have not been able to hire an assistant.
5 And for those of you who know -- who knew Lola
6 Carpenter who served with us for 20 plus years as our
7 admin, we lost her as well and looks like I will not be
8 able to rehire her position either.

9
10 It'll be a bit of a one man show out
11 here in Bristol Bay for a while, but I will still be
12 responsive as far as responding to questions and if
13 folks have needs as the next Board cycle rolls around I
14 will be there to assist with that.

15
16 I'm available to answer any other
17 questions you got.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Ouch, Lee.
20 Ouch. That's -- I mean, there's not -- yeah. I guess
21 just let us know if we can be of any help and yeah,
22 thanks -- thanks even for taking the time to be here
23 today.

24
25 Anybody have questions for Lee.

26
27 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
30 Donald.

31
32 MR. MIKE: Yeah. Thank you, Madame
33 Chair. And thank you for your report, Mr. Borden. I
34 just had a quick question as far as your Board support
35 section, your coordinator, my counterpart, is that
36 still being funded. Most of the time she's my main
37 contact with distributing information from my office.

38
39 Thank you.

40
41 MR. BORDEN: I missed the name there.
42 Were you talking about Mark's position, Mark Burch?

43
44 MR. MIKE: No, Mr. Borden. This is
45 Donald again. I just had a quick question on your
46 Board support section for your advisory committees. I
47 can't remember her name, but she's my counterpart on
48 the Coordination Division for ADF&G for advisory
49 committees in Bristol Bay. Is that position still

50

1 funded. And my last statement was that she's my main
2 contact with distributing information from OSM.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MR. BORDEN: Yes. Thank you for
7 repeating that. I got it that time.

8

9 Yes, Teran's position is still funded.
10 The way the budget cuts fell on Fish and Game was
11 Sportfish got hit and pretty much all other divisions
12 are maintaining status quo right now. So Board support
13 is still funded. Teran's position still exists and
14 she'll still be your main contact.

15

16 MR. MIKE: Thank you.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
19 you for that, Lee. Any other questions.

20

21 MR. TREFON: This is Billy here. I
22 have one question about the mammals. I heard about the
23 fish, what is -- I know the State took a major cut
24 here, but going back to the subsistence hunt with this
25 mystery herd if you look at the map the majority of
26 that is on State land. So somebody going to have to
27 come up with the funding to do the research and I don't
28 think the Parks is going to do it.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: What I was
31 going to say is, Bill, Lee can't answer that, he's the
32 fish side of it. I'm not sure if we have anybody
33 online for the game side.

34

35 MR. BORDEN: Yeah, we -- Madame Chair,
36 we have not had a game biologist for some time now. I
37 have heard that there has been a hire and we should be
38 receiving a game manager soon. I personally don't know
39 the timelines on that. As far as their funding to do
40 research I imagine they will probably be receiving
41 budget cuts in the next couple years as well. The
42 Sportfish ones were just kind of sudden in mid season
43 and a drop what you're doing kind of a thing. The
44 other budget cuts that will hit the other division I
45 imagine will come through the legislature and they will
46 be trickling down in the next couple fiscals.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. And I
49 don't -- I don't remember hearing of anybody out of the

50

1 King Salmon office which is actually where I think that
2 might come from, Billy. But I don't remember hearing
3 that they were online this morning and I'm not sure
4 that they are this afternoon.

5

6 MR. TREFON: Okay. Thank you.

7

8 MR. DUNAWAY: Say, Madame Chair.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes.

11

12 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Dan here. Lee, I
13 spent the better part of an afternoon in touch with
14 Gary Nielsen in Kokhanok. It seems like the Handy
15 Dandy book is a bit confusing when it comes to up here
16 to what is open to sport type fishing in the waters of
17 some of those tributaries coming into Lake Iliamna.
18 And there may also be a bit of an inconsistency in
19 understanding among enforcement people and so on. I
20 couldn't reach you I guess, but Jason was in touch with
21 me. Some folks thought that all sportfishing was going
22 to be shut down here as of October 31st. And I want to
23 double check that the way I understand it from what
24 Jason told me is that it remains open, there's less
25 gear restrictions and a less restrictive bag limit on
26 rainbows. But it might be worth trying to make sure
27 enforcement as well as some of the communities out
28 there understand what the right interpretation is. I'd
29 sure hate to see them unnecessarily feeling restricted
30 or deprived of fishing opportunity.

31

32 Okay.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
37 you for that, Dan. Any other questions.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
42 Hearing none let's move on to our Western Alaska
43 Partnership.

44

45 Danielle Stickman, are you on.

46

47 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. This is
48 Donald.

49

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
2 Donald.

3
4 MR. MIKE: Yeah, I think we have
5 Subsistence Division with Department of Fish and Game.
6 They're still online.

7
8 Thank you.

9
10 MS. JONES: Madame Chair, this is
11 Bronwyn Jones with the Division of Subsistence.

12
13 Thank you, Donald.

14
15 So I am -- like I said I'm Bronwyn
16 Jones, I'm a subsistence resource specialist with
17 ADF&G. And since the last RAC meeting we've had some
18 staffing changes within the Division. I took over the
19 SRS position for Bristol Bay when formal -- the former
20 SRS, Gabriel House, left her position to move back to
21 Canada several months ago. Luckily I've been working
22 in the region for a while and I'm already quite
23 familiar with the area. The only true change for us is
24 I will now be more involved in the Board of Fish and
25 Board of Game processes. And also on the line from the
26 Division we have Lisa Hutchinson-Scarborough and she'll
27 provide an update on some of the projects that she's
28 been working on after I'm finished.

29
30 So in the meeting materials you'll see
31 an overview that Lisa and I submitted to the RAC which
32 provides information about recent ongoing projects that
33 the Division has been working on. I'm going to
34 summarize this overview for you and provide a few
35 opportunity or opportunities for a few questions or
36 comments if you have any.

37
38 So I'd like to begin with the two
39 projects that we recently wrapped up since the last RAC
40 meeting. Both the Port Heiden subsistence salmon
41 harvest project and the Naknek River salmon ethnography
42 which were funded by AKSSS have been completed. The
43 Port Heiden project basically consisted of a harvest
44 survey -- a comprehensive subsistence harvest survey
45 for study year 2018 along with in-depth interviews with
46 community members that focused on how ADF&G and the
47 community could work together to improve salmon
48 reporting via the permit system. So this report was
49 published in May and an overview of the study findings

50

1 were sent to all the households in Port Heiden shortly
2 after that.

3
4 And then more recently the Naknek
5 salmon ethnography was finished and published. So that
6 study was a collaboration between ADF&G Division of
7 Subsistence and then BBNA. And it involved the
8 collection of salmon harvest data for the communities
9 of King Salmon, Naknek and South Naknek. It was a fun
10 project and an interesting project as these three
11 communities have unique and dynamic -- sorry, the --
12 these -- yes, sorry. Where was I. It was a fun
13 project because each of those communities are just like
14 so unique with their harvesting and processing in
15 respect to salmon. And so that paper was published in
16 September and just last week we sent out copies of the
17 paper to different agencies in Naknek and each
18 household in all three communities will be getting a
19 project overview shortly.

20
21 And still a current project that the
22 Division is working on is the Togiak Refuge harvest and
23 stock composition of dolly varden and other nonsalmon
24 fish. And as Cody mentioned from BBNA earlier, that
25 this project was funded as part of the 2018 FRMP call
26 for proposals. And it is a collaboration between the
27 Division of Subsistence, BBNA and U.S. Fish and
28 Wildlife Service. And we were pretty lucky this year
29 actually. We had our fieldwork scheduled for the end
30 of February and beginning of March in Togiak and Twin
31 Hills and that's when we were there right before all
32 the Covid shut downs began. So we were able to collect
33 all the harvest data for 2019 in these communities and
34 which led to the ability of where we're at right now.
35 The research partners and I are beginning to do data
36 analysis and report writing and we hope to hold a
37 community review in person in the communities this
38 spring, but if things are as they are right now we'll
39 have to figure out how to do a community review via
40 teleconference. And then that project is slated to end
41 June 1st, 2021.

42
43 And then the last project update I'm
44 going to provide before turning it over to Lisa is the
45 Lake Clark National Park and Preserve subsistence
46 harvest survey for Port Alsworth. And as you just
47 heard from Suzanne from NPS, this is a comprehensive
48 subsistence survey that they funded as part of their
49 effort to get updated harvest information from

50

1 communities surrounding Parks and Preserves that
2 haven't been surveyed in a -- in a while. The Port
3 Alsworth, the data there, I believe it's 18 years old.
4 So it was time for them to get some updated information
5 and as you heard we're just getting this project
6 started. We're hoping to -- we were originally hoping
7 to collect the harvest data for study year 2020 in the
8 spring of this year, but we've actually delayed it to
9 fall next year in hopes that things will be different
10 and we'll be able to go in person and interact with the
11 community and such. But we're going to begin working
12 with NPS to introduce the project to the community over
13 the next few months.

14
15 And that -- that's all I really have
16 for current and past projects.

17
18 Does anybody have any questions before
19 Lisa takes over?

20
21 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'll
22 open the floor to questions.

23
24 Thank you, Bronwyn.

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, I'll
29 be looking forward to seeing those studies when we --
30 when we finally finalize them.

31
32 Go ahead, Lisa, with your report.

33
34 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Thank you,
35 Madame Chair. This is Lisa Hutchinson-Scarborough. I'm
36 also a subsistence resource specialist with the
37 Division of Subsistence. A lot of my work over the
38 course of my career has been along the Alaska
39 Peninsula, Chignik communities and Sand Point, King
40 Cove and some Aleutian communities.

41
42 The current project that I guess I'm
43 involved with, one which was an extension, it's a
44 cooperative agreement that we have. It's actually a
45 BBNA project that through the Marine Mammal Program
46 that Helen Aderman was the -- was chairing up and so
47 she recently resigned -- retired. But we do harvest
48 assessment surveys in Bristol Bay communities on seals.
49 And we had a project that was to occur for the 2019

50

1 study year for -- in the Iliamna communities to figure
2 out what -- how many beluga whales and freshwater
3 harbor seals and saltwater seals were harvested in
4 those communities.

5
6 And we were -- we hired local research
7 assistants and trained them and they actually go into
8 the communities and do the surveys. The Division of
9 Subsistence provides the survey forms and then we
10 assist BBNA which was Helen and then the local
11 assistants of making sure that they get the survey
12 data. But because of Covid we weren't able to do the
13 surveys in person because of community mandates and
14 safety concerns. So we got an extension, a year
15 extension for that project and now that Helen retired
16 I've been working with Gayla and Heidi Kris to try to
17 get that going but NOAA funds the project through
18 IPCOMM (ph) and we're planning on -- we got the
19 extension so we're going to be doing the surveys in
20 January. And it's going to be over the phone because
21 we still don't think it's going to be safe to go out to
22 the communities to do the surveys. And BBNA will be
23 administering the surveys, probably mostly Heidi and
24 Gayla.

25
26 And then let's see what else do we
27 have.

28
29 There was an early -- earlier Cody
30 Larson had mentioned a Bristol Bay sharing network
31 project which was an OSM funded project that we wrapped
32 up the report in 2016. And that is available on the
33 website. And I had submitted through the Chignik
34 disaster fund 2018 fund the Department originally asked
35 us to -- some of the researchers to see what type of
36 projects that we would want to propose. So I had
37 submitted a preliminary proposal to do a subsistence
38 harvest survey update in the three Chignik communities
39 and Perryville and I even update residents which would
40 be a follow-up for 2019 and 2020, but we also wanted to
41 do a lot of key respondent interviews and talk and kind
42 of do a socioeconomic impact study of how the salmon
43 disaster has affected not only subsistence, but also
44 affected commercial fishing and the economy of these
45 communities. And some of our -- the goal I think was
46 also to talk to the residents that had had -- used to
47 live in the Chigniks and have left and find out why
48 they have left and things like that.

49
50

1 So currently the stakeholders are
2 reviewing the concept I think of the distribution plan
3 and they're getting that back to Commissioner's office
4 of Fish and Game and I think that the final decision
5 comes down to what the stakeholders want for research
6 projects. I think about 30 percent of the funds for
7 that was to go to research.

8
9 Ross had touched on some of the
10 projects that CommFish wants to do and they will
11 probably fund it as well. So anyway we'll hear soon,
12 if not the 2020 disaster fund will probably be awarded
13 and we'll have our opportunity for surveys. But I
14 don't know if all of you understand that we've -- we do
15 the subsistence permits, State permits annually for our
16 harvest assessment in the Chignik management area, but
17 we -- many, many years we've been able to do post-
18 season household surveys depending on the funding and
19 availability, but we -- the last year we were able to
20 do, that was in 2016 which was part of the Bristol Bay
21 sharing project that Cody talked about a little bit
22 earlier, so we don't have any additional information
23 that -- harvest assessment information for those
24 communities in 2017, '18, '19 or this year. So we'll
25 probably be talking with OSM too to see if we could
26 look at a project that could be collaborative with
27 CommFish on maybe extending the weir and also getting
28 some of our surveys done as well.

29
30 So I also wanted to say that on the
31 State -- there was a statewide chinook initiative
32 project that occurred in a number of key rivers
33 throughout Alaska starting in 2013 and our Division was
34 involved with doing some studies on harvest assessment
35 as well as key respondent interviews on local and
36 traditional knowledge interviews. And so Jim -- Jim
37 Fall who is our research -- statewide research director
38 recently just published on the Fish and Game website
39 just on the home page there, there's a little link,
40 it's just a summary report of all the different studies
41 that were done. And then it links all the technical
42 papers that are associated with the statewide project.
43 And so for this -- for the Bristol Bay region there was
44 one in the Chignik region which was 2014, '15 and '16
45 and that -- that report is almost done, we should be
46 published in January. But I -- we did harvest surveys
47 and we talked to key -- did a lot of key respondent
48 interviews in associated -- associated with the
49 declining chinook salmon. But there was also other
50

1 salmon that we assessed and well. And there's also for
2 the Nushagak area there was a technical paper written
3 as well. And so that's definitely worth listing for
4 your region.

5
6 And I guess on that note I just want to
7 announce that Jim Fall is retiring, he's been with our
8 Division for 40 years and was formative in developing
9 the Division of Subsistence and has done a lot to help
10 protect subsistence rights throughout the State of
11 Alaska. So anyway that's going to be a huge loss for
12 our Division as well as I think subsistence users
13 statewide. But he leaves behind a big legacy.

14
15 And I think that's the end of my
16 report.

17
18 Does anybody have any questions.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
21 Lisa. We will open the floor for questions and we I
22 think all agree with you, we'll all be missing Jim very
23 much.

24
25 Questions for Lisa.

26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. Dan.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
30 Dan.

31
32 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you. Just
33 could you pass on our best wishes and thank you to Jim
34 because I thought he retired once already, one of those
35 boomerang guys that fails at retirement.

36
37 But anyway thank you for your report.

38
39 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes, you're
40 welcome. I'll pass on the word. He's not out the door
41 yet so we'll see. But I know it's -- he's enjoyed
42 working with all the -- OSM and the RACs and the Board
43 of Fish and Board of Game and everybody throughout the
44 State. So.....

45
46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Any
47 other questions or comments.

48
49 (No comments)

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Sounds like
2 you've got a lot of ongoing things, Lisa, we'll be
3 anxious to hear the results again when they're
4 finalized.

5
6 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yeah, thank
7 you.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Any
10 other Fish and Game reports.

11
12 (No comments)

13
14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
15 Hearing none then let's move on to Western Alaska
16 Partnership, Danielle Stickman.

17
18 MS. STICKMAN: Good afternoon, Madame Chair,
19 members of the Council. Can you hear me?

20
21 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I can hear
22 you just fine. Thank you.

23
24 MS. STICKMAN: Okay. Great. All
25 right. Good afternoon, happy Wednesday. This is
26 Danielle Stickman, network coordinator for the Western
27 Alaska Partnership that is housed at the Alaska
28 Conservation Foundation in Anchorage. But I am
29 actually not in Anchorage right now, I'm in Shishmaref.
30 And I just have a few updates for you today. Thank you
31 for letting me join the call and have a short report
32 for you.

33
34 This is the spring meeting, the
35 Northern Latitudes Partnership is the three LLCs that
36 are still active within Alaska are the three formerly
37 named the Landscape Conservation Cooperative that are
38 still active in Alaska are the Aleutian Bering Sea
39 Initiative, the Northwest Boreal Partnership and then
40 the Western Alaska Partnership. And we've met once in
41 March and it's a full collective and we had a wonderful
42 meeting and kind of reorganized.

43
44 So what the three of us, the three of
45 these partnerships are we -- together we catalyze
46 ongoing projects, working to accomplish more efficient,
47 inclusive monitoring of environmental changes and
48 impacts to critical habitats, subsistence resources and
49 community safety. We bring decision makers together to
50

1 adapt to environmental change and we foster proactive
2 cleaning efforts that incorporate climate change
3 information and also expand community observation
4 networks.

5
6 And so these three regional
7 partnerships, collectively we -- we've been working on
8 expanding community based monitoring to address rapid
9 environmental change. So we've been collaborating with
10 Aleut Community of St. Paul to expand the Indigenous
11 Sentinels Network which provides communities --
12 indigenous communities, with tools, training and
13 networking and convening and the coordination to -- for
14 new capacity for ecological and environmental and
15 climate monitoring. So that's one of the main projects
16 we've been working on. And the Tanana Chief's
17 Conference has piloted a project last summer for
18 interior Alaska to address the salmon issues that are
19 going on in the interior.

20
21 And so there are just a few things and
22 I know, Donald, I think shared the informational
23 worksheet that -- the little informational sheet that I
24 provided.

25
26 A few things that are coming up in
27 November is collectively our partnerships are hosting a
28 workshop for community based monitoring projects
29 throughout the State. And that includes both people
30 from Alaska and Western Canada to come to this workshop
31 and talk about what they're doing within their
32 communities to monitor changes, whether that's monitor
33 berry changes or animals or water quality and to build
34 a network within networks basically. And that's
35 happening November 17th to the 19th. It's going to be
36 virtual and this is one of two workshops that we're
37 hoping to host.

38 And so there are a few other projects
39 that I don't think I need to include today, but that's
40 the main thing I wanted to share with you all today.
41 And as far as from the Western Alaska Partnership we're
42 still in the phase of trying to figure out what we're
43 doing as a partnership as we have moved from being
44 housed at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to being
45 housed at a nonprofit at Alaska Conservation
46 Foundation. I've been in this position for about a
47 year and a half and so I'm also looking for some people
48 from the Bristol Bay region to possibly join the
49 steering committee. If any of you are interested

50

1 please send me an email. And I could share more about
2 it.

3

4 And that's all I have today, Madame
5 Chair.

6

7 It's really great to hear all of your
8 voices and hear about what's going on. And, yeah, (In
9 Native).

10

11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Oh, thank
12 you, Danielle. It's always good to hear from you as
13 well. It sounds like you've got some really
14 interesting work that's ongoing and we'll be anxious to
15 hear the results of that when it's completed.

16

17 Are there any questions for Danielle.

18

19 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
22 Dan.

23

24 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you. Yeah, sure
25 good to hear your voice, Danielle. I've wondered where
26 you were.

27

28 Have you put out any notices to
29 communities or to the radio stations and that sort of
30 things out this way to solicit interest?

31

32 Over.

33

34 MS. STICKMAN: No, not yet. I mean,
35 I've put together some materials and hopefully get it
36 out before Thanksgiving.

37

38 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Well, that's --
39 that would be good. And I hope you find some steering
40 people.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 MS. STICKMAN: Thank you, Dan.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Any other
47 questions or comments for Danielle.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
2 Hearing none, thank you very much for your
3 participation as well, Danielle. I appreciate it. And
4 like I said (indiscernible - distortion) anxious to
5 hear the results of them.

6
7 Next up is OSM. OSM, who's up for OSM.

8
9 MR. PAPPAS: Good afternoon, Nancy --
10 Madame Chair. George Pappas, OSM. I've been tasked
11 with providing the same report that OSM is providing
12 for all 10 Regional Advisory Councils.

13
14 So thank you very much for all the hard
15 work that these Council members have done this year.
16 It's been very difficult for all of us dealing with the
17 Covid-19 environment. Currently we're holding all 10
18 of the fall Regional Advisory Council meetings via
19 teleconference. This decision was made with the utmost
20 consideration and concern for health and safety of
21 Council members, family, rural communities, the public
22 and staff who are all part of the Council meetings.
23 The health and safety of everyone and our efforts is
24 our highest priority. The Center for Disease Control
25 prevention guidelines suggest that people avoid travel
26 and refrain from meeting in person to minimize risk and
27 help prevent the spread of Covid-19.

28
29 Regional Advisory Councils are the
30 foundation of Alaska's Federal Subsistence Management
31 Program. We recognize that holding face to face
32 Council meetings in rural communities across Alaska is
33 preferable for engaging the public most effectively.
34 The Federal Subsistence Management Program is fully
35 committed to resuming in person Council meetings across
36 Alaska as soon as it's possible to safely do so.

37
38 Now for -- I was going to scrape my
39 violin real hard about staff, but it sounds like the
40 other programs actually have less strings than we do.
41 But for our staffing changes since your last Council
42 meeting, some staff changes have occurred or were
43 planned.

44
45 Tom Doolittle, the former acting
46 assistant regional for OSM, he'll be retiring this
47 fall. He's in the lower 48, I believe he'll come back
48 for a few days to finish up here the middle of next
49 month. He's already gone hunting, but he knows the

50

1 program will be served well by the new ARD, the
2 assistant regional director, Sue Detwiler. She's got
3 hired on in April and is doing her best to continue the
4 program under difficult situations and circumstances.

5
6 A new development, Greg Risdahl who was
7 the Fisheries Division lead has moved over to -- will
8 be moving over to U.S. Fish -- excuse me, Forest
9 Service and he'll be the Forest Service representative
10 on the Interagency Staff Committee. So in the last
11 year and a half he -- the National Park Service, the
12 BLM and the U.S. Forest Service have had the folks from
13 OSM be hired on. So that's in one way refreshing to me
14 in that each one's a known commodity and been proven in
15 this arena.

16
17 Chris McKee as you heard earlier, he
18 moved on to the Bureau of Land Management and will
19 serve as an Interagency Staff Committee member. And
20 we're grateful to have those experienced folks remain
21 with the program through their capacity as advisory to
22 their Board members.

23
24 Suzanne Worker, one of the OSM wildlife
25 biologists, took another position at Fish and Wildlife
26 in Portland, Oregon.

27
28 And Lisa Maas, the wildlife biologist
29 is currently acting as OSM policy coordinator. So
30 right now we do not have a Wildlife Division and
31 that'll be hopefully fixed shortly. I believe we have
32 a hiring priority for one, two or three wildlife
33 biologists fairly soon on deck.

34
35 Frank Harris who's online right now
36 who's also a fisheries -- OSM fisheries biologist, he
37 transferred over to the Kenai fisheries office, U.S.
38 Fish and Wildlife and has been working on the Kuskokwim
39 fisheries projects. If I can do some serious arm
40 twisting I can get Frank involved with the Chignik
41 issues and studies. We'll work through FPS on that and
42 I'll put some pressure points there.

43
44 Scott Ayers, another OSM fisheries
45 biologist took a promotion with Fish and Wildlife and
46 moved over to Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration
47 Program in Anchorage.

48
49 OSM has hired two new fisheries
50

1 biologists, Jared Stone who gave a pitch today and also
2 Cory Graham.

3

4 Also we have a new admin clerk position
5 that was hired.

6

7 And we have a new anthropology chief,
8 supervisory anthropologist, Dr. Brent Vickers. Both
9 Cory Graham and Dr. Brent Vickers have impressive
10 resumes. We're excited to have them onboard.

11

12 As for policy change, during the August
13 work session the Federal Subsistence Board approved
14 changes to the closure policy and the nonrural
15 determination policies which Councils had previously
16 been briefed on. The Board also approved revisions to
17 the special action section of the tribal consultation
18 guidelines. Copies of these documents are available
19 upon request or on the OSM website which is
20 DOI/subsistence.gov.

21

22 So a RealID for traveling to Council
23 meetings. Over the past two years we've been reminding
24 Council members about the change in requirements for
25 IDs at airports and for those in the RACs in the distal
26 parts of Alaska that's a big challenge to do. And I
27 believe it's been kicked back another year to October
28 1st, 2021. And then just make sure you remember that
29 Council members will need to make sure they have the
30 correct ID for travel next year. If you don't have the
31 ID please make sure you get it before the fall 2021
32 Council meeting.

33

34 As for the lawsuit from the State of
35 Alaska I have a prepared statement. On August 10th the
36 State of Alaska filed a lawsuit against the Federal
37 Subsistence Board after it adopted emergency special
38 action WSA19-14. This allowed the village of Kake to
39 engage in a community harvest of two moose and five
40 male sitka black-tailed deer. Also included in this
41 lawsuit was temporary special action WSA20-03 which
42 closed Federal public lands in units 13A and 13B to
43 non-Federally-qualified moose hunters and caribou
44 hunters. As a part of this lawsuit the State asked the
45 court to issue two preliminary injunctions. One to
46 prevent the unit 13 closure from taking affect and the
47 other vacating the Kake hunt and prohibiting the Board
48 from allowing any additional emergency hunts related to
49 the impacts of Covid-19. On September 18th the U.S.

50

1 District Court denied the State's request for a
2 preliminary injunction on the unit 13 closure. The
3 court found that because the State had not demonstrated
4 either a likelihood of success or serious questions on
5 the merits of its claim, the court may not consider the
6 remaining elements of the preliminary injunction
7 analysis.

8
9 As of this writing the court has not
10 yet ruled on the request to enjoin the Kake hunt or
11 adoption of other Covid related emergency actions. A
12 ruling and a preliminary injunction does not resolve
13 the litigation. Barring a settlement with the State
14 the questions raised by the State concerning the
15 Board's authority to take these actions will be argued
16 over the coming months. The Solicitor's Office
17 estimates that the briefing should be completed late
18 winter or spring 2021 and the court will issue its
19 decision early in the summer.

20
21 Based on legal guidance program staff
22 do not comment on any active legal action directed
23 against the Federal Subsistence Board beyond what has
24 been set forth and that includes me. So I appreciate
25 you listening to that portion of this.

26
27 I'd be happy to answer any questions.
28 And the reason that Jim Fall's retiring as I understand
29 is it's going to free up time for him to do much more
30 volunteering in his old job.

31
32 Madame Chair.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Well, that's
35 good news. Thank you very much, George.

36
37 Okay. Questions for George on actually
38 a plethora of information there that he shared with us
39 in a very short amount of time.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Well, very
44 good then, George. It must -- that must mean that you
45 were extremely thorough in your presentation which I
46 did find that very thorough.

47
48 Thank you very much, and concise I
49 might add.

50

1 Okay. Did I miss anybody, Donald, is
2 there anybody else out there that has a report that we
3 should hear?
4

5 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair. Donald Mike.
6 I believe we captured all those online that wish to
7 provide agency report for now. Unless I missed them
8 online, if there's anyone.
9

10 Thank you, Madame Chair.
11

12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
13 Hearing no others, a very brief Council meeting I
14 guess. I'll ask for closing comments. Any closing
15 comments from our Board members.
16

17 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, Donald.
18

19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah, go
20 ahead, Donald.
21

22 MR. MIKE: Yeah, before you move on to
23 closing comments, I just want to get back to our
24 agenda. We were developing the identifying issues for
25 FY 2020 annual report and so far I have three. Number
26 1 is the keep our public meetings meaningful through
27 meetings either by video teleconference or by phone
28 conference. That was one of the items of keeping the
29 public meetings meaningful through various methods and
30 means.
31

32 And number 2 was the Chignik fishery
33 salmon runs and the effects of climate change and how
34 low water affects the spawning beds.
35

36 And number 3, caribou abundance or lack
37 of the Mulchatna caribou herd. And also the Nushagak
38 Peninsula caribou herd. Agencies need to watch the
39 herd.
40

41 And I think that's the three items I
42 took note of. And if there's further annual report
43 items to be added.
44

45 Madame Chair.
46

47 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
48 you.
49
50

1 Any other items that anybody can think
2 of that they would like included in our annual report?

3

4

(No comments)

5

6

7 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Donald, in
8 some ways I'd like to leave this semi open just because
9 we had -- just due to constraints of our Council
10 members' real lack of ability to participate. And if
11 you could even just shoot everybody a quick note maybe
12 in the next day or two and request any other items that
13 they could think of, I would really appreciate that. I
14 would hope that maybe Molly might have something. And
15 she was unable to participate. And I would also like
16 to say while we're still on the record that I was
17 informed that this would have been Molly's last meeting
18 with us as a Council member, she's not reupping her
19 term which saddens me to no end. She and her whole
20 family has been just incredible supporters of the
21 Subsistence Resource Division in many different ways
22 and forms throughout, you know, their participation in
23 it. And I just deeply appreciate her leadership and
24 participation on the Board and I'm very saddened to
25 hear that she will not be a member, but I certainly am
26 hopeful that she will be an active public participant
27 here and in the future. So I would like to go there
28 too on record and just make sure that her and Joe both
29 know how much we appreciated them and how much they
30 will be missed.

30

31

32 But if that's possible, Donald, could
33 we please shoot a note out. Lary very possibly could
34 have had something else he would have liked included as
35 well and his day was cut short as was Richard's.

35

36

37 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Donald. Yes,
38 I certainly can do that and I'll draft the annual
39 report and share it will all the Council members.

39

40

41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: That would
42 be great.

42

43

44 MR. MIKE: And at our winter meeting we
45 can further review the annual report and any other
46 items that we may have omitted and then do final action
47 on it in our winter meeting.

47

48

Thank you, Madame Chair.

49

50

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. Thank
2 you, Donald. I think that that would be appropriate if
3 anybody has any comments or questions on that, just
4 bring them forward.

5
6 MR. MIKE: Okay. And one last item
7 regarding the annual reports. On page 57 of your
8 meeting materials it's the annual report response from
9 the Federal Subsistence Board. I just want to bring to
10 your attention on a couple of items on climate change.
11 The Council requested that agencies develop
12 investigative plans on recent changes to the
13 environment and how it affects census in wildlife
14 populations. And OSM is -- will possibly consider
15 holding another all Council meeting in 2020 meeting
16 cycle. And Councils may decide to elevate climate
17 change along with the effects on subsistence practices
18 as a key issue at this all Council meeting possibly in
19 2022. And so that's for your information.

20
21 And on census -- on census the Council
22 requested that a study be initiated on out migration of
23 salmon and the effects on the Bering Sea blob on the
24 life cycle of salmon. So if the Council wish to have a
25 report on this topic this Council or OSM can invite
26 staff doing research on the Bering Sea and present
27 information on these topics for future Council
28 meetings, possibly in our winter meeting.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, I think
31 very much so. Yeah, I actually meant to bring -- I
32 have this letter in my pile and forgot to bring that
33 up. So thank you for that, Donald. Yeah, I would
34 definitely think that I'm not the only one on the
35 Council that would like to see that brought forward.

36
37 Thank you.

38
39 MR. MIKE: Okay. And on Mulchatna
40 caribou and moose, the Council encourages agencies to
41 collaborate and address the declining population of the
42 herd by conducting baseline studies on caribou and
43 moose populations and their habitat within Bristol Bay
44 region. So ADF&G and -- along with others took the
45 lead on a collaborative effort that included research
46 partners from the Bristol Bay Native Association and
47 Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. And that
48 project collected over five decades of local knowledge
49 documenting the process of ecological change and their
50

1 impact on the Mulchatna caribou herd. So this can be
2 an agenda item for a report at the winter meeting.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, please.

5

6 MR. MIKE: Okay. And then lastly on
7 agency -- Federal Subsistence Board response, predator
8 and prey relations. The Council requested a
9 presentation on predator/prey relationship for caribou
10 and moose and spring mortality of caribou and moose
11 calves by bears. So the Federal Subsistence Board also
12 encouraged the Council to work with the Council
13 coordinator to arrange a presentation on predator/prey
14 relationship at future Council meetings. And so that
15 can be a agency report at our next winter meeting.

16

17 Madame Chair. And that's all I have.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Yes.
20 No, thank you. That's excellent. I can't even believe
21 I forgot that.

22

23 Thank you very much, Donald.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
26 Anything else. Council member comments or questions
27 about those items.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I don't
32 think there's very many of us left on here. So anyway
33 I thank everybody for their participation. I know it
34 is difficult, but I also know that these meetings are
35 meaningful and necessary. I appreciate everybody's
36 participation very, very much. And I encourage us all
37 to continue to work together, you know, online and with
38 phone calls on working through these things until our
39 next Council meeting and then until we have the chance
40 to meet together again. This is work that needs to be
41 done and will be appreciated in years to come.

42

43 So thank you for muddling ahead.
44 That's my word of the year is we just keep muddling
45 along. So thank you everybody and if anybody else has
46 anything else I encourage you to share it with us.

47

48 MR. TREFON: Okay. This is Billy.

49

50

1 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.
4 Dan, you want to go first. Go ahead.

5

6 MR. TREFON: No, this is Billy at
7 Nondalton.

8

9 MR. DUNAWAY: Go ahead, Billy.

10

11 MR. TREFON: Yeah, I just want to
12 comment that this meeting is -- seemed like it was very
13 productive and it turned out really well considering
14 how we're doing it with this new internet and Covid
15 interfering with everything.

16

17 The only thing that really brought my
18 attention that was kind of unusual is ravens killing
19 caribou calves. I think I'll keep an eye open on that
20 one.

21

22 But it was a great meeting.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. Thank
27 you for participating, Billy.

28

29 Dan.

30

31 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you. And
32 thank you, Billy. Yeah, you know, I would look to
33 folks like yourself and your elders and others if
34 there's any traditional knowledge on it. You know, it
35 might be a red herring or something, but, you know, we
36 got lots of ravens and they're out there.

37

38 Yeah, but a few other things. I wanted
39 to thank Lake Clark Park for the visuals, it did add to
40 the interest. I think that this video conference does
41 help. I was dreading an all day meeting with just a
42 box squawking at me. It's nice to see people like
43 Jared and Robbin and everybody else that was able to
44 get on that way, especially like Suzanne and a few
45 people I don't know. So I think it has promise even
46 though I cut out a couple of times.

47

48 And pass on thanks again to Molly.
49 And, Nanci, I want to comment you and thank you for an

50

1 efficient meeting. I -- this was good like Billy says.

2

3

Thank you.

4

5

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.

6

7

MR. WILSON: Madame Chair.

8

9

10

ahead.

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

MR. WILSON: Yeah, Rich here. Back on just for the end, got the last 15 minutes of you guys' conversations there. Appreciate it all. Thanks for putting up with me and my travels and all of that. And good job, everybody. And if I missed anything in between the last hour and a half, somebody could call me and fill me in.

20

21

Thank you.

22

23

24

25

26

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Absolutely, Richard. Thank you for checking back in and taking the time to be a part of it to the end. I'm glad to know that you made it there safely.

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

I did -- I have asked Donald to share with all of us what he has for annual report items knowing that oftentimes you come up with some very valuable items to put on that report. So take a look at it please once he gets it sent out and if you have anything to add please feel free to share it with him as well as us and we'll be glad to hear it.

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MR. WILSON: Very well. Thank you.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, thank

you.

Okay, Robbin, did you have anything for

us?

(No comments)

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: George, did you have anything for us?

MR. PAPPAS: Yes, just for your information we did the same type of a teams double, you

1 know, with the teams video on and the phone on. The
2 difference -- we did this last week at Southeast and it
3 went off almost without a hitch. A lot more
4 information was presented on the visual part of it last
5 week than what we had here. We had a few
6 presentations. We'll work on it. And I had a -- I
7 think a high count of folks on the teams participating
8 at 13 people and a high count on the teleconference up
9 to 33 people. So we did not capture a lot of folks to
10 visually see what's going on here. So as our first
11 time in this region doing this we'll work towards
12 seeing if we can come up with a better way and have
13 more information and more visual aide because that does
14 make a difference just like Mr. Dunaway was saying,
15 staring at a squawk box for two days. I'm not looking
16 forward to doing it at the Board of Fish and Board of
17 Game either.

18
19 Thank you very much, Madame Chair. A
20 very efficient, well run meeting. I didn't see any
21 mistakes except maybe on our part here and there, but
22 thank you very much.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah. No,
25 there are definitely challenges of being cut off on
26 both ends, the video twice and the telephone twice.
27 But it's still better than the alternatives of nothing.
28 I'd be curious just to go out the chain of command here
29 and find out how the court reporter, was it acceptable
30 for you, do you feel the -- you were able to capture
31 most of the information and who was offering it most of
32 the time?

33
34 REPORTER: Yes, I believe we've
35 captured what's needed.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
38 you. You're a vital part of our group as well so I
39 just was curious to see if our official information was
40 getting recorded as well.

41
42 So with that again I deeply thank
43 everybody realizing the challenges that are involved
44 in, you know, being a part of this meeting and putting
45 it together, Donald. Again we never can thank you
46 enough. So thank you for putting up with all of us and
47 assisting us along and if we can help you let us know.
48 And I'll look forward to working with you guys in the
49 coming days, weeks and months ahead and hopefully in a
50

1 face to face manner in the near future.

2

3 So with that I'm going to adjourn this
4 meeting at 4:30 p.m., and thank you all.

5

6 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Madame Chair,
7 before you adjourn.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Go
10 ahead, Donald.

11

12 MR. MIKE: Thank you for all the
13 participants on the teleconference line and also the
14 participants on Microsoft teams. I just want to remind
15 everyone that the court recorder officially recorded
16 this public meeting proceedings on the teleconference
17 line. So the Microsoft teams was a visual aide and I
18 thought it worked great for visuals for anybody to see.
19 And it was good to see people's faces when we're
20 speaking. So we'll try to improve on this in future
21 meeting dates if we need to meet again through video
22 teleconferencing.

23

24 And I'd like to thank my deputy
25 assistant for assisting us on this Council meeting.

26

27 So thank you, Madame Chair.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, thank
30 you, Donald.

31

32 Okay. Now we are officially adjourned
33 and again thanks to everybody.

34

35 (Off record)

36

37 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public in and for the state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered ___ through ___ contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the BRISTOL BAY SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING taken electronically on the 28th day of October;

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 25th day of November 2020.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/22